

DMSP NIGHT VIEW OF KOREAN PENINSULA AND SURROUNDING AREA

Hank Brandli

Satellite Meteorologist
Melbourne, Florida

Nighttime visual satellite imagery on cloudless, moonless nights tell a myriad of stories on a wide variety of subjects: economics, land use, and electrical power capabilities to name a few. The nighttime visual image in Fig. 1 was taken on 3 September 1994 by a United States Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP) spacecraft from its 450 nautical mile polar orbit.

This image shows the Korean Peninsula and surrounding

area detailing in lights the population and industrial centers and major roadways especially of South Korea and Japan.

Fishing fleet operations are also shown especially over the Sea of Japan as bright lights are used to attract fish. The resolution of the image is 3 km and the spectral interval is 0.4 to 1.1 microns.

Figure 1 is from the author's personal computer.

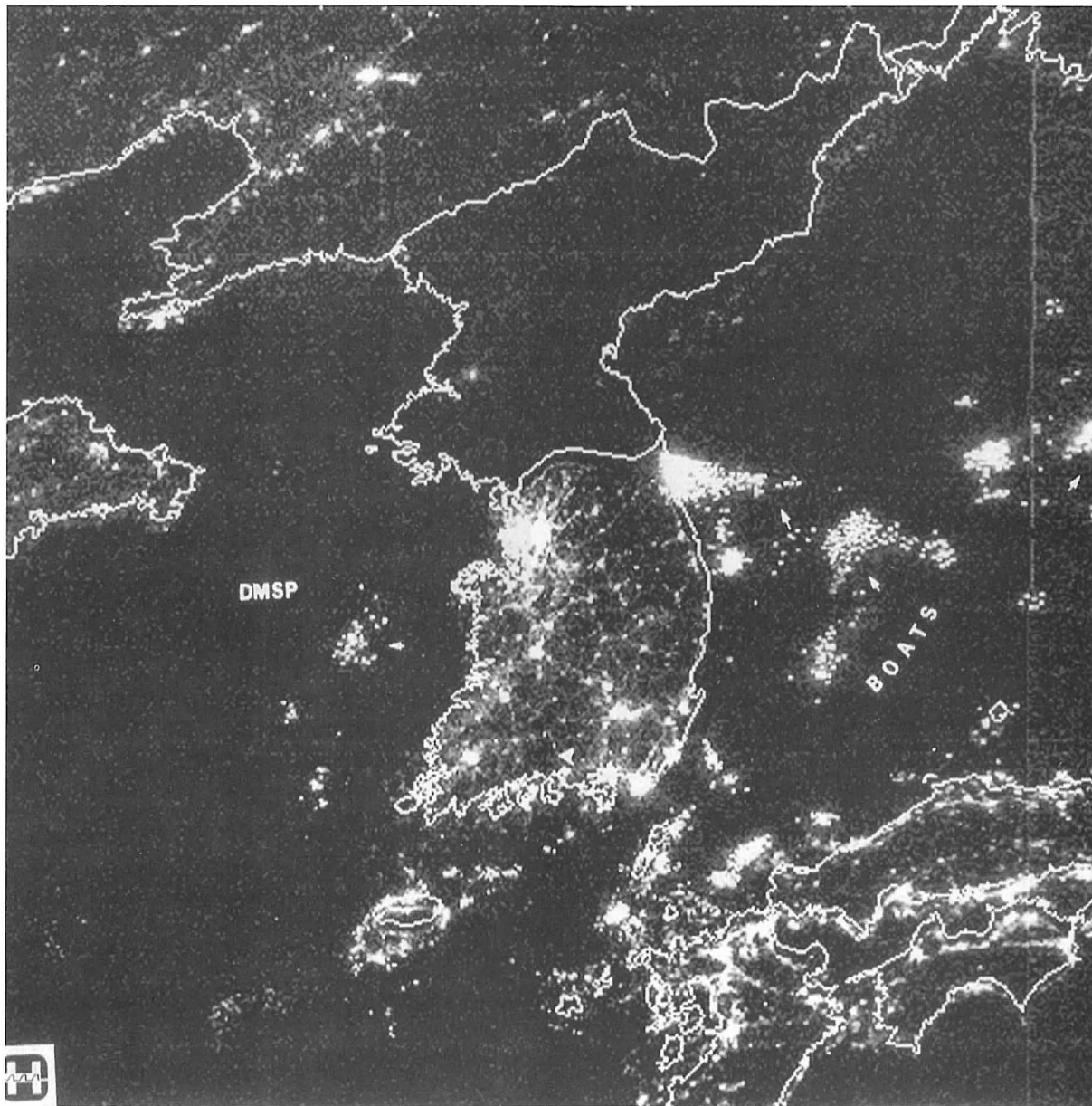


Fig. 1. DMSP nighttime visual imagery, 3 September 1994.