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The One That Got Away: My SAS Mission Behind Enemy Lines



Synopsis

The British Army's Special Air Service is one of the world's premier special operations units. During the Gulf War, deep behind Iraqi lines, an SAS team was compromised. A fierce firefight ensued, and the eight men were forced to run for their lives. Only one, Chris Ryan, escaped capture or death, and he did it by walking nearly 180 miles through the desert for seven days and eight nights. This story features extraordinary courage under fire, narrow escapes, a battle against the most adverse physical conditions, and, above all, of one man's courageous refusal to lie down and die.

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Customer Reviews

In 2003 I spent 5 months scouring the western Iraqi countryside. We were searching for SCUD missiles and their equipment, personnel and logistical support. Having Read Bravo Two Zero and this book prior to deploying, I was well aware of the hazards of foot travel in Anbar province.

Rereading Chris' epic account brought back lots of memories and even more respect for his amazing accomplishment. Detractors have downplayed the firefights and claims of he and Andy McNab saying they embellished the event. No one however has downplayed their surviving a deadly

ordeal under the worst possible circumstances. Highly recommended! RR

Very good, realistic, you can't put it down. The best in its class.

Loved this book. Great insight into the SAS operations. It was so well written and provides such great visual aspect that you almost have a birds-eye view of his arduous trek!

If you are a fan of Bravo Two Zero by Andy McNab then I highly recommend that you pick this one. This is the story that Bravo Two Zero didn't go into. This is the story of raw courage and great determination as told by the one man who went through misery and hell to finish his mission. Chris Ryan's story is something that you have never read before. Use your imagination here. This man walks from Iraq to Syria after his mission falls apart during the Gulf War. Mr. Ryan covered details that I was hoping he would. His feelings during his hellish trek. His thoughts when he was hiding and came within inches of capture. The feelings of the rest of the team that also made it home and how the special operations world benefited from his experience. He also touched base on how it affected life at home. That is something that every service man faces. Thanks Chris for sharing that portion of your life. This is a book that you want to read, especially if you served in the Gulf. I put it on the shelf next to my copy of Bravo Two Zero. This is no Rambo story, so if you are looking for blood and guts look for another book. This is a story of courage and determination.

Sneak peek into a world that I never really thought about. Chris Ryan weaves the story superbly between how his previous life both in the army and before prepared him physically and mentally as much as it was possible for this monumental challenge and the actual ordeal of the escape. Anybody who has faced difficult times and had to dig deep to get through them will love this. Already I have read it twice.

The book was great. It was gripping and basically what you want from a book. I can't say anything negative 'cus I don't want to offend any SAS members. That said, the mission was a total failure from minute one because of lack of intelligence and communication and although I respect the achievements and reputation of the SAS, this turned into an escape and evasion mission. It seemed from what I read that a certain amount of panic set in after initial contact with "enemy forces" with that panic came mistakes and negligence which I hadn't expected from an elite group of special forces soldiers. So from being a what I thought was a book about a mission behind enemy lines, it

was instead a book about one man's survival after a mission had failed behind enemy lines. Like I said though, no disrespect. I might read Andy McNab's version just to see how he portrays the events.

Not the tale of an inhumanly capable and faultless warrior and all the more compelling for that. Very interesting and informative, a more realistic treatment of events than the McNabb book, or at least more believable.

This book is based on the aborted SAS mission Bravo 2-0. This is the story about, Ryan, who made it across the Euphrates and was able to get to safety without being captured. The story offers insight and a different perspective to how the mission unfolded. Excellent read to counter Bravo 2-0.

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