



# Cold War Timeline

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# 38th Parallel - August 1945

Due to Japan colonization, Korea was under Japanese rule for years. After Japan lost World War II, it was divided into two different regions, because of different perspective on different forms of government. The line that divides them is called the 38th Parallel, and was selected at the Potsdam Conference. The North is backed up by the Soviet Union, while the South is backed up by the United States. The significance of this was to separate and stop the Soviet spreading communism to the other side of Korea, and other neighboring countries.

China

North Korea

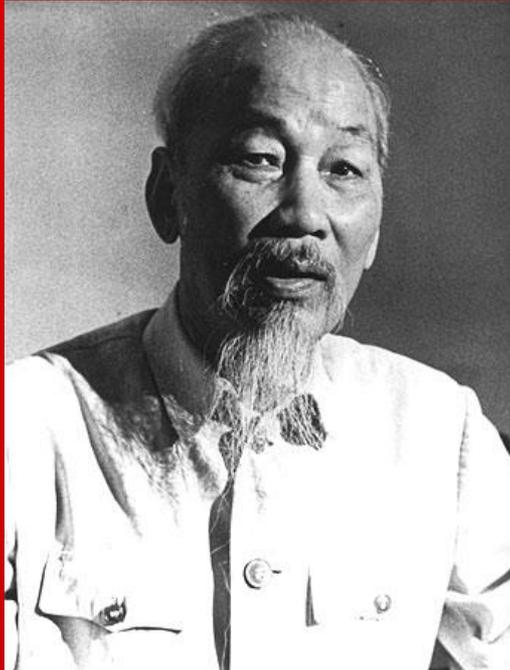
Pyongyang

Seoul

South Korea



# Ho Chi Minh - September 2, 1945



Ho Chi Minh was the leader of North Vietnamese Communist Party. He was born on May 19, 1890 in mid Vietnam while it was controlled by France. Wanting to remove the French rule, he went to Paris to attend the Versailles Conference and asked President Wilson for help, but he was refused. The reason why was that the U.S. and France has a good relationship with each other. Returning to Vietnam, he created a group of pro-Communist fighters to drive the French out of the country, called the Viet Minh. The Viet Minh, with eager and willingness, successfully pushed out the French. Vietnam was later invaded by Japan, and once again, Viet Minh drove them out. He later on declared Vietnamese independence, but the French refused to leave and they had war for eight years. Vietnam was separated into pro-communist north and non-communist south in Geneva Conference. Ho became the president of North Communist Vietnam on September 2, 1945. Ho Chi Minh was important because he was a hero to Vietnam, and his ideas were focused on communism and nationalism.

# United Nations - October 24, 1945



United Nations is an international organization consist of 192 countries around the world. It was created on June 1945, and made official on October 24, 1945 as to replace the inefficient League of Nations, and to deter wars and disagreements between countries. Its goals are to retain global peace and safety, advocate human rights, encourage social and economic growth, protect the surroundings, to support the people if there is a food shortage, and stop children abuse. In contrast to League of Nations, United Nations has militaries contributed from different countries. This was an importance to history of the world because if there was no United Nations, we will still have wars and conflicts until today.

# Kim Il Sung - December 17, 1945

Kim Il Sung was the leader of North Communist Korea from its formation in 1948 till he died in 1994. He grew up during the Japanese occupied Korea era, and later on joined the Communist Party. As Korea was being divided into two, he took himself as the leader of North Korea. As the total leader of North Korea, he created a cult of personality around himself. He also used Marxism-Leninism as the belief of his communist state. In 1950, he intended to reunite Korea as one, and so initiated an invasion of South Korea. He sought to expand his rule to the south, but was repulsed by U.S. soldiers and UN military. Kim Il Sung was important to the history of the world because his dictatorship was abysmal, and is an example to prevent.



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# Marshall Plan - April 1948



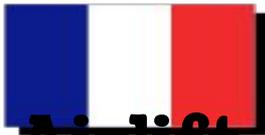
## The Marshall Plan

Rebuilding Europe

The Marshall plan which was the U.S. assisted Europe in their economic recovery after World War II to prevent communism spreading. Due to the devastated war, many places in Europe were defaced. The United States provided a total amount of \$13 billion to the European countries. The goals were to reconstruct post-war area which were destroyed, eliminate trade barriers, and make Europe successful. This was important because if the U.S. did not make this plan, Europe would be in poverty for years, and countries would turn into communism.

# Berlin Airlift - June 24, 1948 - May 12, 1949

Berlin Airlift was an event which the Air Forces flew over to Berlin after the Soviets have cut off the supplies going into the city. After Germany was divided into west and east, the capital Berlin is split and became Soviet-occupied. Half is communism, the other is allied. Air Force pilots then flew over to Berlin to drop off the supplies to the people that were trapped in between. This was important to the history of the world because without the help, many people would have died.



# Korean War - 25 June 1950 – 27 July 1953

The war started when Kim Il Sung, the communist leader of North Korea, invaded South Korea. Reunification deliberations were still going on for months, so tensions built up, then conflicts became a cease-fire and ignited a war. South Korea was backed up by the U.S., while North Korea is backed up by Soviets and China at the same time. This was important to the history of the world because the entire Korea country would be in communist rule if the UN did not back up the South.



# N O R T H K O R E A

## Demilitarized Zone - July 27, 1953

Military  
Demarcation

After the Korean War, the battle lines were being pushed back and forth. Until the end of the war, it remained at the same point. South Korean and U.S. troops were pushed all the way back in Pusan. Later in fall of 1950, UN troops arrived at Inch'on and fought the North Korea up to china. Due to that, China sent thousands of soldiers to back up and pushed them back to the 37th parallel. On January 1951, UN forces fought and advanced to the 38th parallel. Ceasefire happened on June 1953, and ended a long deadlock. But until today, both sides still don't agree with each other, then created a demilitarized zone on the 38th parallel. This was important to the history of the world because the line which divides Korean gave the South Korean freedom.



S O U T H  
K O R E A

# **Viet Cong - 1954 - 1976**

**Viet Cong was an army and organization that engaged with the U.S. and South Vietnamese governments. This group contained both guerrilla and efficient army units. They called for toppling American imperialist and work for a peaceful reunification. Tet Offensive was a massive assault that the Viet Cong have made during the Vietnam War. They later on disbanded after the North Vietnamese took over Saigon city. This was important to the history of the world because the Viet Cong had made an attack and killed many people during that offensive.**



# Vietnam War - November 1, 1955 - April 30, 1975

The Vietnam war was fought for 19 years that took place in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. It was fought between the North Vietnam, supported by the USSR and China, and South Vietnam, supported by the U.S. The planners of American foreign policy saw the problem in Vietnam and create the domino theory-- that Vietnam would fall for communism, too. The U.S. only sent supplies and military trainers to South Vietnam, but it sent thousands of troops afterward. On August 1, 1964, South Vietnamese set raids on the Gulf of Tonkin. The next day, U.S. destroyer, *Maddox*, was attacked. President Johnson of the U.S. used the cause to send troops to Vietnam. They started to bomb targets in North Vietnam, and thousands of soldiers were sent to war. At that time, the USSR and China also helped, but only sent aids. Many battles were fought, and it was the beginning of chemical warfare. The war continues until people protested it. They elected the new president of the state, President Nixon, who promised to withdraw troops from Vietnam. After two years of withdrawn, the communist North had took over South Vietnam. Saigon was conquered on the day of April 30, 1975. It was renamed afterwards to Ho Chi Minh City in remembrance and honor for the deceased leader. It was important because the Vietnam War was the first war that the U.S. ever lost.



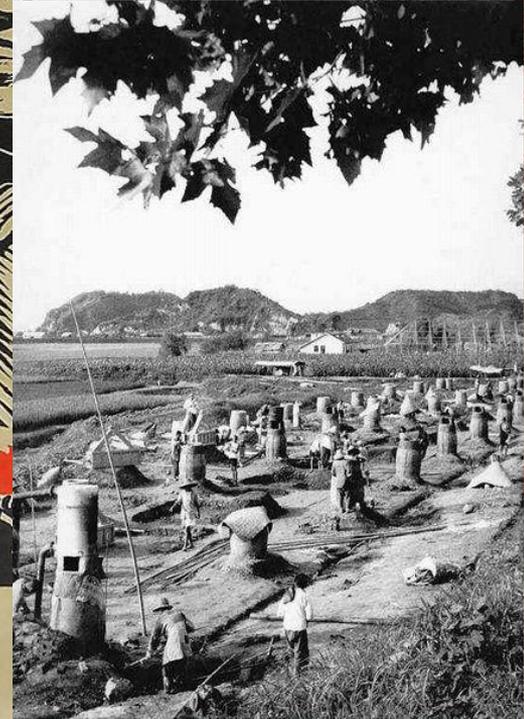
# Great Leap Forward - 1958 - 1961

A campaign known as the Great Leap Forward, was led by Mao Zedong, the leader of China Communist Party. Because he wanted an extraordinary attempt to expand farm and industrial production, it created a famine instead. He developed communes, which brings together lands and people to do industries in their back yards to produce steel and such.

However, it was a big failure. It turned out to be useless and poor quality goods. This led to a horrible famine from 1959 to 1961, resulted in

millions of death. As a result, Mao's influence went downward. This was important because the Great

Leap Forward had killed 20 million people. 看天卜堆肥敢



# Bay of Pigs Invasion - April 17 - 19, 1961

Fidel Castro organized a rebellion, and then ruled Cuba. He sought for the help of Soviet Union. President Kennedy then worried that Cuba would go for communism, he reinforced an invasion of Cuba. It is called Bay of Pigs Invasion; however, it was a failure when Castro's forces seized the invaders.

Bay



Guantánamo Bay



# Berlin Wall - August 13, 1961

# BERLIN 1961-1989

The city of Berlin was splitted into half, democratic West, and communist East. Because of the low-income of the East German people, plus despondent with communism, they fled to West Berlin. To prevent people from fleeing, East Germany constructed a wall to shut off West Berlin. After the completion, the wall was an enormous concrete wall with wires and guarded. Later on, a law passed the East Berlin people that they could cross the wall, only with a valid visa card. They became eager in the next fews days, and eventually came the fall of the Berlin wall.



# Cuban Missile Crisis October 14 - 18, 1962

U.S.A.

By 1962 in the summer, the U.S. found out that Soviets has been putting together nuclear missiles in Cuba, near the coast of Florida. President Kennedy then requested the Soviet to remove their missiles. October 1962, the U.S. forced a naval blockade around Cuba. In one week, the world was on a brink of nuclear warfare due to confrontation intensify. On October 28, Khrushchev finally concurred to remove the missiles out of Cuba.

CUBA



# Cultural Revolution - 1966 - 1976

A movement that Mao launched to impose communism in the country by getting rid of capitalist, and tradition Chinese elements. He claimed that wealthy people were invading the government and society. China's young people later formed a group called Red Guards, and they would hold a small red book. They attacks people whoever were considered the wealthy. The victims were being put in shame publicly or getting beat up, and even killed. Adept workers and managers were coerced to leave jobs and do labor on farms or work camps. Shops, factories, and school were closed. The economy slowed down, and could ignite a civil war. However, the leader had the military reinstate order.



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