

The Commando General The Life Of Major General Sir Robert Laycock Kcmg Cb Dso

This is the first biography of 'Boy' Browning, whose name is inextricably linked with the creation and employment of Britain's airborne forces in the Second World War. Commissioned into the Grenadier Guards, Browning served on the Western Front, earning a DSO during the Battle of Cambrai. As Adjutant at Sandhurst, he began the tradition of riding a horse up the steps at the end of the commissioning parade. Browning represented England as a hurdler and Great Britain at the 1928 Winter Olympics. In 1932 Browning married Daphne du Maurier, who was ten years younger and became one of the 20th century's most enduring and popular novelists with titles such as Jamaica Inn and Rebecca. Browning commanded two brigades before being appointed to command 1 Airborne Division in 1941, later acts as Eisenhower's advisor on airborne warfare in the Mediterranean. In 1944 he commanded 1st Airborne Corps, which he took to Holland for Operation MARKET GARDEN that September. Allegedly coining the phrase "a bridge too far", he has received much of the blame for the operation's failure. In late 1944, Browning became Chief of Staff to Mountbatten. In 1948 he became Comptroller and Treasurer to Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip and then Treasurer to the latter following the Queen's accession. He was a close adviser to the Royal couple who respected his judgment. By this time Boy and Daphne lived separate lives with Boy working at the Palace in London and Daphne reluctant to leave her beloved Cornwall although the marriage remained intact. Questions exist as to Daphne's sexuality and Boy had a succession of discreet mistresses. After a nervous breakdown probably due to marriage problems, he resigned in 1959 and retired to Cornwall. Browning died in March 1965. AUTHOR: Educated at Cambridge University, Richard Mead is a chartered accountant with wide commercial experience. As a military historian he specializes in the Second World War. SELLING POINTS: -The first biography of this distinguished WW2 general who was a pioneer of airborne forces and commander of the 1st Airborne Corps -Examines where the blame for the failure of the Arnhem MARKET GARDEN operation should fall -Throws light on Browning's unusual marriage to Daphne du Maurier , the celebrated novelist -Strong by HRH the Duke of Edinburgh ILLUSTRATIONS 16 pages of b/w plates

When the US assassinated Qassem Soleimani in January 2020, he was one of the most powerful men in Iran. The military spearhead for Iranian foreign policy, he enacted the wishes of the country's Supreme Leader, establishing the Islamic Republic as a major force in the Middle East. He masterminded interventions in Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen, supporting Iran's allies and campaigning against the Taliban, US forces, Israel and ISIS. But all this was a long way from where he began – on the margins of a country whose ruler was regarded as a friend of the West. In this gripping account, Arash Azizi examines Soleimani's life, regional influence and future ambitions. He breaks new ground through interviews with Iranians, Afghans, Iraqis and Syrians who knew Soleimani for years, including his personal driver, the aides who accompanied him to his Moscow meeting with Vladimir Putin, and his brother. Through Soleimani, Azizi reveals the true nature of Iran's global ambitions, providing a rare insight into a country whose actions are much talked about but seldom understood. June Wandrey, young, confident and energetic climbed the gangplank of the SS Santa Elena bound for the battlefields of North Africa, Sicily, Italy, France and Germany. From her diary, notes and letters, live with her the life of a surgical nurse in a field hospital, often operating within sound of guns. Feel with her the despair and infinite sadness as she cares for and comforts the wounded youth. Empathize with her agonized cry from the horrors of Allach and Dachau "Where are you, God?"

Ralph Cochrane was born in 1895 into a distinguished naval family. After joining the Royal

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Navy, he volunteered in 1915 to serve with the RNAS in airships and was an early winner of the Air Force Cross. In 1918 he transferred to the fledgling RAF and learned to fly, serving in Iraq as a flight commander under 'Bomber' Harris. His inter-war career saw him as a squadron commander in Aden before he became the first Chief of Air Staff of the Royal New Zealand Air Force. During the Second World War he served mainly in Bomber Command and commanded 5 Group from early 1943. He formed 617 Squadron and was instrumental in planning the legendary Dambuster Raid, the most spectacular of the War, as well as the sinking of the battleship Tirpitz. An inspirational leader, he trained 5 Group in low level target marking skills. Post war, Cochrane held a string of senior appointments commanding Transport Command, Flying Training Command and finally as Vice Chief of Air Staff, retiring in 1952. He died in 1977.

When the ruthless Chancellor Palpatine issues his nefarious Order 66, which calls for the extermination of the Jedi, the members of the Omega and Delta squads are faced with a desperate choice between the Order and their loyalty to their Jedi allies.

"I never thought I could want anyone as much as I wanted Nash, then I met you"~Royal When I was sixteen I was afflicted with a terrible curse...I fell in love with my straight best friend. I never thought I'd move past my feelings for Nash and find someone who could love me in return, until the day a gorgeous marine plopped himself down in my chair and asked me to ink him. I'm falling fast for Zade, but my feelings for Nash are still very real. When life starts getting complicated and Nash speaks the words I never thought I'd hear, the only thing I want is for us to find a way to make this work...together. "What if I told you, you'd never have to choose?"~Zade I thought I'd stay in the marines for life, that was the plan. But after a traumatic event I couldn't make myself re-enlist when my contract was up. Confused and unsure what to do next I called up my best friend for a place to stay. What I didn't count on was my best friend's boyfriend practically throwing a sexy tattoo artist at me to keep me busy. Royal is everything I've ever wanted and his roommate, Nash, is starting to grow on me, too. "A few weeks ago I thought I was straight. Now I'm sandwiched between two sweaty men. Can't say I do anything half-assed." ~Nash Of course I've noticed that my best friend, Royal is crazy good looking. I have eyes, that doesn't mean I'm into guys. Although, when I start to notice that his new boyfriend, Zade, is pretty hot too, that makes me start to question things a little. Not to mention the dreams I keep having of the three of us together. I'm willing to try if they are. **This is NOT a love triangle, just good old fashioned man-on-man-on-man love **Every book in the Heathens Ink series can be read as a stand-alone, but it's way more fun to read them in order. Always marked out for high rank, Robert Laycock came into his own when selected to raise 8 Commando, a new 'crack' unit early in the Second World War. After training, 7, 8 and 11 Commandos were sent to the Middle East in early 1941 and all became Layforce under Laycock's command. Layforce was disbanded after Crete fell. Laycock took part in the abortive raid on Rommel's HQ. As commander of the Special Service Brigade Laycock played an important role in the Sicily landings and at Salerno. In October 1943 he succeeded Mountbatten as Chief of Combined Operations, coordinating combined services operations and training and attending Allied conferences. In later life Laycock became Governor of Malta and Colonel of the SAS. In this long overdue biography, the author reveals the detail of this fine soldier's character and superb military record.

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Native Life in South Africa (1916) is a book by Solomon T. Plaatje. Written while Plaatje was serving as General Secretary of the South African Native National Congress, the work shows the influence of American activist and socialist historian W. E. B. Du Bois, whom Plaatje met and befriended. Using historical analysis and firsthand accounts from native South Africans, Plaatje exposes the cruelty of colonialism and analyzes the significance of the 1913 Natives' Land Act. "Awaking on Friday morning, June 20, 1913, the South African Native found himself, not actually a slave, but a pariah in the land of his birth." *Native Life in South Africa* begins with the passage of the 1913 Natives' Land Act, which made it illegal for Black South Africans to lease and purchase land outside of government designated reserves. The act, which was the first of many segregation laws passed by the Union Parliament, was devastating to millions of poor South African natives, most of whom relied on leasing land from white farmers to survive. *Native Life in South Africa* is a classic of South African literature reimagined for modern readers.

During his exile in Madagascar, Boer soldier Deneys Reitz wrote about his experience of the Second Boer War (1899-1902). When it was eventually edited and published in 1929 as *Commando: A Boer Journal of the Boer War*, it still had the freshness and detail of an account written soon after the war. Reitz' descriptions of the tumult through the eyes of a warrior in the saddle form not only a succinct narrative and important source for the Second Boer War, but his family connections (his father Francis William Reitz was State Secretary of the Transvaal), sheer luck, and participation at virtually every major event of the War all provide for a unique account. A vivid, unforgettable picture of mobile guerrilla warfare. Richly illustrated throughout.

NATIONAL BESTSELLER • "Steven Pressfield brings the battle of Thermopylae to brilliant life."—Pat Conroy *At Thermopylae*, a rocky mountain pass in northern Greece, the feared and admired Spartan soldiers stood three hundred strong. Theirs was a suicide mission, to hold the pass against the invading millions of the mighty Persian army. Day after bloody day they withstood the terrible onslaught, buying time for the Greeks to rally their forces. Born into a cult of spiritual courage, physical endurance, and unmatched battle skill, the Spartans would be remembered for the greatest military stand in history—one that would not end until the rocks were awash with blood, leaving only one gravely injured Spartan squire to tell the tale. . . .

Sam Elworthy's career was remarkable by any standards. Born in New Zealand in 1911 and educated in England, he was called to the Bar. After learning to fly he

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joined the RAAF. During the Second World War he won the DFC, DSO and AFC and, after commanding 82 Squadron, worked closely with 'Bomber' Harris and General Eisenhower. He became an air commodore aged 33. His meteoric rise continued post-war. Switching to Fighter Command he saw service in India, Pakistan, and the UK before becoming Commandant of the RAF Staff College. By 1960 he was tri-service C-in-C Middle East and his actions prevented the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq. As Chief of Air Staff and Chief of defense Staff in the 1960s he fought the Services' corner at a difficult political and economic time. He secured the long term future of the RAF, whose very existence was threatened. A hugely respected figure, he became a life peer, Knight of the Garter and Constable of Windsor Castle. He died in 1993 in his native New Zealand. This long overdue biography attempts successfully to do justice to a man of great stature, integrity and achievement.

Raised in Queens, New York, Johnny Ramone founded one of the most influential rock bands of all time, but he never strayed from his blue-collar roots and attitude. He was truly imbued with the angry-young-man spirit that would characterize his persona both on and off stage. Through it all, Johnny kept the band focused and moving forward, ultimately securing their place in music history by inventing punk rock. The Ramones were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2002—two years later, Johnny died of cancer, having outlived two other founding members. Revealing, inspiring, and told on his own terms, this highly designed memoir also features Johnny's assessment of the Ramones' albums; a number of eccentric Top Ten lists; rare historical artifacts; and scores of personal and professional photos, many of which have never before been published. Praise for *Commando*: "Amazing book . . . dense and throbbing with character—enough to bring this departed New York icon barking back to life." —New York Daily News "Johnny's delightful, sadly posthumous autobiography, *Commando*, is just like its author—as punk as it gets." —Wall Street Journal "Ramone memoir reveals charming, grumpy punk icon." —Reuters "There's no grand confessional to end *Commando*, just a nod of gratitude toward family, friends, and fans. Its characteristic succinctness rings genuine." —Austin Chronicle

The author of the best-selling *Born to Run* describes his investigation into ancestral training techniques that have enabled Mediterranean athletes to achieve extraordinary levels of strength and fitness.

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“Truscott was one of the really tough generals,” soldier-cartoonist Bill Mauldin of the 45th Infantry Division once wrote. “He could have eaten a ham like Patton for breakfast any morning and picked his teeth with the man’s pearl-handled pistols.” Not one merely to act the part of commander, Mauldin remembered, “Truscott spent half his time at the front—the real front—with nobody in attendance but a nervous Jeep driver and a worried aide.” In this biography of Lucian K. Truscott, Jr., author Harvey Ferguson tells the story of how Truscott—despite his hardscrabble beginnings, patchy education, and questionable luck—not only made the rank of army lieutenant general, earning a reputation as one of World War II’s most effective officers along the way, but was also given an honorary promotion to four-star general seven years after his retirement. For all his accomplishments and celebrated heroic action, Truscott was not one for self-aggrandizement, which may explain in part why historians have neglected him until now. *The Last Cavalryman*, drawing on personal papers only recently made available, gives the first full picture of this singular man’s extraordinary life and career. Ferguson describes Truscott’s near-accidental entry into the U.S. Cavalry (propelled by Pancho Villa’s 1916 raids) and his somewhat halting rise through the ranks—aided by fellow cavalryman George S. Patton, Jr., who steered him into the nascent armored force at the right time. The author takes us through Truscott’s service in the Second World War, from creating the U.S. Army Rangers to engineering the breakout from Anzio and leading the “masterpiece” invasion of southern France. Ferguson finishes his narrative by detailing the general’s postwar work with the CIA, where he acted as President Dwight Eisenhower’s eyes and ears within the agency. A compelling story in itself, this biography of Lucian K. Truscott, Jr.—a cavalryman to the last—fills out an important chapter in American military history.

If the prevalence of Civil War reenactments, glossy magazines, admired documentaries, and hundreds of books published on the subject each year are any indication, one of America's darkest historical periods is also its most popular. But, as the essays in this provocative collection bring to mind, military history regularly takes precedence over social history, and the contemporary Civil War community too often ignores an integral part of the conflict: African Americans. *Black Flag over Dixie: Racial Atrocities and Reprisals in the Civil War* highlights the central role that race played in the Civil War by examining some of the ugliest incidents that played out on its battlefields. Challenging the American public's perception of the Civil War as a chivalrous family quarrel, twelve rising and prominent historians show the conflict to be a wrenching social revolution whose bloody excesses were exacerbated by racial hatred. Edited by Gregory J. W. Urwin, this compelling volume focuses on the tendency of Confederate troops to murder black Union soldiers and runaway slaves and divulges the details of black retaliation and the resulting cycle of fear and violence that poisoned race relations during Reconstruction.

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A teenager during the Battle of Britain, Rod enlisted in the British Army at age seventeen, prepared to fight as an Infantryman in World War II. Following a successful Normandy invasion, Rod planned to join the Allies' rapid advance across Europe. Just weeks into Basic Training, Rod was selected for Commando School, destined to join an elite group of special operations war fighters. Weeks before Rod was due to graduate Commando training, he was mysteriously removed and transported to an airfield. The next day, he participated in the largest Airborne invasion in military history. On September 17, 1944, Rod jumped into Arnhem as part of 'Operation Market Garden,' an aggressive plan to secure an attack route into Germany through the Netherlands. Despite being wounded as he exited the aircraft, Rod fought in Arnhem for nine days in brutal, unthinkable conditions. Surrounded by Germans, 10,000 of Rod's men jumped in, and only 2,000 returned. Demonstrating remarkable courage, led by Lieutenant Colonel John Frost, Rod and his men held the Arnhem Bridge for three days, repelling massive German counterattacks. Finally running out of food, supplies, and ammunition, Frost was wounded, leaving Rod and his men to fend for themselves. For the next six days, Rod fought through brutal urban combat in Arnhem. One of few Arnhem survivors, Rod continued military service through the end of war, to Russia, the Nuremberg Trials, and even the liberation of a German Concentration Camp. Following the war, Rod worked on several top-secret government projects including a real-life flying saucer, as well as the Avro Arrow, one of the most controversial military projects in history. Later, Rod was recruited by General Motors where he developed prototypes for the Corvette project. A very quiet and humble man, Rod has never shared his story. Spanning from childhood to today, with a focus on his World War II service, this is Rod's story. Written by a soldier, for a soldier, author Jeff Wells frames Rod's military experiences within the strategic significance of Operation Market Garden. Incorporating the work of other historians and his own experiences in combat, Wells frames Rod's role within the greater context of World War II. 100% of all proceeds from the sale of this book assist WISH for OUR HEROES, a charity dedicated to helping military families with basic needs: food, shelter, transportation, child needs, and medical expenses. To learn more, visit www.wishforourheroes.org.

Making Warriors in a Global Era provides ethnographic data, analyses, and discussions to infuse new debates among both military personnel and academics about the rise of special operations forces (SOF) and the ways they impact how armed conflicts are dealt with and how wars are fought.

"The multi-faceted Revolutionary War career of Benjamin Tallmadge included operations as a dragoon commander, intelligence and counter-intelligence officer, and master of combined land-sea operations. Tallmadge's Revolutionary service graphically illuminates the struggle in the region which witnessed the most continuous, relentless, often pitiless, fighting of the struggle"--

After the German occupation of 1940, Britain was forced to reassess its relationship with Norway, a country largely on the periphery of the main theatres of the Second World War. Christopher Mann examines British military policy towards Norway, concentrating on the

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commando raids, deception planning and naval operations.

This is the story of Brigadier Peter Young (1915-1988), a highly decorated soldier who was one of the founding members of 3 Commando, rising during WWII from 2 Lt to Brigadier in the space of 6 years. His battle honours include Vaagso, Dieppe, Sicily, Italy, Normandy and Burma. A career soldier, he returned to his parent regiment, the Beds and Herts, after the war and subsequently spent time in Palestine where he commanded the 9th Regiment of the Arab Legion under Glubb Pasha. After Suez he returned to England, retiring from the Army in 1959. He founded the War Studies Department at RMA Sandhurst during the 60s, intending to create there a intellectual centre along the lines of a university faculty for the study of military history and to that end gathered around him some of the finest military historians of the day including Richard Holmes, David Chandler and John Adair amongst others. He was instrumental in the forming of The Sealed Knot and is revered in re-enactment circles. To publicise a book he had written about the English Civil War he organised a publicity stunt which evolved rapidly into the first re-enactment society: The Sealed Knot. An avid war-gamer, his name is legendary in war-gaming circles. 'The Brig' is still a well-known personality even among those too young ever to have met him.

Best known for his role in helping to establish the Singapore Armed Forces Commando Formation and as the unit's first commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel (Retired) Clarence Tan was born on his family's rubber plantation, just ten months before the Japanese invasion of British Malaya in 1941. As with those of his generation, his life spans the dramatic, often tumultuous years of Singapore's evolution from a primarily rural British colony to the world class cosmopolis it is today. From leading a platoon during racial riots in Singapore to searching for communist insurgents and Indonesian infiltrators in the jungles of Malaysia during the Emergency and the Confrontation, LTC (Rtd) Tan was part of both the British and Malaysian armies before becoming a pioneer officer in Singapore's defence force. For as surely as there are makers of history, there are those too who are made by history. Always A Commando is at once a compelling chronicle of one man's life from kampong kid to red beret and a rich evocation of the country he served through turbulent and uncertain times.

Helen Marie Fias has written many short stories, Bible studies, and novels, based on her experiences and teachings. She was raised on a dairy farm in Wisconsin, but spent most of her adult life in the beautiful Western side of Washington State. Helen's interests, besides being a wife and mother, have been oil painting, ceramic making, teaching the Bible and writing. Two of her novels based on her young life on a dairy farm, Country Splendor and Country Splendor Embraced, have been published and well received. In 1960 she was divorced from her first husband and raising three small children with the help of her parents when, by chance, she met a recently widowed young Hungarian man. They found that even though their lives were so different from each other's, still the attraction between them was strong. Tibor Fias had lost his wife in a house fire, and his three babies had died in their infancy. He insisted on marrying Helen shortly after they met, and adopting her daughter and two sons. Eventually another son and daughter were born to them, rounding out their family. The Life of a Freedom Fighter is her latest endeavor, relating the exciting experiences of her husband's life in Hungary that ended with his bringing his young bride with him to the United States, after the Hungarian Revolution in 1956 was lost. He lived a fascinating life, full of intrigue, danger, romance and wars. His story captivates his audiences, with them encouraging him to put it into print.

Brigadier General Dean's new life continues. Now he is Cadet Igor Lavroff, who has managed to defeat a fatal disease, enroll in the Planetary Commando Academy and survive in battle on an enemy-occupied planet. He is still far from completing the task assigned to him by his command in his past life. But he moves steadily towards his goal, despite the intrigues he faces, the backstabbing and the large-scale alien offensive threatening to destroy the Earth

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Federation long before Dean can fulfill his mission.

'Extraordinary. This book will inspire you to reach your full potential' Jason Fox Are you stuck in a rut? Do you have more to give? Do you dream of leading a different life? Ben Williams was struggling with drug addiction and battling suicidal thoughts when he saw an advert for the Royal Marines Commandos that changed his life forever. Serving ten years in the Commandos, he learnt important lessons about purpose, integrity, motivation and teamwork. Leaving the Commandos because of injury, Ben set up a coaching business that has helped high-performance companies and professional sports teams like the England Football Squad, coaching them in the build-up to their outstanding performance at the 2018 World Cup. Now Ben is sharing his principles for success. In *Commando Mindset*, Ben reveals his process for achieving goals of any size to help you take your life to the next level. Inside you'll learn how to: - identify your personal inspirations and values - overcome your fears - set and achieve realistic goals - keep yourself motivated Whether you want to set up a business, run a marathon for the first time or learn a new skill, the *Commando Mindset* will help you reach your full potential and achieve anything you set your mind to.

Unexpectedly selected by Churchill to command 8th Army in 1942 in place of the sacked Auchinleck, 'Strafer' Gott was targeted by German intelligence as he flew to Cairo to take up his new post. Six ME109s intercepted his aircraft and, after shooting it down, deliberately machine-gunned the crash scene. Gott became the only Allied general to be successfully targeted by the Germans and, as a result, Montgomery was given command and the rest is history. But as this long overdue and well researched biography reveals, 'Strafer' deserves to be remembered for his exceptional talents, meteoric career and record of gallantry. As a young officer in The Great War he won the Military Cross (many thought a VC would have been more appropriate) and he repeatedly attempted to escape. In 1939 he was commanding his Battalion as a Lieutenant Colonel and two years later he became a Lieutenant General. He was recognised as a superb Desert General whose aggression, originality and leadership qualities were supported by charm, warmth and compassion. While it is fascinating, if unproductive, to surmise what would have happened had Gott and not Monty fought Rommel, it can be confidently said that relations with our allies would have benefitted. Drawing on primary source material, this first biography of an outstanding soldier and commander is not only a rewarding and revealing read but an important addition to the bibliography of the Second World War. As featured in the *Dover Express*, *Ashford Herald* and *Folkestone Herald*. In this autobiography, Omar N. Bradley (1893-1981) recounts his youth in Missouri, his years at the US Military Academy at West Point (he graduated in 1915 alongside Dwight D. Eisenhower), his assignments on the US-Mexico border and in Montana guarding copper mines during World War I, his tours teaching mathematics at West Point and in 1941, commanding of the US Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, his active duty during World War II in North Africa, Sicily, Normandy and eventually commanding 43 divisions and 1.3 million Americans in Europe, linking up with Soviet forces on the Elbe in April 1945, sealing the defeat of Nazi forces. Bradley provides vivid descriptions of key figures in the liberation of Europe, including Marshall, Eisenhower, Patton, Churchill and Montgomery. Back in Washington, Bradley describes his years heading the Veterans Administration, his tenure as Army Chief of Staff and as first Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff starting in 1949. After being promoted to the rank of General of the Army (five stars) in 1950, Bradley was the senior military commander when the Korean War started; he supported President Truman's wartime policy of containment and was instrumental in persuading Truman to dismiss General MacArthur in 1951 after MacArthur resisted administration attempts to scale back the war's strategic objectives. "The narrative deals skillfully with the planning and execution of campaigns that changed history... an unmatched panorama of 40 years of American military history... A great many writers have taken a crack at describing the 1944 Allied landings in Normandy [but] no

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overall description of that long, bitter battle on the American beaches, Utah and Omaha, is better than the one in this book.” — Drew Middleton, *The New York Times* “The most unassuming of the WW II military chiefs has (in recompense?) the last, stinging word... a vigorous, accomplished, exceptionally unconstrained narrative... Explosive yet likable.” — *Kirkus Reviews* “[A] surprisingly candid account from a man long reputed to be mild-mannered, discreet, and uncritical of the figures of his time... General Bradley has given us a very informative autobiography. Especially interesting are the sections on American military participation in the North African and Sicilian campaigns, and Eisenhower’s role there; the Normandy landings and subsequent breakout; the Battle of the Bulge; and President Truman’s removal of General MacArthur from command in Korea... He is very frank in his comments on Eisenhower’s weaknesses as Allied commander in North Africa and Sicily, and of Patton’s ill-advised behavior and remarks during that period and later. He is also harshly critical of Montgomery’s “prima donna”-like behavior and his continual efforts to push Eisenhower into giving him the supreme command of all Allied ground troops... With the loss of General Bradley, there are unlikely to be any more top-rank firsthand accounts of this period in US military history. Bradley’s book, therefore, may have the last word, but he hasn’t abused that privilege. He was too fair a man for that.” — Howard C. Thomas, *The Christian Science Monitor* “[A] superb book... a remarkably smooth-flowing account of the life of one of this country’s most distinguished military leaders... Bradley’s candid appraisals of his superiors, subordinates and peers, notably Patton, Montgomery, Eisenhower, Simpson and Hodges, make fascinating reading... this is a first-rate addition to the growing number of biographies of prominent World War II military personalities. Besides being eminently enjoyable reading for casual consumption, it is of significant value to the student of military history.” — Lieutenant Colonel William A. de Palo, Jr., *Infantry Magazine*

'For Bram to share his amazing stories is a gift . . . you can't help but be inspired.' - Paul Roos
To be a good leader you first have to be a good follower, but to be a great leader you have to remember that being a good follower wasn't easy. Imagine having access to the planning, training and motivational secrets of Australia's most elite military operators; then imagine being able to adapt what they know to your own everyday life. This is what Bram Connolly gives us in this smart, surprising, optimistic and autobiographical manual for resilience, personal leadership and success. In sharing the tedium of training as a raw recruit and taking us into the pitch of battle during some of the toughest fighting in Afghanistan, Bram Connolly reminds us among other things that it is okay to be bored, that laziness can quickly become a habit, that there are advantages in being scared and that it's fine to let go. Clear-headed, honest and self-deprecating, *The Commando Way* offers powerful lessons that can be used in all aspects of life, no matter who you are. 'The Commando Way is an engaging and practical journey . . . a must read for leaders in any stage of their own leadership journey.' - General Stanley McChrystal (Ret'd), former commander of US and International Security Assistance Forces Afghanistan

Patton: A Genius for War is a full-fledged portrait of an extraordinary American that reveals the complex and contradictory personality that lay behind the swashbuckling and brash facade. According to *Publishers Weekly*, the result is "a major biography of a major American military figure." "This massive work is biography at its very best. Literate and meaty, incisive and balanced, detailed without being pedantic. Mr. D'Este's Patton takes its rightful place as the definitive biography of this American warrior." --Calvin L. Christman, *Dallas Morning News* "D'Este tells this story well, and gives us a new understanding of this great and troubled man."-*The Wall Street Journal* "An instant classic." --Douglas Brinkley, director, Eisenhower Center

"First biography of the last 8th Army Commander, McCreery's record in WW2 was outstanding at Dunkirk, North Africa and Italy. He commanded the 8th Army from September 1944

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onwards, was an outstanding horseman of his era and pioneer of armoured tactics"--Publisher's description.

Provides a bibliography of Civil War books, divided into such categories as battles and campaigns, Confederate biographies, Union biographies, and Unit histories

On 22 June 2013, Corporal Cameron Baird was a 2nd Commando Regiment Special Forces soldier when he led his platoon into a known Taliban stronghold to back-up another Australian unit under heavy fire. In the prolonged firefight, Cameron was mortally wounded. In 2014, Cameron's bravery and courage under fire saw him posthumously awarded the 100th Victoria Cross, our highest award possible for bravery in the presence of the enemy. Cameron Baird died how he lived - at the front, giving it his all, without any indecision. He will forever be remembered by his mates and the soldiers he served with in the 2nd Commando Regiment. THE COMMANDO reveals Cameron's life, from young boy and aspiring AFL player, who only missed out on being drafted because of injury, to exemplary soldier and leader. Cameron's story and that of 4RAR and 2nd Commando personifies the courage and character of the men and women who go to war and will show us the good man we have lost.

"Brilliantly researched, utterly gripping history: the first full account of a remarkable group of Jewish refugees—a top-secret band of brothers—who waged war on Hitler."—Alex Kershaw, New York Times best-selling author of *The Longest Winter* and *The Liberator* The incredible World War II saga of the German-Jewish commandos who fought in Britain's most secretive special-forces unit—but whose story has gone untold until now June 1942. The shadow of the Third Reich has fallen across the European continent. In desperation, Winston Churchill and his chief of staff form an unusual plan: a new commando unit made up of Jewish refugees who have escaped to Britain. The resulting volunteers are a motley group of intellectuals, artists, and athletes, most from Germany and Austria. Many have been interned as enemy aliens, and have lost their families, their homes—their whole worlds. They will stop at nothing to defeat the Nazis. Trained in counterintelligence and advanced combat, this top secret unit becomes known as X Troop. Some simply call them a suicide squad. Drawing on extensive original research, including interviews with the last surviving members, Leah Garrett follows this unique band of brothers from Germany to England and back again, with stops at British internment camps, the beaches of Normandy, the battlefields of Italy and Holland, and the hellscape of Terezin concentration camp—the scene of one of the most dramatic, untold rescues of the war. For the first time, X Troop tells the astonishing story of these secret shock troops and their devastating blows against the Nazis. "Garrett's detective work is stunning, and her storytelling is masterful. This is an original account of Jewish rescue, resistance, and revenge."—Wendy Lower, author of *The Ravine* and National Book Award finalist *Hitler's Furies* *The Men Behind Monty* examines the role played by the staff in the victorious

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campaigns of Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery, Britain's most successful field commander since the Duke of Wellington.??When Monty took command of Eighth Army in August 1942, he inherited the staff of his predecessor. He retained all the key members and most of them stayed with him not only from El Alamein to Tunis, but also in Sicily and Italy. When he took command of 21st Army Group in January 1944, many accompanied him to take up the most prominent positions on the HQ staff and the majority remained until the German surrender in May 1945.??This fascinating work focuses not only on the senior officers responsible for the various staff branches, and notably on Monty's outstanding Chief of Staff, Freddie de Guingand, but also on his personal staff, the ADCs and personal liaison officers.?The book sheds light on the work of the staff generally, and on their direct contribution to Monty's decisions, his sometimes difficult and controversial relationships with his superiors and allies. Following the success of his #1 New York Times bestseller *Make Your Bed*, which has sold over one million copies, Admiral William H. McRaven is back with amazing stories of bravery and heroism during his career as a Navy SEAL and commander of America's Special Operations Forces. Admiral William H. McRaven is a part of American military history, having been involved in some of the most famous missions in recent memory, including the capture of Saddam Hussein, the rescue of Captain Richard Phillips, and the raid to kill Osama bin Laden. *Sea Stories* begins in 1963 at a French Officers' Club in France, where Allied officers and their wives gathered to have drinks and tell stories about their adventures during World War II-the place where a young Bill McRaven learned the value of a good story. *Sea Stories* is an unforgettable look back on one man's incredible life, from childhood days sneaking into high-security military sites to a day job of hunting terrorists and rescuing hostages. Action-packed, humorous, and full of valuable life lessons like those exemplified in McRaven's bestselling *Make Your Bed*, *Sea Stories* is a remarkable memoir from one of America's most accomplished leaders.

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