The First War
U. S. Has Lost

Editor's Note: Facts Forum is com-
posing a series of articles for each of
the major current question involving national
policy. The following is one of the series.

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An acceptance of a stalemate peace in Korea would be tantamount to an admission of defeat. Certainly it would be so in the eyes of the South Koreans. When one is risking total destruction on the altar of war, anything short of total victory is a defeat.

If we are unable to prosecute the war to a successful conclusion and our leaders are able to convince us that it will be an ingenious stroke of diplomacy to succeed in negotiating a stalemate peace, what have we achieved at the cost of over 100,000 American casualties? Have we removed the Red menace in the Orient? Can the South Koreans now rest in peace and security out from under the shadow of war and destruction? Can we bring our boys back home? Are our bases in the South Pacific now made secure? Do we really feel that we have accomplished something or do we feel that we went bursting into Korea like a bull in a china closet and are now having to bow out as gracefully as we can?

What does such a policy add up to in the Far East? Is it calculated to raise our prestige? Is it such a show of strength as to discourage Russia from further warlike acts? Will it make small nations like South Korea welcome and rely upon us as an ally? We could hardly say that we have spared South Korea the destruction of war and removed the Red menace from her doorstep. Her country lays in shambles, and part of it will even remain in the clutches of the Red invader behind the "future battle line" (present cease-fire line).

Where is the courage and conviction that made America great? Why do we now measure victories in terms of stalemates, impasses, and compromises? Why are we now faced with the proposition of having to send additional men and materials to Korea because we will no longer be able to rely upon our Army to cut Communist supply lines and keep the enemy off balance—the Reds certainly don't have a reputation for keeping their agreements.

To save one bit of face in the eyes of the Orient, South Korea, Russia, the rest of the world, and even ourselves, we must wholeheartedly and unrestrictedly set about finishing what we have commenced and win the war that we are about to be compromised into losing.