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Biographical Sketch

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Mr. Chester Wilmot

Mr Chester Wilmot was born in Melbourne, Australia in 1911. He attended Melbourne University, majoring in History and Law.

During 1941 and 1942, Mr. Wilmot was War Correspondent for the Australian Broadcasting Commission in the Middle East and New Guinea. Before the Normandy invasion, he accepted the invitation of the B. B. C. to report from the second front, and in 1944-45 served in this capacity in Northwest Europe. He was with Montgomery at the surrender of the German armies of Northwest Europe.

High-lights in Mr. Wilmot's duty in the European theatre of war included landing in Normandy with the 6th British Airborne Division before H-Hour on D-Day, and the distinction of being the only allied correspondent to enter the German H. Q. while the war was still in progress.

Mr. Wilmot was Special Correspondent for the B. B. C. at the Nuremberg Trial of German War Prisoners. He was also Official War Historian for the Commonwealth of Australia, commissioned to write the volume dealing with the siege of Tobruk and the Battle of Alamein.

In his book "The Struggle for Europe", published by Harper and Brothers in March, 1952, Mr. Wilmot has written one of the finest strategic and diplomatic histories of World War II. This controversial book was a sensation in England and was received with acclaim in the United States. Former Prime Minister Atlee said of it: "A contribution of first class importance to the history of the Second World War."

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