

CONFIDENTIAL

National Security Council Official Document

This recommendation was written by: _____ Nisagr Shah

Date: June 25, 1950

Event: North Korea invaded South Korea at approximately 14:15 pm today

Directive: President Truman requests Recommendations on how to respond to this international crisis.

Final Recommendation:

Mr. President, after much discussion and debate, we have come up with the following recommendation. I believe that the best form of action is to commit and go all into sending troops to South Korea in order to repel the North Korean invasion and prevent communism in parts of East Asia and South East Asia. I give you 4 arguments why I believe this.

Under the Truman Doctrine, the United States has a direct responsibility to not only support free nations under armed domination but do it in a timely manner. South Korea is a free, democratic government that is basically being attacked directly by communist North Korea. To enforce the standards of the Truman Doctrine, we have to act with and the protect freedom and democracy that South Korea currently has.

The Marshall Plan's success in Europe which beautifully demonstrated that we can be against communism and that economic or military intervention by the U.S. can stabilize a region. Although the Marshall Plan was established to rebuild different parts of Europe, its function was to support nations against communism. Sending ground troops to Korea would have the same strategic purpose in Asia and slow down this spread that countries like North Korea or Russia are employing.

Going through documents on Joseph Stalin, it becomes evident that the Soviet Union is attempting to increase its influence through proxy wars and indirect aggression. The North Korean invasion is likely a test of American will. If we fail to act decisively, it may encourage the USSR and its allies to commit additional aggression around the globe.

NSC-68 is our general Cold War policy and it calls for the containment of communism through military strength and selective action. Right now, this situation directly threatens democratic values and Pacific area security. The deployment of ground troops to Korea, in addition to our policies with NSC-68, is very consistent with our national security interests.

North Korea's invasion is not just one incident, but it is a direct communist threat. To do nothing would deeply decrease our credibility. We are sending a clear message that the United States will not permit the uncontrolled spread of communism.

We urge you Mr. President to take action immediately.

In your conclusion, discuss how your recommendation relates to the policy of containment!