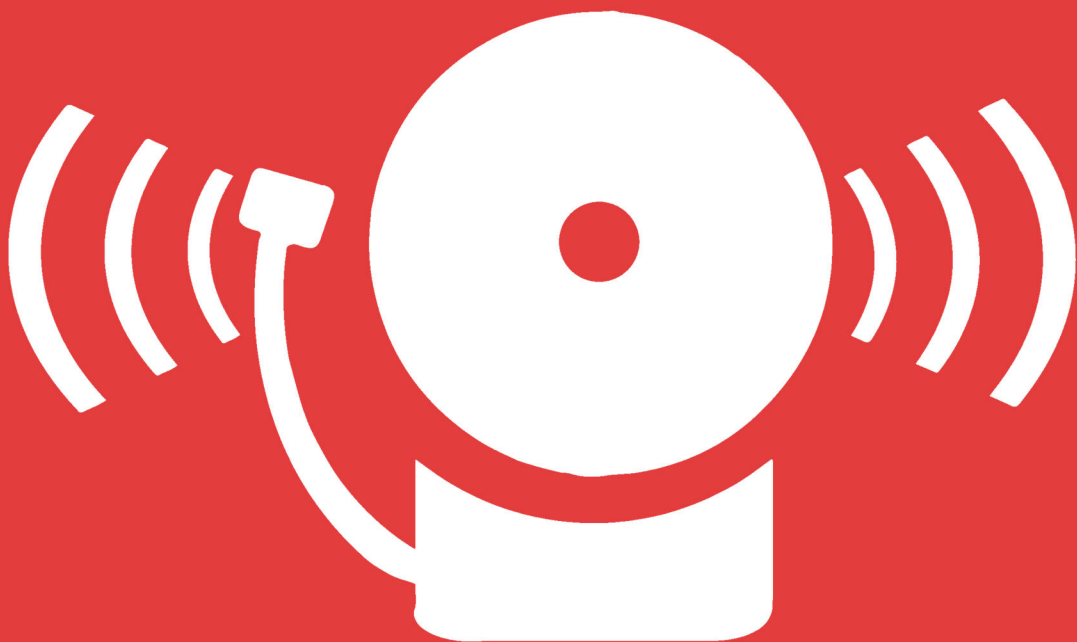


STUDY GUIDE



CRISIS COMMITTEE



BITSMUN



United Nations Information Centre
for India and Bhutan



AGENDA - KOREAN WAR

NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Delegates,

Hello!

This is your chair - Punyashlok Dwibedy. It is really a great pleasure and honour to be chairing the General Assembly at BITSMUN 2015. I have been told that some of the best and the brightest minds in India are participating in this conference. I am sure our committee is no different. It is a challenging and an interesting agenda that we are going to discuss in the 3 days of the council.

We've kept it under wraps for now, but soon the agenda and the background guide of the topic will be released for you to deliberate upon. My endeavour shall be that all sides are represented equally with everyone getting a chance to voice their opinions on the issue. In this endeavour of mine I shall be ably supported by your Vice Chair - Anurag Sah and Director - Avi Jain who bring in a lot of experience and credibility to the Executive Board.

I am looking forward to three days of intense debates, directives and if all goes well, a resolution. I am sure after the committee timings, we will all have a chance to interact and see the fun side of each other. That is something I am very excited about. Rest, in the council and afterwards!

Ciao,

Punyashlok Dwibedy

Chairperson Crisis Committee, BITSMUN'15





POST WORLD WAR 2 SITUATIONS:

"... I venture to impress upon my hearers that the great work of peace is resting not only on the narrow interests of our own nations, but even more on those great principles of right and wrong on which nations, like individuals, depend.

The League is dead. Long live the United Nations."

-Robert Cecil, Final Session of the League of Nations

The birth of the UN is closely linked with demise of its predecessor, The League Of Nations. The onset of the Second World War showed that the League had failed its primary purpose, which was to prevent any future world war. The United Nations (UN) replaced it after the

end of the Second World War on 20 April 1946 and inherited a number of agencies and organisations founded by the League.



Despite the birth of the United Nations, the world remained politically unstable and only slowly recovered from the incalculable physical and moral devastation wrought by the largest and most costly war in history.

Political consequences of the war included the reduction of Britain and

France to powers of lesser rank, the emergence of the Common Market i.e. European Economic Community (which was the precursor to the European Union), the independence of many former colonies in Asia and Africa, and, perhaps most important, the beginning of the cold war between the Western powers and the Communist-bloc nations. We can easily say that Korea was one of the first signs of this cold war.





ABOUT KOREA:

Since the 16th century AD, Korea was the main target of Japanese imperialism. Koreans used Chinese aid to repel the Japanese invaders, but the latter responded with even more force. That eventually led to Korea becoming Japan's protectorate (1905). Eventually the Japanese fully annexed it (1910). During World War II, Japan recruited Korean soldiers into its army and used Korean food. The peninsula remained in Japanese hands until the end of the Second World War.

With the war's end in sight in August 1945, there was still no consensus on Korea's fate among Allied leaders. Many Koreans on the peninsula had made their own plans for the future of Korea, and few of these plans included the re-occupation of Korea by foreign forces. Following the atomic bombing of Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, Soviet soldiers invaded Manchuria; as per Stalin's agreement with Roosevelt at the Yalta Conference of February 1945. The Soviets also made advances towards the Korean Peninsula from the north in mid-August, 1945.

However, American leaders suspected that without American intervention, the whole peninsula would elect to come under Communist government and Soviet influence.

Secretary of State James Byrnes instructed the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee (SWNCC) to construct a plan for the joint Soviet-American occupation of Korea, with the line as far north as possible.

Late the evening of August 10, meeting in the Pentagon, Col. Charles H. Bonesteel (later to command U.N. forces in Korea) and Col. Dean Rusk (later to become Secretary of State under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson), assigned to the Strategy and Policy Group of the Operations Division of the War Department, were given thirty minutes to devise a plan for dividing the Korean peninsula between the U.S. and USSR. What Bonesteel and Rusk kept in mind was that the nearest American troops were 600 miles away in Okinawa, while the Soviets had already entered northern Korea.

The issue for them was how to quickly create a surrender arrangement which the Soviets would accept while preventing their seizure of all Korea. Bonesteel wanted to draw the division around provincial boundaries so that the Japanese would clearly understand the demarcation. The only map of Korea available to them was a 1942 *National Geographic* map of "Asia and Adjacent Areas," which did not denote provinces, only latitude and longitude.





'During a meeting on August 14, 1945, Colonel Charles Bonesteel and I retired to an adjacent room late at night and studied intently a map of the Korean peninsula. Working in haste and under great pressure, we had a formidable task: to pick a zone for the American occupation. . . . Using a National Geographic map, we looked just north of Seoul for a convenient dividing line but could not find a natural geographic line. We saw instead the 38th parallel and decided to recommend that. . . . [The State and War Departments] accepted it without too much haggling, and surprisingly, so did the Soviets. . . . [The] choice of the thirty-eighth parallel, recommended by two tired colonels working late at night, proved fateful.'

– Dean Rusk (US Secretary of State under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson)





Soviet forces arrived in Korea first, but occupied only the northern half, stopping at the 38th parallel, per the agreement with the United States. Hence, at the end of World War II, Korea was divided into northern and southern portions at the 38th parallel by the Allies at the Potsdam Conference. The United States was to administer the southern part, while the USSR administered the northern area. Two new nations were created, divided by the 38th parallel and at the Moscow Conference in December 1945 the US and the USSR decided that Korea should gain its independence after a five-year trusteeship.

This division started the conflicts between the two areas of Korea because the northern region followed the USSR and became communist, while the south opposed this form of government and formed a strong anti-communist, capitalist government. Since the Korean population had hoped that they would be independent after the occupation of Japan, riots broke out which were forbidden by the controlling countries USSR and the US. The two superpowers decided to abandon control of their regions, and used the popular support of the public to install Communist and Far-Right leaders in the North and South respectively.





RISE OF KIM DYNASTY-

KIM II SUNG



He was born Kim Song-ju on 15 April 1912, in the capital Pyongyang. He took the name "Kim Il Sung" in honour of his uncle who had disappeared soon after taking part in the 1919 independence uprising. From an early age itself, he took part in various guerrilla activities against the Japanese authorities and later led raiding parties into Manchuria. He was trained by the Soviets and appointed major in the 88th Division of this international unit of the Far Eastern Command of the Soviet army. History states that he was awarded the Order of Lenin by Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin.

The communist party of Korea had fought against the Japanese in Korea and Manchuria led by Kim Il-Sung, making him an important personality in the resistance from 1941 to 1945. Additionally, due to his Soviet connections and service in their army, Kim Il Sung was appointed as chairman of North Korean Provisional People's Committee on 8 February 1946 by the Soviets.

US INTERVENTION AND SOUTH KOREA-



South Korean citizens protest allied trusteeship in December 1945. In September 1946, thousands of laborers and peasants rose up against the Allied Military Government. This uprising was quickly defeated, and failed to prevent scheduled October elections for the South Korean Interim Legislative Assembly.

After the General Assembly's resolutions concerning 'The Problem of Independence of Korea', USA decided to name a new leader for Korea.

As a result, mid-1948, the anti-communist southern region drafted a constitution and began to hold national elections. On August 15, 1948, the Republic of Korea (South Korea) was officially founded and Syngman Rhee





was elected as president-with 180 of the 196 votes cast in his favour.

Rhee had found it impossible to hide his hostility toward Japanese rule, and, after working briefly in a YMCA and as a high-school principal, he emigrated to Hawaii, which was then a U.S. territory. He spent the next 30 years as a spokesman for Korean independence, trying in vain to win international support for his cause. After the war, since Rhee was the only Korean leader well known to Americans, he was returned to Korea ahead of the other members of the Provisional Government. Hence, the ardent anti-communist Syngman Rhee, was considered an acceptable candidate to provisionally lead the country since he was considered friendly to the US.

USSR'S AID TO NORTH KOREA:

Despite the UN General Assembly Resolution (A/RES/112(II), 1947) which was calling for free elections in the Korean peninsula, the Soviets were recognizing the authority of the Northern Koreans on the whole peninsula, offering complete and direct economic, political and military support to Pyongyang. The Soviet government cooperated with Communist China in order to maintain the strategic advantage of the North without provoking any reaction by the United States. Stalin initially rejected the North Korean plans in 1949, but in 1950, after the Communist victory in China and Soviet's development of approved the development of military operations limited to the 38th parallel. Stalin equipped the KPA formed by Kim Sung with modern medium tanks, trucks, artillery, and small arms. Kim had also formed an air force, equipped at first with ex-Soviet propeller-driven fighter and attack aircraft. Later, North Korean pilot candidates were sent to the Soviet Union and China to train in MiG-15 jet aircraft at secret bases.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S REACTION:

The UN passed a resolution (112) on November 14, 1947, declaring that free elections should be held, foreign troops should be withdrawn, and a UN commission for Korea, the United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea, should be created. The Soviet Union, although a member with veto powers, boycotted the voting and did not consider the resolution to be binding. In April 1948, a conference of organizations from the north and the south met in Pyongyang. This conference produced no results, and the Soviets boycotted





the UN-supervised elections in the south. There was no UN supervision of elections in the north.

On May 10, 1948 the south held a general election. On August 15, the "Republic of Korea" formally took over power from the U.S. military. In the North, the "Democratic People's Republic of Korea" was declared on September 9, with Kim Il-sung as prime minister.

The General Assembly of the United Nations had a clear position at the outburst of the war. When Kim Il Sung proclaimed the "Democratic People's Republic of Korea" the GA made clear that the only legal representation of the country would be the result of free elections in the total of the Korean peninsula. On the 12th of December 1948, the GA recognized the government of the south as the sole legitimate representation of Korea, and asked for the economic and political support to the Republic of Korea, calling the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to guarantee that their troops would leave the northern part of the peninsula.

Excerpts from Resolution 195(III) of the General Assembly-

2. Declares that there has been established a lawful government (the Government of the Republic of Korea) having effective control and jurisdiction over that part of Korea where the Temporary Commission was able to observe and consult and in which the great majority of the people of all Korea reside; that this Government is based on elections which were a valid expression of the free will of the electorate of that part of Korea and which were observed by the Temporary Commission; and that this is the only such Government in Korea;

3. Recommends that the occupying Powers should withdraw their occupation forces from Korea as early as practicable;

4. Resolves that, as a means to the full accomplishment of the objectives set forth in the resolution of 14 November 1947, a Commission on Korea consisting of Australia, China, El Salvador, France, India, the Philippines and Syria, shall be established to continue the work of the Temporary Commission and carry out the provisions of the present resolution, having in mind the status of the Government of Korea as herein defined.





TIMELINE:

February 4-1, 1945: Yalta Conference- meeting of the heads of government of the United States, the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union.



May 8, 1945: The Allies accept Germany's surrender.

July 17, 1945-Potsdam Conference: US President Harry S. Truman, Soviet Leader Joseph Stalin, and British PM Winston Churchill met in the Berlin suburb of Potsdam to discuss issues relating to post-war Europe and made plans to deal with the ongoing conflict with Japan. The 38th parallel line was chosen as the army boundary, north of which the USSR and south of which the Americans were to accept the Japanese surrender.

July 26 1945: The United States, Britain, and China released the Potsdam Declaration announcing the terms for Japan's surrender.

August 6 1945: First US nuclear attack against Japan (Hiroshima)





August 8 1945: USSR declares war on Japan.

August 9, 1945: Second US nuclear attack against Japan (Nagasaki)



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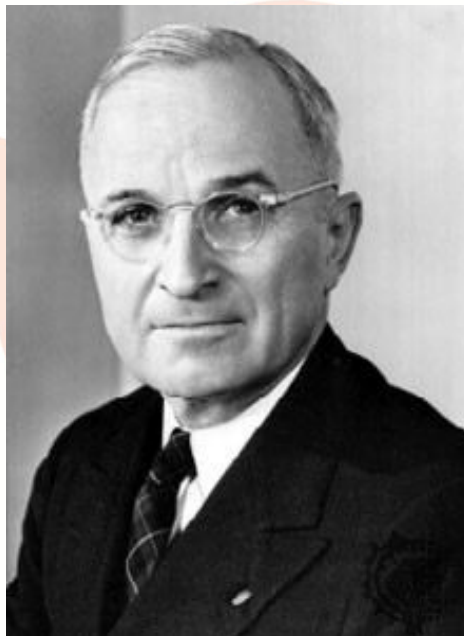
August 1945: USSR occupies northern area of Korea

September 2, 1945: Japan surrenders

September 9, 1945: US occupies southern area of Korea

December 27, 1945: Moscow Conference- Foreign ministers of the United States, United Kingdom and Soviet Union met to discuss the problems of occupation, establishing peace, and other Far East issues The US and Soviet military commands in Korea would set up a Joint Commission to make recommendations of a single free government in Korea.

January 5, 1946: President Harry Truman indicates that the US will not recognize future communist governments, since "*I'm sick of babying the Soviets*".



President Harry S. Truman

February 9, 1946: Before the Communist Party Congress, Stalin suggests that communism and capitalism were incompatible.

February 22, 1946: George Kennan's Long Telegram, one of the most famous documents of the Cold War, contending that Russian behavior was determined by a "*traditional and instinctive Russian sense of insecurity*," and that "*we have here a political force committed fanatically to the belief that with US there can be no permanent modus vivendi*."





March 10, 1946: Truman demands Russia withdraw from Iran, which had been jointly occupied by the British and the Red Army during World War II, with no oil concessions and no annexation of Azerbaijan.

September 12, 1946: Former Vice President and then Secretary of Commerce Henry Wallace delivers a Madison Square Garden speech announcing *"the tougher we get with Russia, the tougher they will get with us"*; he was forced to resign as Secretary of Commerce September 20.

March 12, 1947: President Truman announces the Truman Doctrine, informing Congress, *"I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures."*

February 25, 1948: Communists overthrow the government of Eduard Beneš in Czechoslovakia, the last democratic nation in the Soviet bloc.

June 24, 1948: Further increasing tensions over Europe's future, the Soviets begin a blockade of the Western zones in occupied Berlin; the Allied powers would respond with an 11-month airlift to supply the beleaguered city.

Apr. 4, 1949: The NATO treaty is signed.

June 1949: The last US troops leave the Korean peninsula.

Aug 29, 1949: The USSR explodes its first atomic bomb.

Oct. 1, 1949: The Communist Party completes its triumph in the Chinese Civil War, as Mao Zedong assumes power.

January 1950: Truman announces that the United States will build the hydrogen bomb.

Jan 13, 1950: Yakov Malik, the Soviet Ambassador to the U. N., angrily walked out of a session of the United Nations Security Council, after the ten members voted 8-2 against replacing the Nationalist Chinese delegation with one from the Communist Chinese leaders who had taken control of nearly all of China in October. Although the Nationalist government was confined to the island of Taiwan, it continued to be allowed to speak for, and to exercise the veto power for, the 460 million people in China.

June 1950: North Korean forces cross the 38th parallel and invade South Korea.





Delegates, **you will start at the same point (25th June, 1950)** and will have the opportunity to rewrite history, to overcome the shortcomings of the UN and of historical leaders, and to reach to a realistic and long-lasting solution to the issue at hand. **Do not consider this guide to be your sole research, consider it merely as a tool.**

-Best Regards,

Executive Board,

Crisis Committee,

BITSMUN '15.

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH MATERIAL-

- NATO Treaty of 1949
http://www.nato.int/nato_static/assets/pdf/stock_publications/20120822_nato_treaty_en_light_2009.pdf
- Stueck W., "The Korean War in world history", Kentucky University Press, Kentucky, 2004.
- General Assembly: (A/RES/293, A/RES/376, A/RES/377)
- Security Council: (S/RES/82, S/RES/83)
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Korean_War
- www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/coldwar/korea_hickey_01.shtml
- <http://www.history.com/topics/korean-war>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moscow_Conference_%281945%29
- http://www.globaltravels.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/n_korea/kim_il_sung.htm
- <http://korean-war.commemoration.gov.au/cold-war-crisis-in-korea/korean-war-strategic-map.php>
- <https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/korean-conflict/>





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THIS STUDY GUIDE HAS BEEN PREPARED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
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