

Suggestions for Further Reading

The efforts of U.S. *Army* engineers to build durable bridges, across the **Imjin** River form both an episode in the history of military bridge building and a little understood aspect of the Korean War. Readers of this volume may want to pursue further reading in either or both of those subject areas.

The recently published book by Bevin Alexander, *Korea: The First War We Lost* (New York: Hippocrene, 1986), provides a superb overview of the military and diplomatic events of the Korean War, together with thoughtful insights into its political context. Walter Hermes' *Truce Tent and Fighting Front*, U.S. Army in the Korean War (Washington: U.S. Army Center of Military History, Government Printing Office, 1966), concentrates on U.S. Army operations during the last two years of the war, along with their diplomatic context, while Pat **Meid's** and James Yingling's *Operations in West Korea*, U.S. Marine Operations in Korea, 1950–1953, vol. 5 (Washington: Marine Corps Historical Division, Government Printing Office, 1972), discusses Marine operations near the Imjin River. Matthew B. Ridgway's *The Korean War* (Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1967) and Mark W. **Clark's** *From the Danube to the Yalu* (New York: Harper, 1954) contain the memoirs of the successive United Nations commanders during the last years of the war.

More detailed operational accounts of the fighting near the Imjin River are provided by Cyril Barclay's *The First Commonwealth Division: The Story of British Commonwealth Land Forces in Korea* (Aldershot, England: Gale and Polden, 1954) and *The First Team: The First Cavalry Division in Korea, 18 July 1950–18 January 1952* (Atlanta: Albert Love, 1952). Lively accounts of Korean War combat told from the vantage point of the ordinary soldier are contained in a book by T.R. Fehrenbach, *This Kind of War: A Study in Unpreparedness* (New York: Macmillan, 1963), and in two works by one of the most popular military historians of the period, S.L.A. Marshall, *The River and the Gauntlet* (New York: **Morrow**, 1953) and *Pork Chop Hill: The American Fighting Man in Action, Korea, Spring, 1953* (New York: **Morrow**, 1956).

John G. Westover's *Combat Support in Korea* (Washington:

Combat Forces Press, 1955) includes considerable discussion of engineer operations during the Korean War, some relating to bridge building, in a compilation of brief accounts of Army work behind the front lines. *The Military Engineer* published, in 1951–1958, articles by Army Engineer officers on bridges built during the Korean War over the Imjin (47: 116–118 and 50: 114–115), the Han (47: 333–336 and 48: 281–284), the Naktong (43: 96–100), the Pukhan (44: 86–87), and the Twinnan (44: 43–45) rivers and on railroad bridges in Korea (43: 332–333 and 47: 333–336).

While rivers have formed significant military barriers and military bridge building has played an important part in warfare since ancient times, no survey of this topic has been published in English since 1853. Bridge-building efforts are regularly discussed in accounts of specific wars and campaigns, however. A number of books discuss military bridging during World War II. The official history by Alfred M. Beck et al., *The Corps of Engineers: The War Against Germany*, U.S. Army in World War II (Washington: U.S. Army Center of Military History, Government Printing Office, 1985), treats U.S. Army bridge-building work in Europe during that war in considerable detail. The most massive American bridge-building effort of the war, made on the Rhine River, is the subject of special reports by First, Third, Seventh, and Ninth Armies; XVI Corps; and the 1110th Engineer Combat Group, but these reports are generally available only in specialized collections on engineer operations and military history, such as those of the Office of History of the Corps of Engineers. Somewhat more widely available is the report by the 12th Army Group's engineer Patrick H. Timothy, *The Rhine Crossing: Twelfth Army Group Engineer Operations* (Fort Belvoir: Engineer School, 1946). A publication by the British Corps of Royal Engineers, *Bridging Normandy to Berlin* (n.p., 1945?), describes the bridge-building efforts of Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery's 21 Army Group. *Engineer History, Mediterranean Theater, Fifth Army, 3 vols.* (n.p., 1945?), contains detailed discussions of bridge construction in Italy amid reports of other engineer operations there. U.S. Army bridge building in Asia and the Pacific is discussed in Karl C. Dod, *The Corps of Engineers: The War Against Japan*, U.S. Army in World War II (Washington: U.S. Army Center of Military History, Government Printing Office, 1966).

Prior to World War II, British engineers authored many of the leading English-language works on military bridge building. In 1816 Major General Sir Howard Douglas published one of the first works on this **subject**, *An Essay on the Principles and Construction of Military Bridges, and the Passage of Rivers in Military Operations*. The book was so popular that Douglas substantially **ex-** expanded it, and later editions appeared in 1832 and 1853. The book discusses many bridging operations in eighteenth and early nineteenth century warfare, and each edition includes more recent conflicts. *The Work of the Royal Engineers in the European War, 1914–19*, vol. 1, *Bridging* (Chatham: Royal Engineers' Institute, 1921), provides a detailed report on British bridging operations in World War I.

The American Civil War witnessed some very significant bridging operations. They are described in a long article by Corps **officers** Michael **McDonough** and Paul Bond, "Use and Development of the Ponton **Equipage** in the United States Army, with Special Reference to the **Civil War**," *Professional Memoirs, Corps of Engineers, United States Army, and Engineer Department at Large* 6 (1914): 692–758. Bridging was less important to American operations in France during World War I, but U.S. forces did build **several** significant bridges across the **Aire** and **Meuse** River toward the end of that war. This bridge-building work is discussed briefly in *Historical Report of the Chief Engineer, Including all Operations of the Engineer Department, American Expeditionary Forces, 1917–1919* (Washington: War Department, 1919), primarily on pages 210–226. W.R. Ingalls, ed., *History of the 27th Engineers, U.S.A., 1917–1919* (New York, 1920), provides a detailed account of the work of a unit that served as a bridge regiment during the **Meuse-Argonne** campaign.