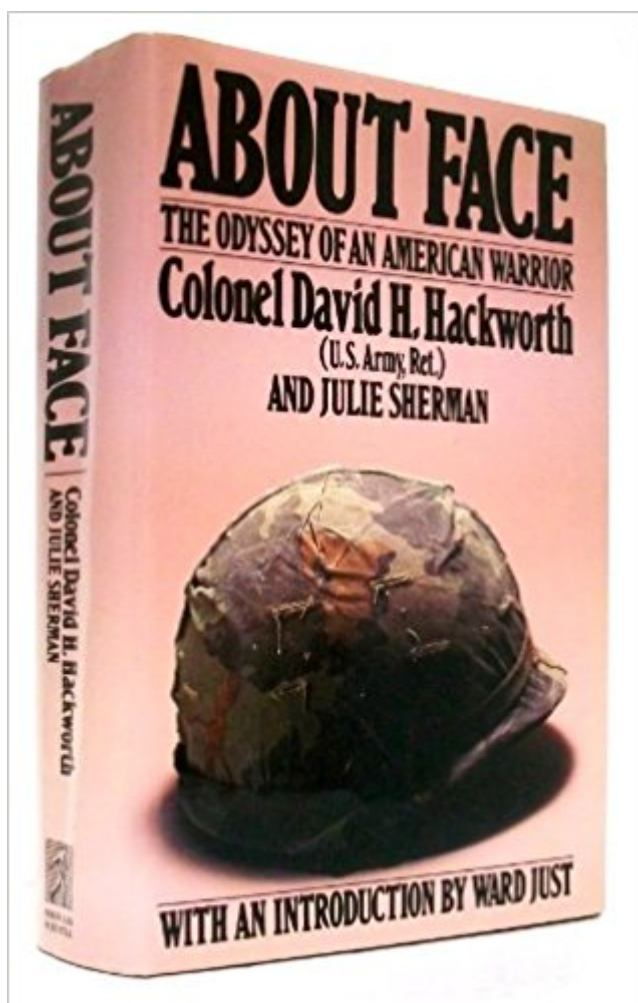


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# About Face: Odyssey Of An American Warrior



## Synopsis

About Face: Odyssey of an American Warrior

## Book Information

Hardcover: 875 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster; 1st Edition edition (March 1989)

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## Customer Reviews

A battle-scarred veteran of Korea, Hackworth served successive tours in Vietnam, becoming increasingly alarmed by declining standards in the Army and the dead-end policy in Southeast Asia. Matters came to a head during a 1971 television interview in which he criticized Army leadership, training and tactics in the field. For this the colonel was shamefully hounded into premature retirement, a potential Army superstar who was suddenly perceived as a dangerous renegade, according to this memoir written with freelancer Sherman. The engrossing autobiography of a fierce and fiercely outspoken warrior, it is also an inside account of the demoralization of a once-proud army during a period when "no one could afford to tell the truth, make an error, or admit to ignorance." The colonel makes sweeping condemnations in this passionate, profane, sometimes intemperate book (admirers of military historian S.L.A. Marshall will cringe at Hackworth's savage attack). In the end he calls the army "this rotten whore I'd been in love with for twenty years."

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Authentic combat leaders--the real warriors--are apt to be professional misfits, especially off the battlefield. In this book America's most decorated living soldier tells his life story in formidable detail with outstanding battlefield realism. Colonel Hackworth left the Army and went into exile over the

conduct of the Vietnam War. Like all good autobiographies, his often tells more than he intended. This is as earnest and self-revealing as Anthony B. Herbert's *Herbert: The Making of a Soldier* (LJ 9/1/82), but less laconic. A rousing good book which will be useful to military professionals as well. Military Book Club main selection.- Raymond L. Puffer, U.S. Air Force History Prog., Los AngelesCopyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This is a very long book, written by a rookie. However, it may be the finest soldier's autobiography I have read except for "With the Old Breed". I think I've read everything that Hackworth wrote, and nothing matches this. I read a library's copy years ago and decided it needed to be part of my library as well as their's. Important Note: Buy the paperback. Some of the hardcover volumes have a binding error. Some pages are missing and some are duplicated.

My husband served under David Hackworth in the 101st. He said the stories are factual, and brilliantly portrayed and accurate. We loved his book. David Hackworth was a true American hero. A great warrior. Idealistic and Patriotic.

Wow, didn't know war was so ugly. Maybe if everyone read this book, we wouldn't be so quick to jump into a conflict. I know it is a necessary evil sometimes, but the men and women who fought for our country need more respect. I cannot even imagine what they went through. This book reveals the harshness of war from the past. You would think our world would see there is no winner. Thank you to our veterans. It is an honor to own the book.

One of the very best books I have read, EVER. David Hackworth was such an amazing American hero, and I can't believe Americans don't even know his story, his heroism, and the true story about Vietnam. It's in paperback, nice thick paperback, and that is great because it is about 2+ inches thick. Easy font to read. It took a few chapters to get used to reading the glossary so I could figure out all the military acronyms, but it became totally easy after about the first 50 pages. For all of you who know relatives or friends who served in Vietnam, I urge you, really URGE you to read this book. If you are a history teacher in high school, shame on you if you don't read this before talking to your students about the early 60's, when so many brilliant, patriotic soldiers laid down their lives to just "reach the hill"... Please read it and don't let this part of history disappear like so much of American history is being erased.

Great story from a real American hero. I heard this book referenced on the Jocko podcast and it also appeared to have an impact on Tim Ferriss so I decided to give it a read and do not regret it. It is a big book so I wish a kindle version was available, but oh well, worth having on the bookshelf anyway.

A very long book, but a good one. Hackworth's insights on ground combat is a unvarnished look at a dirty and dangerous undertaking.

I was really moved by Hacks life story. He was lucky to be alive many times over. I think i was most impressed by his always giving the credit to those who molded and shaped him into what he was. I feel sorry for his little family but that was yet another contradiction in his eventful life. Hack was a mans man and I finished the book inspired. A real page turner.

AMAZING..a must read for anyone interested in leading others successfully.

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