

Even a US 'Surgical Strike' Against North Korea Could Lead to Full-Scale War

Experts Agree There Is No 'Limited' Military Option

By [Jason Ditz](#)

Global Research, July 06, 2017

[Antiwar.com](#) 5 July 2017

Region: [Asia](#)

Theme: [US NATO War Agenda](#)

In-depth Report: [NORTH KOREA, Nuclear War](#)

Even administration officials readily admit that a full-scale war with North Korea is “[a war we don't want](#).” After almost 70 years of armistice, North Korea has retaliatory capabilities that would devastate South Korea, killing millions, and the large US military contingent in South Korea would be sitting ducks.

At the same time, the Trump Administration is eager to [play up their readiness for war](#), and belief that they have myriad [military options](#), which is raising concerns about the possibility of a limited engagement, or some sort of surgical strike.

Experts, however, [seem virtually unanimous in their opinion that a limited military exchange](#) wouldn't be limited for long, with North Korean retaliation likely in the case of any attack, with the situation progressively escalating into the full-scale war.

Exactly how North Korea would respond to a limited attack is anyone's guess, with many hoping he wouldn't immediate “go nuclear.” Yet few doubt that they'd respond in earnest with their substantial conventional arsenal, and that the US would respond to their response, and so on.

This is particularly true because even the most limited US attack on them will necessarily be seen as “the beginning of the end,” with bigger attacks only a matter of time, and the US giving the impression that a military exchange is their end-game.

Jason Ditz is news editor of [Antiwar.com](#).

Featured image from [Antiwar.com](#)

The original source of this article is [Antiwar.com](#)

Copyright © [Jason Ditz](#), [Antiwar.com](#), 2017

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: **Jason Ditz**

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca
www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca