

WHO? WHAT? WHY?





The
KOREAN WAR

**EVENTUALLY, THE TRUMAN DOCTRINE
WOULD BE TESTED INTERNATIONALLY**

**SENDING MONETARY AID WAS NOT
ENOUGH IN SOME CASES**



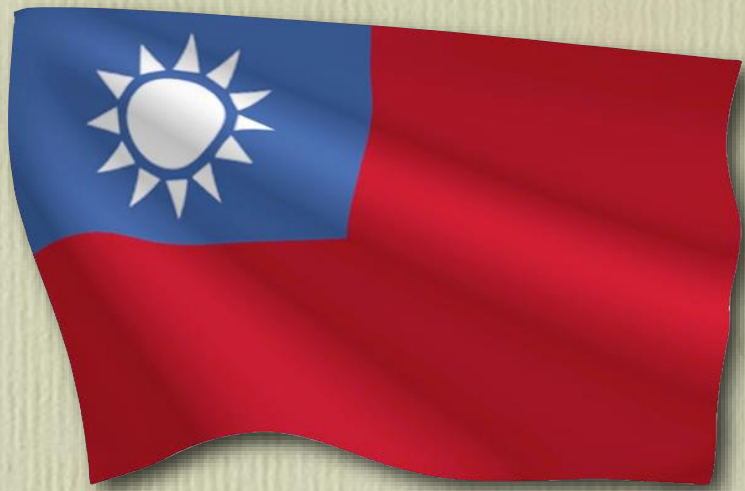
**FREE NATIONS WOULD NEED MILITARY
SUPPORT TO RESIST COMMUNISM**



**THE COLD WAR WOULD INCLUDE A
SERIES OF PROXY WARS B/W US & USSR**



AND IT TOOK OFF WITH...



REVOLUTION IN
CHINA

CHINA DIVIDED

For decades, China had been divided b/w two different factions

THE NATIONALISTS

THE PRO-DEMOCRATIC RULING PARTY LED BY CHIANG KAI-SHEK, POPULAR W/ LAND OWNERS

THE COMMUNISTS

THE COMMUNIST OPPOSITION PARTY LED BY MAO ZEDONG, POPULAR AMONG THE PEASANTRY

The US backed the Nationalists and the Soviets backed the Communists

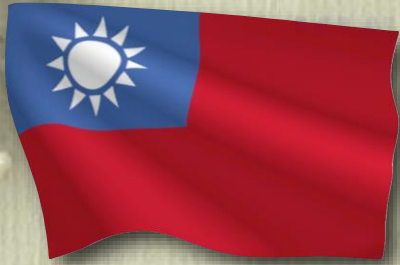
Chiang's faction was corrupt, but resisted communism, thus a US ally



THE NATIONALISTS



**CHIANG
KAI-SHEK**



THE COMMUNISTS



**MAO
ZEDONG**



BACKED BY



BACKED BY



THE CHINESE CIVIL WAR

1945 - Japan defeated and driven out, the communists take control of N. China
MILLIONS OF PEASANTS FLEE TO THE COMMUNIST FACTION, MADE MAO ZEDONG VERY POWERFUL

War breaks out b/w the two factions & US sends \$2 billion in aid to Nationalists
TRUMAN WAS UNWILLING TO SEND US TROOPS TO HELP DEFEAT THE COMMUNIST FORCES
BEHIND THE SCENES, US & USSR WERE BACKING THEIR SIDES W/O DIRECT INVOLVEMENT

1949 - The Nationalist regime collapses & Mao's communists seize all of China
CHIANG & HIS GOV FLEE TO ISLAND OF TAIWAN, WHICH IS AN ENEMY OF CHINA TO THIS DAY



**AMERICANS ARE HORRIFIED THAT
CONTAINMENT FAILS IN CHINA!**

**HOW COULD THE US ALLOW COMMUNISM
TO OVERTAKE CHINA?**



**PRESIDENT TRUMAN TOOK HEAVY
CRITICISM FOR THE FALL OF CHINA**



**HE WAS DETERMINED TO NOT ALLOW IT
TO HAPPEN AGAIN IN ASIA**



WHICH BRINGS US TO...



CIVIL WAR IN
KOREA

NORTH KOREA

ATTACKS



1945 - Japan is driven out of Korea and the **Allies** divide it b/w **North & South**
DIVIDED ALONG THE **38TH PARALLEL**

TWO SEPARATE COUNTRIES DEVELOPED

SOUTH KOREA

Democratic republic, capital is **Seoul**, led by **Syngman Rhee**, backed by the **US**

NORTH KOREA

Communist state, capital is **Pyongyang**, led by **Kim Il Sung**, backed by the **Soviet Union**

1950 - w/ **minimal** US troops in South Korea, **USSR** thinks **US** won't defend it
using **USSR** supplies, **North Korea** invades
the **South** to make all of Korea **Communist**



China

North Korea



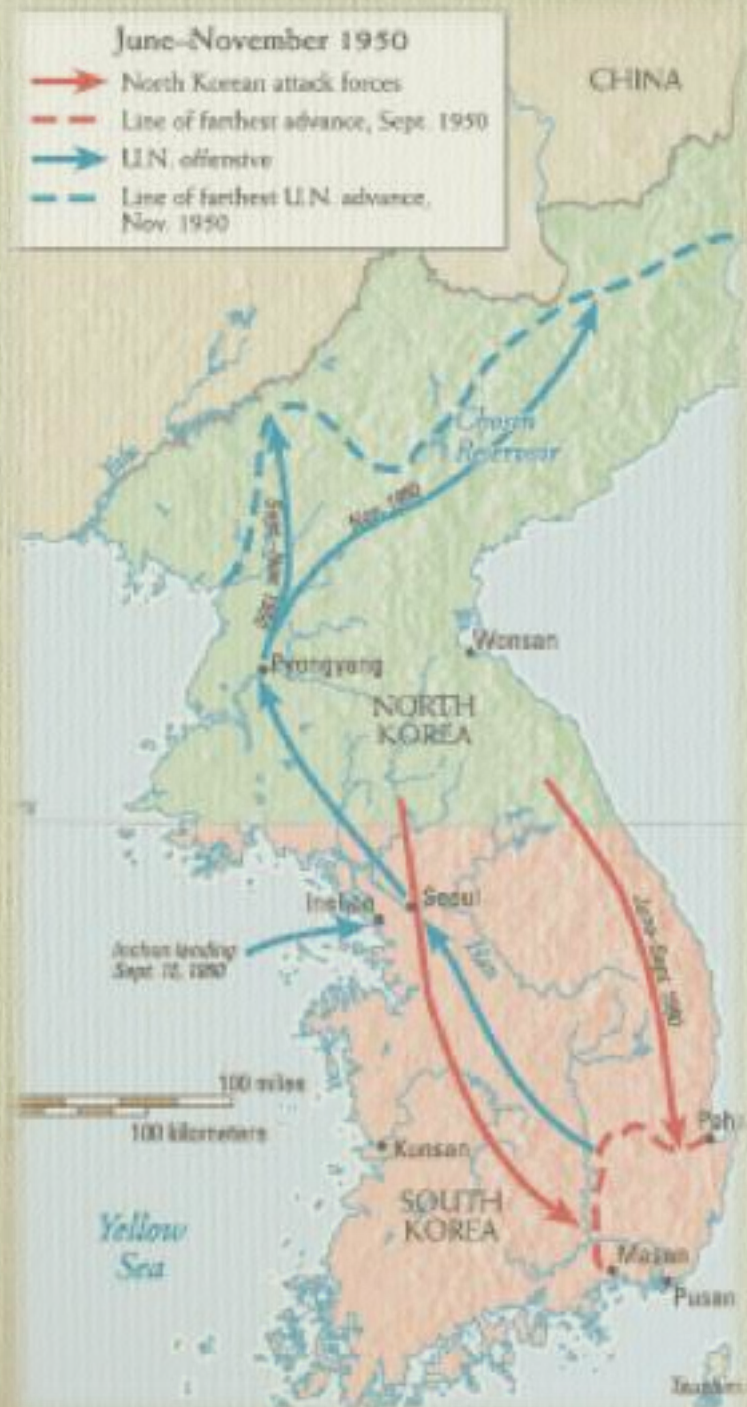
★ Pyongyang

38th Parallel

Seoul ★

South Korea





THE UN STRIKES BACK

Days after the attack, **N. Korean troops** had driven deep into South Korea
W/ SEOUL CAPTURED, SOUTH KOREA PLEADED FOR THE UNITED NATIONS TO HELP THEM

Led largely by the US, the **UN** voted to send over **500k troops** to South Korea
TRUMAN WAS DETERMINED TO NOT ALLOW CONTAINMENT TO FAIL AS IT DID IN CHINA

Sept. 1950 - Led by **Gen. Douglas MacArthur**, UN troops **counterattack**
MOMENTUM SWINGS AS UN TROOPS PUSH N. KOREAN TROOPS ACROSS 38TH PARALLEL
50% OF N. KOREAN TROOPS SURRENDER & UN TROOPS PUSH NORTH TO CHINESE BORDER

THE CHINESE STALEMATE

Threatened by the proximity of UN ground forces, the Chinese join the war. Over 300,000 Chinese troops overwhelm UN forces, drive the front back to the 38th

parallel. For two years, the two sides fiercely battled to a bloody stalemate.

Neither side could make advances beyond the 38th parallel (the pre-war border).

MacArthur lobbied Truman to authorize all-out nuclear war with China.

He was convinced Korea was where the US must take a final stand against communism. Truman fiercely rejected this option, knowing it would mean WWII w/ USSR.



Phases of the Korean War



TRUMAN AS COMMANDER IN CHIEF



Stubborn and egotistical, MacArthur goes over Truman's head w/ his plan USING HIS WAR HERO POPULARITY, THE GENERAL APPEALS TO THE PUBLIC & CONGRESS

Refusing to be undermined, Truman fires MacArthur for insubordination THE MOVE SHOCKS THE COUNTRY BUT SHOWS THE PRESIDENT'S POWER UNDER THE CONSTIT.



W/ MacArthur out of the way, Truman worked to negotiate a peace in Korea THE SOVIETS SURPRISINGLY SUGGESTED A CEASE-FIRE IN 1951



THE
ARMISTICE

THE 1953 ARMISTICE

Brokered by the US, USSR, & China,
both sides **agree to a truce**

BOTH AGREED TO THE 38TH PARALLEL BORDER

BOTH AGREED TO A DEMILITARIZED ZONE

From the US standpoint, the **war was a stalemate** but **containment had worked!**

NORTH KOREA HAD INVADED TO SPREAD COMMUNISM BUT HAD BEEN PUSHED BACK

Still the war proved **unpopular** b/c it didn't end in a **decisive victory**

WAR COST US 54K LIVES & \$67 BILLION

IT BECAME KNOWN AS THE "FORGOTTEN WAR"
B/C SOME MANY VETS AREN'T RECOGNIZED





NORTH KOREA

◆ Pyongyang

◆ Yeonpyeong Island

◆ Seoul

Northern Limit line
Recognised by South
but not North Korea

YELLOW SEA

SOUTH KOREA

50 MILES



THE KOREAN WAR



CHANGED AMERICAN HISTORY B/C

IT LED TO THE CREATION OF **SEATO**
(**SOUTHEAST ASIA TREATY ORGANIZATION**)
IN **ASIA** TO **CONTAIN COMMUNISM**

IT ESTABLISHED A **RIVALRY** WITH
NORTH KOREA & CHINA