



Croix de la Légion d'honneur (FR)



War Cross, with Palm (FR)



Colonial Medal (FR)



Order of St. Michael and St. George (GB)

**B**reathtaking stories of Joseph Schneidarek depict not only his life, but also the life of people from the most diverse environments. It means not only from the Foreign Legion, in which he was serving long years in French colonies in the north of Africa, where he also found himself his wife, Catherine Constantien. Moreover, his gorgeous narrating does not lack knowledge of history and geography. This extraordinary storyteller distinguished himself in the First World War, where he was promoted to captain straight in the battlefield; he got the War Cross and also the National Order of the Legion of Honour, the distinction of Knight. Together with the greats of the Czechoslovak history, he organised Czechoslovak legions in France, later on he eliminated provoking combat units of the Poles in Silesia, and Hungarians in Slovakia, thus providing stable borders for the Czechoslovak state. He had served in uniform for 43 years; he had 17 military campaigns and 40 wounds on his account and gained over 20 distinctions. Among others, there were also three highest French orders: Knight, Officer and Commander of the Legion of Honour or the British Order of St. Michael and St. George.



Map of Europe and North Africa after WWI, the year 1919. The locations where Schneidarek served in the French Foreign Legion. Map of Europe – with Czechoslovakia, Schneidarek significantly participated in its formation. The map of that time also depicts the territory of Ruthenia which belonged to Czechoslovakia.



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Joseph Schneidarek What I Have Gone Through



Joseph Schneidarek

# What I Have Gone Through

Schneidarek's *Catching Stories* in the third edition supplemented by factual material, and the general's family plus photographs