

M2700 M*A*S*H (USA, 1969)

Credits: director, Robert Altman ; writer, Ring Lardner, Jr. ; novel, Richard Hooker.

Cast: Donald Sutherland, Elliott Gould, Robert Duval, Tom Skeritt, Sally Kellerman.

Summary: War/comedy set in 1950s Korea and Japan. Story focuses on three Army surgeons, Hawkeye Pierce (Sutherland), Duke Forrest (Skerritt), and Trapper John McIntyre (Gould). They develop a lunatic life-style in order to handle everyday horrors encountered in a Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) during the Korean War. Accompanying them are a weird corporal, Radar O'Reilly (Burghoff), a martinet nurse, Major 'Hot Lips' Hoolihan (Kellerman), and a sanctimonious Major (Robert Duvall). Although set in Korea, for the 1969-70 audience the film was clearly about Vietnam. Described as an "irreverant vision of war, war devoid of glory, courage, and just action" by Michael Dembrow in Vietnam war films.

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