



MY UNDERGROUND WAR

SAPPER ALBERT EDWARD CLACK



My Underground War: The True Story of How a Group of British Prisoners-Of-War Fought Back Against Their Nazi Captors

Albert Clack

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This is a gripping yarn of capture, resistance, and liberation, revealing for the first time how a young soldier in the Royal Engineers and a close-knit group of chums carried on the war despite their imprisonment, and even got away with killing a couple of Nazi guards who had ruthlessly bullied frail prisoners. That young soldier, Albert Edward Clack, was my father. The first part of this book covers his capture near Dunkirk in 1940 and his nearly five years in the Stalag VIIIB prisoner-of-war camp. For most of this time he endured forced labour and occasional beatings in a coal mine. The second part relates his escape from the 'March of Death', when the Germans forced prisoners-of-war to trudge westwards through snow and ice in January, 1945. After giving his guards the slip, he was assisted out of harm's way by front-line storm-troopers of the Red Army. Criss-crossing Poland amidst the chaos of the Soviet advance and the German retreat, he and three other escaped prisoners found refuge with Polish families, until they were put on a train to the Ukrainian port of Odessa, there to board a ship home to England. When Dad died in 1984, he left me the manuscript of this true story. I have changed some names because, even if they were still alive, it would be extremely difficult to find them 70 years later; and I have improved the literary style for ease of reading; but I have altered none of the substance of the events described. Please note that it is a short book. I had always felt proud of what Dad did in the War; but it was not until later in life that I truly appreciated how much being able to live a normal family life in freedom afterwards must have meant to him after the long years of fear and uncertainty that he endured as a POW; and it is only through editing this manuscript that I have come to realise quite what a nightmare that experience must have been, despite the optimism which rings through his text. Albert John Clack - Son & Editor

My Underground War: The True Story of How a Group of British Prisoners-Of-War Fought Back Against Their Nazi Captors Details

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From Reader Review My Underground War: The True Story of How a Group of British Prisoners-Of-War Fought Back Against Their Nazi Captors for online ebook

Elica Palacek says

I was excited to start reading this book when it arrived via post mail. I was a little thrown off as the book is a very thin book and I honestly expected more.

Once I started to read the book, I was drawn into the world of what it was like to be in WWII. I do have to say that there were parts in here that I thought were odd. As it is a memoir and I thought it was strange that the author would put such things in that give away what happened when he was freed.

There are also many parts of the book that I found myself skipping over such as the layout of the mine and where everything was. I do not understand why such parts were put in. I actually found myself bored and decided to skim over the parts aka skip.

At the very back of the book I did learn that the author's son added parts to the book, which I believe is the reason why some parts did not flow as easily. He stated that he added the parts to give background. In my opinion I think it may have taken away from the book. There are also some spelling errors in the book as well. Not many that I found but some simple words.

Overall, a okay read. I did find it interesting to learn what it was like to be a POW during WWII. I would have also like to know what happened to the others in the book. I feel this book left one hanging. It is stated that the names were changed to protect people but at least we could have found out what happened to the real people with their fictional name, finding also that many may have already perished.

On a side note, I did receive this book via a Goodreads giveaway that the author had.

Gloria says

Many thanks to Goodreads, 'First Reads' and Albert John Clack, (survivor's son and editor of this short however revealing story of surviving the Second World War}.

In approximately 80 pages it tells the story (through the memoirs) of a young man who goes to war, becomes a prisoner-of-war in 1940 and spends the following 5 years in captivity until he escapes from the 'Death March'.

Such memories should be read, shared and the struggle for freedom should never be forgotten.

Megan Skelton says

I got to read this book through Goodreads Giveaway :)

For starters this book is short, so I was shocked by how much information it contained. It's written like I'm

personally being told the story which I really liked. It made me connect more with the people in it and the story is truly amazing.

If you enjoy learning about the war there is no better way then through the words of the people who experienced it. A truly inspirational read and I'd recommend it to anyone with a hunger for history.
