
FORTUNE FAVOURS
THE Fortune Favours the Brave: The Battles of the Hook Korea 1952-53 BRAVE

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FORTUNE FAVOURS
THE BRAVE

The Battle of the Hook
Korea 1952–53

BY

A. J. BARKER

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FOREWORD

*by Major-General Sir Douglas Kendrew, KCMG, CB, CBE, DSO,
Commander 29 Inf Bde 1952–53 Korea*

I am glad to have this opportunity of writing a short foreword to Lt.-Colonel Barker's story *Fortune Favours the Brave: The Battles of the Hook Korea 1952-53* of the Battle of the Hook that took place in Korea during the end of May, *Fortune Favours the Brave: The Battles of the Hook Korea 1952-53* 1953.

It gives me the chance to pay tribute to a wonderful Brigade consisting of the 1st Bn The Black Watch, 1st Bn The King's Regiment, 1st Bn The Duke of Wellington's Regiment and the 20th Field Regiment Royal Artillery, with other supporting arms.

All the Bns played their full part in this battle; however the main attack fell on the *Fortune Favours the Brave: The Battles of the Hook Korea 1952-53* Dukes and their fighting qualities were outstanding.

This battle was unique in many ways. Not since the trench warfare of the 1914–18 war have British forces fought a battle of this pattern, and it is unlikely that it will be fought again with the advent of tactical nuclear weapons.

Artillery played more than a major part in *Fortune Favours the Brave: The Battles of the Hook Korea 1952-53* the planning of the defence. Great praise must be given to Lt.-Colonel Geoffrey Brennan who, with his Counter Bombardment officers, executed the fire plan and so decimated the attacking Chinese that the Infantry survived the waves of men *Fortune Favours the Brave: The Battles of the Hook Korea 1952-53* who tried to overrun this key position.

I must also pay tribute to the National Servicemen that made up sixty per cent of the Regular Battalions. These young men, mostly nineteen years old, adapted themselves to the art and hell

of war and played a full part in writing their Regiments' histories. Many of the platoons were led by National Service officers.

But in writing this Fortune Favours the Brave: The Battles of the Hook Korea 1952-53 foreword to the story of a vital battle, I do not forget the other units and formations in the Commonwealth Division who maintained to the full the highest traditions of British Forces, and thus made us proud to belong to a unique band of men who were fighting to uphold the ideals of freedom.

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