

SELECTED REVIEWS OF CRAIG LAWRENCE'S BOOKS – AS AT 8TH DECEMBER 2019

THE LEGACY

'Think Dogs of War and Bourne Series.'" **Author and critic Michael Jecks, December 2018**

'Craig Lawrence, a modern Major General, draws on his army career and bursts onto the literary scene with a novel that begins with skullduggery in the city and ends in the snows of Devon...I really enjoyed it and it's a great choice to hunker down with as the nights draw in. Inspired by Lee Child, Craig turns out a fast-paced adventure (with Gurkha guest appearances) that has appeal for many ages and covers a range of relationships.' **Devon Life, Christmas 2015**

'...a hard-to-put-down adventure that contains just the right mix of mystery, romance and intrigue. **Verdict:** This absorbing yarn should appeal to all tastes.' **5 Stars (out of 5). Soldier Magazine, September 2015**

'Craig Lawrence will grip you from the moment you open this book and read the first page...the story that unfolds will keep you mesmerised to the very end.' **Bookehost, February 2016**

'...a high altitude, high octane fiction novel, The Legacy, which involves an ex-Gurkha Army Officer, a story that promises to captivate from the first page.' **The Army and Navy Club News, May 2015**

GURKHA: 25 YEARS OF THE ROYAL GURKHA RIFLES

'As I reflect upon the Regiment's first quarter century, it is sometimes difficult to remember exactly just how much has been achieved. This is why this book is invaluable - carefully researched, and with hundreds of fascinating images, it will perhaps help the reader to understand my deep personal pride in being Colonel-in-Chief.' **His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales**

'The images shown on the covers of these two fine studies of the Gurkha rifleman are serendipitously complementary...Craig Lawrence's cover, meanwhile, presents an altogether more menacing image: a camouflaged face framed by crossed kukris, the battle-knife that is the universal emblem of the Gurkhas. This rifleman is not so much looking at the camera as challenging it, a reminder that the British army does not retain the men's services for sentimental reasons, but because they are formidable fighters...Maj Gen Lawrence, the third of the (so far) four honorary colonels, tells the story of the new regiment's first 25 years and packs it with illustrations...I cannot recommend one book above the other. To understand the Gurkhas, past, present and future, you need to read both.' **Country Life, 4 December 2019**

'A pictorial celebration of 25 years of The Royal Gurkha Rifles, this book is crammed with more than 500 images of the brave soldiers past and present – Lawrence wanted to include as many of the men as possible as a tribute to those who had served and continue to serve in the RGR. Soldiers are selected only from young men living in the hills of Nepal – with 9,568 applicants for 270 places in 2018. Gurkha includes sections on kukri fighting, snipers and tracking, all of which go into shaping this elite unit.' **Daily Mail, 11 October 2019**

'Military historian, Gurkha Officer for over thirty years, with the extensive experience of commanding Gurkha troops on operations, and a former Colonel of the Regiment, there can be few better qualified to write the silver jubilee history of the RGR than Craig Lawrence. What he has skillfully produced is a magnificent record of the famous and fearless fighting men from Nepal. Illustrated with over 500 wonderful, mainly colour, photographs this intimate account really does do justice to the entire Regimental family and superbly balances the operational, organisational, regimental and historical aspects of their first 25 years. This is neither a, so-called, coffee table book nor is it a detailed regimental history but provides a lively narrative which simply sets the outstanding illustrations into context. Gurkha is compelling reading and sure to become an essential reference work. It is great value for money and a highly recommended and timely Christmas gift!' **Military Historical Society, November 2019**

THE GURKHAS: 200 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CROWN

'No wonder enemies just turn and run! Felling four foes with one bullet. Slicing off heads with a swing of a knife. As they mark 200 years as our most awesome warriors, a new book reveals why you should NEVER cross a Gurkha.' **Daily Mail, 6 June 2015**

'This large, picture-filled book gives a fascinating insight into the history of the Gurkhas....This book is a fitting tribute to those who made and continue to make the grade.' **The Field, August 2015**

'This sort of stuff is meat and drink to this fantastic book by Craig Lawrence....This is one of those paving slab size books you cannot ignore. So don't!' **War History Online, 18 August 2015**

'It's gorgeously photographed, it's illustrated massively, it's not just a great heaving history book and it's a riveting read, beautifully written and prepared...It's by Major General J C Lawrence and it is absolutely fantastic.' **Joanna Lumley, The Lady, 24 July 2015**

'The book is highly readable as well as informative, and has the added attraction of being lavishly illustrated on every page.' **Military History Monthly, July 2015**

'Encapsulating 200 years of distinguished military history is quite a challenge, the most difficult question is what to leave out rather than what to include. In this case the balance is just right for this style of commemorative book. The history contained within captures the ethos and distinctive identity of the Gurkha soldier without overwhelming the reader. The narrative is interesting and engaging but this is above all a visual history and in that respect it is superb. The images used have clearly been very carefully selected to tell the Gurkha story in a colourful and dramatic way - the result is an impressive single volume history.' **Dispatches (the magazine of the International Guild of Battlefield Guides), Summer 2015**

'This book, written by Major General J C Lawrence CBE, with a foreword by HRH The Prince of Wales and an introduction by Joanna Lumley OBE, is the complete visual history of Britain's Gurkhas and the mystique that surrounds them.' **The Gurkha Museum, Winchester**

GETTING STRATEGY RIGHT (ENOUGH)

'Just finished reading it. Excellent! Anyone involved in strategy-making who hasn't/doesn't read this is missing out.' **Lieutenant General (Retired) Sir John Kiszely, author of "Anatomy of a Campaign. The British Fiasco in Norway, 1940**