



**Mission Viejo High School MUN**  
**34<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**  
*Vox Populi*



## **The Korean War**

### **I. Background**

The Korean War was a conflict between the communist North Korea and western supported South Korea. When North Korea invaded the South it was not only an act of aggression, but was viewed as a communist effort to spread communism throughout the world and into other, vulnerable nations. As North and South Korea waged war, the United States and Soviet Union indirectly went to war also – with the United States supporting the South and the Soviet Union supporting the North. Unlike the Vietnam War, the Korean War received little media attention in the United States. World War II had divided Korea into North and South Korea, divided at the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel and from 1950 to 1953 the Korean War raged between the two. Outside nations quickly became involved in the conflict as the U.S. did not want to appear “soft on communism” and the Soviet’s wanted to show support for the communist ideals of North Korea. When the U.S. recaptured Seoul, forces continued moving past the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel to advance against North Korea when China quickly became involved and attacked United Nations, U.S., and the Republic of Korea’s forces. A peace treaty would eventually be signed in 1953, however, tensions remained.

**This committee will take place in late October of 1951; U.S. President Truman has declared that South Korea will receive aid and assistance from the United States. The invasion of Inchon has been executed and currently the North Korean capital is under United Nations control – China is planning to push U.N. troops back to the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel.**

### **II. UN Involvement**

Sixteen countries from the United Nations provided aid by sending supplies and fighting units, while five contributed field hospitals and ambulances. The United Nations Command (UNC) provided the strategic plan for the anti-communist forces in South Korea, and although South Korea was not a member of the United Nations it played a huge role in determining which decisions were made by the United Nations. The United Nations Command force worked alongside the Republic of Korea and the United States to plan offensive maneuvers and at one point during the war controlled the North Korean capital. Later the United Nations would play the role as the key mediator as conflict subsided and peace talks dragged on.



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**III. Possible Solutions**

The war currently rages on – the United Nations controls the North Korean capital and China is planning an offensive attack to push their forces out of North Korea back to the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel. Arrangements for peace talks are in the works. Your nation may continue on the path of what was done in 1951, or may alter the course of history and propose new solutions and plans. Rather than continued offensive maneuvers, a suspension of fighting may be called to finalize peace talks and re-establish the border between North and South Korea. The United States and the Soviet Union remain established on opposing sides and may continue to wage war, or may engage in peace talks to resolve the conflict more rapidly.

**IV. Questions to Consider**

- Is your nation allied with the United States or the Soviet Union?
- Does your nation wish to stand with its allies?
- Will your nation support aggressive measures or peace talks?
- Does your nation support change in intervals or a fast paced resolution to the conflict?
- How will your nation deal with the differing ideals of the North and South?



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