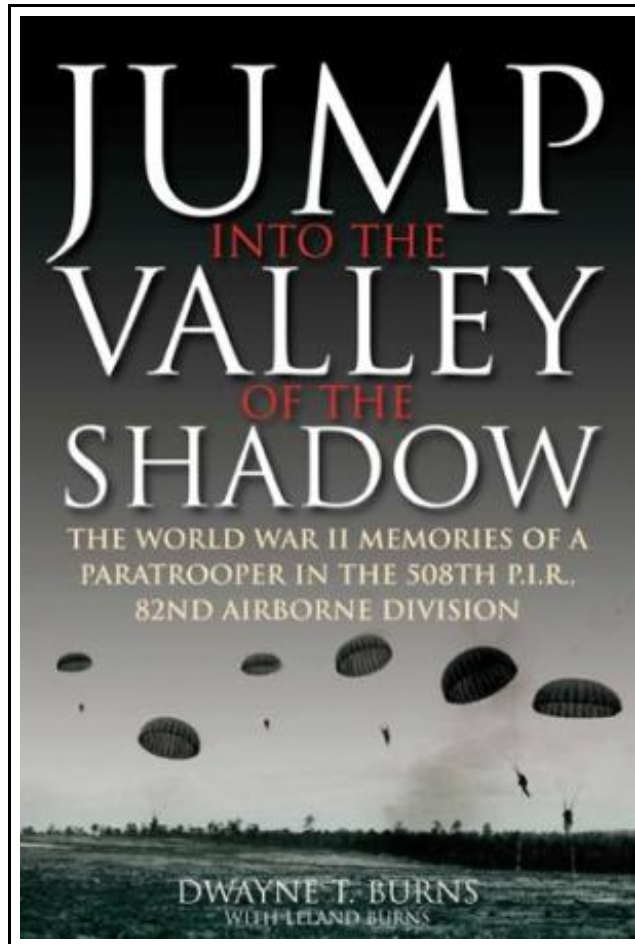


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(Prof. Loyce Runolfsson Jr.)

JUMP INTO THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW THE WAR MEMORIES OF DWAYNE BURNS COMMUNICATIONS SERGEANT-508TH P.I.R.



Casemate Pub. Paperback. Condition: New. 256 pages. Dimensions: 8.9in. x 6.0in. x 0.8in. When Dwayne Burns turned 18 during World War II, he decided that he wanted to fight alongside America's best. He joined the paratroopers and was assigned to the 508th Regiment of the 82d Airborne Division. Little did he suspect that a year later he'd be soaring in a flak-riddled C-47 over Normandy, part of the very spearhead of the Allied drive to seize back Europe. Burns landed behind German lines during the dark, early hours of D-day, and gradually found other survivors of his division. The paratroopers fought on every side in a confused, running battle through the hedgerows, finally making a stand in a surrounded farmhouse. With one room reserved for their growing piles of corpses, the paratroopers held their ground until finally relieved by infantry advancing from the beaches. After being pulled out of Normandy, the airborne troops were said to be burning a hole in SHAEF's pocket, and thus were launched into Holland as part of Montgomery's plan to gain a bridgehead across the Rhine. This daytime jump was less confused than the nocturnal one, but there were more Germans than expected and fewer Allied forces in support. It was another maelstrom of pointblank combat in all directions, and though the 82d achieved its objectives, the campaign as a whole achieved little but casualties. The 82d had hardly refilled with replacements when the Germans broke through the U. S. front in the Ardennes. The 82d's paratroopers were put aboard trucks and hastened to stand in the way of the panzer onslaught. Passing through Bastogne they went farther north to St. Vith, where the U. S. 7th Armored and other divisions were reeling. The 82nd held its own with quickly assembled defense perimeters, allowing other units...



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