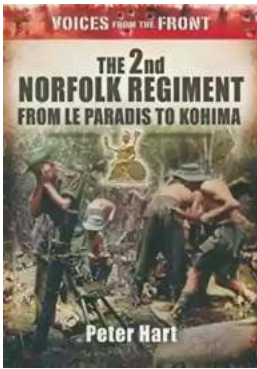


# The 2nd Norfolk Regiment: A Tale of Bravery and Resilience



The 2nd Norfolk Regiment stands as a testament to the bravery and resilience of soldiers who fought gallantly in numerous battles throughout history. From the muddy trenches of World War I to the scorching deserts of North Africa during World War II, these men demonstrated unwavering determination and unwavering loyalty to their regiment and country.

The origins of The 2nd Norfolk Regiment can be traced back to its formation on March 1, 1685, as part of the British Army. Originally established to combat Scottish rebels, the regiment quickly gained a reputation for its discipline and effectiveness on the battlefield.



## The 2nd Norfolk Regiment: From Le Paradis to Kohima (Voices from the Front)

by Peter Hart (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 46233 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 224 pages

Lending : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported



### The Early Years

In its initial years, The 2nd Norfolk Regiment played a crucial role in the Battle of Blenheim in 1704, a significant conflict during the War of the Spanish Succession. The regiment demonstrated exceptional courage in defending against the French forces, ensuring victory for the Allied forces.

Throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, The 2nd Norfolk Regiment participated in various conflicts, including the American Revolutionary War and the Napoleonic Wars. The bravery and resilience displayed by the soldiers of the regiment during these battles earned them numerous accolades.

### World War I

The outbreak of World War I in 1914 marked a new chapter in the history of The 2nd Norfolk Regiment. Deployed to the Western Front, the soldiers faced unimaginable horrors in the trenches. Despite the challenging conditions and

constant threat of enemy artillery, they displayed unwavering courage and commitment.

One notable incident that highlights the bravery of the regiment occurred during the Battle of Épehy in 1918. The soldiers of The 2nd Norfolk Regiment played a crucial role in the British advance, capturing enemy positions and demonstrating exceptional bravery under heavy fire. Their actions resulted in a decisive victory for the Allied forces.

## **World War II**

During World War II, The 2nd Norfolk Regiment once again found themselves fighting in harsh and challenging environments. Deployed to North Africa, they experienced scorching heat and treacherous desert conditions. However, the soldiers remained unyielding in their determination to secure victory.

In 1941, the regiment played a significant role in the Battle of Gazala, a crucial conflict that determined the fate of North Africa. Facing formidable German tanks and well-trained infantry, The 2nd Norfolk Regiment displayed remarkable resilience and tactical prowess. Despite being heavily outnumbered, they held their ground, providing critical support to the Allied forces.

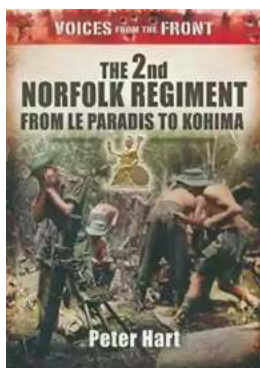
## **The Legacy**

The 2nd Norfolk Regiment's legacy extends far beyond the battlefields. Their unwavering commitment to duty and sacrifice serves as an inspiration for future generations. The regiment's veterans continue to be honored for their bravery and contributions to military history.

Today, The 2nd Norfolk Regiment stands as a proud example of the indomitable spirit of soldiers who fought for their country. Their story is a reminder of the

sacrifices made and the adversity overcome, inspiring us to cherish the freedom and peace we enjoy today.

So, let us remember the brave soldiers of The 2nd Norfolk Regiment, whose unwavering valor and resilience continue to echo throughout history.



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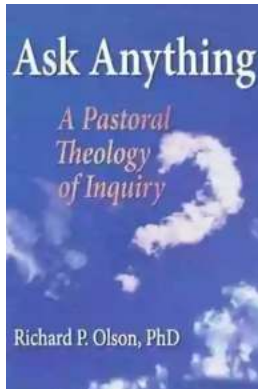
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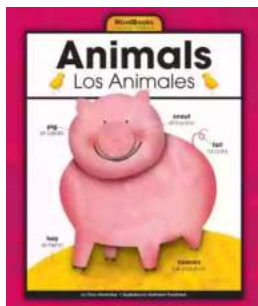
The Second World War is vanishing into the pages of history. The veterans were once all around us, but their numbers are fast diminishing. While still in their prime many recorded their memories with Peter Hart for the Imperial War Museum. As these old soldiers now fade away their voices from the front are still strong with a rare power to bring the horrors of war back to vivid life. The 2nd Norfolk Regiment were a proud old regular battalion honed in the pre-war traditions of spit and polish at their Britannia Barracks in Norwich. Sent to France they sold their lives to gain time for the retreat to Dunkirk when surrounded by an SS Division at Le Paradis in May 1940. Over 100 of the survivors would be brutally massacred. Back in England they reformed from ordinary drafts of men

called up from all over the country. A new battalion was born. Sent to India they met the Japanese head on in the bloody fight for Kohima against the Imperial Japanese Army. As the fighting raged in the jungle the Norfolks were once again right at the very sharp end of modern war. This is their story.



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