

Prisoners Of Hope With The Chindits In Burma 1944

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war in the wilderness is the most comprehensive account ever published of the human aspects of the chindit war in burma the word chindit will always have a special resonance in military circles every chindit endured what is widely regarded as the toughest sustained allied combat experience of the second world war the chindit expeditions behind japanese lines in occupied burma 1943 1944 transformed the morale of british forces after the crushing defeats of 1942 the chindits provided the springboard for the allies later offensives the two expeditions extended the boundaries of human endurance the chindits suffered slow starvation and exposure to dysentery malaria typhus and a catalogue of other diseases they endured the intense mental strain of living and fighting under the jungle canopy with the ever present threat of ambush or simply bumping the enemy every chindit carried his kit and weapons equivalent to two heavy suitcases in the tropical heat and humidity a disabling wound or sickness frequently meant a lonely death those who could no longer march were often left behind

with virtually no hope of survival some severely wounded were shot or given a lethal dose of morphia to ensure they would not be captured alive by the japanese fifty veterans of the chindit expeditions kindly gave interviews for this book many remarked on the self reliance that sprang from living and fighting as a chindit whatever happened to them after their experiences in burma they knew that nothing else would ever be as bad there are first hand accounts of the bitter and costly battles and the final wasteful weeks when men were forced to continue fighting long after their health and strength had collapsed war in the wilderness continues the story as the survivors returned to civilian life they remained chindits for the rest of their days members of a brotherhood forged in extreme adversity

book 10 of the ladybird expert history of the second world war from award winning historian james holland featuring stunning illustrations from keith burns bringing the story to life in vivid detail why were british troops in burma what was the defence of the admin box how did the british defeat the japanese troops the burma campaign was one of the most prolonged campaigns in the south east asian theatre of war but it was also one of the most dramatic against japanese troops and monsoon weather the allies finally prevailed demonstrating to the world that the axis powers could be defeated in the east britain s turning point in the war in the east written by historian author and broadcaster james holland the war in burma is an essential accessible introduction to britain s triumph in the east discover the full ladybird expert ww2 series blitzkrieg the battle of britain battle of the atlantic the desert war the eastern front the pacific war the bomber war the war in italy the battle for normandy the war in burma victory in europe victory against japan

an account of the decisive wwii battles that helped shape asia s future reminds us of the high stakes at risk for both allies and axis powers in burma military review from december 1943 to august 1944 allied and japanese forces fought the decisive battles of world war ii in southeast asia fighting centered around north burma imphal kohima and the arakan involving troops from all over the world along a battlefield the combined size of pennsylvania and ohio the campaigns brought nations into collision for the highest stakes british and indian troops fighting for empire the indo japanese forces seeking a prestige victory with an invasion of india and the americans and chinese focused on helping china and reopening the burma road events turned on the decisions of the principal commanders admiral louis mountbatten and generals joseph stilwell william slim orde wingate and mutaguchi renya among many others the impact of the fighting was felt in london tokyo washington and other places far away from the battlefield with effects that presaged postwar political relationships this was also the first u s involvement in southeast asia and stilwell s operations in some ways foreshadowed battles in vietnam two decades later nations in the balance recounts these battles offering dramatic and compelling stories of people fighting in difficult conditions against high odds with far reaching results it also shows how they proved important to the postwar future of the participant nations and asia as a whole with effects that still reverberate decades after the war

charles evans records his passage from idyllic youth fresh from oxford in 1939 into the harsh reality of a junior doctor in burma beautifully written and elegantly vivid his diaries illuminate the progress of this ugly campaign while his post war life saw ground breaking work as a mountaineer eventually rewarded by a knighthood

despatches in this volume include that on operations in burma and north east india between november 1943 and june 1944 by general sir george j giffard the despatch on operations in assam and burma

between june 1944 and november 1944 by general sir george j giffard commander in chief the despatch on naval operations in the ramree island area burma in january and february 1945 by vice admiral sir arthur j power commander in chief east indies station and the despatch on operations in burma between november 1944 and august 1945 by lieutenant general sir oliver leese this unique collection of original documents will prove to be an invaluable resource for historians students and all those interested in what was one of the most significant periods in british military history

this volume completes a two volume guide to manuscripts relating to south and south east asia held in public and private collections in britain and ireland volume 1 covering repositories in london was published in 1989

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