Global Zero Military Incidents Study

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Nuclear Weapons Countries: Military Incidents
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On November 24, 2015, Turkey, a NATO member, shot down a Russian plane that had allegedly entered Turkish airspace while conducting air strikes on Syria. The day before, South Korea conducted live-fire drills in the Yellow Sea despite threats from North Korea. The day after the Russian plane was shot down, India successfully tested a missile launched from the country’s first indigenously developed nuclear attack submarine, the Arihant. Around the world, nuclear weapons countries are participating more frequently in military activities that can escalate into dangerous situations with catastrophic consequences.

Global Zero analyzed over 650 of these publicly known military incidents, culled from online media sources, that occurred over the past 3 years and involved nuclear weapons countries, as well as those under the U.S. nuclear umbrella, in the West (Europe, Canada and the U.S.), East Asia, and South Asia. Each incident has been categorized by region and type of event: air incident (with intercepts indicated); sea incident (with intercepts indicated); military exercise; test launch, flight, or preparation; cross-border incidents or border clashes; and defense news (i.e. military deployment and new weapon announcements). Listed chronologically, this record of incidents is far from exhaustive.

It is important to note defense officials characterize many of the incidents below as routine events. But the growing frequency and at times aggressive nature are troubling and can provide a slippery slope to nuclear use whether by accident or miscalculation. Within each region, incidents that greatly increase the likelihood of a direct military conflict breaking out are categorized as “high-risk.” Those that stray from the norm of routine incidents, resulting in more aggressive or confrontational interaction that can quickly escalate to high-risk incidents or even conflict, are categorized as “provocative.”

This brief is an analytical expansion of the incidents list provided in the Global Zero Commission on Nuclear Risk Reduction report released in April 2015.3 Chaired by former U.S. Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General James E. Cartwright and comprised of international military experts, the commission provided frank analysis of nuclear risk in today’s climate and proposed bilateral and multi-lateral steps that can be taken by these nuclear weapons countries to mitigate these risks, including (1) an urgent agreement between the United States and Russia to immediately eliminate "launch-on-warning" from their operational strategy, and to initiate a phased stand down of their high-alert strategic forces, beginning with taking 20% of both countries' nuclear forces off launch-ready alert within one year and 100% within 10 years; and (2) a longer-term global agreement requiring all nuclear weapons countries to refrain from putting nuclear weapons on high alert. With increases in air and maritime military activity and developing nuclear weapons programs in regions plagued with tense territorial disputes, nuclear weapons countries should take heed and reverse course to prevent catastrophe.

1 The original brief can be found at http://www.globalzero.org/files/military_incidents_updated_12.14.15.pdf
2 The total number of incidents is slightly higher than the sum of the entries listed as some entries consist of multiple incidents (see entry 40 under Russia and the West for an example). If there are more than one of the same incident in one entry the number of incidents is next to the type in parentheses (see entry 107 under Russia and the West for an example).
Tensions between Russia and the West are in a heightened state, having been so since the start of the conflict in Ukraine. We analyzed 331 incidents involving Russia and Western countries (members of NATO and Eastern and Northern Europe). The two maps (Figure 1 and 2 below) provide a snapshot of activity over the past 3 years.

Figure 1. Map of Military Incidents between Russia and the West Each incident is color coded by type: yellow indicates an air incident; orange indicates an air intercept; blue indicates a sea intercept; brown indicates a military exercise; green indicates a test (launch or flight); and grey indicates defense news. Balloon markers indicate routine incidents while diamonds indicate provocative incidents and stars indicate high-risk incidents. Incident locations are approximations.
From the coast of Northwest United States to Eastern Europe, there has been a sharp increase in military incidents involving aircraft over the last three years. In 2014, NATO Sec. Gen. Jens Stoltenberg reported that Russian air activity had increased by 50 percent over the previous year, resulting in more than 400 intercepts of Russian aircraft by NATO fighter jets. By June 2015, NATO had scrambled aircraft deployments more than 250 times with over 120 of the 250 air intercepts that occurred in the first half of 2015 conducted by the Baltic Air Policing mission. The frequency of these intercepts has not been matched since the end of the Cold War.

Of the 331 incidents between Russia and the West analyzed in this brief, 142 – or roughly 43 percent – were air intercepts, and 97 of those – roughly 68 percent of all air intercepts analyzed – were conducted over the Baltic.

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According to NATO officials, jets were scrambled 110 times to intercept Russian military aircraft over the Baltic in 2016. That’s actually down from 2014 and 2015 when NATO jets were scrambled 140 and 160 times, respectively, but 2016 numbers still far exceed annual air incidents over the Baltic before the annexation of Crimea in 2014. NATO jets intercepted Russian aircraft just 43 times in 2013. Maj. Gen. Thierry Dupont, commander of NATO’s Combined Air Operations Center, believes Russia’s focus on activities in Syria could be responsible for the decrease from 2015 to 2016.

Almost half of the sea incidents analyzed – 12 of the 28 – also occurred in the Baltic Region, many of them consisting of reported sightings of Russian naval vessels near territorial waters. The Black Sea has also seen a heavier concentration of military incidents as both Russia and the West keep close watch on events in Crimea and Ukraine. According to Russian Navy Commander Adm. Viktor Chirkov, the number of patrols by Russian submarines, including nuclear submarines, from January 2014 to March 2015 rose by 50 percent. Amidst these more frequent air and sea patrols and escalating tensions, other mostly routine activities, such as military exercises and missile tests, can be mischaracterized, ratcheting tensions even higher.

Increases in military activity alone can be cause for alarm, but the nature of some incidents is also cause for concern, creating progressively dangerous situations that can more readily lead to confrontation. We have identified two high-risk incidents (those that have a high potential to lead to a direct military conflict) involving Russia and the West since March 2014: (1) the Turkish downing of a Russian plane near the Turkish-Syrian border in November 2015; (2) the downing of a commercial flight with nearly 300 onboard in Eastern Ukraine by an unclaimed Russian-made missile in July 2014. Either of these events could have easily triggered a military response or conflict.

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7 Ibid.

8 Ibid.

We have also found 54 provocative incidents – those that stray from the norm of routine incidents, resulting in more aggressive or confrontational interaction that can quickly escalate to higher-risk incidents or even conflict. These incidents include 17 cases of Russian aircraft conducting intercepts at an abnormally close range, four instances of harassment of Turkish jets near the Syrian border, three searches for submerged foreign vessels spotted near or in territorial waters, a surge of US/NATO intercepts of Russian aircraft within a few days in October 2014, April 2016, and the repeated buzzing of a U.S. destroyer in the Black Sea. Provocative or high-risk incidents have occurred in 23 of the past 38 months.

Specifics of all incidents can be found in the incidents list below with high-risk and provocative incidents indicated.

1. **Provocative Incident**
   - **Date:** April 20, 2017
   - **Type:** Air Incident: Intercept
   - **Involving:** Russia and the U.S.
   - **Location:** off the coast of Alaska, USA
   - **Summary:** U.S F-22 and Canadian CS-18 fighters intercept two Russian Tu-95 Bear bombers near Alaska.\(^{10}\)

2. **Date:** April 19, 2017
   - **Type:** Air Incident: Intercept
   - **Involving:** Russia and the U.S.
   - **Location:** off the coast of Alaska, USA
   - **Summary:** U.S. planes shadow a Russian IL-38 maritime patrol and anti-submarine plane near Alaska.\(^{11}\)

3. **Date:** April 18, 2017
   - **Type:** Air Incident: Intercept
   - **Involving:** Russia and the U.S.
   - **Location:** off the coast of Alaska, USA
   - **Summary:** A U.S. AWACS E-3 surveillance plane intercepts two Russian Tu-95 Bear bombers near Alaska.\(^{12}\)

4. **Date:** April 17, 2017
   - **Type:** Air Incident: Intercept
   - **Involving:** Russia and the U.S.
   - **Location:** off the coast of Alaska, USA
   - **Summary:** Two U.S. F-22 fighters intercept two Russian Tu-95 Bear bombers near Alaska.\(^{13}\)

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5. **Date:** April 15, 2017  
**Type:** Sea Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K.  
**Location:** English Channel  
**Summary:** The U.K.’s HMS *Sutherland* escorts two Russian warships, a support tanker and a tug boat through the English Channel.  

6. **Date:** April 13, 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** NATO  
**Location:** Orzysz, Poland  
**Summary:** U.S. troops arrive in Poland as part of a multi-national force of over 1,100 soldiers posted across the Baltic region to counter potential Russian threats.

7. **Date:** April 10-12, 2017  
**Type:** Test  
**Involving:** U.S.  
**Location:** F.E. Warren AFB, Wyoming, USA  
**Summary:** The U.S. Air Force conducts a Simulated Electronic Launch of a Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile.

8. **Date:** April 7, 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** N/A  
**Summary:** U.S. military officials say Russia has agreed to maintain a U.S.-Russia hotline aimed at preventing midair collisions in Syria despite earlier comments from Russia they were suspending “deconfliction” talks after U.S. missile strikes on a Syrian airbase.

9. **Date:** Early April 2017  
**Type:** Test  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** A Russian submarine starts cruise missile drills, successfully striking its target at a training course belonging to the Russian Navy’s Baltic Sea unit.

10. **Date:** March 17, 2017

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Defense News

Involving: NATO

Location: Amari Airbase, Estonia

Summary: British-led troops arrive in Estonia as part of a multi-national force of over 1,100 soldiers posted across the Baltic region to counter potential Russian threats.19

11. Date: March 14, 2017
   Type: Test
   Involving: U.S.
   Location: Tonopah Test Range, Nevada, USA
   Summary: The U.S. Air Force and National Nuclear Security Administration completes the first qualification test of the B61-12 gravity bomb.20

12. Date: February 16, 2017
   Type: Air Incident: Intercept
   Involving: NATO and Russia
   Location: Baltic Sea
   Summary: NATO fighter jets intercept a Russian Il-22 bomber and two Su-27 fighters.21

13. Provocative Incident
    Date: February 15, 2017
    Type: Sea Incident
    Involving: Russia and the U.S.
    Location: 30 miles off the coast of Groton, Connecticut, USA
    Summary: A Russian Auxiliary, General Intelligence (AGI) spy ship is detected near a U.S. submarine base.22

14. Date: February 14-16, 2017
    Type: Test Fire (4)
    Involving: U.S.
    Location: Pacific Missile Range, off the coast of California, USA
    Summary: The U.S. conducts four successful tests of Trident II D5 ballistic missiles from an Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine.23

15. Date: February 14, 2017
    Type: Air Incident: Intercept
    Involving: NATO and Russia

**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** NATO fighter jets intercept a Russian Il-22 bomber and two Su-27 fighters.\(^{24}\)

16. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** February 14, 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Russia  
**Summary:** Reports surface that Russia has secretly deployed a new ground-launched cruise missile in violation of the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty.\(^{25}\)

17. **Provocative Incident (1)**  
**Date:** February 10, 2017  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept (5)  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** Russian aircraft intercept NATO aircraft four times, according to a U.S. Department of Defense official. The incidents involved Russian Su-24 Fencer and Il-38 aircraft. In another incident, a NATO aircraft intercepted a Russian aircraft. The DoD official noted aerial provocations by Russia are winding down.\(^{26}\)

18. **Provocative Incident (3)**  
**Date:** February 10, 2017  
**Type:** Sea Incident (3)  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Black Sea  
**Summary:** Russian aircraft conduct low passes of the USS Porter, a guided missile destroyer. The passes were characterized by a spokesman for U.S. European Command as “unsafe and unprofessional.”\(^{27}\) One armed Russian Su-24 flew within 200 yards of the destroyer, two other Su-24s later flew within 300 yards, and an IL-38 flew at low altitude. All of the aircraft flew without their transponders on.\(^{28}\)

19. **Date:** February 8, 2017  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** U.S.  
**Location:** Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, USA


Summary: The U.S. Air Force conducts a test of an unarmed Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile.29

20. Date: February 7-8, 2017
   Type: Military Exercise
   Involving: Russia
   Location: Around Moscow; Ashuluk, Russia
   Summary: Russia conducts military drills, involving 45,000 troops and 200 air defense missile systems. The exercises practice response to an air attack.30

21. Date: February 7, 2017
   Type: Defense News
   Involving: NATO
   Location: Rukla, Lithuania
   Summary: German and NATO troops arrive in Lithuania as the first of four new battalions in the region. The new battalions have no end dates, but will rotate every six months.31

22. Date: Early February 2017
   Type: Air Incident: Intercept
   Involving: Russia and the U.K.
   Location: Between the Faroe Islands and Shetland Islands
   Summary: British Typhoon fighters intercept two Russian bombers. France and Spain take over the interception as the Russian bombers fly into the Bay of Biscay before turning back to Russia.32

23. Provocative Incident
    Date: January 30, 2017
    Type: Military Exercise
    Involving: NATO and the U.S.
    Location: Zagan, Poland
    Summary: U.S. Army tanks fire salvos to signal U.S. commitment to NATO. “The Iron Brigade,” consisting of 87 tanks, 144 armed vehicles and 3,500 troops – the biggest deployment of U.S. troops in Europe since the Cold War – carried out the drill.33

24. Date: January 30, 2017
   Type: Military Exercise
   Involving: U.K.

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Location: Channel Tunnel
Summary: The U.K. military sends five tanks into the 30-mile “Chunnel” to test its effectiveness in deploying troops to Eastern Europe.  

25. Date: January 25, 2017
   Type: Sea Incident
   Involving: Russia and the U.K.
   Location: English Channel
   Summary: U.K. warships and warplanes track Russia’s aircraft carrier – Admiral Kuznetsov – through the English Channel. The ship, which is heading back to Russia from participating in air strikes in Syria, was called “a ship of shame whose mission has only extended the suffering of the Syrian people” by the British defence secretary. The Russian Defence Ministry “paid attention” to the remarks and commented that they “do not need escort services.”

26. Date: January 23, 2017
   Type: Air Incident: Intercept
   Involving: NATO and Russia
   Location: Baltic Sea
   Summary: NATO Typhoon fighters intercept a Russian IL-20 reconnaissance aircraft.

27. Date: January 17, 2017
   Type: Test Launch
   Involving: Russia
   Location: Plesetsk rocket site, Russia
   Summary: Russia announces the successful test of the Topol-M intercontinental ballistic missile.

28. Provocative Incident
   Date: December 28, 2016
   Type: Defense News
   Involving: Russia
   Location: Russia’s Hmeimim base in Latakia, Syria
   Summary: An Israel satellite captures images of two Russian nuclear-capable Iskander ballistic missiles in Syria.

29. Date: December 19, 2016
   Type: Test Fire
   Involving: U.S.
   Location: Hawaii

Summary: The U.S. test fires SM-6 missiles designed to intercept short-range and medium-range ballistic missile attacks at sea.³⁹

30. Date: December 16, 2016
   Type: Test Flight
   Involving: Russia
   Location: Central Russia
   Summary: Russia successful tests the PL-19 Nudol missile capable of knocking out strategic U.S. communications and navigation satellites.⁴⁰

31. Provocative Incident
   Date: December 1-2, 2016
   Type: Defense News
   Involving: Russia
   Location: Black Sea
   Summary: Russian warships deploy to Crimea’s western coastline to strengthen air defenses while Ukraine undertakes two days of missile tests. The tests also put Russian air defense forces on high alert.⁴¹

32. Provocative Incident
   Date: November 27, 2016
   Type: Test Launch
   Involving: Russia
   Location: Undisclosed
   Summary: Russia tests a nuclear-capable unmanned underwater vehicle, according to U.S. Pentagon officials. The secret drone submarine was mistakenly disclosed by the Russian military in late 2015.⁴²

33. Date: Week of November 7, 2016
   Type: Test Launch
   Involving: Russia
   Location: Plesetsk rocket site, Russia
   Summary: Russia successfully tests intercontinental ballistic missiles intended for the country’s “nuclear trains” program.⁴³

34. Date: November 3-9, 2016
   Type: Military Exercise
   Involving: Russia and Serbia

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Location: Serbia
Summary: Russia and Serbia conduct joint military exercises as a five-day military NATO drill in the area wraps up.44

35. Date: October 31- November 4, 2016
Type: Military Exercise
Involving: NATO
Location: Montenegro
Summary: NATO conducts emergency drills in Montenegro, involving 600 unarmed personnel from 7 NATO counties and 10 partner states.45

36. Date: October 25, 2016
Type: Test Fire
Involving: Russia
Location: Yasny, Orenburg region, Russia
Summary: Russia reportedly tests an RS-18 ballistic missile, which may have been a test of an advanced nuclear-capable hypersonic glider warhead.46

37. Date: October 20, 2016
Type: Military Exercise
Involving: Russia
Location: Luga, Russia
Summary: The Russian defense ministry reports it conducted drills involving Iskander-M missiles approximately 100 kilometers from the border of Estonia.47

38. Date: October 18, 2016
Type: Sea Incident
Involving: Russia and the U.K.
Location: North Sea, English Channel
Summary: Two U.K. warships escort a Russian fleet – the Admiral Kuznetsov aircraft carrier and seven additional vessels – through the North Sea and English Channel on their way to Syria.48

39. Provocative Incident
Date: October 17, 2016
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: Russia and the U.S.
Location: eastern Syria

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Summary: A Russian fighter jet escorting a larger spy plane flies inside of half a mile of a U.S. warplane over Syria. The incident was attributed to lack of necessary situational awareness.  

40. Date: October 12, 2016  
Type: Test Launch (3)  
Involving: Russia  
Location: Sea of Okhotsk; Barents Sea; Plesetsk Space Center, Russia  
Summary: Russia successfully tests two submarine-launched ballistic missiles and one RS-12M intercontinental ballistic missile.  

41. Provocative Incident  
Date: October 8, 2016  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: Russia  
Location: Kaliningrad  
Summary: The Russian defense ministry confirms deployment of the nuclear-capable Iskander missiles in Kaliningrad.  

42. Date: October 6, 2016  
Type: Air Incident  
Involving: Estonia/NATO and Russia  
Location: Baltic Sea  
Summary: Estonia’s ambassador to NATO claims a Russian Su-27 fighter jet violated Estonian airspace. The Russian ambassador was called to the Estonian foreign ministry.  

43. Date: October 6, 2016  
Type: Air Incident: Intercept (2)  
Involving: Finland and Russia  
Location: Baltic Sea  
Summary: Finnish Air Force planes intercept a Russian Su-27 fighter jet twice within 24 hours. Finland’s defense ministry claims the Russian jet violated Finnish airspace, but Russia asserts the plane staying in international airspace.  

44. Date: October 6, 2016  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: Russia  
Location: Russian Far East

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50 “Russian submarines, strategic missile troops test fire 3 long-range ballistic rockets,” RT, October 12, 2016,  
51 Raf Sanchez, “Russia deploys nuclear-capable missiles in Kaliningrad as tensions between US and Russia become ‘more dangerous than Cold War’," The Telegraph, October 8, 2016,  
http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/10/08/tensions-between-us-and-russia-more-dangerous-than-cold-war-as-t/.  
52 Stephen Feller, “Finland monitors Russian jets after making airspace violation accusations,” UPI, October 7, 2017,  
53 Stephen Feller, “Finland monitors Russian jets after making airspace violation accusations,” UPI, October 7, 2017,  
**Summary:** A Russian defense representative confirms that formation of a new division of strategic bombers is almost complete. The division will be deployed in the Eastern and Central military districts and patrol the area over the Western Pacific Ocean.  

45. **Date:** October 5, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Russia  
**Summary:** The Russian government announces the launch of a three-day nationwide civil defense training exercise to “rehearse radiation, chemical and biological protection of the personnel and population during emergencies at crucial and potentially dangerous facilities.” The exercise involved 200,000 emergency personnel and 40 million citizens.  

46. **Date:** Early October 2016  
**Type:** Test Flight (2)  
**Involving:** U.S.  
**Location:** Tonopah Test Range, Nevada, U.S.  
**Summary:** The U.S. successfully tests the B61-7 and B61-11 gravity bombs.  

47. **Date:** September 27, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch (2)  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** White Sea  
**Summary:** Russia test fires two Bulava intercontinental ballistic missiles from the *Yuri Dolgoruky* ballistic missile submarine. One missile self-destructs in flight.  

48. **Provocative Incident (1)**  
**Date:** September 22, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept (5 incidents, including 4 intercepts)  
**Involving:** Iceland, Norway, France, Spain, the U.K., and Russia  
**Location:** Northwest Europe  
**Summary:** Fighter jets from Norway, France, Spain and the U.K. separately intercept two Russian Blackjack bombers flying close to the airspace of each country. Iceland later complained the bombers flew too close to civilian aircraft, coming within 6,000-9,000 feet.  

49. **Date:** September 21, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Russia

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54 [Russian Tu-95 and Tu-22M3 Bombers to Patrol Airspace Between Hawaii and Japan](https://sputniknews.com/russia/201610061046060723-russia-bombers-division/), *Sputnik*, October 6, 2016.  
**Location:** Leningrad Region, Russia  
**Summary:** A spokesman for Russia’s Western Military District reports two S-400 anti-aircraft missile systems have been moved close to the Finnish border.  

50. **Date:** September 17, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** NATO and Russia  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** NATO fighter jets intercept a Russian Il-20 aircraft flying close to the Latvian border.

51. **Date:** September 9, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Plesetsk rocket site, Russia  
**Summary:** Russia announces the successful test of an intercontinental ballistic missile (the exact missile type was not specified).

52. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** September 7, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Black Sea  
**Summary:** A Russian fighter jet intercepts a U.S. Poseidon plane coming within 10 feet of the aircraft.

53. **Date:** September 5-10, 2016  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Southern, Central, and Western Military District, Russia  
**Summary:** Russia conducts the Kavkaz-2016 military exercise, involving over 120,000 people, but no more than 12,500 at one time. Kavkaz-2016 also included the biggest military exercises in Crimea since it was annexed in 2014.

54. **Date:** September 5, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** U.S.  
**Location:** Vandenberg AFB, California, U.S.  
**Summary:** The U.S. successfully tests a Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile.

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55. **Date:** September 2016-January 2017  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept (23)  
**Involving:** NATO and Russia  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** French Mirage jets intercept Russian aircraft 23 times over a four-month period while on a tour of duty in Lithuania. A French official makes it clear the Russian aircraft “take care to remain in international airspace.”

56. **Date:** September 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Kamchatka Peninsula, Russia  
**Summary:** Russia deploys *Vladimir Monomakh*, its latest nuclear submarine, to a deployment base in the Kamchatka Peninsula.

57. **Date:** August 17-20, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch and Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Amur Region and Trans-Baikal Territory  
**Summary:** Russia test fires the nuclear-capable Iskander-M short-range ballistic missile during large-scale military exercise in the Far East, involving 400 officers and 100 pieces of military equipment.

58. **Date:** August 12, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Crimea  
**Summary:** Russia deploys the S-400 Triumph air defense system in Crimea. World powers caution Russia and Ukraine against raising tensions in the region.

59. **Date:** August 1-12, 2016  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** NATO  
**Location:** Lithuania  
**Summary:** Lithuania, Estonia, Poland, and the U.S. conduct live-fire exercises to focus on artillery and mortar fire.

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60. Date: July 27 – September 4, 2016
   Type: Military Exercise
   Involving: Russia
   Location: Astrakhan, Orenburg and Chelyabinsk, Russia; Tajikistan
   Summary: Russia conducts military exercises involving more than 3,000 anti-aircraft gunners, over 800 military units and special air defense equipment.71

61. Date: June 21, 2016
   Type: Test Launch
   Involving: Russia
   Location: Sary-Shagan testing ground, Kazakhstan
   Summary: Russia successfully test fires a short-range anti-ballistic missile.72

62. Date: June 20, 2016
   Type: Test Launch
   Involving: U.K.
   Location: Off the coast of Florida, U.S.
   Summary: A U.K. test of an unarmed Trident II D5 missile fails due to a malfunction. The government withholds news of the failure and, weeks later, Parliament passes a motion in favor of the Trident Replacement plan.73

63. Date: June 14–22, 2016
   Type: Military Exercise
   Involving: Russia
   Location: Russia
   Summary: Russia conducts unannounced military drills to test battle readiness. The number of units involved was not specified.74

64. Date: June 7–17, 2016
   Type: Military Exercise
   Involving: NATO
   Location: Poland
   Summary: Poland leads NATO and non-NATO troops in Anakonda 2016, “the biggest military exercise in eastern Europe since the Cold War.” The training exercise involves over 30,000 military personnel from 24 countries.75

65. **Date:** June 7, 2016  
**Type:** Sea Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K.  
**Location:** North Sea  
**Summary:** The U.K. frigate HMS Kent intercepts what is believed to be the Kilo-class Russian submarine Stary Oskol. 

66. **Date:** May 17, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K.  
**Location:** Near the border of Estonia  
**Summary:** British Typhoon fighter jets intercept five Russian aircraft approaching the Baltic States. The Russian aircraft were not transmitting an identification code and were unresponsive.

67. **Date:** May 13, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** NATO and the U.S.  
**Location:** Redzikowo, Poland  
**Summary:** The U.S. starts construction of a second site for the European missile defense shield.

68. **Date:** May 12, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K.  
**Location:** near the border of Estonia  
**Summary:** British Typhoon fighter jets intercept three Russian transport aircraft approaching the Baltic States. The Russian aircraft were not transmitting an identification code and were unresponsive.

69. **Date:** May 12, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident  
**Involving:** Poland and Russia  
**Location:** Poland-Russian border near Kaliningrad  
**Summary:** Polish Defense Minister Antoni Macierewicz claims Russian unmanned aerial vehicles repeatedly violate Poland’s airspace.

70. **Date:** May 12, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News

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76 “UK Navy Intercepts Russian Submarine in North Sea,” *Sputnik*, June 8, 2016,  
77 “RAF fighters intercept Russian jets near Estonia for second time in a week,” *The Guardian*, May 17, 2016,  
78 Robin Emmott, “U.S. to switch on European missile shield despite Russian alarm,” *Reuters*, May 11, 2016,  
http://www.reuters.com/article/us-nato-shield-idUSKCN0Y217M.  
79 “Typhoon jets intercept Russian planes that committed ‘act of aggression,’” *The Guardian*, May 13, 2016,  
80 “Polish Defense Minister: Russian drones repeatedly violate Poland’s airspace,” *Unian Information Agency*, May 13, 2016,  
Involving: NATO and the U.S.
Location: Deveselu, Romania
Summary: The U.S. declares the missile defense shield in Romania operational.  

71. Provocative Incident
Date: April 29, 2016
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: Russia and the U.S.
Location: Baltic Sea
Summary: A Russian Su-27 intercepts and subsequently conducts a barrel roll over a U.S. reconnaissance plane in international airspace.

72. Provocative Incident (5)
Date: April 26-29, 2016
Type: Air Incident: Intercept (5)
Involving: NATO and Russia
Location: Baltic Sea
Summary: NATO fighter jets intercept Russian military aircraft over the Baltic Sea on five separate occasions:
- April 26: NATO fighters intercept a Russian Su-27 aircraft flying without a flight plan, with its transponder off, and without maintaining communication with air traffic control centers
- April 27: NATO fighters intercept a Russian Il-38 aircraft flying with its transponder off
- April 28: NATO fighters intercept a Russian Il-18 aircraft flying without a flight plan, with its transponder off, and without maintaining communication with air traffic control centers
- April 28: NATO aircraft intercept a Russian Il-38 aircraft flying without a flight plan and its transponder off
- April 29: NATO fighters intercept a Russian Il-20 aircraft flying with its transponder off

73. Date: April 25, 2016
Type: Military Exercise
Involving: Russia
Location: Baltic Sea
Summary: Ten Russian warships participate in sea exercises involving artillery and torpedo firing drills.

74. Date: April 21, 2016
Type: Test Launch
Involving: Russia
Location: Dombarovsky missile base, Orenberg, Russia

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81 Robin Emmott, “U.S. to switch on European missile shield despite Russian alarm,” Reuters, May 11, 2016,
http://www.reuters.com/article/us-nato-shield-idUSKCN0Y217M.
82 Barbara Starr, “First on CNN: Russians ‘barrel roll’ over another U.S. Air Force plane,” CNN, April 29, 2016,
83 “Lithuania reports five Russian aircraft intercepted by NATO in last week,” Unian Information Agency, May 2, 2016,
**Summary:** Russia tests a hypersonic glider able to deliver nuclear or conventional warheads through advanced missile defenses. The glider was launched atop a SS-19 intercontinental ballistic missile.  

75. **Date:** April 21, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** near the Kamchatka Peninsula, Russia  
**Summary:** A Russia MiG-31 jet intercepts a U.S. reconnaissance aircraft. The Russian jet reportedly flew within 50 feet of the U.S. plane, though officials say the intercept was “characterized as safe and professional.”

76. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** April 14, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** A Russian Su-27 fighter jet intercepts a U.S. reconnaissance plane flying over the Baltic Sea in international airspace coming within 50 feet and performing a barrel roll over the top of the U.S. aircraft.

77. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** April 12, 2016  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** Two Russian helicopters fly circles around the USS Donald Cook after which two Russian jets make multiple close passes. Officials describe the incident as having a “Simulated Attack Profile.”

78. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** April 11, 2016  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** Two Russian SU-24 fighters buzz by the USS Donald Cook multiple times, at one point coming within approximately 30 feet of the U.S. destroyer.

79. **Date:** March 29, 2016

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Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: Belarus and Russia  
Location: Russian Central Military District  
Summary: Joint Belarus-Russian military exercises begin in the Central Military District of Russia.  

80. Date: March 28, 2016  
Type: Air Incident  
Involving: NATO and Russia  
Location: Baltic Sea  
Summary: Media reports that the Russian defense minister’s plane, which was escorted by several Su-27 fighter jets, was shadowed by Eurofighter Typhoons designed for NATO.  

81. Date: March 17, 2016  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: Russia  
Location: Russia  
Summary: According to a senior defense industry source, Russia’s Navy has begun testing the hypersonic Zircon cruise missile, which has an expected speed of Mach 5-6 and will be mounted on the Husky-class nuclear submarines.  

82. Date: February 25, 2016  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: U.S.  
Location: Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA, U.S.  
Summary: The U.S. test-fires an unarmed Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile as a demonstration of its nuclear arms capability. The missile flew 4,200 miles before landing in a target area in the Marshall Islands.  

83. Date: February 22, 2016  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: Russia  
Location: Washington  
Summary: Russia files a request to fly a spy plane with advanced digital cameras over the U.S.  

84. Date: February 22, 2016  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: United States  

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**Location:** Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA, U.S.

**Summary:** The U.S. successfully tests an unarmed Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile.  

85. **Date:** February 17, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K.  
**Location:** North Sea  
**Summary:** Royal Air Force Typhoon jets intercept two Russian bombers heading toward U.K. airspace.

86. **Date:** February 8, 2016  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Southwest Russia  
**Summary:** Russia announces a surprise military exercise, ordering troops in the southwest region to full combat readiness.

87. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** January 25, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Black Sea  
**Summary:** A U.S. Air Force RC-135U reconnaissance plane is intercepted by a Russian Su-27 fighter jet over the Black Sea. U.S. officials claim the jet performed “an aggressive maneuver,” coming within 20 feet after flying alongside the reconnaissance plane for some time.

88. **Date:** January 11, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic States  
**Summary:** In 2015, NATO fighters were scrambled 160 times to intercept Russian aircraft violating the airspace of Baltic NATO members. This is a 14 percent increase from the previous year.

89. **Date:** December 19, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** NATO and Russia

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**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** NATO patrol aircraft intercept Russian Il-20 aircraft over the Baltic Sea. The Russian plane did not violate the airspace of any of the Baltic countries.\(^{100}\)

90. **Date:** December 15, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Nyonoksa, Arkhangelsk, Russia  
**Summary:** A cruise missile falls near a village in Russia after a test launch goes astray. No one was hurt.\(^{101}\)

91. **Date:** December 12, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Barents Sea  
**Summary:** Russia successfully test-fires an intercontinental ballistic missile from a submerged nuclear-powered submarine.\(^{102}\)

92. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** November 24, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident  
**Involving:** Russia and Turkey  
**Location:** Syrian-Turkish Border  
**Summary:** Turkish F-16s shoot down a Russian Su-24 warplane near the Syrian border, claiming the jet violated its air space. Turkish officials report that the aircraft was warned 10 times to change direction. Russian President Vladimir Putin said the plane was 1 km inside Syria when it was attacked.\(^{103}\)

93. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** November 22, 2015  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K.  
**Location:** North Sea  
**Summary:** The Royal Air Force launches a search for a Russian submarine spotted off the coast of

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Scotland. Canada and France send maritime patrol aircraft to aid in the search.\textsuperscript{104}

94. Date: November 19, 2015  
Type: Air Incident: Intercept  
Involving: Russia and the U.K.  
Location: North Atlantic  
Summary: U.K. Typhoon fighter jets intercept two Russian Tu-160 Blackjack bombers flying in international airspace over the Atlantic.\textsuperscript{105}

95. Date: November 19, 2015  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: U.S.  
Location: White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, U.S.  
Summary: A Patriot Advanced Capability (PAC-3) missile successfully intercepts a target rocket in an air defense test.\textsuperscript{106}

96. Date: November, 18, 2015  
Type: Test Flight  
Involving: Russia  
Location: Russia  
Summary: Russia completes the first successful test flight of the Nudol anti-satellite missile.\textsuperscript{107}

97. Date: November 17, 2015  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: Russia  
Location: Syria  
Summary: The Russian Tupolev Tu-160 Blackjack strategic bomber and the Raduga Kh-101 cruise missile make their combat debut in Russian strikes against Syrian targets. The Kh-101 is the conventional variant of the cruise missile, which also has a nuclear variant – the Kh-102.\textsuperscript{108}

98. Date: November 14, 2015  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: Russia  
Location: White Sea  
Summary: Russia carries out a successful double test launch of the Bulava ballistic missile from

\textsuperscript{104} “RAF search after ‘Russian submarine spotted off Scotland,’” \textit{BBC News}, November 22, 2015, \url{http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-34896956}.
the submerged strategic submarine, *Vladimir Monomakh*.  

99. **Date:** November 12, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** U.S.  
**Location:** White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, U.S.  
**Summary:** A PAC-3 missile successfully intercepts an airborne missile in an air defense test.  

100. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** November 10, 2015  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Russia  
**Summary:** Kremlin-controlled channels show confidential plans for a nuclear torpedo system on T.V.  

101. **Date:** November 9, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** U.S.  
**Location:** Pacific Ocean near southern California, U.S.  
**Summary:** The U.S. successfully conducts a test launch of the Trident II missile from a ballistic submarine.  

102. **Date:** November 7, 2015  
**Type:** Test launch  
**Involving:** U.S.  
**Location:** Pacific Missile Range Facility, Hawaii, U.S.  
**Summary:** The U.S. Navy successfully tests an unarmed W88 warhead launched atop a Trident II missile from the USS *Kentucky*.  

103. **Date:** November 3, 2015  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Northern and Eastern Russia  
**Summary:** Russian Defense Minister announces that each leg of the strategic nuclear forces triad and high-precision long-range weapons demonstrated high levels of combat readiness when test-
fired during planned military exercises.\textsuperscript{114}

104. **Date:** October 20, 2015  
    **Type:** Test Flight  
    **Involving:** U.S.  
    **Location:** Tonopah Test Range, Nevada, U.S.  
    **Summary:** The U.S. completes a development flight test of the B61-12, an upgraded nuclear gravity bomb.\textsuperscript{115}

105. **Date:** October 16, 2015  
    **Type:** Air Incident  
    **Involving:** Russia and Turkey  
    **Location:** Turkey  
    **Summary:** Turkish jets shoot down a Russian-made drone that had entered Turkish airspace. Russia denied ownership of the drone.\textsuperscript{116}

106. **Provocative Incident**  
    **Date:** October 6, 2015  
    **Type:** Air Incident  
    **Involving:** Russia and Turkey  
    **Location:** Syrian-Turkish Border  
    **Summary:** Turkish officials claim a Russian MiG-29 “harassed” its jets. As a protest, the Russian ambassador was summoned three times.\textsuperscript{117}

107. **Provocative Incidents (2)**  
    **Date:** October 4, 2015  
    **Type:** Air Incidents (2)  
    **Involving:** Russia and Turkey  
    **Location:** Syrian-Turkish Border  
    **Summary:** Russian fighter aircraft enter Turkish airspace despite repeated warnings from Turkey.\textsuperscript{118} The same day, a Russian-made MiG-29, used by both Russia and Syria, locks its radar on two Turkish F-16s along the Syrian border.

108. **Provocative Incident**
   **Date:** October 3, 2015  
   **Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
   **Involving:** Russia and Turkey  
   **Location:** Syrian-Turkish Border  
   **Summary:** Two Turkish F-16s intercept a Russian aircraft that had entered into Turkish airspace during a mission over Syria. The Russian Defense Ministry stated that the Russian Su-30 mistakenly entered Turkish airspace “for a few seconds” due to bad weather.\(^{119}\)

109. **Date:** September 28, 2015  
   **Type:** Test Launch  
   **Involving:** Russia  
   **Location:** Astrakhan Region, Russia  
   **Summary:** Russia conducts a successful test launch of an Iskander-M missile.\(^{120}\)

110. **Date:** September 14, 2015  
   **Type:** Military Exercise  
   **Involving:** Russia  
   **Location:** Central Russia  
   **Summary:** Russia begins its largest military exercise of the year, involving approximately 95,000 troops, 7,000 pieces of military equipment, 170 warplanes and 20 ships. The drills are testing the military’s readiness for a potential international conflict and the destruction of illegal armed groups.\(^{121}\)

111. **Date:** September 12, 2015  
   **Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
   **Involving:** Russia and Denmark  
   **Location:** Baltic Sea  
   **Summary:** Two Danish F-16 fighter jets intercept two Russian Tupolev Tu-22M bombers flying over the Baltic. A Danish military spokesman said the intercept was in “no way dramatic.”\(^{122}\)

112. **Date:** September 11, 2015  
   **Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
   **Involving:** Russia and the U.K.  
   **Location:** North Sea  
   **Summary:** British Royal Air Force Typhoon fighter jets intercept two Russian Tu-160 bombers

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\(^{119}\) Suzannah Cullinane and Zeynep Bilginsoy, “Russia says Turkish airspace violation ‘a mistake,’ Turkish media report,” CNN, October 5, 2015.  
flying near U.K. airspace.123

113. Date: September 7, 2015  
Type: Test Flight  
Involving: Russia  
Location: Crimea  
Summary: Russia tests its new Su-30SM fighter aircraft, which can be used as a bomber, over Crimea.124

114. Date: September 5, 2015  
Type: Air Incident: Intercept  
Involving: Russia and NATO  
Location: Baltic Sea  
Summary: NATO fighter jets intercept a Russian IL-78 refueling tanker aircraft flying with its transponder switched off.125

115. Date: September 4, 2015  
Type: Air Incident: Intercept  
Involving: Russia and NATO  
Location: Baltic Sea  
Summary: NATO fighter jets intercept a Russian Il-38 maritime patrol and anti-submarine warfare aircraft flying with its transponder switched off and no pre-filed flight plan.126

116. Date: September 3, 2015  
Type: Sea Incident  
Involving: Russia and the U.S.  
Location: off the coast of Florida, USA  
Summary: Yanter, a Russian research ship is spotted off the coast of Florida after sailing down the U.S. east coast. The ship is believed to be mapping U.S. communications cables.127

117. Date: August-September 2015  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: NATO  
Location: Germany, Bulgaria

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Summary: NATO troops participate in the military exercise Swift Response 2015, the largest combined airborne training in Europe since the Cold War.\textsuperscript{128}

118. Date: August 31, 2015  
Type: Air Incident: Intercept  
Involving: Russia and NATO  
Location: Baltic Sea  
Summary: NATO fighter jets intercept two Russian SU-27 fighters, two Russian Tu-22 strategic bombers and one An-26 transport aircraft.\textsuperscript{129}

119. Date: August 22, 2015  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: Russia  
Location: Astrakhan Region, Russia  
Summary: Russia completes a successful test-fire of a RS-12M Topol intercontinental ballistic missile.\textsuperscript{130}

120. Date: August 19, 2015  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: U.S.  
Location: Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, U.S.  
Summary: The U.S. test launches a Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) in California.\textsuperscript{131}

121. Date: August 17, 2015  
Type: Air Incident: Intercept  
Involving: Russia and NATO  
Location: Baltic Sea  
Summary: NATO jets intercept Russian Air Force II-20 flying in international airspace above the Baltic Sea.\textsuperscript{132}

\textsuperscript{128} “Major NATO and NATO-related exercises conducted since 2014 in Central Europe and adjacent areas,” European Leadership Network, February 2016,  http://www.europeandleadershipnetwork.org/medialibrary/2016/02/05/03c89df7/Major%20NATO%20Exercises%20TABLE_ELN.pdf.  
122. **Date:** August 15, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercepts (3)  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic States  
**Summary:** NATO aircraft make three intercepts: a Russian Su-24 tactical bomber and three An-26 transport aircraft; an An-26 airport aircraft; and an An-12 transport aircraft.\(^{133}\)

123. **Date:** August 14, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic States  
**Summary:** NATO fighter jets intercept an Il-20 reconnaissance aircraft over the Baltic.\(^{134}\)

124. **Date:** August 13, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic States  
**Summary:** NATO fighter jets escort an Il-20 reconnaissance aircraft over the Baltic.\(^{135}\)

125. **Date:** July 29, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic States  
**Summary:** Norwegian F-16 fighters intercept 12 Russia planes, including four MiG-32 fighters, four Su-242 fighters, two An-26 and one Il-76 transport aircraft.\(^{136}\)

126. **Date:** July 29, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Central Military District, Russia  
**Summary:** Russia conducts a successful test-fire of the Iskander-M tactical missile.\(^{137}\)

127. **Date:** July 24, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept


Involving: Russia and NATO  
Location: Baltic Sea  
Summary: British fighter jets intercept 10 Russian aircraft approaching Baltic airspace near Finland, including four Su-34 fighters, four MiG-31 fighters and two An-26 transport aircraft. The Russian aircraft had turned off their flight transponders.\(^{138}\)

128. Date: July 4, 2015  
Type: Air Incident: Intercept  
Involving: Russia and the U.S.  
Location: Alaskan Coast  
Summary: U.S. fighter jets intercept two Russian Tu-95 bombers off the southern coast of Alaska.\(^{139}\)

129. Date: July 4, 2015  
Type: Air Incident: Intercept  
Involving: Russia and the U.S.  
Location: Pacific Ocean near California, U.S.  
Summary: U.S. F-15 fighter jets intercept two Russian Tu-95 bombers flying about 40 miles off the coast of central California.\(^{140}\)

130. Date: July 1, 2015  
Type: Test Flight  
Involving: U.S.  
Location: Tonopah Test Range, Nevada, U.S.  
Summary: The U.S. successfully flight tests a B61-12 nuclear gravity bomb without a warhead.\(^{141}\)

131. Provocative Incident  
Date: June 26, 2015  
Type: Air Incident: Intercept  
Involving: Russia and Finland  
Location: Finland  
Summary: Finland’s Air Force intercepts Russian Il-76 transport plane after the aircraft entered one kilometer into Finnish territory. The plane was flying without transponders on and failed to

leave Finnish airspace when demanded.142

132. **Date:** June 23, 2015  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** U.S.  
**Location:** Eastern and Central Europe  
**Summary:** Defense Secretary Ash Carter announces that the U.S. will pre-position military equipment including tanks and artillery in eastern and central Europe.143

133. **Date:** June 21, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea, near Lithuanian border  
**Summary:** NATO aircraft intercept to a Russian Il-20 aircraft.144

134. **Date:** June 17, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept (4)  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea, near Lithuanian border  
**Summary:** NATO aircraft perform four intercepts of Russian aircraft, including an Il-22, a MiG-31, an A-50 and An-26, and a Tu-22M bomber.145

135. **Date:** June 17, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept (3) and Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO/U.K.  
**Location:** Baltic Sea; Northern Poland  
**Summary:** Royal Air Force Typhoon fighter jets intercept Russian jets flying close to NATO military exercise in the Baltic three times in 24 hours.146

136. **Date:** June 16, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept (3)

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Involving: Russia and NATO
Location: Baltic Sea, near Lithuanian border
Summary: NATO aircraft perform three intercepts of Russian aircraft, including an A-50 warning and control aircraft, an An-26 transport plane, and a MiG-31 fighter jet.  

137. Date: June 16, 2015
Type: Defense News
Involving: Russia
Location: Russia
Summary: President Putin announces that Russia will add over 40 new intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) to its nuclear weapons arsenal in 2015. He also said Russia will start testing a new long-range radar system. Following the speech, Deputy Defense Minister Anatoly Antonov claimed NATO was pushing Russia into an arms race.

138. Date: June 15, 2015
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: Russia and NATO
Location: Baltic Sea, near Lithuanian border
Summary: NATO aircraft intercept to two Russian reconnaissance planes.

139. Provocative Incident
Date: June 11, 2015
Type: Sea Incident
Involving: Russia and NATO
Location: Baltic Sea
Summary: A Russian military surveillance aircraft flies close to four NATO warships in the Baltic Sea.

140. Date: June 9, 2015
Type: Air Incident: Intercept (2)
Involving: Russia and the U.K.
Location: Baltic Sea
Summary: Royal Air Force Typhoon fighter jets intercept a IL-20M surveillance aircraft flying

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near Baltic airspace and, later, a Russian An-26 transport plane flying from Kaliningrad.151

141. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** May 31, 2015  
**Type:** Sea Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Black Sea  
**Summary:** Russian Su-24 attack aircraft head off a U.S. guided missile destroyer, the USS Ross, which an anonymous source from the Russian Army claimed was acting “aggressively” in the Black Sea. The Pentagon said the ship was carrying out routine operations in international waters.152

142. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** May 30, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercepts (2)  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Black Sea  
**Summary:** Russian Su-27 Flankers intercept a U.S. RC-135 military intelligence aircraft twice as it flew over the international waters of the Black Sea near Ukraine.153 During the first intercept, the Russian fighter jet came within 10 feet of the U.S. plane.154

143. **Date:** May 17-21, 2015  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia and China  
**Location:** Mediterranean Sea  
**Summary:** Russian and China conduct their first-ever joint naval exercises, code named “Joint Sea 2015.” Nine ships from both countries participated in the exercises, which a Russian naval deputy commander explained showed their “readiness to jointly face new threats and challenges at sea, and the ability to safeguard stability practically in any area of the World Ocean.”155

144. **Date:** May 14, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K.

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Location: North Sea
Summary: Royal Air Force Typhoon jets intercept two Russian Bear aircraft approaching U.K. airspace north of Scotland.\(^{156}\)

145. Date: May 12, 2015
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: Russia and the U.K./NATO
Location: Gulf of Finland
Summary: Two RAF Typhoon jets intercept a Russian Ilyushin IL-20 spy plane flying close to Estonian airspace.\(^{157}\)

146. Date: May 2015
Type: Military Exercise
Involving: Russia
Location: Komi Republic, Russia
Summary: Russia begins an unexpected 4-day air force exercise, involving 250 aircraft and 12,000 service personnel.\(^{158}\)

147. Date: May 2015
Type: Military Exercise
Involving: NATO and Sweden
Location: North Sea and Eastern Europe
Summary: NATO countries stage air, land and sea exercises in Lithuania, Estonia and Norway involving over 21,000 troops. Operation Hedgehog launches on May 4 and consists of the biggest ground maneuvers in Estonian history; Operation Lightning Strike in Lithuania tests the effectiveness of military-civilian cooperation with over 3,000 soldiers and police officers; and navies from the U.S., Germany, Norway and Sweden engage in anti-submarine maneuvers in the North Sea.\(^{159}\)

148. Date: April 24, 2015
Type: Test Launch
Involving: Russia
Location: Bidzhan, Russia
Summary: Russia completes computer-simulated launches of Iskander-M tactical missile

49. **Date:** April 22, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Alaskan coast  
**Summary:** Two Russian nuclear capable Tu-95 Bear H bombers flew into the U.S. air defense zone near Alaska. No U.S. interceptor jets were sent to intercept the bombers.\(^{161}\)

50. **Date:** April 14, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept and Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K./NATO  
**Location:** North Sea  
**Summary:** U.K. Royal Air Force Typhoon jets intercept Russian Bear bombers flying close to U.K. airspace at the same time as NATO warships gather in the region for naval war games, which are being inspected by Russian military experts during an official visit.\(^{162}\)

51. **Date:** Mid-April 2015  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** North Atlantic  
**Summary:** The Russian destroyer Severomorsk, a tanker and a tug make their way through the North Sea to anti-aircraft and anti-submarine drills in the northern Atlantic.\(^{163}\)

52. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** April 7, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** A Russian Su-27 fighter intercepts a U.S. RC-135U reconnaissance plane over the Baltic Sea. The U.S. later issues a complaint stating that the Russian fighter’s maneuvers were “unsafe and unprofessional” referencing the belief that the fighter approached the plane by a

\(^{160}\) “Russia Conducts Simulated Launches of Iskander-M Missiles,” *Sputnik International*, April 24, 2015,  

\(^{161}\) Bill Gertz, “Russia Conducts Nuclear Bomber Flight Near Alaska,” *The Washington Free Beacon*, May 1, 2015,  

\(^{162}\) Ben Farmer, “RAF Typhoon jets and Navy escort Russian military visitors around Britain,” *The Telegraph*, April 14, 2015,  

\(^{163}\) Ben Farmer, “RAF Typhoon jets and Navy escort Russian military visitors around Britain,” *The Telegraph*, April 14, 2015,  
distance of only 6 meters.\textsuperscript{164}

153. **Date**: April 3, 2015  
**Type**: Military Exercise  
**Involving**: U.S.  
**Location**: Black Sea  
**Summary**: A U.S. destroyer arrives in the Black Sea in support of NATO drills designed to strengthen security in the region during the Ukraine crisis. The U.S. has also deployed 65 tanks and thousands of troops to Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.\textsuperscript{165}

154. **Date**: March 24, 2015  
**Type**: Air Incident: Intercept and Military Exercise  
**Involving**: NATO and Russia  
**Location**: Baltic, Sweden, and Poland  
**Summary**: NATO fighter jets intercept two Russian Tu-22 nuclear-capable bombers and two Su-27 fighters flying with their transponders switched off near Sweden and the Baltic states.\textsuperscript{166} That same day, U.S. Army troops crossed into Poland from Lithuania during a 1,100-mile trek through Eastern Europe meant to show NATO’s commitment to the region.\textsuperscript{167}

155. **Date**: Mid-March 2015  
**Type**: Test Launch  
**Involving**: Russia  
**Location**: Russia  
**Summary**: Russia completes a successful test launch of the RS-26, a solid-fueled ICBM that is scheduled for combat duty in 2015.\textsuperscript{168}

156. **Date**: March 19, 2015  
**Type**: Defense News  
**Involving**: Russia  
**Location**: Russia  
**Summary**: Russian Navy Commander Adm. Viktor Chirkov reports that the number of patrols by Russian submarines, including nuclear submarines, from January 2014 to March 2015 rose by 50

percent.¹⁶⁹

157. **Date:** March 18, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** NATO and Russia  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** NATO jets intercept Russian military aircraft over the Baltic Sea.¹⁷⁰

158. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** March 16-20, 2015  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** The Artic, Baltic, and Crimea  
**Summary:** Russia conducts military exercises seemingly simulating a full-scale confrontation with NATO including forward-deployed nuclear submarines, strategic bombers, and ballistic missiles. There was no advanced notification of the exercise, which included around 45,000 servicemen, over 40 surface vehicles, 15 submarines and 110 aircraft.¹⁷¹

159. **Date:** February 18, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K.  
**Location:** off the coast of Cornwall, U.K.  
**Summary:** British fighter jets intercept two Russian Bear bombers.¹⁷²

160. **Date:** February 18, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Ireland and Russia  
**Location:** off the coast of Ireland  
**Summary:** The Irish Aviation Authority reports two Tu-95 bombers came within 40 kilometers of the Irish coast, disrupting commercial flight schedules.¹⁷³

161. **Date:** February 17, 2015  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** France, Russia and the U.K.  
**Location:** English Channel

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Summary: Britain’s HMS Argyll shadows a Russian frigate through the English Channel, taking over from French surveillance.174

162. Provocative Incident
Date: February 15, 2015
Type: Military Exercise
Involving: NATO
Location: Western Ukraine
Summary: Troops from 15 countries, including the U.S., begin military exercises in western Ukraine that officials say were planned before the current crisis. NATO also announces the formation of a “spearhead” force of several thousand troops that can be deployed in a matter of days to protect member countries.175

163. Date: February 12, 2015
Type: Military Exercise
Involving: Russia
Location: Throughout Russia
Summary: Large-scale exercises involving Russia’s nuclear missile force take place in 12 regions across the country. More than 30 regiments of the Strategic Missiles Force participate in drills to combat sabotage and chemical weapons attacks.176

164. Date: February 6, 2015
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: Russia and NATO
Location: Baltic Sea near Latvia
Summary: NATO Typhoon fighter jets intercept Russian Ilyushin IL-38 plane over the Baltic Sea.177

165. Date: February 5, 2015
Type: Defense News
Involving: NATO
Location: Eastern Europe
Summary: Members of NATO agree to establish six new command and control posts in Eastern

Europe.  

166. **Date:** February 3, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea near Latvia  
**Summary:** NATO Typhoon jets are sent by the Latvian military to escort a Russian IL-76 military transport plane flying in neutral airspace.  

167. **Date:** February 3, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** Italian Air Force Eurofighter jets deployed in Lithuania intercept a Russian warplane after flying close to NATO airspace over the Baltic Sea.  

168. **Date:** February 2015  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** The Artic  
**Summary:** Russian naval nuclear units, including Borei-class submarines, engage in military exercises in international waters underneath the North Pole. A Russian officer reported the drills focused on “hazard and threat detection, but also on missile launching and navigation maneuvers, ice reconnaissance, submerging and emerging from ice, using torpedoes to undermine ice and many other issues.”  

169. **Date:** January 30, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** NATO and Russia  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** Typhoon fighter jets intercept a Russian Il-78 refueling aircraft over the Baltic Sea.  

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170. **Date:** January 30, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K.  
**Location:** North Sea  
**Summary:** Royal Air Force Typhoon fighter jets intercept Russian fighter jets flying to near Scotland.  

171. **Date:** January 28, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K.  
**Location:** English Channel  
**Summary:** The Royal Air Forces’ Euro Typhoon fighter jets intercept two Russian Tupolev Tu-95s after the Russian bombers, which have the ability to carry nuclear weapons, are seen flying close to British airspace.  

172. **Date:** Week of January 4, 2015  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** Russia, U.K. and the U.S.  
**Location:** off the coast of Scotland  
**Summary:** Two U.S. Navy aircraft join Britain’s HMS Somerset to conduct anti-submarine patrols in search of a Russian vessel.  

173. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** December 12, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident  
**Involving:** Russia and Denmark/Sweden  
**Location:** South of Sweden  
**Summary:** A commercial flight leaving Copenhagen was almost hit by a Russian military jet the Swedish military reports. Russia’s defence ministry denies the report saying the Russian plane was a safe distance of more than 70 kilometers from the flight path of the jet.  

174. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** December 8, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO

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183 “‘Only Russia’ dangerously probes British airspace, says source,” *Euronews*, January 30, 2015,  


185 Jamie Merrill, “MoD asks for American help in searching for Russian submarine near Scotland,” *The Independent*, January 8, 2015,  

186 “Russia denies near miss with Copenhagen flight,” *The Local*, December 14, 2014,  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** NATO releases a video showing alliance F-16s intercepting Russian military aircraft over the Baltic Sea. More than 30 types of Russian military aircraft were reported to be in the area.\(^{187}\)

175. **Date:** December 8, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and Canada  
**Location:** Alaskan Air Defense Zone  
**Summary:** Two Canadian F-18s intercept two Russian Bear bombers that had entered into the Alaska air defense identification zone. The bomber never entered sovereign U.S. or Canadian airspace.\(^{188}\)

176. **Date:** December 7, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Lithuanian airspace  
**Summary:** Two Russian military transport aircraft and one bomber training aircraft are intercepted by two Canadian CF-18 Hornets based in Lithuania.\(^{189}\)

177. **Date:** December 6-7, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** U.S. and NATO intelligence closely monitor about a dozen Russian aircraft including bombers in the Baltic Sea.\(^{190}\)

178. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** December 1, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and Norway  
**Location:** North of Norway  
**Summary:** The Norwegian Armed Forces release video of a Russian MiG-31 cutting in front of two Norwegian F-16s sent to intercept the aircraft in international airspace by NATO. The actual

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date of the incident was not disclosed. 191

179. **Date:** Early December 2014  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** Canada, France, U.K., U.S.  
**Location:** off the west coast of Scotland  
**Summary:** Planes from the U.S., France and Canada help the U.K. search for a submarine sighted off the west coast of Scotland.192

180. **Date:** November 28, 2014  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Barents Sea  
**Summary:** Russia’s Borei-class submarine – the *Alexander Nevsky* – successfully test-launches the new submarine-launched Bulava intercontinental missile in the Barents Sea.193 The *Alexander Nevsky* continues to undergo seat trials and will receive a full load of missiles in 2015.194

181. **Date:** November 25, 2014  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K.  
**Location:** English Channel  
**Summary:** Russian warships are permitted to move through the English Channel under international law. The warships – a destroyer, a landing craft, a rescue tugboat and a tank ship – carry out exercises and are monitored by the U.K.’s HMS *Tyne* patrol boat, armed with a canon and machine guns. The Russian ships comply with all maritime reporting regulations.195

182. **Date:** November 21, 2014  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Across NATO countries  
**Summary:** NATO Sec. Gen. Jens Stoltenberg states that there have been more than 400 intercepts of Russian aircraft by NATO fighter jets this year – a 50% increase in Russian air activity over the

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past year.\(^{196}\)

183. **Date:** November 19, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea near Latvia  
**Summary:** NATO CF-18 Hornet fighters intercept a Russian IL-20 military surveillance plane over international waters near Latvian seas.\(^{197}\)

184. **Date:** November 17, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea near Latvia  
**Summary:** NATO F-16 jets intercept a Russian Su-27 fighter plane over international waters near Latvian seas.\(^{198}\)

185. **Date:** November 15 and 18, 2014  
**Type:** Sea Incidents (2)  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea near Latvia  
**Summary:** A Russian navy tanker ship is spotted 11.6 nautical miles from Latvian waters – the second sighting in the past three days.\(^{199}\)

186. **Date:** November 15, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea near Latvia  
**Summary:** Eurofighter Typhoons intercept two Russian Su-27 fighter planes over international waters near Latvian territory.\(^{200}\)

187. **Date:** November 12, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO

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**Location:** Baltic Sea

**Summary:** Two Dutch F-16 fighter jets intercept a Russian Ilyushin transport aircraft flying near Lithuania and Estonian airspace. The Dutch Foreign Ministry released a statement saying the Russian aircraft was flying in international airspace when it approached the airspace of the two countries without filing a flight plan.  

188. **Date:** November 12, 2014  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Western Atlantic and Eastern Pacific  
**Summary:** Russian Defense Minister Shoigu announces the country will send long-range bombers to patrol the western Atlantic and eastern Pacific in response to NATO’s “anti-Russia inclinations.” He does not say when the flights would start or how frequently they would be conducted. Shoigu also says conditions in Ukraine “dictate the necessity to maintain readiness of troops” along Russia’s border with Ukraine and that defense reinforcements would continue to be provided to Crimea.  

189. **Date:** November 8, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Canada/NATO and Russia  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** Two Canadian CF-18 Hornets intercept a Russian Il-20 aircraft inside Lithuanian airspace.  

190. **Date:** November 6, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** The Latvian Army announces NATO F-16 fighter jets intercepted a Russian IL-20 surveillance plane in the Baltic Region near Latvia’s territorial waters.  

191. **Date:** November 6, 2014  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Russia and Ukraine  
**Location:** Luhansk Region, Ukraine

### Notes


Summary: Ukraine reports that Russia continues to supply military vehicles and manpower to the rebels in Eastern Ukraine. According to a military spokesman, “32 tanks, 16 howitzers and 30 trucks with ammunition and manpower crossed the border from Russia” into the Luhansk region.

192. Date: November 4, 2014
Type: Sea Incident
Involving: Russia and Portugal
Location: Portugal’s Exclusive Economic Zone
Summary: A Portuguese news site reports that a Russian hydrographic ship was detected in Portugal’s exclusive economic zone and escorted by a Portuguese navy ship.

193. Date: November 1, 2014
Type: Test Launch
Involving: Russia
Location: Plesetsk, Russia
Summary: Russia successfully tests the Topol-M ICBM.

194. Provocative Incident
Date: October 31, 2014
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: Russia
Location: Norwegian and North Seas
Summary: Norwegian F-16s intercept 4 Russian Tu-95 strategic bombers and 4 Il-78 tankers; two bombers fly on toward U.K. airspace and are intercepted and escorted out of U.K.-monitored airspace by RAF Typhoons.

195. Provocative Incident
Date: October 30, 2014
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: Russia and NATO
Location: Baltic, North and Black Seas
Summary: NATO F-16 jets intercept a Russian Su-27 fighter, and Eurofighter aircraft shadow an IL-76 military transport plane. “NATO warplanes (monitor) four groups of Russian military aircraft conducting ‘significant’ maneuvers in European airspace over the Baltic, North and Black Seas.”

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196. **Date:** October 29, 2014  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Barents Sea  
**Summary:** Russian SSBN *Yury Dolgoruky* completes a test launch of the Bulava missile while submerged in the Barents Sea. It is the first operational test launch of the Bulava and the first time a Borei-class sub was equipped with a full set of missiles on board when the test launch was completed.  

197. **Provocative Incident (1)**  
**Date:** October 29, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept (3)  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** North Sea and Portuguese Coast  
**Summary:** Norwegian F-16s intercept 4 Tu-95 strategic bombers and 4 IL-78 tanker aircraft over the North Sea; six of the Russian aircraft turn back toward Russia while two bombers continue south-west. U.K. Typhoon fighters are scrambled to intercept as the two bombers fly on to the Portuguese coast where Portuguese F-16s intercept them. The Russian bombers turn back toward the U.K. as NATO aircraft in the area track their progress.

198. **Date:** October 29, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** Portuguese F-16s assigned to the NATO air-policing mission over the Baltic members intercept two MiG-31s, two Su-34s, one Su-27 and two Su-24s over the Baltic Sea.

199. **Date:** October 29, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** Turkish fighters intercept 2 Tu-95 Bear H-bombers and 2 Su-27 fighters over the Baltic Sea.

200. **Date:** October 28, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept

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Involving: Russia and NATO
Location: Baltic Sea
Summary: German Typhoon fighter jets from Baltic air patrols intercept 2 Russian MiG-31s, 2 Su-34s, 1 Su-27 and 2 Su-24 jest in the Baltic Sea.  

201. Provocative Incident
Date: Late October 2014
Type: Military Exercise
Involving: NATO
Location: Ghedi airbase, Northern Italy
Summary: NATO holds an annual exercise – Steadfast Noon 2014 – to train units employing nuclear weapons. Polish F-16s, which are not known to be assigned a nuclear mission, are believed to participate in the exercise for the first time.

202. Provocative Incident
Date: October 21, 2014
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: Russia and NATO
Location: Baltic Sea
Summary: A Russian maritime spy plane (an Ilyushin 20 “Coot”) flies into Estonian territory. Fighters are scrambled from Lithuania, where NATO’s Baltic air policing force is stationed, and from Denmark and Sweden as the aircraft circle the Baltic Sea. An Estonian official reports the Russian spy plane flew more than 500m into Estonian airspace for about a minute close to the large, inhabited islands of Hiiumaa and Saaremaa off the Baltic state’s west coast. The spy plane is intercepted and escorted out of Estonian airspace by Portuguese F-16 fighters, based in Lithuania as part of NATO’s Baltic air policing mission.

203. Provocative Incident
Date: October 18, 2014
Type: Sea Incident
Involving: Russia and Sweden
Location: Sweden
Summary: More than 100 reports of public sightings of near-coast activity by an “unknown craft” trigger the largest sub hunt by the Swedish Navy since the end of the Cold War. Sweden’s operations commander clarified that they have not signaled out Russia, saying they are searching for a “foreign vessel.” Sweden seemed to pull back on its search on October 24. Russia’s reaction: all “underwater vessels are accounted for” and Russia has never violated Swedish territorial waters.

204. Date: October 18, 2014
Type: Sea Incident

Involving: Russia and Sweden  
Location: Sweden  
Summary: The Swedish Navy monitors – in coordination with Denmark and Finland – the movement of the *NS Concord*, a Russian-owned oil tanker that has been “zig-zagging” close to the Swedish coast despite having a listed port destination in Denmark. The last observed movements were reportedly consistent with “normal movements of a crude oil tanker.”

205. **Date:** October 7, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept (2)  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** NATO planes intercept a Russian Su-27 fighter jet and an An-26 military transport plane over the Baltic Sea. A Swedish JAS Gripen fighter jet intercepts a foreign aircraft, but does not specify the nationality.

206. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** September 19, 2014  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** Russia and Lithuania  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs send a note to the Russian embassy protesting the detainment of a Lithuanian fishing vessel in international waters. Russian officers accused the vessel of illegal crab fishing in Russia’s exclusive economic zone.

207. **Date:** September 18, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and Canada  
**Location:** Beaufort Sea  
**Summary:** A patrol of Russian bombers flies within 40 nautical miles of Canada’s northern landmass the day after Ukraine’s President received a “hero’s welcome” in Ottawa for his struggle to defend his country from Moscow’s aggression. Canada scrambles CF-18s to intercept the two Russian long-range bombers at about 4:30 a.m. ET. The Canadian planes encounter Russia’s planes in the Beaufort Sea.

208. **Date:** September 17, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Alaskan coast

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Summary: American F-22 jets are dispatched to intercept six Russian military aircraft including MiG-31 fighters flying within 55 nautical miles of the Alaskan coastline. Officials in Washington believe the two incidents – Russian aircraft coming with 74 kilometers of Canada’s coastline (above) and less than 102 kilometers of Alaska – are linked to Mr. Poroshenko’s trips to Canada and the U.S.⁹³²

209. Date: September 14, 2014
   Type: Military Exercise
   Involving: NATO
   Location: Lviv, Ukraine
   Summary: Troops from 15 countries, including the U.S., begin the military exercise Rapid Trident along the Ukrainian-Polish border. The drill, planned prior to the crisis in Ukraine, proceeds as fighting between government forces and pro-Russian rebels continues in eastern Ukraine.⁹³³

210. Date: September 11, 2014
   Type: Air Incident: Intercept
   Involving: Russia and Canada
   Location: Baltic Sea
   Summary: Canadian CF-18 fighter jets armed with Sidewinder missiles intercepts a Russian An-26 flying over the Baltic Sea.⁹³⁴

211. Provocative Incident
   Date: September 2014
   Type: Sea Incident
   Involving: Russia and Canada
   Location: Black Sea
   Summary: A Russian surveillance aircraft and two Russian fighter jets “buzz” Canadian warship HMCS Toronto in the Black Sea coming within 200 meters of the ship.⁹³⁵

212. Date: Early September 2014
   Type: Military Exercise
   Involving: Russia
   Location: Northern Atlantic
   Summary: Two Russian Tu-95 Bear bombers practice cruise missile attacks.⁹³⁶

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213. **Date:** Week of August 25, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incidents (3)  
**Involving:** Russia and Finland  
**Location:** Gulf of Finland  
**Summary:** A Russia AN-72 transport plane crosses the Finnish border after two similar incidents earlier in the week.  

214. **Date:** August 28, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** NATO MiG-29 jets intercept a Russian advance warning aircraft and two Su-27 fighter jets over the Baltic Sea near Latvia.  

215. **Date:** August 8, 2014  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** Russia and Latvia  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** Russian corvette *Stoiky* and tugboat *Victor Konetsky* spotted 12 nautical miles from Latvia’s maritime borders.  

216. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** August 7, 2014  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Barents Sea  
**Summary:** Russian news agencies report that the Russian Northern Fleet’s anti-submarine force detected a foreign submarine in the country’s boundary waters. Russia sent an anti-submarine attack group and an Il-38 anti-submarine aircraft to the area to track the sub presumed to be a U.S. Navy Virginia-class vessel.  

217. **Date:** August 3, 2014  
**Type:** Sea Incidents (2)  
**Involving:** Russia and Latvia  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** Russian corvette *Stereguschy* is spotted 5.7 nautical miles from Latvia’s maritime borders and an unnamed Kilo-class submarine is spotted 1.7 nautical miles from Latvia’s maritime borders.  

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Date: August 2, 2014 and early September 2014
Type: Sea Incident: Intercepts (2)
Involving: Russia and Finland
Location: Baltic Sea
Summary: Finnish Environmental Institute reports Russian military ships intercepted one of the institute’s research vessels in international waters twice recently. On August 2, a Russian warship ordered the Aranda to change course through radio contact. A month later, a Russian helicopter and a military vessel approached it. The institute said the Aranda did not change its course or speed in either case.

Date: August 1, 2014
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: Russia and NATO
Location: Baltic Sea
Summary: Polish MiG-29 fighter jets intercept Russian fighter jets flying over neutral waters over the Baltic Sea near Estonia.

Provocative Incident (1)
Date: July 29-August 7, 2014
Type: Air Incident (16)
Involving: Russia and the U.S.
Location: Alaskan air defense identification zone, U.S.
Summary: U.S. defense officials report that Russian Tu-95 Bear bombers have conducted 16 incursions into northwestern U.S. air defense identification zones within 10 days. U.S. fighter jets are sent to intercept on several occasions.

Date: July 22, 2014
Type: Sea Incident
Involving: Russia and Latvia
Location: Baltic Sea
Summary: Russian naval ship Syndran spotted about 6.5 nautical miles from Latvia’s maritime borders.

Provocative Incident
Date: July 18, 2014
Type: Air Incident: Intercept

234 As exact dates for each incursion/intercept were not given, we attempted to evenly distribute the incidents within the 10 days, allocating 5 incidents to July and 11 incidents to August. Bill Gertz, “Russian Strategic Bombers Conduct More Than 16 Incursions of U.S. Air Defense Zones,” The Washington Free Beacon, August 7, 2014, http://freebeacon.com/national-security/russian-strategic-bombers-conduct-more-than-16-incursions-of-u-s-air-defense-zones/.
Involving: Russia and the U.S.
Location: Sweden
Summary: Russian military tracks the A U.S. Air Force RC-135 Rivet Joint (spy plane) – flying in international airspace conducting an electronic eavesdropping mission on the Russian military – using land-based radar. “At least one fighter jet” is sent by the Russians to intercept the spy aircraft causing the spy plane to quickly divert into Swedish airspace without permission from the Swedish military.  

223. High-Risk Incident
Date: July 17, 2014
Type: Air Incident
Involving: Russia and Ukraine
Location: Hrabove, Ukraine
Summary: A commercial flight with almost 300 onboard is shot down in eastern Ukraine. The Dutch Safety Board later concluded the plane was shot down by a Russian-made Buk missile, but did not report on who had launched the missile.

224. Provocative Incident
Date: July 16, 2014
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: Russia and Sweden
Location: Baltic Sea
Summary: A Russian Su-27 Flanker intercepts a Swedish electronic intelligence aircraft flying as close as 10.7 meters to the spy plane. Swedish officials say that while the spy planes are almost always intercepted by Russian armed fighters, the behavior of the Russian jets have become increasingly aggressive.

225. Date: June 21 and 24, 2014
Type: Sea Incidents (2)
Involving: Russia and Latvia
Location: Baltic Sea
Summary: Russian naval ships Soobrazitelny and Boikiy are spotted just off Latvia’s maritime borders on two occasions.

226. Date: June 20, 2014
Type: Test Launch and Military Exercise
Involving: Russia
Location: Russia
Summary: Russia test launches six AS-15 missiles from a Bear bomber during military
exercises.  

227. **Date:** June 18, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K/NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** U.K. Royal Air Force Typhoons are launched after detection of four separate groups of Russian aircraft – including a Tu-22 bomber, 4 Su-27s fighters, a Beriev A50 early warning aircraft and an Antonov An-26 transport aircraft – in international airspace near the Baltic States. The Russian aircraft are monitored and “escorted on their way.”

228. **Date:** June 12, 2014  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Kaliningrad, Russia  
**Summary:** Russia begins military exercises in response to NATO drills in parts of Eastern Europe, according to the Russian Defence Ministry.

229. **Date:** June 9-20, 2014  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Demark, Poland, Norway, Canada, the U.K., and the U.S.  
**Location:** Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania  
**Summary:** The U.S. leads troops from Demark, Poland, Norway, Canada and the U.K. in the military exercise Saber Strike 2014.

230. **Provocative Incident (1)**  
**Date:** June 12, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept (4)  
**Involving:** Russia and NATO  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** NATO patrol aircraft intercept Russian aircraft a record four times in one day. Sixteen Russian aircraft were spotted in the area.

231. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** June 9, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Aleutian Islands and Off the Californian coast, U.S.

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**Summary:** Two Russian Bear bombers fly within 50 miles of the California coast, the closest strategic bomber flights to a U.S. coast since the Cold War.\(^{245}\)

232. **Date:** June 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept (2)  
**Involving:** Russia and Canada  
**Location:** Artic Sea  
**Summary:** Canadian fighters intercept Russian bombers flying over the artic on two occasions.\(^{246}\)

233. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** June 2014  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia and Denmark  
**Location:** Bornholm, Denmark  
**Summary:** A Danish Defence Intelligence Service assessment reveals that Russia carried out a simulated attack on a Danish island in June when politicians and journalists were gathered for an annual political meeting.\(^{247}\)

234. **Date:** May 18, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.K.  
**Location:** Baltic Sea  
**Summary:** Royal Air Force Typhoon fighters intercept a Russian naval helicopter close to Latvian airspace.\(^{248}\)

235. **Date:** May 8, 2014  
**Type:** Military Exercise and Test Fire (3)  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Plesetsk launch facility, Russia; Pacific Ocean, Northern Russia  
**Summary:** Russia conducts nuclear attack response exercises, involving land- and sea-based missile launches. As part of the exercise, Russia test fired a Topol ICBM and long-range ballistic missiles from two submarines.\(^{249}\)

236. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** April 23, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Okhotsk Sea

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Summary: A U.S. Air Force RC-135U aircraft flying on a routine mission over the Sea of Okhotsk and is intercepted by a Russian Su-27 Flanker aircraft. The Russian jet flew within 100 feet of the nose of a U.S. Air Force reconnaissance plane. The Russian aircraft turned and "showed its belly" to the U.S. crew so they could see it was armed with missiles, a U.S. military official said. On April 28, a Russian Defense Ministry statement said Russian Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu and U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel had discussed both incidents during a phone call that day. Shoigu "offered to instruct the commanders in chief of the armed forces of both countries to discuss possible additional measures to address the interests of both countries to prevent future misperceptions of actions."250

237. Date: April 23, 2014
Type: Sea Incident: Intercept
Involving: Russia and the Netherlands
Location: North Sea
Summary: Britain’s HMS Dragon intercepts the Russian ship Vice Admiral Kulakov in a “standard” event.251

238. Date: April 23, 2014
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: Russia and the Netherlands
Location: North Sea
Summary: Two Russian military aircraft enter Dutch airspace prompting two Dutch F-16s to be dispatched to escort the Russian planes out of national airspace. A Dutch official called this a fairly routine action with these types of incidents happening about 4 or 5 times a year.252

239. Date: April 23, 2014
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: Russia and the U.K.
Location: North Sea
Summary: Royal Air Force Typhoon fighter jets are sent to investigate two Russian military aircraft approaching U.K. airspace. The aircraft turn away shortly after the RAF fighter jets are dispatched.253

240. Date: April 12, 2014
Type: Sea Incident
Involving: Russia and the U.S.
Location: Black Sea
Summary: An unarmed Russian Su-24 attack aircraft makes 12 passes of the USS Donald Cook, a

U.S. warship patrolling in the western Black Sea.\textsuperscript{254}

241. \textbf{Date:} April 10, 2014  
\textbf{Type:} Sea Incident: Intercept  
\textbf{Involving:} Russia and Lithuania  
\textbf{Location:} Baltic Sea  
\textbf{Summary:} Lithuanian Navy’s Lindau-class mine hunter and an air force Mil MI-8 helicopter intercept two Russian Navy vessels that had entered Lithuania’s Baltic maritime economic zone.\textsuperscript{255}

242. \textbf{Date:} March 14, 2014  
\textbf{Type:} Air Incident: Intercept  
\textbf{Involving:} Russia and the U.S.  
\textbf{Location:} Crimea  
\textbf{Summary:} Russia reports interception of a U.S. surveillance drone flying about 4,000 meters above Crimea.\textsuperscript{256}


Global Zero analyzed 231 incidents in East Asia where North Korea continues to develop their nuclear weapons program while engaging in provocative military threats amidst U.S. threats and U.S.-South Korea joint military exercises. Further south, China is building its military to exert influence on the region and defend disputed territory in the East and South China Seas. Russia has also been flexing its muscle in East Asia through military exercises and circumnavigations of U.S. military bases in Guam.

There were 114 incidents involving North and/or South Korea of which five involved cross-border activities (artillery firing or propaganda broadcasts) and ten involved missiles drills by North Korea in response to U.S.-South Korea military exercises. Tensions were so high in mid-August 2015 annual joint exercises were briefly suspended after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un put his troops in a “quasi-state of war.” Days later an agreement between the North and South was reached and tensions eased.
Recently, the Korean Peninsula has been heating up. In April 2017 alone, six provocative incidents occurred, including the announcement of the redeployment of the U.S. Carl Vinson Strike Group to the Western Pacific, indications of preparations for a nuclear test by North Korea, heightened rhetoric from the North Korean regime and the U.S. with each side warning pre-emptive strikes are on the table, and a North Korean military parade showcasing new missiles and capabilities. The U.S. and South Korea also continued conducting joint military exercises and North Korea tested two missiles, though both failed shortly after launch.

Despite international warnings and condemnations of North Korea’s nuclear program, the country continues to push forward. Over the 38-month period, North Korea conducted at least 48 test launches, including tests of submarine-launched ballistic missiles and tests of engines experts suspect are part of the regime’s development of an intercontinental ballistic missile that could reach targets in the U.S. Nine missiles were test-fired from February-April 2017. North Korea also conducted its fourth and fifth nuclear tests in 2016 – one in January and another in September, indicating its commitment to developing a credible nuclear deterrent capable of striking the U.S.
Ninety-nine of the 231 incidents in the region involved Chinese activities many of which pertain to two territorial disputes: The Spratly Islands and the Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands. The Spratly Islands are hotly contested islands in the South China Sea claimed by China, Vietnam, Malaysia and the Philippines. There are also disputes over the territorial waters surrounding the islands. China has been building artificial islands in the area and conducting military exercises in the South China Sea. The U.S. has sent bombers near the area and warships through the contested waters amidst China’s objections. The Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands are islands claimed by both China and Japan in the East China Sea. Japan reported a record high number of intercepts over a six-month period: from April to September 2015, Japan intercepted Chinese aircraft on 231 occasions. With two major territorial disputes and tense relations with major players in the region, the flexing of military might provides numerous opportunities for unintended escalation.

Figure 6. A Closer Look at Incidents in the South and East China Seas Each incident is color coded by type: yellow indicates an air incident; orange indicates an air intercept; blue indicates a sea intercept; brown indicates a military exercise; green indicates a test (launch or flight); and grey indicates defense news. Balloon markers indicate routine incidents while diamonds indicate provocative incidents and stars indicate high-risk incidents.

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In East Asia, we have identified 3 high-risk incidents (those that have a high potential to lead to a direct military conflict) since March 2014: (1) the Cross-border artillery fire between North and South Korea in August 2015 mentioned above; (2) injuries to two South Korean soldiers after triggering a landmine reportedly planted by North Korea in the South-controlled Demilitarized Zone on August 4, 2015; and (3) the killing of the captain of a Chinese fishing vessel by the South Korean Coast Guard while it was attempting to impound the vessel for allegedly fishing in South Korean waters.

The region was also the scene of 73 provocative incidents, which are more aggressive in nature than routine incidents. In addition to those discussed above, there were provocative incidents include eight encounters between U.S. or Japanese aircraft and Chinese military aircraft deemed “unsafe” by officials, five instances of U.S. military presence near Taiwan or in the South China Sea near disputed territory drawing condemnation from China, four Chinese live-fire drills in areas of disputed territory, two North Korean nuclear tests, two cases of warning shots fired by South Korea to discourage North Korea from crossing the Demilitarized Zone, Chinese deployment of anti-ship cruise missiles on a disputed island in the South China Sea, and the detainment of the captain of a Chinese fishing boat by Japan for reportedly fishing in Japanese waters. Eleven of the past twelve months have seen at least one provocative incident, each contributing to tense relations in the region and increasing the likelihood of escalation.

More specifics of all incidents are below with high-risk and provocative incidents indicated.

1. **Date:** April 29, 2017  
   **Type:** Test Launch  
   **Involving:** North Korea  
   **Location:** Pukchang airfield, North Korea  
   **Summary:** A North Korean ballistic missile test fails.\(^{258}\)

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\(^{258}\) Matt Stiles, “North Korea’s latest missile test fails, U.S. says,” *Los Angeles Time*, April 28, 2017,  
2. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** April 28, 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** U.S.  
**Location:** Sea of Japan  
**Summary:** The U.S. Carl Vinson Strike Group reaches the Sea of Japan.  

3. **Date:** April 23, 2017  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Japan and the U.S.  
**Location:** Philippine Sea  
**Summary:** The U.S. Carl Vinson Strike Group and Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force begin at-sea bilateral exercises designed to improve maritime response and defense capabilities.

4. **Date:** April 20, 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** China  
**Summary:** According to a U.S. official, China’s bombers are placed on high alert in what is thought to be a temporary measure aimed at the growing tensions on the Korean Peninsula. The Chinese Ministry of National Defense said the claim was “not true.”

5. **Date:** April 20, 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** South Korea and the U.S.  
**Location:** East of the Korean Peninsula  
**Summary:** The U.S. dispatches a nuclear sniffer aircraft.

6. **Date:** April 17-29, 2017  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** South Korea and the U.S.  
**Location:** Kunsan Air Base, South Korea  
**Summary:** Over 1,500 troops from the U.S. and South Korea participate in annual military exercise Max Thunder 17 designed to improve interoperability.

7. **Date:** April 16, 2017

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**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Sinpo, North Korea  
**Summary:** A North Korean ballistic missile explodes within seconds of launch.

8. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** April 15, 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Pyongyang, North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea displays new missiles during a military parade on the anniversary of its founder Kim Il Sung. The parade included canisters for intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarine-launched ballistic missiles, fins on missiles that could maneuver a missile to hit a target, and the new Korean People’s Army special operation forces.

9. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** April 13, 2017  
**Type:** Test Preparation  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Punggye-ri nuclear test site, North Korea  
**Summary:** Commercial satellite images show activity around North Korea’s Punggye-ri nuclear test site, indicating the country could test a nuclear device at any time.

10. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** April 13, 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** U.S.  
**Location:** 300 miles off North Korean coast  
**Summary:** U.S. intelligence officials say the U.S. is prepared to launch a preemptive strike against North Korea if officials are convinced they are about to test a nuclear weapon. Two U.S. destroyers capable of shooting Tomahawk cruise missiles are positioned in the region – one 300 miles from the North Korean nuclear test site.

11. **Date:** April 12, 2017

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12. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** April 11, 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** North Korea and the U.S.  
**Location:** Pyongyang and Washington, D.C.  
**Summary:** North Korea and the U.S. trade threats as tensions rise in Korean Peninsula. North Korea warned of “the toughest counteraction” against any further U.S. provocations. The warning comes after U.S. President Donald Trump said the U.S. was “sending an armada” toward the Korean Peninsula and hinted the U.S. would take unilateral action if necessary to “solve the problem” of North Korea.²⁶⁹

13. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** April 8, 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** U.S.  
**Location:** Western Pacific Ocean  
**Summary:** Adm. Harry Harris, commander of U.S. Pacific Command, announces the redeployment of the Carl Vinson Strike Group, including the aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson, from planned port visits in Australia to the Western Pacific. The move was seen as a signal to North Korea and U.S. allies Japan and South Korea.²⁷⁰ After persistent reports the Vinson was nearing Korea, a picture released by the Navy showed the carrier group operating south of Singapore, participating in scheduled exercises with Australia.²⁷¹

14. **Date:** April 5, 2017  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Sinpo, North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea completes a test of a ballistic missile, likely a KN-15 intermediate-range nuclear-capable missile the North first launched in February. The test came a day before Chinese


April 11, 2017,  

²⁷⁰ David B. Larter, “Korea crisis deepens as the US dispatches the Carl Vinson strike group to the region,” *The Navy Times*,  
April 9, 2017,  

²⁷¹ Christopher P. Cavas, “Nothing to see here: US carrier still thousands of miles from Korea,” *Defense News*,  
April 17, 2017,  
President Xi Jinping met with U.S. President Trump.\(^{272}\)

15. **Date:** Early April 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Japan and the U.S.  
**Location:** Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, Japan  
**Summary:** The U.S. deploys an observation aircraft in Okinawa to detect possible nuclear weapons test by North Korea.\(^{273}\)

16. **Date:** April 3, 2017  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Japan, South Korea, and the U.S.  
**Location:** Off the southern coast of South Korea, near Japan  
**Summary:** Japan, South Korea, and the U.S. conduct a joint naval exercise designed to counter missile threats from North Korean submarines.\(^{274}\)

17. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** March 24, 2017  
**Type:** Test  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Tongchang-ri, North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea conducts a test of a rocket engine believed to be part of its intercontinental ballistic missile development program.\(^{275}\)

18. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** March 22, 2017  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** South Korea and the U.S.  
**Location:** Jikdo, South Korea  
**Summary:** A U.S. B-1B bomber trains with South Korean fighter jets in case of an emergency on the Korean Peninsula. The nuclear-powered submarine USS *Columbus* and aircraft carrier USS *Carl Vinson* also participate in the training. North Korea issue a statement saying military exercises in the region are aimed at making preemptive strikes against North Korea.\(^{276}\)

19. **Date:** March 22, 2017  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Wonsan Air Base, North Korea


Summary: A North Korean missile test fails, exploding within seconds of launch.²⁷⁷

20. Date: March 20, 2017
   Type: Defense News
   Involving: China and Taiwan
   Location: Taipei, Taiwan
   Summary: Taiwan’s defense minister claims China has aimed advanced medium-range ballistic missiles, including the DF-16, at Taiwan. The ministry has previously accused China of having 1,500 missiles pointed at the island.²⁷⁸

21. Date: March 20, 2017
   Type: Military Exercise
   Involving: China
   Location: Yellow and Bohai Seas
   Summary: China conducts a naval training exercise near North Korea, involving the Liaoning aircraft carrier.²⁷⁹

22. Provocative Incident
   Date: March 19, 2017
   Type: Test
   Involving: North Korea
   Location: Tongchang-ri, North Korea
   Summary: North Korea conducts a ground jet test of a newly developed high-thrust missile engine, demonstrating progress toward developing an intercontinental ballistic missile.²⁸⁰

23. Provocative Incident
   Date: March 17, 2017
   Type: Defense News
   Involving: Taiwan
   Location: Taiwan
   Summary: Taiwan’s Minister of National Defense confirms for the first time that Taiwan is capable of launching a missile that can hit mainland China.²⁸¹

24. Date: March 15, 2017
   Type: Military Exercise
   Involving: North Korea and the U.S.
   Location: South Korea

Summary: A U.S. B-1B bomber deploys from Anderson Air Force Base, Guam to the Korean Peninsula. North Korea claims the U.S. was conducting “atomic bombing exercises that rehearsed pre-emptive strikes against [North Korean] major military facilities.”

25. Date: March 14-15, 2017
Type: Military Exercises
Involving: Japan, South Korea and the U.S.
Location: East Asia
Summary: Japan, South Korea and the U.S. conduct a joint exercise to detect and track potential North Korean missile launches. A North Korean official accused the drill as the exercise as intending to launch a preemptive strike, escalating confrontation.

26. Provocative Incident
Date: March 7, 2017
Type: Defense News
Involving: South Korea and the U.S.
Location: Seongju, South Korea
Summary: The U.S. begins to deploy the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system in South Korea after North Korea tests multiple missiles. China has opposed the system, which will take a couple months to become fully operational, fearing it will open the door to more systems meant to counter a growing Chinese military.

27. Date: March 6, 2017
Type: Defense News
Involving: China
Location: North Island, Parcels, South China Sea
Summary: Images show Chinese construction in the disputed South China Sea. Experts believe China is clearing land for possible military installations.

28. Provocative Incident
Date: March 6, 2017
Type: Missile Drill
Involving: North Korea
Location: Tongchang-ri, Pyongan province, North Korea
Summary: North Korea fires four extended-range SCUD ballistic missiles. Three missiles landed inside Japan’s exclusive economic zone. A fifth missile failed to launch. Experts believe the launch is a reaction to joint military exercise by South Korea and the U.S., which the North believes are

preparations for launching an attack. North Korea said the firing was training for a strike on U.S. military bases in Japan.

29. **Date:** March 1- April 30, 2017  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** South Korea and the U.S.  
**Location:** South Korea  
**Summary:** South Korea and the U.S. conduct annual large-scale joint military exercises, testing their defense readiness against the threat from North Korea. In response to the exercise commencement, North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un inspected a major military unit’s headquarters and issued guidance on increasing combat readiness.

30. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** February 23, 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Spratly Islands, South China Sea  
**Summary:** U.S. officials announce China is nearly finished building almost 24 structures on artificial islands in the South China Sea. The buildings appear designed to host long-range surface-to-air missiles.

31. **Date:** February 12, 2017  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Banghyeon, North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea conducts a successful test of a ballistic missile. A U.S. Strategic Command statement identified the missile as a medium or intermediate-range system.

32. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** February 8, 2017  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** China and the U.S.  
**Location:** South China Sea  
**Summary:** A Navy P-3C aircraft intercepts a Chinese KJ-200 propeller airborne early warning and control aircraft. U.S. officials deemed the encounter “unsafe” but didn’t provide details.

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Anonymous sources say the two planes came within 1,000 feet of each other.291

33. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** February 6, 2017  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** China and Japan  
**Location:** East China Sea  
**Summary:** Three Chinese Coast Guard ships enter waters near disputed islands in the East China Sea. The Japanese Coast Guard said the Chinese vessels spent two hours in Japanese territorial waters, while the Chinese Defense Ministry said the three ships operated within China’s territorial sea.292

34. **Date:** February 4, 2017  
**Type:** Test  
**Involving:** Japan and the U.S.  
**Location:** off the coast of Kauai, Hawaii, USA  
**Summary:** Japan and the U.S. conduct a successful test of the Aegis Missile Defense System, shooting down a medium-range ballistic missile with an interceptor launched from a guided-missile destroyer.293

35. **Date:** January 24, 2017  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** Japan, Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Japan  
**Summary:** Japanese fighter jets intercept two Russian Tu-95 Bear bombers circling Japan’s major islands as NORAD increases its threat posture from 5 to 4. The Russian bombers did not leave international airspace.294

36. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** January 24, 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Heilongjiang Province, China  
**Summary:** China deploys the Dongfeng-41 road-mobile intercontinental ballistic missiles in Heilongjiang, a province bordering the Russian Far East.295

37. **Date:** January 24, 2017  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept

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Involving: Japan and Russia  
Location: Sea of Japan  
Summary: Japanese fighter jets intercept three Russian Tu-95 strategic bombers approaching Japan’s mainland over the Sea of Japan.296

38. Provocative Incident  
Date: January 22, 2017  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: Yongbyon, North Korea  
Summary: Satellite pictures show emissions from the cooling tower of North Korea’s plutonium reactor indicting the reactor has been restarted.297

39. Date: January 20–22, 2017  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: Japan, South Korea and the U.S.  
Location: Sea of Japan  
Summary: Japan, South Korea and the U.S. conduct a joint exercise to detect and track potential North Korean missile launches. A North Korean official accused the drill as the exercise as intending to launch a preemptive strike, escalating confrontation.298

40. Date: January 19, 2017  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: Chamjin missile factory, North Korea  
Summary: U.S. intelligence satellites detected signs of activity and North Korea’s Chamjin missile factory, signaling possible preparations for a ballistic missile test. South Korean media quote two unnamed South Korea officials who claim two missiles have been placed on mobile launchers at the missile factory site.299 North Korean officials have made repeated threats to carry out a test launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile capable of hitting the U.S.300

41. Date: January 15 – February 3, 2017  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: South Korea and the U.S.  
Location: Pyeongchang, South Korea  
Summary: South Korea and U.S. conduct military exercises, involving over 300 marines.301

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42. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** January 14-15, 2017  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Taiwan  
**Location:** Taichung, Taiwan  
**Summary:** Taiwan conducts military exercises, simulating an attack on the island by China.  

43. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** January 11, 2017  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Taiwan  
**Summary:** Taiwanese military jets and a ship monitor China’s aircraft carrier as it moves through the Taiwan Strait.

44. **Date:** January 9, 2017  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** China and Japan  
**Location:** Sea of Japan  
**Summary:** Japanese aircraft intercept eight Chinese military airplanes – six bombers, one intelligence gathering plane and one early warning aircraft.

45. **Date:** January 5, 2017  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** South Korea  
**Location:** Seoul, South Korea  
**Summary:** South Korea announces they will form a special military brigade aiming to remove North Korea’s wartime command in the event of war.

46. **Provocative Incident (1)**  
**Date:** January 2, 2017  
**Type:** Military Exercise and Sea Incident  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** South China Sea  
**Summary:** China’s aircraft carrier, J-15 fighter jets and ship-borne helicopters conduct take-off and landing drills in the South China Sea. The aircraft carrier passed 90 nautical miles south of...

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the Taiwan days earlier after the Taiwanese President spoke by phone to U.S. President Donald Trump. Chinese officials called the exercise “routine.”

47. **Date:** January 2017  
   **Type:** Test Launch  
   **Involving:** China  
   **Location:** Taiyuan Space Center, China  
   **Summary:** China tests a DF-5C long-range missile with 10 inert warheads.

48. **Provocative Incident**  
   **Date:** December 26, 2016  
   **Type:** Sea Incident  
   **Involving:** China  
   **Location:** South China Sea  
   **Summary:** A Chinese aircraft carrier accompanied by five vessels enters the South China Sea after passing close to Taiwan. The incident occurs a few weeks after U.S. President-elect Donald Trump’s phone call with the president of Taiwan, but there were no indications of a connection between the events.

49. **Date:** Mid-December 2016  
   **Type:** Military Exercise  
   **Involving:** China  
   **Location:** Yellow Sea  
   **Summary:** China conducts fighter launch recovery and combat exercises involving its first aircraft carrier group.

50. **Provocative Incident**  
   **Date:** December 15, 2016  
   **Type:** Sea Incident  
   **Involving:** China and the U.S.  
   **Location:** 50 nautical miles northwest of Subic Bay, Philippines  
   **Summary:** China seizes a U.S. underwater drone conducting “routine operations in accordance with international law.” The drone was deployed by a U.S. navy ship in international waters in the disputed South China Sea. China later returned the unmanned underwater vehicle.

51. **Provocative Incident (1)**  
   **Date:** December 10, 2016  
   **Type:** Military Exercise and Air Incident: Intercept

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Involving: China and Japan
Location: Taiwan; Miyako Strait
Summary: Chinese military aircraft conducts long-range exercises, flying over waterways near Taiwan. The aircraft also flew over the Miyako Strait prompting Japan to send two fighter jets to intercept the Chinese jets. A Chinese spokesman objected to the intercept calling it a dangerous and unprofessional response to “routine” drills.\(^{312}\)

52. Date: Early December 2016
Type: Test Launch
Involving: North Korea
Location: Undisclosed
Summary: North Korea tests a submarine-launched ballistic missile.\(^{313}\)

53. Date: Early December 2016
Type: Test Flight
Involving: China
Location: Undisclosed
Summary: China reportedly conducts a flight test of a Dong Neng-3 missile capable of knocking out U.S. satellites.\(^{314}\)

54. Date: November 26, 2016
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: China and Taiwan
Location: Taiwan
Summary: Eight Japanese F-15 fighter jets intercept two Chinese Xian H-6 bombers and two escort planes fly around the island of Taiwan.\(^{315}\)

55. Date: November 25, 2016
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: China and Japan
Location: Miyako Strait
Summary: Japanese fighter jets intercept two Chinese Su-30 fighters, two H-6 bombers and two signal intelligence aircraft flying near Okinawa.\(^{316}\)

56. Date: November 24-25, 2016
Type: Military Exercise
Involving: China
Location: western Pacific Ocean

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Summary: The Chinese air force conducts annual drills close to Japan and Taiwan.\(^{317}\)

57. Date: November 4, 2016  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: South Korea and the U.S.  
Location: South Korea  
Summary: The commander of U.S. Forces Korea announces a U.S. Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) anti-missile system will be deployed in South Korea in 8-10 months.\(^{318}\) China has warned against placing a U.S. anti-missile system in South Korea, stating it will consider countermeasures.\(^{319}\)

58. Provocative Incident  
Date: November 2016  
Type: Sea Incident  
Involving: U.S.  
Location: Guam  
Summary: A U.S. Navy submarine carrying nuclear-tipped ballistic missiles makes a port visit to Guam – the first time since the late 1980s.\(^{320}\)

59. Date: October 31 - November 11, 2016  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: Japan and the U.S.  
Location: Okinawa, Japan; Tinian; Guam  
Summary: The U.S. and Japan conduct Exercise Keen Sword 2017 – the largest joint, bilateral field training exercise between the two countries – designed to increase combat readiness and interoperability.\(^{321}\)

60. Date: October 31 – November 3, 2016  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: U.S.  
Location: South Korea  
Summary: The U.S. conducts annual evacuation drills in South Korea practicing the transportation of civilians to a U.S. military base in Japan for the first time since 2009.\(^{322}\)

61. Date: October 27, 2016  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: China

**Location:** south of Hainan island, northwest of Parcel Islands, South China Sea  
**Summary:** Days after a U.S. warship sails near disputed islands in the South China Sea, China conducts one-day military drills in the region.  

62. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** October 21, 2016  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** U.S.  
**Location:** Parcel Islands, South China Sea  
**Summary:** A U.S. warship sails near disputed islands in the South China Sea to exercise its right to sail in international waters.  

63. **Date:** October 21, 2016  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Japan, South Korea, the U.K. and the U.S.  
**Location:** Misawa Air Base, Japan  
**Summary:** The British Royal Air Force and the Japan Air Self-Defense Force commence their first-ever joint military drills with fighter pilots from South Korea and the U.S.  

64. **Date:** October 19, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Sohae Satellite Launch Station, northwest North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea unsuccessfully tests a Musudan intermediate-range ballistic missile.  

65. **Date:** October 14, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Sohae Satellite Launch Station, northwest North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea unsuccessfully tests an apparent Musudan intermediate-range ballistic missile.  

66. **Date:** October 10-15, 2016  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** South Korea and the U.S.  
**Location:** waters around South Korea  
**Summary:** South Korea and the U.S. naval forces conduct joint exercises in waters on both sides of the Korean Peninsula to demonstrate preparedness for possible North Korea provocations.  

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67. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** October 10, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** South Korea  
**Location:** Seoul, South Korea  
**Summary:** South Korea’s defence ministry says its military would pre-emptively strike North Korea if a nuclear attack by the North was imminent.\(^{329}\)

68. **Date:** September 25, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** China and Japan  
**Location:** Okinawa  
**Summary:** Japan’s Air Self-Defense Force intercepts anywhere from 8 to 40 Chinese fighters and bombers as they pass through a politically sensitive international entryway into the Western Pacific. The passage goes between Miyako Island and Okinawa’s main island. China claims the group was conducting reconnaissance and early warning exercises.\(^{330}\)

69. **Date:** September 20, 2016  
**Type:** Test  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Sohae Space Center, North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea successfully tests a new rocket engine, which could possibly be used as the first stage of an intercontinental ballistic missile.\(^{331}\)

70. **Date:** September 16, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Pyongyang, North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea says it will “sweep Guam, the base of provocations, from the surface of the earth” should U.S. bombers conduct flyovers of the Korean Peninsula.\(^{332}\)

71. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** September 13, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident  
**Involving:** South Korea and the U.S.

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**Location:** South Korea  
**Summary:** Two U.S. bombers conduct a flyover of South Korea in response to North Korea’s nuclear test.  

72. **Date:** September 12-20, 2016  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** China and Russia  
**Location:** South China Sea  
**Summary:** China and Russia conduct joint naval exercises, highlighting marine corps units.

73. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** September 9, 2016  
**Type:** Nuclear Test  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Yongbyon nuclear site, North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea conducts its fifth nuclear test. In a statement, North Korea claims it was a successful test of a “nuclear warhead that has been standardized to be able to be mounted on strategic ballistic rockets.”

74. **Date:** September 5, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch (3)  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** South of Pyongyang  
**Summary:** North Korea successfully tests three missiles each covering a distance of approximately 1,000 kilometers.

75. **Date:** September 1, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** North Korea  
**Summary:** A researcher from North Korea Intellectuals Solidarity claims the country has been developing a new submarine. Subsequent reporting points to satellite imagery that strongly suggests a naval construction program is underway, possibly a new submarine.

76. **Date:** August 24, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** near Sinpo, North Korea

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Summary: North Korea tests a submarine-launched ballistic missile off its eastern coast. The missile flew around 300 miles from the coast before splashing down in the Sea of Japan.  

77. Date: August 22 – September 2, 2016  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: South Korea and the U.S.  
Location: South Korea  
Summary: U.S. and South Korean forces conduct the annual Ulchi-Freedom Guardian joint exercises. The exercises involve practice launching a preemptive strike on a North Korean nuclear or missile base during a crisis.

78. Date: August 22, 2016  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: China  
Location: Gulf of Tonkin  
Summary: Chinese coast guard ships conduct live-fire exercises.

79. Date: August 19-26, 2016  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: South Korea  
Location: South Korea  
Summary: The South Korean Air Force conducts large-scale combat exercises, reportedly including an exercise to preemptively strike North Korean missile threats.

80. Date: Mid-August 2016  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: China  
Location: Sea of Japan  
Summary: Chinese naval vessels conduct a “maritime confrontation drill” simulating a standoff.

81. Date: August 18, 2016  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: South Korea  
Location: South Korea near the Demilitarized Zone  
Summary: The South Korean army conducts its largest live-fire artillery drills, involving approximately 300 artillery systems.

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82. **Date:** August 16, 2016  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** China and Japan  
**Location:** East China Sea  
**Summary:** Japan releases video of hundreds of Chinese vessels sailing close to the disputed Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands.  

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83. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** August 2, 2016  
**Type:** Missile Drill  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** near Hwangju, North Korea  
**Summary:** U.S. Strategic Command detects launches of two North Korean intermediate-range ballistic missiles.  

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84. **Date:** July 18, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch (3)  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** off the east coast of North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea test fires three ballistic missiles it simulated preemptive strikes against South Korean ports and airfields.  

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85. **Date:** July 9, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** off the east coast of North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea unsuccessfully tests a submarine-launched ballistic missile. The test fails in the early stages of the launch.  

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86. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** July 8, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** South Korea and the U.S.  
**Location:** Seoul, South Korea  
**Summary:** South Korea and the U.S. announce they will deploy the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense anti-missile system in South Korea to counter the North Korea threat. China formally lodges complaints over the decision.  

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87. **Date:** July 8, 2016  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** South China Sea  
**Summary:** China’s Navy conducts a combat drill near Hainan Island and Xisha Island.\(^{350}\)

88. **Date:** June 22, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch (2)  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Wonsan, North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea test launches an intermediate-range missile hours after a similar test failed. The partially successful test took the missile more than halfway toward the southwest coast of Japan’s main island, reaching a reported altitude of 1,000 km.\(^{351}\)

89. **Date:** June 20-28, 2016  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Japan, South Korea, and the U.S.  
**Location:** off the coast of the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Kauai, Hawaii  
**Summary:** Japan, South Korea and the U.S. hold biennial exercise Pacific Dragon, a trilateral ballistic missile defense tracking event.\(^{352}\)

90. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** June 9, 2016  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** China and Japan  
**Location:** East China Sea  
**Summary:** A Chinese frigate enters contiguous waters near the disputed Daioyu/Senkaku Islands sparking protest from Japan.\(^{353}\)

91. **Date:** June 9, 2016  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Japan, India and the U.S.  
**Location:** Philippine Sea  
**Summary:** Japan, India and the U.S. kick off the annual Malabar exercise.\(^{354}\)

92. **Date:** June 8, 2016  
**Type:** Sea Incident

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**Involving:** Russia and Japan  
**Location:** East China Sea  
**Summary:** Japan detects Russian vessels near the disputed Senkaku/Daiyu Islands.  

93. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** June 7, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** China and the U.S.  
**Location:** East China Sea  
**Summary:** Two Chinese fighter jets intercepts a U.S. spy plane over the East China Sea. The U.S. Pacific Command deemed the intercept “unsafe.”  

94. **Date:** May 31, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** east coast, North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea unsuccessfully tests a Musudan missile, according to South Korea.  

95. **Date:** May 26, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Pacific Ocean  
**Summary:** The Chinese military prepares to send nuclear-armed submarines into the Pacific Ocean for the first time. No specifics on the exact timing are given.  

96. **Date:** May 25-26, 2016  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** South China Sea  
**Summary:** The South Sea Fleet of the Chinese Navy conducts warship-helicopter coordination and anti-submarine operation drills.  

97. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** May 22, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Sea of Japan  

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Summary: A U.S. reconnaissance plane flies near passenger planes creating “a real threat of collision for passenger aircraft” according to Russian officials.  

98. Provocative Incident  
**Date:** May 17, 2016  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** China and the U.S.  
**Location:** South China Sea  
**Summary:** Two Chinese fighters intercept a U.S. reconnaissance aircraft over the South China Sea. The Pentagon claims the U.S. pilot was forced to descend to 200 feet to avoid collision. The Chinese foreign ministry denied the allegation.

99. Date: May 5, 2016  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Xisha waters, South China Sea  
**Summary:** The Chinese Nanhai fleet carries out exercises aimed at improving “means of sea area management and control.”

100. Date: April 28, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch (2)  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** near Wonsan, North Korea  
**Summary:** Test launches of two North Korean intermediate-range ballistic missiles fail.

101. Date: April 23, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** off the east coast of North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea conducts a test of a submarine-launched ballistic missile.

102. Date: April 22, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Wuzhai, China  
**Summary:** The U.S. Pentagon reports China successfully tests a hypersonic DF-2F missile.

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103. **Date:** April 15, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** East Coast of North Korea  
**Summary:** The first test of North Korea’s new Musudan intermediate-range missile fails when the missile blows up shortly after launch, damaging the mobile launcher.  

104. **Date:** April 12, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** South China Sea  
**Summary:** China test fires a DF-41 intercontinental ballistic missile reportedly carrying two warheads. The missile was aimed toward the South China Sea, unlike previous tests in which missiles were pointed toward the west. Chinese officials claim the missile was tested near the Sea, but the warheads did not land in the Sea.  

105. **Date:** March 29, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Beijing  
**Summary:** The DF-41, described as the world’s longest-range missile and China’s most powerful intercontinental ballistic missile, will enter into service as early as this year. The missile has an operational range of up to 14,500 km.  

106. **Date:** March 26, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Wonsan, East Coast of North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea test fires a short-range missile near the coastal town of Wonsan. The missile flew for about 200 km before making contact with the ground.  

107. **Date:** March 26, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Pyongyang  
**Summary:** North Korea releases a propaganda video depicting a nuclear strike on Washington, D.C. alongside a warning to the U.S. not to provoke the North.  

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108. Date: March 24, 2016  
Type: Test  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: North Korea  
Summary: North Korea successfully tests a solid-fuel engine that boosts the power of ballistic rockets.  

109. Provocative Incident  
Date: March 21, 2016  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: China  
Location: Woody Island, Parcels, South China Sea  
Summary: Pentagon officials confirm China recently test-fired a YJ-62 anti-ship cruise missile. China has reportedly deployed anti-ship cruise missiles on a disputed island in the South China Sea.

110. Provocative Incident  
Date: March 21, 2016  
Type: Projectile Fire  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: South of Hamhung, East Coast, North Korea  
Summary: North Korea fires five short-range unidentified projectiles off its east coast into the sea.

111. Provocative Incident  
Date: March 18, 2016  
Type: Missile Drill  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: North Korea  
Summary: North Korea fires five short-range ballistic missiles into the sea as a response to UN and U.S. sanctions.

112. Provocative Incident  
Date: March 10, 2016  
Type: Missile Drill  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: off the coast of Wonsan, North Korea

Summary: North Korea fires two short-range ballistic missiles into the sea.375

113. Date: March 10, 2016
Type: Military Exercises
Involving: U.S. and South Korea
Location: Cheorwon, South Korea
Summary: A U.S. artillery brigade launches rockets close to the border town of Cheorwon, South Korea as part of a test of the M270A1 multiple-launch rocket system. The live-fire drills are separate from the annual joint U.S.-South Korean military exercise, which started earlier in the week.376

114. Provocative Incident
Date: March 9, 2016
Type: Defense News
Involving: North Korea
Location: Pyongyang
Summary: Supreme leader of North Korea Kim Jong Un announces his country has miniaturized nuclear warheads to be fit on ballistic missiles. South Korea officials expressed doubts over the validity of the announcement.377

115. Provocative Incident
Date: March 7, 2016
Type: Defense News
Involving: North Korea
Location: Pyongyang
Summary: North Korea threatens the U.S. and South Korea with a “pre-emptive nuclear strike of justice” in reaction to the start of U.S.-South Korean military drills.378

116. Provocative Incident
Date: March 7, 2016
Type: Military Exercise
Involving: South Korea and the U.S.
Location: South Korea
Summary: The U.S. and South Korea begin large-scale annual joint military exercises to test defenses against North Korea. The drills involve 17,000 U.S. troops and over 300,000 South Koreans.379

117. Provocative Incident

Date: March 4, 2016
Type: Defense News
Involving: North Korea
Location: Pyongyang
Summary: North Korean leader Kim Jong Un orders the military to prepare nuclear weapons for a pre-emptive attack at any time following the imposition of new U.N. sanctions.\(^{380}\)

118. Provocative Incident
Date: March 3, 2016
Type: Sea Incident
Involving: China and the U.S.
Location: South China Sea
Summary: A U.S. Navy carrier, two destroyers, two cruisers and the command ship Blue Ridge sail into disputed waters in the South China Sea as a show of force in response to U.S. claims that China is militarizing the region to guard its territorial claims.\(^{381}\)

119. Provocative Incident
Date: February 17, 2016
Type: Air Incident
Involving: U.S. and South Korea
Location: Osan Air Base, South Korea
Summary: Four U.S. F-22 Raptor fighters, accompanied by U.S. F-16 fighters and South Korean F-15K Slam Eagle Fighters, perform a flyover of Osan Air Base following North Korea space rocket test the week prior.\(^{382}\)

120. Provocative Incident
Date: February 17, 2016
Type: Defense News
Involving: China
Location: Woody Island, Parcel Islands, South China Sea
Summary: According to U.S. and Taiwan officials, China deploys surface-to-air missiles on a disputed island in the South China Sea. Chinese state media denied it was militarizing the island, saying defenses have been in place for years.\(^{383}\)

121. Date: February 16, 2016
Type: Defense News
Involving: China
Location: Beijing


Summary: According to a report from the Union of Concerned Scientists, China may be considering putting its nuclear forces on high alert.

122. Date: February 14, 2016  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: Pyongyang, North Korea  
Summary: North Korea creates the “KN-08 Brigade” military unit according to South Korea’s Yonhap news agency. The unit can deploy a road-mobile intercontinental ballistic missile bringing North Korea closer to fielding such weapons.

123. Date: February 13, 2016  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: U.S. and South Korea  
Location: South Korea  
Summary: The U.S. temporarily deploys an additional Patriot missile battery in South Korea after North Korea’s nuclear test and rocket launch.

124. Provocative Incident  
Date: February 7, 2016  
Type: Rocket Launch  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: Tongchang-ri, North Korea  
Summary: North Korea launches a rocket to put a satellite into orbit defying warnings of tougher sanctions from the U.S. Experts believe the test is part of a program to develop intercontinental ballistic missile technologies.

125. Date: January 31, 2016  
Type: Air Incident: Intercept  
Involving: China, Japan, South Korea  
Location: Korea Air Defense Identification Zone and Japan’s Air Defense Identification Zone  
Summary: Japanese Self-Defense Force fighter jets intercept two Chinese combat planes that had entered first, the Korea Air Defense Identification Zone, then Japan’s Air Defense Identification Zone.

126. Date: January 20, 2016  
Type: Air Incident

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Involving: U.S. and Japan
Location: Yokota Air Base, Tokyo, Japan
Summary: Eight U.S. F-22 stealth fighters fly to Tokyo as part of a scheduled deployment.  

127. Provocative Incident
Date: January 10, 2016
Type: Air Incident
Involving: U.S. and South Korea
Location: Osan Air Base, South Korea
Summary: The U.S. flies a nuclear-capable B-52 bomber over South Korea to demonstrate U.S. commitment to its East Asian allies after North Korea’s fourth nuclear test.  

128. Provocative Incident
Date: January 6, 2016
Type: Nuclear Test
Involving: North Korea
Location: Yongbyon
Summary: North Korea conducts its fourth nuclear test. The state-run Korea Central New Agency announced that the country had successfully tested a small hydrogen bomb, a claim questioned by U.S. nuclear weapons experts.  

129. Date: January 2, 2016
Type: Defense News
Involving: China
Location: South China Sea
Summary: China announces one of their aircraft had landed for the first time on an airstrip in the disputed chain of islets in the South China Sea.  

130. Date: December 23, 2015
Type: Sea Incident
Involving: China and Japan
Location: East China Sea
Summary: Japan’s coast guard reports that an armed Chinese coast guard vessel sailed near disputed islands in the East China Sea. It is the first time an armed ship had been spotted in the area.  

131. Date: December 21, 2015
Type: Test Launch

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**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Sinpo, North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea ejection test for a submarine-launched ballistic missile fails.\(^{394}\)

132. **Date:** December 10, 2015  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Phyongchon Revolutionary Site, North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korean leader Kim Jong Un announces that North Korea has developed a hydrogen bomb, stating that North Korea was “ready to detonate self-reliant A-bomb and H-bomb to reliably defend its sovereignty and the dignity of the nation.” Experts are skeptical.\(^{395}\)

133. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** December 8, 2015  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** China and South Korea  
**Location:** North Korea-South Korea Maritime Border  
**Summary:** South Korea’s navy fires warning shots at a Chinese patrol vessel that had crossed the disputed maritime border between North and South Korea.\(^{396}\)

134. **Date:** December 5, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Wuzhai missile test center, Shanxi Province, China  
**Summary:** China test launches a new rail-mobile version of its intercontinental ballistic missile, the DF-41.\(^{397}\)

135. **Date:** December 2, 2015  
**Type:** Test Preparation  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Punggye-ri nuclear test site  
**Summary:** According to 38 North, recent commercial satellite images indicate North Korea is creating a new tunnel for nuclear testing.\(^{398}\)

136. **Date:** November 30, 2015  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** China and Japan  
**Location:** East China Sea


Summary: Three Chinese Coast Guard ships enter Japanese territorial waters close to the disputed islands in the East China Sea. It is the 32nd intrusion by Chinese ships so far this year.399

137. Date: November 28, 2015  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: North Korea  
Summary: A test launch of a North Korean submarine-launched ballistic missile fails, according to a report from South Korea’s Yonhap news agency.400

138. Date: November 27, 2015  
Type: Air Incident: Intercept  
Involving: China and Japan  
Location: Near Okinawa, Japan  
Summary: Tokyo F-15 fighter jets intercept Chinese military aircraft, including bombers, conducting maneuvers close to Okinawa.401

139. Provocative Incident  
Date: November 27, 2015  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: China  
Location: East China Sea  
Summary: Eight Chinese bombers and three electronic intelligence aircraft conduct exercises over the East China Sea in order to affirm the East China Air Defence Identification Zone, declared in December 2013.402

140. Date: November 26, 2015  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: Japan  
Location: East China Sea  
Summary: According a report from The Japan Times, Japan will likely deploy 500 ground troops and advanced surface-to-air and anti-ship missiles in Okinawa, a short distance from the Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands.403

141. Date: November 25, 2015  
Type: Air Incident

Involving: Russia and the U.S.
Location: Guam
Summary: Two Russian bombers circumvent Guam without violating U.S. airspace.

142. Provocative Incident
Date: November 23, 2015
Type: Military Exercise
Involving: South Korea
Location: Yellow Sea
Summary: South Korea’s military conducts major live-fire drills around the islands in the Yellow Sea despite threats of retaliation from North Korea.

143. Date: November 23, 2015
Type: Test Launch
Involving: China
Location: Shanxi Province, China
Summary: China completes a sixth flight test of the DF-ZF hypersonic glide vehicle, which is capable of penetrating U.S. interceptor missiles.

144. Date: November 11, 2015
Type: Sea Incident
Involving: China and Japan
Location: East China Sea
Summary: A Chinese Dongdiao-class intelligence-gathering ship is spotted near the Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands in the East China Sea. The ship did not enter Japanese territorial waters, but repeatedly sailed from east to west and vice versa just outside, according to the Japanese Defense Ministry.

145. Provocative Incident
Date: November 8-9, 2015
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: China and the U.S.
Location: South China Sea
Summary: Two U.S. B-52 bombers fly near China’s man-made islands in the South China Sea. The Chinese military warned the bombers to “get away from our islands.” The U.S. Pentagon account reported that the bombers were on a routine mission in international airspace and never ventured “within 15 nautical miles of any feature.”

146. Date: November 1, 2015

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147. **Date:** October 2015  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Japan  
**Location:** Okinawa, Japan and East China Sea  
**Summary:** Japan reports that it intercepted Chinese aircraft 231 times between April and September 2015.\(^{410}\)

148. **Date:** October 30, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Korla Missile Test Complex, Western China  
**Summary:** China conducts a flight test of the Dong Neng-3 anti-satellite missile capable of knocking out U.S. satellites.\(^{411}\)

149. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** October 27, 2015  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** China and the U.S.  
**Location:** Spratly Islands, South China Sea  
**Summary:** Chinese vessels shadow a U.S. destroyer during a five-hour patrol through contested waters in the South China Sea. China officially condemned the presence of a U.S. warship in the area.\(^{412}\)

150. **Date:** October 27, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept and Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
**Location:** Sea of Japan  
**Summary:** Four U.S. fighter jets are scrambled by the USS *Ronald Reagan* aircraft carrier to intercept two Russian Tu-145 long-range anti-submarine warfare planes in the Sea of Japan, where the U.S. was carrying out exercises in coordination with South Korean ships.\(^{413}\)

151. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** October 25, 2015  
**Type:** Sea Incident

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Involving: North Korea and South Korea
Location: Northern Limit Line
Summary: South Korea’s navy fires several warning shots at a North Korean patrol boat that had crossed the disputed maritime border, causing it to retreat.\textsuperscript{414}

152. Date: October 24, 2015
Type: Sea Incident
Involving: China and the U.S.
Location: Pacific Ocean off the coast of Japan
Summary: According to a U.S. defense official, a submerged Chinese Kilo-class fast attack submarine closely tracked the USS Ronald Reagan for at least half a day.\textsuperscript{415}

153. Date: October 20, 2015
Type: Test Preparation
Involving: North Korea
Location: North Korea
Summary: South Korea’s intelligence agency reports that North Korea has prepared for a fourth nuclear bomb test, although detonation does not appear to be imminent.\textsuperscript{416}

154. Date: September 15, 2015
Type: Defense News
Involving: North Korea
Location: Yongbyon nuclear site, North Korea
Summary: North Korea reports that it is improving its nuclear arsenal in “quality and quantity,” stating that all nuclear facilities in Yongbyon are in “normal operation.”\textsuperscript{417}

155. Provocative Incident
Date: September 15, 2015
Type: Air Incident: Intercept
Involving: China and the U.S.
Location: Yellow Sea
Summary: A Chinese J-11 jet intercepts a U.S. RC-135 electronic intelligence-gathering jet, coming within 50 feet of the U.S. plane.\textsuperscript{418}

156. Date: September 7, 2015  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: Yongbyon nuclear site; Various Locations, North Korea  
Summary: International Atomic Energy Agency chief Amano reports satellite imagery indicates that North Korea is expanding its atomic program. 419

157. Date: September 3, 2015  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: China  
Location: Beijing  
Summary: China holds a parade to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the victory over Japan. The parade showcased a variety of ballistic missiles for the first time, including the DF-5B ICBM, DF-15B short-range ballistic missile and the DF-26 intermediate-range ballistic missile. 420

158. Date: September 2/3, 2015  
Type: Sea Incident  
Involving: China and the U.S.  
Location: Bering Sea  
Summary: Five Chinese warships legally cross into U.S. waters without prior notification. 421

159. Date: August 24-28 2015  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: China and Russia  
Location: Sea of Japan  
Summary: Russian and Chinese vessels participate in the first joint amphibious assault drill. 422

160. Date: August 22-24, 2015  
Type: Air Incident  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: Demilitarized Zone  
Summary: South Korean Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff report that a North Korean surveillance drone crosses the Demilitarized Zone flying over a South Korean military outpost several times. Media outlets offer conflicting reports on whether or not the drone was identified or not. 423

161. Date: August 21-28, 2015  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: Russia and China

Location: Sea of Japan
Summary: Russia and China hold joint naval and air defense exercises code named Joint Sea-2015.  

162. High-Risk Incident
Date: August 20, 2015
Type: Cross-border Incident
Involving: North Korea and South Korea
Location: Demilitarized Zone
Summary: South Korea fires dozens of shells into North Korea in retaliation for reported cross-border firing from the North and an apparent North Korean rocket landing in South Korea. North Korea’s leader orders front-line military units to go to a “semi-war state.”

163. Provocative Incident
Date: August 17-28, 2015
Type: Military Exercise
Involving: South Korea and the U.S.
Location: Pocheon, South Korea
Summary: The U.S. and South Korea hold annual joint military exercises, which North Korea has long condemned as a rehearsal for war. Before the exercises commenced, North Korea warned of “all-out military action,” unless Seoul cancelled the plans and stopped the cross-border loudspeaker propaganda broadcasts. The exercises are temporarily suspended after increasing tensions result in artillery fire (see incident #9 above). On October 28, the U.S. and South Korea hold a joint, live-fire military drill near the border town of Pocheon. This is the largest drill yet and comes just days after South and North Korea reach an agreement to ease recent tensions on the peninsula.

164. Provocative Incident
Date: August 13, 2015
Type: Cross-border Incident
Involving: North Korea
Location: Demilitarized Zone
Summary: A few days after South Korean resumes propaganda broadcasts, North Korea begins its own loudspeaker cross-border propaganda broadcasts, marking the resumption of propaganda warfare after the two Koreas stopped the practice in 2004.

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165. **Date:** August 12, 2015  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Chengdu and Nanjing Military Regions, China  
**Summary:** China begins live-fire drills in mainland China, involving more than 140,000 troops.\(^{430}\)

166. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** August 11, 2015  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** South China Sea  
**Summary:** China conducts live-fire naval warfare exercises in the South China Sea amid tensions over Chinese militarization of their artificial islands.\(^{431}\)

167. **Date:** August 6, 2015  
**Type:** Test Flight  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Unreported; most likely Wuzhai Missile and Space Test Centre, China  
**Summary:** China conducts a flight test of the latest DF-41 road-mobile, long-range missile. U.S. intelligence says the missile lofted two independently targeted simulated nuclear warheads.\(^{432}\)

168. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** August 4, 2015  
**Type:** Cross-border Incident  
**Involving:** North Korea and South Korea  
**Location:** Demilitarized Zone  
**Summary:** According to the South Korean Defense Ministry, two South Korean soldiers are injured after triggering a landmine, which was planted in the South Korean half of the Demilitarized Zone by North Korean soldiers who sneaked across the guarded border. A week later, South Korea resumes loudspeaker propaganda broadcasts across the border.\(^{433}\)

169. **Date:** Early August 2015  
**Type:** Test and Test Preparation  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Sohae Satellite Launching Station, North Korea  
**Summary:** New analysis of satellite images shows that North Korea carried out at least one rocket engine test in early August. The images also show construction at the Sohae Satellite Launching Station, suggesting preparations for a new launch, possibly in October to commemorate the 70th...\(^{434}\)

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\(^{430}\) Ting Shi, “China stages live fire military drills,” *The Sydney Morning Herald*, August 12, 2015,  
\(^{431}\) Bill Gertz, “China Conducts Live-Fire Drills in Disputed Sea,” *The Washington Free Beacon*, August 12, 2015,  
\(^{432}\) Bill Gertz, “China Tests New Long-Range Missile with Two Guided Warheads,” *The Washington Free Beacon*, August 18, 2015,  
\(^{433}\) Choe Sang-Hun, "South Korea Accuses the North After Land Mines Maim Two Soldiers in DMZ," *The New York Times*, August 10, 2015,  
anniversary of the founding of the Workers’ Party.434

170. Provocative Incident  
**Date:** July 28, 2015  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** South China Sea  
**Summary:** The Chinese Navy conducts a live-firing drill in the South China Sea, involving over 100 naval vessels, dozens of aircraft, and missile launch battalions.435

171. Provocative Incident  
**Date:** June 16, 2015  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Spratly Islands, South China Sea  
**Summary:** China announces that the creation of islands will soon be completed. The artificial islands are a major point of contention between the U.S. and China. Malaysia, Vietnam, and the Philippines also claim islands in the area.436

172. Date: June 14, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Eastern Coast of North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korean officials announce that Kim Jong Un oversaw a test-firing of three KN-01 short-range anti-ship missiles off the eastern coast. Footage reportedly showing the test is released in September.437

173. Date: June 7, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Wuzhai Missile and Space Test Centre, China  
**Summary:** China successfully tests a supersonic nuclear delivery vehicle, dubbed Wu-14 by the U.S., for the fourth time.438

174. Date: June 3, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch

434 Julian Ryall, “North Korea ‘tests engines ahead of possible rocket launch,’” *The Telegraph*, August 20, 2015,  

435 “Chinese navy conducts live firing drill in South China Sea,” *Xinhua News*, July 28, 2015,  


438 PTI, “China confirms test of supersonic nuclear delivery vehicle,” *The Economic Times*, June 13, 2015,  
**Involving:** South Korea  
**Location:** Southern region of South Korea  
**Summary:** South Korean officials announce the successful test-launch of two domestically built ballistic missiles with a reported range of more than 300 miles.\(^{439}\)

175. **Date:** May 16, 2015  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** China  
**Summary:** An annual Pentagon report discloses that China has added multiple independently-targetable re-entry vehicle (MIRV)-equipped ICBMs to its nuclear arsenal.\(^{440}\)

176. **Date:** May 8, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Eastern Coast of North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea announces that it successfully test-fired a ballistic missile from a submarine. South Korean officials report North Korea also fired three anti-ship cruise missiles in the sea.\(^{441}\) The validity of North Korea’s claimed submarine-fired missile test has come under question.\(^{442}\)

177. **Date:** May 6, 2015  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Japan  
**Location:** East China Sea  
**Summary:** The Japanese media reports that the Japanese Defense Ministry plans to deploy up to 600 military personnel and surface-to-ship missiles on the southwestern islands in the East China Sea to counter a reported increase in maritime activity from Chinese naval vessels.\(^{443}\)

178. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** April 7, 2015  
**Type:** Missile Drill  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Western Coast of North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea fires two short-range missiles off the west coast two days before the arrival of U.S. defense secretary arrived in Japan.\(^{444}\)


179. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** April 3, 2015  
**Type:** Missile Drill  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Western Coast of North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea fires four short-range missiles off the west coast.\(^{445}\)

180. **Date:** April 2, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** North Wonsan, North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea tests a short-range missile.\(^{446}\)

181. **Date:** March 20, 2015  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercepts (2)  
**Involving:** Japan and Russia  
**Location:** Japanese coast  
**Summary:** Japanese F-15J fighter jets intercept a Russian Tu-95 bomber off the coast of Japan in two separate incidents.\(^{447}\)

182. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** March 13, 2015  
**Type:** Missile Drill  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Eastern Coast of North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea fires seven missiles off its east coast.\(^{448}\)

183. **Date:** March 11, 2015  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** Russia and U.S.  
**Location:** Vietnam  
**Summary:** The U.S. asks Vietnam to stop letting Russian nuclear-capable bombers refuel at a former U.S. base.\(^{449}\)

184. **Date:** March 8, 2015  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** China and Japan

\(^{445}\) David Brunnstrom, “North Korea fires missiles into sea as U.S. defence chief visits region,” *Reuters*, April 9, 2015,  
\url{http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/04/09/us-northkorea-missiles-idUSKBN0N008D20150409}.

\(^{446}\) Elizabeth Shim, “North Korea test-fires four short-range missile into the Yellow Sea,” *UPI*, April 3, 2015,  
\url{http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2015/04/03/North-Korea-test-fires-four-short-range-missiles-into-Yellow-Sea/9051428068946/}.

\(^{447}\) The CNS North Korea Missile Test Database,” *CNS North Korea Missile Test Database*, April 24, 2017,  
\url{http://www.nti.org/analysis/articles/cns-north-korea-missile-test-database/}.

\(^{448}\) Christopher Harress, “Russian Tu-95 Bomber Intercepted By Japanese Air Force Jets,” *International Business Times*, March 23, 2015,  
\url{http://www.ibtimes.com/russian-tu-95-bomber-intercepted-japanese-air-force-jets-1855868}.

\(^{449}\) Agense France-Presse, “North Korea fires four short-range missiles into sea,” *The Times of India*, April 3, 2015,  
\url{http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/rest-of-world/North-Korea-fires-four-short-range-missiles-into-sea/articleshow/46795897.cms}.

\(^{450}\) David Brunnstrom, “Exclusive: U.S. asks Vietnam to stop helping Russian bomber flights,” *Reuters*, March 11, 2015,  
\url{http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/03/11/us-usa-vietnam-russia-exclusive-idUSKBN0M71NA20150311}. 
Location: East China Sea
Summary: A *New York Times* piece reports that Japanese F-15 fighter jets intercept foreign aircraft at least once a day, mostly from China."450

185. **Provocative Incident**
   Date: Early March 2015
   Type: Missile Drill
   Involving: North Korea, South Korea and the U.S.
   Location: Eastern Coast of North Korea
   Summary: North Korea fires two short-range missiles off its east coast in a show of displeasure with U.S.-South Korea annual joint military drills. 451

186. **Date:** February 13, 2015
   **Type:** Military Exercise
   **Involving:** South Korea and the U.S.
   **Location:** Seoul, South Korea
   **Summary:** The U.S. and South Korea finish annual joint exercises designed to shape deterrence strategies as a counter to military threats from North Korea. 452

187. **Provocative Incident**
   **Date:** February 8, 2015
   **Type:** Missile Drill
   **Involving:** North Korea
   **Location:** Eastern Coast of North Korea
   **Summary:** North Korea fires five short-range missiles from its eastern coast into the sea about 125 miles northeast. 453

188. **Date:** February 7, 2015
   **Type:** Test Launch
   **Involving:** North Korea
   **Location:** North Korea
   **Summary:** North Korean officials report a successful test of a new anti-ship cruise missile, an "ultra-precision" rocket that a South Korean expert said looked similar to the Russian KH-35 missile. 454

189. **Date:** January 23, 2015
   **Type:** Launcher Test
   **Involving:** North Korea

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**Location:** Sinpo South Shipyard, North Korea  
**Summary:** South Korean officials report that North Korea has conducted a test of a missile ejection launcher used to help fire missiles from submarines.  

190. **Date:** January 9, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** China  
**Summary:** China successfully tests a supersonic nuclear delivery vehicle, dubbed Wu-14 by the U.S.

191. **Date:** December 13, 2014  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Wuzhai Missile and Space Test Centre, China  
**Summary:** China successfully tests its ICBM DF-41 involving multiple, independently targetable reentry vehicles.

192. **Date:** December 13, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident  
**Involving:** Russia  
**Location:** Guam  
**Summary:** Two Russian Tu-95 bombers conduct a circumnavigation of Guam. No U.S. jets are dispatched.

193. **Date:** December 6, 2014  
**Type:** Air Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** China and Japan  
**Location:** East China Sea  
**Summary:** Japanese Self Defense Force planes scramble to intercept a Chinese Y9 intelligence-gathering plane, two Y9 early warning planes and 2 H6 bombers flying over the East China Sea returning from naval and air combat exercises in the Western Pacific. A Japanese defense official said the Chinese aircraft did not violate Japanese airspace.

194. **Date:** December 2, 2014  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** China  
**Location:** Wuzhai Missile and Space Test Centre, China

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Summary: China successfully tests a supersonic nuclear delivery vehicle, dubbed Wu-14 by the U.S.  

195. **Date:** November 12, 2014  
   **Type:** Air Incident  
   **Involving:** Russia and the U.S.  
   **Location:** Guam  
   **Summary:** Russian bombers circumvent Guam without violating U.S. airspace.

196. **Date:** November 10, 2014  
   **Type:** Military Exercise  
   **Involving:** Russia  
   **Location:** South China Sea  
   **Summary:** A Lowy Institute military fellow reports that the Russian guided missile cruiser *Moskva* is conducting unilateral live-fire drills in the South China Sea. The U.S. Naval Institute described the appearance of the ship in Southeast Asia as “a rare show of surface presence in the region.”

197. **Provocative Incident**  
   **Date:** November 10, 2014  
   **Type:** Cross-border Incident  
   **Involving:** North Korea and South Korea  
   **Location:** Demilitarized Zone  
   **Summary:** South Korea fired warning shots as about 10 North Korean soldiers approached the Military Demarcation Line around 9:40 am. The North Koreans did not return fire and retreated.

198. **Date:** November 3, 2014  
   **Type:** Defense News  
   **Involving:** North Korea  
   **Location:** North Korea  
   **Summary:** North Korea launches a domestically built submarine designed to fire ballistic missiles. The sub is thought to be based on the Golf II-class Soviet submarine that could carry sub-launched ballistic missiles more than 880 miles. Meanwhile, U.S. and South Korean intelligence have warned that NK is close to perfecting miniaturization of nuclear warheads. A military analyst stated that while we should not ignore the threat a North Korean submarine capability poses, we should also not exaggerate it.

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199. **Date:** Late October 2014  
**Type:** Launcher Test  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** North Korea  
**Summary:** A news report says North Korea tested an ejection launcher that helps fire missiles from submarines. U.S. intelligence agencies observed the test and, in September, 38North reported that commercial satellite imagery showed a new test stand to research and develop submarine-based ballistic missiles.\(^{465}\)

200. **Date:** October 30, 2014  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** China and Japan  
**Location:** East China Sea  
**Summary:** Around 10 a.m., three Chinese coast guard ships enter waters around the disputed Senkaku/Diaoyu islands in the East China Sea. The ships did not respond immediately when asked to leave the area by a Japanese Coast Guard patrol ship.\(^{466}\)

201. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** October 27, 2014  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** China and Japan  
**Location:** Near Ogasawara Islands, Japan  
**Summary:** A Chinese fishing boat captain is arrested by the Japan Coast Guard on suspicion of poaching coral in Japan’s exclusive economic zone. It is the fourth arrest in the month of October.\(^{467}\)

202. **Date:** October 18, 2014  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** China and Japan  
**Location:** East China Sea  
**Summary:** China sent three coast guard vessels to patrol disputed waters in the East China Sea a day after the Japanese prime minister sent an offering to the Yasukuni Shrine, a controversial shrine to Japan’s war dead.\(^{468}\)

203. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** October 10, 2014  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** China and South Korea  
**Location:** Off the coast of Wangdeung-do, South Korea  
**Summary:** The South Korean Coast Guard fires shots while trying to impound a Chinese vessel

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204. \textbf{Provocative Incident}  
\textbf{Date:} October 10, 2014  
\textbf{Type:} Cross-border Incident  
\textbf{Involving:} North Korea and South Korea  
\textbf{Location:} Paju, South Korea  

205. \textbf{Date:} September 25, 2014  
\textbf{Type:} Test Launch  
\textbf{Involving:} China  
\textbf{Location:} Wuzhai Missile and Space Test Centre, China  
\textbf{Summary:} China successfully tests the Dongfeng missile, which can carry a nuclear warhead 10,000 km putting all of Europe and parts of the U.S. within range.\footnote{Mark Piggott, “China Launches Test Missile Capable of Carrying Nuclear Warheads to Europe and US,” \textit{International Business Times}, October 5, 2014, \url{http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/china-launches-test-missile-capable-carrying-nuclear-warheads-europe-us-1468574}.}

206. \textbf{Date:} September 6, 2014  
\textbf{Type:} Test Launch  
\textbf{Involving:} North Korea  
\textbf{Location:} Suckon region, North Korea  

207. \textbf{Date:} August 25, 2014  
\textbf{Type:} Air Incident: Intercept  
\textbf{Involving:} China and Taiwan  
\textbf{Location:} Off the coast of Taiwan  
\textbf{Summary:} Two Chinese military surveillance aircraft enter Taiwan’s airspace twice. Taiwanese fighter jets are sent to tail the two aircraft. Chinese defense officials state the military carried out “routine flight activities in relevant airspace with no unusual occurrences.”\footnote{Adela Lin, “Taiwan Fighters Chase China Jets a Week After U.S. Incident,” \textit{Bloomberg News}, August 27, 2014, \url{http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-08-26/taiwan-says-chinese-military-aircraft-entered-island-s-airspace.html}.}

208. \textbf{Provocative Incident}  
\textbf{Date:} August 19, 2014  
\textbf{Type:} Air Incident  
\textbf{Involving:} China and the U.S.  
\textbf{Location:} Off the coast of Hainan Island
Summary: A Chinese J-11 fighter jet flashes past a Navy Poseidon P-8 patrol aircraft, performing a “barrel roll” at close range and bringing its wingtip within 20 feet of the U.S. plane. The incident occurs in international airspace about 135 miles east of China’s Hainan Island. Pentagon officials protest publicly and release photos of the near miss, which they cite as evidence of rash and irresponsible behavior on the part of the Chinese pilot. They claim the same Chinese military unit had conducted three other risky intercepts of U.S. aircraft in March, April and May this year.  

209. Provocative Incident  
Date: August 14, 2014  
Type: Missile Drill  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: Wonsan, North Korea  
Summary: North Korea fires three short-range missiles before Pope Francis’ visit to Seoul, South Korea.  

210. Date: August 6, 2014  
Type: Air Incident: Intercept  
Involving: China and Japan  
Location: East China Sea  
Summary: China’s Ministry of Defense claims Japanese F-15 fighter jets shadowed Chinese patrolling aircraft over the East China Sea. Japan’s defense ministry said it had no information on the incident.  

211. Date: July 26, 2014  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: Hwanghae province, North Korea  
Summary: North Korea tests a short-range ballistic missile.  

212. Provocative Incident  
Date: July 12, 2014  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: North Korea  
Location: Kaesong, North Korea  
Summary: North Korea tests two short-range ballistic missiles just 20 kilometers from the border with South Korea.  

213. Date: July 9, 2014  
Type: Test Launch  

Involving: North Korea
Location: Southwest North Korea
Summary: North Korea tests two Scud-type missiles.479

214. Date: June 29, 2014
   Type: Test Launch
   Involving: North Korea
   Location: East coast of North Korea
   Summary: North Korea tests two Scud-type missiles.480

215. Date: June 26, 2014
   Type: Test Launch
   Involving: North Korea
   Location: East coast of North Korea
   Summary: North Korea indicates they may have successfully tested three short-range precision
           guided missiles.481

216. Provocative Incident
   Date: June 11, 2014
   Type: Air Incident: Intercept
   Involving: China and Japan
   Location: East China Sea
   Summary: Chinese Su-27 fighter jets fly “abnormally close” to a Japanese OP-3C surveillance
           plane and a YS-11EB electronic intelligence aircraft over the East China Sea. Chinese officials
           claim two Japanese F-15 planes followed a Chinese Tu-54 aircraft coming as close as 30 meters,
           prompting China to send the Su-27 jets. Japanese officials deny this.482

217. Provocative Incidents (2)
   Date: May 24, 2014
   Type: Air Incidents (2) and Military Exercise
   Involving: China, Russia and Japan
   Location: East China Sea
   Summary: Japanese Defense Minister Onodera reports that a Chinese Su-27 fighter and a
           Japanese navy OP-3C surveillance plane came as close as 50-meters apart and an hour later a
           Chinese Su-27 came within 30 meters of a Japanese air force YS-11EB. Both encounters were over
           international waters near where China and Japan have established overlapping air-defense zones in
           the East China Sea. China blamed Japan for operating near Russian-Chinese joint military
           exercises and claimed the Chinese aircraft was taking necessary control and identification

481 “N. Korea tests new precision guided missiles,” Fox News, June 27, 2014,
482 Reuters, “Japan denies brush with Chinese planes, demands Beijing withdraws footage,” South China Morning Post,
measures.  

218. **Date:** March 26, 2014  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** Wonsan, North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea tests two medium-range ballistic missiles. It is the first launch of a Nodong missile in five years.  

219. **Date:** March 3, 2014  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** North Korea  
**Location:** East coast of North Korea  
**Summary:** North Korea tests two short-range ballistic missiles.  

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India, Pakistan and China

Two countries with the fastest growing nuclear arsenals – India and Pakistan – have been in a contentious border conflict for almost seven decades. The coupling of the Kashmir border conflict with a nuclear arms race creates a dangerous hot spot for escalation and regional nuclear war. India is also facing a border clash with China along the Line of Actual Control as both countries vie for regional power. Global Zero has analyzed 121 military-related incidents in the region involving India, Pakistan and China over the past 3 years.

Figure 7. Map of Military Incidents in South Asia Each incident is color coded by type: red indicates border clashes; yellow indicates an air incident; orange indicates an air intercept; blue indicates a sea intercept; brown indicates a military exercise; green indicates a test (launch or flight); and grey indicates defense news. Balloon markers indicate routine incidents while diamonds indicate provocative incidents and stars indicate high-risk incidents.
The Line of Control between Pakistan and India in Kashmir is the most densely populated with military incidents. Of the 121 incidents listed, 47 are border clashes. Two of those occurred between India and China after a conflict broke out in the fall of 2014 near the Line of Actual Control while 34 occurred between India and Pakistan in the disputed region of Kashmir. These incidents kill soldiers and civilians with both sides blaming the other for instigating.

Active militant groups in Kashmir add another dimension to risk escalation: In November 2015, India exchanged fire with militants along the border on three separate occasions. In September 2016, a clash between India and militants killed 19 soldiers and sparked a 2-month period of increased cross-border firing from Pakistan and India. (India believes Pakistan arms and trains militant groups to fight against India, a claim Pakistan denies). Terrorist groups continue to work to obtain a nuclear weapon through theft or the black market a mission violent chaos makes easier.

Pakistan and India both continue to develop new nuclear-capable missiles, including indigenously built sea-based missiles in India and tactical nuclear weapons in Pakistan. Tests of such weapons make up 46 percent of the identified incidents in South Asia. Pakistan has conducted at least 16 such tests while India has conducted at least 38. These new weapons and capabilities shorten the fuse separating the two countries from limited nuclear exchange.

South Asia is a hot spot for military conflict. The territorial dispute has given way to a number of high-risk incidents in the region. We identified 42 high-risk incidents (those that have a high potential to lead to a direct military conflict) in South Asia since March 2014, including 29 clashes near the Line of Control between Pakistan and India resulting in casualties with spikes in frequency in October 2014, August-September 2015, and September-November 2016; ten instances of clashes between India and militants; and the detection of a Pakistan fishing vessel carrying explosives by the Indian Coast Guard in December 2014. The number of high-risk incidents is made more troubling by the consistent nature
of these cases. These incidents continuously spark up leaving the region vulnerable to escalation to a direct military conflict.

There were also seven provocative incidents identified in the region, consisting of Pakistan and Indian troops firing at each other with no casualties, three instances of Chinese troops and vessels crossing the Line of Actual Control into Indian territory in the fall of 2014, and the arrest of an unarmed Indian soldier by Pakistan after he mistakenly crossed the border.

More specifics of all incidents are below with high-risk and provocative incidents indicated.

1. **High Risk Incident**
   **Date:** April 27, 2017
   **Type:** Border Clash
   **Involving:** India and Militants
   **Location:** Chowkibals’ Panzgam area, Kupwara district, Kashmir
   **Summary:** Suspected militants attack an Indian army garrison in Kashmir, killing three soldiers. A civilian is later killed after the Indian army opens fire on protesters demanding the bodies of the two militants killed.486

2. **Date:** April 27, 2017
   **Type:** Test Launch
   **Involving:** India
   **Location:** off the coast of Odisha, India
   **Summary:** India successfully tests a nuclear-capable surface-to-surface intermediate range ballistic missile.487

3. **Date:** April 21, 2017
   **Type:** Test Launch
   **Involving:** India
   **Location:** Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha, India
   **Summary:** India completest the first test of the land-attack version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile.488

4. **High Risk Incident**
   **Date:** April 1, 2017
   **Type:** Border Clash
   **Involving:** India and Pakistan
   **Location:** Chirikot sector, Kashmir

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Summary: One civilian is killed after cross-border firing on the Line of Control in Kashmir. Pakistan accused Indian forces of an “unprovoked ceasefire violation.”

5. Date: March 16, 2017  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: Pakistan  
Location: Coast of Pakistan  
Summary: Pakistan successfully tests a land-based anti-ship missile.

6. Date: March 12, 2017  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: Pakistan  
Location: Undisclosed  
Summary: Pakistan deploys a Chinese-made low-to-medium altitude Air Defence System in response to India’s developing air-defense system.

7. Date: March 11, 2017  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: India  
Location: Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha, India  
Summary: India successfully tests an extended-range BrahMos cruise missile.

8. Date: March 1, 2017  
Type: Test  
Involving: India  
Location: Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha, India  
Summary: India successfully tests its indigenously-developed interceptor missile.

9. High Risk Incident  
Date: February 14, 2017  
Type: Border Clash  
Involving: India and Pakistan  
Location: Kashmir  
Summary: At least three Pakistani soldiers are killed in a clash with Indian forces in Kashmir. Pakistan accused Indian border guards of “unprovoked” firing.

10. **Date:** February 11, 2017  
   **Type:** Test  
   **Involving:** India  
   **Location:** Bay of Bengal and Kalam Island  
   **Summary:** India successfully intercepts a target mimicking a hostile incoming ballistic missile.  

11. **High Risk Incident**  
   **Date:** February 11, 2017  
   **Type:** Border Clash  
   **Involving:** India and Militants  
   **Location:** Frisal village, Kulgam district, Kashmir  
   **Summary:** Two Indian security force members and four suspected militants are killed during a ten-hour gun fight that broke out when the security forces entered Frisal village in pursuit of the militants. One civilian was killed when local protesters confronted the security forces.

12. **Date:** January 24, 2017  
   **Type:** Test Flight  
   **Involving:** Pakistan  
   **Location:** Undisclosed  
   **Summary:** Pakistan successfully tests the surface-to-surface nuclear-capable missile ‘Ababeel.’ It is the first flight test of the missile which has a range of up to 2,200 kilometers and can carry multiple warheads.

13. **Date:** January 9, 2017  
   **Type:** Test Launch  
   **Involving:** Pakistan  
   **Location:** undisclosed location, Indian Ocean  
   **Summary:** Pakistan tests the first submarine-launched cruise missile – the nuclear-capable Babur-3 missile – with a range of 450 km.

14. **Date:** January 2, 2017  
   **Type:** Test Launch  
   **Involving:** India  
   **Location:** Abdul Kalam Island, India  
   **Summary:** India successfully tests the long-range Agni-IV ballistic missile from a road-mobile launcher.

15. **Date:** December 26, 2016

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Type: Test Launch  
Involving: India  
Location: Kalam Island  
Summary: India successfully test fires the nuclear-capable Agni-V, the country’s longest range nuclear-capable intercontinental ballistic missile with a range of over 5,000 km.  

16. Date: December 21, 2016  
Type: Test Fire  
Involving: Pakistan  
Location: North Arabian Sea  
Summary: Pakistan successfully test fires a surface-to-surface anti-ship missile.  

17. Date: December 21, 2016  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: India  
Location: Bay of Bengal  
Summary: A test of India’s nuclear-capable Nirbhay land-attack cruise missile fails.  

18. Date: December 14, 2016  
Type: Test Fire  
Involving: Pakistan  
Location: Undisclosed  
Summary: Pakistan successfully tests the Babur cruise missile.  

19. High-Risk Incident (2)  
Date: November 29, 2016  
Type: Border Clash (2)  
Involving: India and Militants  
Location: Nagrota army camp, Jammu and Kashmir; Chamliyal area, Samba sector, India  
Summary: Militants dressed as policemen storm an Indian military camp killing seven soldiers. Three militants were killed in the 12 hour+ gun battle. Separately, three infiltrators were killed and six others injured in the Chamliyal area of Samba sector.  

20. High-Risk Incident  
Date: November 23, 2016  

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Type: Border Clash  
Involving: India and Pakistan  
Location: Line of Control, Kashmir  
Summary: India and Pakistan exchange fire along the Line-of-Control killing at least 7 Indian soldiers, three Pakistani soldiers, and at least 11 civilians according to Pakistani officials. Each side blamed the other for starting the firing.  

21. High-Risk Incident  
Date: November 22, 2016  
Type: Border Clash  
Involving: India  
Location: Line of Control, Kashmir  
Summary: India says three soldiers had been killed and promises to retaliate for the attack. Officials decline to say if they were killed by Pakistan, militants, or a combination.  

22. Date: November 22, 2016  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: India  
Location: Abdul Kalam Island  
Summary: India successfully tests the Agni-I surface-to-surface medium-range ballistic missile.  

23. Date: November 21, 2016  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: India  
Location: Chandipur, India  
Summary: India successfully tests two nuclear-capable Prithvi-II ballistic missiles.  

24. Date: November 17-21, 2016  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: China and Pakistan  
Location: Karachi, Pakistan  
Summary: The navies of China and Pakistan engage in joint military exercise aimed at enhancing security and stability in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.  

25. Date: November 16-30, 2016  
Type: Military Exercise  

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**Involving:** China and India  
**Location:** Pune, India  
**Summary:** India and China conduct the sixth annual “Hand in Hand” joint military training exercise focusing on transnational terrorism and counter-terrorism operations.  

26. **Date:** November 16, 2016  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Pakistan  
**Location:** Punjab, Pakistan  
**Summary:** Pakistan conducts Exercise Eaad ul Barq to “reflect the preparedness of [the] armed forces to respond to any national security threat.”  

27. **Date:** November 14, 2016  
**Type:** Sea Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** South of the Pakistani coast  
**Summary:** The Pakistan Navy claims it detected an Indian submarine in waters south of the Pakistani border. According to officials, the submarine made efforts to escape detection but was continuously tracked and pushed out of Pakistani waters. India later rejected the claim.  

28. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** November 9, 2016  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** Line of Control, Kashmir  
**Summary:** India and Pakistan exchange fire along the Line-of-Control killing one India soldier. Each side accuses the other of a ceasefire violation.  

29. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** November 8, 2016  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** Line of Control, Kashmir  
**Summary:** India and Pakistan exchange fire along the Line-of-Control killing two Indian soldiers and at least four Pakistani civilians. Each side accuses the other of a ceasefire violation. Several others were injured in the incident.  

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510 Sushant Kulkarni, “India, China begin joint military exercise,” *The Indian Express*, November 16, 2016,  
511 PTI, “Pakistan conducts military exercise close to Indian border,” *The Indian Express*, November 17, 2016,  
512 Baqir Sajjad Syed, “Navy says Indian sub’s bid to intrude into its waters foiled,” *Dawn*, November 19, 2016,  
513 “India denies Pak. Claims of submarine intrusion,” *The Hindu*, November 19, 2016,  
514 “Fire exchanged across India-Pakistan border in Kashmir,” *Al Jazeera*, November 9, 2016,  
515 “Fire exchanged across India-Pakistan border in Kashmir,” *Al Jazeera*, November 9, 2016,  
30. **Date:** November 3-11, 2016  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Arabian Sea  
**Summary:** The Western Naval Command of the Indian Navy, the Indian Air Force, and the Indian Coast Guard partake in ‘Exercise Paschim Leher,’ involving mobilization and operational synchronization and testing combat readiness.\(^{516}\)

31. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** November 1, 2016  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** Line of Control, Kashmir  
**Summary:** India and Pakistan exchange fire along the Line-of-Control killing six civilians and wounding nine others according to Indian officials. Each side blamed the other for starting the firing.\(^{517}\)

32. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** October 31, 2016  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** Line of Control, Kashmir  
**Summary:** India and Pakistan exchange fire along the Line-of-Control killing one Indian soldier, four civilians and wounding ten others. Each side blamed the other for starting the firing.\(^{518}\)

33. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** October 28, 2016  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** Line of Control, Kashmir  
**Summary:** An Indian officer claims a civilian and a soldier have been killed by mortars and automatic gunfire from Pakistani troops. Pakistan denies the claim.\(^{519}\)

34. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** October 22, 2016  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** Jammu

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Summary: India says it killed seven Pakistani border guards in retaliation for “unprovoked firing” by Pakistan. The Pakistani army refuted the claim, saying there was “no loss” on their side of the border.

35. Provocative Incident
Date: October 5, 2016
Type: Border Clash
Involving: India and Pakistan
Location: Line of Control, Kashmir
Summary: India and Pakistan exchange fire along the Line-of-Control. Pakistan accused India of provoking the artillery fire. One hundred to 150 people were evacuated from the area.

36. High-Risk Incident
Date: October 3, 2016
Type: Border Clash
Involving: India and Pakistan
Location: Line of Control, Kashmir
Summary: India and Pakistan exchange fire along the Line-of-Control killing one Indian paramilitary soldier. Each side blamed the other for starting the firing.

37. High-Risk Incident
Date: October 2, 2016
Type: Border Clash
Involving: India and Militants
Location: Kashmir
Summary: An Indian army camp is reportedly attacked. One soldier was killed.

38. Provocative Incident
Date: October 1, 2016
Type: Border Clash
Involving: India and Pakistan
Location: Line of Control, Kashmir
Summary: India and Pakistan exchange fire along the Line-of-Control. Each side blamed the other for starting the firing.

39. High-Risk Incident
Date: September 29, 2016
Type: Border Clash

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Involving: India and Pakistan
Location: Line of Control, Kashmir
Summary: India and Pakistan exchange fire along the Line-of-Control killing two Pakistani soldiers. Each side blamed the other for starting the firing.525

40. High-Risk Incident
Date: September 30, 2016
Type: Border Clash
Involving: India and Militants
Location: Line of Control, Kashmir
Summary: Indian troops cross into Pakistan-administered Kashmir and kill suspected militants in a “surgical strike,” according to Indian officials. Pakistani officials say the operation never took place.526

41. Date: September 26 – October 10, 2016
Type: Military Exercise
Involving: Pakistan and Russia
Location: Pakistan
Summary: Russia and Pakistan conduct their first joint military exercises – Friendship 2016.527

42. High-Risk Incident
Date: September 20, 2016
Type: Border Clash
Involving: India and Pakistan
Location: Line of Control, Kashmir
Summary: India and Pakistan exchange fire along the Line-of-Control killing 18 soldiers.528

43. Date: September 20, 2016
Type: Test Fire
Involving: India
Location: coast of Odisha, India
Summary: India successfully tests a Barak-8 long-range surface-to-air nuclear-capable ballistic missile, which was jointly developed with Israel.529

44. High Risk Incident
Date: September 18, 2016
Type: Border Clash
Involving: India and Militants

**Location:** Uri, Kashmir

**Summary:** Militants storm an Indian Army base near the border with Pakistan, killing 19 soldiers. Lt. Gen. Ranbir Singh, India’s director general of military operations, later expressed concerns to his counterpart in the Pakistani Army, claiming the militants were “foreign terrorists” carrying items with “Pakistani markings.” A Pakistani official dismissed allegations of Pakistan’s involvement. Four of the militants were also killed in the fighting.

### 45. High-Risk Incident

**Date:** July 9-20, 2016  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** Line of Control, Kashmir  
**Summary:** India security forces fire on protesters in Kashmir killing almost 45 people and injuring more than 2,000. Pakistan observes a “Black Day” in honor of those killed and accuses India of “atrocities, human rights violations and a killing spree of innocent people in Kashmir.” Violence escalated in the region after a Hizbul Mujahideen militant was killed on July 8.

### 46. Date: June 30-July 1, 2016

**Type:** Test Launch (3)  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Chandipur, India  
**Summary:** India successfully test fires three new surface-to-air missiles, which was developed jointly with Israel.

### 47. High-Risk Incident

**Date:** June 25, 2016  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and Militants  
**Location:** Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir  
**Summary:** Militants ambush a convoy in Pulwama district killing eight Indian policemen and injuring 20 others. Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba claimed responsibility for the convoy. Two militants were also killed.

### 48. Date: May 27, 2016

**Type:** Test Fire  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Pokharan firing range  
**Summary:** India successfully test fires the BrahMos land-attack supersonic cruise missile.

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49. Date: May 18, 2016  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: India  
Location: Chandipur, India  
Summary: India successfully test fires the nuclear-capable Prithvi-II missile.\(^{535}\)

50. Date: May 15, 2016  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: China  
Location: Indian Ocean  
Summary: The Chinese Navy’s South China Sea Fleet carries out an anti-piracy drill to enhance emergency response capacity and capability.\(^{536}\)

51. Date: May 15, 2016  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: India  
Location: Bay of Bengal  
Summary: India successfully test fires the indigenously-developed supersonic interceptor missile.\(^{537}\) Pakistan reacted to the test with “serious concerns.”\(^{538}\)

52. Date: April 21-22, 2016  
Type: Military Exercise  
Involving: India  
Location: Rajasthan, India  
Summary: Around 30,000 Indian troops take part in a military exercise aimed at honing countering chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear warfare.\(^{539}\)

53. Date: April 19, 2016  
Type: Test  
Involving: India  
Location: Undisclosed  
Summary: The Indian Navy announces the first submarine capable of firing nuclear ballistic missiles – the INS Arihant – is undergoing sea trials.\(^{540}\)


\(^{539}\) “Indian Army holds war game to deal with tactical nuclear attack,” *LiveMint*, April 21, 2016, [http://www.livemint.com/Politics/wko3ytu3Q7wo2JE1J9J1N/Indian-Army-holds-war-game-to-deal-with-tactical-nuclear-att.html](http://www.livemint.com/Politics/wko3ytu3Q7wo2JE1J9J1N/Indian-Army-holds-war-game-to-deal-with-tactical-nuclear-att.html).

54. **Date:** April 9, 2016  
**Type:** Test Fire  
**Involving:** Pakistan  
**Location:** Arabian Sea  
**Summary:** Pakistan conducts a successful test fire of an anti-ship missile.\(^{541}\)

55. **Date:** March 13, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Off the coast of Odisha  
**Summary:** India successfully test-fires a domestically built nuclear-capable intermediate range Agni-I ballistic missile, which covered 700 km.\(^{542}\)

56. **Date:** March 7, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Bay of Bengal  
**Summary:** India completes a successful test launch of the K-4 nuclear-capable submarine launched ballistic missile from a submerged pontoon.\(^{543}\)

57. **Date:** February 24, 2016  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** New Delhi  
**Summary:** India media reports that the country’s first indigenous nuclear-powered submarine has passed its sea-trials and “can now be commissioned at any time.”\(^{544}\)

58. **Date:** January 19, 2016  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** Pakistan  
**Location:** Pakistan  
**Summary:** Pakistan successfully test fires a dual-capable Ra’ad air-launched cruise missile.\(^{545}\)

59. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** January 2, 2016  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and Militants

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**Location:** Pathankot Air Force Base, India  
**Summary:** At least four gunmen enter an Indian air force base and exchange fire with security forces. Two of the attackers were killed. India accuses Pakistan of arming and training insurgents fighting for Kashmir’s independence.546

60. **Date:** December 30, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Arabian Sea  
**Summary:** India successfully test-fires a Barak 8 surface-to-air missile, which has a range of nearly 70 km, from the INS Kolkata.547

61. **Date:** December 15, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** Pakistan  
**Location:** Near the Arabian Sea  
**Summary:** Pakistan successfully test-fires a dual-capable Shaheen 1A surface-to-surface ballistic missile, which has a range of 900 km.548

62. **Date:** December 11, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** Pakistan  
**Location:** Near the Arabian Sea  
**Summary:** Pakistan successfully test-fires a Shaheen III intermediate-range nuclear-capable ballistic missile. The missile traveled 2,750 km.549

63. **Date:** November 27, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Off the coast of Odisha  
**Summary:** India successfully test-fires a domestically built nuclear-capable intermediate range Agni-I ballistic missile.550

64. **Date:** November 26, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Chandipur, Odisha, India

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Summary: India test-fires the Prithvi-II missile, an indigenously developed nuclear-capable missile.  

65. **Date:** November 26, 2015  
   **Type:** Test Launch  
   **Involving:** India and Israel  
   **Location:** Haifa, Mediterranean Sea  
   **Summary:** The Barak 8 long-range surface-to-air missile, an Indian missile jointly designed and developed with Israel, completes a successful test flight, destroying an incoming fast-moving air target.

66. **High-Risk Incident**  
   **Date:** November 25, 2015  
   **Type:** Border Clash  
   **Involving:** India and Militants  
   **Location:** Kashmir  
   **Summary:** A civilian and three militants are killed in the Kashmir region during a gun battle between militants and the Indian Army near the Pakistan border.

67. **Date:** November 25, 2015  
   **Type:** Test launch  
   **Involving:** India  
   **Location:** India  
   **Summary:** The Arihant, India’s first indigenously-developed nuclear attack submarine, successfully test fires an unarmed missile.

68. **High-Risk Incident**  
   **Date:** November 23, 2015  
   **Type:** Border Clash  
   **Involving:** India and Militants  
   **Location:** Kashmir  
   **Summary:** Four militants are killed in two gunfights with the Indian Army near the disputed border with Pakistan.

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69. **Date:** November 22, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Abdul Kalam Island, India  
**Summary:** India completes a successful test launch of the Advanced Air Defense missile, an indigenously developed supersonic interceptor missile that is part of India’s Ballistic Missile Defense initiative.  

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69. **Date:** November 22, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Abdul Kalam Island, India  
**Summary:** India completes a successful test launch of the Advanced Air Defense missile, an indigenously developed supersonic interceptor missile that is part of India’s Ballistic Missile Defense initiative.\(^{556}\)

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70. **Date:** November 14, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** Pakistan  
**Location:** North Arabian Sea  
**Summary:** Pakistan successfully test-fires an anti-ship guided missile.  

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71. **Date:** November 9, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Abdul Kalam Island, India  
**Summary:** India completes a successful test-fire of the Agni-IV intermediate-range ballistic missile.  

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72. **Date:** November 3-12, 2015  
**Type:** Military Exercise  
**Involving:** Pakistan  
**Location:** North Arabian Sea  
**Summary:** The Pakistan Navy conducts major domestic exercises in the North Arabian Sea to test the Navy’s ability to maintain regional peace, security and stability.  

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73. **Date:** October 31, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Arabian Sea  
**Summary:** India completes a successful test-launch of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from

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the newly-commissioned stealth destroyer INS Kochi.⁵⁶⁰

74. **High-Risk Incident**  
   **Date:** October 26, 2015  
   **Type:** Border Clash  
   **Involving:** India and Pakistan  
   **Location:** Kashmir  
   **Summary:** Two Pakistani children are reportedly killed during fire exchange between Indian and Pakistani military forces in Kashmir.⁵⁶¹

75. **Date:** October 16, 2015  
   **Type:** Test Launch  
   **Involving:** India  
   **Location:** Chandipur, Odisha, India  
   **Summary:** India aborts a test involving a long-range cruise missile, Nirbhay, terminating the missile mid-flight.⁵⁶²

76. **High-Risk Incident**  
   **Date:** September 15, 2015  
   **Type:** Border Clash  
   **Involving:** India and Pakistan  
   **Location:** Kashmir  
   **Summary:** A Pakistani soldier is killed during fire exchange with Indian troops along the disputed Kashmir and Jammu border.⁵⁶³

77. **High-Risk Incident**  
   **Date:** September 5, 2015  
   **Type:** Border Clash  
   **Involving:** India and Pakistan  
   **Location:** Kashmir  
   **Summary:** According to the Indian military, a soldier is wounded in a clash with the Pakistan

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military along the border region of Kashmir and Jammu.  

78. **High-Risk Incident**  
   **Date:** August 28, 2015  
   **Type:** Border Clash  
   **Involving:** India and Pakistan  
   **Location:** Kashmir  
   **Summary:** At least 11 civilians are killed in clashes between Indian and Pakistani security forces on both sides of the border. Both countries accused the other of starting the confrontation.

79. **High-Risk Incident**  
   **Date:** August 25, 2015  
   **Type:** Border Clash  
   **Involving:** India and Pakistan  
   **Location:** Kashmir  
   **Summary:** According to the Indian military, an Indian army officer is killed by a Pakistani military sniper.

80. **High-Risk Incident**  
   **Date:** August 15-16, 2015  
   **Type:** Border Clash  
   **Involving:** India and Pakistan  
   **Location:** Kashmir  
   **Summary:** Cross-border clashes between Indian and Pakistani troops along the Line of Control kill multiple civilians.

81. **High-Risk Incident**  
   **Date:** August 4, 2015  
   **Type:** Border Clash  
   **Involving:** India and Pakistan  
   **Location:** Kashmir

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Summary: Cross-border firing in the Kashmir region kills two Pakistanis and one Indian.\textsuperscript{568}

82. Provocative Incident  
Date: July 20, 2015  
Type: Border Clash  
Involving: India and Pakistan  
Location: Kashmir  
Summary: Indian and Pakistani troops fire at each other across the disputed border in the Kashmir region.\textsuperscript{569}

83. High-Risk Incident  
Date: July 15, 2015  
Type: Border Clash  
Involving: India and Pakistan  
Location: Kashmir  
Summary: India and Pakistan exchange fire along the Line of Control killing at least 5 civilians. The Pakistani army also claims it shot down an Indian spy drone in Kashmir.\textsuperscript{570}

84. Date: June 16, 2015  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: India and Pakistan  
Location: Pakistan  
Summary: After Indian troops conduct a military operation in which media reports claim Indian soldiers crossed into Burma and killed more than 50 militants, Pakistan threatens swift retaliation should India try similar operations along its border with Pakistan.\textsuperscript{571}

85. Date: May 8, 2015  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: India  
Location: Car Nicobar Islands, India  
Summary: India completes a successful test launch of the BrahMos land-attack cruise missile, a multi-mission missile with a range of 290 km.\textsuperscript{572}

86. Date: April 16, 2015  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: India  
Location: Chandipur, Odisha, India  
Summary: India completes a successful test launch of the Agni-II ballistic missile, which has a range of over 3,000 km.573

87. Date: April 15, 2015  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: Pakistan and Russia  
Location: Moscow  
Summary: Pakistan and Russia agree to hold joint military exercises in an effort to enhance defense cooperation. Other points of collaboration include increasing “military cooperation in training and import of arms and equipment.”574

88. Date: April 15, 2015  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: Pakistan  
Location: Jhelum District, Pakistan  
Summary: Pakistan completes a successful test launch of the Ghauri Missile System, which can carry nuclear warheads up to 1,300 km.575

89. Date: April 9, 2015  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: India  
Location: Off the coast of Odisha, India  
Summary: India completes a successful test launch of the Dhanush ballistic missile, which has a strike range of 350 km, off a naval ship.576

90. Date: April 2, 2015  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: Pakistan and China  
Location: Islamabad  
Summary: Pakistan defense officials share plans to buy eight submarines from China in efforts to

modernize its submarine fleet. 577

91. Date: March 9, 2015
Type: Test Launch
Involving: Pakistan
Location: Near the Arabian Sea
Summary: Pakistan completes a successful test launch of the Shaheen-III surface-to-surface ballistic missile, which has a range of 2,750 km. 578

92. Date: February 14, 2015
Type: Test Launch
Involving: India
Location: Arabian Sea
Summary: India completes a successful test of the supersonic BrahMos cruise missile from the INS Kolkata. 579

93. High-Risk Incident
Date: February 14, 2015
Type: Border Clash
Involving: India and Pakistan
Location: Kashmir
Summary: The Pakistani military reports that a civilian was killed when fire was exchanged between Indian and Pakistani troops across the Line of Control (LOC). 580

94. Date: February 2, 2015
Type: Test Launch
Involving: Pakistan
Location: Rawalpindi Test Range, Pakistan
Summary: Pakistan successfully tests the Ra’ad air-launched cruise missile capable of carrying conventional and nuclear payloads. 581

95. **Date:** January 31, 2015  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Abdul Kalam Island, India  
**Summary:** India completes a successful test of Agni-V, India’s first ICBM, firing the missile from a mobile launcher.  

96. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** January 5, 2015  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** Kashmir  
**Summary:** Five people die in Jammu and Kashmir due to intensified clashes between India and Pakistan in the disputed areas. Pakistani officials claim four of the deaths were a result of unprovoked firing from Indian troops while India allege the individuals were planning an attack on Indian soil.

97. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** January 3, 2015  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** Kashmir  
**Summary:** Skirmishes break out in Kashmir between Indian and Pakistani troops. Four people were killed and 12 were wounded.

98. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** December 31, 2014  
**Type:** Sea Incident  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** Arabian Sea  
**Summary:** A Pakistan fishing vessel allegedly carrying explosives came into confrontation with the Indian Coast Guard. The boat’s occupants set the boat on fire killing four people from the fishing vessel.

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99. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** December 16, 2014  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and China  
**Location:** Line of Actual Control (LAC)  
**Summary:** The Chinese PLA enters Indian territory in support of Chinese civilians quarreling over disputed territory. Indian forces ask the Chinese forces to retreat to their territory pushing the troops back after three hours.  

100. **Date:** December 2, 2014  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Abdul Kalam Island, India  
**Summary:** India successfully test-fires the strategic Agni-IV missile for a range of 3,000 km, but the missile has a full range of 4,000 km.  

101. **Date:** November 25, 2014  
**Type:** Defense News  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** Kashmir  
**Summary:** India’s Defense Minister Manohar Parrikar writes that 13 civilians have been killed by Pakistan in ceasefire violations so far in 2014. That would make this year the bloodiest in the last four (there were no civilian casualties in 2011 and 2013, and there were 4 in 2012). The highest number of security personnel casualties due to ceasefire violations occurred last year with 12 soldiers killed. Five have been killed so far in 2014.  

102. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** November 20, 2014  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** Kashmir  
**Summary:** Pakistan accuses Indian forces of unprovoked attacks on the Pakistani side of the Line of Control resulting in the death of a Pakistani soldier. Pakistan summoned a senior Indian diplomat to express strong condemnation of the shooting and call on New Delhi to take serious
measures to prevent similar incidents.\textsuperscript{589}

103. Date: November 17, 2014  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: Pakistan  
Location: Near the Arabian Sea  
Summary: Pakistan conducts a successful test launch of the intermediate range Shaheen 1A (Hatf IV) ballistic missile aimed at re-validating various design and technical parameters. The missile is capable of carrying nuclear and conventional warheads up to a range of 900 kilometers.\textsuperscript{590}

104. Date: November 14, 2014  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: India  
Location: Chandipur, Odisha, India  
Summary: India successfully test-launches the indigenously developed Prithvi-II surface-to-surface missile according to defense sources.\textsuperscript{591}

105. Date: November 13, 2014  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: Pakistan  
Location: Near the Arabian Sea  
Summary: Pakistan successfully test-fires the Shaheen-II missile with a target somewhere in the Arabian Sea. Pakistani military sources said the missile is capable of hitting targets 900 miles away and that the purpose of the test was to revalidate various technical parameters of the missile and ensure operation readiness.\textsuperscript{592}

106. Date: November 2, 2014  
Type: Defense News  
Involving: India and China  
Location: Sri Lanka  
Summary: Sri Lanka allows China to dock another attack submarine at their port, despite Indian concerns. In late September, Sri Lanka allowed China to dock a nuclear submarine at a Lankan...
107. **High-Risk Incident**  
**Date:** October 2014  
**Type:** Border Clash  
**Involving:** India and Pakistan  
**Location:** Kashmir  
**Summary:** In the “worst spell of violence…in years,” Indian and Pakistani military troops exchange gunfire and mortar shells in Kashmir on-and-off throughout the first couple of weeks in October killing 20 civilians and injuring many on both sides. Both India and Pakistan have blamed the other side for unprovoked firing along the Line of Control (LoC). Cease-fire violations continue with the Pakistani Army reporting the death of a 70-year old civilian from unprovoked Indian firing on October 28.

108. **Provocative Incident**  
**Date:** October 22, 2014  
**Type:** Sea Incident: Intercept  
**Involving:** India and China  
**Location:** Line of Actual Control  
**Summary:** Indo-Tibetan Border Police intercept Chinese boats in Pangong Lake at the Line of Actual Control (LAC). They also block People’s Liberation Army (PLA) troops from crossing over the LAC by road.

109. **Date:** October 17, 2014  
**Type:** Test Launch  
**Involving:** India  
**Location:** Chandipur, Odisha, India  
**Summary:** India successfully test launches the first indigenously developed long-range cruise missile, Nirbhay, which is nuclear-capable and has a strike range of over 1,000 kilometers.

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110. Date: September 26, 2014
Type: Test Launch
Involving: Pakistan
Location: Pakistan
Summary: Pakistan successfully test fires a Nasr missile.597

111. Provocative Incident
Date: September 8-30, 2014
Type: Border Clash and Defense News
Involving: India and China
Location: Line of Actual Control
Summary: In June, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi ordered faster construction of roads and infrastructure along the LAC. After the Indian army built a small observation hut close to the LAC on September 8, Chinese soldiers started work on a road on territory claimed by India demanding the hut be destroyed. India refused and raised troop numbers in the area. Tensions continued to build as about 1,000 Chinese soldiers crossed the LAC in Ladakh, Kashmir prompting a face-off with an equal number of Indian troops and coinciding with Chinese President Xi Jinping’s arrival in India in mid-September. Both countries completed simultaneous withdrawal of troops on September 30.598

Last year India reported over 400 Chinese incursions across the Himalayan border, up from about 140 in 2006. This year, India has claimed China has violated the ceasefire line 334 times. Incursions are usually temporary, harmless patrol exercises – there has not been a fatal confrontation in decades.

112. High-Risk Incident
Date: August 23, 2014
Type: Border Clash
Involving: India and Pakistan
Location: Kashmir
Summary: Indian and Pakistani forces exchange fire along the LoC, killing four civilians – two Indian and two Pakistani. Indian Defense Minister Jaitley claimed Pakistan had violated the ceasefire agreement 54 times from the beginning of 2014 through July 16 and had violated the agreement 199 times last year.599

113. Provocative Incident
Date: August 6, 2014

Type: Border Clash  
Involving: India and Pakistan  
Location: Kashmir  
Summary: Pakistani forces arrest an unarmed Indian soldier after he accidentally crossed the border. He is released two days later.  

114. High-Risk Incident  
Date: July 21, 2014  
Type: Border Clash  
Involving: India and Pakistan  
Location: Kashmir  
Summary: Pakistan and Indian troops on the border of the LoC exchange fire, killing at least one man and wounding two women and a child.

115. High-Risk Incident  
Date: July 16, 2014  
Type: Border Clash  
Involving: India and Pakistan  
Location: Kashmir  
Summary: Pakistan and India troops on the border of the LoC exchange fire, killing at least one border guard and wounding seven more including four civilians.

116. Date: April 26, 2014  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: India  
Location: Chandipur, Odisha, India  
Summary: India completes a test launch of the indigenously developed surface-to-air Akash missile.

117. Date: March 24, 2014  
Type: Test Launch  
Involving: India  
Location: Bay of Bengal  
Summary: India completes a secretive test of the K-4 SLBM, the country’s “most advanced submarine-launched ballistic missile to date,” which has a range of 3,000 km.

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601 “One Pakistani killed, three wounded during Indo-Pak border clash,” Dawn.com, July 21, 2014,  

602 “India, Pakistan border guards exchange fire on Kashmir border, 1 killed, 7 wounded,” Xinhua News, July 16, 2014,  

603 Press Trust of India, “Akash test fired successfully,” The Indian Express, April 26, 2014,  

604 Ankit Panda, “India Inches Closer to Credible Nuclear Triad With K-4 SLBM Test,” The Diplomat, May 13, 2014,  