

Who? North Korea supported by Russia and China versus South Korea and a United Nations force led by the US. 90% of the UN forces were from the US.



Where? The Korean Peninsula is located in Asia and is very close to China (communist) and Japan (democratic)

Why? After WWII, Korea was divided into a communist (N Korea) section and a democratic (S Korea) section. The goal was to eventually unite the country under a democratic government. When Russian withdrew from the North and the US withdrew from the South, N Korea attacked the South in an effort to unit the peninsula under communist rule.

Korean War

What? A 3 year war fought to contain the spread of communism and keep S Korea democratic. The UN forces successfully forced communist troops to leave S. Korea. S. Korea remains a democratic nation today and is economically prosperous.

When? 1950-53...a 3-year war with most of the fighting taking place in the first year.

How? The North was very successful in the beginning and they pushed S. Korean and American forces all the way to the Pusan Perimeter. Under the command of General Douglas MacArthur, UN forces “pushed” out of Pusan while landing at Incheon. These two actions caused the N. Koreans to retreat. UN forces chased the N. Koreans to the Yalu River. China responded to UN successes by entering the war and pushing the UN forces back into S. Korea. The war went back and forth for the first year before settling down near the 38th parallel where it started. A cease fire was signed in 1953. There has been no official peace treaty.