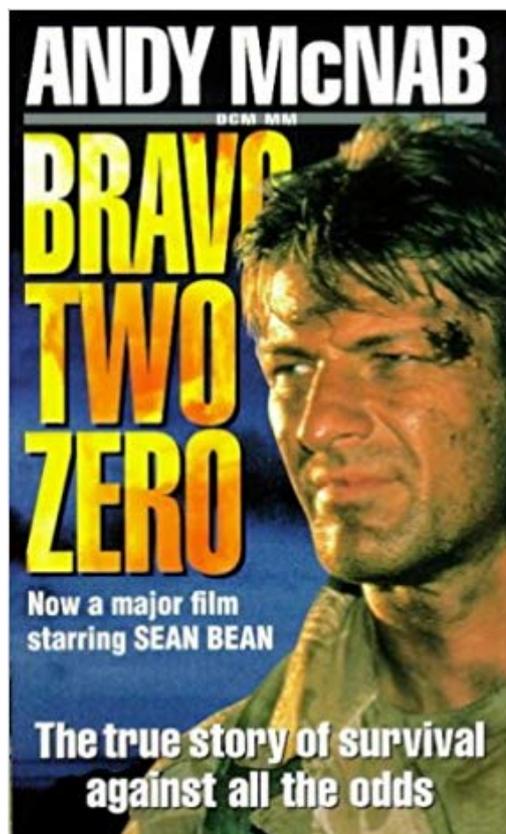


Bravo Two-Zero *by* Andy McNab



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ISBN: 0552146250
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Author: Andy McNab
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This is McNab's account of the mission - a chronicle of courage, endurance and dark humour in the face of extreme cold, enemy attack, capture, and torture of a savagery and relentlessness for which not even their intensive SAS training had prepared them.



Reviews of the **Bravo Two-Zero** *by* Andy McNab

FailCrew

I picked up this book many a years ago as mass market and read it right away. It was one of the first books I read regarding special operations in the first Iraq war. The portrayal of their time spent before the mission was fascinating to me. How they beg and barrow supplies, the life of the soldiers in the camp, and the level of freedom they had in regards to setting up the mission.

Once they got into Iraq the story was great also. Some funny incidents while they were on escape and evasion across the desert trying to get to the border. With their luck expecting the compass to fail and see a sign welcoming them to Baghdad. The only negative in the book in my opinion was the lengthy description of the time spent as a prisoner of war of the Iraqis. While I think it should

outrage the public how prisoners get treated by our enemies and the outrage over our seeming inhumanity, it just felt really long and just dry and boring.

Although the conclusion in the book of how he would deal with his interrogators, one of the best and most honest conclusions you will probably see on the subject.

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Andy McNab is a natural storyteller and you'll find it hard to put this book down. Throughout it you must keep reminding yourself that this actually happened. What Andy and his team endured during their evasion and capture is the stuff of nightmares. Even so, McNab is so funny, at times you forget the stakes of the game they're playing. You'll ask yourself several times if you could've survived the treatment these men were subjected to. I submit most could not. As a former American soldier it made me proud that we have allies made of such hard stuff.

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Gir

Bravo Two Zero by Andy McNab is a bestseller describing a patrol by the English Special Air Services (SAS) in Iraq during the Gulf War.

In 1991, eight British special forces SAS men went out on patrol to take out Scud missiles fired from Iraq into Israel. Only five came back. Sergeant Andy McNab was their leader and the patrol was call sign was Bravo Two Zero.

Carrying 210 lbs. the patrol found themselves in troubles from the start. Finding themselves surrounded, they eventually got caught and harshly interrogated.

Bravo Two Zero: The Harrowing True Story of a Special Forces Patrol Behind the Lines in Iraq by Andy McNab was recommended to me, as mentioned above, and simply by reading the synopsis I thought I'd like the book.

However, as someone with military experience I have to call bulls*** on some of the stories. I don't know about the torture scenes and frankly hope never to find out, but some of the operational procedures and bravado seems to be utter machismo more to do with a Hollywood movie than with a book presenting itself as fact.

For example, no way did an eight man team kill 250 people or took on a whole platoon and/or company by themselves. They might have killed a few and ran away (as would be the smart thing to do) but I seriously doubt the numbers presented. The problem with such statements, as we all know, is that one wrong statement in any presentation puts in doubt the rest of the valid or factual points.

That being said, I did enjoy the book. I thought it was interesting to get into the mind of an SAS man, the psychology of going behind enemy lines and the terror of getting caught. The harrowing physical and mental challenges those guys faced in the Iraqi desert as well as the no-nonsense storytelling style puts the reader right there next to the men on patrol.

For those who like special operations or want to learn more about the esteemed SAS this book is an excellent choice. The book is an easy read, a well written adventure story and even inspiring on several levels.

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BeatHoWin

We often read books or see movies that show how tough and rude elite forces are, and that's always an impressive thing to observe, But i've never encountered before a book that was able to show the real inner stuff that these soldiers are made of. And i'm not saying this guys are super human, incredible athletes and clever as a rocket scientific, what this book leads us to see is that this guys are a group of individuals which are in perfect knowledge of their universe; that being their bodies, their sorroundings, their limitations and possibilities in relation with their task. Only by knowing this is that they can act as they do; with the higher degree of coordination and efficiency possible to a human being. This gives new meaning to the old "be all you can be" motto, because this guys really are all that is possible to acheive.

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Arihelm

I enjoyed reading this book, especially since there are not that many titles from the conflict it covers. It is an interesting read due to those involved are the highly capable SAS. They came into this conflict with clear & concise orders however, no one could have been prepared for what they did encounter.

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Ichalote

McNabb covers a lot and there is a bit of stretching and elasticity with real world conditions. I have had similar experiences and some things ring true, but others are way beyond reality. No one is going to carry much more than 60% of their body weight very far for very long. I regularly train with 55% of my BW and even with lots of prep and practice, it just doesn't hold up. Nobody is carrying 120% of their BW mile after mile. In total I think it is a good tale and harrowing is probably an understatement. I agree with the last statement the author makes as I have a list of my own from different times and situations.

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