

# A Daughter Shares Her Father's Story....

Andrea Doyal Cox of Boyd, TX, daughter of Chosin Few member Ernest E Doyal, sent the following story for publication to the membership. We thought you'd enjoy reading her remarks and the story that follows:

*I'm enclosing an article about my dad which appeared in the Fort Worth Press on March 21, 1951. My dad is a member of The Chosin Few who now lives in Burlleson, Texas.*

*I can never read this article without feeling tears well up in my eyes and a lump in my throat. While my Dad is a hero to me for being a wonderful father, I realize that he is a hero in ways I can't even begin to comprehend. He, and others like him, literally laid down their very lives and went through a torment most of us can't begin to imagine so that this country could remain the great nation it was then and is today. I think this story is worth sharing.....*

## Wounded Marine Visiting Kin Here Was Ambush Victim

**PFC Ernest Doyal Hit Three Times During Retreat in Korea—**

PFC Ernest E Doyal shot Joe Stalin full of holes in Korea. It wasn't really Uncle Joe that the Fort Worth Marine riddled with bullets—but pictures of Russia's No. 1 Commie.

"We found pictures of Stalin hanging in every schoolhouse over there," the 24-year-old Leatherneck recalled. "We'd shoot 'em full of holes or cut them down and stomp on them."

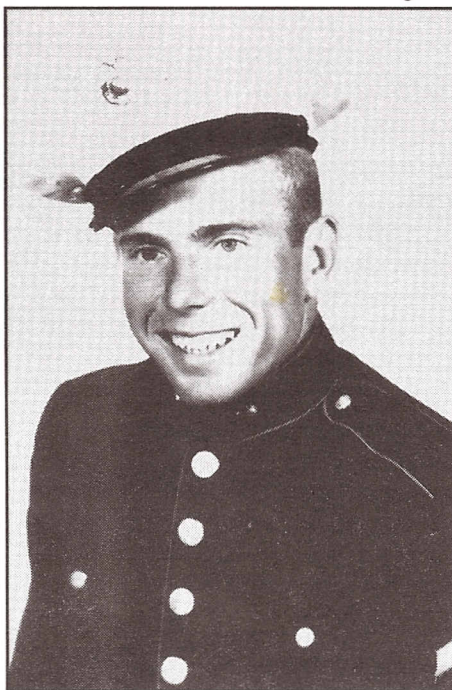
When the Marines finished the job, even Joe's mustache was hard to recognize.

A reservist who traded his mail carrier's bag for a machine-gun after the U.S. became ensnarled in the Korean fighting, Private Doyal has completed a round-trip to the battle zone.

An ugly thigh wound, frost-bitten hands and feet, and deafness in one ear are souvenirs of that trip. But he considers himself lucky.

A deadly grenade exploded only eight feet from him. Jagged bits of metal ripped into his flesh. The concussion was like a giant sledge hammer crashing against his head. But he lived to tell about it.

Then, three days later, he walked into a



PFC Ernest E Doyal, USMC. Photo submitted by Andrea Cox, Rt 2, Box 170A-26, Boyd, TX 76023.

Chinese Communist ambush with five other Marines. Four were never seen again.

But let the somber-faced Marine tell you in his own words what happened during the bloody retreat to the sea last December.

"When we started fighting our way out, I was assigned to the advance guard," he began. "Our job was to clear the way for the convoys. It wasn't the safest work in the world.

"I got hit first on December 7. We were fighting near a tank when a grenade went off. I guess I was about eight feet from it when it went off. It deafened my left ear, and shrapnel hit my left leg."

A man with his wounds ordinarily would have gone to a hospital. But this was no ordinary fighting. The First Marine Division was surrounded. It needed every man who could fire a gun. Private Doyal kept fighting.

### Put Out of Combat

Three days later, he was hit again. This time his fighting days ended.

"We were coming down a road - six of us - when they opened up with a machine gun," he recalled. "I think it was one of our guns they had captured. One minute things were quiet. Then, the next, bullets were flying everywhere.

"A .50-calibre slug hit my thigh. I went down—fast. I kept shooting back until I ran out of ammo. Then a buddy and I started crawling up a hill. I put a tourniquet on my leg. It was bleeding pretty bad.

"Somehow we made it. Some other Marines met us and put us on a truck. We told the medics about the four guys that got cut down and they said they'd try to find them, but we never saw them again. Then the medics gave us morphine. I rode on that truck all night, all day and all the next night."

### Visits Brother Here

Private Doyal, who has been assigned to the Corpus Christi Naval Hospital for treatment, visited his brother, C. L. Doyal, 509 E Mason, this weekend. Time and distance have started to dim his memories of the agonizing days he spent on the frozen battlefields.

But the wounded Marine remembers well the eerie Communist bugle calls that heralded the wild "banzai" attacks. . .beans frozen so hard in the sub-zero weather that you had to hack them apart with a bayonet and then "chew them for hours" before you could get them down. . .hungry Korean children coming into the front lines to beg for food.

They are memories which will never be erased entirely.

**Ed. Note:** Chosin Few member Ernest E Doyal served with Headquarters/4/11 at Chosin. He can be reached at 1532 E Renfro St, Burlleson, TX 76028-2206.

Here dead we lie,  
because we did not choose  
To live and shame the  
land from which we sprung;  
Life, to be sure, is  
nothing much to lose,  
But young men think it is,  
and we were young.

A E Houseman

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