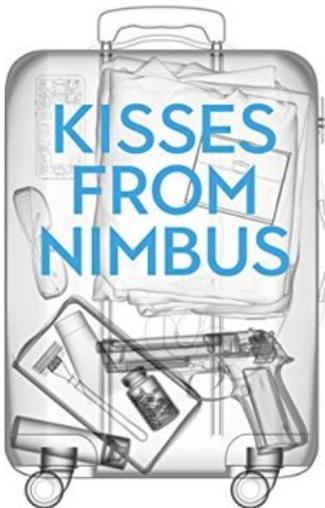


P.J. 'RED' RILEY



*From SAS to MI6: An Autobiography*

## **Kisses From Nimbus: From SAS to MI6 An Autobiography**

*P.J. 'Red' Riley*

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# **Kisses From Nimbus: From SAS to MI6 An Autobiography**

*P.J. 'Red' Riley*

## **Kisses From Nimbus: From SAS to MI6 An Autobiography P.J. 'Red' Riley**

Shot at, bombed, imprisoned and arrested for murder. His is the story the establishment doesn't want you to read.

Captain P. J. "Red" Riley is an ex-SAS soldier who served for eighteen years as an MI6 agent. Riley escaped internment in Chile during the Falklands war during an audacious top-secret attempt to attack the Argentinian mainland. He was imprisoned in the darkness of the Sierra Leonean jungle, and withstood heavy fire in war-torn Beirut and Syria. In 2015, he was arrested for murder but all charges were later dropped. In this searing memoir, Riley reveals the brutal realities of his service, and the truth behind the newspaper headlines featuring some of the most significant events in recent British history. His account provides startling new evidence on the Iraq war, what Tony Blair really knew about Saddam Hussain's weapons of mass destruction before the allied invasion, and questions the British government's alleged involvement in the death of Princess Diana. Chaotic, darkly humorous and at times heart-wrenchingly sad, Kisses From Nimbus charts the harrowing real-life experiences of a soldier and spy in the name of Queen and country.

## **Kisses From Nimbus: From SAS to MI6 An Autobiography Details**

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## **From Reader Review Kisses From Nimbus: From SAS to MI6 An Autobiography for online ebook**

### **daisy riddle says**

#### **Fascinating story.**

An intriguing and sometimes very personal story based in and around the SAS including hints about government involvement regarding the death of Princess Diana and the supposed WMD in Iraq.

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### **andrew hill says**

#### **What a great book by a great person and writer truly gripped 5 \*\*\*\*\***

Unberleivabley great. Gripped by each chapter and you can't put it down as you want to know more. PJ Sir a legend.

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### **Michael Jenkins says**

First of all, I love how Red writes - he's really talented and the style is absolutely engaging, has infectious honesty, and humour that is riveting - I found myself chuckling on many occasions! Secondly, Red has had a magnificent career, and one that acts as a role model for young aspiring adventurers in many ways. Like me, he started his military career at 16 and had the most amazing roles in the aviation world, special forces, and intelligence services. By far the most insightful autobiography I have read and boy what a background to it all. The skill peter has is to keep the reader immersed wanting more, but also making the reader wonder about the tales too - and that skill keeps the pages turning. I also like the structure of the book, its well thought out. All in all a magnificent book and a magnificent career - about a man whose courage and service to this country should be held in high esteem. Brilliant!

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### **Christina says**

With a blurb like that, who wouldn't be intrigued? I was, and I wasn't disappointed.

Charting a career that includes the army, the SAS, and Secret Intelligence, with stories of intrigue, horror, and humour, this is a memoir of both life in the service of country, and political and social history through the eyes of those serving.

Pacy, thrilling, fascinating, and sprinkled with the kind of humour and wit one often finds in Brits with their backs against the wall, this is a worthwhile read. It could have done with a stronger edit, but it was a raw and interesting read. Recommended.

\*Thank you to the author for the free review copy

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### **Gerard O'Donovan says**

A wonderful book written by what I would call a true unsung hero.

PJ really brings to life what it was like in the military at that time.

He mentioned names and places that I knew and resonated with, and it brought back some wonderful memories.

I cannot recommend this book highly enough.

He has a wonderful easy-going writing style that make you feel you were really there and involved.

I have heard that he has had challenges getting this book published as it appears the UK government are keen to suppress it-

that is a real shame

Gerard O'Donovan

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### **Karen Cole says**

If this was a work of fiction, I might have criticised it for being unbelievable, for what a life and career P.J. 'Red' Riley has had! However, the book opens with something more personal, the death of his brother, Howard from AIDS in 1990. Although not overtly stated, his love for his brother is clear, perhaps most noticeably when he recalls an incident outside the Terrance Higgins Trust in London when a crowd of protesters waved hate-filled placards and shouted homophobic comments. Howard was deaf but still terrified by this display of hatred, when one particularly aggressive protester moved towards them, spewing his bile, P.J. couldn't help but respond,

'Unlike a brawl or a street fight, Unarmed Combat is taught to soldiers to be used ruthlessly and should only ever be considered as a last resort. Gouging of eyes, snapping of bones and tearing of flesh are all perfectly acceptable means of survival. In this case, I was wrong to use it, but if I had done as I was taught and used a weapon, in that case, a hardback book, then the assailant could have been killed. I suppose I should have apologised to the foul-mouthed spitting protester - but I didn't.'

So with the knowledge that he became a skilled soldier, the book then goes back to when the author first enlisted in the army and follows his incredible career through to his retirement. Throughout the book I was struck by how different Kisses from Nimbus would read had it been written as a work of fiction. Red Riley writes with a very matter of fact style, he never embellishes or builds tension for the sake of it, he is not a writer given to squeezing every last drop of emotion from a scene. It's not emotionless but he does perhaps make light of his feelings at what must have been truly frightening or stressful times. This is not meant as a criticism, rather an observation of the black humour of the military. For instance when on a dangerous mission to follow hijackers with their hostages in Israel, he observes,

'The next few seconds would be crucial. If our charade of pretending to be a bunch of drugged-up hoodlums worked, then we would stick with the procession. If not, then Bruce Springsteen, who was by then hammering our eardrums with his latest rock song, was not the only one who was going to be 'On Fire.'

He is more upfront when recognising his shortcomings, admitting that he wasn't always as good a husband and father as he was a soldier. He also readily admits too that he cheated at certain moments of his training, although technically wrong, you can't help but admire both his ingenuity and self-deprecating humour as he remembers his actions.

Interestingly, the most moving passages come when he is recalling the suffering of other people, his brother's

aforementioned illness, his daughter's medical condition, and perhaps most poignantly his meeting with Blossom, a woman he met in Sierra Leone. He learns that Blossom suffered a horrific attack at the hands of RUF rebels, who slaughtered her seven-month-old baby in front of her before horrendously mutilating her face, leaving her unable to speak,

'Now, more than twenty years later, the memory of that gathering in the remote, jungle village overwhelms me with emotion.'

This is not a comprehensive military history, nor despite the blurb perhaps suggesting otherwise is it an exposé. It's a fascinating, very personal memoir of one man's long career that took him from the SAS to MI6. I'm old enough to recall some of the events from the past detailed in this book, having an insider's view of those moments now consigned to history was absolutely riveting. I recommend Kisses from Nimbus to anybody interested to learning a little more about some of the memorable episodes of the 20th century, in a memoir that is honestly and wryly told

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## **Gary says**

Occasionally you discover a book that is so "right up your alley" that you are amazed that you weren't aware of it sooner (even before publication). "Kisses from Nimbus" is just such a book. Ordinarily I would have purchased it from Amazon as I do most books (and most everything else these days) but I was glad to discover that I could buy it directly from the author and so was happy to do so. The book is an autobiographical account of his time with the Army Air Corps., the Special Air Service (SAS) and the Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) and is a gripping and very fast read, so much so in fact, that on conclusion one is left wanting more. The book is somewhat circular in nature, opening as it does with a moving family tragedy and ending, years later, on a cliffhanger that is a consequence of that tragedy. There have been many military biographies and many books about the SAS and MI6, but what sets this book apart is the author's (P.J. "Red" Riley) self-deprecating, warts-and-all style of writing. He has a very entertaining "writing habit" of setting up a cliched situation and then "deflating" that cliché in the most unexpected and often amusing way. I thoroughly recommend this book to anybody interested in military biographies and late and post Cold War era Intelligence operations. I'm told by Red himself that he's at work on the sequel and that it will feature more of his time with MI6. I for one, cannot wait, highly recommended!

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