

The Korean War (1950 – 1953)



“The Forgotten War”



Korea Split - 38th Parallel



The Battle for Korea



Kim Il Sung
Korean People's
Democratic Republic
(North Korea)



Syngman Rhee
Republic of Korea
(South Korea)

Main Cause of Korean War



Imperialism

Stage 1: North Korean Attack

June 25, 1950

- North Korea “struck like a cobra”

June 27, 1950

- Truman committed US troops
(Truman’s toughest decision)
(81% of Americans agreed)
- UN, led by MacArthur, committed
to help South Korea

July 5, 1950

- US troops fought and lost



MacArthur Had A Plan



Stage 2: UN Counterattack



Operation Chromite (September 15, 1950)

- Landed at Incheon
(320 warships and over 70,000 men)
- Pushed out of Pusan
- Stood at the 38th Parallel

Stage 2: UN Counterattack



- Recaptured 38th Parallel
- UN troops to the Yalu River
- UN Troops: Home by Xmas

Truman and MacArthur Meeting October 15, 1950

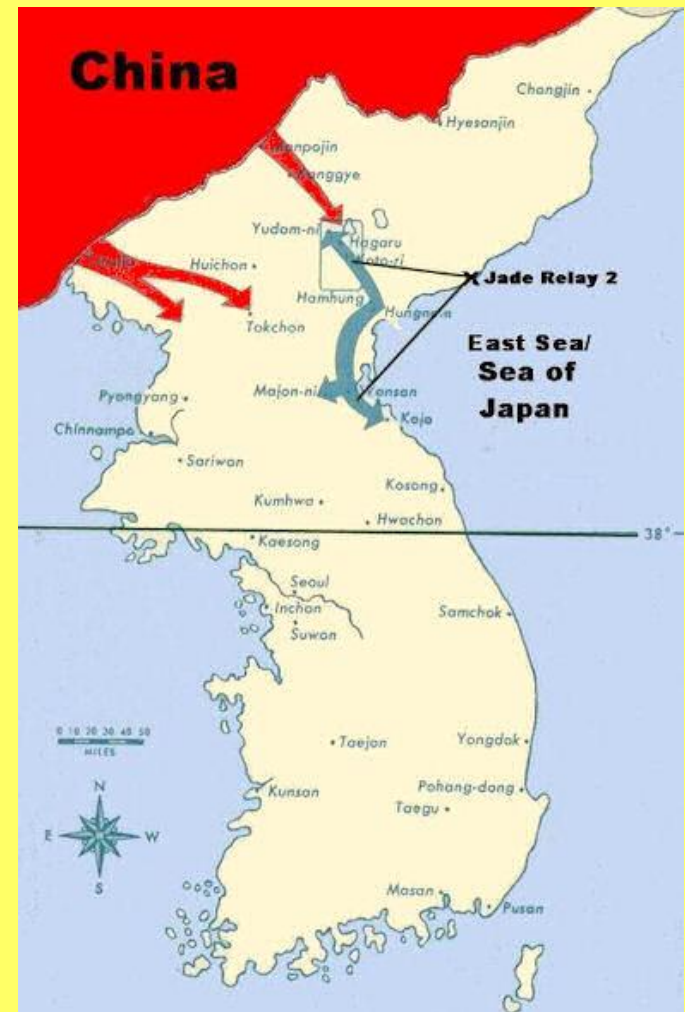


“...and if they tried to get down to Pyongyang there would be the greatest slaughter.” -MacArthur

Stage 3: Chinese Offensive

Battle of Chosin Reservoir
(Nov. 27 – Dec. 13, 1950)

120,000 Chinese
vs.
20,000 American



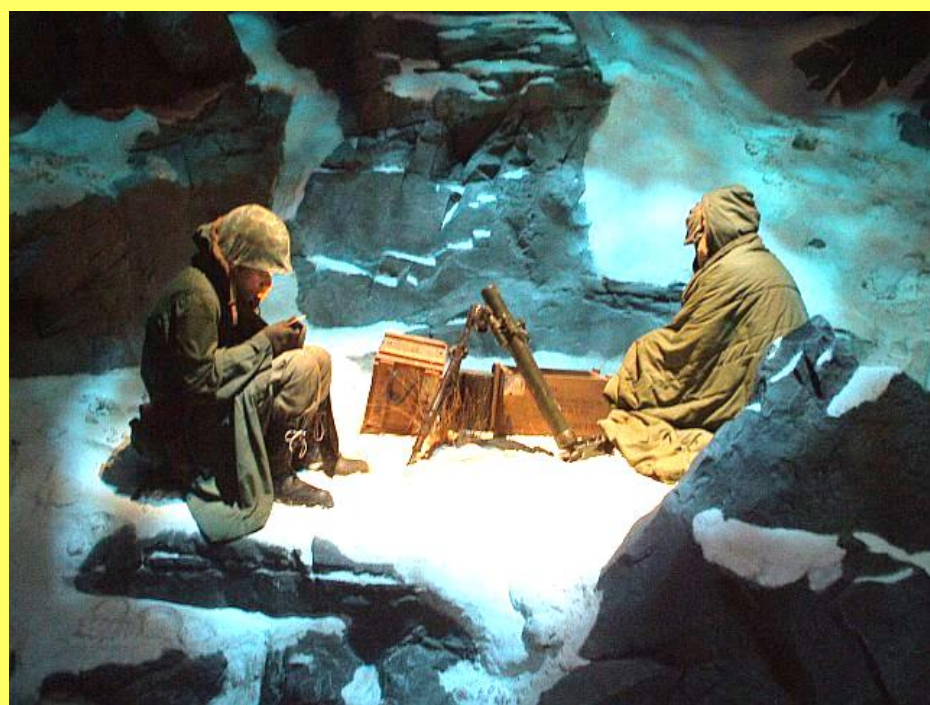
Battle of the Chosin Reservoir



“The Chosin Few”



Chosin Reservoir Exhibit



National Marine Corps Museum
Quantico, Virginia

Stage 3: Chinese Offensive

- Recaptured North Korea
- Ready to take South Korea
- MacArthur wanted to use nuclear weapons



Truman Fired MacArthur

April 11, 1951



General Matthew Ridgway



Stage 4: Stalemate “Sitzkrieg”



July 1951

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July 27, 1953

Famous Korean War Battles

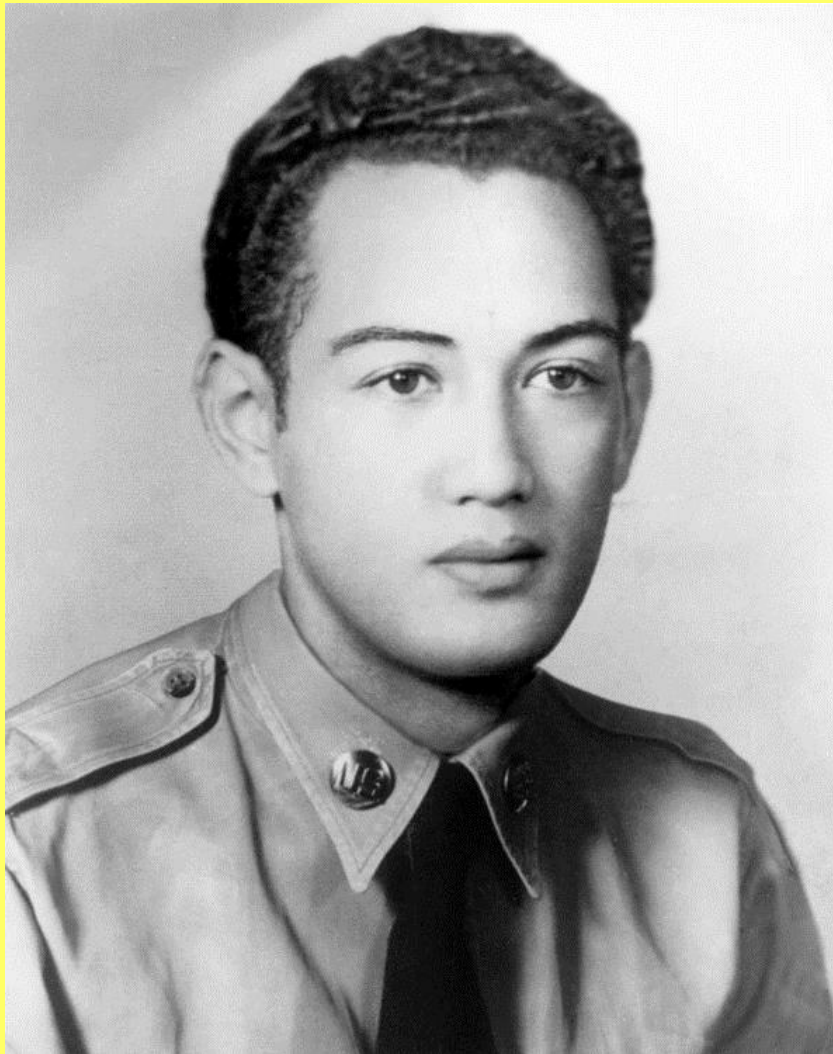


Pork Chop Hill
March 23 –
July 11, 1953

Heartbreak Ridge
September 13 –
October 15, 1951



Private Herbert K. Pililaau



Heartbreak Ridge

- Volunteered to cover retreat
- Wielded Browning automatic rifle until he ran out of ammo
- Threw grenades until gone
- Pulled out a trench knife
- Fought off NK troops until he was shot and bayoneted as his comrades watched from above
- Next day, his company retook the position
- Found Pililaau's body
- Surrounded by over 40 North Korea troops
- Awarded the Medal of Honor

Results of the Korean War

