

Korean tension ratchets up

■ **Mar 26, 2010:** South Korean warship, ***Cheonan***, sinks near disputed border, killing 46 sailors

■ **May 20:** International investigators conclude ship was sunk by North Korean torpedo – Pyongyang denies involvement



■ **July-Sep:** South Korea and U.S. hold military exercises. U.S. places new bilateral sanctions on Pyongyang

■ **Sep 29:** North holds rare party congress – ***Kim Jong-il's*** youngest son, ***Kim Jong-un***, appointed to senior political and military posts, indicating he will succeed his father as leader of North Korea

■ **Oct 29:** Troops from both sides exchange fire across land border

■ **Nov 12:** North Korea shows off new secretly-built plant for enriching uranium at ***Yongbyon*** (right), potentially giving Pyongyang another facility to produce nuclear weapons

■ **Nov 23:** North fires dozens of artillery shells at South Korea's ***Yeonpyeong Island***, killing two marines – South returns fire

