



+ VANGUARD OF MEDICAL INNOVATION + HOSPITAL SHIP HELO-DECKS



✂ The Korean War (1950-1953) saw the innovation of using helicopters for rapid evacuation of combat casualties directly from the battlefield to definitive care. This severely reduced the time between wounding and surgical treatment, dramatically improving survival rates.

✂ The Navy hospital ship USS Consolation (AH-15) was the first to be fitted with a helicopter landing platform (helo-deck) on its afterdeck in 1951, permanently linking air evacuation and frontline medical facilities.

✂ The first direct battlefield-to-ship casualty evacuation occurred on December 18, 1951, aboard **Consolation**. This procedure quickly became routine, earning the ship the nickname “Galloping Ghost of the Korean Coast” for its role in rapid casualty transportation.

