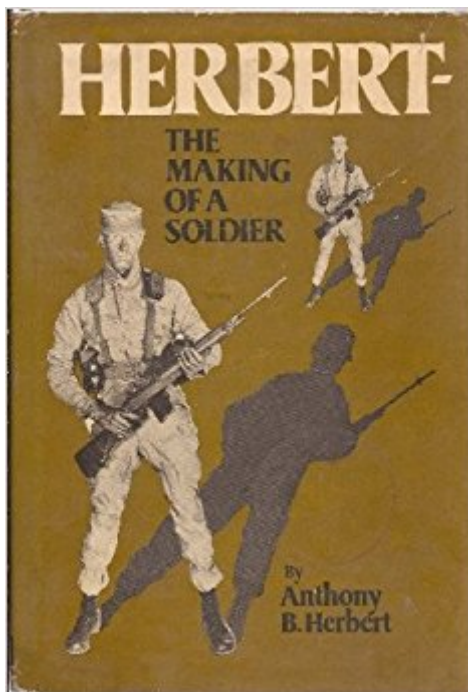


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Herbert--The Making Of A Soldier



Synopsis

Book by Herbert, Anthony B.

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Customer Reviews

Book by Herbert, Anthony B.

For those Americans in search of a hero after Audie Murphy, Anthony B. Herbert is from that same character mold----honor, decency, unvarnished courage under fire and, like Washington, no career ambitions beyond what his soldiering skills deserve. This memoir brings to life the Korean story as depicted in films like "Pork Chop Hill," "Steel Helmet," "Fixed Bayonets," and rises measurably higher to total admiration of this enlisted man's hero. It is clear in both of his soldiering books ("Soldier" prior) that there are political battles that others less grounded, less educated, sucker in to, but Herbert withdrew shrewdly, (dismissed from the army) with his courage, integrity and martial skills intact to inspire others completing his education to write vividly. Unlike Oliver North who traded his uniform for congressional favor, Herbert has an inspiring allegiance to the army and longstanding American values of truth that have been completely twisted by Mad Avenue over decades into blind compliance no matter the familiar quagmire trap sold to all for commercial "national" interests. There are so many brutal engagements depicted, unexplained casualties, so imaginatively drawn in such a speedy narrative it makes a Mailer war yarn pale in comparison. This memoir of his Korean experiences (put to print almost 30 years later) is inspiring for its brave re-creation, mano a mano battlefield conversations so real that names like Canning, Malinowski, King or Connors will linger

long after you finish reading. What Eugene Sledge's "The Old Breed" does for World War II, this Herbert Korean memoir does for the forgotten vets of Korea. This is one soldier's soldier that doesn't fade away but whose character continues to rise in admiration. As the saying goes, "Fortune favors the Brave," Herbert embodied that so many times, with real wounds against low odds so much that he steps away from this memoir as if he was clothed in the gossamer fabric of a god. Thank God, Herbert and other such heroes are on our side.

I was privileged to serve under Anthony B. Herbert in the 2/505 Parachute Infantry, 82 Airborne at Ft. Bragg, in 1965. What a soldier! At the time I didn't know his history and war record in Korea. I was just an E-5 then, but I always admired him for his no nonsense leadership abilities. He commanded by the book and served as an example to all of us. I can recall that he once told us that whoever holds out for the last two or three seconds is the one who wins the battle. In 1965 he stopped me in Dominican Republic and questioned me about the "non-uniform" Kabar Marine fighting knife that I had strapped to my leg. He asked me what platoon I was in and I told him I was in Lt. Sosa's Recon Platoon. He let me keep the knife on and went his way. I always admired him for that. When I read this book and his descriptions of war actions, I was amazed that it was a genuine description of this man and his determination to do his duty. I'd recommend this book to anyone who needs a hero. Tony B.

This book relates the first person experiences of Anthony Herbert, whose single-minded dedication to his mission led him back to the battle front over and over. Wounds, injuries and an open door to safer environs did not deter him. He killed countless enemy soldiers; he won more decorations than any other soldier in Korea, yet his sense of honor would not permit him to cross the line and kill a civilian or burn a village. Herbert's story is as tough and gritty as the man himself. But if you come to the last paragraph of the last page with a dry eye, you're a calloused soul, indeed.

Simple, plain, easy-to-follow way Herbert put his stories in words were more preferable to me than a glossy history volume or government military records. I found what I was looking for, a true narrative from a real war hero. Also a good reference to what and how Turks did in the campaign to stop reds, alongside American troops. I will definitely read over some parts and keep Herbert's book as reference in my library.

I read the book when it was first published. All of my sons have read it, and several of my friends. All

borrowed my copy, so I bought another.

Great buy

Great book, we knew him personally.

This book is an account of infantry combat in the Korean War by the war's most decorated soldier. Soon after the war Herbert wrote "Conquest to Nowhere" this book is a more detailed account of his 13 months in Korea. Prior to the war Herbert served as a paratrooper and cold weather survival expert. He arrived in Korea in '50, still a private, and attached himself to the 2nd Division by going AWOL from a replacement depot. When the Chinese entered the war Herbert was attached out to a Turkish brigade and earned the Osminieh, their version of the Medal of Honor and one of only nine men to ever receive it. Back with his own men he experienced cold and hunger and had many escapes from an advancing enemy. He received four Purple Hearts. One Purple Heart was for two gun shot wounds in the leg, a bayonet slash across his side, and a bayonet in the back. He was offered a battlefield commission, which he refused, but was promoted to Master SGT on the spot. Later, when his company was in reserve, he stayed on the line with the Marines who awarded him one of three Silver Stars, he also received two Bronze Stars, the Ville De Paris, the Distinguished UN medal, the Korean Service Medal with six battle stars, and various other awards. While fighting near HeartBreak Ridge he was pulled from the lines and sent to Washington D.C. to meet Pres. Truman. His home town gave him a parade and he was awarded the New York State Medal Of Honor. He then started a world tour as America's most decorated soldier. After his discharge Herbert wrote "Conquest To Nowhere" and continued to do P.R. work for the army. He even went to Hollywood, for the army, for the purpose of being photographed with Audie Murphy and was a guest on Groucho Marx's "You bet Your Life Show." This is a good infantry book by a man now mostly forgotten.

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