Will North Korea and US go to War?

What is the issue?

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- The aggressive rhetoric between US-North Korea is making serious concerns in global security.
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- A miscalculation by either side might lead to a war that will destruction of frightful proportions.
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How escalated is the issue?

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- **US -** It agreed to install THAAD (Terminal High Area Air Defence) in South Korea which created distress for North Korea.
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- The US and Japan successfully downed a test medium-range ballistic missile with a new interceptor launched from a guided-missile destroyer.
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- That was a message to North Korea that its missiles can be intercepted.
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- The US and South Korea responded by holding a joint missile drill to counteract North Korea.
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- **North Korea-**It carried out the first of its 18 missile tests since new presidency in USA.
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- To coincide with the US Independence Day, North Korea carried out what it claimed as an ICBM test.
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What are the global strategies to contain North Korea?

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- Resolution 2371 was unanimously passed at the Security Council.
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- North Korea has been under sanctions since 2006.
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- But if the new resolution is implemented, it will cut its export earnings by US$1 billion from the current level of $3 billion.
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- China has publicly advised North Korea to abide by the resolution.
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- USA has said that if China helps in stopping the tests by North Korea, it is prepared to accept the huge trade imbalance with China.
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What can be a possible solution?

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- Sanctions have not worked in the past, they are unlikely to work in the future.
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- The six-party talks (the two Koreas, US, Japan, Russia, and China) in the past did give some results.
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- The talks have to start without conditions and what is realistic is a halt to North Korea’s programme against economic aid and political respect.
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- It might be possible to denuclearize the Korean peninsula over a period of time after signing a peace treaty ending the Korean War.
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- It will make more sense to have two-party (US and North Korea) talks rather than revive the six-party talks.
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Source: IDSA

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