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AMERICA INTERVENES



When the U.S. came to South Korea's assistance, during the Korean War, America had no permanent hospitals where wounded troops could be treated. A MASH (Mobile Army Surgical Hospital) unit substituted as the place to care for people. This image depicts the the 8076th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital at Kunr-ri, Korea as it appeared on November 27, 1950. Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.

The <u>Truman Administration</u> was immediately informed of the invasion. Hesitant to get involved unless South Korea could not defend itself, the <u>President decided</u> to <u>assist</u> when the Republic of South Korea asked for <u>America's help</u>. By the 26th of June, General MacArthur <u>received new orders</u> from the commander in chief and <u>on June 30 was authorized</u> to send in combat troops.

Truman <u>advised</u> the American <u>public</u> of his intention to intervene on June 27. (Later, he said it was the toughest decision he ever made in his life; for years he kept a <u>letter</u> from a bereaved father in his desk drawer.)

Although <u>welcomed</u> by South Korea, American military <u>assistance</u> was, at first, not as <u>far-reaching</u> as the Republic of Korea had hoped it would be. Nor was it without lingering controversy (especially for events such as those which occurred at <u>No Gun Ri</u>).

For starters, the US had no <u>airbases</u> in Korea. Air raids, at the <u>beginning</u> of the conflict, were <u>often</u> carrier-<u>based</u>. And when Americans were first placed in harm's way, there was only one evacuation hospital and one <u>Mobile Army</u> Surgical Hospital (<u>M*A*S*H</u>) unit to support all <u>American forces</u> in Korea.

Additionally, U.S. involvement was viewed as "U.S. aggression" by North Korea and China.

By September, the combined <u>efforts</u> of the U.S. and South Korean Armies, <u>aided</u> greatly by <u>air</u> and <u>naval</u> superiority, held the North Koreans in <u>check</u> at the <u>Pusan</u> Perimeter. On the 29th of September, 1950, Seoul was officially <u>reestablished</u> as the Republic of Korea's capital city. <u>By October</u>, the North had sustained heavy equipment losses.

The conflict, however, was far from over.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/AMERICA-INTERVENES-Korean-War

See Learning Tasks for this story online at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/AMERICA-INTERVENES-Korean-War

Media Stream













<u>Carrier Airstrike Photo</u> Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives and Naval History & Heritage Command. PD

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<u>U.S. Troops in Korea</u> Image online, courtesy the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/U.S.-Troops-in-Korea</u>

<u>USS Valley Forge</u> Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives. PD View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/USS-Valley-Forge</u>

Wonsan Refinery Under Attack by Carrier Planes Image online, courtesy the U.S. National Archives. PD View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Wonsan-Refinery-Under-Attack-by-Carrier-Planes

South Korea - Theater of Operations - Map Image online, courtesy the U.S. Military Academy. PD View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/South-Korea-Theater-of-Operations-Map

Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) Unit Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.

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Korean-War image montage, online courtesy U.S. National Archives via Wikimedia Commons. PD

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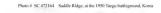
Heavy Equipment Losses - Korean War This image depicts a scene from the Korean War during October of 1950.

The U.S. National Archives, where this picture is maintained, provides this description: This photograph, taken in Pyongyang, N.W. marshalling yards, Korea, illustrates the aftermath of a bombing raid by B-29s of the Far East Air Force. Wrecked locomotive, twisted trackage, and shattered roundhouse attest to the effectiveness of interdiction. (October 25, 1950) Click on the image for a better view. Image online via U.S. National Archives. Public Domain. View this asset at:

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Pusan, Korea Image online, courtesy the U.S. National Archives. PD View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Pusan-Korea





SC 347107 Army 105mm howitzer crew in action, Korea, Aug, 1950



Saddle Ridge, at the 1950 Taegu Battleground, Korea Image online, courtesy the U.S. National Archives. PD

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US Army M105mm Howitzer Crew in Action

Image online, courtesy the U.S. National Archives. PD

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Wonsan Oil Refinery After the Attack Image online, courtesy the U.S. National Archives. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Wonsan-Oil-Refinery-After-the-Attack