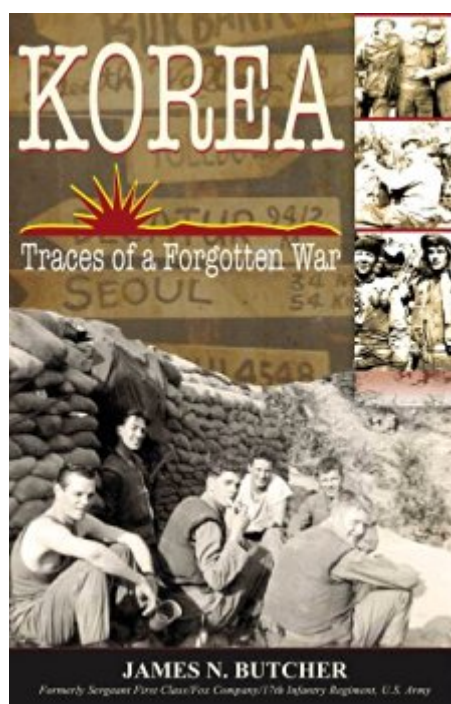


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Korea: Traces Of A Forgotten War



Synopsis

The Korean War is often referred to as the forgotten war. In his book, professor James N. Butcher relives his experiences as an infantryman with Fox Company of the 17th Infantry Regiment, during the final year of the Korean War (1952-1953). In a graphic portrayal of living conditions on the front, Butcher describes combat actions that occurred in two major battles of this period: the Battle for Jane Russell Hill (a part of Triangle Ridge) and the first Battle of Pork Chop Hill and makes a strong case for why we as Americans need to remember what happened there and why.

Book Information

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Korean War

Customer Reviews

This book represents a remarkable achievement and a rare opportunity for readers - particularly those with interest in men and war - particularly the War in Korea. Dr. Butcher provides a very rare combination of accomplished writer AND combat veteran foot-soldier who lived through the war about which he writes. And although in his professional life, Dr. Butcher is one of the leading figures in psychology of the last 30 years, when he writes about being a soldier, he writes with the dash, humor, focus, and panache of the infantrymen about whom he writes. The story of Dr. Butcher's experiences before and during the war would make compelling fiction - but it is not fiction, it is

history. The writing is matter-of-fact - in the best sense. Life in war, and the life of an orphan in depression-era West Virginia, could have been presented in a far more dramatic fashion, but it would have detracted from the book's clarity and realism. Jim Butcher's descriptions of the life and death of foot-soldiers in Korea provide a perspective rarely seen - that of the "grunt" - and I use the term as high praise. Too often, writers who have not been soldiers (or Marines, Sailors, or Airmen) in war, write from the perspective of an outsider. Although it may be argued that the outsider has a more objective view of his or her subject, there is extremely, terribly important information coming from the heart and mind of the soldier that cannot be inferred by an outsider. Jim Butcher is able to provide us with an unusually objective description of life on the front line during the last year of the Korean War. What these men experienced and went through, particularly the amount and type of combat, is largely unknown to the American public. And that alone is a tragedy and a travesty.

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