The Korean War
Chapter 15 Section 4

Korea after WWII
- Japan controlled Korea during WWII
- After the war to provide stability: America and the Soviet Union decided to take joint control of Korea
- Above 38th parallel Soviet Union controlled North Korea, below the United States controlled South Korea.
- The Soviets helped install a Communist regime under Kin Il Sung in North Korea
- Americans helped install a Democratic regime under Syngman Rhee in South Korea.
- Both Presidents of Korea dreamed of reunifying Korea under their control.

Start of the Korean War
- June 1950 North Korea invades South Korea.
- They used Soviet weapons and tanks.
- Truman made the decision to take a stand against the spread of communism: Eisenhower concurred.
- But it would take time to mobilize American troops.
- North Korea eventually captured the capital of South Korea.
- Americans aided the Koreans with air and naval forces.
The Role of the UN

- **Truman** asked the UN to approve the use of force to stop North Korea.
- The **UN voted in favor** of action.
- But it was not enough; US ground troops would be needed to stop the North Koreans.
- Truman feared this would trigger **WWIII**.
  - 15 other nations joined the US.
  - It was declared a **UN police action**.
  - **Douglas McArthur** was put in charge.

Essential Questions

1. What happens to Korea after WWII?
2. What did both leaders of Korea always dream about?
3. How was North Korea able to invade South Korea so successfully?
4. Who else decided to join the war against North Korea?

Battles of the War

- **North Koreans** push UN forces to the tip of South Korea.
- A daring landing at **Inchon** pushed back the North Koreans.
- Another landing at **Puson** was successful.
- Soon **South Korea** was back in UN forces hands.
- **McArthur and Truman** favored invading North Korea.
- China warned the US though.
- The attacks were **succeeding**.
Chinese Aid

• Just as victory was coming closer, 250,000 Chinese soldiers came to support North Korea.
• Too many soldiers forced the UN troops to retreat past 38th parallel.
• American general Ridgeway pushed the Chinese back to the 38th parallel.
• McArthur called for the use of the Atomic bomb and all out war with China.
• He criticized President Truman, and threatened the Chinese.
• McArthur was a WWII hero and the decision was hard, but Truman fired McArthur.
• Americans were outraged their hero was fired.

Essential Questions

1. What was the fear of invading North Korea?
2. How do the Chinese change the War?
3. What did McArthur call on the President to do?
4. What does Truman eventually have to do with McArthur? How does the American public react to this? Why?

Peace Talks

• Both sides suffered heavy losses.
• Peace talks stalled though on the boundary.
• North Koreans wanted the 38th parallel. UN wanted a little above that to where UN troops had made it.
• Small scale fighting continued while negotiations went on.
• Negotiations hit another snag when South Korea refused to give up prisoners of war.
• 1952 passed away like this.
Peace talks continue in 1953

- In **1952 Eisenhower** is elected President.
- He promised to **end the Korean War**
- Communists also wanted an end
- **Peace talks** continued at **Panmunjom**
- Brutal fighting continued through July though
- Finally in July armistice was achieved.
- In the end the borders stayed the same from 1950

### Essential Questions

1. What two issues stalled peace talks in Korea?
2. Did fighting occur during the peace talks? Why?
3. Who is elected President in 1952? What did he want?
4. How are the borders of North and South Korea changed by the end of the war?