



WHY WAS THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME FILM BIGGER THAN STAR WARS?

Video transcript – Turning war into a cinematic attraction

Yet for all the propaganda spin, the film is a fascinating insight into the reality of the war.

And for Captain Douglas Keats great-nephew Michael Binyon that means a completely new perspective on someone he's seen footage of for the first time today.

"He was always just a name from history for me. But to see the actual face, this makes it much more real, when you actually identify a member of the family and you suddenly feel that awful sense of irony. Here he is strong young and brave and within a year he's going to be dead. He survived the Somme but didn't survive the full war."

Walter Liddlemore did survive. He features as a stretcher bearer.

"My Dad saw that shot in a cinema like this, at Southend on Sea. And he shouted out, that's me. And everyone looked round. I must read this. My sister wrote me this note, to mention that over 40 years after 1918 he still has bad nightmares when he thought he was being buried in a collapsing trench and shouting for help. He did survive, otherwise I wouldn't be here, would I?"