**Korean War, 1950-1953**

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| **Advantages & Disadvantages** | **Leaders** |
| **United States & South Korea**   * U.S. bases in Japan * Support of the United Nations   **North Korea & China**   * Belief in communism * North Korea’s proximity to China, large armies in the region | **United States & South Korea**  **Civilian –** Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower (US), Syngman Rhee (South Korea)  **Military –** Douglas MacArthur  **North Korea & China**  **Civilian –** Kim Il-Sung (North Korea), Mao Zedong (China)  **Military –** n/a |
| **Causes** | **Strategies** |
| **Long Term**   * Japanese occupation of Korea was ended by Soviet invasion at end of WWII * Korea was divided between communist (Kim) and capitalist (Rhee) halves at the 38th parallel * Reunification elections were scheduled   **Short Term/”Spark”**   * North Korea withdrew from elections and invaded South Korea in 1950 | **United States & South Korea**   * Containment policy * U.S. leadership of United Nations forces * MacArthur wanted to expand scope of war, but was fired by Truman for insubordination * Limited war… no direct attacks on China and no use of nuclear weapons   **North Korea & China**   * China aided North Korea * China became directly involved when fighting approached Chinese border * Human wave attacks |
| **Turning Points** | **Homefront** |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Battle/Event** | **Significance** | | Battle of Inchon, 1950  Chinese intervention, 1950 | US/UN forces arrived in an amphibious assault  China directly intervened with its military when North Korean forces were pushed back near the Sino-Korean border | | * “Forgotten War”… Korean war ended in a stalemate and was sandwiched between the more memorable Allied victory in World War II and the defeat of US in the Vietnam War * Truman fired MacArthur for insubordination (civilian control over the military) * Red Scare & McCarthyism * Eisenhower was elected in 1952 |
| **End of War** | **Non-Treaty Results** |
| * Stalemate and armistice around the 38th Parallel in 1953 * “Demilitarized Zone” (DMZ) created at the 38th parallel | * Permanent U.S. military bases in South Korea and Japan * Economic development and rising standard of living in South Korea * Totalitarianism, famine and economic stagnation in North Korea * North Korea has developed nuclear weapons * Kim family & cult of personality has continued to rule North Korea |