



# You Can't Get Much Closer Than This

*Combat with Company H,  
317<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 80<sup>th</sup> Division*  
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A. Z. Adkins, Jr.  
Andrew Z. Adkins, III

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*Combat with Company H, 317th Infantry Regiment, 80th Division*  
A.Z. ADKINS, JR. AND ANDREW Z. ADKINS, III



Lt. A. Z. Adkins, Jr. joined the 80<sup>th</sup> Division in the California-Arizona desert and was assigned as a mortar section leader in 2d Battalion, 317<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. Along with the rest of the 80<sup>th</sup> Division, he arrived in the ETO in August 1944 and was baptized by fire in Argentan, fought across the bloody Moselle River, and wounded in Sivry, France where he was awarded the Bronze Star. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge, through the famed Siegfried Line, and discovered the horrors of the Buchenwald concentration camp.

*You Can't Get Much Closer Than This* is the day-to-day struggles, sacrifices, and successes of a WWII front line infantry soldier. This first hand account is not just the story of A. Z. Adkins, Jr.; it's the story of every soldier who fought in WWII—it's the stories and war experiences our fathers never revealed to us. Andrew Z. Adkins III

completed his father's diary with extensive research and collaboration in order to share this remarkable story with veterans as well as their sons and daughters of WWII veterans.

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