

## The Forgotten Army

A Burma Soldier's Story in Letters, Photographs and Sketches

James Fenton

The unrecorded everyday life of a soldier serving abroad in the Second World War fighting the Japanese in Burma

### Key Selling Points:

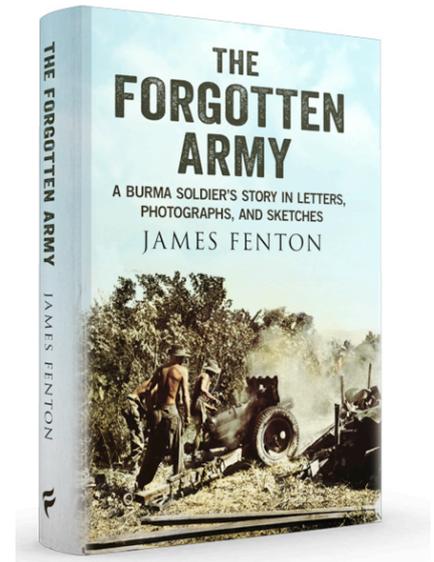
- An original and accessible memoir of a soldier fighting the Japanese in the Second World War
- Previously unpublished story
- Unpublished military records, photos and illustrations
- Exciting battles and action in war-torn Burma
- Gives the reader a clear and detailed account of war at the front line

*The Forgotten Army* consists of the letters, photos and sketches of a soldier fighting the Japanese in Burma that were sent home to the author's parents in Lancashire. Call-up documents, medical certificate, service pay book, discharge papers, letter index, family tree, news cuttings, leaflets, and 440 letters spanning military service in the army at home, India, Burma and Malaya. Copies of sketches, illustrations, photographs and paintings have been placed with original letters where reference is made. Sketches of the attack on Myitson, and copies of illustrations printed in the magazine *Soldier*, are the only drawings of wartime actions that have survived. Original portraits in watercolour, pictorial scenes and photographs, have been exhibited at various venues, a larger number have never been on show.

In additions to the letters sent to his family, many more were written to his brother Harry serving with the Royal Corps of Signals. Strict censorship regulations on leaving England prohibited the disclosure of troop ships, military activities, locations and place names, or information that may be of value to an enemy. Hostile encounters with Japanese forces during the Burma campaign were not allowed to be repeated until the closing days of the war. The last of the author's experiences as a soldier serving in uniform is related to letters to his wife. This is a continuous account of military service during World War 2, from the very first day in the army, to the last.

### Marketing, Publicity, Press, Reviews:

- IWM, National Army Museum, Adjutant General's Corps Museum, Royal Artillery Museum, Royal Artillery Association, RAEC Association, Royal United Services Institute, etc (see AQ). Usual British/Commonwealth aviation museums
- *The Gunner*, *RA Journal*, *RUSI Journal*, Historynet.com, armchairgeneral.com, ww2talk.com, wwiihistorymagazine.com, panzercentral.com, Aviation Bookshop; National Archives bookshop; Cross and Cockade; Brooklands Museum (see AQ).



### Bibliographic Information

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<i>Rights:</i>	World, all languages
<i>Bic Codes:</i>	JWD — Land forces & warfare

### The Author

James Fenton was born in Lancashire and attended a secondary school winning a scholarship to study drawing, cotton printing weaving, pottery and industrial design. Having gained the Board of Education Drawing Certificate, Fenton was called for military service in World War 2. He served with the Royal Artillery in the UK, India, Burma and Malaya. Following discharge from the army, he embarked on a career as a creative artist and graphic designer with several London agencies.

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