

South Korea Fired the First Shot

While North Korean leader Kim Jong Il is a madman, and while North Korea was the first to kill anyone in a skirmish, it was actually the *South Koreans* who fired first.

As AP [notes](#):

The skirmish began when Pyongyang [i.e. North Korea] warned the South to halt military drills in the Yellow Sea, according to South Korean officials. When ***Seoul [i.e. South Korea] refused and began firing into disputed waters***, albeit away from the North Korean shore, the North retaliated by bombarding the island of Yeonpyeong, which houses South Korean military installations....

And see [this](#).

In addition, the two South Koreans killed were *marines*, not civilians, stationed in a military town.

Obviously, firing artillery into the water and actually killing people are very different, and I am in no way blaming North Korea or its crazy leader. I am simply trying to point out that the headlines can't be taken in a vacuum.

5 COMMENTS:



[Irrational Doomsday Blog](#) said...

North Korea doesn't have any authority to demand South Korea stop live fire exercises within the Yellow Sea. That's a nonstarter from a law of armed conflict perspective.

Even if there was some justification for the North Koreans taking action, which there wasn't, they would be bound by the same law to take proportional response- killing people and destroying property is not the proportional response to this.

While there are many examples of violations even on "our side", this one, barring some new information, is one of them.



[geo1671](#) said...

Oh Please # uno poster. The island belongs to north KOREA. I guess in your books--it's peachie AKA the Yellow Sea on a daily bases to bomb the crap out of palestine and when the PalsOFmine retelate--they are the bad guys. N.Koreans have suffered enough--please do tell us--what's it Uncle ScAM's business being in this



[wataru](#) said...

The key word is "disputed territory." The two countries have never agreed on the exact boundaries of the armistice line in the waters. S.Korea believed its drills were in its own part of the sea.



[Syd Walker](#) said...