

*Awarded for actions during the Korean War*

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Master Sergeant [then Sergeant] Glen Douglas (ASN: RA-39489900), United States Army, for gallantry in action while serving with Headquarters Company, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2d Infantry Division, in action on 17 March 1951 in the vicinity of Chigu-ri, Korea. On that date, Sergeant Douglas, platoon sergeant of the Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon, was making a reconnaissance of an area in front of friendly lines from which the 9th Infantry Regiment was to make an attack. After establishing a Regimental Observation Post, he returned to guide the Regimental Commander and his staff forward through an enemy mine field over frozen mountain trails to the commanding terrain. As the Command Group[ approached the observation post it was fired on by an enemy patrol. Sergeant Douglas, with utter disregard for his own safety, immediately charged the enemy position and forced the enemy to withdraw, thereby protecting the command group and enabling to group to reach the post safely. As the regiment advanced in the attack, Sergeant Douglas moved forward with one squad to set up an observation post on Hill 704 which two rifle companies were preparing to assault. He joined one of the companies and proceeded in the assault of the hill. Near the summit both companies were pinned down by enemy grenade and machine gun fire. Sergeant Douglas, again with utter disregard for his own safety, charged through the hail of hostile fire and assaulted an enemy machine gun on the flank of the hill, killing three enemy and routing five others. Inspired by his gallant charge the company continued the assault and secured the objective. The gallantry, coolness under fire, and inspiring leadership displayed by Sergeant Douglas reflect great credit upon himself and the military service.

General Orders: Headquarters, 2d Infantry Division, General Orders No. 357 (July 24, 1951)

Action Date: March 17, 1951

Service: Army

Rank: Master Sergeant

Company: Headquarters Company

Regiment: 9th Infantry Regiment

Division: 2d Infantry Division

TRIBUTE TO GLEN DOUGLAS

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HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

of Washington

in the house of representatives

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Master Sergeant Glen Douglas' sacrifice and service to our nation, which spanned twenty-two years and three wars, the first of which was World War II.

Glen Douglas is one of the most decorated veterans in our region, having received the Distinguished Service Medal and seven purple hearts among other honors.

The following excerpts from the May 4th, 2004 weekly edition of the Colville Statesman Examiner are a testament to the sacrifice, courage, commitment and leadership Mr. Douglas displayed throughout the course of his service.

Douglas's service to our country first began as an infantryman in Europe with the 101st Airborne (Screaming Eagles) in 1944 and then in the occupation army with the U.S.

Constabulary. Douglas then served in the Korean War with the

U.S. 2nd (Indianhead) Infantry Division from 1950-1953 before

he was med-evacuated after being wounded for the eighth time.

In the incidents prior when he had been wounded and evacuated, he would be taken as far as Japan before he would

disappear from the hospital, get clothes and take a boat back

to his Infantry Division. ``I would get very angry having

somebody else lead the men and lose them.'' Douglas said, ``I

hardly ever lost a man when I was leading. After being

wounded for the eighth time, Douglas nearly lost his legs and

spent four years, four months and twenty-six days in the

Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver before he was released.

He was told he would never walk again. But Douglas had his

own ideas. ``I was released December 23, 1957'' Douglas

remembered. By 1959, ``I was jumping out of airplanes

again.'' Douglas served two tours in Vietnam with the Special

Forces (Green Beret) and then again with the highly classified Studies and Operations Group before retiring after

twenty-two years of service.

I was pleased to learn that Mr. Douglas was recently selected by

fellow veterans from local chapters of the American Legion, VFW, and

Marine Corps League to receive an all expense paid trip to Washington

D.C. in order to represent them during the upcoming dedication of the

National World War II Memorial later this month.

The Memorial is a fitting tribute to the great courage and selfless dedication of soldiers who fought in the Second World War and as we approach Memorial Day, I encourage my colleagues to reflect on the great sacrifices of men like Glen Douglas.

Spokesman-Review (May 23, 2011)

Glen Douglas, a decorated U.S. Army veteran of three wars, who later became a friend and mentor to other veterans at Spokane Veterans Affairs Medical Center, died Sunday after a long illness. He was 84.

Douglas, a Lakes-Okanogan Indian, was born near Penticton, B.C., on Feb. 1, 1927. Some of his earliest memories are of being out on trap lines with his father, who taught him to survive in the wild.

When he was 12, Douglas was taken from his family in a cattle truck that went from house to house collecting Indian boys and girls. Royal Canadian Mounted Police were present when he was taken from his home and sent to the Kootenay Residential School in Cranbrook, B.C. He said he was abused there by Roman Catholic priests and brothers who belonged to the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

“We were beaten for speaking our language,” Douglas told The Spokesman-Review in a series of interviews in 2004. “They were beating the devil out of me.”

Douglas, who suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder, believed his boarding-school experience set him up for torment long after his military career ended. Douglas later received monetary reparations from the Canadian government for the days he spent at the school.

When he was 14, he was sent to live and work on his uncle’s ranch near Oroville, Wash. Three years later, determined to join the U.S. Army, Douglas asked his uncle to come with him to the draft board in Okanogan, Wash. He said he received his notice a week later, and reported to Fort Lewis, Wash., in May 1944.

His unit, part of B Company, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, had caught up with the 101st Airborne Division after it crossed the Meuse River in Belgium in 1945.

Douglas distinguished himself in battle in the Korean War. He landed in Pusan in time to relieve the badly battered 24th Infantry at the Naktong River line. In the 2004

interviews, Douglas said he was injured by a grenade at the Chorwon Valley on July 17, 1953, near Outpost Tom of the famous forward positions Tom, Dick and Harry.

His first tour of duty in Vietnam was from June 1959 to the end of May 1960 as an intelligence analyst with a Special Forces team, Douglas said.

According to John Davis, of the Homeless Veterans Center in Spokane, Douglas was an inspiration for the Native American Veteran Healing Center and sweat lodge at the Spokane Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Douglas served as chairman of the VA Native American Advisory Council and was a respected source of expertise on PTSD issues for Native American combat veterans.

He also conducted sacred ceremonies at veterans events and mentored graduate students from area colleges in the medicine ways of Native American culture.

“Glen Douglas has been an uncle, leader, brother and most of all a proud warrior,” Davis said. “He will be with us always in spirit.”

On May 20, 2004, then-U.S. Rep. George Nethercutt entered a tribute to Glen Douglas in the Congressional Record in recognition of “Douglas’ sacrifice and service to our nation, which spanned twenty-two years and three wars, the first of which was World War II.”