



8TH ARMY PROFESSIONAL READING LIST



The north Korean Problem

[Escape from Camp 14: One Man's Remarkable Odyssey from North Korea to Freedom in the West](#) by Blaine Harden; Viking Adult (March 29, 2012)

"North Korea... Between 150,000 and 200,000 people are being held in its political prison camps, which have existed twice as long as Stalin's Soviet gulags and twelve times as long as the Nazi concentration camps. Very few born and raised in these camps have escaped. But Shin Donghyuk did..."

[The Collapse of North Korea](#) by Bruce W. Bennett and Jennifer Lind; International Security, Vol. 36, No. 2 (Fall 2011)

"A collapse of the North Korean government could have several dangerous implications for East Asia, including "loose nukes," a humanitarian disaster, a regional refugee crisis, and potential escalation to war between China and the United States."

[Understanding the North Korea Problem: Why It Has Become the "Land of Lousy Options"](#) by William A. Boik; Strategic Studies Institute (July 18, 2011)

"This monograph provides a timely analysis and thoughtful insights into the challenges faced by the United States in developing a strategy for North Korea. The author examines the complex history of U.S. policy toward North Korea over the last decade that has left the United States in a position of having virtually no influence over the country."

[Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea](#) by Barbara Demick; Spiegel & Grau; Reprint edition (September 21, 2010)

"Award-winning journalist Barbara Demick follows the lives of six North Korean citizens over fifteen years—a chaotic period that saw the death of Kim Il-sung, the rise to power of his son Kim Jong-il, and a devastating famine that killed one-fifth of the population."

[The War for Korea, 1950-1951: They Came from the North](#) by Allan R. Millett; University Press of Kansas (April 27, 2010)

"... the first to give combined arms its due, looking at the contributions and challenges of integrating naval and air power with the ground forces of United Nations Command and showing the importance of Korean support services."

[The Cleanest Race: How North Koreans See Themselves](#) by B.R. Myers; Melville House (January 26, 2010)

"Drawing on extensive research into the regime's domestic propaganda, including films, romance novels and other artifacts of the personality cult, Myers analyzes each of the country's official myths in turn—from the notion of Koreans' unique moral purity, to the myth of an America quaking in terror of 'the Iron General.'"

[The Aquariums of Pyongyang](#) by Chol-hwan Kang and Pierre Rigoulot; Basic Books (August 24, 2005)

"Kang Chol-hwan is the first survivor of one of these [concentration] camps to escape and tell his story to the world, documenting the extreme conditions in these gulags and providing a personal insight into life in North Korea."

[The Koreans: Who They Are, What They Want, Where Their Future Lies](#) by Michael Breen; St. Martin's Griffin; 1st edition (January 17, 2004)

"An early overview of the nature and values of the Korean people provides the background for a more detailed examination of the complex history of the country, in particular its division into the Communist north and pro-Western south."



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[North Korea: A Geographical Analysis](#) edited by COL Eugene J. Palka and LTC Francis A. Galgano; Department of Geography & Environmental Engineering, United States Military Academy (December 2002)

[The Tears of My Soul](#) by Hyun Hee Kim; William Morrow & Co; 1st edition (October 1993)

"A North Korean spy, trained and indoctrinated by her government to kill ruthlessly and efficiently, offers rare insight into the rigors of her enforced service, which ended with a conviction for a plane bombing."

[From Pusan to Panmunjon](#) by Paik Sun Yup; Brassey's Inc; (June 1992)

"...the candid and revealing wartime memoir of the soldier who, at the age of thirty-two, became South Korea's first four-star general. It brings an unprecedented perspective to a cataclysmic war."

[This Kind of War](#) by T.R. Fehrenbach; Potomac Books Inc.; 50th Anniversary edition (March 2001)

"...the classic history of the Korean War is a dramatic and hard-hitting account of the conflict written from the perspective of those who fought it."

The Strategic Environment

[Monsoon: The Indian Ocean and the Future of American Power](#) by Robert D. Kaplan; Random House Trade Paperbacks; Reprint edition (September 13, 2011)

"In this pivotal examination of the countries known as "Monsoon Asia"—which include India, Pakistan, China, Indonesia, Burma, Oman, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Tanzania—bestselling author Robert D. Kaplan shows how crucial this dynamic area has become to American power."

[On China](#) by Henry Kissinger; Penguin Press HC (May 17, 2011)

"Drawing on historical records as well as his conversations with Chinese leaders over the past forty years, Kissinger examines how China has approached diplomacy, strategy, and negotiation throughout its history, and reflects on the consequences for the global balance of power in the 21st century."

[From Colony to Superpower: U.S. Foreign Relations since 1776](#) by George C. Herring; Oxford University Press, USA (April 27, 2011)

"A finalist for the 2008 National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction, this prize-winning and critically acclaimed history uses foreign relations as the lens through which to tell the story of America's dramatic rise from thirteen disparate colonies huddled along the Atlantic coast to the world's greatest superpower."

[The Party: The Secret World of China's Communist Rulers](#) by Richard McGregor; Harper Collins (June 8, 2010)

"China's political and economic growth in the past three decades is one of astonishing, epochal dimensions. The country has undergone a remarkable transformation on a scale similar to that of the Industrial Revolution in the West. The most remarkable part of this transformation, however, has been left largely untold—the central role of the Chinese Communist Party."



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[Japan's Imperial Army: Its Rise and Fall, 1853-1945](#) by Edward J. Drea; University Press of Kansas; 1st Edition (September 2009)

"Popular impressions of the imperial Japanese army still promote images of suicidal banzai charges and fanatical leaders blindly devoted to their emperor. Edward Drea looks well past those stereotypes to unfold the more complex story of how that army came to power and extended its influence at home and abroad to become one of the world's dominant fighting forces."

[Retribution: The Battle for Japan, 1944-45](#) by Max Hastings; Vintage; Reprint edition (March 10, 2009)

"By the summer of 1944 it was clear that Japan's defeat was inevitable, but how the drive to victory would be achieved remained unclear. The ensuing drama—that ended in Japan's utter devastation—was acted out across the vast theater of Asia in massive clashes between army, air, and naval forces."

[The Philosophy of Chinese Military Culture: Shih vs. Li](#) by William H. Mott & Jae Chang Kim; Palgrave Macmillan (March 16, 2006)

"This volume is a vitally important contribution to understanding the impact of cultural factors on Chinese strategic thought and, as such, a necessary antidote to the unfortunate tendency to analyze other militaries through Euro-American conceptions of war and power."

[The Geography of Thought: How Asians and Westerners Think Differently...and Why](#) by Richard Nisbett; Free Press (March 30, 2004)

"Nisbett reports that an American tends to extract objects from their environments, creating rules to establish relationships, whereas an East Asian conceives of things as inseparable from their context. Ascribing the source of these outlooks to Aristotelian and Confucian conceptions of the world, Nisbett boldly, if controversially, challenges the assumption that all people everywhere think the same way."

[The Philippine War, 1899-1902](#) by Brian McAllister Linn; University Press of Kansas (October 1, 2002)

"In the first comprehensive study in over six decades, Linn provides a definitive treatment of military operations in the Philippines. From the pitched battles of the early war to the final campaigns against guerrillas, Linn traces the entire course of the conflict."

[On Guerilla Warfare](#) by Mao Tse-tung; Various publishers (1937)

"On Guerrilla Warfare by legendary revolutionist Mao Tse-tung is widely considered to be one of the greatest books of all time amongst revolutionaries."