We Flew, We Fell, We Lived: Stories from RCAF Prisoners of War and Evaders, 1939-1945

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Main content

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Philip Lagrandeur, a Canadian high-school teacher of military history and social studies, wrote this book as a tribute to former Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) prisoners of war (POWs, known as Krieges) and evaders in World War II Germany. Serendipity kindled his interest. In 1998, he learned he had an Australian relative who was a pilot shot down over Germany in late 1941. Shortly afterwards, he read a newspaper article on the Great Escape (the famous 1944 breakout of seventy-six allied officers from Luft Stalag III that resulted in Hitler's order to execute fifty escapees). He then contacted Gordon King, a Canadian participant. Surprisingly, King not only knew Lagrandeur's relative but also roomed with him in Stalag III. Now hooked, he set out to provide the Canadian perspective on life in German POW camps.

Lagrandeur conducted multiple oral-history interviews with thirteen surviving RCAF members. He reviewed personal memoirs, recollections, POW diaries, documents from the...

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We Flew, We Fell, We Lived: Second World War Stories from RCAF Prisoners of War and Evaders [LaGrandeur, Philip] on Amazon.com. *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. We Flew, We Fell, We Lived: Second World War Stories from RCAF Prisoners of War and Evaders. We Flew, We Fell, We Lived: Second World War Stories from RCAF Prisoners of War and Evaders Hardcover –
Some ex-prisoners of war and internees have directly or implicitly criticised the neutral representatives who were able to visit camps because they accomplished nothing with the Japanese authorities. It should be mentioned that they had the greatest difficulty in obtaining the necessary permits for each visit, that during the visit they had to refrain from all reference to humanitarian texts in order not to anger the Japanese authorities, and that the latter always regarded them with suspicion and ill-will. In April 1945, the camp military districts were reorganized and three new POW Camps were established in Sendai, Nagoya, and Hiroshima. Grashio joined the other prisoners of war in the infamous Bataan Death March. All South African Army, Navy and Air Force soldiers (and civilians?) who were Prisoners of War during WWII can be added to this project. About 334,000 men volunteered for full-time service in the South African Army during the war (including some 211,000 whites, 77,000 blacks and 46,000 coloureds and Indians). The Commonwealth War Graves Commission has records of 11,023 known South Africans who died during World War II. Sub-projects for more specialised interests will be added when possible. Hoping to add further sub-projects for POWs held in Egypt, Libya, Italy, Poland, and Germany. Collaborat Forces -- Airmen, Escapes, Prisoners of war, Underground movements, War, Prisonniers de guerre -- Canada, Prisonniers de guerre -- Allemagne, Guerre mondiale, 1939-1945 -- Prisonniers et prisons des Allemands, Guerre mondiale, 1939-1945 -- Récits personnels canadiens, Canada, Europe, Germany, Guerre mondiale, 1939-1945 -- Recits personnels canadiens. During the war, non-Jewish Poles were conscripted into forced labour in Germany and Maria’s parents sent her to live with family in Warsaw in an attempt to save her from being called up. In Warsaw, Maria and her aunt helped Jewish children by providing them with whatever food and clothing they could. She was suspected of being part of the Polish Resistance and arrested in 1943. She was deported to Auschwitz in May later that year. As Allied troops advanced in April 1945, the Germans evacuated those prisoners deemed fit for forced labour and left the rest behind to die. Daniel avoided deportation by hiding under floorboards and was liberated. After the war, Daniel joined the British Army as an interpreter and was reunited with his wife in 1946.