

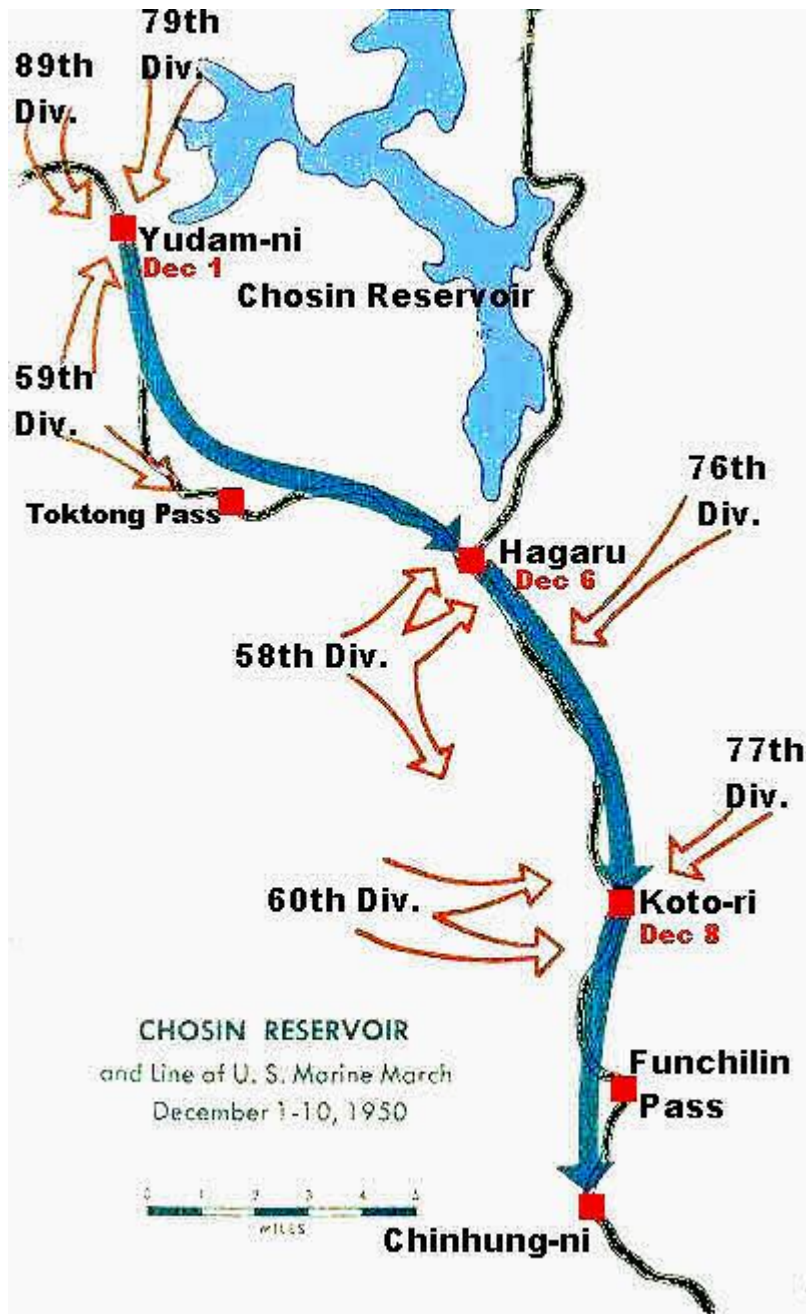
The Chosin Reservoir

James Larrow, Sleepy Hill Middle School

Middle School and regular High school students

Directions: Analyze the following documents. Use the documents and your knowledge of American History, to answer the questions that follow each document. Your answers will help you write a short essay related to the documents.

Document A:



1. Where is the Chosin Reservoir located?
2. What was the destination of the 7th Marines?
3. What is the distance from Chinhung-ni to Yudam-ni?

Document B:

"No one is prepared for the mental and physical strain that is experienced immediately upon arriving at the scene, regardless of the training he or she has received.... The newness of war disappeared very quickly once we saw our first casualties, both friend and foe, and set our mind to the fact that our old life was over and we had entered a new era."

- George McMaster

1. What does the author mean by "the newness of war disappeared"?
2. What are casualties?
3. What does the author mean by "our old life was over and we had entered a new era"?
4. What does this quote tell you about the author's experience at the Chosin Reservoir?



S/Sgt Wendell N. Blodgett

Document C:

Image courtesy of google images

1. What do you think the Marine is thinking?
2. How can you tell that the Marine is serving in combat?

Document D:



Google images

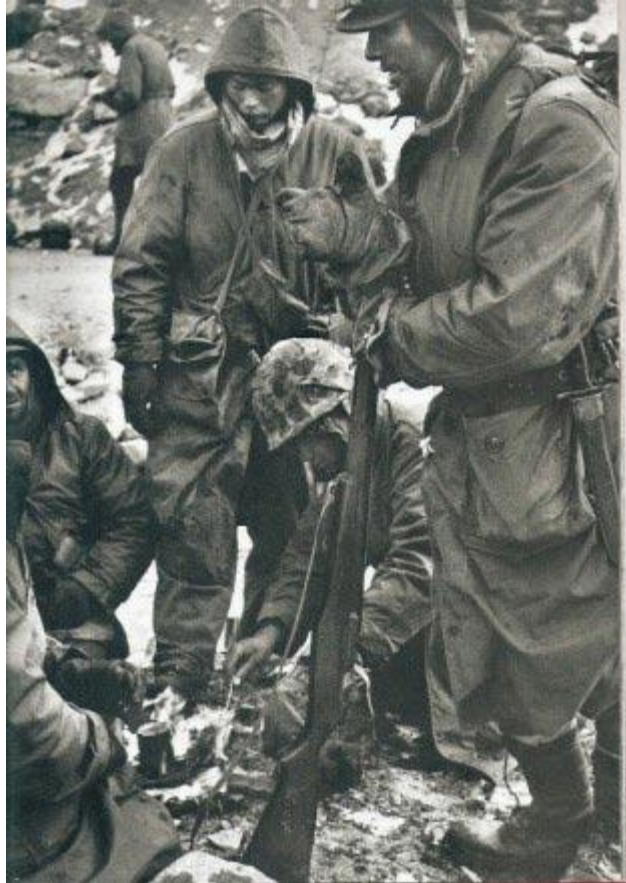
1. What are the Marines doing in the picture?
2. What is the time of year?
3. Why is the commanding officer conducting an inspection in the middle of a combat zone?



Document E:

Google images

1. What is going on in the picture?
2. What does this tell you about the living condition?
3. Do you think the food is good?



Document F:

1. What is going on in the picture?
2. What does this tell you about the conditions for the Marines?
3. What kind of bonds are formed in this type of situation?

Document G:

CAFFERATA, HECTOR A., JR.

Rank and organization: Private, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, Company F, 2d Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein.). ***Place and date:*** Korea, 28 November 1950. ***Entered service at:*** Dover, N.J. ***Born:*** 4 November 1929, New York, N.Y.

Citation:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a rifleman with Company F, in action against enemy aggressor forces. When all the other members of his fire team became casualties, creating a gap in the lines, during the initial phase of a vicious attack launched by a fanatical enemy of regimental strength against his company's hill position, Pvt. Cafferata waged a lone battle with grenades and rifle fire as the attack gained momentum and the enemy threatened penetration through the gap and endangered the integrity of the entire defensive perimeter. Making a target of himself under the devastating fire from automatic weapons, rifles, grenades, and mortars, he maneuvered up and down the line

and delivered accurate and effective fire against the onrushing force, killing 15, wounding many more, and forcing the others to withdraw so that reinforcements could move up and consolidate the position. Again fighting desperately against a renewed onslaught later that same morning when a hostile grenade landed in a shallow entrenchment occupied by wounded marines, Pvt. Cafferata rushed into the gully under heavy fire, seized the deadly missile in his right hand and hurled it free of his comrades before it detonated, severing part of 1 finger and seriously wounding him in the right hand and arm. Courageously ignoring the intense pain, he staunchly fought on until he was struck by a sniper's bullet and forced to submit to evacuation for medical treatment. Stouthearted and indomitable, Pvt. Cafferata, by his fortitude, great personal valor, and dauntless perseverance in the face of almost certain death, saved the lives of several of his fellow marines and contributed essentially to the success achieved by his company in maintaining its defensive position against tremendous odds. His extraordinary heroism throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.

1. What award did Pvt. Cafferata earn?
2. Why did Pvt. Cafferata put himself in such danger?
3. What does this tell you about the bonds formed by Marines at the Chosin Reservoir?

Essay Question

Directions: Using the information in the document provided, and your knowledge of History. Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, a body of several paragraphs, and a conclusion

What was daily life like for the men of the 7th Marines at the Chosin Reservoir? Include a discussion of why the Marines were moving South, what the Marines had to endure on the trip, and why the Marines were able to endure such horrible condition.