

# ACT ONE

## Scene Six

CURTAIN OPENS. HO-JON is standing in "Avenue B," in front of "The Swamp," lecturing some of the Korean workers. They hunker or sit on the ground. BRIDGET stands in "Avenue C," (eavesdropping.)

HO-JON. . . . And in America when you are hungry, you eat something called the French Fry and the Overheated Dog.

KOREAN WOMAN #1 (nodding happily). Dog tastes good. HO-JON. And everybody sleeps in a bed. (KOREANS "oooh" and "aaah," impressed.) Also, everyone can read and write. Everyone has shoes.

KOREAN WOMAN #1. No, not so. Not shoes. HO-JON. Is so. Captain Hawkeye Pierce and Captain Duke Forrest say it is so. (This seems to placate the dissenters. More "oohs" and "aaahs.") Also, is a great country with many historical persons. Captain Hawkeye Pierce has had me memorize them.

KOREAN WOMAN #1. Tell us who they are. HO-JON (beaming). There is Mr. G. Washington, Mr. Lincoln, Mr. J. Kennedy and the famous Mr. Liberace. (More oohs and aaahs.)

(KOREAN WOMAN #2 ENTERS from DR carrying a suspicious-looking bundle in her arms.)

*Lt. Col. Blake, Capt. Burns, Margaret Houlihan*  
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KOREAN WOMAN #2. Pssst. Ho-Jon. (HO-JON looks over, sees her, claps his hands.) HO-JON. Go now. Tomorrow I show you how to walk like a cowboy from big Texas. (On this promise there is great delight. The "aaah" is enthusiastic. KOREANS get up, EXIT L and R. HO-JON crosses to WOMAN #2 and takes the bundle. She turns and EXITS DR. HO-JON crosses to "The Swamp," enters the tent. He goes to the foot locker of Captain Burns, kneels down and takes something from the bundle and places it in the locker.)

(From UR, behind the nurses' tent, and into "Avenue A," come CAPTAIN BURNS, COLONEL BLAKE, and a new arrival, MAJOR MARGARET HOULIHAN. She's tall, nice-looking. BRIDGET has entered the mess tent by now. No one's about so she gets herself a cup of tea and sits down.)

BLAKE. I'm very happy, Major Houlihan. We've been most anxious about our new Chief Nurse. MARGARET. Thank you, Colonel. I'm here now. Rest easy. (To BURNS.) You handle one of the surgical shifts, Captain Burns?

BURNS. I do. MARGARET. And the other? (Silence.) I asked about the second shift.

BLAKE. That's handled by Hawkeye. MARGARET. Hawkeye? BURNS. Captain Benjamin Pierce. He calls himself Hawkeye.

MARGARET. That's odd. BURNS. So's he. (To BLAKE.) Actually, Colonel, I've been meaning to speak to you about Hawkeye, uh, I mean Captain Pierce. (BLAKE has no intention of getting involved.)