

SALUTE THE GLOUCESTERS

In the dusty yard of a Korean school they assemble to salute the men who held the Imjin line. Before the United Nations commander in the field the less than 50 survivors parade to receive America's highest honour; and General van Vliet abandons his prepared speech and as a soldier speaks as a soldier feels. For what they and their comrades did was more than is often asked of man. For four days the Gloucesters and G. Troop 170th Independent Mortar Battery withstood a Chinese Army. 600 fell, but the Imjin line was held, whilst the allies reformed.

To war correspondents, those who came back tell the epic story in stumbling, unskilled words. They fought till there was no more with which to fight and then they came out through the battle, haggard, hungry but with empty rifles still held high, the bravest of the brave.