

# Modern American Conflicts



## School Library Journal

August 2013

e CORRIGAN, Jim. *The Korean War*. 172p. chron. glossary. photos. (Modern American Conflicts Series). Morgan Reynolds. 2013. \$28.95. ISBN 978-1-59935-403-3.

Gr 7 Up—Corrigan’s account is masterfully crafted. He connects the Korean War of the 1950s to contemporary struggles in the region, capturing the war’s lasting impact. Several chapters begin with a short biography of a key player, both past and present. The author is quick to point out that although this conflict was overshadowed by wars that preceded or followed it, the Korean War was a blueprint for all other Cold War contentions, including the Vietnam War. The language is clear and appropriate for the intended audience. Readers will have no problem understanding the military jargon because Corrigan seamlessly uses today’s vernacular in the explanations, rendering the glossary almost unnecessary. The various photos, most of which are black and white, add an element that beckons to visual learners. This title is a must-have for war buffs and report writers, who will find the time line particularly helpful.—Jeni Tahaney, Duncanville High School Library, TX



## Booklist Issue

October 1, 2013

*The Korean War*.

Corrigan, Jim (Author)

Nov 2013. 172 p. Morgan Reynolds, e-book, \$28.95. (9781599354033). 951.904.

Though the Korean War is often labeled as “the Forgotten War,” Corrigan makes a strong case that it largely shaped how the next several decades of Cold War politics and conflicts unfolded. Bookended with chapters about America’s current edgy relations with North Korea, this entry into the Modern American Conflicts e-book series is a model of historical clarity, driving home with strong, rousing prose the surprise start of American involvement, the momentum shifts that were the war’s hallmark, the explosive entrance of China’s army, and the grueling winding down that whittled away the support of American citizens (and, in that sense, presaged Vietnam). Corrigan excels at drawing subtle profiles, notably of General MacArthur, whose brash, all-or-nothing approach wowed before it began to fail, and President Truman, a man somewhat pinned by the political opinion that he was “soft on communism.” The red-and-beige page design is excellent, incorporating high-interest photos of everything from trench warfare to POW camps to the cease-fire signing. An exemplary—and at times ominous—look at a conflict that “presented a host of political, military, and moral issues.” — Daniel Kraus