

Once A Fighter Pilot

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Phantom Over Vietnam

Marine Corps Fighter Squadron 214 was hastily organized in the field during World War II to meet the urgent need for another combat squadron in the South Pacific. The squadron, self-named the "Black Sheep," went on under the leadership of the swashbuckling "Pappy" Boyington to become the most famous in Marine Corps history. Now comes the true story of the Black Sheep Squadron and the men who wrote its record in the Pacific skies. Once They Were Eagles tells how and why the squadron was formed, provides brief sketches of every member, and creates a vivid picture of the exciting but deadly aerial sorties over the South Pacific. Frank E. Walton located the thirty-four survivors of the fifty-one original Black Sheep. In a unique series of interviews, former "Eagles" share their recollections of those days of high adventure and their experiences in the years to follow.

Lady Doreen

Exit Plan

Combining military history and biography, a profile of General Chuck Horner, commander of the allied air forces during the Persian Gulf War, discusses the tactics involved, the changing nature of our Air Force, and the use of air power in Iraq today.

Typhoon Pilot

Jerry Mitchell is on exercises off the coast of Pakistan when his submarine, the USS Michigan, is ordered to a rendezvous off the Iranian coast. Once there, disembarked SEALs---experts in seaborne commando operations---are to extract two Iranian nationals who have sensitive information on Iran's nuclear weapons program. While en route to shore, Michigan's mini-sub suffers a battery fire, killing one crew member and forcing the survivors---four SEALs and LCDR Mitchell---to scuttle their disabled craft and swim for shore. There they find the two Iranians waiting for them, but their attempts at returning to Michigan are thwarted by

heavy Iranian patrol boat activity. When agents of Iran's secret police, VEVAK, appear, escape seems all but impossible. When Mitchell and his men find themselves surrounded by Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corp troops, they create a bold plan to escape by sea. It's a desperate gamble, but it's the only way to get proof of the Iranian plot to the U.S. . . . and prevent a devastating new war. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

RAF Fighter Pilots Over Burma

The astonishing untold story of the WWII airmen who risked it all in the deadly race to become the greatest American fighter pilot. In 1942, America's deadliest fighter pilot, or "ace of aces" -- the legendary Eddie Rickenbacker -- offered a bottle of bourbon to the first U.S. fighter pilot to break his record of twenty-six enemy planes shot down. Seizing on the challenge to motivate his men, General George Kenney promoted what they would come to call the "race of aces" as a way of boosting the spirits of his war-weary command. What developed was a wild three-year sprint for fame and glory, and the chance to be called America's greatest fighter pilot. The story has never been told until now. Based on new research and full of revelations, John Bruning's brilliant, original book tells the story of how five American pilots contended for personal glory in the Pacific while leading Kenney's resurgent air force against the most formidable enemy America ever faced. The pilots -- Richard Bong, Tommy McGuire, Neel Kearby, Charles MacDonald and Gerald Johnson -- riveted the nation as they contended for Rickenbacker's crown. As their scores mounted, they transformed themselves from farm boys and aspiring dentists into artists of the modern dogfight. But as the race reached its climax, some of the pilots began to see how the spotlight warped their sense of duty. They emerged as leaders, beloved by their men as they chose selfless devotion over national accolades. Teeming with action all across the vast Pacific theater, *Race of Aces* is a fascinating exploration of the boundary between honorable duty, personal glory, and the complex landscape of the human heart. "Brings you into the cockpit of the lethal, fast-paced world of fighter pilots . . . Fascinating." -- Sara Vladic "Extraordinary . . . a must-read." -- US Navy Captain Dan Pedersen "A heart-pounding narrative of the courage, sacrifice, and tragedy of America's elite fighter pilots." -- James M. Scott "Vivid and gripping . . . Confirms Bruning's status as the premier war historian of the air." -- Saul David

Sierra Hotel : flying Air Force fighters in the decade after Vietnam

Fighter Pilot's Daughter: Growing Up in the Sixties and the Cold War details author and Professor Mary Lawlor's unconventional upbringing in Cold War America. Memories of her early life—as the daughter of a Marine Corps and then Army father—reveal the personal costs of tensions that once gripped the entire world, and illustrate the ways in which bold foreign policy decisions shaped an entire generation of Americans, defining not just the ways they were raised, but who they would ultimately become.

Memories of a Fighter Pilot

Read One Man's Success Story and Let It Inspire You to Create Your Own! Mark LaVerdiere always had a goal. From his first trip into the air with his father as a young boy, he followed his dream of becoming a Fighter Pilot. Some dream of being a Fighter Pilot; a select few strive to become one. Battling with self-confidence and coming up against unforeseen physical obstacles, Mark continued on, focused on his dream. Along the way he was inspired by a team of amazing people who helped him reach his ultimate goal - and helped him become the great success he is today - of being a successful Fighter Pilot. *A Fighter Pilot's Story: An Inspirational Journey from Failure to Success* shares one man's story about hopes, dreams, and challenges and overcoming those challenges in pursuit of fulfilling a dream. Whether health issues, finances, family or even employment, what is important at the end of the day is how you handle the situation. *A Fighter Pilot's Story* from page one takes you on a truly inspirational journey from one page to the next. This book will strengthen you to move in the midst of challenges and encourage you to kick your fears to the rear and reach for the stars. Buy the eBook today; be inspired and share your story. -INCLUDES a Special Offer for a FREE lifetime membership to an eCourse on making iPhone Apps. Details to this offer are found on the Book's website.

Spitfire!

John Boyd may be the most remarkable unsung hero in all of American military history. Some remember him as the greatest U.S. fighter pilot ever -- the man who, in simulated air-to-air combat, defeated every challenger in less than forty seconds. Some recall him as the father of our country's most legendary fighter aircraft -- the F-15 and F-16. Still others think of Boyd as the most influential military theorist since Sun Tzu. They know only half the story. Boyd, more than any other person, saved fighter aviation from the predations of the Strategic Air Command. His manual of fighter tactics changed the way every air force in the world flies and fights. He discovered a physical theory that forever altered the way fighter planes were designed. Later in life, he developed a theory of military strategy that has been adopted throughout the world and even applied to business models for maximizing efficiency. And in one of the most startling and unknown stories of modern military history, the Air Force fighter pilot taught the U.S. Marine Corps how to fight war on the ground. His ideas led to America's swift and decisive victory in the Gulf War and foretold the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. On a personal level, Boyd rarely met a general he couldn't offend. He was loud, abrasive, and profane. A man of daring, ferocious passion and intractable stubbornness, he was that most American of heroes -- a rebel who cared not for his reputation or fortune but for his country. He was a true patriot, a man who made a career of challenging the shortsighted and self-serving Pentagon bureaucracy. America owes Boyd and his disciples -- the six men known as the "Acolytes" -- a great debt. Robert Coram finally brings to light the remarkable story of a man who polarized all who knew him, but who left a legacy that will influence the military -- and all of America -- for decades to come . . .

Supersonic Fighter Pilots

This is a true story of a young man born into poverty but highly motivated to reach one of the highest sought after goals of his day. Too many people feel that poverty

is a barrier to education and public service. This is the story of the training and motivation needed to fly a fighter plane off an aircraft carrier into combat in an enemy country which is completely unknown to him. To be able to find enemy targets in a country to which you have never been before and to inflict the greatest damage possible. This is the story of some of the reaction of the United States to the losses at Pearl Harbor. The song, "Let's Remember Pearl Harbor" never stopped until victory was achieved. This pilot flew one of the last missions against Japan. He flew air cover for the signing of the peace to end WWII. He stood proudly on the deck of his carrier as it went into Tokyo Bay to pick up its landing party. He was on this aircraft carrier that led the fleet into New York City to be reviewed by the President of the United States. This young man went on in life to graduate from college and earn three graduate degrees. He served in many community volunteer positions and served an interim term in the county government where he lives. He returned to the Navy to serve as a Marine Corps Chaplain with the Marines in the Korean Conflict. It is the sincere hope of the author that this story will motivate many others to do more than they think they can do. Your reach must exceed your grasp. You will never know what you can do until you try!

Fighter Pilot

The remarkable Battle of Britain experiences of Spitfire pilot Brian Lane, DFC.

Boyd

One Fighter Pilot's War

At the age of twelve, American William R. Dunn decided to become a fighter pilot. In 1939 he joined the Canadian Army and was soon transferred to the Royal Air Force. He was the first pilot in the famous Eagle Squadron of American volunteers to shoot down an enemy aircraft and later became the first American ace of the war. After joining the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1943, he saw action in the Normandy invasion and in Patton's sweep across France. Twenty years later he fought again in Vietnam. Dunn keenly conveys the fighter pilot's experience of war -- the tension of combat, the harsh grip of fear, the love of aircraft, the elation of victory, the boisterous comradeship and competition of the pilot brotherhood. *Fighter Pilot* is both a gripping story and a unique historical document.

Fighter Pilots of the RAF 1939-1945

When a leased Boeing 727 is violently hijacked from Angola and flown to parts unknown, the President turns to an outsider—Major Carlos Guillermo Castillo—for answers. A pilot, West Point graduate, and veteran of Desert Storm, Castillo has a sharp eye for the facts—and the truth behind them. In Africa, he is helped and hindered by unexpected allies and ruthless enemies, and begins to untangle a plot of horrific dimensions—a plot that, unless Castillo acts quickly, will end very, very badly.

Sierra Hotel : flying Air Force fighters in the decade after

Vietnam

A Main Selection of the Military Book Club and a Featured Alternate of the History Book Club In the last days of World War II, a new and baffling weapon terrorized the United States Navy in the Pacific. To the sailors who learned to fear them, the body-crashing warriors of Japan were known as "suicides"; among the Japanese, they were named for a divine wind that once saved the home islands from invasion: kamikaze. Told from the perspective of the men who endured this horrifying tactic, *At War with the Wind* is the first book to recount in nail-biting detail what it was like to experience an attack by Japanese kamikazes. David Sears, acclaimed author of *The Last Epic Naval Battle*, draws on personal interviews and unprecedented research to create a narrative of war that is stunning in its vivid re-creations. Born of desperation in the face of overwhelming material superiority, suicide attacks--by aircraft, submarines, small boats, and even manned rocket-boosted gliders--were capable of inflicting catastrophic damage, testing the resolve of officers and sailors as never before. Sears's gripping account focuses on the vessels whose crews experienced the full range of the kamikaze nightmare. From carrier USS *St. Lo*, the first U.S. Navy vessel sunk by an orchestrated kamikaze attack, to USS *Henrico*, a transport ship that survived the landings at Normandy only to be sent to the Pacific and struck by suicide planes off Okinawa, and USS *Mannert L. Abele*, the only vessel sunk by a rocket-boosted piloted glider during the war, these unforgettable stories reveal, as never before, one of the most horrifying and misunderstood chapters of World War II. This is the candid story of a war within a war--a relentless series of furious and violent engagements pitting men determined to die against men determined to live. Its echoes resonate hauntingly at a time of global conflict, when suicide as a weapon remains a perplexing and terrifying reality. November 1, 1945--Leyte Gulf The destroyer *Killen* (DD-593) was besieged, shooting down four planes, but taking a bomb hit from a fifth. Pharmacist mate Ray Cloud, watching from the fantail, saw the plane--a sleek twin-engine *Frances* fighter-bomber--swoop in low across the port side. As its pilot released his bomb, Cloud said to himself, "He dropped it too soon," and then watched as the plane roared by--pursued and chewed up by fire from *Killen's* 40- and 20-mm guns. The bomb hit the water, skipped once and then penetrated *Killen's* port side hull forward, exploding between the #2 and #3 magazines. The blast tore a gaping hole in *Killen's* side and water poured in. By the time Donice Copeland, eighteen, a radar petty officer, emerged on deck from the radar shack, the ship's bow was practically submerged and the ship itself was nearly dead in the water. Practically all the casualties were awash below decks. Two unwounded sailors, trapped below in the ship's emergency generator room, soon drowned. The final tally of dead eventually climbed to fifteen.

The Last Fighter Pilot

Author John W. Walcott was a citizen soldier who went through rigorous training in order to escort bombers in a P-51 Mustang fighter during World War II. In *One Fighter Pilot's War*, he recalls that journey in vivid detail, offering an insider's view of the military system of the time, painting a fascinating portrait of his colorful fellow cadets and the skilled instructors who delivered highly trained pilots to the theater of war. He remembers climbing into the cockpits of the Army Air Corps trainers, confronting German jets, strafing Nazi convoys and rail lines, flying escort

missions with observation aircrafts and bombers alike, and working to save the crews of disabled aircraft. He also recounts the dangerous rescue of downed pilots in the mountainous Balkans. His is the story not of an ace but of one of the dedicated men and women who served every day in the war to do their part. This memoir tells the personal story of a World War II fighter pilot, bringing to life for all generations those years of sacrifice and achievement.

Fighter Pilot

In World War I, an American resigns from Texas Rangers to become pursuit pilot in Royal Flying Corps, finding adventure, death, and romance.

Fighter Pilot

The attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, solved the problem for a lot of American kids who wanted to be Army pilots but didn't meet the two years of college requirement for acceptance into the aviation cadet program. In mid-1942, under wartime pressures, the Army Air Corps dropped that requirement and made an exception for applicants who could pass a stiff written test. As the result of that momentous change, many high school kids soon found themselves sporting second lieutenant bars and flying fighters with 2,000-horsepower engines - before they reached their 21st birthdays! A group of those very young men came together from both the East and West Coasts of the U.S. when they were assigned to the 360th Fighter Squadron with the 8th Air Force in England to take part in the invasion and the critical air battles over Germany during 1944-45. They began flying combat missions in Republic P-47 "Thunderbolts," but in late 1944 switched to flying North American P-51 "Mustangs." Most of them had their high school sweethearts, but as healthy young officers wearing a pair of wings they soon found new romance, not only in the skies they flew but with crops of eager young girls who found these handpicked and glamorous pilots to be of special interest. Under wartime stress, romances were quick to bloom and promises hastily made. But the war had a way of changing people, as high school kids quickly grew into men with deeper values and an understanding of what life is really about. This is the story of some of those wartime romances that blossomed within the cauldron of war - some to flare brightly and flicker out, while others lived on.

G Suit and Helmet Not Required

An ex-Marine Corps fighter pilot vividly recounts his twelve years with the Corps, detailing his many missions during two tours of duty in Vietnam where he experienced the many horrors of war, the adrenalin rush of combat, and the emotional drama of saving lives. Reissue.

Race of Aces

Have you ever thought what it might be like to think and act like a fighter pilot? This very simple and easy to read book utilizes the experiences of a USAF fighter pilot and applies them to entrepreneurial business.

At War With The Wind:

Tells the true story of two World War II airmen, one American and one German, who put aside the conflict and helped each other to safety in the wake of a damaged aircraft and describes their meeting again 47 years later. 35,000 first printing.

Once They Were Eagles

* The true adventure tales of a U.S. Air Force fighter who flew more than 400 combat hours while on duty in Vietnam * Provides a rare insider's glimpse into the world of the flying elite, detailing their education, training, emotions, and day to day experiences * Poignant, sometimes funny, brutally honest, always exciting, and an eye-opening look at one of the most tumultuous eras in U.S. history.

The 3rd Greatest Fighter Pilot

During Operation Desert Storm, Captain Keith Rosenkranz piloted his F-16 "Viper" in 30 combat missions. Here he recounts these experiences in searing, "you-are-there" detail, giving readers one of the most riveting depictions ever written of man and machine at war.

Once a Knight

This youth biography examines the daring exploits of the Hoosier flying ace during his war time service. A graduate of DePauw University, Vraciu learned to fly during his college years and joined the Navy before the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Vraciu became skilled in the deadly game of destroying the enemy in the skies over the Pacific and for 4 months in 1944, was the leading ace in the U.S. Navy. He shot down 19 enemy airplanes in the air and destroyed an additional 21 on the ground.

By Order of the President

It is a recognized fact that, had the war gone badly for the Allies on the India/Burma front, and had the Japanese succeeded in invading the Indian Continent, the outcome of the war would have been entirely different. Yet despite this, the campaign on the Burma front is offered surprisingly scant coverage in the majority of photo-history books. This new book, from respected military historian and author Norman Franks, attempts to redress the balance, noting the importance of this particular aerial conflict within the wider context of the Second World War. Franks takes as his focus the pilots, aircraft and landscapes that characterized the campaign. Photographs acquired during the course of an intensive research period are consolidated into a volume that is sure to make for a popular addition to the established Images of War series. Many unpublished photographs feature, each one offering a new insight into the conflict as it unfolded over Burmese skies. The archive offers a wealth of dynamic images of RAF Hurricanes and Spitfires in flight, with shots of both the aircraft and the pilots employed during this challenging conflict. To fly and fight in Burma, pilots really had to be at the top of their game.

The Japanese enemy certainly weren't the only problem to contend with; weather, poor food, incredible heat and all its attendant maladies, jungle diseases, tigers, elephants, fevers. The Japanese were the real enemy but the British pilots had so much more to deal with. And they did it for years. In Britain, a pilot could look forward to a break from operations every six months or so on average. In Burma, pilots first employed in 1941 were still flying operations in 1944. The collection represents a determination on the author's part to record the part played by these resilient and skilled RAF fighter pilots, the contribution that they paid in supporting General Slim's 14th Army and the part they ultimately played in defeating the Japanese attempts to break through into India. These efforts, all paramount and imperative to success, are celebrated here in words and images in a volume sure to appeal to Spitfire and Hurricane enthusiasts, as well as the more general reader.

First Love

This is not only the story of one man's war, but of an aircraft - the Typhoon, or "Tiffy" as it was affectionately known - which the author describes as a "low-bred carthorse whose pedigree had received a sharp infusion of hot-headed sprinter's blood". He recounts his time as a young commander of a rumbustious New Zealand Air Force squadron, and later as the RAF's youngest Group Captain at the age of 25. His story includes conflict in the air over Normandy, Belgium, Holland and Germany, where the Typhoons fought their last actions and where Desmond Scott earned major decorations from Belgium, France and Holland.

Fighter Pilot

If you liked *The Da Vinci Code* and *Holy Blood, Holy Grail*, you'll love digging deeper with *The Knights Templar Chronology*, a fascinating timeline telling the year by year story of one of history's most secret and mysterious brotherhoods -- in detail unmatched by any other reference volume. This remarkable book maps out at a glance the Templars' rise and fall from which so many modern-day groups draw inspiration. Never before have the world's most intriguing Knights had their incredible adventures and history so fully captured.

Fighter Pilot's Daughter

Even as a young boy Hank Koenig dreamed of piloting his own airplane. He first fell in love with flying when he and his mother watched a large group of barnstormers and airplanes flying above the airport of their small Illinois town. Ever since that day, he went to the airport whenever possible, and began taking lessons soon after. Koenig earned his pilot's license at the age of sixteen and landed a job as a commercial pilot, taking people for observation rides at the Starved Rock National Park. Soon he had enough to buy his own airplane, and continued his flying ventures through high school and college. But it was during the Korean War that Koenig had his chance to become a true fighter pilot. Since he was disqualified for medical reasons to serve in the U.S. military, he went to Canada and enlisted with the Royal Canadian Air Force. He went to Korea in 1953 and flew mainly P51 Mustangs and F86 jets. Koenig found himself in several dog fights and faced death more than once. Following his stint in Korea, Koenig came back to the United

States and continued his love of flying. Honest and candid, this heartfelt autobiography tells the story of one man's love affair with flying.

A Fighter Pilot's Story

This book contains anecdotes of harrowing escapes and dramatic missions as told by the Navy Fighter Pilots who flew them. Each chapter is a first person account by America's finest aviators. This is not a book just for pilots - these are missions that will become part of the historical record, stories that deserve to be passed on to anyone who admires courage and unfailing dedication.

The Spirit of Attack

A NATIONAL BESTSELLER! The New York Post calls *The Last Fighter Pilot* a "must-read" book. From April to August of 1945, Captain Jerry Yellin and a small group of fellow fighter pilots flew dangerous bombing and strafe missions out of Iwo Jima over Japan. Even days after America dropped the atomic bombs on Hiroshima on August 6 and Nagasaki on August 9, the pilots continued to fly. Though Japan had suffered unimaginable devastation, the emperor still refused to surrender. Bestselling author Don Brown (*Treason*) sits down with Yellin, now ninety-three years old, to tell the incredible true story of the final combat mission of World War II. Nine days after Hiroshima, on the morning of August 14th, Yellin and his wingman 1st Lieutenant Phillip Schlambert took off from Iwo Jima to bomb Tokyo. By the time Yellin returned to Iwo Jima, the war was officially over—but his young friend Schlambert would never get to hear the news. *The Last Fighter Pilot* is a harrowing first-person account of war from one of America's last living World War II veterans.

The Great Leader and the Fighter Pilot

One of 'The 30 Best Travel and Adventure Books of All Time', as selected by Gear Patrol, Winner 2015 US Travel and Adventure website. *Fighter Pilot* was written from the immediate and unfettered personal journal that 23-year-old Flying Officer Paul Richey began on the day he and No. 1 Squadron landed their Hawker Hurricanes on a grass airfield in France. Originally published in September 1941, it was the first such account of air combat against the Luftwaffe in France in the Second World War, and it struck an immediate chord with a British public enthralled by the exploits of its young airmen. It is the story of a highly skilled group of young volunteer fighter pilots who patrolled, flew and fought at up to 30,000 feet in unheated cockpits, without radar and often from makeshift airfields, and who were finally confronted by the overwhelming might of Hitler's Blitzkrieg. It tells how this remarkable squadron adapted its tactics, its aircraft and itself to achieve a brilliant record of combat victories - in spite of the most extreme and testing circumstances. All the thrills, adrenalin rushes and the sheer terror of dog-fighting are here: simply, accurately and movingly described by a young airman discovering for himself the deadly nature of the combat in which he is engaged.

Every Man a Tiger

Jay E. Riedel was born 19 November 1939 in Freeport, Long Island, New York, and received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mathematics from the University of Buffalo, Buffalo, New York, and his commission as a Second Lieutenant through AFROTC in July 1961. Colonel Jay E. Riedel retired 1 April 1992 after thirty years of active service to his country. His last assignment was Senior Air Force Representative to the United States Army Infantry, Ft. Benning, Georgia. *Memories of a Fighter Pilot* is a collection of as many of his personal recollections as he can remember that would be of a significant interest to most readers. They are as accurate as he remembers them. Many will make you laugh, some will water your eyes, and some will have you gripping your chair with white knuckles. "I have experienced many of life's ups and downs, and I hope all who read of these episodes will be entertained, yet glean some information that may be of use in their own lives. It was quite a ride." Foreword by General Chuck Horner.

The Red Battle Flyer

A family-authorized biography of one of the top-scoring aces of the Battle of Britain.

Once a Fighter Pilot

Raven One

Hornet's Nest

UNARMED OVER HOSTILE TERRITORY For a moment Wilson froze and looked at the white-helmeted pilot who sat high on the nose of the colossal fighter. Across the small void, he saw the pilot's eyes peer over his mask. Dark, chilling eyes Wilson kicked right rudder to slide closer and jam any chance for a bandit gunshot. When the bandit pulled all the way over, almost on its back but in control, he cursed in frustration at what he knew was coming next. The hostile fighter reversed over the top in a negative-g maneuver, his nose tracking down on Wilson like a falling sledgehammer in slow motion. Horrified, Wilson realized he faced an imminent snapshot. With the little air speed he had, he inverted his Hornet to avoid the attack. His aircraft still rolling and ruddering, Wilson saw that the monster had another weapon at its disposal

The Story of One Navy Fighter Pilot

In 1993, the Combat Exclusion Law was repealed in a landmark decision. For the U.S. Navy, this meant that one of the last bastions of all male combat roles would be opened to women, the fighter and bomber squadrons. Despite the adamant protests of the male pilots, senior naval leadership, and various conservative groups, women were assigned to fighter squadrons in late 1993. *Hornets Nest* is the compelling account of one of the women in this first group, Lieutenant Missy Cummings. Waiting in the wings, Missy was an established adversary pilot and perfectly primed to step into the role of a combat pilot. Flying one of the worlds

most technologically advanced fighters would be exhilarating for Missy, but not without an exacting price. Missy's reception into the warrior ranks is overwhelmingly hostile and senior leadership in her squadron ensure that she receives harsh treatment, often deliberately criminal. Betrayed by the very institution that prides itself on honor, courage, and commitment, Missy eventually resigns from the Navy and abandons her dreams of a career. This real life drama concludes with a critical analysis of the integration of women into combat pilot roles, and the future of women in combat aviation.

Fighter Pilot

"We set up at 35,000 or so, and there were high clouds around, it was kind of hazy, and the sun was off to our left. Of course the wingman's duty is to check six. You're defense. Your leader's supposed to be offense. I kept looking around and saying to myself, there's no MiGs down here at the Chongchon, and I look back and there's a MiG-15 in a 90-degree bank pulling into the firing position, and too close for comfort." "I called, 'Red Lead we've got MiGs on our tail. Break left.' I was on the right wing. We broke hard left, and the MiG was just a second late. He started shooting, and these red golf balls came whizzing past just under my tail pipe. I felt sure I was going to be hit." The F-86As which the wing flew at that time were lighter than the "E" and "F" models, and with "a very narrow stall margin between the time you first felt the buffet until the aircraft stalled you couldn't go very far into the buffet." He was "in it pretty deep" trying to get to the inside of the turn, and the "red golf balls" were still coming, and he pulled just a little bit more, and the aircraft stalled. "It just snapped out and went into a spin right there in the middle of combat." "I was embarrassed. I was furious. I was saying to myself, 'if you don't get out of this spin, you will be a prisoner of war, and you never even fired your guns in anger.' I was able to get my thought processes together and went through the spin recovery procedure, which is first controls with the spin, and then stick full forward, rudders neutral, throttle at idle, then full rudder against the spin and pray." "Sure enough I pulled out of the spin and put the throttle back up. I thought, 'I'm going home with my tail between my legs.' As I started to gain speed and climb, I didn't expect to see another airplane in the sky, but as I looked further out I saw my lead. He had done exactly the same thing. We could see the humor in the situation when we got home." "The joke at the bar that night was that 'all the Chinese pilots are shaking their heads and saying, those crazy American pilots, they verry disciplined.'" "We didn't know it at the time, but the great majority of MiG pilots were Russians."

Once A Fighter Pilot

Please note: This ebook edition does not include the photo insert from the print edition. The widely anticipated memoir of legendary ace American fighter pilot, Robin Olds Robin Olds was a larger-than-life hero with a towering personality. A graduate of West Point and an inductee in the National College Football Hall of Fame for his All-American performance for Army, Olds was one of the toughest college football players at the time. In WWII, Olds quickly became a top fighter pilot and squadron commander by the age of 22—and an ace with 12 aerial victories. But it was in Vietnam where the man became a legend. He arrived in 1966 to find a dejected group of pilots and motivated them by placing himself on the flight

schedule under officers junior to himself, then challenging them to train him properly because he would soon be leading them. Proving he wasn't a WWII retread, he led the wing with aggressiveness, scoring another four confirmed kills, becoming a rare triple ace. Olds (who retired a brigadier general and died in 2007) was a unique individual whose personal story is one of the most eagerly anticipated military books of the year.

A Higher Call

SCRAMBLE! In a couple of minutes my wingman and I would be airborne on another adventure. Sometimes we intercepted an airliner, sometimes a misplaced B-52 bomber, and sometimes Russian bombers probing our defenses; Russian warships; MIG fighters; or troops in contact in Vietnam, calling for napalm only yards from their positions. Twice it was UFOs - Unidentified Flying Objects! This book is a series of short stories, supported by more than 90 photographs. The first part has my own stories; later stories were contributed by my fellow pilots. The last story is from WW II of our P-38 fighters attacking the Romanian oil fields and getting badly mauled by defending Romanian fighters - and a Romanian pilot's view of the battle! Only the spirit of attack borne in a brave heart will bring success to any fighter aircraft, to matter how highly developed the aircraft may be. That quote from Adolf Galland, an Ace of the German Luftwaffe in WW II, was the motto of our 317th Fighter Interceptor Squadron in Alaska. The fighter pilot is a hunter, and his quarry is the most dangerous in the world - men who want to kill him! The best defense is a good offense - ATTACK! The US Air Force had a program called Every Man a Tiger. A tiger does not kill impulsively or in anger, but plans his attack carefully and strikes with cool ferocity. We were tigers! Fighter pilots tell stories around the bar, but they seldom write them down. These stories were written by the fighter pilots themselves! Come with me and hear of the beauty of flight, the mortal danger of electrical power failure at night in a snowstorm, and the thrill of attack with 20mm cannons firing right under your feet!

Vipers in the Storm: Diary of a Gulf War Fighter Pilot

The author has selected some twenty RAF fighter pilots of the Second World War, not only to give overdue recognition to their prowess and courage, but also to exemplify the wide diversity of the individual characters of those men whose war was fought from the cockpit of an RAF fighter. A few were familiar names but most received little or no public acclaim, being part of the silent majority which provided the real spine of the RAF's fighter effort throughout the conflict.

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