

Korean War

Background

The Cold War had its origins in Europe, and Europe always remained at the center of the struggle between America and the Soviet Union.

The Korean War was an expansion of the Cold War.

It was significant because it played into the normative traditions of international affairs.

On one hand, the Korean War is an example of the United Nation enforcing international security by putting troops on the ground.

This contrasts with the weakness of the League of Nations, and seems to show growing acceptance of rationalism.

On the other hand, the Korean War was an example of raw national interest.

America used its power at the United Nations to contain the spread of communism.

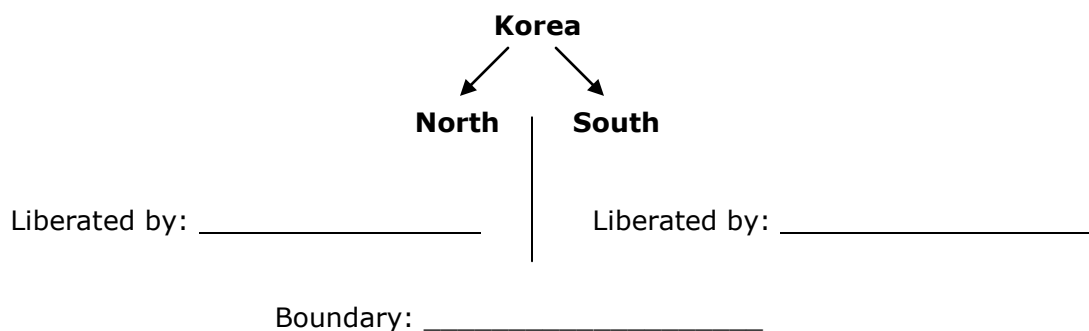
By this interpretation, the United Nations was just a smoke show for an American power play against the Soviet Union.

Whatever your conclusion, it is important to note that this was a limited war.

The Korean War remained a regional conflict with international significance, and American troops never directly engaged the Red Army!

Assignment

1) Complete the following diagram on



2) When North Korea invaded the South, what did Truman announce?

3) Why was the Soviet delegate absent when the Security Council of the UN voted to commit troops to Korea?

4) Discuss the significance of the United Nations' military action in Korea.

5) Fill in the missing information outlining the initial military advances in Korea.

When American troops pushed into North Korea, the U.S.A. considered turning this conflict into a _____. This would have incurred the threat of _____. Consequently, NATO thought to _____ in Europe. This shows how the focus of the Cold War remained in _____, despite the events taking place in the _____.

On October 26th _____ troops crossed _____ and pushed the Americans well back of the _____. Truman talked about using _____, but Attlee, the Prime Minister of Britain talked him out of it. Instead, the _____ was increased from \$13.5 billion to \$50 billion and the _____ was increased to 3.5 million men.

6) Explain the "MacArthur-Truman split."

7) Describe the conclusion of the "MacArthur-Truman split," and its impact on public opinion in the United States.

8) Describe the conclusion of the Korean War.

9) Discuss the significance of the Korean War.
