

KOREAN WAR 1950-53

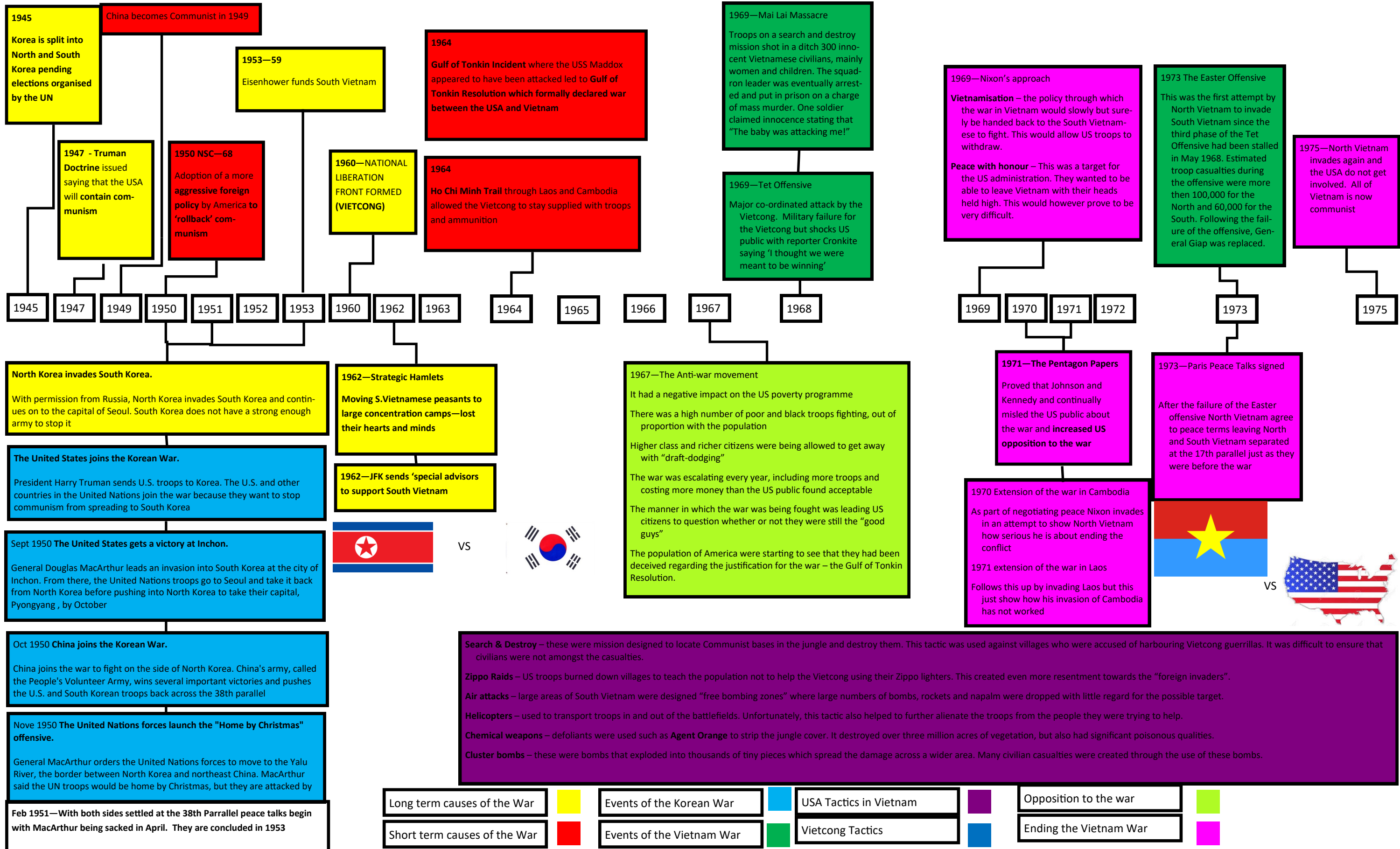
VIETNAM WAR 1963-75

Booby traps - the Vietcong sets traps for the US troops including man traps which used bamboo spikes to inflict painful wounds. The troops would then be left to suffer. One particular trap was designed so that you could not escape without further impaling yourself on the bamboo spikes.

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Their tactic was **"hanging onto the belts"** of the Americans - staying so close to the Americans so they could not use air or artillery backup without killing their own men.



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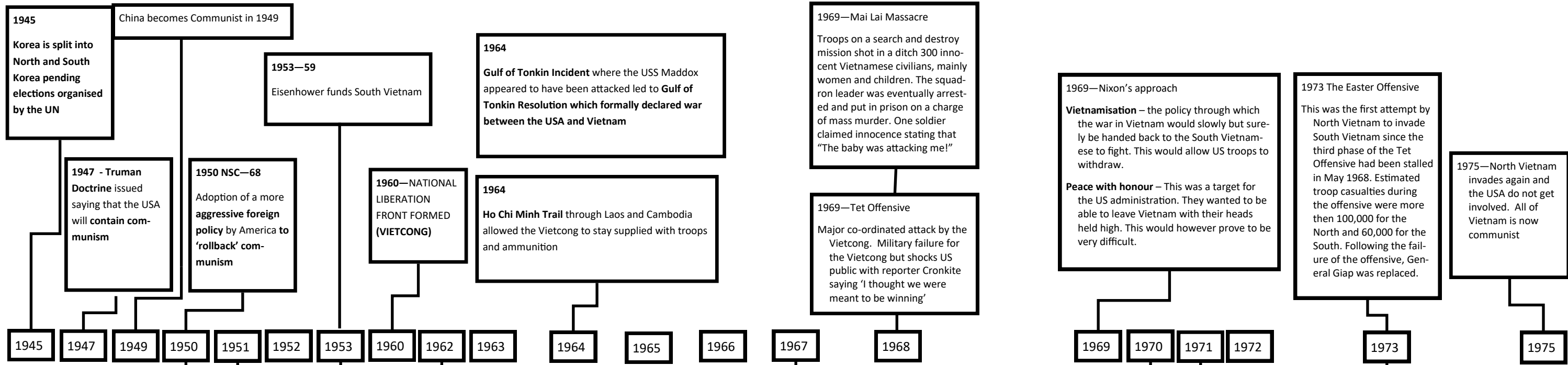
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North Korea invades South Korea.
With permission from Russia, North Korea invades South Korea and continues on to the capital of Seoul. South Korea does not have a strong enough army to stop it

The United States joins the Korean War.
President Harry Truman sends U.S. troops to Korea. The U.S. and other countries in the United Nations join the war because they want to stop communism from spreading to South Korea

Sept 1950 The United States gets a victory at Inchon.
General Douglas MacArthur leads an invasion into South Korea at the city of Inchon. From there, the United Nations troops go to Seoul and take it back from North Korea before pushing into North Korea to take their capital, Pyongyang, by October

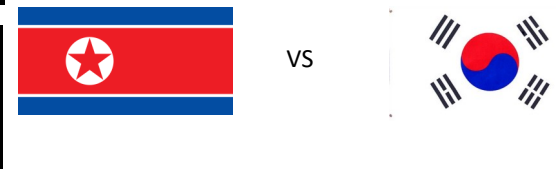
Oct 1950 China joins the Korean War.
China joins the war to fight on the side of North Korea. China's army, called the People's Volunteer Army, wins several important victories and pushes the U.S. and South Korean troops back across the 38th parallel

Nov 1950 The United Nations forces launch the "Home by Christmas" offensive.
General MacArthur orders the United Nations forces to move to the Yalu River, the border between North Korea and northeast China. MacArthur said the UN troops would be home by Christmas, but they are attacked by

Feb 1951 - With both sides settled at the 38th Parallel peace talks begin with MacArthur being sacked in April. They are concluded in 1953

1962 - Strategic Hamlets
Moving S. Vietnamese peasants to large concentration camps - lost their hearts and minds

1962 - JFK sends 'special advisors to support South Vietnam'



1967 - The Anti-war movement
It had a negative impact on the US poverty programme
There was a high number of poor and black troops fighting, out of proportion with the population
Higher class and richer citizens were being allowed to get away with "draft-dodging"
The war was escalating every year, including more troops and costing more money than the US public found acceptable
The manner in which the war was being fought was leading US citizens to question whether or not they were still the "good guys"
The population of America were starting to see that they had been deceived regarding the justification for the war - the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution.

Search & Destroy - these were mission designed to locate Communist bases in the jungle and destroy them. This tactic was used against villages who were accused of harbouring Vietcong guerrillas. It was difficult to ensure that civilians were not amongst the casualties.

Zippo Raids - US troops burned down villages to teach the population not to help the Vietcong using their Zippo lighters. This created even more resentment towards the "foreign invaders".

Air attacks - large areas of South Vietnam were designed "free bombing zones" where large numbers of bombs, rockets and napalm were dropped with little regard for the possible target.

Helicopters - used to transport troops in and out of the battlefields. Unfortunately, this tactic also helped to further alienate the troops from the people they were trying to help.

Chemical weapons - defoliants were used such as **Agent Orange** to strip the jungle cover. It destroyed over three million acres of vegetation, but also had significant poisonous qualities.

Cluster bombs - these were bombs that exploded into thousands of tiny pieces which spread the damage across a wider area. Many civilian casualties were created through the use of these bombs.

1971 - The Pentagon Papers
Proved that Johnson and Kennedy and continually misled the US public about the war and **increased US opposition to the war**

1970 Extension of the war in Cambodia
As part of negotiating peace Nixon invades in an attempt to show North Vietnam how serious he is about ending the conflict
1971 extension of the war in Laos
Follows this up by invading Laos but this just show how his invasion of Cambodia has not worked

1973 - Paris Peace Talks signed
After the failure of the Easter offensive North Vietnam agree to peace terms leaving North and South Vietnam separated at the 17th parallel just as they were before the war



Long term causes of the War	Events of the Korean War	USA Tactics in Vietnam	Opposition to the war
Short term causes of the War	Events of the Vietnam War	Vietcong Tactics	Ending the Vietnam War