

# TAC NEWS

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## CONFLICT BEGINS IN KOREA

Japan's surrender in 1945 left thousands of Japanese soldiers on the Korean peninsula to fend for themselves. These armed and leaderless men would have to be disarmed and repatriated to prevent anarchy and bloodshed in the former Japanese colony. Earlier, at the Potsdam conference, the US and Soviet governments agreed to jointly occupy Korea to effect the evacuation of these soldiers. In order to define each army's zone of occupation, an imaginary line was drawn across Korean maps at the 38th parallel. With this simple gesture, two separate Koreas came into being.

While the Americans struggled to relieve the worst aspects of Japanese occupation and establish order in the south, the Red Army moved with remarkable speed to establish a Stalinist state in the area it controlled. By 1946, all opposition to their "National Democratic Front" had been eliminated, and the "Iron Curtain" slammed down on the 38th parallel. When a UN supervised general election was attempted in 1947, the Soviets simply refused to allow UN representatives into areas under their occupation. Therefore, the election was held only in the South. Once seated, the newly elected "Korean National Assembly" set themselves to drawing up a constitution and electing Syngman Rhee as president of the "Republic of Korea" (ROK), which was officially founded on August 15, 1948.

In North Korea, the Communists announced the formation of the "Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea" on September 9, with Kim Il-sung as its leader while claiming they were the sole legitimate Korean government. The fact that nobody elected them was considered no more than a trivial detail. In December, the Soviet Union announced the completion of its military withdrawal from North Korea. The United States completed its withdrawal in mid-1949. No sooner had American troops left the south than Kim launched a campaign of subversion and terrorism against his new neighbor.

### **The ROK Army: 1950**

The new "Army of the Korean Republic" (Tae-han Min-guk Yuk-Kun) began as no more than a national constabulary, totaling only 15,000 men. The US, realizing that this force would be practically helpless against the Chinese-trained and Soviet-equipped "Korean Peoples' Army" (KPA), instituted a massive military aid program, backed up by over five hundred American military advisors. By the time the KPA crossed the

"38th Parallel," the South Korean army had grown to just under 100,000 men, organized into eight infantry divisions, an armored cavalry regiment, and the Korean Marine Corps (actually a four-battalion brigade).

Each Korean infantry division should have consisted of nine infantry battalions in three regiments and an artillery battalion of fifteen howitzers, as well as the necessary divisional service, supply, and communications assets. Each battalion was supposed to have three infantry companies and a support company, containing mortars and heavy machineguns. This organization was an ideal that existed *only* on paper. Actual numbers of men and weapons in South Korean divisions were a good deal less impressive.

Regiments often had only two battalions and divisions only two regiments. Fully half of all divisions were still at less than their authorized strength, even two weeks after the war started. There were, for instance, only three artillery battalions in the entire army. There were also *no* heavy support weapons, not even mines! There had been little or no training at all, never mind "combat" training. The officer corps had little to no experience as combat commanders. The average Korean recruit looked on military service as an inevitable, and unavoidable, hardship.

### **South to the Naktong**

On June 25th, 1950, the "Korean People's Army" (KPA) leaped across the 38th parallel and swept south toward Seoul, meeting little serious resistance. Seoul, South Korea's capital, was abandoned by the ROK high command so hurriedly that the troops defending it weren't notified. The Han River bridges were blown up in their faces and the retreat became a rout!

Meanwhile, a United Nations resolution to defend South Korea was passed, primarily due to the absence of the Soviet delegation. General Douglas MacArthur was placed in charge of the "United Nations Command" (UNC). American forces, specifically the 24th and 25th Infantry Divisions, were hastily dispatched from garrison duty in occupied Japan directly into the path of a roaring North Korean tidal wave. At Osan, a few miles southwest of Seoul, "Task Force Smith" attempted to stem that tidal wave. This force, made up of two companies from the 24th Division and some supporting units, was literally swept away by five thousand troops from the KPA 4th Division

supported by Soviet T-34/85 tanks. The KPA's pursuit of the tattered remnants of the now demoralized ROK forces and their American allies became a long, terrifying nightmare reaching its thunderous climax at the "Pusan Perimeter."

## Pusan

By the end of the first week in August, the remnants of the ROK army and their UN allies had been herded into a one hundred thirty-five-mile perimeter around the port of Pusan, on Korea's southeast coast. The retreat had been costly. ROK casualties were put at 70,000, the Americans at 6,000. The KPA, on the other hand, had suffered 58,000 casualties (about 25% of its prewar strength), but its morale was still high and its organization sound. It already occupied the vast majority of South Korean territory and was confident that the capture of Pusan would bring final victory. The fact that the "Pusan Perimeter" now contained 80,000 South Korean and 40,000 Allied troops left them undaunted. They knew that these troops were mostly either "green" Americans or demoralized South Koreans, and were confident that neither of these constituted a serious obstacle.



Source: U.S. Army, 1950; NARA file #111-SC-350451

The KPA assault on the "Perimeter" came from two directions. The 1st Army, consisting of six infantry divisions, and the newly created 105th "Armored" Division attacked from the west, while the 2nd Army, with six infantry divisions, attacked from the north. The North Koreans flung themselves at the Pusan defenses with reckless courage, but never quite broke through UN lines.

In the north, the fighting was along the mountainous East Coast, allowing UN naval forces to be brought to bear. KPA attacks around Pohang proved especially vulnerable. Here the coastal plain was narrow, and naval gunfire (including the 16" guns of the battleship USS Missouri) pounded the KPA's 2nd Army mercilessly. The 1st Provisional Marine Brigade landed at Pusan on August 3rd and joined the 25th Division in the southwest, which had been fighting around Masan and Chinhae since early July. These two units engaged the KPA 1st Army throughout August and eventually stopped them cold.

The most desperate fighting was in the northwest, where the ROK II Corps, the US 1st Cavalry Division, the 24th Infantry Division, and 5th RCT fought it out with five KPA divisions around Taegu. It was here that the climax came. Taegu was nearly lost, clearing the way for a KPA advance straight down to Pusan itself. However, the timely arrival of the US 2nd Infantry Division prevented this, and the front stabilized here as well. The KPA had failed to achieve the quick victory they had hoped for and were now completely exhausted.

A good portion of the credit for the victory at Pusan must also go to the UN air forces. The KPA's supply line from Pyongyang to Pusan was over two hundred-fifty miles long. The nature of Korean geography meant that it included many bottlenecks at bridges and tunnels. UN bombers took advantage of these bottlenecks, destroying virtually every bridge south of the 38th parallel. Deliveries of vital KPA supplies soon dwindled to almost nothing, making offensive action nearly impossible.

*Conclusion in the Sept-Oct 2018 Tac News*

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## SOUTH KOREA

**FOREIGN WEAPONS:** 40mm L/60 - UK, All other foreign weapons - US

### "ROK" INFANTRY DIVISION: 1950

**Generation: II, Air Superiority Rating: 00, Class: Militia/Conscripts, Base Determination Factor: 20%**

Command Center:	1x TL1 Infantry(C) GHQ/Truck, 0-1 x Jeep/50cal.[R]	Artillery Battalion:	3 x 105mm M2A1(2)/Truck <b>or</b> 3 x 75mm M116 "Pack" How.(3)/Truck
Infantry Company:	3 x TL1 Infantry(C), 1 x TL1 Inf. Support(B)	Infantry Regiment:	1 x Command Center, 2-3 x Infantry Bttn.
Infantry Support Co.:	2 x TL1 Infantry Support(B), 1 x 81mm M1 Mortar(3)	3 x Infantry Division:	3 x Infantry Regiment, 1 x AT Battery, 1 x Engineer Bttn., 1 x Artillery Bttn.
Marine Company:	3 x TL1 Infantry(C), 2 x TL1 Inf. Support(B)	5 x Second Echelon	
Anti-Tank Battery:	1 x 57mm ATG/Truck	Infantry Div.:	2 x Infantry Regiment, 0-1 x AT Battery, 0-1 x Engineer Bttn., 0-1 x Artillery Bttn.
Engineer Company:	3 x TL1 Engineer(B)	Available Support Units:	<i>One or more of these units or parts thereof, may appear in a particular action at your discretion.</i>
Cavalry Company:	3 x M-8 Greyhound[R], 3 x Jeep/50cal.[R] <b>or</b> 3 x M-8 Greyhound[R], 3 x M3 Halftrack[R]	Marine Regiment:	1 x Command Center, 4 x Marine Bttn., 1 x Artillery Bttn.
Infantry Battalion:	1 x TL1 Infantry(C) HQ/Truck, 3 x Infantry Co., 0-1 x Infantry Support Co.	Cavalry Regiment:	1 x TL1 Infantry(C) HQ/Truck, 3 x Cavalry Company
Marine Battalion:	1 x TL1 Infantry(C) HQ, 3 x Marine Co., 1 x 81mm M1 Mortar(3)		
Engineer Battalion:	2 x Engineer Company		

### "ROK" INFANTRY DIVISION: 1951+

**Generation: II, Air Superiority Rating: 50, Class: Conscripts, Base Determination Factor: 30%**

Command Center:	1 x TL1 Infantry(C) HQ/Truck, 1 x Jeep/50cal.[R]	Anti-Aircraft Btn.:	3 x Anti-Aircraft Company
Infantry Company:	3 x TL1 Infantry(B), 1 x TL1 Infantry Support(A)	Infantry Regiment:	1 x Command Center, 3 x Infantry Btn., 1 x AT Co., 1 x 4.2" M1 Mortar(3)/Truck
Infantry Support Co.:	3 x TL1 Infantry Support(A), 1 x 81mm M1 Mortar(3)/Truck	Artillery Regiment:	3 x Artillery Btn., 1 x Heavy Artillery Btn.
Tank Company:	4 x M24 <b>or</b> 4 x M4A3E8	Infantry Division:	3 x Infantry Regt., 1 x Artillery Regt., 1 x Anti-Tank Co., 1 x Engineer Btn., 1 x Anti-Aircraft Battalion
Anti-Tank Co.:	1 x 3" ATG/Truck	Available Support Units:	<i>One or more of these units or parts thereof, may appear in a particular action at your discretion.</i>
Engineer Company:	3 x TL1 Engineer(A)	Pioneer Battalion:	12 x TL1 Infantry (F)
Security Company:	3 x TL1 Infantry (D), 1 x TL1 Infantry Support(B)	Security Battalion:	3 x Security Company
Recon Company:	3 x M-8 "Greyhound"[R], 3 x Jeep/50cal.[R]	Tank Battalion:	3 x Tank Company
Anti-Aircraft Co.:	3 x 40mm/L60 "Bofors"/Truck, 2 x M-16 MGMC	Corps Artillery:	3 x Artillery Battalion
Infantry Battalion:	1 x TL1 Infantry(C) HQ/Truck, 3 x Infantry Co., 1 x Support Co., 1 x TL1 Infantry (R)/Jeep	Corps Heavy Artillery:	2 x Heavy Artillery Battalion
Engineer Battalion:	3 x Engineer Company	<b>Notes:</b>	
Artillery Battalion:	3 x 105mm M2A1(3)/Truck	1.	The South Korean "Base Determination Factor" should be adjusted down when opposing Chinese Communist troops.
Heavy Artillery Btn.:	3 x 155mm M114(2)/Truck	2.	ROK Marines should be rated as "Professionals".

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## NORTH KOREA

**FOREIGN WEAPONS:** 107mm Type 63, K-63, Type 59 - China; All other foreign weapons - Russia

### INFANTRY DIVISION: 1950

**Generation: II, Air Superiority Rating: 25, Class: Professionals, Base Determination Factor: 40%**

Infantry Company:	2 x TL1 Infantry(D), 1 x TL1 Infantry Support(B)	Infantry Regiment:	1 x TL1 Infantry(D) GHQ, 3 x Infantry Btn., 1 x 45mm ATG, 1 x 76mm M-42(2)/Truck, 1 x 120mm M43 Mortar(3)/Truck or Limber
Infantry Support Co.:	1 x 82mm M37 Mortar(4)	Infantry Division:	3 x Infantry Regiment, 3 x SU-76, 3 x 45mm ATG/Truck, 2 x Artillery Btn., 1 x Heavy Artillery Battalion, 1 x Engineer Btn., 1 x Anti-Aircraft Btn..
Recon Company:	3 x TL1 Infantry (R) <b>or</b> 3 x TL1 Infantry (R)/Truck	<b>Notes:</b>	
Infantry Battalion:	1 x TL1 Infantry(D) HQ, 3 x Infantry Co., 1 x Support Co., 1 x 45mm ATG/Limber	1.	Non-organic truck transport may be provided at your discretion, but at double standard point cost.
Engineer Battalion:	9 x TL1 Engineer	2.	BTR-152's may be provided as APCs at double standard point cost.
Anti-Aircraft Btn.:	9 x ZPU-4		
Artillery Battalion:	3 x 76mm M42(2)/Truck		
Heavy Artillery Btn.:	3 x 122mm M38(2)/Truck		

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### ARMORED DIVISION: 1950

**Generation: II, Air Superiority Rating: 20, Class: Professionals, Base Determination Factor: 40%**

Infantry Company:	3 x TL1 Infantry/SMG(B)/Truck, 1 x TL1 Infantry Support(A)/Truck	Available Support Units:	<i>One or more of these units or parts thereof, may appear in a particular action at your discretion.</i>
Mechanized Infantry "Regiment":	1 x TL1 Infantry(D) HQ/Truck, 3 x Infantry Company, 1 x 82mm M37 Mortar(4)/Truck	Commando Co.:	3 x Infantry (Type "S")
Tank "Regiment":	1 x T-34/85(HQ), 9-12 x T-34/85	Heavy AT Battalion:	3 x 100mm M44/Truck
Tank Brigade:	1 x T-34/85(GHQ), 3 x Tank "Regiment"	Border Guard Btn.:	1 x Cavalry(HQ), 9 x Cavalry, 1 x Cavalry Support
Armored Division:	1 x Tank Brigade, 2 x SU-76, 1 x Mechanized Infantry "Regiment"	Anti-Aircraft Btn.:	3 x 37mm M-39/Truck
<b>Notes:</b>		Heavy MG Btn.:	9 x TL1 Infantry Support(A)
1.	Mechanized Infantry Regiment trucks may be replaced by BTR- 152s at your discretion.	Motorcycle "Regt.":	1 x TL1 Infantry(D) HQ/Truck, 3 x TL1 Infantry(R)/Truck, 2 x Ba-64[R], 1 x Motorcycle Infantry(B)[R]
2.	There was one armored division in the in the North Korean Peoples Army (NKPA) in 1950, the "Seoul" Division.	Air Support:	WWII Soviet Yak-3," "Yak-9," & IL-10 "Sturmoviks"

# 2018 2019 GHQ RELEASES

## June 30, 2018

G594 Flossacke 34 - Assault boats  
 G595 Mercedes G3a Van Body  
 AC123 Morane-Saulnier M.S. 406  
 IS21 M3 w/Twin 20mm AA  
 W118 GAZ-66 Tanker  
 UKN56 CVL Argus  
 GEN26 Penguin (HSK 5) Merchant

## August 31, 2018

HRN8 Albion Class LPD  
 GWT3 CL Pisa Class  
 N615 M60 Sabra  
 US115 GMC CCKW353  
                   w/Bofors 40mm  
 AC124 Su 24  
 N616 LARS Raketenwerfer  
 N617 RMMV HX Series 4 x 4  
 N618 RMMV HX Series 6 x 6  
 N619 RMMV HX Series 8 x 8

## October 31, 2018

GWT4 DD Soldato Class  
 HRC9 Type 071 LPD  
 FRN13 CA Duquesne, pre 1940  
 UK113 Humber Mk I  
 AC125 Su 30  
 N620 Leopard 2 Bridger  
 NK4 Pokpung-Ho  
 N621 FH77 155mm Howitzer  
 IS22 M113 Fitter

## December 31, 2018

USN95 Merchant Oil T2-SE-A1  
 HJN7 Akizuki Class DD-115  
 UK114 Marmon-Herrington Mk III  
 N622 Bergepanzer 3 Buffel  
 N623 Panther CVL / Iveco LVM  
 AC126 Dassault Rafale  
 W119 T-90MS Tagil  
 N624 M984 HEMTT Recovery

## February 28, 2019

GWB37 CL Active Class  
 IJN59 Kawasaki-Type Tanker  
 G596 Opel Blitz w/AA  
 AC127 J10B  
 N625 MAN KAT-1 Recovery  
 N626 Mastiff w/Birdcage  
 W120 KamAZ Tanker  
 N627 Dardo IFV

## April 30, 2019

USN96 BB-42 Idaho, late war  
 HRC10 Type 052C Destroyer  
 G597 Panzer IA  
 N628 Tracked Rapier  
 N629 Jackal  
 W121 SA-11 Gadfly  
 N630 REBS  
 N631 BV206  
 RC27 ZBL-08 w/30mm

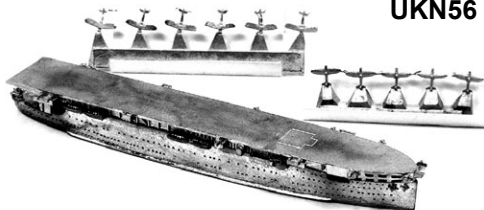
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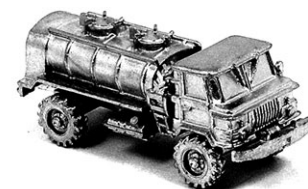


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IS21	<b>M3 w/TWIN 20mm AA</b> - 4/pk	\$11.95
W118	<b>GAZ 66 TANKER</b> - 5/pk	\$11.95
GEN26	<b>PINGUIN (HSK 5) MERCHANT</b> - Guns concealed. 1/pk	\$11.95
UKN56	<b>CVL ARGUS</b> - with Swordfish & Spitfires. 1/pk	\$16.95



1:285th / 6mm Scale  
 Modern Micro Armour  
**W118**

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