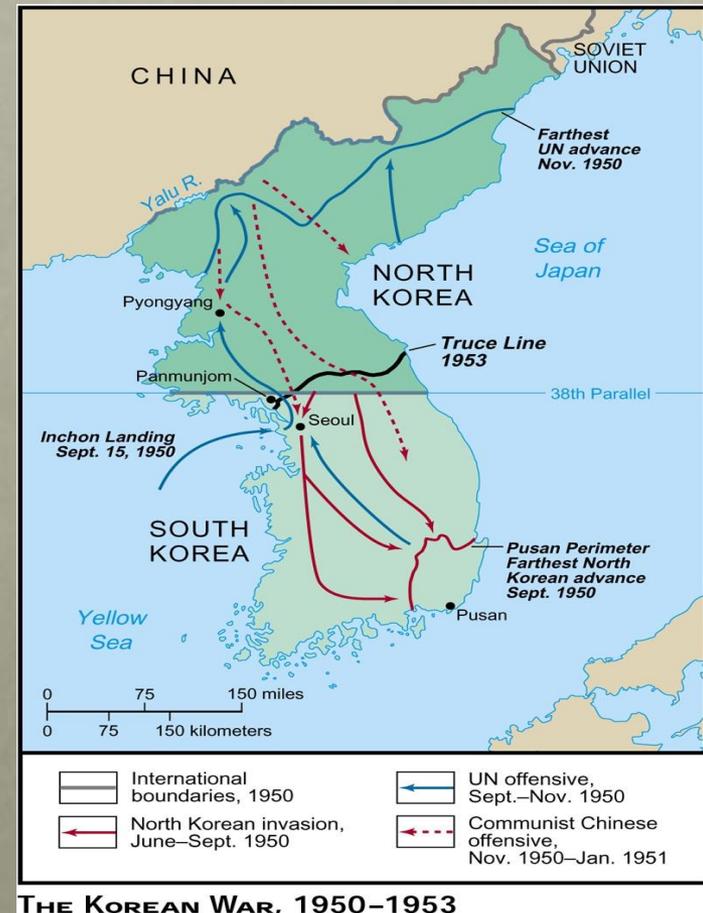


WARS IN  
KOREA AND  
VIETNAM

BY DELILAH DELGADO

# STANDOFF AT THE 38<sup>TH</sup> PARALLEL

- North Koreans attacked South Korea first.
- President Truman was determined to help South Korea resist communism
- 15 nations joined in under the command of General Douglas MacArthur



# THE FIGHTING CONTINUES

- The North Koreans retreated back into North Korea
- The United States pushed them all the way back to Chinese borders.
- Chinese felt threatened.
  - They sent 300,000 troops to North Korea.
- Chinese pushed the United States and South Korean soldiers out of North Korea.
- Within two years, the United States drove the Chinese and North Koreans back.

# AFTERMATH OF THE WAR

- Korea remained divided.
- The Communist dictator established:
  - collective farms, developed heavy industry, and built up the military
- South Korea focused on developing its industry and expanding foreign trade.
- South Korea established free elections.

# THE ROAD TO WAR

- Ho Chi Minh turned to Communists for help.
  - Indochinese Communist party led revolts and struck against the French
- The French jailed Vietnamese protestors.
- French also sentenced Ho to death.
- Ho fled into exile, but returned to Vietnam in 1941.
- Ho and other nationalists founded the Vietminh Independence League.

# HO CHI MINH



# THE FIGHTING BEGINS

- Vietnamese Nationalists and Communists joined to fight the French armies.
- The French suffered a major military defeat at Dien Bien Phu.
  - They surrendered to Ho
- President Eisenhower described this threat in terms of the domino theory.
  - The fall of one Southeast Asian nation to communism would lead to the fall of its neighbors.

# VIETNAM- A DIVIDED COUNTRY

- Vietnam was divided at 17° north latitude.
  - North of the line, Ho Chi Minh's Communist forces governed.
  - To the south, the United States and France set up an anti Communist government under the authority of Ngo Dinh Diem.
- Diem ruled the south as dictator.
- Communist guerrillas, called Vietcong, began to gain strength in the south.
- A group of South Vietnamese generals had Diem assassinated.

# U.S. TROOPS ENTER THE FIGHT

- U.S. President Lyndon Johnson told Congress that North Vietnamese boats attacked U.S. destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin.
- Congress authorized the president to send U.S. troops to fight in Vietnam.
- U.S. was unable to win on the ground.
- The U.S. turned to air power.
  - U.S. forces bombed millions of acres of farmland and forest in an attempt to destroy enemy hideouts.

# THE UNITED STATES WITHDRAWS

- Young people began to protest the tremendous loss of life.
- President Richard Nixon began withdrawing U.S. troops from Vietnam in 1969.
- Nixon had a plan called Vietnamization.
  - It allowed for U.S. troops to gradually pull out, while the South Vietnamese increased their combat role.
- Nixon authorized a massive bombing campaign against North Vietnamese bases and supply routes.

# POSTWAR SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Cambodia was under restriction by Communist rebels.
- During the war, it had suffered U.S. bombing
- In 1975, Communist rebels known as the Khmer Rouge set up a government under the ruler of Pol Pot.
- Pol Pot's follower slaughtered 2 million people.
- The Vietnamese invaded in 1978.
  - They overthrew the Khmer Rouge and installed a less restrictive government.
- But the fighting continues.
  - The Vietnamese withdraw in 1989 and UN peacekeepers help Cambodia adopt a democratic constitution.



# VIETNAM AFTER THE WAR

- Officials sent thousands of people to “reeducation camps” for training in Communist thought.
- They nationalized industries and strictly controlled businesses.
- They renamed Saigon, the South’s former capital, Ho Chi Minh City.
- Communist cruelty caused 1.5 million people to flee Vietnam.
  - Escaped in overcrowded ships.
  - 200,000 people died at sea
  - About 70,000 settled in United States or Canada.