



# AMURAI GATE

October is DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH  
silence hides violence

October is Women's Health & Breast Cancer Awareness Month



A fully-armed U.S. Air Force F-15 Eagle receives fuel from a KC-135 Stratotanker over the Pacific Ocean, Sept. 23. Through air refueling operations, U.S. Air Force and allied aircraft have the capability to eliminate threats and promote security across the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman John Linzmeier)

# Bombers, fighters fly in international airspace east of North Korea

**By Cheryl Pellerin**

Defense Media Activity

**9/26/2017 - WASHINGTON** — Air Force B-1B Lancer bombers from Guam and Air Force F-15 Eagle fighter escorts from Okinawa, Japan, flew in international airspace over the waters east of North Korea, Sept. 23, Defense Department spokesman Army Col. Rob Manning said, Sept. 25.

In a show of force, Manning told Pentagon reporters, the aircraft flew north of the Demilitarized Zone, the farthest north any U.S. fighter or bomber has flown off North Korea's coast in the 21st century, underscoring the seriousness of North Korea's "reckless behavior."

He added, "The United States seeks only the peaceful denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the end of threatening actions or provocations by North Korea. The Kim regime's actions will continue to be grossly overmatched

by ours, and would lose any arms race or conflict that it initiates."

### Commitment to Defense

This flight was in response to North Korea's escalatory launch of intercontinental ballistic missiles on July 3 and July 28, intermediate range ballistic missile launches over Japan on Aug. 28 and Sept. 14, and a nuclear test on Sept. 2, Manning said, all of which violate many U.N. Security Council resolutions.

North Korea must choose to stop isolating itself and stand down its nuclear weapons program, the colonel added.

"As always, our commitment is to the defense of our allies and our partners and remains ironclad," he said.

"We are prepared to defend ourselves and our allies from an attack," Manning said, "and are prepared to use the full range of capabilities at our disposal against the threat from North Korea."



(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua Smoot)

^ A B-1B Lancer, assigned to the 37th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron, deployed from Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, prepares to take off from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Sept. 23.