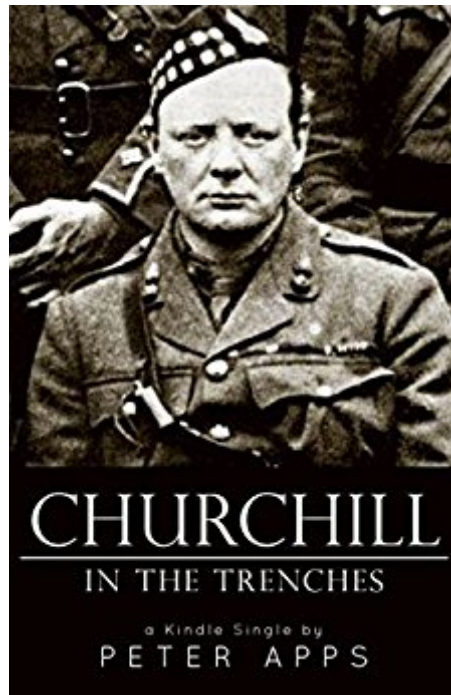


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Churchill In The Trenches (Kindle Single)



Synopsis

November 1915: Disgraced and stripped of high office, Winston Churchill heads to the trenches to fight. A quarter of a century before his "finest hour" in 1940, Britain's future Prime Minister faced a very different kind of crisis. As First Lord of the Admiralty at the start of the First World War, Churchill found himself blamed for the catastrophic military fiasco of the Dardanelles. Thrown for the first time into the political wilderness, he decided to rejoin the British Army and take his place on the Western Front. The first standalone account of this period of his life since the 1920s, *Churchill in the Trenches* reconstructs his six months near the Belgian town of Ypres. It reveals how he gradually won over the troops he commanded -- the tough but traumatized 6th Battalion, Royal Scots Fusiliers. And it tells the largely unknown story of how amid mud and squalor, one of the 20th century's most memorable characters became one of its greatest leaders. Peter Apps is global defense correspondent for Reuters news. In 2006, he broke his neck in a minibus accident while covering the civil war in Sri Lanka, leaving him largely paralyzed from the shoulders down. Of the 20 or so countries he has reported from, more than half have been since the injury. He is currently on sabbatical as executive director of the Project for Study of the 21st Century (PS21) www.projects21.com. Cover design by Kerry Ellis.

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Customer Reviews

This book coming in Kindle form is a new type of publication which is called a Kindle single. What is this you may ask, it is a unique and quick read much like a long story which gets to the point rather quickly and provides information on subjects such as Churchill's time in the trenches during WWI serving as a Lt. Colonel. Churchill who was Lord of the Admiralty and who was dually sacked after one of the largest defeats of the British military on the straits of the Dardanelles in 1915, it was later proven that Churchill should have not shouldered the blame for the poor military execution. However at the time Winston felt the boot. Now out of government and only a backbencher, he decided to use what influence he had to command an army unit on the Western Front. Churchill arrived on the front in November of 1915. He was given command of a battalion in the Highlander Regiment. The author Peter Apps goes through the typical protocol of operations in such an army organization at this time of the war. He tells us of Churchill's modus operandi, his discipline and attitudes of war. The need for cleanliness in a filthy environment was in some way a comical but also serious way of looking out for his men. Reactions of his subordinates were detailed and give to us a clear picture as to what kind of leader Churchill was both militarily and personally. As noted by the author, Churchill was experienced in war and though the civilian head of the Navy, he was first and foremost a cavalry man and a graduate of Sandhurst. In 1898 Churchill took part in the last great cavalry charge at the Battle of Omdurman. To Churchill this experience influenced him as he came back into the government and changed his attitudes of a stagnant war and made him aware of the need for maneuver and the need to end a war as quickly as possible. Good insight in a white paper form.

For those of us who admire Churchill's life and times this short book fills in an important episode in his biography. That he served in the front lines is well known, and the fact that he transported a bath tub to his billet is also well known and often sneered at. That he was, over all, loved and admired by his troops is not so well known, nor is his wanderings in no-man's-land or his exposure to enemy fire. None of the latter was necessary but the man led from the front and did not worry much about his personal mortality. Apparently he was destined for his great future.

I found this work to be both very readable and very valuable! Not only does it flesh out the reactions to the failure of the Gallipoli Campaign, but also flesh out the reasoning for both WW I and WW II focus on the Balkans. As for the details about Churchill and Clemmie's personal life and Clemmie's ability to work for Churchill's career rehabilitation and personal advancement in the English Ruling

Class during the Interwar Years. Excellent writing, fast-paced reading, and worthwhile! Wc

For a relatively short read this is still a surprisingly thorough look at Churchill, his contemporaries, his formative years and his role in WWI. I found it insightful, entertaining and inspiring. You can see a lot of the Great Man in what transpired for Churchill in the Trenches. This is a fine, focused work, and well worth the read.

Disgraced by the disastrous Dardanelles campaign against the Ottoman Empire in 1915-1916, Winston Churchill left government and returned to the military ranks as commander of the 6th Battalion of the Royal Scots Fusiliers. During the first half of 1916, he led this group in the trenches of Flanders in the so-called Ypres Salient. The battalion was not involved in any major offensives during that period, but the constant artillery shelling resulted in many casualties. Peter Apps has written an absorbing account of Churchill's activities during his time in the trenches. It was a time when he threw himself into the day-to-day leadership of an infantry battalion in the frontline trenches, while pondering the bigger issues of how the war was being conducted, and wondering how and when he could return to British political life. Many of his thoughts are recorded in his letters to his wife Clementine and to his many associates. Kudos to the author for this brief but very engaging look at one of the lesser publicized periods of Churchill's life. My only suggestion for improving the book would be a closer proofreading to eliminate a few grammar and punctuation errors. I borrowed the book for free with my Kindle Unlimited subscription.

Wonderfully written account of Churchill's exploits on the Western Front during WWI. The book is informative, entertaining, and insightful-- I recommend it to both students of history and layperson alike.

A very well written bio of Churchill during his brief WWI period with troops as a battalion commander of a lowland Scottish battalion. Clearly a politician in uniform whose eye never left his goal of becoming PM.

Again a well written and well researched book from this author. Having read his last novel my only criticism is that I wish his books were longer. His writing is so eloquent and descriptive that I would like to be in his stories for so much more time.

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