

# **Ursula Graham Bower and Her Jungle Warriors: Resisting the Japanese Occupation in WWII**

Ursula Graham Bower was a British woman who lived in Borneo with her husband, Tom, and their three children. When the Japanese invaded Borneo in 1942, Ursula and her family were forced to flee into the jungle. They were joined by a group of local warriors who had also fled the Japanese invasion.

Ursula quickly realized that the Japanese were not only a threat to her family, but to the entire population of Borneo. She decided to organize the warriors into a resistance group and fight the Japanese. The warriors were initially reluctant to take orders from a woman, but Ursula's determination and courage soon won them over.



## **Naga Queen: Ursula Graham Bower and Her Jungle Warriors, 1939-45** by Vicky Thomas

4.7 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

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The resistance group, known as the Jungle Warriors, was led by Ursula and her husband, Tom. The group was made up of men and women from all walks of life, including farmers, fishermen, and hunters. The Jungle Warriors were armed with a variety of weapons, including rifles, shotguns, and machetes.

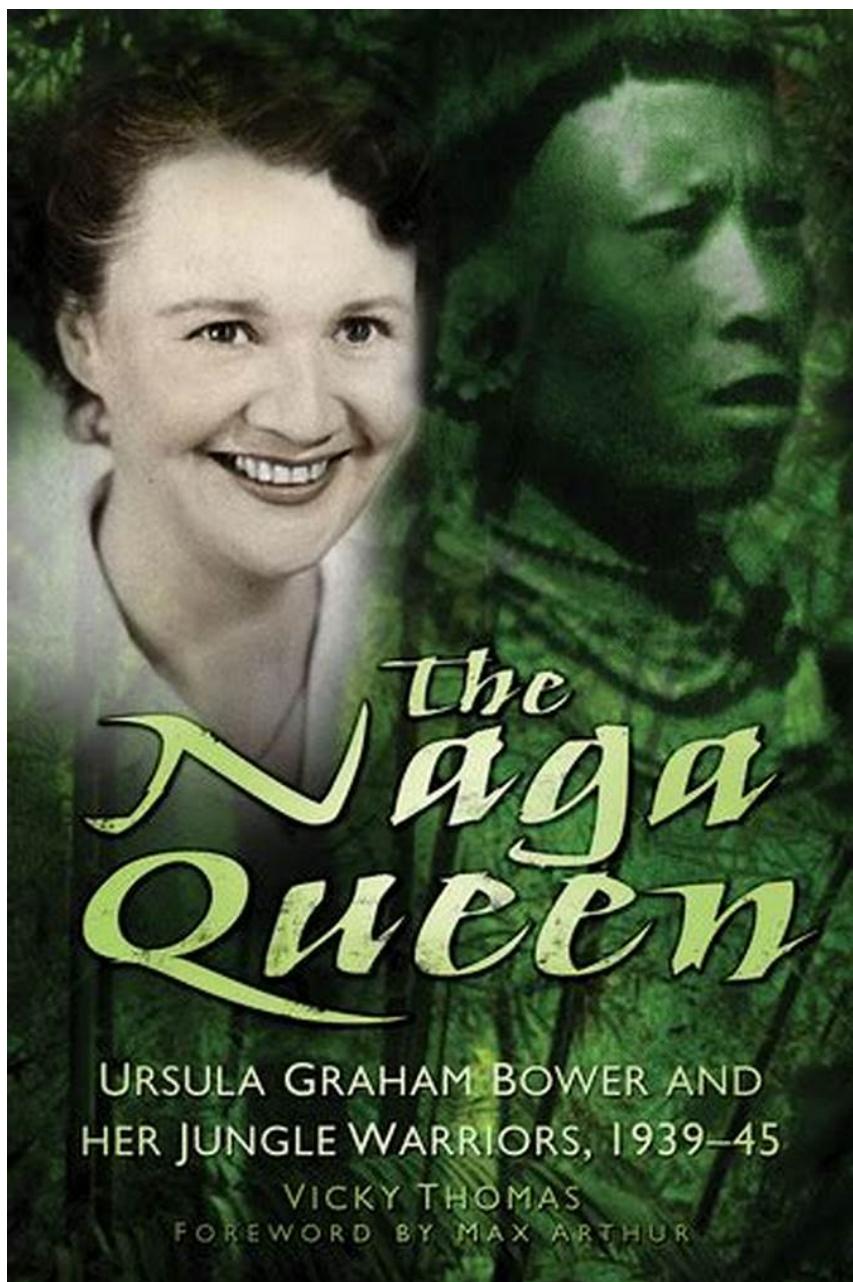
The Jungle Warriors carried out a number of successful attacks on the Japanese, including ambushes, raids, and sabotage. The Japanese were never able to fully defeat the Jungle Warriors, and they remained a thorn in the side of the Japanese occupation forces throughout the war.

In addition to fighting the Japanese, the Jungle Warriors also provided food and shelter for other refugees who had fled the Japanese invasion. Ursula and her husband also established a school for the children of the refugees.

The Jungle Warriors were eventually betrayed by one of their own members, and Ursula and Tom were captured by the Japanese. They were tortured and executed by the Japanese in 1945.

The story of Ursula Graham Bower and her Jungle Warriors is a testament to the courage and determination of the human spirit. In the face of overwhelming odds, Ursula and her warriors fought bravely for their freedom and their country.

## **Gallery of Images**





ii A Naga girl at Chingpaw. The original village had over 200 families & a population of 1,000. It was occupied by the British in 1891, and since that time the Naga have had their probably traditional beliefs replaced by Christian ones, which like ours, are creating a remarkable community work in our area. (Source: Shashi Datta collection)



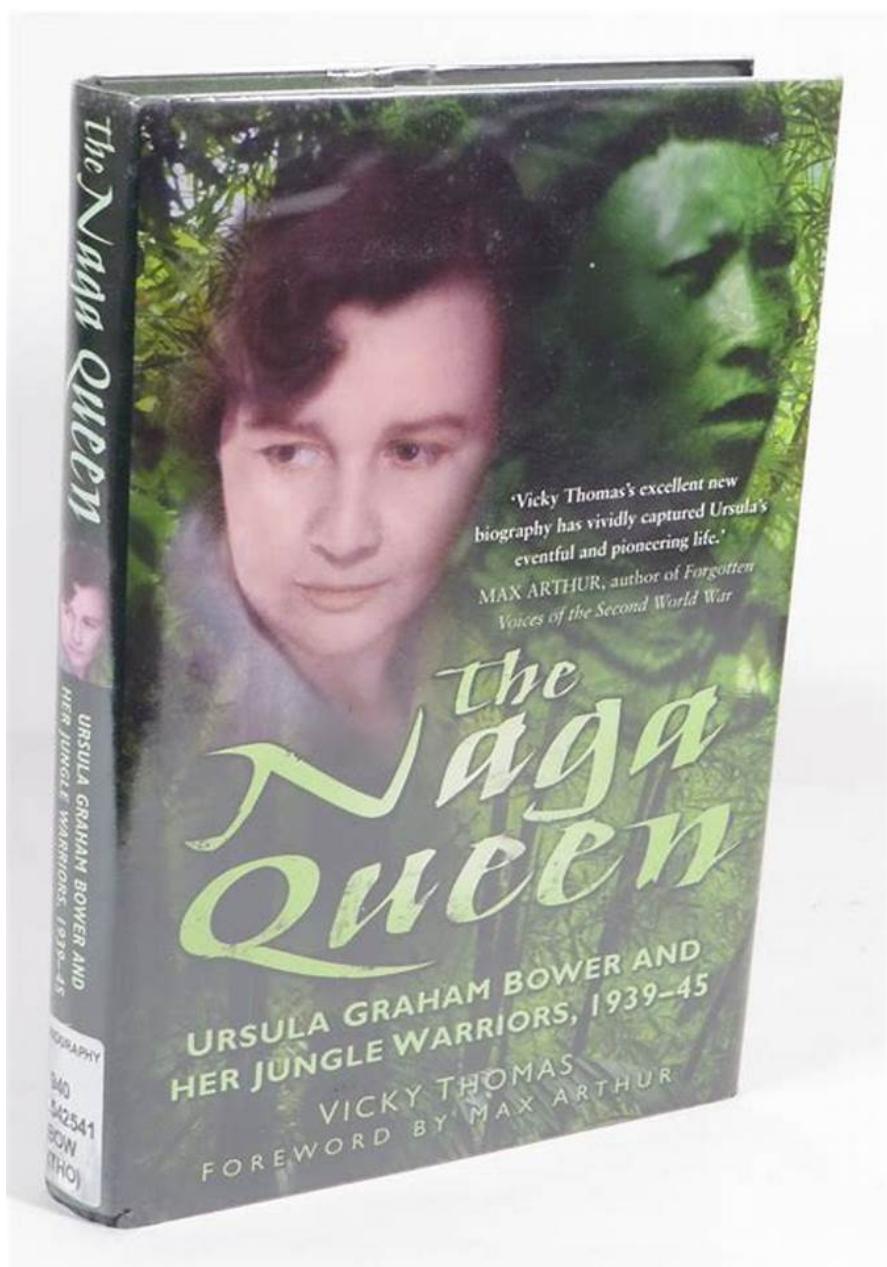
iii The Zind Naga long jump in the hills - the world's jumping areas close to 1000 ft. Zind is traditionally famous for its long jumps. In 1961 it was the most far-flung long jump competition starting venue, including the long jump from the moon, which the Zind is called - a unique record. (Source: Datta collection)



iv Naga men. Local dances and entertainments were an important part of everyday life. Hunting, golf matches, and drama would be the day's main activities. Hunting though is no longer allowed. (Source: Datta collection)



v. Loba with Loba's son Raga Namol, Khanda, doorway, mother and son. John Baker arrived at Loba's house seeking work and, despite his poor condition - and the fact that he fell ill - the local headman and he proved a genuine welcome. (Source: Datta collection)



## Sources

\* \*\*\*"The Jungle Warriors of Borneo"\*\* by Ursula Graham Bower \* \*\*\*"The Forgotten Heroes of World War II"\*\* by Peter Thompson \* \*\*\*"Women in World War II"\*\* by Martin Gilbert

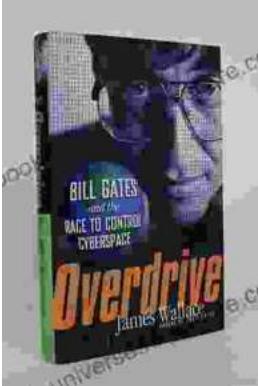


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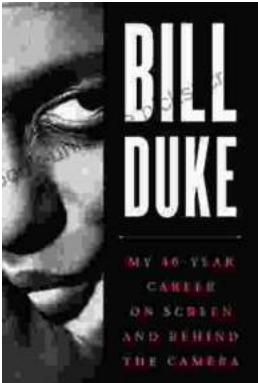
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