



The Last Stand of Fox Company: A True Story of U.S. Marines in Combat

By Bob Drury, Tom Clavin

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November 1950, the Korean Peninsula: After General MacArthur ignores Mao's warnings and pushes his UN forces deep into North Korea, his 10,000 First Division Marines find themselves surrounded and hopelessly outnumbered by 100,000 Chinese soldiers near the Chosin Reservoir. Their only chance for survival is to fight their way south through the Toktong Pass, a narrow gorge that will need to be held open at all costs. The mission is handed to Captain William Barber and the 234 Marines of Fox Company, a courageous but undermanned unit of the First Marines. Barber and his men climb seven miles of frozen terrain to a rocky promontory overlooking the pass, where they will endure four days and five nights of nearly continuous Chinese attempts to take Fox Hill. Amid the relentless violence, three-quarters of Fox's Marines are killed, wounded, or captured. Just when it looks like they will be overrun, Lt. Colonel Raymond Davis, a fearless Marine officer who is fighting south from Chosin, volunteers to lead a daring mission that will seek to cut a hole in the Chinese lines and relieve the men of Fox. This is a fast-paced and gripping account of heroism in the face of impossible odds.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

The authors of the bestselling *Halsey's Typhoon* do a fine job recounting one brutal, small-unit action during the Korean War's darkest moment. In November 1950, as General MacArthur's troops were advancing deep into North Korea, China warned that it would intervene if armies approached its border. U.S. troops were scattered through mountainous terrain at the onset of a freezing winter. Using extensive interviews with survivors, the authors tell the story of one 234-man company ordered to secure a rocky promontory overlooking the legendary Chosin Reservoir. Abundant and detailed maps enable readers to track the vicious week-long battle almost minute by minute as the men fought off repeated assaults by overwhelming Chinese forces until another marine unit arrived to rescue the few survivors. The authors draw no great lessons from Fox Company's ordeal, but deliver a precise, technically accurate account of the fighting. Although aimed at military buffs, the closeup views of individual marines tested to their limits will engage any reader curious to learn how brave men fought a conventional 20th-century war. *100,000 announced first printing; 12-city author tour.*(Jan.)

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From [Booklist](#)

The authors of *Halsey's Typhoon* (2007) are back with an equally fine book on an episode in the Chosin Reservoir campaign of the Korean War. Sent to hold a hill on the marines' line of retreat, Fox Company of the Seventh Regiment's Second Battalion wound up besieged by an entire Chinese division. Three-quarters of the company became casualties before a rescue column fought its way through to them, and three Congressional Medals of Honor were awarded for the action. Drury and Clavin have researched thoroughly, especially the memories of Fox Company survivors, and have written with their customary vividness. They remind us that the predicament of handfuls of Americans fending off foreign hordes isn't just a Hollywood spectacle. It has been a grisly reality, in this case with both sides enduring bone-chilling cold, untreated wounds, and starvation. A must for the Korean War shelves, invaluable beyond all historical period value for its coverage of infantry combat at its worst. --Roland Green

Review

"Bob Drury and Tom Clavin have set the standard for wartime accounts on the Korean conflict. Packed with fascinating personal accounts of courage and sacrifice on the part of a handful of marines assigned to keep thousands of Communist Chinese soldiers from breaking through the strategic Toktong Pass in 1950, this is a story that is almost too incredible to be true. Told largely in the words of the participants, *The Last Stand of Fox Company* deftly captures the spirit of the marine corps and its legendary tenacity on the battlefield." -- Dr. Charles P. Neimeyer

"Bob Drury and Tom Clavin have written a paean worthy of one of the most extraordinary battles in marine corps history. You can almost feel Korea's biting cold, and hear the terrifying bugles in the dark. Most of all, they remind us that although the places and dates change, the valor of America's fighting forces remains the same. A magnificent book." -- Nathaniel Fick

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Judith Joiner:

Reading a reserve tends to be new life style in this particular era globalization. With reading through you can get a lot of information which will give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world can share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire all their reader with their story or perhaps their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the publications. But also they write about advantage about something that you need instance. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your kids, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors nowadays always try to improve their skill in writing, they also doing some investigation before they write on their book. One of them is this The Last Stand of Fox Company: A True Story of U.S. Marines in Combat.

Marian Jackson:

In this period globalization it is important to someone to acquire information. The information will make professionals understand the condition of the world. The fitness of the world makes the information quicker to share. You can find a lot of recommendations to get information example: internet, newspapers, book, and soon. You will observe that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended to you personally is The Last Stand of Fox Company: A True Story of U.S. Marines in Combat this guide consist a lot of the information in the condition of this world now. That book was represented how can the world has grown up. The language styles that writer require to explain it is easy to understand. The writer made some exploration when he makes this book. This is why this book suited all of you.

Elizabeth Blake:

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