

[PDF] Neptune's Inferno: The U.S. Navy At Guadalcanal

James D. Hornfischer - pdf download free book



Books Details:

Title: Neptune's Inferno: The U.S. N

Author: James D. Hornfischer

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Description:

From *Starred Review* Hornfischer's third outstanding book on the U.S. Navy's surface forces in WWII will have a ready-made audience because its subject is the naval side of the Guadalcanal campaign of 1942. The campaign began when marines landed on that deservedly unfrequented island to halt the creation of a Japanese airbase that might threaten U.S. communications with Australia. The Japanese riposte inflicted a disaster on the U.S. Navy second only to Pearl Harbor,

called the Battle of Savo Island. Over the next few months, the two navies went at each other hammer and tongs in what was probably the most intense naval campaign of the war. The Japanese had an ace up their sleeve in the Long Lance torpedo, the best in the world. The U.S. eventually counterbalanced the Japanese by learning (all too slowly) to use radar-directed gunfire to take back the night seas. The author offers balanced assessments of the leaders on both sides, but the real heroes are the American bluejackets, who too often paid with suffering and death for those leaders' slowness to learn. And as in his first two books, the author's narrative gifts and excellent choice of detail give an almost Homeric quality to the men who met on the sea in steel titans. --Roland Green -- This text refers to the edition.

Review Selected as a Best Book of 2011 by *Military History Quarterly*

"A literary tour de force that is destined to become one of the . . . definitive works about the battle for Guadalcanal . . . [James D.] Hornfischer deftly captures the essence of the most pivotal naval campaign of the Pacific war."—*San Antonio Express-News*

"Vivid and engaging . . . extremely readable, comprehensive and thoroughly researched."—Ronald Spector, *The Wall Street Journal*

"Superlative storytelling . . . the masterwork on the long-neglected topic of World War II's surface ship combat."—Richard B. Frank, HistoryNet

"The author's two previous World War II books . . . thrust him into the major leagues of American military history writers. Neptune's Inferno is solid proof he deserves to be there."—*The Dallas Morning News*

"The star of this year's reading list is James D. Hornfischer, a military historian whose flair for narrative is rivaled only by his ability to organize the sweep of battle and assess strategy and tactics in layman's terms."—*Cleveland Plain Dealer*

"Outstanding . . . The author's narrative gifts and excellent choice of detail give an almost Homeric quality to the men who met on the sea in steel titans."—*Booklist* (starred review)

"Brilliant . . . a compelling narrative of naval combat . . . simply superb."—*The Washington Times*

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