

Date Action

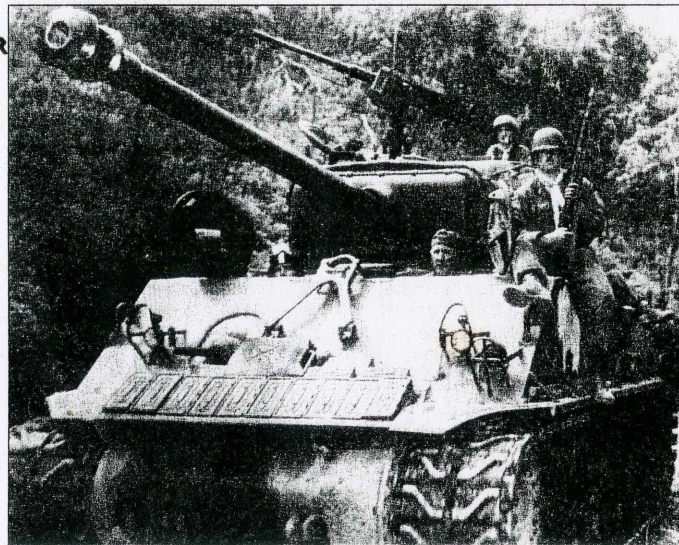
1950

- Jun 25 North Korea invades South Korea with 135,000 men, initiating war.
- Jun 27 A U.S. 5th Air Force pilot shoots down the first enemy plane of the war over Seoul, capital of South Korea.
- Jun 29 **First U.S. Ground Force Arrives in Korea:** Detachment X (35 men of the 507th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Bn.) It shoots down 1 YAK with M-55 machine guns at Suwan Airfield. Det. X sustains 5 WIA—first U.S. casualties of the Korean War.
- Jun 29 U.S. Naval Forces Far East's light cruiser *USS Juneau* fires the first salvo of the initial shore bombardment of the war on Korea's eastern coast.
- Jun 29 5th Air Force's 3rd Bombardment Group sends 18 B-26 Invader light bombers against Heijo Airfield near the North Korean capital of Pyongyang: 25 enemy aircraft are destroyed on the ground; one YAK fighter is shot down.
- Jul 1 First U.S. infantry unit arrives in Korea: 1st Bn., 21st Inf. Regt., 24th ID. Along with A Battery, 52nd F.A. Bn., it comprises *Task Force Smith*.
- Jul 2 **War's Only U.S. Sea Battle.** Off Chumunjin, on Korea's east coast, the *Juneau* helps destroy three of four attacking North Korean torpedo boats.
- Jul 3 First U.N. carrier-based air strike of the war occurs when planes from the *USS Valley Forge* strike airfields in the Pyongyang-Chinnampo area of North Korea (N.K.).
- Jul 4 - **Delay of North Korean Invasion.** 3 U.S. divisions (24th, 25th, 1st Cav) participate. U.S.: 1,991 KIA; 2,588 WIA. **Jul 27, 24th ID. LEFT TO WAR**
- Aug 3 **Battle of Osan.** First U.S. ground action of the war. *Task Force Smith* (406 infantrymen and 134 artillerymen) engages and delays advancing North Korean People's Army (NKPA) units. U.S.: 20 KIA; 130 WIA. N.K.: 42 KIA; 85 WIA. First U.S. KIA is never identified.
- Jul 6-12 24th ID regiments delay advancing NKPA at Pyongtaek, Chonan and Chochiwon.
- Jul 13-16 **Battle at the Kum River.** 19th & 34th Inf. regiments (24th ID) delay the advancing NKPA at the Kum River line. 19th Regt. and other units suffer 650 casualties among the 3,401 men deployed.
- Jul 13 B-29s of the 326th BS, 92nd Bombardment Group, conduct the first strike against N.K. (Wonsan) from Japan.
- Jul 19-20 **Battle of Taejon.** 24th ID (3,933 GIs) defends the town against the NKPA. U.S.: 922 KIA/MIA (most MIA later confirmed KIA); 228 WIA.
- Jul 20 24th Inf. Regt. (25th ID) launches a counterattack at Yechon.
- Jul 25-26 **Hadong Ambush.** 29th Regimental Combat Team (RCT) is committed to combat near Chinju, and its 3rd Bn. (757 men) is decimated: 313 KIA and 100 captured. Second worst single-action U.S. loss of the war.
- Aug 1 **Battle of the Notch.** 29th (attached) and 19th Infantry regiments (24th ID) engage NKPA. U.S.: 90 KIA.
- Aug 4 - **Defense of Pusan/Naktong Perimeter.** 84,478 U.S. troops participate: 1st Cav, 2nd, 24th and 25th IDs, 5th RCT and 1st Provisional Marine Brigade (PMB). U.S.: 4,599 KIA; 12,058 WIA; 2,107 MIA; and 401 POW.
- Aug 4 First-ever aeromedical evacuation of U.S. casualties is performed by Marine VMO-6 helicopters.
- Aug 8-18 **First Battle of the Naktong Bulge** (Pusan Perimeter). The 24th ID, reinforced by 1st PMB and elements of the 2nd and 25th IDs, contains and repels the NKPA 4th Division's penetration of the Naktong Perimeter.
- Aug 15-20 **Battle of the Bowling Alley.** Fought west of Taegu on the Naktong Perimeter. U.S. 23rd (2nd ID) and 27th (25th ID) regiments maul the NKPA. Hill 303 near Waegwon. 26 men of the 5th Cav Regt. are found bound and executed by the NKPA.
- Aug 17 Hill 303 near Waegwon. 26 men of the 5th Cav Regt. are found bound and executed by the NKPA.
- Aug 31 - **Second Battle of the Naktong Bulge.** U.S. 1st Cav., 1st PMB, 2nd, 24th and 25th IDs engage enemy in fierce fighting.
- Sep 19 **Taejon.** 42 U.S. soldiers are found executed by the NKPA.
- Sep 15 **Inchon Landing** (*Operation Chromite*). X Corps (70,000 men)—7th ID and 1st Marine Div.—begins landing on Korea's west coast. Marines secure their objective, sustaining 22 KIA and 174 WIA.
- Sep 16-27 **Naktong Perimeter Breakout.** Eighth U.S. Army (EUSA) breaks out of the Naktong Perimeter. 4 U.S. divisions (1st Cav, 2nd, 24th and 25th) participate. U.S.: 790 KIA; 3,544 WIA.
- Sep 17 Kimpo Airfield is captured by the 3rd Bn., 5th Marines.
- Sep 18-30 **Inchon Operation and Liberation of Seoul.** Seoul falls Sept. 27 after a week of fighting. 1st Marine Division—427 KIA; 5 MIA; 1,961 WIA. 7th ID—86 KIA; 10 MIA; 358 WIA.
- Sep 20-22 1st Marine Div. (absorbed the 1st PMB Sept. 13) crosses the Han River. 1st Marines capture Yongdungpo.
- Sep 26 *USS Brush* hits a mine off Tancheon: 9 KIA; 10 WIA.
- Sep 29 Minesweeper *Maggie* is destroyed by a mine off Chuksan, N.K.: 21 KIA. Next day, the *USS Mansfield* hits a mine, losing 5 MIA and 27 WIA.

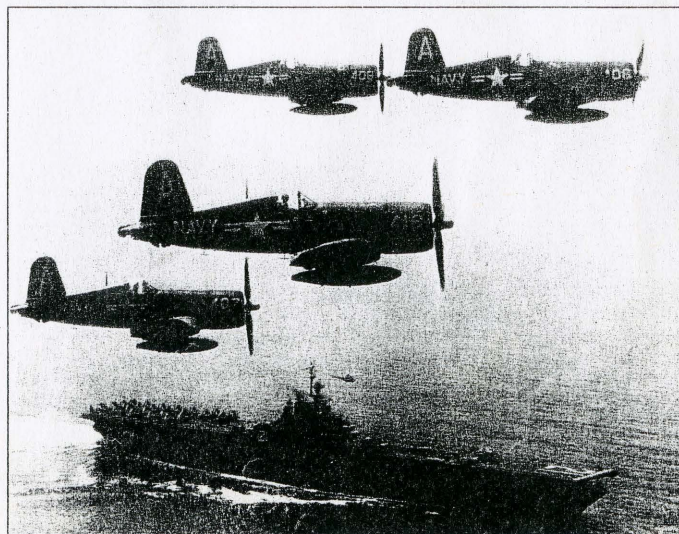
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SNIPER PATROL Pfc. Paul A. Rivers of the 2nd Inf. Div. hunts for North Korean snipers in a burning village in the Yongsan area, Sept. 16, 1950.



TANK POWER Infantrymen of the 17th Regimental Combat Team ride on M-4 tanks as they move against Chinese Communist positions, June 13, 1951.



NAVAL AVIATORS F4Us (Corsairs) return from a combat mission and circle the USS Boxer as they wait to land, Sept. 4, 1951.

COURTESY D.M. GANGLICZ, AUTHOR OF "WAR IN KOREA"

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Oct 9 **Invasion of North Korea.** I Corps, led by the 1st Cavalry Div., crosses the 38th Parallel north of Kaesong and attacks northward toward Pyongyang. 86 GIs are found massacred.

Oct 12 Minesweepers *Pirate* and *Pledge* are sunk by mines in Wonsan Harbor. *Pirate* loses 6 KIA; 43 WIA.

Oct 19 Pyongyang falls to the U.S. 1st Cavalry Div. and the 1st ROK (Republic of Korea) Division.

Oct 20 **War's First Airborne Operation.** 187th Airborne RCT (187th Abn. Inf. and 674th F.A. Bn.) makes a parachute assault—by 2,860 paratroopers—on Sukchon and Sunchon north of Pyongyang. U.S.: 46 injured in jump accidents and 65 battle casualties. 75 GIs are found executed at Sunchon.

Oct 23 Kunsang, N.K.: 128 GIs are found executed.

Oct 25 Chinese Communist Forces (CCF) launch their first offensive phase of the Korean War.

Nov 1 **Northernmost U.S. Action of the War.** 21st Inf. Regt. (24th ID) reaches the 8th Army's "highwater mark" when it captures the village of Chonggodo, 18 air miles from Sinuiju and the Yalu River which separates North Korea from China.

Nov 1-2 **Battle of Unsan.** First U.S. battle with the CCF. 8th Cavalry Regt., 1st Cavalry Div., suffers heavy casualties: 1st Bn.—265 KIA or POW; 3rd Bn.—600 KIA or POW; and 5th Cav Regt.—350 losses.

Nov 2-7 Sudong. 7th Marine Regt. runs into heavy CCF resistance.

Nov 8 79 B-29 Superfortress bombers plus Navy planes from *TF 77* strike the Yalu River bridges at Sinuiju.

Nov 8 **First All-Jet Combat in History.** An F-80 Shooting Star of the 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing shoots down a MiG-15 fighter near Sinuiju in a 30-second dogfight.

Nov 8 Korean Service Medal authorized.

Nov 21 17th Inf. Regt. (7th ID) reaches the Yalu River near its source at Hyesanjin on the Manchurian border.

Nov 25-
Dec 15 **CCF Counteroffensive in N.K.** 7 U.S. divisions participate (1st Cav., 1st Marine, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 24th and 25th IDs). U.S.: 562 KIA; 3,122 WIA.

Nov 27-
Dec 1 7th ID's *Task Force MacLean/Faith* (elements of 31st & 32nd Inf. regiments) is annihilated east of the Chosin Reservoir, during the CCF counter offensive. Only 385 soldiers of its 3,200-man force survive.

Nov 27-
Dec 9 **Battle of the Chosin Reservoir.** Encircled 1st Marine Div. fights its way southward from the Chosin Reservoir to the Hungnam Perimeter. Marine casualties: 4,418—718 KIA; 192 MIA and 3,508 WIA; and 7,313 losses due to frostbite or indigestion ailments.

Nov 28 *Task Force Kingston*, elements of the 7th ID's 32nd Inf. Regt., reaches the Yalu River at Sin galpa jin.

Nov 29-Dec 1 **Battle of Kunu-ri.** CCF destroys the U.S. 2nd ID; 4,940 men are lost.

Dec 3-7 *Task Force 90* (Amphibious Force Far East) evacuates Wonsan.



BATTLE FOR SEOUL Riflemen of the 1st Marine Division fight their way through the streets of Seoul. The city was taken on Sept. 27, 1950.

Dec 10 **Wonsan-Hungnam Campaign.** Ends this date. Casualties: X Corps—56 KIA; 69 WIA. 1st Marine Div.—885 KIA; 3,428 WIA. 3rd ID—227 KIA; 266 WIA. 7th ID—2,657 KIA; 354 WIA.

Dec 15 8th Army establishes Imjin River defense line north of Seoul.

Dec 24 Hungnam operation is complete—105,000 U.S. and ROK personnel are evacuated by sea.

DEC 24 *REMOVED IN HAN HARBOR AND GOT ON US HOSPITAL SHIP "MARQUEE". TRANSPORTED TO LETTERMAN HOSPITAL.*

1951

January **"Great Pohang Guerrilla Hunt."** 1st Marine Div. routs guerrilla forces in the Masan-Pohang-Sondong-Andong area. Operations continue around Masan into February. Last major engagement is fought at Uisong. The North Korean 10th Div. is reduced in strength by 60%.

Jan 1-15 **Third Phase CCF Offensive:** 500,000 Communists push U.N. forces 50 miles south of the 38th Parallel and recapture Seoul.

Jan 25-
Feb 20 **Operation Thunderbolt.** Counteroffensive against CCF. 6 U.S. Army IDs participate: (1st Cav., 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 24th, 25th): 667 KIA; 3,570 WIA.

Feb 1 **Battle of the Twin Tunnels.** 23rd Inf. Regt. (2nd ID), French Bn. and 347th F.A. Bn. confront several CCF regiments, killing at least 1,300 Chinese. U.S.: 45 KIA; 4 MIA; 207 WIA.

Feb 5-24 **Operation Roundup.** U.S. X Corps advances on the central front.

Feb 5-9 **Battle of Hill 440.** A task force of the 25th ID decimates attacking CCF.

Feb 11-13 **Battle of Hoengsong.** 2nd and 7th IDs and 187th Abn. RCT suffer 2,018 casualties. War's largest concentrated loss of American lives occurs when 530 men of the 503rd & 15th Field Artillery Bns. are killed in an ambush.

Feb 12-21 **CCF Counterattack, Wonju/Chipyong Area.** Three U.S. divisions (1st Cav., 2nd, 7th) participate. U.S.: 651 KIA; 1,296 WIA.

Feb 13-15 **Battle of Chipyong-ni.** First mass assault by CCF: 18,000 troops. CCF offensive contained by 23rd RCT (2nd ID), French Bn., 1st Ranger Co., 37th F.A. Bn., and B Battery of the 82nd AAA Bn. U.S.: 94 KIA; 259 WIA.

Feb 16, '51-
Jul 27, '53 **Siege of Wonsan.** *Task Force 95* (U.N. Blockade and Escort Force) blockades Wonsan Harbor. An unprecedented 861-day naval operation, it is the longest effective siege of a port in U.S. Navy history.

Feb 21-
Mar 7 **Operation Killer.** To drive the CCF north of the Han River. 5 U.S. divisions participate (1st Cav., 1st Marine, 2nd, 7th, 24th). U.S.: 144 KIA; 921 WIA.

Mar 7-
Apr 4 **Operation Ripper.** Drives the Communists back to the 38th Parallel and retakes Seoul. 7 U.S. divisions participate (1st Cav., 1st Marine, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 24th, 25th). U.S.: 566 KIA; 3,220 WIA.

Mar 23 **War's Last Jump (Operation Tomahawk).** 187th Airborne RCT (2nd and 4th Ranger companies attached)—3,447 men—makes an air assault on Munsan-ni, 20 miles northwest of Seoul. 84 jump injuries; 1 KIA; 18 WIA.

Apr 5-15 **Operation Rugged.** To secure phase Line Kansas, or 38th Parallel. Enemy is entrenched in the Chorwon-Kumhwa-Pyongyang area—"Iron Triangle." 6 U.S. Army divisions (1st Cav., 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 24th, 25th) participate. U.S.: 156 KIA; 901 WIA.

Apr 11-22 **Operation Dauntless.** To secure phase Line Utah. 3 U.S. Army divisions (3rd, 24th, 25th) participate: 95 KIA; 1,056 WIA.

Apr 12 War's first major aerial duel—9 MiGs are shot down. Also, 40 MiGs attack a B-29 formation—3 are shot down.

Apr 22 Rotation plan implemented: Personnel will return to the U.S. individually after a specified number of months in Korea.

Apr 22-29 **CCF First Spring Offensive.** Largest single battle of the Korean War. CCF launch their Spring Offensive with 250,000 men in 27 divisions. Five U.S. Army divisions (2nd, 3rd, 7th, 24th, 25th) and 1st Marine Division participate. U.S.: 314 KIA; 1,600 WIA.

May 9 U.S. Far East Air Force (FEAF) launches a 300-plane strike on Sinuiju on the Yalu River. Largest raid of the war to date.

May 16-21 **Battle of the Soyang River.** "May massacre" along No Name Line. 2nd ID stems the enemy tide, inflicting severe casualties on the Chinese. 23rd Inf. Regt.—72 KIA; 158 WIA; 190 MIA.

May 17-22 **CCF Second Spring Offensive.** 4 U.S. divisions (1st Marine, 2nd, 3rd and 25th) participate: 333 KIA; 888 WIA.

May 18 *TF 77* suffers its heaviest single-day casualties: 4 pilots KIA.

May 20 4th Fighter Interceptor Group is jumped by 50 enemy jets over Sinuiju, resulting in America's first jet ace of the war.

May 20-
Sep 20 **Operation Strangle.** Massive all-out air interdiction campaign is carried out by FEAF, supported by *TF 77* and the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW).

May 20-
Jun 8 **Operation Detonate.** To retake Line Kansas. 7 U.S. divisions participate, (1st Cav., 1st Marine, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 24th, 25th): 530 KIA; 3,195 WIA.

Jun 3-12 **Operation Piledriver.** To secure Line Wyoming and Iron Triangle. 4 U.S. Army divisions (1st Cav., 3rd, 7th, 25th) participate: 231 KIA; 1,787 WIA.

Jun 10-16 **Battle for the Punchbowl.** 1st Marine Div. encounters heavy NKPA resistance. Marines: 67 KIA; 1,044 WIA.

Jun 12 Destroyer *Walke* is hit by a mine off Hungnam, N.K.: 26 KIA and 35 WIA. This is the largest single Navy combat loss of the war.

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