



KOREAN WAR

HISTORICAL JOINT
CRISIS COMMITTEE

UNDER SECRETARY-GENERAL
BURAK TUNAHAN GÖKALP



LETTER FROM SECRETARY GENERAL

Dear delegates,

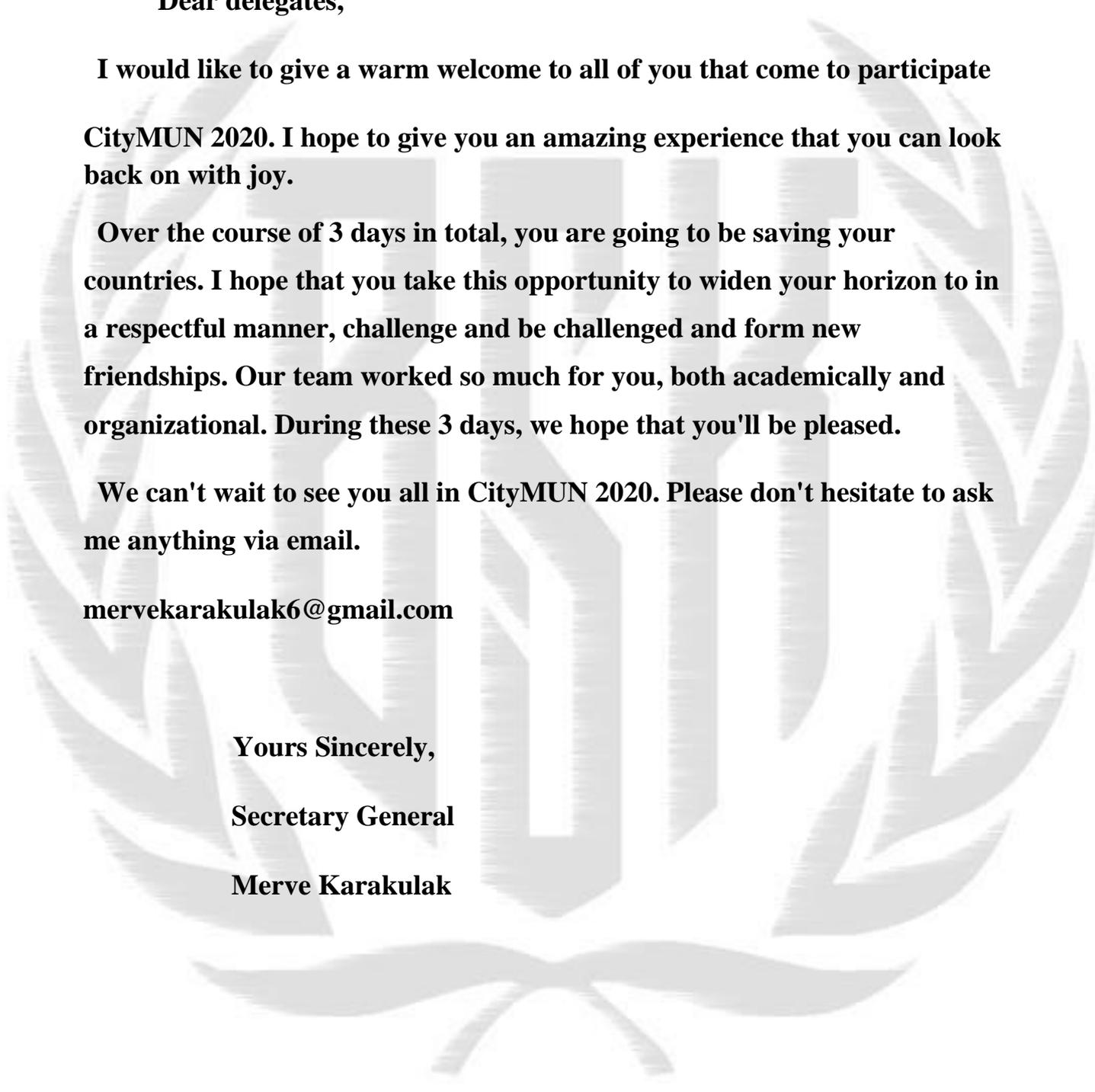
I would like to give a warm welcome to all of you that come to participate CityMUN 2020. I hope to give you an amazing experience that you can look back on with joy.

Over the course of 3 days in total, you are going to be saving your countries. I hope that you take this opportunity to widen your horizon to in a respectful manner, challenge and be challenged and form new friendships. Our team worked so much for you, both academically and organizational. During these 3 days, we hope that you'll be pleased.

We can't wait to see you all in CityMUN 2020. Please don't hesitate to ask me anything via email.

mervekarakulak6@gmail.com

**Yours Sincerely,
Secretary General
Merve Karakulak**





LETTER FROM UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL

Most Esteemed Participants of CityMUN 2020,

I am sincerely honored to welcome all of you to the first annual session of CityMUN 2020. My name is Burak Tunahan Gökalg. I will be serving as the Under Secretary General of the Historical Joint Crisis Committee. I am a sophomore student and currently studying International Relations at Ankara Hacı Bayram Veli University. It is an absolute pleasure for me to present you this study guide. This year CityMUN 2020 will give a change to simulate the Korean War. Korean War is conflict between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) and the Republic of Korea (South Korea) in which at least 2.5 million persons lost their lives. The war reached international proportions in June 1950 when North Korea, supplied and advised by the Soviet Union, invaded the South. The United Nations, with the United States as the principal participant, joined the war on the side of the South Koreans, and the People's Republic of China came to North Korea's aid. After more than a million combat casualties had been suffered on both sides, the fighting ended in July 1953 with Korea still divided into two hostile states. Negotiations in 1954 produced no further agreement, and the front line has been accepted ever since as the de facto boundary between North and South Korea. In this study guide, I briefly tried to explain the historical background of the Korean War. Over the course of 3 days, we will be simulating two cabinets as North Cabinet and South Cabinet. Participants in both committees will be the top-ranked commanders of their countries and face with the some challenges in Korean Peninsula. You, as the commanders of the Korean War have a direct impact in the fate of Korea with your decisions. Furthermore, I would like to thank our Secretary General Ms. Merve Karakulak for the endless support that she has given during the writing phase of this study guide. It was an honour for me to work alongside with such a talented and professional team.

For any kinds of questions, please do not hesitate to get contact me on:

tunahan.gokalp@hbv.edu.tr

Kindest Regards, Under Secretary General

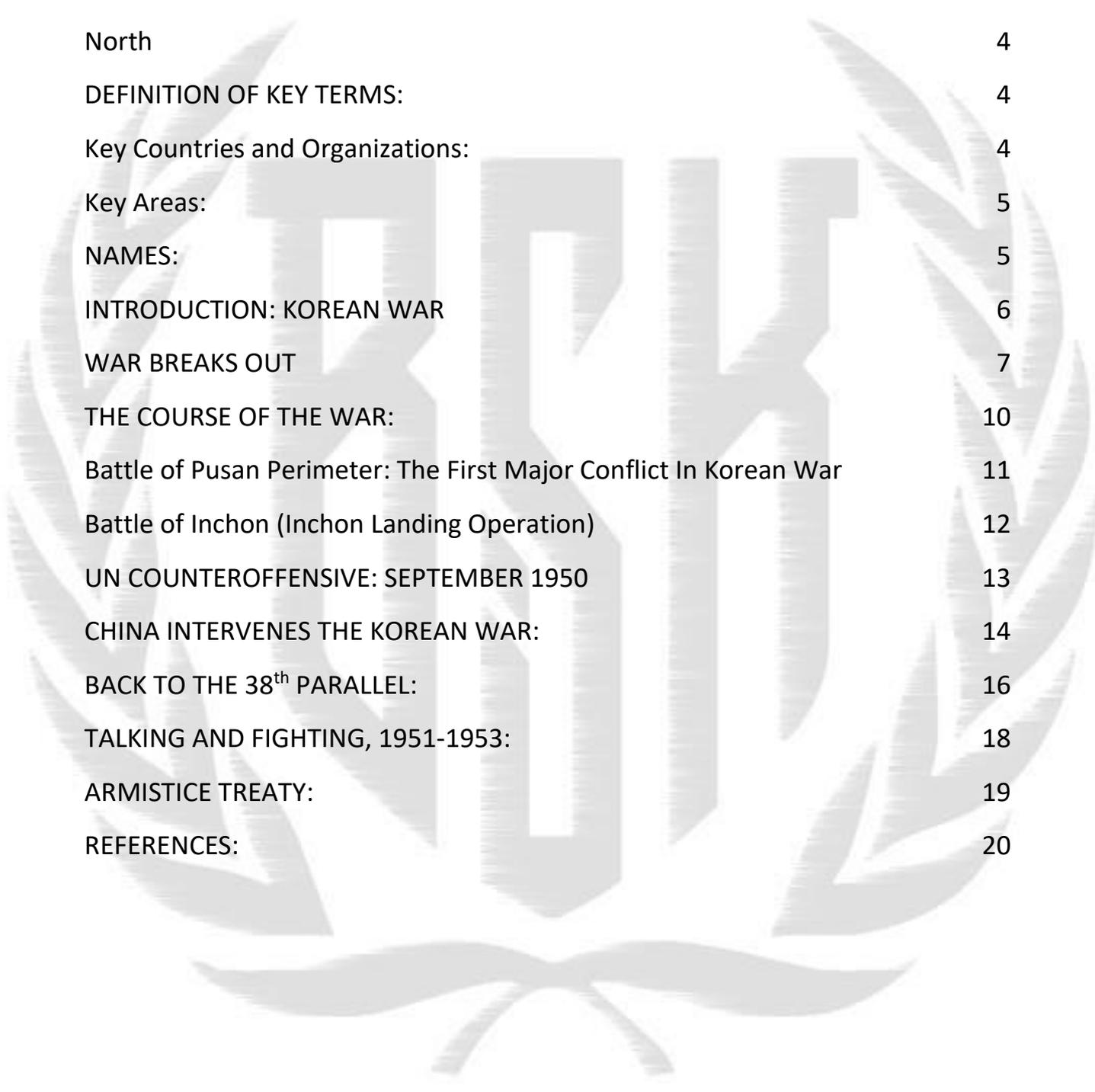
Burak Tunahan Gökalg





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DELEGATE POSITIONS:

South

- 1- General Douglas MacArthur (United States), *Commander-in-Chief of the United Nations Command (UNC)*
 - 2- General Paik Sun-yup (South Korea), *Commander-in-Chief of the 1st Infantry Division*
 - 3- General Walton Walker (United States), *Commander-in-Chief of the 8th Army*
 - 4- General Chung Il-kwon (South Korea), *Commander-in-Chief of the II Corps*
 - 5- General Mark Wayne Clark (United States), *Commander-in-Chief of the 6th Army*
 - 6- Lieutenant General Sir Horace Robertson (United Kingdom), *Commander-in-Chief of the British Commonwealth Forces Korea*
 - 7- Major General Oliver Prince Smith (United States), *Commander-in-Chief of the 1st Marine Division*
 - 8- Lieutenant General George Edward Stratemeyer (United States), *Commander of the Far East Air Forces*
 - 9- Air Commodore Gordon Henry Steege (United Kingdom), *Commander of No. 77 Squadron*
 - 10- Admiral Sir John Arthur Symons Eccles (United Kingdom), *Flag Officer of HM Australian Fleet*
- 



North

- 1- **General Peng Dehuai** (China), *Commander and the Commissar of the People's Volunteer Army*
 - 2- **General Kim Chaek** (North Korea), *Commander of the 7th Infantry Division*
 - 3- **Vice Marshal Choe Yong-gon** (North Korea), *Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army*
 - 4- **Senior General Chen Geng** (China), *Commander and Political Commissioner of the 3rd Army Group of the People's Volunteer Army*
 - 5- **Major General Lee Kwon-mu** (North Korea), *Commander of the 4th Infantry Division*
 - 6- **Lieutenant General Georgy Lobov** (Soviet Union), *Commander of the 64th Fighter Corps*
 - 7- **Senior General Deng Hua** (China), *Commander and Political Commissioner of the 2nd Army Group of the People's Volunteer Army*
 - 8- **Brigadier General Pang Ho San** (North Korea), *Commander of the 6th Infantry Division*
 - 9- **General Han Xianchu** (China), *Commander of 40th Army **
 - 10- **General Song Shilun** (China), *Commander of the 9th Group of People's Liberation Army*
- 



DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS:

Key Countries and Organizations:

Korean People's Army (KPA): The official army of North Korea.

People's Republic of China (PRC): Communist China.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea (PRK): North Korea.

Republic of Korea (ROK): South Korea

United Nations (UN): International peace-keeping body founded in 1945.

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR): Soviet Union

Key Areas:

Demilitarized Zone: A 'buffer' zone between North and South Korea which should contain no troops or weapons (but in practice is heavily militarized due to fear).

Inchon: Port on the West Coast of South Korea.

Pusan: Situated on the South-East coast of South Korea and was the only part of the country which was never touched by the NKPA.

Pyongyang: North Korean capital.

NAMES:

In South Korea, the war is usually referred to as "625" or the "6-2-5 Upheaval" (6.25 동란 (動亂), yook-i-o dongnan), reflecting the date of its commencement on 25 June.¹ In North Korea, the war is officially referred

¹ Pratt, Keith L.; Rutt, Richard; Hoare, James (1999). *Korea: A Historical and Cultural Dictionary*, Richmond, Surrey: Curzon. p. 239. ISBN 978-0700704644.





to as the "Fatherland Liberation War" (Choguk haebang chŏnjaeng) or alternatively the "Chosŏn [Korean] War" (조선전쟁, Chosŏn chŏnjaeng).²

In China, the war is officially called the "War to Resist America and Aid Korea" although the term "Chaoxian (Korean) War" is also used in unofficial contexts, along with the term "Hán (Korean) War" more commonly used in regions such as Hong Kong and Macau.

In the United States, the war was initially described by President Harry S. Truman as a "police action" as the United States never formally declared war on its opponents and the operation was conducted under the auspices of the United Nations.² It has been sometimes referred to in the English-speaking world as "The Forgotten War" or "The Unknown War" because of the lack of public attention it received both during and after the war, relative to the global scale of World War II, which preceded it, and the subsequent angst of the Vietnam War, which succeeded it.³ In Soviet Union, the War officially called as Korean War, which means (Корейская война) in Russian.

INTRODUCTION: KOREAN WAR

Under Japanese rule before and during Second World War, Korea was divided into two portions, a Communist northern part and an American-occupied southern part, at the 38th Parallel by the Allies in Potsdam Conference. By August 1948, Republic of Korea (South Korea) was established in Seoul, led by the strongly anti-communist Syngman Rhee. On the other hand, Kim Il-sung declared the formation of the

² Teachingamericanhistory.org. (2010) Truman, Harry S. (29 June 1950). "The President's News Conference of June 29, 1950"

³ "Remembering the Forgotten War: Korea, 1950–1953". Naval Historical Center. (2007)



² Kim, Ilpyong J. (2003). *Historical Dictionary of North Korea*, Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press. p. 79. ISBN 978-0810843318.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK, North Korea) in Pyongyang in September 1948. Syngman Rhee became the first president of Republic of Korea, while Kim Il-sung became the first premier of Democratic People's Republic of Korea. In the South, the anti-communist leader Syngman Rhee enjoyed the reluctant support of United States; in the North, the communist leader Kim Il-sung enjoyed the slightly more enthusiastic support of Soviet Union.⁴



Once the Governments of two sides were formally established, Syngman Rhee and Kim Il-sung tried to reunify the Korean Peninsula but this caused the conflicts between the two parts of the Korea due to the fact that each of them wanted to reunify the Korean Peninsula under their own political system. Because of this reason, approximately 10.000 North and South Korean Soldiers were killed in the clashes before the war even began.

The Korean People's Army (KPA) was established in North Korea in February 1948, from Korean communist guerrillas who had previously served with the Chinese People's Liberation Army, but were 'advised' by

⁴ History.com (2020) *Korean War*, [online] Available at: <https://www.history.com/topics/korea/korean-war> [Accessed 1 Feb. 2020]



Soviet Union personnel.⁵ Guerrilla fighting in the South Korea and clashes between southern and northern forces along the 38th parallel intensified between 1948 and 1950.⁶ After several years of increasingly bloody frontier incidents along the 38th parallel, the Korean War began in June 25, 1950 when the Korean People's Army crossed the 38th Parallel and invaded South Korea. The next day, Kim Il-sung declared: “The war which we are forced to wage is a just war for the unification and independence of the motherland and for freedom and democracy.”⁷ The three years of carnage that ensued would be known as the “Fatherland Liberation War.”⁸

WAR BREAKS OUT

In early 1949 Kim Il-sung pressed his case with Soviet Union leader Joseph Stalin that the time had come for a conventional invasion of the South but Stalin refused, concerned about the relative unpreparedness of the North Korean armed forces and about possible United States involvement.⁹ In the following year, Soviet Union built the Korean People's Army into a strong offensive force which was using Soviet provided armaments. By 1950 the North Koreans enjoyed substantial advantages over the South in every category of equipment.¹¹ After another Kim Il-sung

⁵ Iwm.org.uk (2020) *A Short History of Korean War*, [online] Available at: <https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/ashort-history-of-the-korean-war> [Accessed 1 Feb. 2020]

⁶ Globalsecurity.org (2020) *Korean War- Background*, [online] Available at: <https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/ops/korea-1.htm> [Accessed 1 Feb. 2020]

⁷ Pbs.org (2020) *North Korea and the Korean War: June 1950 War Breaks Out*, [online] Available at: <https://www.pbs.org/wnet/wideangle/uncategorized/north-korea-and-the-korean-war-june-1950-war-breaksout/1352/> [Accessed 2 Feb. 2020]

⁸ Ibid

⁹ Britannica.com (2020) *Allan R. Millett, Korean War*, [online] Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/event/Korean-War> [Accessed 2 Feb. 2020] ¹¹
Ibid





visit to Moscow in March 1950, Josef Stalin approved an invasion to the South. At the beginning of War, 70 percent about North Korean troops were deployed along at the 38th Parallel. By mid-1950 North Korean forces

numbered between 150,000 and 200,000 troops, organized into ten infantry divisions, one tank division, and one air force division, with 210 fighter planes and 280 tanks.¹⁰ At that time, the Korean People's Army equipped with Soviet made T-34 tanks, Yak fighter planes and various types of arms. By comparison, South Korean Forces were not ready for the hard-core fighting, with no tanks, no heavy artillery, an air force of 22 unarmed or training planes, and an army of 95,000 troops. For this reason, South Korean Forces could not resist the clash against Korean People's Army.

When the War broke out, the advance of Korean People's Army was really successful on the first days of the War. KPA even entered the capital of South Korea, Seoul and captured the city in the afternoon of June 28, 1950. Indeed, the main goal of Korean People's Army was the quick surrender of Syngman Rhee government and disintegration of South Korean Forces. However, KPA could not achieve this goal, member of South Korean Government managed to escape from Seoul and South Korean Forces formed a defensive line on the south of the Han River. After the five days from the beginning of the War, the number of South Korean troops decreased to less than 22,000. By August 1950, 90% of South Korean

¹⁰ Globalsecurity.org (2020) Korean War- Background, [online] Available at: <https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/ops/korea-1.html> [Accessed 3 Feb. 2020]



territory captured by Korean People's Army.



Despite the fact that heightening of Cold War tensions, The US officials and President Harry Truman did not expect the outbreak of Korean War since they downsized American forces from 1945 to 1950. Moreover, Korea

was not a part of the strategic Asian Defense Perimeter which was stated by United States Secretary of State Dean Acheson. Nevertheless, United States still had a large number of military power which was deployed in Japan under the control of General Douglas MacArthur. On the other hand, except British Commonwealth Forces, no other country had such a large power in that region. The Truman Administration was also worried about that a war in Korea could quickly cause another World War with the Chinese and Soviets reactions in the East Asia.



In June 25, 1950, The United Nations Security Council met in a emergency session with the Korean question on its agenda and responded to the attack by adopting (by a 9-0 vote) a resolution (UN Security Council Resolution 82) that condemned the invasion as a "breach of the peace."¹¹ The Council did not have a Soviet delegate, since 6 months prior, the Soviet Union had left to protest the United Nation's refusal to seat a delegate from China.¹² After debating the matter, the Security Council, on 27 June 1950, published Resolution 83 recommending member states provide military assistance to the Republic of Korea. President Harry S. Truman quickly committed American forces to a combined United Nations military effort and named General Douglas MacArthur Commander of the U.N. Forces.¹³ When the UN Security Council approved the use of force to help the South Koreans, and the US immediately began using what air and naval forces that were in the area to that end. The Truman administration still refrained from committing on the ground because some advisers believed the North Koreans could be stopped by air and naval power alone.¹⁴

However, President Truman later acknowledged that he believed fighting the invasion was essential to the US goal of the global containment of communism as outlined in the National Security Council Report 68 (NSC 68):

“Communism was acting in Korea, just as Hitler, Mussolini and the Japanese had ten, fifteen, and twenty years earlier. I felt certain that if

¹¹ Archives.gov (2016) *US Enters the Korean Conflict*, [online] Available at: <https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/korean-conflict> [Accessed 5 Feb. 2020]

¹² Ibid

¹³ Ibid

¹⁴ Rees, David (1964) *Korea: The Limited War*. New York: St Martin's. p.23





South Korea was allowed to fall, Communist leaders would be emboldened to override nations closer to our own shores. If the Communists were permitted to force their way into the Republic of Korea without opposition from the free world, *no small nation would have the courage to resist threat and aggression by stronger Communist neighbors.*¹⁵

On June 29, 1950, Truman told reporters that *“most of the members of the United Nations are in full accord with what we are doing.”*¹⁶ Then, *“Mr. President, everybody is asking in this country, are we or are we not at war?”* a reporter said. *“We are not at war,”* Truman replied.¹⁹ In addition to this, Truman did not seek a formal declaration of war from Congress; officially, America's presence in Korea amounted to no more than a "police action."

Apart from United States, Fifteen other nations also sent their troops under the U.N. Command, those are: United Kingdom, Canada, Turkey, Australia, Philippines, New Zealand, Thailand, Ethiopia, Greece, France, Colombia, Belgium, South Africa, Netherlands, Luxembourg. In August 1950, the President Truman and the Secretary of State Acheson obtained the consent of Congress to appropriate \$12 billion for military action in Korea.¹⁷

Acting on Secretary of State Acheson's recommendation, President Truman ordered Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in Japan

¹⁵ Gary R. Hess (2001) *Presidential Decisions for War: Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf*, The Johns Hopkins University Press

¹⁶ Politico.com (2018) *Truman orders U.S. military intervention in Korea, June 27, 1950*, [online] Available at: <https://www.politico.com/story/2018/06/27/this-day-in-politics-june-27-1950-665397> [Accessed 9 Feb. 2020] ¹⁹ Ibid

¹⁷ Hess, Gary R. (2001). *Presidential Decisions for War : Korea, Vietnam and the Persian Gulf*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press. ISBN 978-0801865152.





General Douglas MacArthur to transfer matériel to the South Korean military while giving air cover to the evacuation of US nationals. The President disagreed with advisers who recommended unilateral US

bombing of the North Korean forces, and ordered the US Seventh Fleet to protect the Republic of China (Taiwan), whose government asked to fight in Korea. The United States denied Taiwan's request for combat, lest it provoke a China retaliation.¹⁸

THE COURSE OF THE WAR:

It was not until the first weeks of August, 1950 that the United Nations Command led by General MacArthur had been redesignated, started to slow the Korean People's Army. The Eighth Army, commanded by General Walton H. Walker, one of the best corps commanders in Europe in 1944–45, and the Republic of Korean Army, led by General Chung Ilkwon, rallied and fought back with more success.¹⁹ Supplies came through the port at Pusan, where the Eighth Army's logistics system depended on Korean and Japanese technicians and on thousands of Korean labourers.²⁰ To stop the North Koreans' tanks and supporting artillery and infantry, Walker brought in Sherman and Pershing medium tanks, rocket launchers, artillery pieces, anti-aircraft guns, and, most important of all, close-air support aircraft.²¹

¹⁸ Rees, David (1964). *Korea: The Limited War*. New York: St Martin's. OCLC 1078693

¹⁹ Britannica.com (2020) *Allan R. Millett, Korean War*, [online] Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/event/Korean-War/Invasion-and-counterinvasion-1950-51> [Accessed 9 Feb. 2020]

²⁰ Ibid

²¹ Ibid

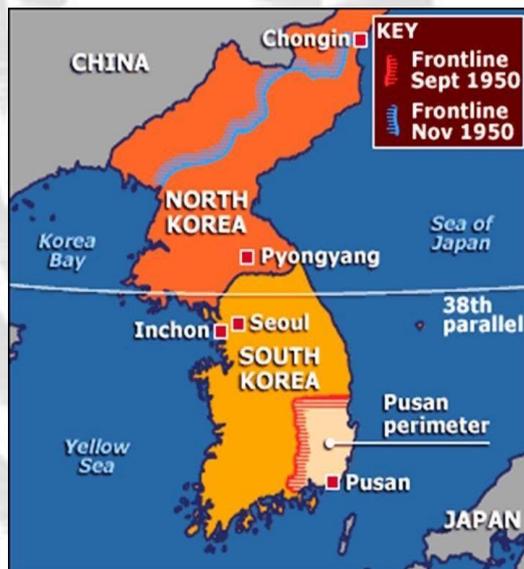




(Soldiers of the U.S. Army 5th Regimental Combat

Team engage North Korean troops along the Naktong River in 1950.)

Battle of Pusan Perimeter: The First Major Conflict In Korean War



The Battle of the Pusan Perimeter was a large-scale battle between United Nations Command (UN) and Korean

People's Army forces lasting from August 4 to September 18, 1950. An army of 140,000 UN troops, having been pushed to the brink of defeat, were rallied to make a final stand against the invading Korean People's Army (KPA), 98,000 men strong.

UN forces, having been repeatedly defeated by the advancing Korean People's Army, were forced back to the "Pusan Perimeter", a 140-mile (230 km) defensive line around an area on the southeastern tip of South Korea that included the port of Busan. The terrain around the perimeter was very rocky, mountainous and difficult to traverse. The United Nations forces were using these mountains and valleys as natural defenses. It was very hard, though, for any of the troops to cross it.



Korean People's Army attacked the perimeter trying to make their way into Busan. They attacked in four different places: the south through two routes, the north and the east. In the resulting Battle of Pusan Perimeter (August–September 1950), the UN forces withstood KPA attacks meant to capture the city at the Naktong Bulge, P'ohang-dong, and Taegu. The United States Air Force (USAF) interrupted KPA logistics with 40 daily ground support sorties that destroyed 32 bridges, halting most daytime road and rail traffic. KPA forces were forced to hide in tunnels by day and move only at night.²² To deny matériel to the KPA, the USAF destroyed logistics depots, petroleum refineries, and harbors, while the US Navy air forces attacked transport hubs. Consequently, the over-extended KPA could not be supplied throughout the south.²³ In early September 1950, UN forces outnumbered the Korean People's Army from 180,000 to 100,000 soldiers.

Battle of Inchon (Inchon Landing Operation)

On September 15, 1950, during the Korean War, United States Marines Force made a surprise amphibious landing at the strategic port of Inchon, on the west coast of Korea, about 100 miles south of the 38th parallel and 25 miles from Seoul.²⁴ General MacArthur did not believe that

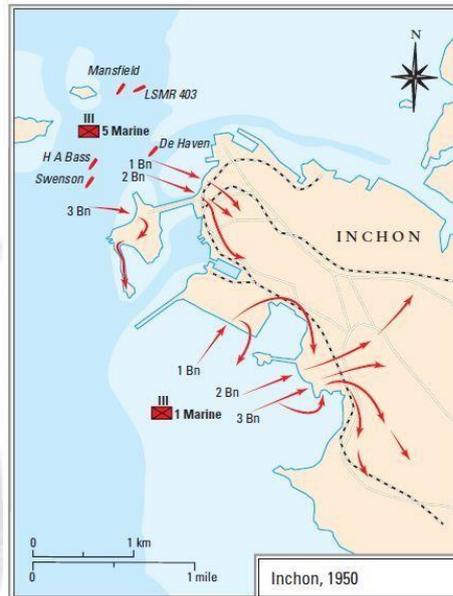
²² Stokesbury, James L (1990). *A Short History of the Korean War*. New York: Harper Perennial. ISBN 9780688095130.

²³ Stokesbury, James L (1990). *A Short History of the Korean War*. New York: Harper Perennial. ISBN 9780688095130.

²⁴ History.com (2010) *Inch'on Landing*, [online] Available at: https://www.history.com/topics/korea/inchon#section_2 [Accessed 9 Feb. 2020]



he could win the war without an amphibious landing deep behind enemy lines, and he had started to think about a landing as early as July.²⁵



For the core of his landing force, he and the Joint Chiefs of Staff selected the 1st Marine Division and the Eighth Army's remaining infantry division, the 7th.²⁶ As the force developed, it also included South Korean marine and infantry units and an assortment of U.S. support troops. The entire force was designated X Corps and was commanded by Major General Edward M. Almond, MacArthur's chief of staff.²⁷

The battle began on 15 September 1950 and ended on 19 September, 1950. Through a surprise amphibious assault far from the Pusan Perimeter that UN and Republic of Korea Army (ROK) forces were desperately defending, the largely undefended city of Incheon was secured after being bombed by UN forces. The battle ended a string of victories over the

²⁵ Britannica.com (2020) Allan R. Millett, Korean War, [online] Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/event/Korean-War/Invasion-and-counterinvasion-1950-51> [Accessed 10 Feb. 2020]

²⁶ Ibid

²⁷ Ibid



Korean People's Army (KPA). The subsequent UN recapture of Seoul partially severed the KPA's supply lines in South Korea.

UN COUNTEROFFENSIVE: SEPTEMBER 1950

The UN September 1950 counteroffensive was a large-scale offensive by United Nations Command (UN) forces against North Korean forces starting on 23 September 1950.

Following the UN counterattack at Inchon on 15 September, on 16 September UN forces within the Pusan Perimeter broke out of the perimeter, driving back the North Koreans and moved north linking up with the UN forces coming from Inchon near Osan on 27 September.

On September 27, Truman sent a top secret National Security Council memorandum, 81/1, to MacArthur reminding MacArthur that operations north of the 38th parallel were authorized only if “at the time of such operation there was no entry into North Korea by major Soviet or Chinese Communist forces, no announcements of intended entry, nor a threat to counter our operations militarily...”²⁸ On September 30, Defense Secretary George Marshall sent an eyes-only message to MacArthur instructing MacArthur “We want you to feel unhampered tactically and strategically to proceed north of the 38th parallel.”²⁹

Supported by a UN resolution, President Harry S. Truman directed the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff to authorize pursuit of the retreating North Korean forces, and on October 9 the Eighth Army crossed the 38th parallel

²⁸ Weintraub, Stanley (2000). *MacArthur's War: Korea and the Undoing of an American Hero*, New York: Simon & Schuster. pp. 157–58. ISBN 978-0684834191.

²⁹ Ibid





near Kaesong. American and South Korean forces entered the North Korean capital of Pyongyang on October 19. Far East Air Force (FEAF) B29s and B-26s continued to bomb surface transport lines and military targets in North Korea, while B-26s, F-51s, and F-80s provided close air support to ground troops. Far East Air Force (FEAF) also furnished photographic reconnaissance, airlift, and air medical evacuation. For

example, on October 20 the air force's troop carriers delivered 2,860 paratroopers and more than 301 tons of equipment and supplies to drop zones near Sukchon and Sunchon, 30 miles northeast of Pyongyang. The airborne troops by-passed strong defenses established by the North Koreans, and taken by surprise, the enemy troops abandoned their positions to retreat further northward. After all, The People's Republic of China had entered the conflict against the Eighth U.S. Army in Korea in the west, and the U.S. X Corps in the east. At this point, the war in Korea took on an entirely different character as the tide turned against the UN forces.

CHINA INTERVENES THE KOREAN WAR:

From the beginning of the conflict, the People's Republic of China had been preparing to invade Korea if they required it necessary. On 30 June 1950, five days after the outbreak of the Korean War, Zhou Enlai, premier of the People's Republic of China and vice-chairman of the Central Military Committee of the CCP (CMCC), decided to send a group of Chinese military intelligence personnel to North Korea to establish better communications with Kim Il-sung as well as to collect first-hand materials on the fighting. One week later, on 7 July, Zhou and Mao chaired a conference discussing military preparations for the Korean Conflict. Another conference took place on 10 July. Here it was decided that the



Thirteenth Army Corps under the Fourth Field Army of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), one of the best trained and equipped units in China, would be immediately transformed into the Northeastern Border Defense Army (NEBDA) to prepare for "an intervention in the Korean War if necessary." On 13 July the CMCC formally issued the order to establish the NEBDA, appointing Deng Hua, the commander of the Second Army Group and one of the most talented commanders of the Chinese Civil War, to coordinate all preparation efforts.³⁰



Three commanders of People's Volunteer Army during the Korean War. From left to right: Chen Geng (1952), Peng Dehuai (1950–1952) and Deng Hua (1952–1953)

On 20 August 1950, Premier Zhou Enlai informed the UN that "Korea is China's neighbor... The Chinese people cannot but be concerned about a solution of the Korean question". Thus, through neutral-country diplomats, China warned that in safeguarding Chinese national security, they would intervene against the UN Command in Korea.³¹ President Truman interpreted the communication as "a bald attempt to blackmail the

³⁰ Chen, Jian. "China's Changing Aims during the Korean War, 1950–1951." *The Journal of American-East Asian Relations*, no. 1 (1992): 8–41. pp. 11–12.

³¹ Stokesbury, James L (1990). *A Short History of the Korean War*. New York: Harper Perennial. ISBN 9780688095130.



UN", and dismissed it.³²



³² Offner, Arnold A. (2002). *Another Such Victory: President Truman and the Cold War, 1945–1953*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press. p. 390. ISBN 978-0804747745.





On October 1950, the day that UN troops crossed the 38th Parallel, the Soviet ambassador forwarded a telegram from Stalin to Mao and Zhou requesting that China send five to six divisions into Korea, and Kim Il-sung sent frantic appeals to Mao for Chinese military intervention. At the same time, Stalin made it clear that Soviet forces themselves would not directly intervene.³³In a series of emergency meetings that lasted from 2 to 5 October, Chinese leaders debated whether to send Chinese troops into Korea. There was considerable resistance among many leaders, including senior military leaders, to confronting the US in Korea.³⁴

But after all, Mao decided that Peng Dehuai would be the commander of the Chinese forces in Korea after Peng agreed to support Mao's position.³⁵ Mao then asked Peng to speak in favor of intervention to the rest of the Chinese leaders. After Peng made the case that if US troops conquered Korea and reached the Yalu they might cross it and invade China, the Politburo agreed to intervene in Korea.

To enlist Stalin's support, Zhou and a Chinese delegation arrived in Moscow on 10 October, at which point they flew to Stalin's home on the Black Sea.³⁹ There they conferred with the top Soviet leadership, which included Joseph Stalin. Stalin initially agreed to send military equipment and ammunition, but warned Zhou that the Soviet Air Force would need two or three months to prepare any operations.

³³ Barnouin, Barbara; Yu, Changgeng (2006). *Zhou Enlai: A Political Life*, Hong Kong: Chinese University Press. ISBN 978-9629962807.

³⁴ Halberstam, David (2007). *The Coldest Winter: America and the Korean War*. New York: Hyperion. ISBN 978-1401300524.

³⁵ Ibid

³⁹

Ibid





China could no longer wait. By the mid-October, the question of Chinese intervention to Korean War agreed with Moscow. Under the command of General Peng Dehuai, the 270,000 Chinese troops started to attack the advancing

UN Forces near the Sino-Korean Border on 25 October, 1950. UN Forces was unprepared for the surprise attack made by People's Volunteer Army. This military decision made solely by China changed the attitude of the Soviet Union. Twelve days after PVA troops entered the war, Stalin allowed the Soviet Air Force to provide air cover, and supported more aid to China.³⁶

The eighth American Army was forced to defend along the southern bank of the Hengan River. UN Forces, despite this blow, continued their offensive towards the Yalu River. In late November, the Chinese launched a second offensive. In order to lure the Americans from a strong defensive position between Hangang and Pyongyang, Peng ordered his units to imitate the panic. On November 24, MacArthur sent South divisions directly into the trap. Bypassing the UN troops from the west, the Chinese surrounded them with a 420,000th army and inflicted a flank attack on the 8th American army. In the east, at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir (November 26 - December 13), a regiment of the 7th US Infantry Division was defeated.

BACK TO THE 38th PARALLEL:

Heartened by the ease with which the Chinese People's Volunteer Army had driven the UN Command out of North Korea, Mao Zedong expanded his war aims to demand that the Chinese army unify all of Korea and drive the

³⁶ Shen, Zihua (2010). "China and the Dispatch of the Soviet Air Force: The Formation of the Chinese–Soviet–Korean Alliance in the Early Stage of the Korean War". *Journal of Strategic Studies*. 33 (2): 211–30.
doi:10.1080/01402391003590291

Ibid





Americans and puppets off the peninsula.³⁷His enthusiasm increased when the Chinese Third Offensive (December 31, 1950–January 5, 1951) retook Seoul.⁴² The Chinese attacks centred on ROKA divisions, which were showing signs of defeatism and ineptness.⁴³General Ridgway, therefore,

had to rely in the short term upon his US divisions, many of which had now gained units from other UN participants³⁸. In addition to two British Commonwealth brigades, there were units from Turkey, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Greece, Colombia, Thailand, Ethiopia, and the Philippines. Pulling his multinational force together, General Ridgway pushed back to the Han River valley in January 1951.

The Chinese, now reinforced by a reborn North Korean army, launched their Fourth Offensive on February 11, 1951.³⁹ Again the initial attacks struck ill-prepared South Korean divisions, and again the UN Command gave ground. Again the Eighth Army fought back methodically, crossing the 38th parallel after two months. At that point Peng began the Fifth Offensive (First Phase) with 11 Chinese armies and two North Korean corps. The attacks came at an awkward moment for the Eighth Army.⁴⁰

In the last two weeks of February 1951, Operation Killer, carried out by the revitalized Eighth Army. It was a full-scale, battlefront-length attack staged for maximum exploitation of firepower to kill as many Korean

³⁷ Britannica.com (2020) *Allan R. Millett, Korean War*, [online] Available at:

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Korean-War/Invasion-and-counterinvasion-1950-51> [Accessed 13 Feb. 2020]

⁴² Ibid

⁴³

³⁸ Ibid

³⁹ Ibid

⁴⁰ Ibid

Ibid



People's Army and People's Volunteer Army troops as possible.⁴¹ Operation Killer concluded with US I Corps re-occupying the territory south of the Han River, and IX Corps capturing Hoengseong.⁴⁸ On 7 March 1951, the Eighth Army attacked with Operation Ripper, expelling the People's Volunteer Army and the Korean People's Army from Seoul on 14 March 1951. This was the fourth and final conquest of the city in a year's time, leaving it a ruin;

the 1.5 million pre-war population was down to 200,000, and people were suffering from severe food shortages.⁴²



Armoured vehicles of the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) cross the Han River on a pontoon bridge, May 1951.

On April 11, 1951, United States President Harry Truman relieved General MacArthur of command for insubordination and his unwillingness to prosecute a limited war. He was succeeded as UN commander by Lieutenant General Matthew Ridgway.⁴³

⁴¹ Stokesbury, James L (1990). *A Short History of the Korean War*. New York: Harper Perennial, ISBN 9780688095130.

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⁴² Ibid

⁴³ Britannica.com (2020) *Korean War Timeline*, Michael Ray [online] Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/list/korean-war-timeline> [Accessed 13 Feb. 2020]

Ibid



On April 25, 1951, Vastly outnumbered UN forces check the Chinese advance on Seoul at the Battles of Kapyong and the Imjin River.⁴⁴ Two Commonwealth battalions rebuff an entire Chinese division at Kapyong, and 4,000 men of the British 29th Brigade stage a successful delaying action against nearly 30,000 troops of the Chinese 63rd Army at the Imjin River.⁴⁵ Some 650 men of the 1st Battalion, the Gloucestershire Regiment (the “Glorious Glosters”), engage in a Thermopylae-like stand against more than 10,000 Chinese infantry at Imjin.⁵³ Although the overwhelming majority of

the Glosters are killed or captured, their sacrifice allows UN forces to consolidate their lines around the South Korean capital.⁴⁶

TALKING AND FIGHTING, 1951-1953:

For the first time, the parties sat down at the negotiation table on July 8, 1951, until the armistice agreement was signed on July 27, 1953, the Korean War continued as a “stalemate.”⁴⁷ This characterization is appropriate in only two ways: (1) both sides had given up trying to unify Korea by force; and (2) the movement of armies on the ground never again matched the fluidity of the war’s first year.⁵⁶

⁴⁴ Ibid

⁴⁵ Ibid

⁵³

⁴⁶ Ibid

⁴⁷ Britannica.com (2020) Allan R. Millett, Korean War, [online] Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/event/Korean-War/Invasion-and-counterinvasion-1950-51> [Accessed 13 Feb. 2020]

⁵⁶

Ibid





The goal of the UN forces was to restore the Republic of Korea to the pre-war limits. The Chinese command put forward similar conditions. Both sides supported their demands with bloody offensive operations. Despite the bloody hostilities, the final period of the war was characterized by only relatively small changes in the front line and long periods of discussion about a possible end to the conflict.

By the beginning of winter, the main subject of negotiations was the repatriation of prisoners of war. The communists agreed to voluntary repatriation on the condition that all North Korean and Chinese prisoners of war be returned to their homeland. However, about one third of them did not want to return. In addition, a significant portion of North Korean prisoners of war were in fact citizens of Communist China who fought on the side of the North.



ARMISTICE TREATY:

In 1952, the US elected a new president, Dwight D. Eisenhower, went to Korea to learn what might end the Korean War.⁴⁸ With the United Nations' acceptance of India's proposed Korean War armistice, the Korean People's Army, the People's Volunteer Army and the UN Command signed the Korean Armistice Agreement on 27 July 1953. South Korean president Syngman Rhee refused to sign the agreement. The war is considered to have ended at this point, even though there was no peace treaty. North Korea nevertheless claims that it won the Korean War.

Under the Armistice Agreement, the belligerents established the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), along the frontline which vaguely follows the 38th Parallel. The DMZ runs northeast of the 38th Parallel; to the south, it travels west. Kaesong, site of the initial armistice negotiations, originally was in pre-war South Korea, but now is part of North Korea. The DMZ has since been patrolled by the KPA and the ROK and US still operating as the UN Command. The Armistice also called upon the governments of South Korea, North Korea, China and the United States to participate in continued peace talks.

In order to conclude a peace treaty, in April 1954 a peace conference was convened in Geneva (Switzerland), which, however, ended to no avail. North and South made their package of proposals that are not compatible with each other's ideas. Although the "north" was more inclined to make concessions,

⁴⁸ Stokesbury, James L (1990). *A Short History of the Korean War*. New York: Harper Perennial. ISBN 9780688095130.





the United States and its allies took an ultimatum position, refusing to fix preliminary agreements even in those situations where the

points of view coincided. On June 16, 1954, rejecting the next package of proposals of the USSR and the DPRK, the countries participating in the intervention announced that "the meeting did not come to an agreement"



DPRK

