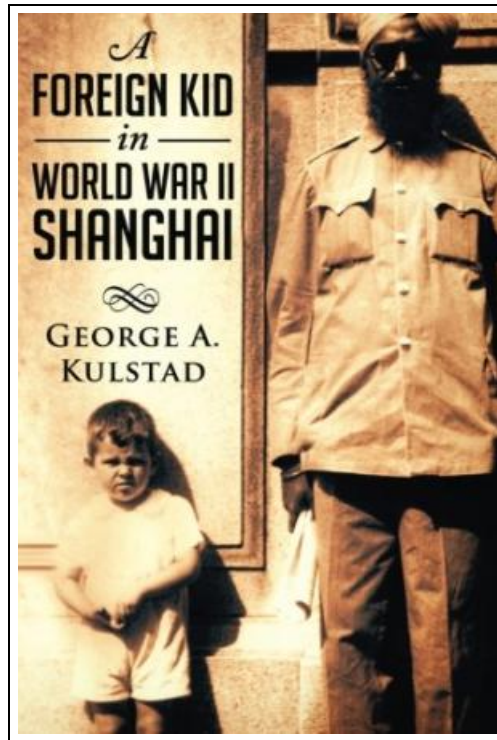


## A Foreign Kid in World War II Shanghai



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## A FOREIGN KID IN WORLD WAR II SHANGHAI



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Quinsan Editions. Paperback. Condition: New. 208 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.5in. When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor they almost simultaneously fired at naval ships on the Whangpoo River and took over the city of Shanghai. This marked the arrival of World War II in the Far East, when George Kulstad was only six years old. His father, a sea captain, was in Japan, and in spite of being a Norwegian citizen he was held captive by the Japanese, leaving Kulstad with his mother and brother to fend for themselves in Shanghai. Unlike young Jim in J. G. Ballards Empire of the Sun, young Kulstad in A Foreign Kid remained outside the internment camps and experienced first-hand the almost four years of Japanese occupation. Since many of the events that Kulstad witnessed were beyond his understanding when they occurred, he researched their historical context to produce a rich memoir of the first 14 years of his life. During the war, his mother received Relief funds and was able to make ends meet. But food and fuel were short, and Kulstad describes in some detail his experience with school mates asking for food at his door and the plight of the destitute he saw on the streets. He knew about the torture of prisoners at Bridge House by the Japanese, and in recounting his school years at St. Francis Xavier College he looks into the background of one of the Brothers, an Irishman, and finds that in addition to teaching he managed to give sustenance to Allied prisoners in the Ward Road jail. When the Japanese were raising the Italian liner SS Conte Verde from the depths of the Whangpoo River, Kulstad observed part of the operation, and in this memoir he describes the proceedings and reports on the ships ultimate...



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