

## Sample Research Log

### Some factors to consider when evaluating source material:

- Relevance to research question
- Relationship of the source to other sources: Does it agree, disagree, or expand?
- Relationship to your own working hypothesis: Does it support or contradict?
- Is the author reputable? Is this paper frequently cited by others in the field?
- Affiliation/sponsor: Is this source affiliated with a legitimate organization or publisher?
- Accuracy: Is the paper well-written, logical, and consistent within itself and with other sources?
- Date of publication: How recent is the publication? Is the information still up to date?
- Bias v. Objectivity: Does the paper attempt to convey knowledge or sell a product/prejudice?

### Research Question:

What was the immediate impact of the Korean War on North Korea?

---

### Source #1

#### Complete citation for item found:

Langley, Michael. Inchon: MacArthur's Last Triumph. London: Batsford, 1979.

#### Search method used:

UMass Amherst Libraries online ([www.library.umass.edu](http://www.library.umass.edu))

#### Search strategy employed:

Keyword = Korean War

#### Paraphrased ideas or direct quotations to use in presentation and/or final literature review :

- MacArthur's strategy -Operation Chromite - retake Inchon, NK not expect, close to Seoul – pg 50
- Sept 15 – X corps landed at Inchon - “5000 to 1” gamble – pg 42
- Op successful – recapture Seoul on Sept 28 – pg 134

#### Evaluation of material:

Important to me to find sources that express different point of views held by varying countries that participated in the Korean War. This book takes the perspective of an Englishman. Very interesting. Includes brief history of the war, consistent with my other sources, and a very detailed account of the battle for Inchon and thus Seoul. Overall, source very interesting and worthwhile. Also well documented, giving it credibility.

#### Date this search was completed:

Oct 9, 2006

---

## Source #2

### Complete citation for item found:

Cumings, Bruce. "Nuclear Threats Against North Korea: Consequences of the 'forgotten' war." ZNET 20 Dec. 2004. 10 Oct. 2006

### Search method used:

Google

### Search strategy employed:

"North Korea" and "war"

### Paraphrased ideas or direct quotations to use in presentation and/or final literature review :

- June - Oct, 1950 – 866,914 gallons napalm dumped on NK
- MacArthur – destroy every "installation, factory, city, and village" b/t front and Chinese border
- MacArthur wanted to use Atomic bomb and Truman threatened it
- MacArthur wanted to drop 30 along Manchuria – radioactive barrier to land invasion
- "18 of 22 major cities had been at least half obliterated"
- Hamhung and Hungnam – 85%, Sariwon – 95%, Sinanju – 100%, Chinnampo – 80%, Pyonyang – 75%
- Winston Churchill criticize US – "when napalm was invented, no one contemplated that it would be 'splashed' all over a civilian population"

### Evaluation of material:

This article was on a website that compiled various articles and was originally from a French newspaper or magazine, *Le monde Diplomatique*, or the Diplomatic World. Don't have any credentials for the newspaper, but the sources cited suggest it's reliable. Article written in 2004, so provides a fresher look at history, but obviously doesn't take into consideration recent events like Korea's nuclear weapons tests. Delves into an aspect of Korean War other sources don't, detailing the napalming of North Korea. Adds to information already gathered.

### Date this search was completed:

Oct 10, 2006

Provided by Commonwealth Honors College alumna, Christine Whitaker