The world affairs and international security in the post-Cold War period by analyzing the Korean War and the Korean Peninsula.

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Research Paper

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Summary

In this research, I will attempt to show clearly the world affairs, international security in the post-Cold War period by analyzing the Korean War. It is said that the Korean War had most influence on all over the world. It's no exaggeration to say that the Korean War determined affairs between nations such as the strain of diplomatic relations and power relationships in the modern world.

There are various affairs in the modern world which caused by the Korean War such as isolation of North Korea, getting more authority to speak out of China, strengthening relationships in military matters between U.S., South Korea and Japan. The Korean War built the foundation of international system and structure and it has still reflected strongly in current international affairs. Especially, one of the worst influences which the Korean War brought to the world is The North Korean nuclear issues. The issues have given strained relations to not only Asian nations but also all over the world. The Korean War determined the prolongation of South Korea and strengthening their dictatorship and militarism. And it helped to gain power of China globally as being increasingly more conscious that a collapse of North Korea brings military intervention of China. In addition, the tense situation in the Korean Peninsula that involved in suspension of arms has also caused instability in the world which increasing globalization.

In the post-Cold War period, the aspect of security was changed and reconsidered.
It means various styles have appeared such as comprehensive security and cooperative security which doesn’t limit military perspective and more cooperative than traditional security. To understand such a current situation, it is meaningful to analysis the influence of the Korean War.

To develop an understanding, I will show the outline of the Korean War in the first chapter and analysis the influence from four perspectives which are U.S., Japan, Russia (former Soviet Union) and China in the second chapter. Existing research will be used to examine. The purpose of this research is to show clearly the fundamental structure and bottom cause of current international affairs.

In this research, it became clear that the Korean War direct the great power’s future and decided the position of each country. The international order and relations which was related to the Korean War have still maintain as the base of international society and the influence remains strongly now. Specifically these include that U.S. became the greatest powers of the world and initiative in every field such as economy, politics, diplomacy and military. Not only U.S., China also increased their power and influence globally and Japan strengthened cooperation with U.S and it helped the restoration, economic growth and returning to international society. Moreover, it can be seen as the influences such as global democratization, the decline of communism and strengthening of international alliances. Thus, current situation all over the world connects with the Korean War and this research helped my comprehensive understanding for current international affairs.
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Bibliography
Introduction

By globalization, it has tendency that the regional conflict develop into an international issue. And the point at the issue has become diversity and stratified. It means that such conflicts can give big influence to each country and we have to properly cope with and consider suitable cooperation. After Cold War, each country has tried to build stable relations with international cooperation. They have formed international system and resume and these include various fields such as national security, economic policy and a trade. This resulted in advancement of closeness in each country and sharing each culture and value which crosses the border.

On the other hand, there are quite a lot of areas that still remains frame of the Cold War and it has developed diplomatic issue all over the world. One of the unstable areas is the Korean Peninsula which continues to divide its land into two parts: North Korea and South Korea by the Korean War. Though the two countries had found the way to an amicable settlement and symbiotic relationship, they have failed it as they had a different vision and pursuit of advantage each other. Such an insecure situation resulted in serious problem not only in Asian countries but all over the world. In this research, I will analysis the world affairs, international security in the post-Cold War period by perspective of the Korean War. It is the significance of this research that to learn the structural conflict in the Korean War can help to understand current international affairs comprehensively.
Chapter 1: Outline of the Korean War.

The Korean War was caused by World War II. After World War II, the conflict between the socialist camp leading by Soviet Union and the capitalist economy camp leading by U.S. became more intense. To aiming to expand their each power, they started to control the Korean Peninsula and placed a territory under military administration. They divided the peninsula by the 38th parallel and Soviet Union started to govern in North of the line and U.S. did in South of the line. It was easy for them to control the Korean Peninsula as the situation was still confused and disorderly just after being relieved from the occupation by Japan. They built North Korea in north of the line and South Korea in south of the line. It caused the Korean War that each country tried to contend to get territorial sovereignty of the Korean Peninsula moreover the political system of each nation was different. Thus, the Korean War started when the North Korea launched a surprise attack in June 1950. The war developed international war as both the socialist and capitalist economy camp participated. And after three years, they concluded an armistice and have continued a cease-fire still now. The following are a table of outline of the Korean Peninsula and the Korean War.
### The outline of the Korean Peninsula and the Korean War.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Republic of Korea</th>
<th>Democratic People’s Republic of Korea</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land area</td>
<td>9.92 million square km</td>
<td>12.13 million square km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>3.3 billion people (in 1955)</td>
<td>1.65 billion people (in 1955)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political system</td>
<td>Republicanism</td>
<td>Socialism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital city</td>
<td>Seoul</td>
<td>Pyongyang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of state in 1950</td>
<td>Syngman Rhee (李承晩)</td>
<td>kim il sung (金日成)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Foundation Day</td>
<td>August 15, 1948</td>
<td>September 8, 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forces</td>
<td>1. The capitalist economy and liberalism camp leading by U.S.</td>
<td>The socialist and communist camp leading by Soviet Union.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. The United Nations Peacekeeping Forces(^1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


\(^1\) The United Nations Peacekeeping Forces is organized by resolution and approval of the UN Security Council and has a role held by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. It was organized by sixteen nations in the Korean War.
Chapter 2: The influence of the Korean War

The Korean War strengthened the Cold War structure and greatly influenced international relations and politics globally. Kim (2006) argues five points about international effects by the Korean War. The five points are, to establish U.S. as military superpower, strength of Western European Union, the breakup of the Communist and socialist nations such as North Korean’s breakaway from Russia and a confrontation with China and Soviet Union, worsening relations with U.S and Soviet Union and establishment the Cold War structure and starting to develop nuclear weapons globally. Such situations have still continued now and it is obvious that the Korean War had greatly effort to the later eras all over the world. In this chapter, I will clearly show the influence and change major countries, U.S, Soviet Union, China and Japan.

Section 1: U.S.

It is the most important that the Korean War built U.S. as the position of the greatest power in politics, economics and military. Specifically U.S. got the great power and influence by strengthening military muscle and close cooperation with other countries. In U.S., one of the domestic impacts is a rise of anticommunist mood. The tendency became more remarkable than it in World War II and influenced domestic politics in U.S. The typical case was that Mr. Eisenhower\(^2\) was inaugurated as the President in 1952. He won support with the anticommunist and carried an election. He strengthened the anticommunist policy. According to Kim, Kamata (1991), one of the anticommunist policy was dismissal of the official who were suspected of involvement with classified

\(^2\)
information. By this measure, about 6,000 official quit their job and 1,500 were released. In addition, he made the republican control law and strengthened surveillance functions of authority and sanction by giving the attorney general the authority to control a labor union.

Moreover, such the anticommmunist policy heavily influenced the military aspect. They expanded standing army for deterring from communist countries’ aggression. At the same time, the extension of a defense budget also increased greatly. According to David Rees (1984), it increased from 120 billion dollars in 1950 to 500 billion dollars in 1953. In addition, the number of nuclear arms also increased and it reached over 1,000 when the War finished from under 400 in 1950.

On the other hand, building and strengthening the security system in a Pacific area had also significant for the anticommmunist policy. They expanded a standing army of NATO for further strengthening the solidarity with the Western nations and NATO. Thus, they tried to become the greatest power with strengthening a foreign policy and enhancing the power all over the world.

They also concluded a treaty named the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty with Japan in 1951 and to be stationed of U.S. army at Japan was legalized. It helped U.S. to strengthen cooperation with 48 allied nations in the Pacific area expecting for Soviet Union. Not only with Japan, they also concluded a treaty with other allied nations one after another such as The Australia, New Zealand, United States Security Treaty (ANZUS treaty), a mutual defense pact with Philippine, The Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO). Kim (2006) analyzed that such U.S.’s strengthening the solidarity with the allied nations can be seen as countermeasures for The Sino-Soviet

Section 2: Japan

After World War II, Japan was under U.S. occupation and taking the offensive to the Korean War positively with cooperating with U.S. Kang (2013) argues that the influence of the Korean War to Japan ware seen by three points. It contained strengthening cooperation with U.S., the economic revival by war-time special procurements and the reengagement with the international community. In addition, the strengthening cooperation with U.S. connected with establishment of the modern system of foreign relations between Japan and U.S. Especially the Korean War resulted in changing U.S.’s foreign policy to Japan. After breaking out the Korean War, U.S. started to move rapidly to conclude peace with Japan. Wada (1995) analyzes that U.S. had some ulterior motive with the conclusion of peace. The motive was to secure U.S. military base and to guarantee their presence. Moreover, they had another purpose to rearmament of Japan and gain over against China and Soviet. Under the command of Douglas MacArthur, officially General of the U.S. Army, Japan cooperated positively with building National Police Reserve\textsuperscript{7}. It concluded Japanese modern foreign policy which has still continued. That means the attitude that put the basis on the Japan-U.S Security Treaty about national security and arms within the limits of The Constitution of Japan. In 1951, U.S.
concluded the San Francisco Peace Treaty with 49 nations excepting for Soviet. At the same time, the Japan-Us Security Treaty was also concluded and finally Japan's recovery of its independency was achieved. Thus, a cooperative framework with U.S. and Japan was established.

On the other hands, U.S. also started to strengthen Japanese economic power. In 1951, U.S. decided to make Japan produce military supplies priority in National Security Council\(^8\). In addition, the Japanese economy was unprecedentedly prosperous due to special procurement demand for the Korean War. By this demand such as the export of weapons and related products, the whole scale of special procurement demand reached 3.6 billion dollars\(^9\). This demand led to Japan's rapid economic growth after end of the Korean War. Thus, it can be said that the Korean War created the foundation of Japanese economy and diplomacy with connecting to U.S.

Section 3: Russia (former Soviet Union)

On the other hands, the socialist camps were also influenced by the Korean War greatly. Especially it could be seen in Soviet Union that rising in anti- American feeling and being weakened foreign relations. At first, Soviet Union gave its full cooperation in establishing the North Korea under military administration. However, their support to the North Korea became passive attitude after starting the Korean War as they wanted to avoid a military confrontation with U.S. Their own reconstruction from the World War II were more important for Soviet Union at that time. In place of Soviet Union, China started to support the North Korea completely.

Although Soviet Union and China had deepened its relationship through The Sino-

\(^8\) An organization to deal with a national defense policy in U.S.
\(^9\) Igarashi (1986:p164)
Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance, China became to distrust Soviet Union’s attitude and started to take independent action for the North Korea. Moreover, the North Korea also became to place great significance on China more than Soviet Union and it concluded isolation of Soviet Union and split of Western nations. According to Chen (1992), the movements for greater freedom and democracy invigorated in Eastern European countries such as East Germany, Poland and Hungary after death of Joseph Stalin\(^{10}\) and it brought the movements of anti- Soviet Union and that ended being weakened foreign relations of Soviet Union seriously. Under such difficult conditions, Soviet Union deal by strengthening the military muscle and development of nuclear weapons. In addition, they tried to show their maintaining peace with Western Nations by Treaty of Warsaw. Such their attitude still has continued now and it can be said that the Korean War decided their diplomatic relations and position decisively.

Section 4: China

It can be said clearly that the Korean War gave chance to China the position of the Great Powers of the world. As China gave great support to the North Korea and rebuffed the attack by the United Nations Peace Keeping Force lead by U.S. and hold out against their powerful military power, they succeed to strengthen their presence in the world. It was proved in Geneva Conference\(^{11}\) in 1954. It means that China was admitted as the Great Powers along with U.S., France, Russia and the United Kingdom. On the other hands, it was can be seen as the domestic impact in China that ware Chinese Communist Party’s expansion and conflict with the Middle Republic (Taiwan).

\(^{10}\)

\(^{11}\)
In domestic politics, the Chinese Communist party suddenly grew in power. It resulted from weakening of their opponents because of lengthening of the Korean War and also sweeping intervention. Thus it became easy for the Chinese Party to dispose of their opponents, National People's Party of China\textsuperscript{12} lead by Chiang Kai-shek\textsuperscript{13} and this led to a conflict between the two parties. Moreover, from the perspective of National People's Party of China, there was positive influence that they could get support from U.S. as an anticommunist policy and make steady their power. Theses Chinese features such as a one-party system of Chinese Communist Party and confliction with Taiwan were built with the Korean War and it still remains as main structure of China.

Chapter 3: The importance of security in the Korean Peninsula: The affairs make or break decision the power balance all over the world.  

Section 1: The change of the power balance controlled by the Korean Peninsula’s affairs.

Today, it has become a subject for discussion that the security concerns of East Asia such as the North Korean nuclear issue has given a baneful influence and threatened an international system seriously. After the Cold War, U.S. gained power as the sole superpower as collapsing the Soviet Union and it seemed to become stable comparatively. However, the security affairs in East Asia have been unsteady with the bipolar confrontation. It can be said that the change of the global power balance depends on the Korean Peninsula’s affairs. Especially, after the North Korean nuclear issues, the relation between U.S. and China has become to get attention.

After the Cord War, the Korean Peninsula became the important area for U.S. as security system in the Asian-Pacific region. Tovy (2011) analyzed that the Korean
Peninsula was not important strategically for U.S. before 1945 as U.S. had governed Japan. However it changed after the socialist camp such as Soviet Union and China moving in. U.S. became to need to handle them as concluding Mutual Defense Treaty with the South Korea and being stationed in. Thus, the South Korea is crucially important for U.S. as military footholds facing anti-U.S. nations such as Russia, China and the North Korea. Moreover, the great worry for U.S. is presence of China. China has large influence to the North Korea and has become U.S.’s threat with their economic growth and military buildup.

Japan is also same as U.S. Due to the right of belligerency of the state is not recognized by constitution in Japan, military defense depends on U.S. In addition, the South Korea is also important for Japan as a buffer-state. In such a situation, Japanese national security cannot help changing by the power balance between U.S. and China. There is a possibility that the buildup of armaments and remilitarization can be justified as the need of autonomous security in Japan. However China has shown concern about it as a menacing attitude and Japan is in a difficult position.

On the other hands, the Korean Peninsula especially the North Korea has important meaning for China. Choi (2013) argues that if the North Korea is absorbed by the South Korea, it means China lost their struggle for power with U.S. and they want to avoid that kind of situation. Moreover, China becomes possible to gain an advantage against U.S. and Japan by holding the great influence for the North Korea. It is the reason why China continues the support to the North Korea.

Section 2: The North Korean nuclear issue: The path to stable security in the world.
For the past few decades, the North Korean nuclear issue has influenced in deterioration of the world’s security. Though each nation have tried to solve the issue by such as the six-nation talks, the sanctions to the North Korea is not unified and a decision of the United Nations also resulted in nothing of the regal force and authority. It can be said that this decision was nothing but the best way to satisfy some great powers.

The North Korea became isolated with the breakdown of the Soviet Union and global democratization after the Cold War. This situation made the North Korea built military nation. They base socialism and govern people by not ideology but military. Currently It can be seen that they tend to display the position of “the nuclear haves” more and strength and continuation of development nuclear weapons. Moreover, they tend to give priority to normalize relations with U.S. more than the denuclearization. It has no doubt that handling the North Korea as well lead to global stability and security.

Omoshige (2002) argues that the North Korea obviously cannot make a war as their economic power and the amount of petroleum resources. Thus, it will not be beneficial for each nation trigger a sense of crisis in the North Korea. In addition, it will be not easy to collapse because of their original Confucian socialism.

However, according to Victor (2003), there is also the possibility that they make a preemptive strike if they are pressed. He proposes “Hawk Engagement” which means the strategy to stick to affairs with hardline policy and a deterrent for preventing the preemptive strike.

In addition, we also have to handle their “pendulum diplomacy” which means if one relation between some countries deteriorated, they start to improve a relation the other
to control the former countries. For example, when the relationship between the North Korea and U.S. became worse as the former U.S. President George W. Bush described Iran, Iraq and North Korea “Axis of evil” with accusing of their helping terrorism and seeking weapons of mass destruction in 2002, the North Korea moved to improve the relationship between Japan instead of U.S. and it resulted in apology for their abductions and promise of restart normalization talks.

However, Omoshige (2002) states that such diplomacy is unable to function if the great powers ignore it. It is important that we should not expect for the effect of normalization of diplomatic relations excessively and have a wide view for not being tossed about in their strategy. Omoshige (2002) considers the history that the normalization of diplomatic relations does not always bring up the stability with using examples of Australia, Canada and Italy. Though it is not appropriate to make concessions to the North Korea easily, it is more important to disarm their menacing attitude. That is worth considering as an alternative not only “Hawk Engagement”, but also “benign containment” for their unpredictable diplomacy.

Chapter 4: Conclusion: The influence to the international society and the meaning of the Korean War.

This research clearly shows that the state of world affairs and international security in the post-Cold War era connect the Korean War deeply. The Korean War influenced in various fields such as the international system, international relations which has still remained. Thus, it can be said that the Korean War has deep meaning which can make decision of our global society in the future. In addition, the tense situation of the Korean
Peninsula has caused the causes of unstable not only between the South Korea and the North Korea, but all over the world. Moreover, the Korea War means as the roots of current international peace move such as movement against the use of nuclear weapons, nonalignment movement. This research was based the understanding of the modern international relations and it helped to development of the father study.

Bibliography


