



Man Your Battle Stations

The United States Navy's surface ships, submarines, and carrier- and shore-based aircraft patrolled the coasts of Korea and China during the Korean War. Submarines and patrol planes were used to prevent surprise attacks. Carriers and surface ships, operating with planes and submarines, formed battle groups whose mission was to maintain dominance of the sea and to support ground operations. The United States Coast Guard provided vital meteorological and navigational information, as well as communications support, insured port security, and performed search and rescue missions. Together the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Coast Guard, along with allied naval forces, controlled the waters adjacent to the Korean Peninsula.

Naval Gunfire



Sixteen-inch guns of the battleship USS Iowa (BB-61) bombard enemy installations in North Korea.

Floating Hospital



The U.S. Navy hospital ship USS Consolation (AH-15) and crew stand by to receive incoming H-5 helicopter. During the Korean War, helicopters were used for the first time to evacuate the wounded.

High Seas



The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Iroquois (WPG 43), a 255-foot ship, bucks heavy seas off the Korean coast.

Navy Frogmen

Navy "frogmen" from an underwater demolition team come ashore at Wonsan, North Korea. The team swam through a minefield after leaving a landing craft offshore.



All Aboard



Equipped for combat and bound for Korea U.S. Army troops embark on a transport ship in Japan.

Vigilant Watch

Watch standers aboard the USS Wisconsin (BB-64) keep their eyes peeled on the Korean coast.



Standing By

The high-speed transport USS Begor (APD-127) lies at anchor in Hungnam Harbor, Korea, ready to take on the last U.N. landing craft. A huge explosion destroys harbor installations following the withdrawal of X Corps from Chosin.

