



Siege at Jadotville: The Irish Army's Forgotten Battle

By Declan Power

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In September 1961, another chapter in Irish military history should have been written into the annals, but it is a tale that lay shrouded in dust for years.

The Irish soldier has never been a stranger to fighting the enemy with the odds stacked against him. The notion of charging into adversity has been a cherished part of Ireland's military history. In September 1961, another chapter should have been written into the annals, but it is a tale that lay shrouded in dust for years.

The men of A Company, Thirty-Fifth Irish Infantry Battalion, arrived in the Congo as a United Nations contingent to help keep the peace. For many it would be their first trip outside their native shores. Some of the troops were teenage boys, their army-issue hobnailed boots still unbroken. They had never heard a shot fired in anger. Others were experienced professional soldiers but were still not prepared for the action that was to take place.

Led by Commandant Pat Quinlan, A Company found themselves tasked with protecting the European population at Jadotville, a small mining town in the southern Congolese province of Katanga. It fell to A Company to protect those who would later turn against them. On September 13th, 1961, the bright morning air of Jadotville was shattered by the sound of automatic gunfire.

The men of A Company found their morning mass parade interrupted, and within minutes they went from holding rosaries to rifles as they entered the world of combat. This was to be no Srebrenica; though cut off and surrounded, the men of Jadotville held their ground and fought.

This is their story.

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Editorial Review

Review

"In telling the full story for the first time, former soldier Declan Power does the brave men of A Company a great service." --*Irish Times* (Dublin)

"*Siege at Jadotville* lifts the lid on one of the most controversial episodes in Ireland's UN service." --*Sunday World* (Dublin)

"A fine book, well-written and expertly researched. It offers a clear insight into a period of Irish history endangered of being forgotten." --*Western People* (Ballina, County Mayo, Ireland)

About the Author

Declan Power is a working journalist who specializes in security and defense reporting. He was a career soldier who served in the three combat arms of the Irish Army, attended military college, and served within the higher echelons of Defense Headquarters.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Charles Killough:

This book untitled *Siege at Jadotville: The Irish Army's Forgotten Battle* to be one of several books this best seller in this year, honestly, that is because when you read this e-book you can get a lot of benefit onto it. You will easily to buy this particular book in the book retail outlet or you can order it via online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you more easily to read this book, as you can read this book in your Smart phone. So there is no reason to you to past this book from your list.

Jeremiah Burroughs:

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Robert Garcia:

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