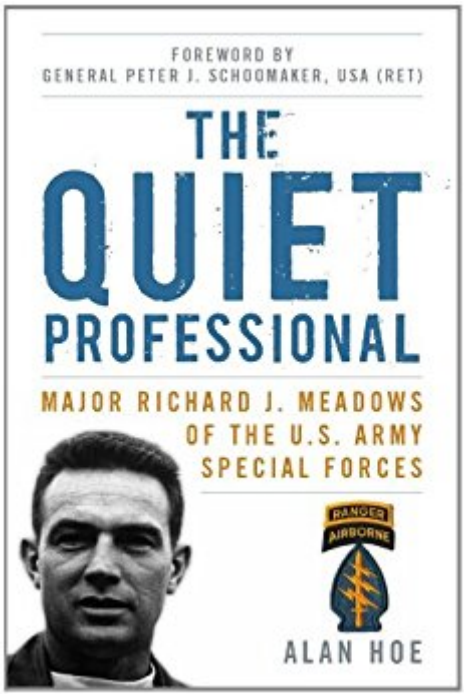
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# The Quiet Professional: Major Richard J. Meadows Of The U.S. Army Special Forces (American Warriors Series)




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## Synopsis

Major Richard J. "Dick" Meadows is renowned in military circles as a key figure in the development of the U.S. Army Special Operations. A highly decorated war veteran of the engagements in Korea and Vietnam, Meadows was instrumental in the founding of the U.S. Delta Force and hostage rescue force. Although he officially retired in 1977, Meadows could never leave the army behind, and he went undercover in the clandestine operations to free American hostages from Iran in 1980. The Quiet Professional: Major Richard J. Meadows of the U.S. Army Special Forces is the only biography of this exemplary soldier’s life. Military historian Alan Hoe offers unique insight into Meadows, having served alongside him in 1960. The Quiet Professional is an insider’s account that gives a human face to U.S. military strategy during the cold war. Major Meadows often claimed that he never achieved anything significant; The Quiet Professional proves otherwise, showcasing one of the great military minds of twentieth-century America.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A common nickname for the United States Army Special Forces is "The Quiet Professionals." They

earned this moniker through being completely dedicated to the task at hand and completing their missions without expectations of fanfare. For the most part, despite the age of mass media and a time where special operations forces (especially Navy SEALs) enjoy fanfare due to their role at the forefront of the Global War on Terrorism, this nickname has continued to apply to the Special Forces.Those who have studied the history of Army special operations, as I have, are familiar with the name Dick Meadows. His name arises at several key moments throughout the Cold War. In the book THE QUIET PROFESSIONAL, retired 22nd SAS Major Alan Hoe, a compatriot of Meadows's, details exactly how Meadows was molded as a man and a warrior, as well as the impact and legacy that he left in his wake.Like so many who enter the special operations field, Meadows grew up a child of adversity, living in abject poverty and growing up functionally illiterate. At the age of 15, Meadows falsified his age to enlist in the United States Army. Five years later, he was the youngest Master Sergeant (E-8) in the history of the US Army. Three years after that, Meadows had become one of the first Special Forces soldiers, and wholly dedicated himself to his craft.Meadows's list of accomplishments include:-being one of the first two Americans to complete the famed 22nd SAS Selection and Training Course-being one of the first to bring freefall parachuting to the special operations toolbox-being the man responsible for providing evidence of North Vietnamese Army presence on the Ho Chi Minh Trail-being the first man to earn a battlefield commission in the Vietnam War (from MSG directly to CPT)-being one of the principal planners and team leaders for Operation: IVORY COAST (the Song Tay Raid)-being one of the key trainers in the formation of the 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment-Delta (Delta Force)-infiltrating Iran head of Delta Force, with little tradecraft training, to prep the battlespace, and exfiltrating the country in the wake of the mission's failure-establishing a major and respectable security industry during a turbulent time in PeruThrough Meadows's own words, as well as the words of his friends and those who chewed the same dirt as he, Major Hoe not only paints the impact that Meadows had on the modern United States Army, but his impact on both American and British special operations and on the nation of Peru. We also see first-hand that Meadows is a man with immense love for his nation, for his comrades, and for his family, a man that led from the front at all times.Major Hoe also does a remarkable job of refuting Meadows's regret that "I've not done anything significant." It would be enough to point out Meadows's history, or to highlight that he fought in two wars, or that he is a recipient of:-Distinguished Service Cross-two Silver Stars-a Bronze Star with V Device-the Legion of Merit-Combat Infantryman Badge-Ranger TabMajor Hoe does not stop there. Both through his own words, and the words of those who had served alongside Major Meadows, Major Hoe display how an impoverished teenager grew to be one of the most charismatic and critical components of the

Special Forces.To recommend this book to students of special operations history is insufficient. Every red-blooded American looking to learn more about a national hero should read THE QUIET PROFESSIONAL. It is a profound read that will make anyone with a drop of patriotism in their blood take a step back in quiet reflection, express gratitude to have such men as Richard J. Meadows as predecessors in the defense of American freedom, and hope that those present and future can strive to walk in his footsteps.Major Dick Meadows established the standard of quiet professionalism, and every word in THE QUIET PROFESSIONAL hammers that point home. It is a read worth every single minute.

After reading the story of one of the most honorable people that ever served this country, I am simply awestruck. Someone who came from such meager beginnings to have accomplished all Richard did in his life is nothing short of amazing. He came across as someone who made every effort to raise those around him up to his level not beat them down by shame or abuse. When you read the book there is little wonder that those he lead would follow him through the gates of hell with a teaspoon of water to fight with. I have worked with & served under a good amount of people none of which met his pinnacle of honor & devotion. Here is a man who was not a glory hound or a narcisist, instead he was extremely humble & only wished he could have done more for his people & country. Everyone should attempt to immulate his leadership style & put there ego in the closet. He was truly a one of a kind.

Great Book. You will not be disappointed. One of the inspirations for modern special forces.

I was a classmate of Dick Meadows in the Career Course at Benning. He was older than all the others. A quiet and humble man, he was the best SOLDIER I ever met. I always concluded from conversations that he would have preferred being an NCO and may have felt out of place among a class of other Officers. I do remember, however, that we all thought he was awesome and most of us had commanded infantry companies in Southeast Asia

Although I was in Special Forces in Viet Nam when Meadows was there, I have never heard about him. His name came up when I was ordering a book about the formation of Delta Force.What an amazing story about a true hero. Even though he only had a 9th grade education, he was obviously a very smart, driven individual with extremely high standards. He influenced several young officers who went on to wear 4 stars, command Special Ops.Recommend this well-written book. You’ll enjoy

it.

WOW!! I read this book in one day, couldn't put it down. I've read about Richard Meadows in bits and pieces in other books about SF but now I know why he has a statue @ Ft Bragg. He was the perfect SF warrior. He set the example for generations of elite soldiers and for us mere mortals. He was a soldier and man of whom when the misson was too hard, commanders thought of him for success. That alone is worthy of an american hero! His word was all that was needed to silence questions. What a legacy! The human side is not forgotten with the paragraphs on his relationships with his family. One thing is a puzzle, why wasn't he an instructor @ Phase @ Bragg? Robert Howard did the Ranger and SF instructor tours. Only fault, the editing needed some work, the picture of Meadows, Sydnor and Simons has the wrong face to the wrong name! This man is the 1% of soldiers that should be emulated!!

I first read about Dick Meadows in other books about SOG and Vietnam and I couldn't wait to get my hands on this book. I was not dissapointed. The Quiet Professional is a great book detailing the life of one of America's finest warriors. If you enjoy reading about our military heros then you will want to get a copy of this book. This book will leave you with a sense of pride that we have men like Major Meadows out there, looking out for our safety and protecting our freedoms. If you want to read another book detailing Major Meadows exploits I strongly recommend Benjamin Schemmer's, "The Raid: The Son Tay Prison Rescue Mission." I believe John Plaster details some of Meadows missions in his book, "SOG: The Secret Wars of America's Commandos in Vietnam."

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