

TED ANTALYA MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2019



Forum: DISEC

Issue: Peace Treaty for the Korean Peninsula

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INTRODUCTION

At the beginning of 1905, Japan occupied Korea following the Russo-Japanese War. The entire peninsula was taken over by Japan 5 years later. The country was occupied by the United States and the Soviet Union, with the boundary between their zones of control are separated by the 38th parallel. The South was supported by the United States and the North was supported by the Soviet Union. Each government claimed sovereignty over the whole Korean peninsula. By the help of NATO troops, the United States rebounded North Korea. As a response, China rebounded NATO. At the end of the Cold War, two Koreas were separated by the Korean Demilitarized Zone.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ): Korean Demilitarized Zone is a 250 km long and 4 km wide border region that is located on the North Korean and South Korean border and divides the Korean Peninsula into two.

Pyongyang: The capital and largest city of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

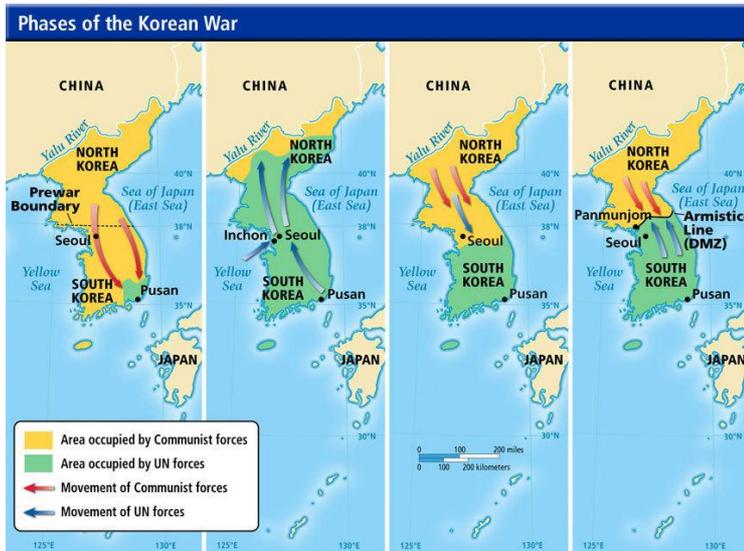
GENERAL OVERVIEW

The Korean War and the Division

The Korean War began when South Korea was flooded by North Korea. With the leadership of the United States, the United Nations came to the aid of South Korea. Likewise, China came to the aid of North Korea and the Soviet Union gave some assistance.

Until the end of World War II, Korea was ruled by Japan. In 1945, the Soviet Union declared war on Japan and US forces moved into the South. Korea had been divided into two sovereign states in 1948 as a product of the Cold War between the Soviet Union and the United States. With the communist leadership of Kim II-Sung a socialist state was established in the North. And the anti-communist leadership of Syngman Rhee established a capitalist state in the South. The aim of both governments of the two new Korean states is to be the sole legitimate government of all of Korea and they both refuse to accept a permanent border. The conflict extended on June 25, 1950, when North Korean military forces, supported by the Soviet Union and China, crossed the border and moved south to South Korea. The United Nations Security Council allowed UN forces to be set up and sent to Korea to expel what was known as the North Korean occupation. Twenty-one countries of the United Nations ultimately contributed to the UN force, which provided approximately 90% of US military personnel.

On 27 July 1953, when an armistice was signed, the fight ended. The Korean Demilitarized Zone to separate North and South Korea and allowed the return of prisoners created by the agreement. However, no peace treaty was ever signed. In addition, regarding some sources, the two Koreas are technically still at war, engaged in a frozen conflict. In April 2018, the leaders of North and South Korea met at the demilitarized zone and agreed to work towards a treaty to formally end the Korean War.



MAJOR PARTIES INVOLVED

Soviet Union

Even though they weren't officially belligerent during the Korean War (1950–1953), the Soviet Union played a significant, covert role in the conflict. They provided material assistance, as well as pilots and aircraft, most notably the MiG 15 fighter jets, to aid the North Korean-Chinese forces against the United Nations Forces.



Soviet MiG-15s dog-fighting USAF B-29s, Korea 1951.

The Soviet 25th Army took part in the Soviet advance into northern Korea immediately and was headquartered at Pyongyang for a period after World War II had ended. Soviet troops endured in Korea after the end of the war to rebuild the country similar to American forces in the south.

Soviet soldiers were involved in the creation and early development of the North Korean People's Army and Korean People's Air Force, as well as to equalize the early years of the Northern regime. Under Soviet leadership on 25 October 1945, The Shineuiju Air Force Academy was founded in order to train new pilots.

United States

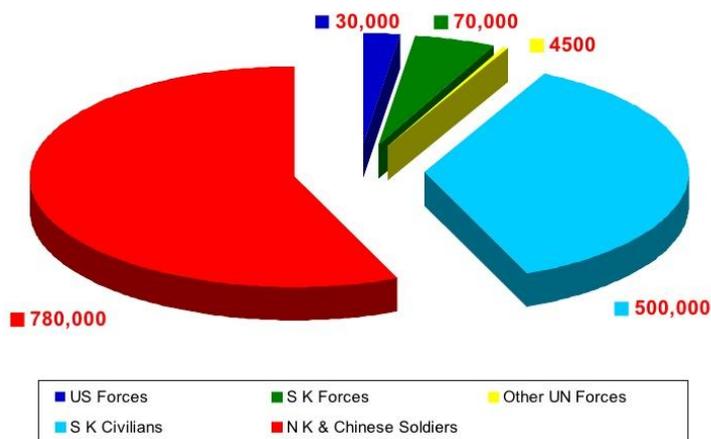
Japan occupied Korea at this time and had been in control since 1910. In 1945, they made a decision to have American Marines forces oversee Japanese surrender and disarmament south of the 38th parallel. At the time, there was no political motivation and seemed to be a logical and convenient plan of action. Create a unified and independent Korea out of the post-Japanese occupation era were the original agreement and intent. Instead of this, under the influence of the occupational country; the United States in South Korea and the Soviet Union in North Korea, each side of the 38th parallel established its own government. Both new Korean governments discredited the other and claimed to be the only legitimate political system.

Tensions between the North and South increased and each side began to petition foreign powers for resources and support. South Korea asked Truman and the United States government for weapons and supplies while North Korea sought help from Stalin and the Soviet Union. The United States was still war-weary from the disruptive World War II campaign and they refused South Korea's request for weapons and troops. North Korea convinced the Soviet Union to supply them with the weapons and support they requested. This decision coincided with the United States withdrawing the last remaining combat troops from South Korea. North Korea saw its opportunity and attacked South Korean forces at the 38th parallel on June 25, 1950, and thus initiating the Korean War.

Japan

During the middle of the 1940s, Germany and Japan were both at a desperate state caused by World War II. Germany received a sort of benefit from the U.S. as compensation of war and reconstruction. On the other, the Japanese end was devastated by the aftermath. People were suffering, having trouble finding food, and many people starved. Meanwhile, in the Korean War, the U.S. troops were in a great appeal for uniforms, other equipment, and supplies. The American government turned to Japan for the favor, which eventually stimulated the manufacturing factories that were in jeopardy due to damage caused by World War II. Japan accepted the offer and mainly supplied U.S. troops with uniforms and other sorts of clothing in Korea. Bases were also erected in Japan for U.S. Air Force planes, such as B-29 Superfortress bombers.

Casualties in the Korean War



TIMELINE OF EVENTS

Event	Date
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Korea divided between North and South	September 1945
Soviets & Americans withdraw military	1949
North Korea invades South Korea	June 24, 1950
Truman orders air and naval support for South Korea & calls for UN intervention	June 27, 1950
U.S. troops invade at Inchon	September 15, 1950
Pyongyang falls to UN forces	October 19, 1950
Chinese divisions enter fighting	November 4, 1950
Armistice formally re-established the division of Korea	March 1953

PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE

Armistice

3 years later when the war ended, The Korean Armistice Agreement was signed. The two sides agreed to create a four-kilometer-wide buffer zone between the two states, which is called the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). This new border reflects the territory held by each side at the end of the war, crossed the 38th parallel diagonally. The war eternalized the division of Korea and brought an enduring alliance between South Korea and the U.S., and an enduring U.S. garrison in the South despite attempts by both sides to reunify the country.

Post-Armistice

Korea has maintained its division along the DMZ since the war. With the opposing regimes both claiming to be the appropriate government of the whole country, North and South, extending their state of conflict.

On April 27, 2018 leader of the North Korea Kim Jong-Un and president of the South Korea Moon Jae-In set a meeting which took a place in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). Both leaders signed The Panmunjom Declaration to end the long-standing military activities near the border and the reunification of Korea.

Beyond the DMZ, buffer zones were established to help ensure the end of hostility on land, sea, and air. The buffer zones stretch from the north of Deokjeok Island to the south of Cho Island in the West Sea and the north of Sokcho city and south of Tongchon County in the East Sea.

RELEVANT UN DOCUMENTS AND TREATIES

Resolution	Content	Dates
<u>S/RES/82</u>	Held that North Korea's invasion of <u>South Korea</u> in the <u>Korean War</u> constituted a "breach of peace" and demanded the immediate cessation of hostilities. The demand was to end North Korea's invasion of South Korea.	25 June 1950
<u>S/RES/84</u>	Established a unified command led by the United States to coordinate the war effort of allies of South Korea in the Korean War. North Korea's invasion of the Republic of Korea was a threat to international security and peace.	7 July 1950

<u>S/RES/1718</u>	Expressed concern over <u>North Korea's 2006 nuclear test</u> , imposed sanctions and set up the <u>UN Security Council Sanctions Committee on North Korea</u> . A Panel of Experts was established to support the Committee.	14 October 2006
<u>S/RES/2407</u>	Extends the mandate of <u>S/RES/1718</u> until April 24, 2019, and further enforcement of prior resolutions.	21 March 2018

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Any United Nations treaty or resolution passed in history could be a prime example of an attempt to implement peace treaty and reconcile two sides. Therefore, while the United Nations recognizes the problem that certain major countries are not as involved with it as they preferably should be, it already is working towards fixing this through each and every resolution it passes. However, two very significant events that form the basis of our issue could be the foundation of the League of Nations and the transition into what we know as the United Nations today.

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