

N.Korea uses Twitter for propaganda offensive

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The frontpage of Twitter. North Korea's propaganda campaign has surged into the 21st century with a new Twitter account, hot on the heals of its foray into video with clips posted on YouTube.

North Korea's propaganda campaign has surged into the 21st century with a new Twitter account, hot on the heals of its foray into video with clips posted on YouTube.

The secretive regime has begun micro-blogging under the name @uriminzok, with a number of posts pointing its few dozen followers to anti-Seoul and anti-US statements on the country's official website (www.uriminzokkiri.com).

South Korea blocks the site and few in North Korea have access even to a computer.



One tweet dimissed assusations that a North Korean torpedo sank a South Korean warship in March. Another critisized US-led sanctions on North Korea and Iran.

Most followers posted derisive comments in Korean.

Tensions on the peninsula have risen sharply since late May when <u>South Korea</u> and the United States, citing a multinational investigation, accused the North of attacking a South Korean warship, the Cheonan, near the contested border.

The North vehemently denies involvement in the incident.

Last month it opened an account with YouTube, a popular global videosharing site, uploading video clips which praised leader Kim Jong-II and denying its role in the sinking.

North Korea operates an army of elite hackers. South Korea's spy agency has said that the North was behind <u>cyber attacks</u> that briefly paralysed the web sites of South Korean and US government agencies and commercial organisations last year.

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