



Descending from the Clouds: A Memoir of Combat in the 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82d Airborne Division

By Spencer F. Wurst, Gayle Wurst

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Wearing the remnants of a WWI uniform and pulling a water-cooled 30-caliber machine-gun, Spencer Wurst marched through his hometown of Erie, Pennsylvania, in 1940 as a member of the National Guard. He was 15 years old. Five years later he was a hardened platoon sergeant leading his troopers through the frozen killing fields of “Death Valley” in Germany’s Heurtgen Forest. A squad leader in Company F, 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82d Airborne, for most of the war, Wurst jumped into Italy in September 1943, and received his baptism of fire at Arnone. Jumping into Normandy on D-Day, he received his first Purple Heart in the liberation of Ste. Mère-Eglise, and a second Purple Heart in grueling combat through the hedgerows. On his third jump, Wurst’s bravery under fire earned him the coveted Silver Star when he and his fellow paratroopers were swept up in the ferocious battle with the SS for the Highway Bridge at Nijmegen, Holland, in Operation Market Garden. A few months later, the dawn of his twentieth birthday found him serving on point in the long, freezing march to the shoulder of the Bulge. A unique view of combat from pre-war training and mobilization to First Army maneuvers, parachute school at Fort Benning, and Europe’s killing fields, Wurst’s poignantly written and carefully researched memoir has been hailed as an outstanding addition to the literature of WWII.

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Editorial Review

Review

“... gives a good sense of the confusion of airborne operations and close combat...makes an excellent book for company level leader development on the subjects of discipline, training, and combat leadership.” (*Army History, Army History, Winter 2010*)

"ranks as one of the best war memoirs written by a World War II veteran." (*Library Journal*)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Evelina Lewis:

Do you have favorite book? In case you have, what is your favorite's book? E-book is very important thing for us to learn everything in the world. Each e-book has different aim or goal; it means that reserve has different type. Some people experience enjoy to spend their time for you to read a book. These are reading whatever they have because their hobby is reading a book. What about the person who don't like studying a book? Sometime, individual feel need book once they found difficult problem or maybe exercise. Well, probably you will require this Descending from the Clouds: A Memoir of Combat in the 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82d Airborne Division.

Stewart Moore:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book may be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the e-book untitled Descending from the Clouds: A Memoir of Combat in the 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82d Airborne Division can be very good book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

Brenda Seddon:

Typically the book Descending from the Clouds: A Memoir of Combat in the 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82d Airborne Division has a lot associated with on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of gain. The book was written by the very famous author. The author makes some research ahead of write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you may get the point easily after scanning this book.

Amado Elam:

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