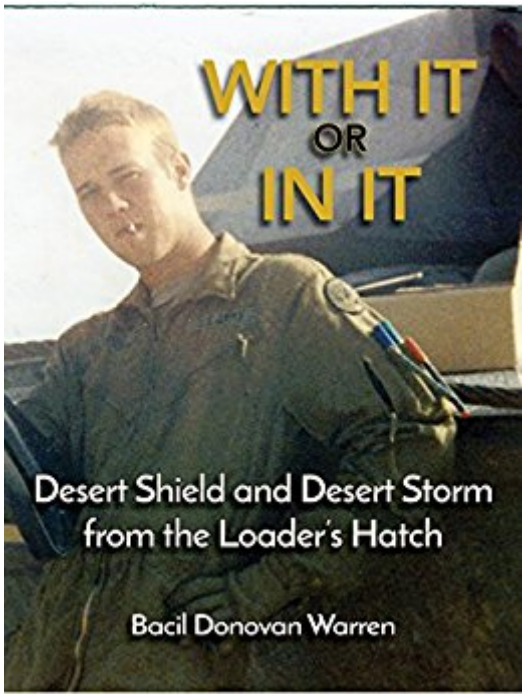
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With It Or In It: Desert Shield And Desert Storm From The Loader's Hatch



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Synopsis

With It or in ItÃ Â tells a captivating and unique story of the 1991 Persian Gulf War as seen from the loader's hatch of an M1A1 tank.Ã Â Using humor and frank candor, author Bacil Donovan WarrenÃ Â shares his personal experience, as well as that of his fellow tankers, as part of the US Army's 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment (the "Brave Rifles")Ã Â in Saudi Arabia and Iraq.Ã Â Warren recounts the initial shock of hearing about Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and his Regiment'sÃ Â preparation for deployment. He describes the stress and sometimes mind-numbing boredom of being stuck in the middle of the Arabian desert, constantlyÃ Â preparing for a possible Iraqi invasion. He recalls the terrifying experience of the start of the ground war and the workmanlike action during combat against Iraq's Republican Guard forces. With It or in It brings clarity and focus to theirÃ Â unceasing efforts to bring the conflict to a swift and decisive end. Finally, Warren describes the triumphant return of the Brave Rifles to Ft. Bliss, Texas, and the waiting arms of their families and loved ones.Ã Â Warren's fellow tankers have called With It or in ItÃ Â "honest and moving" (R. Bell) and "almost identical to the experiences I had myself" (W. Compton). The commanding officer of the author's Troop during Desert Shield and Desert Storm remarks that With It or in ItÃ Â "brilliantly captures what is the rarely described gritty and demanding life of an armor crewman" (R. Schultheis). Other reviewers remark that the author "tells the gripping tale of a man and his crew mates preparing to go to war" (A. Davis) and call it "an enjoyable and interesting memoir" (JReppy).

Book Information

File Size: 15732 KB

Print Length: 94 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 1530315530

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Smashwords, Inc. (February 24, 2016)

Publication Date: February 24, 2016

Sold by:Ã Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01B0RGGL8

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #475,297 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #31 inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Americas > United States > Military History > Operation Desert Storm #77 inÃ Â Books > History > Military > United States > Operation Desert Storm #266 inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Military & Wars > Branches > Army

Customer Reviews

I was a tank commander with the Texas National Guard during Desert Storm and most of us were terribly disappointed that our service and old M-60A3s were not wanted in the war. We sat on the bench. So I really enjoy books by those who went....not the generals... just the line soldiers. This is a really enjoyable book from the perspective of one guy, a loader, on one tank. From the freezing cold of the winter desert, to the hurry up and wait, to sitting in an OP, to burning the sh*t from the latrines, to luke warm T-rations and on and on. I wish the book was ten times as long. I hope the author will search his brain, contact his old buddies and search their brains and write another more detailed book full of day to day soldiering in this war.

Bacil tells the gripping tale of a man and his crew mates preparing to go to war. From the announcement of the conflict with Saddam Hussein’s Iraq President George H.W. Bush to the dramatic crossing of the border and cutting off the Iraqi forces, we get a look at the day to day life of the American tank crews and their support troops in this tumultuous time. I highly recommend this book to history buffs, military biography fans, and every citizen who wants to know what our troops encountered in that short, victorious war.

I served with Donovan in Charlie Company 3rd Battalion 8th Cavalry in Germany; he had orders transferring him to Ft. Bliss, TX and 3rd ACR before we ourselves were deployed to Saudi Arabia as part of 3rd Armor Division and VII Corps. His book is spot on, and is almost identical to the experiences I had myself in Desert Storm. I remember Donovan as an outstanding soldier, die-hard tanker, and am proud to have been one of his brothers. Honor and Courage!

I enjoyed this first hand account of a soldier’s experience in Desert Storm by veteran Bacil Warren.

Although a fairly short book, at ninety-something pages, it was engrossing. I felt like I was there in the hot dusty desert experiencing the day to day soldiering, the fatigue, and the terror of battle, through the author's eyes. The book also includes photos from the war. Well worth the price of a coffee, a good read, and well written.

This is a typical account of a deployment. It is interesting, but not on the level of some of the Vietnam accounts like Matterhorn and Crouching Beast.

This is a short book detailing the author's experience in Operation Desert Storm as a loader in a tank. He discusses the history and composition of his armored cavalry unit, training in NM, how his unit learned about the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, and the deployment process. He discusses the arrival in Saudi Arabia and the movement into Iraq, as well as the various missions his unit had.While much of the book is a discussion of military practices, procedures, and operations and the specifics of the author's journey to and from Iraq, the author also talks about himself and the other members of his tank crew, how downtime was spent, his thoughts upon arriving in Saudi Arabia, especially looking up and seeing all the stars the first night, and other information to help personalize the story more.An enjoyable and interesting memoir.I received a free copy of the ebook from Reading Alley in exchange for a review.

I fought along side Donovan in the Gulf War. I can tell you first hand, that his views and accounts are honest and moving. He captured what it was like for us. I am proud to have served with him.

The author brilliantly captures what is the rarely described gritty and demanding life of an armor crewman. I was the Cyclone Troop Commander before and during Desert Storm and can attest that Bacil Warren was a superb soldier and a most credible source on the life of an M1A1 tanker--both in training and combat. Then, like now, we can count on Warren to tell it like it is (or was) without embellishment in a straight forward and accessible way. Highly recommend reading his account and memoir.

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