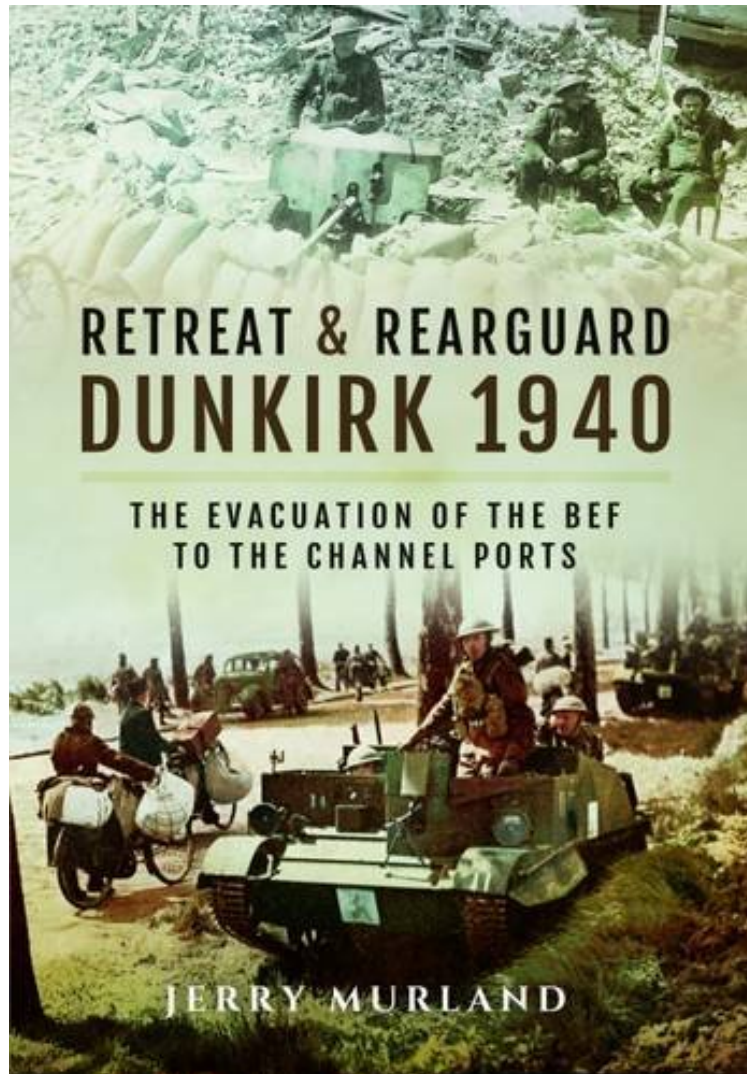


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Retreat and Rearguard - Dunkirk 1940: The Evacuation of the BEF to the Channel Ports

Jerry Murland

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Jerry Murland : Retreat and Rearguard - Dunkirk 1940: The Evacuation of the BEF to the Channel Ports before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Retreat and Rearguard - Dunkirk 1940: The Evacuation of the BEF to the Channel Ports:

This book, the third title in the Author's Retreat and Rearguard series, covers the actions of the BEF during the retreat from the Dyle Line to the evacuation points of Dunkirk, Boulogne, Calais, St Valery-en-Caux and finally the

Cherbourg Peninsula. Some of the engagements are relatively well known (Cassell, the Arras counter-attack and the notorious Le Paradis SS massacre) but the author has unearthed many less known engagements from the long and painful withdrawal. While the main Dunkirk evacuation from the port and beaches was over by early June, elements of the BEF fought on until 21 June. In relating those, often heroic, actions the author catches the atmosphere of desperate defiance that typified this never-to-be-forgotten period.

"Murland, a writer and battlefield guide who served with the Parachute Regiment of the British Army, relates the story of the retreat of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) from the River Dyle to the channel coast of France from where Operation Dynamo began during the France and Flanders Campaign in May 1940 during World War II. A quarter of a million men of the BEF were evacuated from the coast of France over nine days. The author concentrates on the tactical aspects of British rearguard units during their withdrawal to Dunkirk, as well as what led up to it" (PROTOVIEW) There is a place for detailed narratives such as this that do not feel the need to steer the reader too much. An essential purchase. (Society of Friends of the National Army Museum) About the Author Jerry Murland followed a successful career as a teacher, and since retirement has devoted his time to researching and writing on the two world wars. His books include *Retreat and Rearguard 1914*, *Battle on the Aisne 1914*, *Aristocrats Go to War*, *Retreat and Rearguard: Somme 1918* and *Retreat and Rearguard: Dunkirk 1940*. He has also written two 'Battle Ground Europe' publications and is co-author of the *Battle Lines* guidebook series to the Western Front 1914–18.