

SS7H3e

Containment of Communism

Korea & Vietnam

Brain
Wrinkles



Standards

SS7H3 The student will analyze continuity and change in Southern and Eastern Asia leading to the 21st century.

e. Explain the reasons for foreign involvement in Korea and Vietnam in terms of containment of Communism.

This is the notes page you will use as you read. 😊

Name: _____

Directions: Use the PDF on the containment of communism in Korea and Vietnam to complete the organizers.

Part 1: Summarize the background information slides. One sentence per slide. (3 sentences).

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Part 2: Read about how Korea was impacted by the spread of communism and record it below in the organizer.

Who? (Who are the groups involved?)	
What? (What is happening?)	
When? (What was the time period it all happened?)	
Where? (Where was this happening?)	
Why? (Why was this happening?)	

End of WWII (background info)

- The United States, Soviet Union, and Great Britain made an agreement on how they would put the world back together after World War II.
- Each country was supposed to temporarily occupy the lands that were impacted by the war.
- They would work to restore order and free elections would be held so that they people could decide on their future government.

Soviet Union (background info)

- Once peace was declared, the Soviet Union found itself reluctant to leave its occupied countries.
- The Soviet Union worked hard to be sure that the new governments were communist.
- It eventually began to take over Eastern European and Asian countries by force in order to spread this form of government.



THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM, 1945–1949

Communist countries



GEOGRAPHY
SKILLS

INTERPRETING MAPS

Notice the pattern of Communist nations in Europe.

Place Look at the chart at right. Why do you think the Communist takeover of China worried the United States?

See **Skills Handbook**, p. H20



United States (background info)

- The United States was furious and saw this as breaking the promises made after WWII.
- The US offered aid to the countries threatened by the Soviets so that they could protect their individual rights.
- The US and the Soviet Union found themselves engaged in a Cold War, where they competed to become the dominating world power.

Post-WWII Korea (part 2)

- One place where this struggle was seen was on the Korean peninsula.
- After World War II, Japanese-occupied Korea was temporarily divided into northern and southern parts.
- The Soviet Union controlled Korea north of the 38th parallel and established a communist government.
- The United States would be in charge of Korea south of the 38th parallel and promoted a democratic system.

Korean War

- In 1950, Kim Il Sung, the leader of North Korea, sent his powerful army to invade South Korea.
- The US had to take a stand against Communist aggression and was willing to go to war to keep communism from spreading to this area.
- US President Truman ordered American naval and air forces to support Korean ground troops, and asked the United Nations to approve the use of force to stop the North Korean invasion.



Kim Il-Sung



- 1. Location** Why was the 38th parallel chosen as a dividing line?
- 2. Place** What nation shares a border with North Korea, besides South Korea? Why is this significant?



Syngman Rhee

Korean War

- The United Nations responded quickly, imposing military sanctions. The U.S. and 19 other nations committed troops to the area.
- The UN force, commanded by American General Douglas MacArthur, forced Korean soldiers out of South Korea and farther north to the Chinese border.
- Despite initial heavy losses, the combined UN forces finally began to win.



Korean War

- Going beyond the 38th parallel into North Korea brought communist China's well-trained and well-equipped army into the war.
- The Communist Chinese attacked, forcing the UN soldiers to retreat.
- When the fighting finally ended in 1953, no one was truly victorious (stalemate).
- The 38th parallel dividing line remained intact between the two countries.



Korea Today

- The Korean peninsula was badly damaged, and many lives were lost.
- South Korea remained “free”, so containment of communism had worked.
- Today, South Korea has free elections and a democratic constitution.
- North Korea remains a communist country under the autocratic rule of Premier Kim Jong-Un.

Vietnam (part 3)

- Vietnam was also caught in the fight to contain communism.
- The country was divided into two parts in 1954.
- Ho Chi Minh's communists led North Vietnam, while the United States provided military support to keep South Vietnam from falling to the Communists.
- The United States did not want any new communist countries formed in Southeast Asia.

Ho Chi Minh
Leader of North Vietnam



Vietnam War

- In 1965, the US became involved in the Vietnam War when it began bombing North Vietnam.
- Billions of dollars were spent and thousands of lives were lost fighting in Vietnam to prevent the country from becoming communist.
- Many Americans protested US involvement, and in 1973, US troops were withdrawn.
- The Vietnam War ended in a cease-fire.





A US B-66 Destroyer and four F-105 Thunderchiefs dropping bombs on North Vietnam.

Student Protestors in Wisconsin - 1965



Vietnam Today

- In 1975, North Vietnam took over South Vietnam for good and the country was reunited as one.
- The People's Republic of Vietnam was declared a communist country.

Democracy

- In order to protect democracy and citizens' individual freedoms and rights, the US intervened in both Korea and Vietnam to fight against communism.
- Today, South Korea has a democratic republic similar to that of the US, while Vietnam is a communist nation.
- Although there are still a few communist countries left in the world today, the US successfully contained the spread of communism.

Containment of Communism

Compare and

Contrast

Korea

Vietnam

