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[REDACTED]
9 JUL 82

NORTH KOREA: Nuclear Reactor

[REDACTED] a new nuclear research reactor being built at the southern edge of North Korea's Yongbyon Nuclear Research Center.// [REDACTED]

// [REDACTED] the new facility is similar to North Korea's only other reactor-- a Soviet-supplied 2-megawatt thermal research reactor-- built at the center during the 1960s. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

//North Korea's nuclear physicists are trained by the Soviets and have the theoretical and technical skill to build a small reactor of this type. If the Soviets are involved, the reactor probably will be declared to the International Atomic Energy Agency for safeguarding, as was the first reactor at Moscow's insistence.// [REDACTED]

//If the North Koreans are building a copy of the first reactor without Soviet involvement and want to avoid declaring the reactor to the IAEA, [REDACTED]

The reactor, which will not be completed for several years, is not designed to produce the quantities of plutonium needed for a nuclear weapons program.// [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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