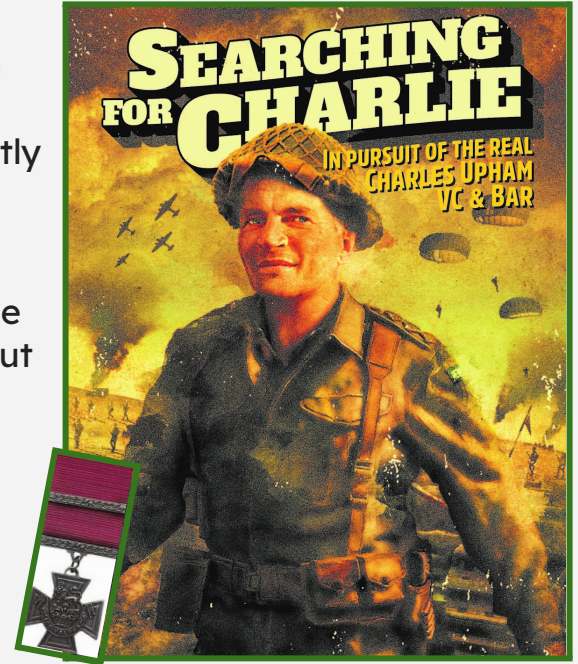


Charles Upham is our most famous soldier, the only soldier to win the highest military award twice. Upham stated that he was just doing his job with his fellow soldiers, when he won the Victoria Cross in battles, firstly in Italy and then Egypt.

When winning his second medal for bravery on the battlefield, he was badly wounded and captured by the Germans. After they fixed him up he was imprisoned but Upham kept escaping. They sent him to their most escape-proof prison, 'Colditz'.

When he returned home people saw him as a hero. Upham just wanted to be a farmer, and so that is what he did.



Questions (look in the text for highlight clues!)

- 1) What did Upham most want to be when he returned home to New Zealand?
- 2) In which battle did Charles Upham get badly wounded?
- 3) Which country did Charles Upham fight against in the war?
- 4) What was the name of the award given to Upham twice?
 - a) Highest Military Award
 - b) Victoria Cross
 - c) Colditz
- 5) Why is Charles Upham our most famous soldier?
- 6) What is 'colditz'?
- 7) Do you think that Upham believed he deserved to be given the awards? Can you find any parts of the story to back up your idea?

Responses to war - international

Produced by Paul Tucker@Orewa College (2023)

New Words (look in the text for highlight clues!)

What do you think the word captured means in the story? Read the sentence.

Does it mean:

- a) Upham was killed by the Germans.
- b) Upham was helped by the Germans.
- c) Upham was taken by the Germans.

An Action Word (Verbs)

For each sentence find the word that is an action word.

- 1) The soldier ran towards the enemy.
- 2) Upham escaped from the Germans.
- 3) The soldiers and Upham attacked together.

Charles Upham lived as a farmer in Christchurch until he died aged 86. He never looked for the spotlight for his famous deeds, living quietly in the small town of Amberley.

The small town was very proud of the famous soldier who became a farmer. After he died they put up a statue so that everyone would remember this New Zealand hero.

