

Containment of Communism: Korean War

Korean War



Key Vocabulary

- Domino Theory: if one nation fell to communism, then others in the area would follow just like dominoes falling over.
- Communism: a political system in which all economic & social activities are controlled by the government dominated by a single political party

Key Vocabulary

- Armistice: an agreement to stop fighting
- Demilitarized Zone (DMZ): an area where it is forbidden to station a military force that is located between the borders of North & South Korea along the 38th parallel






Causes of Korean War

- Following World War II, Japanese control over Korea was replaced by Soviet and American presence that split the country into two roughly equal parts at the 38th parallel.

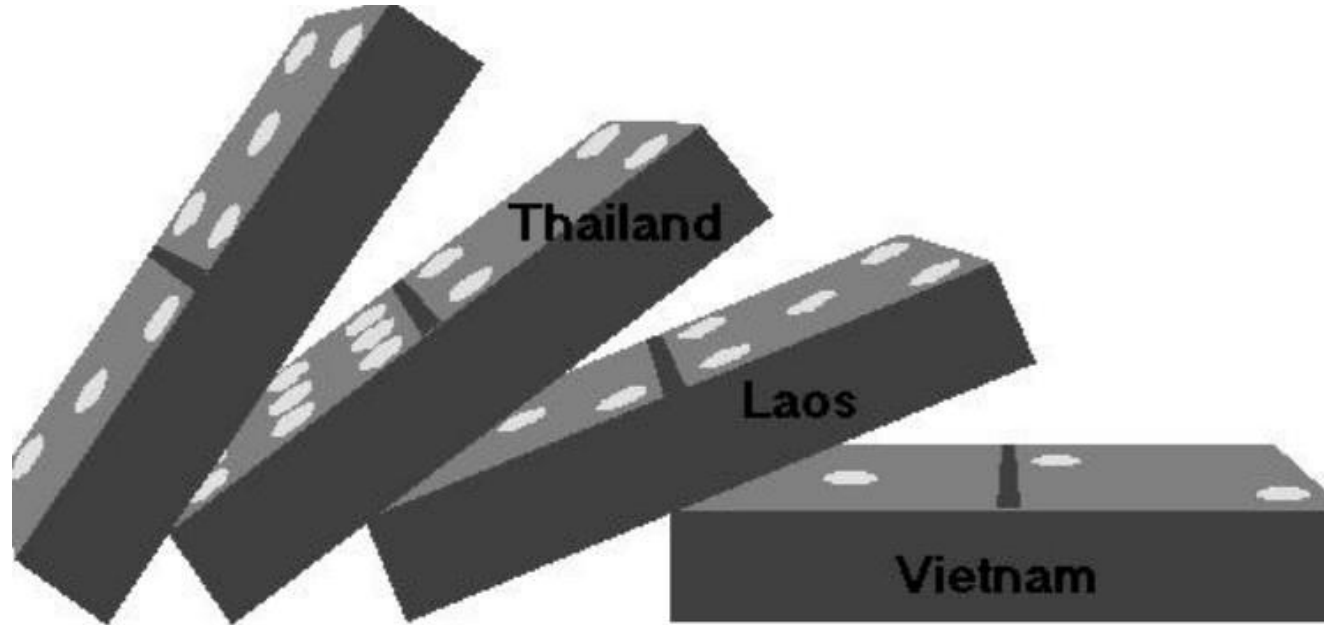
Causes of Korean War

- North Korea was controlled by the Soviet Union and became communist.
- South Korea was guided by the U.S. and became democratic.



- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
|  | Area occupied by Communist forces |  | Movement of Communist forces |
|  | Area occupied by UN forces |  | Movement of UN forces |
|  | Capital |  | Other City |

Causes of Korean War

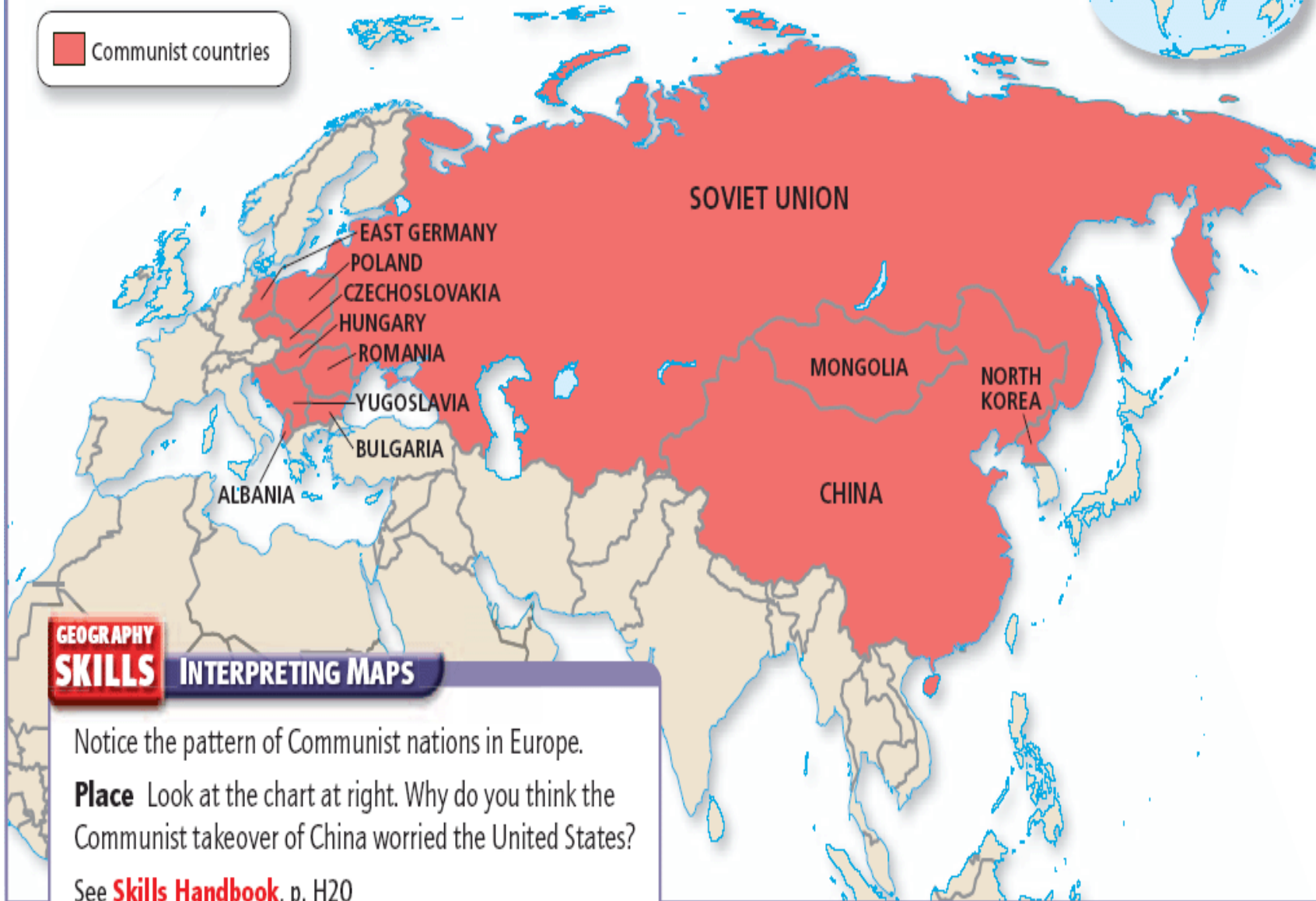


- Americans feared the domino theory at this time.

THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM, 1945–1949



 Communist countries



GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

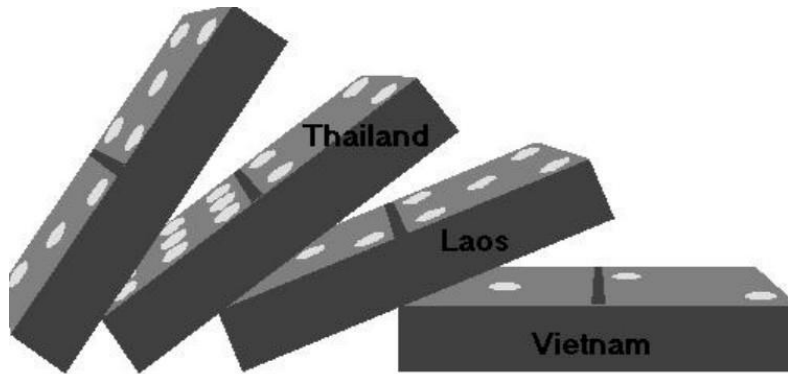
INTERPRETING MAPS

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

Causes of Korean War



- **Domino theory**: if one nation fell to communism, then others in the area would follow just like dominoes falling over.
- The U.S. feared that if all of Korea became a Communist nation, then other nations in Asia would become Communist as well.

Korean War = See-Saw War

- The Korean War is referred to as a “see-saw war” because both sides gained and lost large amounts of territory.



The Korean War



- North Korean attack forces and
- Line of farthest advance, Sept. 1950
- U.N. offensive and
- Line of farthest advance, Nov. 1950

- Chinese and North Korean offensive and
- Line of advance as of Jan. 1951
- Final U.S. offensive
- Armistice line



Results of the War

- The war lasted three years and ended in a stalemate, with neither side gaining much in terms of territory.
- In 1953, an armistice was declared.
- **Armistice**: an agreement to stop fighting. (Longest cease fire in history)
- No peace treaty ending the war has ever been signed.

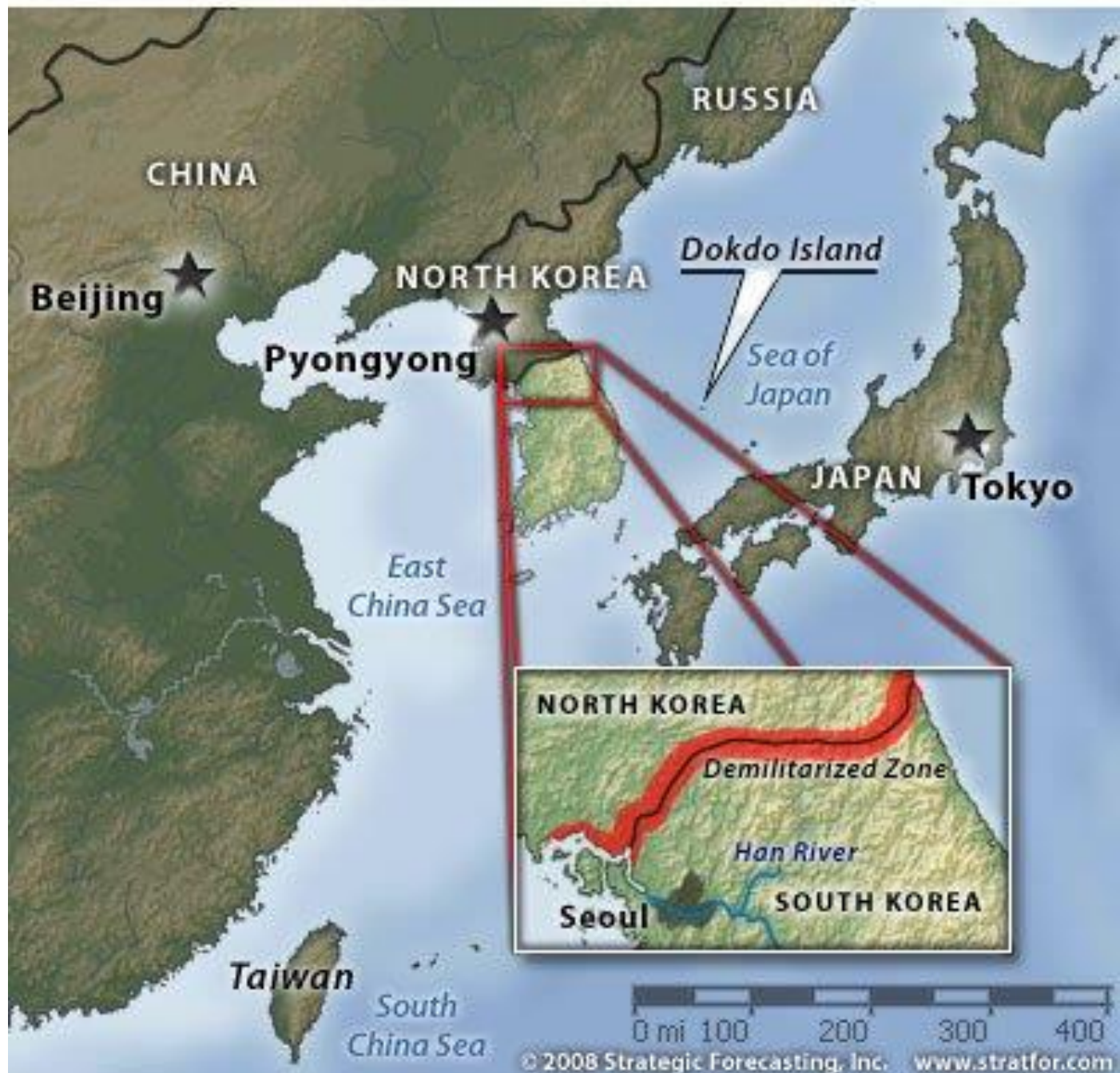
Photo # SC 426684 Meeting of Korean Military Armistice Commission, 28 July 1953



Results of the War

- The 38th parallel remains the approximate border between North and South Korea with a demilitarized zone (DMZ) in between the two countries.
- Today, roughly 38,000 U.S. soldiers provide a defense force guarding against invasion from the North Koreans.

SOUTH KOREA





Review Questions

Why did the U.S. enter the Korean War?

To keep communism from spreading into other parts of Asia

Review Questions

Why was the Korean War referred to as a “see-saw war”?

both sides gained and lost large amounts of territory

Review Questions

What did the U.S. & South Korea sign with North Korea & China to end the war?

Armistice (cease fire)

Is the Korean War over ???