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On the Current Situation in the DPRK

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Summary:

North Korea is said to have started acknowledging the World War II and Korean War-era assistance of the USSR and China once again. Some Western literature is now available in the DPRK. And a flurry of construction projects have begun outside of Pyongyang.

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initiative of Kim Jong Il. Generally, this palpably reflects the publication program of south Korean publishers, which presumably is adopted, i.e., copied, without much scrutiny, whereby even "Tarzan," "Lassie's Adventures," "Donald Duck," and many other British and American issues get published.

Due to the low number of copies published, however, these publications' impact on the masses is limited, though it is possible to borrow them from libraries.

Another noteworthy new tendency is that they [the North Koreans] have begun to reduce the serious differences between capital and province. This is evidenced, among other things, by the generous construction projects in provincial capitals and similar cities such as Namp'o, Wönsan, and Kaesöng.

[\[1\]](#) IMS signifies "Unofficial Collaborators"