



Austin K. Doyle, Admiral, USN

Admiral Doyle was graduated from the Naval Academy with the Class of 1920 on June 6, 1919, after active service in World War I on board the USS *Connecticut* in the summer of 1918. He subsequently served in the transport *Orizaba*, the battleship *Utah* and the destroyer *McFarland*. Designated Naval Aviator in December 1922, he had duty with Scouting and Fighting Squadrons of the USS *Wright*, USS *Langley*, USS *Lexington* and USS *Idaho*, interspersed by shore assignments as an instructor at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, and in the Department of Engineering and Aeronautics, U. S. Naval Academy. He was Head Coach of the Naval Academy Baseball Team in 1933.

From June 1935 to July 1940 he served successively as Tactical Officer on the Staff of Commander Aircraft, Battle Force; in the Plans Division of the Bureau of Aeronautics, Navy Department; and in command of Fighting Squadron 3 and of the Air Group based on the carrier *Saratoga*. At the outbreak of World War II in December 1941, he was attached to the Bureau of Aeronautics (Personnel and Training). On August 20, 1942, he commissioned and assumed command of the USS *Nassau*. He was awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious service in that command in May 1943.

From September 1943 to July 1944 he served on the Staff of the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, in Washington, and in August 1944 assumed command of the USS *Hornet*, which won the Presidential Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism in the Pacific War Area while under his command. He was personally awarded the Navy Cross and Gold Stars in lieu of the Second Legion of Merit and Second Navy Cross.

After the cessation of hostilities he commanded Carrier Division 25; then served as Inspector General of the Pacific Fleet and Ocean Areas; as Special Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air); and as Deputy Inspector General of the Navy. From August 1947 to August 1951 he had duty as Commandant, Naval Operating Base, Bermuda, and as Chief of Naval Air Reserve Training, at his Headquarters, Glenview, Illinois.

In 1951-1952 he commanded Carrier Division 4, his flag in the USS *Midway*, and during the next five years served as Commander Caribbean Sea Frontier and Commandant, Tenth Naval District; as Chief of Naval Air Training, Headquarters at Pensacola. He was Commander U. S. Taiwan Defense Command from July 26, 1957 until relieved of all active duty pending his retirement, effective August 1, 1958. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for "exceptionally meritorious service...as Commander United States Taiwan Defense Command from July 28, 1957 to July 31, 1958 and during the latter part of this period, as Commander of the Combined United States Taiwan Defense Command and Military Assistance Advisory Group.

Personal Data:

Born: New York, New York, 11/7/98
 Parents: Edward P. and Janet Pirnie Doyle
 Wife: Jamie Reese of Pensacola, Florida
 Children: Austin K., Jr.; Peter Reese; Rodger Pirnie, Jamie Laura and Wright
 Education: Curtis High School, Staten Island, N.Y.; U. S. Naval Academy (BS, 1919-Class of 1920); Flight Training, NAS, Pensacola, Fla.

Promotions:

Midshipman, 6 September 1916
 Ensign, 7 June 1919
 Lieutenant (jg), 7 June 1922
 Lieutenant, 7 June 1925
 Lieutenant Commander, 4 October 1935
 Commander, 1 July 1940
 Captain (T), 11 September 1942
 Captain, 19 September 1947 to rank from 2 June 1937
 Rear Admiral (T), 13 August 1945
 Rear Admiral, 1 July 1948
 Rear Admiral (upper half), 1 January 1951
 Vice Admiral (T), 1 June 1954
 Transferred to the Retired List, 1 August 1958 advanced to Admiral on the basis of combat awards

Decorations and Medals:

Navy Cross
 Gold Star in lieu of Second Navy Cross
 Distinguished Service Medal
 Legion of Merit with Combat "V"
 Gold Star in lieu of Second Legion of Merit with Combat "V"
 Presidential Unit Citation awarded USS *Hornet*

- Continued -

World War I Victory Medal with "Atlantic Fleet" Clasp
 American Defense Service Medal with "Fleet" Clasp
 American Campaign Medal
 World War II Victory Medal
 Navy Occupation Service Medal with "Europe" Clasp
 National Defense Service Medal
 Philippine Liberation Ribbon with two (2) bronze stars
 Legion of Honor - France (Rank of Commander)
 Order of Merit Italy (Rank of Commander)

Duty Assignment Chronology

7/19-9/19 USS *Orizaba* (AP-24).
 9/19-11/21 USS *Utah* (BB-31).
 11/21-5/22 USS *McFarland* (DD-237).
 5/22-12/22 NAS Pensacola, Designated Naval Aviator on 12/26/22.
 12/22-11/25 Aircraft Squadrons, Scouting Fleet (VS-1, USS *Wright*).
 12/25-11/25 NAS Pensacola (Instructor).
 7/28-6/30 VF Squadron SIX-B, Aircraft Squadrons, Battle Fleet.
 6/30-6/33 Naval Academy, Annapolis (Instructor, Dept. of Eng. & Aero.) (Baseball Coach).
 6/33-6/34 VF Squadron TWO-B (USS *Lexington*).
 6/34-6/35 USS *Idaho* (Pilot of Aviation Unit).
 6/35-6/36 Aircraft BatFor (Tactical Off. Staff of Cdr.)
 6/36-5/38 BuAer, Washington, D. C. (Plans Division).
 6/38-6/39 Fighting Squadron THREE (CO) (USS *Saratoga*).
 6/39-5/40 Carrier Air Group Cdr. (USS *Saratoga*).
 5/40-8/42 BuAer, Washington, D. C. (Personnel Training Div.)
 8/42-9/43 Cfo USS *Nassau* (Dufly) (Commanding).
 9/43-7/44 Headquarters, Cdr. in Chief, U. S. Fleet.
 7/44 - 8/45 USS *Hornet* (Commanding).
 8/45-9/45 Commander Carrier Division 25.
 9/45-5/46 Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Area (Deputy Naval Inspector General) .
 5/46-8/47 Naval Operations (Special Asst. to DCNO)
 8/47-6/49 U. S. Naval Operating Base, Bermuda (Comdt.)
 6/49-8/51 Chief, Naval Air Reserve Training Command, Naval Air Station, Glenview, Illinois.
 8/51-9/52 Commander Carrier Division FOUR.
 9/52-2/53 Commander Caribbean Sea Frontier.
 2/53-5/54 Commander Caribbean Sea Frontier, and Commandant, TENTH Naval District.
 5/54-7/57 NAS Pensacola, Fla. (Chief of Naval Air Training).
 7/57-8/58 Commander U. S. Taiwan Defense Command.
 8/1/58 Retired from Active Duty.

Citations:

"Legion of Merit with Combat "V," "For exceptionally meritorious conduct...as Commanding Officer of an escort carrier during the seizure and occupation of enemy Japanese-held Attu Island in May 1943. Skillfully directing the opera-

tions of his ship, (he) in the face of extremely low ceilings and poor visibility, rendered highly effective support to the units of the Northern and Southern Landing Forces during their advances..."

Navy Cross. "For extraordinary heroism... during operations against enemy Japanese forces in the Pacific War Area, from August 29, to October 30, 1944. Under heavy enemy aerial attack while operating close to Japanese shores on October 13 and 14, (he) maintained his ship at full fighting strength which resulted in a number of enemy aircraft being shot down by anti-aircraft fire with no damage to the *Hornet*...During the battle for Leyte Gulf on October 25 and 26, he again handled his ship in such an outstanding manner that the full strength of his Air Group was brought to bear against the enemy, resulting in heavy damage to the sinking of capital ships of the Japanese Fleet..."

Gold Star in lieu of Second Legion of Merit, with Combat "V": "For exceptionally meritorious conduct...during operations against enemy Japanese forces in the areas of Mindoro, Formosa, and Luzon, from November 30, 1944 to January 25, 1945. Undaunted by relentless enemy air attacks and adverse weather conditions, (he) maneuvered his ship through restricted and typhoon-swept waters without damage to either ship or aircraft...He was largely responsible for the success of his ship and attached Air Group in inflicting destruction upon numerous enemy planes and installations..."

Gold Star in lieu of second Navy Cross: "For extraordinary heroism as Commanding Officer of the USS *Hornet* in action...from February 10 to May 19, 1945. A bold and inspiring leader, (he) directed his ship and attached air group in a series of aggressive operations against the enemy in which 297 hostile planes were shot down or destroyed, important units of the Japanese fleet damaged, and shore installations and enemy shipping damaged or destroyed..."

Distinguished Service Medal: "For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Commander United States Taiwan Defense Command from July 28, 1957 to July 31, 1958 and, during the latter part of this period, as Commander of the combined United States Taiwan Defense Command and Military Assistance Advisory Group. An outstanding leader and diplomat, Vice Admiral Doyle was eminently successful in carrying out his responsibilities throughout this period. Exercising sound judgment, keen foresight, and an unerring adherence to the highest ideals of the naval profession, he succeeded in winning the trust and confidence of the leaders of the Chinese Nationalist Government and, through them, was able to guide the policies of that Government in establishing a sturdy bastion in support of the United States and the other nations of the Free World..."

In May 1957 he was awarded the Admiral John H. Towers Memorial Award by the Aviation Commandery of the Naval Order of the United States.