

## Korean War

1. Before the War
  - a. Russia liberated North from Japan
  - b. U.S. liberated South from Japan
    - i. Dividing line was 38th Parallel
  - c. Both sides put governments in place that aligned with their own
    - i. North: Kim Il Sung
    - ii. South: Syngman Rhee
  - d. Both leaders claimed the other was illegitimate and they had rights to the other's land.
2. Korean War
  - a. North Korea convinced Stalin to help (as long as Soviet troops did not fight US troops)
  - b. **June 25th, 1950** North Korea invaded South Korea
    - i. NK forces advanced quickly, < 1 week 75% of the South's army was wiped out. 90% after 1 month
      1. No appeasing, people saw this as Hitler invading Poland.
    - ii. The SK forces were pushed to Busan.
    - iii. U.S. and UN forces brought in under General MacArthur.
3. Inchon
  - a. General MacArthur attacked and was able to quickly advance
    - i. Retook Seoul shortly after
    - ii. Moved on to North's capital Pyongyang.
      1. Truman's orders, but told NOT to engage with Soviet or Chinese forces
  - b. North Korea
    - i. Had convinced China to help, China convinced Soviets to help with air support
    - ii. They pushed back MacArthur's troops.
  - c. General MacArthur
    - i. Requested use of nuclear bombs, was denied
    - ii. Truman ended up firing MacArthur for insubordination on **April 11th, 1951.**
    - iii. After congressional hearings, the public came to see Truman did the right thing.