

OPINION

Playing with fire

While the Cold War is the subject of history lessons for our young people, it's entirely possible that North Korea's test of a controversial missile last week could mark the start of a new arms race.

Wednesday's reported launch of a long-range Taepo Dong 2 missile along with multiple Scud-class missiles by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is believed to be that country's first test of a weapon capable of reaching the continental United States.

According to a Wednesday report by Jane's Defence Weekly — a leading authority on worldwide weaponry — the long-range missile failed shortly after lift-off, but its inaugural flight should have provided North Korea with sufficient data for future development

of the weapon.

The U.S., meanwhile, has deemed the test as "provocative behaviour" in defiance of the international community. North Korea seems hell bent on developing an inter-continental ballistic missile and is far beyond the drawing board phase.

One popular theory behind North Korea's missile development is that it wants to be able to make the United States think twice before becoming involved in any future conflict that arises between North and South Korea.

Unless North Korea can be convinced to back off, the situation points to an escalation beyond a war of words. For everyone's sake, we hope the verbal threats and political posturing don't lead to something far worse.



ReadersWrite

Send your letters to miltoneid@haltonsearch.com or drop them off at 875 Main St. E.

Council criticism still valid despite fixed sidewalk slab

DEAR EDITOR:

In response to Betty Smirle's June 30 letter, yes the mayor and his staff have a difficult job to do and yes, you can't please all of the people all of the time.

But on the same note, he was elected to do a job, as was his hired help. The fact that he was able to fix a sidewalk slab shouldn't cancel out any negative comments about his ability to manage the town as a whole.

The negative comments coming from citizens of this town are regarding infrastructure relating to the town's massive growth, and its inability to handle traffic on roads built for a town of 30,000 — not 60,000.

I'm sure it would be possible for quite a number of citizens of Milton to point out irregularities or even dangerous situations in and around their own houses and neighbourhoods.

I've had sidewalk slabs around the corner from my house that mothers couldn't get a child's buggy over without deliberately lifting the wheels over.

Not to belittle Smirle's sinkhole, but everyone still went about their business. I would rather the mayor concentrate on getting traffic moving safely and timely through and around town before it gets any larger.

These small problems have to be addressed, but in the interim let's focus on the whole, not just the small parts. Quick action on a piece of sidewalk doesn't a mayor make.

On a final note, I'd like to know who Smirle got in touch with at Town Hall so I can have my own sidewalk addressed.

SCOTT TURNER
RIVERPLACE CRESCENT

Drivers becoming more and more careless on our Milton-area roads

DEAR EDITOR:

I find it necessary to write again regarding the automobile drivers in our town of Milton.

What happens to the average, ordinary, reasonable person once they slide behind the wheel of their car is often difficult to understand.

It appears that the rules of the road are ignored, with speed and impatience

as the order of the day.

We have become oblivious to stop signs, traffic lights, maximum speed limits and, above all, pedestrians.

Whatever manners we have are left at home and the attitude of aggression takes over, which could easily lead to a collision or a visit to the hospital.

DON SMITH
MILTON

Town years behind in terms of parking issue

DEAR EDITOR:

I wasn't sure if I was reading The Champion's front page headline or the Time Capsules section when I browsed the front page of the July 4 Champion.

The headline read 'Parking woes to be looked at in Official Plan'.

Is this for real? Was I reading something that should have been in the paper five years ago? Are we actually looking at parking in new subdivisions now — after thousands of homes have already been built, and many more are already approved?

I thought 'planning' meant in advance of the actual development. Where were our planners years ago before we bulldozed the area and put up all of the new homes? I wonder how we can "solve parking woes in new subdivisions" now that they are up.

Relatives of mine purchased a home in one of the new subdivisions in Milton. After actually living there for a couple of years with parking allowed on both sides of the street, it was later determined that the width of the road was too narrow for fire trucks if parking continued on both sides.

Where were the planners before the area was built? Did fire trucks suddenly get wider or was someone sleeping during the site approvals?

Furthermore, I have to drive my vehicle to Burlington or Hamilton with bicycles attached to a carrier on the back. These communities have bicycle paths, while Milton doesn't. More poor planning, I guess.

We need to give our heads a shake for allowing such nonsense to go ahead.

Voting time is coming, and I will be making my decisions accordingly.

JOHN HRYCKO
VALLEYVIEW CRESCENT

The Canadian Champion
Milton's Community Newspaper Since 1860

875 Main St. E.,
Milton, Ont. L9T 3Z3

905-878-2341

Editorial Fax: 905-878-4943

Advertising Fax: 905-876-2364

Classified: 905-875-3300

Circulation: 905-878-5947

www.miltoncanadianchampion.com

Publisher: Ian Oliver

Associate Publisher
Neil Oliver

Advertising Director
Wendy McNab

Managing Editor
Karen Miceli

Production Manager
Tim Coles

Circulation Manager
Charlene Hall

Office Manager
Teri Casas

The Canadian Champion, published every Tuesday and Friday at 875 Main St. E., Milton, Ont., L9T 3Z3, is one of the Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing Ltd. community newspapers.

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with a reasonable allowance for signature, will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate. The publisher reserves the right to categorize advertisements or decline.

CCAB Audited

Recognized for excellence by

ocna Ontario Community Newspapers Association

CNA Canadian Community Newspapers Association

SNV Suburban Newspapers of America

The Canadian Champion is a proud media sponsor for:

Halton Healthcare Child Find ONTARIO

WELCOME WAGON LTD. SINCE 1930 Jingle Bell Fund MILTON CANADA DAY

UNITED WAY OF MILTON ROLLY FOR LIFE MILTON SANTA CLAUS PARADE TY AUCTION

ATHENA Awards The Oakville, Milton POLICE ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

Showcase Milton GALA Awards FAO

MILTON POLICE ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

MILTON POLICE ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

The Milton Canadian Champion is a Recyclable Product