

Free read The conquering tide war in the pacific islands 1942 1944

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a new york times bestseller a beautiful blend of history and prose and proves again mr toll s mastery of the naval war narrative wall street journal this masterful history encompasses the heart of the pacific war the period between mid 1942 and mid 1944 when parallel allied counteroffensives north and south of the equator washed over japan s far flung island empire like a conquering tide concluding with japan s irreversible strategic defeat in the marianas it was the largest bloodiest most costly most technically innovative and logistically complicated amphibious war in history and it fostered bitter interservice rivalries leaving wounds that even victory could not heal often overlooked these are the years and fights that decided the pacific war ian w toll s battle scenes in the air at sea and in the jungles are simply riveting he also takes the reader into the wartime councils in washington and tokyo where politics and strategy often collided and into the struggle to mobilize wartime production which was the secret of allied victory brilliantly researched the narrative is propelled and colored by firsthand accounts letters diaries debriefings and memoirs that are the raw material of the telling details shrewd judgment and penetrating insight of this magisterial history this volume continuing the marvelously readable dramatic narrative san francisco chronicle of pacific crucible marks the second installment of the pacific war trilogy which will stand as the first history of the entire pacific war to be published in at least twenty five years presents an account of the allied effort to reclaim thousands of japanese occupied islands detailing the campaign s technical innovations logistic complications and human and economic costs new york times bestseller the devastation of pearl harbor and the american victory at midway were prelude to a greater challenge rolling back the vast japanese pacific empire island by island this masterful history encompasses the heart of the pacific war the period between mid 1942 and mid 1944 when parallel allied counteroffensives north and south of the equator washed over japan s far flung island empire like a conquering tide concluding with japan s irreversible strategic defeat in the marianas it was the largest bloodiest most costly most technically innovative and logistically complicated amphibious war in history and it fostered bitter interservice rivalries leaving wounds that even victory could not heal often overlooked these are the years and fights that decided the pacific war ian w toll s battle scenes in the air at sea and in the jungles are simply riveting he also takes the reader into the wartime councils in washington and tokyo where politics and strategy often collided and into the struggle to mobilize wartime production which was the secret of allied victory brilliantly researched the narrative is propelled and colored by firsthand accounts letters diaries debriefings and memoirs that are the raw material of the telling details shrewd judgment and penetrating insight of this magisterial history this volume continuing the marvelously readable dramatic narrative san francisco chronicle of pacific crucible marks the second installment of the pacific war trilogy which will stand as the first history of the entire pacific war to be published in at least twenty five years on may 7 and 8 1942 fast carrier task forces from the united states and imperial japanese met in combat for the first time in the battle of the coral sea a strategic victory for the u s despite the loss of the carrier lexington the battle blunted the japanese drive on port moresby a valuable allied air base on the island of new guinea lundstrom offers a detailed analysis of the fundamental strategies employed by japan and the u s in the south pacific from january to june 1942 the efforts of adm ernest j king to reinforce the area in spite of roosevelt s europe first grand strategy and adm chester nimitz s aggressive plans to fight in the coral sea now in paperback the first pacific campaign

provides a superb overview of the crucial first six months of the naval war in the south pacific an enlightening glimpse into nine battles and campaigns during the pacific war allied offensive each of these momentous operations were fascinating feats of strategy planning and bravery handing the allies what would eventually become a victory over the pacific theater and an end to imperialist japanese expansion operation watchtower a riveting exploration of the spark that set off the allied offensive in the pacific islands detailing the grueling struggle for the island of guadalcanal and its vital strategic position operation galvanic an incredible account of the battle for the tarawa atoll and base that would give them a steppingstone into the heart of japanese controlled waters operation backhander a gripping retelling of the war for cape gloucester new guinea and the bismarck sea battle for saipan marines stormed the beaches with a goal of gaining a crucial air base from which the us could launch its new long range b 29 bombers directly at japan s home islands invasion of tinian is the incredible account of the assault on tinian located just under six miles southwest of saipan this was the first use of napalm and the shore to shore concept recapture of guam a gripping narrative about the liberation of the japanese held island of guam captured by the japanese in 1941 during one of the first pacific campaigns of the war operation stalemate marines landed on the island of peleliu one of the palau islands in the pacific as part of a larger operation to provide support for general macarthur who was preparing to invade the philippines operation detachment the battle of iwo jima was a major offensive in world war ii the marine invasion was tasked with the mission of capturing airfields on the island for use by p 51 fighters operation iceberg the invasion and ultimate victory on okinawa was the largest amphibious assault in the pacific theater it was also one of the bloodiest battles in the pacific lasting ninety eight days this gripping narrative sheds light on these often overlooked facets of wwii providing students history fans and world war ii buffs alike with a captivating breakdown of the history and combat that defined the ultimate victory of us forces in the pacific publisher s description winner of the northern california book award for nonfiction both a serious work of history and a marvelously readable dramatic narrative san francisco chronicle on the first sunday in december 1941 an armada of japanese warplanes appeared suddenly over pearl harbor hawaii and devastated the u s pacific fleet six months later in a sea fight north of the tiny atoll of midway four japanese aircraft carriers were sent into the abyss a blow that destroyed the offensive power of their fleet pacific crucible through a dramatic narrative relying predominantly on primary sources and eyewitness accounts of heroism and sacrifice from both navies tells the epic tale of these first searing months of the pacific war when the u s navy shook off the worst defeat in american military history to seize the strategic initiative one of the most decisive naval battles in history midway was fought barely six months after pearl harbor here the u s carriers that had escaped that surprise attack dealt a devastating blow to the imperial japanese fleet the respected british military historian h p willmott presents the first of a three volume appraisal of the strategic policies of the countries involved in the pacific war remarkable in its scope and depth of research his thoughtful analysis covers the whole range of political economic military and naval activity in the pacific this first volume comprehensively covers events between december 1941 and april 1942 concluding with the doolittle raid on april 18 when published in hardcover in 1982 the book was hailed as an eloquent portrayal of great empires on trial that no one should miss willmott s stimulating and original approach to the subject remains unmatched even today from may 1942 to october 1943 japan and the us engaged in clashes in the southwest pacific forces on both sides were evenly matched and the troops fought one another to exhaustion this book looks at the war with japan focusing on this period of balance between us and japanese forces fahey was a 24 year old garbage truck driver when he enlisted in the navy on oct 3 1942 and became a seaman first class on the uss montpelier during almost three years of battle in the pacific ocean he defied navy rules against keeping a diary by writing copious notes on loose sheets of paper that appeared to anyone watching to be ordinary let a john gresham military library selection a masterly account of america s first offensive in the pacific during

world war ii when the marines campaign to wrest the remote southwest pacific island of Guadalcanal from the Japanese began in August 1942 few knew how to conduct it and no one expected it to last six months Hammel collects the stories of more than 100 participants on both sides to brilliantly tell one of the most bitter campaigns of World War II in the Pacific the battle for Guadalcanal that lasted from August 1942 to February 1943 was the first major American counteroffensive against the Japanese in the Pacific the Battle of Savo Island on the night of 9 August 1942 saw the Japanese inflict a severe defeat on the Allied force driving them away from Guadalcanal and leaving the just landed Marines in a perilously exposed position this was the start of a series of night battles that culminated in the first and second battles of Guadalcanal fought on the nights of 13 and 15 November one further major naval action followed the Battle of Tassafaronga on 30 November 1942 when the US Navy once again suffered a severe defeat but this time it was too late to alter the course of the battle as the Japanese evacuated Guadalcanal in early February 1943 this title will detail the contrasting fortunes experienced by both sides over the intense course of naval battles around the island throughout the second half of 1942 that did so much to turn the tide in the Pacific a sweeping narrative history the first in over twenty years of America's first major offensive of World War II the brutal no quarter given campaign to take Japanese occupied Guadalcanal from early August until mid November of 1942 US Marines sailors and pilots struggled for dominance against an implacable enemy Japanese soldiers inculcated with the Bushido tradition of death before dishonor avatars of bayonet combat close up personal and gruesome the glittering prize was Henderson Airfield Japanese planners knew that if they neutralized the airfield the battle was won so did the Marines who stubbornly defended it the outcome of the long slugfest remained in doubt under the pressure of repeated Japanese air land and sea operations and losses were heavy at sea in a half dozen fiery combats the US Navy fought the Imperial Japanese Navy to a draw but at a cost of more than 4 500 sailors more American sailors died in these battles off Guadalcanal than in all previous US wars and each side lost 24 warships on land more than 1 500 soldiers and Marines died and the air war claimed more than 500 US planes Japan's losses on the island were equally devastating starving Japanese soldiers called it the Island of Death but when the attritional struggle ended American Marines sailors and airmen had halted the Japanese juggernaut that for five years had whirled through Asia and the Pacific Guadalcanal was America's first major ground victory against Japan and most importantly the Pacific War's turning point published on the 75th anniversary of the battle and utilizing vivid accounts written by the combatants at Guadalcanal along with Marine Corps and Army archives and oral histories *Midnight in the Pacific* is both a sweeping narrative and a compelling drama of individual Marines soldiers and sailors caught in the crosshairs of history *Lost in the Pacific* is the first book in a new narrative nonfiction series that tells the true story of a band of World War II soldiers who became stranded at sea and had to fight for survival World War II October 21 1942 a B-17 bomber drones high over the Pacific Ocean sending a desperate SOS into the air the crew is carrying America's greatest living war hero on a secret mission deep into the battle zone but the plane is lost burning through its final gallons of fuel at 1:30 p.m. there is only one choice left an emergency landing at sea if the crew survives the impact they will be left stranded without food or water hundreds of miles from civilization eight men three inflatable rafts sixty eight million square miles of ocean what will it take to make it back alive a unique chronicle of the war from the perspective of a sensitive twenty four year old sergeant who wrote for the Army's in house paper *Yank the Army Weekly* and a tale of the South Pacific that will not soon be forgotten correspondent Mack Morriss reluctantly left his diary in the Honolulu *Yank* office in July 1943 here is contained an account of the past eight and one half months he wrote in his last entry a period which I shall never forget the next morning he was on a plane headed back to the South Pacific and the New Georgia battleground Morriss was working out of the press camp at Spa Belgium in January 1945 when he learned that the diary he had kept in the South Pacific had arrived in a plain brown wrapper at the New York office he was so happy to know that this impossible thing had happened

he wrote to his wife that he helped two friends murder a quart of scotch what was preserved and appears in print here for the first time is a unique chronicle of the war in the south pacific from the perspective of a sensitive twenty four year old sergeant this is an intensely personal account reporting the war from the ridge known as the sea horse on guadalcanal from the bars and dance halls of auckland to a b 17 flying through the moonlit night to bomb japanese installations on bougainville morriss thought deeply and wrote movingly about everything connected with the war the sordiness and heroism the competence and ineptitude of leaders the strange mixture of constant complaint and steady courage of ordinary gis friendships formed under combat stress and above all what he perceived to be his own indecisiveness and weaknesses ronnie day introduces morriss s diary and illuminates the work with extensive notes based on private papers government documents travel in the solomon islands and the recollections of men mentioned in the diary this book deals with the incidents that really began the war in the pacific and the internal conflicts within japan a fascinating exploration of how between february 1 and march 10 1942 three small us task forces launched several unexpected raids across the japanese defensive perimeter in the central and south pacific after the devastating japanese blows of december 1941 the allies found themselves reeling with defeat everywhere in the pacific although stripped of his battleships and outnumbered 10 3 in carriers the us navy commander in chief admiral ernest j king decided to hit back at japan s rapidly expanding pacific empire immediately in an effort to keep the japanese off balance on february 1 1942 vice admiral bill halsey led the us pacific fleet carriers on their first raid using high speed hit and run tactics to strike at the japanese at a time when most of the japanese carrier fleet was in the indian ocean halsey s aggressive commitment inspired its american participants to invent the mythical haul ass with halsey club the last of the 1942 us carrier raids in march 1942 would form a defining moment in the pacific war prior to a new phase of high seas battles between the opposing fleets this superbly illustrated book documents for the first time in a single volume this little known but important world war ii naval campaign the fabulous illustrations including maps and colour artworks bring to life the us air and naval raids on the japanese bases in the marshall and gilbert islands rabaul wake island marcus island and lae and salamaua in northern new guinea the battle of the coral sea is unique in the annals of naval history it is the first battle in which enemy fleets never came within sight of one another instead aircraft launched from carrier decks were sent out to attack the enemy with bombs and torpedoes in may of 1942 the japanese fleet moved on port moresby the last allied base between australia and japan forced to respond the americans sent two aircraft carriers to protect the base in the ensuing battle one american carrier was destroyed and the other severely damaged however the japanese also lost a carrier and decided to withdraw although bloody it proved to be an important strategic victory for the allies as the japanese were forced to attempt future attacks on port moresby over land using the latest research and numerous period photographs retired usn commander mark o stille tells the story of this important and unique battle in the pacific war the battle of the java sea fought in february 1942 was the first major surface engagement of the pacific war and one of the few naval battles of the entire war fought to a decisive victory it was the culminating point of the japanese drive to occupy the netherlands east indies nei and to defend the territory the allies assembled a striking force comprised of dutch american british and even an australian ship all under the command of a resolute dutch admiral on 27 february 1942 the allied striking force set course to intercept the japanese invasion force in the java sea in one of the few such times during the whole of world war ii a protracted surface engagement was fought unmolested by airpower for over seven hours the allied force attempted to attack the japanese invasion force finally breaking off in the early evening some three hours later the allied force now reduced to just four remaining cruisers and two destroyers attempted another attack on the invasion convoy during which japanese torpedoes scored heavily sinking two dutch cruisers and bringing the battle to a conclusion over the next two days as the allies attempted to flee five more ships were sunk from that point on allied naval power was eliminated from southeast asia in this illustrated

title mark stille tells the full story of the battle of the java sea explaining how and why the japanese achieved such a resounding victory and delving into the tremendous impact of the battle on the course of the pacific war this volume chronicles aerial warfare in the south pacific from december 1941 until march 1942 during which air operations by both sides became a daily occurrence as imperial japanese navy flying boats and landbased bombers penetrated over vast distances a few under strength squadrons of the royal australian air force put up a spirited fight however it was the supreme power of aircraft carriers that had the biggest impact four japanese fleet carriers facilitated the capture of rabaul over a devastating four day period in january 1942 the following month the uss lexington s fighter squadron vf 3 scored one of the most one sided victories of the entire pacific war by march 1942 the japanese had landed on mainland new guinea and the scene was set for a race to control port moresby this is the full story of both sides of an air war that could have been won by either incumbent but for timing crucial decisions and luck the two authors are uniquely qualified to tell this story raised in port moresby michael claringbould is a globally acknowledged expert on the new guinea air war and japanese aviation in particular peter ingman is an acclaimed military history author specialising in the early pacific war period the ijn was a pioneer in naval aviation having commissioned the world s first carrier which was used against the us fleet at pearl harbor the americans followed suit initiating a huge aircraft carrier development program as the war in the pacific escalated into the largest naval conflict in history the role of the carrier became the linchpin of american and japanese naval strategy as these rival vessels found themselves locked in a struggle for dominance of this critical theater this book provides an analysis of the variety of weaponry available to the rival carriers in particular the embarked aircraft as well as the powerful ship borne guns study the design and development of these revolutionary ships and live the experiences of the rival airmen and gun crews as they battled for victory in a duel of skill tenacity and guts after the japanese attack on pearl harbor america s fast carrier task forces with their aircraft squadrons and powerful support warships went on the offensive under orders from fleet admiral ernest j king the newly appointed admiral chester w nimitz as the commander in chief of the pacific fleet took the fight to the japanese using island raids to slow their advance in the pacific beginning in february 1942 a series of task force raids led by the carriers uss enterprise uss yorktown uss lexington and uss hornet were launched beginning in the marshall islands and gilbert islands an attempted raid on rabaul was followed by successful attacks on wake island and marcus island the lae salamaua raid countered japanese invasions on new guinea the most dramatic was the unorthodox tokyo doolittle raid where 16 carrier launched b 25 medium bombers demonstrated that the japanese mainland was open to u s air attacks the raids had a limited effect on halting the japanese advance but kept the enemy away from hawaii the u s west coast and the panama canal and kept open lines of communications to australia midway through 1942 japanese and allied forces found themselves fighting on two fronts in new guinea and the solomon islands these concurrent campaigns conducted between july 1942 and february 1943 proved a critical turning point in the war being waged in the pacific as the advantage definitively shifted from the japanese to the americans key to this shift was the allies seizing of the strategic initiative a concept that sean judge examines in this book particularly in the context of the pacific war the concept of strategic initiative in this analysis helps to explain why and how contending powers design campaigns and use military forces to alter the trajectory of war judge identifies five factors that come into play in capturing and maintaining the initiative resources intelligence strategic acumen combat effectiveness and chance all of which are affected by political will his book uses the dual campaigns in new guinea and the solomon islands as a case study in strategic initiative by reconstructing the organizations decisions and events that influenced the shift of initiative from one adversary to the other perhaps the most critical factor in this case is strategic acumen without which the other advantages are easily squandered specifically judge details how general douglas macarthur and admiral chester nimitz in designing and executing these campaigns provided the

strategic leadership essential to reversing the tide of war whose outcome judge contends was not as inevitable as conventional wisdom tells us the strategic initiative once passed to american and allied forces in the pacific would never be relinquished in its explanation of how and why this happened the turn of the tide in the pacific war holds important lessons for students of military history and for future strategic leaders the ijn was a pioneer in naval aviation having commissioned the world's first carrier which was used against the us fleet at pearl harbor the americans followed suit initiating a huge aircraft carrier development program as the war in the pacific escalated into the largest naval conflict in history the role of the carrier became the linchpin of american and japanese naval strategy as these rival vessels found themselves locked in a struggle for dominance of this critical theater this book provides an analysis of the variety of weaponry available to the rival carriers in particular the embarked aircraft as well as the powerful ship borne guns study the design and development of these revolutionary ships and live the experiences of the rival airmen and gun crews as they battled for victory in a duel of skill tenacity and guts in the build up to world war ii both the united states and japan believed their battleships would play a central role in battle but after the pacific war began in december 1941 the role of the battleship proved to be much more limited than either side expected there would be only two battleship vs battleship actions in the pacific in world war ii both of which are assessed in this engaging study at guadalcanal in 1942 kirishima faced two modern us battleships uss washington and uss south dakota in the surigao strait in 1944 two world war i era japanese battleships yamashiro and fuso faced six american battleships supported by four heavy cruisers in history's last ever clash between battleships employing full colour artwork carefully selected archive photographs and expert analysis former us navy commander mark e stille examines the two head to head clashes between the battleships deployed by the united states and japan in the struggle for control of the pacific during world war ii in the early morning hours of 9th august 1942 a japanese task force moved into the solomon islands and unleashed a barrage of shells and torpedoes on us and allied naval ships this book examines this disaster and answers many questions about the incident that later arose you don't have anything like this yet check your collections never before has such a unique assembly of rare documents been available war in the pacific brings to life the story of the heroic actions of the men who fought the relentless war against japan in world war ii includes recorded memories photographs maps and actual reproductions of 20 rare key documents and memorabilia the dispatch to general macarthur to abandon the philippines the pocket guide to australia issued to us army and navy forces in 1942 and much more war in the pacific is being released to coincide with the much anticipated 10 part mini series coming from hbo in march war in the pacific 1941 1945 looks at the relentless war against japan in the pacific islands which formed an integral part of eventual allied victory in world war ii setting the scene with the unprovoked japanese attack on pearl harbor and the almost simultaneous attack on us bases on guam and wake island it then goes on to document the bloody battles fought in the jungle islands of guadalcanal and the philippines and the seas of the pacific as fortunes turned in 1942 the allies fought hard to regain lost ground and the intensity of battle did not waver it tells the story of the heroic actions of the men who toiled on the islands the names of which have now become synonymous with bloodshed hardship and unstoppable spirit which eventually resulted in victory for the allies guadalcanal tarawa rabaul guam iwo jima and finally okinawa this fascinating and heart wrenching story is brought to life by the addition of 20 carefully selected facsimile pieces of memorabilia ranging from military orders to propaganda leaflets dropped by the japanese on us troops to the personal diaries and letters home of both generals officers and ordinary soldiers masterful pacing vivid character sketches and gripping action blend with rigorous historical detail in samuel b griffith's the battle for guadalcanal launched on august 7 1942 to protect allied control of the strategic south pacific islands the guadalcanal operation was the most costly american offensive of world war ii in the history of the u s navy up to that time griffith who fought with edson's raiders on guadalcanal describes in gritty detail the vicious

close range fighting the valiant defense of the henderson field airstrip and the dramatic naval engagements that led in february 1943 to an american victory drawing on american and japanese sources griffith delineates the strategic decisions that shaped the conflict as well as the determination and endurance of combatants on both sides a breathtaking narrative of military action anchored by a historian's objectivity the battle for Guadalcanal is a story of raw courage desperate measures and ultimate triumph this wide ranging study of the Pacific Islands provides a dynamic and provocative account of the peopling of the Pacific and its broad impact on world history spanning over 50 000 years of human presence in an area which comprises one third of our planet Melanesia Micronesia and Polynesia the narrative follows the development of the region from New Guinea's earliest settlement to the creation of the modern Pacific states thoroughly revised and updated in light of the most recent scholarship the second edition includes an overview of the events and developments in the Pacific Islands over the last decade coverage of the latest archaeological discoveries several new maps an updated and expanded bibliography Steven Roger Fischer's unique text provides a highly accessible and invaluable introduction to the history of an area which is currently emerging as pivotal in international affairs a history of the Pacific Islands traces the human history of nearly one third of the globe over a fifty thousand year span this is history on a grand scale taking the islands of Melanesia Micronesia and Polynesia from prehistoric culture to the present day through a skilful interpretation of scholarship in the field Fischer's familiarity with work in archaeology and anthropology as well as in history enriches the text making this a book with wide appeal for students and general readers following the disastrous Java Sea campaign the allies went on the offensive in the Pacific in a desperate attempt to halt the Japanese forces that were rampaging across the region with the conquest of Australia a very real possibility the stakes were high their target the Japanese held Solomon Islands in particular the southern island of Guadalcanal hamstrung by arcane pre war thinking and a bureaucratic mind set the US Navy had to adapt on the fly in order to compete with the mighty Imperial Japanese Navy whose ingenuity and creativity thus far had fostered the creation of its Pacific Empire starting with the amphibious assault on Savo Island the campaign turned into an attritional struggle where the evenly matched foes sought to grind out a victory following on from his hugely successful book *Rising Sun Falling Skies* Jeffrey R Cox tells the gripping story of the first allied offensive of the Pacific War as they sought to prevent Japan from cutting off Australia and regaining dominance in the Pacific

The Conquering Tide: War in the Pacific Islands, 1942-1944 (Vol. 2) (The Pacific War Trilogy) 2015-09-21

a new york times bestseller a beautiful blend of history and prose and proves again mr toll s mastery of the naval war narrative wall street journal this masterful history encompasses the heart of the pacific war the period between mid 1942 and mid 1944 when parallel allied counteroffensives north and south of the equator washed over japan s far flung island empire like a conquering tide concluding with japan s irreversible strategic defeat in the marianas it was the largest bloodiest most costly most technically innovative and logistically complicated amphibious war in history and it fostered bitter interservice rivalries leaving wounds that even victory could not heal often overlooked these are the years and fights that decided the pacific war ian w toll s battle scenes in the air at sea and in the jungles are simply riveting he also takes the reader into the wartime councils in washington and tokyo where politics and strategy often collided and into the struggle to mobilize wartime production which was the secret of allied victory brilliantly researched the narrative is propelled and colored by firsthand accounts letters diaries debriefings and memoirs that are the raw material of the telling details shrewd judgment and penetrating insight of this magisterial history this volume continuing the marvelously readable dramatic narrative san francisco chronicle of pacific crucible marks the second installment of the pacific war trilogy which will stand as the first history of the entire pacific war to be published in at least twenty five years

Victory in the Pacific 2010

presents an account of the allied effort to reclaim thousands of japanese occupied islands detailing the campaign s technical innovations logistic complications and human and economic costs

The Conquering Tide 2015

new york times bestseller the devastation of pearl harbor and the american victory at midway were prelude to a greater challenge rolling back the vast japanese pacific empire island by island this masterful history encompasses the heart of the pacific war the period between mid 1942 and mid 1944 when parallel allied counteroffensives north and south of the equator washed over japan s far flung island empire like a conquering tide concluding with japan s irreversible strategic defeat in the marianas it was the largest bloodiest most costly most technically innovative and logistically complicated amphibious war in history and it fostered bitter interservice rivalries leaving wounds that even victory could not heal often overlooked these are the years and fights that decided the pacific war ian w toll s battle scenes in the air at sea and in the jungles are simply riveting he also takes the reader into the wartime councils in washington and tokyo where politics and strategy often collided and into the struggle to mobilize wartime production which was the secret of allied victory brilliantly researched the narrative is propelled and colored by firsthand accounts letters diaries debriefings and memoirs that are the raw material of the telling details shrewd judgment and penetrating insight of this magisterial history this volume continuing the marvelously readable dramatic narrative san francisco chronicle of pacific crucible marks the second installment of the pacific war trilogy

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The Conquering Tide 2015-10-13

on may 7 and 8 1942 fast carrier task forces from the united states and imperial japanese met in combat for the first time in the battle of the coral sea a strategic victory for the u s despite the loss of the carrier lexington the battle blunted the japanese drive on port moresby a valuable allied air base on the island of new guinea lundstrom offers a detailed analysis of the fundamental strategies employed by japan and the u s in the south pacific from january to june 1942 the efforts of adm ernest j king to reinforce the area in spite of roosevelt s europe first grand strategy and adm chester nimitz s aggressive plans to fight in the coral sea now in paperback the first pacific campaign provides a superb overview of the crucial first six months of the naval war in the south pacific

Stories from the Pacific 1994

an enlightening glimpse into nine battles and campaigns during the pacific war allied offensive each of these momentous operations were fascinating feats of strategy planning and bravery handing the allies what would eventually become a victory over the pacific theater and an end to imperialist japanese expansion operation watchtower a riveting exploration of the spark that set off the allied offensive in the pacific islands detailing the grueling struggle for the island of guadalcanal and its vital strategic position operation galvanic an incredible account of the battle for the tarawa atoll and base that would give them a steppingstone into the heart of japanese controlled waters operation backhander a gripping retelling of the war for cape gloucester new guinea and the bismarck sea battle for saipan marines stormed the beaches with a goal of gaining a crucial air base from which the us could launch its new long range b 29 bombers directly at japan s home islands invasion of tinian is the incredible account of the assault on tinian located just under six miles southwest of saipan this was the first use of napalm and the shore to shore concept recapture of guam a gripping narrative about the liberation of the japanese held island of guam captured by the japanese in 1941 during one of the first pacific campaigns of the war operation stalemate marines landed on the island of peleliu one of the palau islands in the pacific as part of a larger operation to provide support for general macarthur who was preparing to invade the philippines operation detachment the battle of iwo jima was a major offensive in world war ii the marine invasion was tasked with the mission of capturing airfields on the island for use by p 51 fighters operation iceberg the invasion and ultimate victory on okinawa was the largest amphibious assault in the pacific theater it was also one of the bloodiest battles in the pacific lasting ninety eight days this gripping narrative sheds light on these often overlooked facets of wwii providing students history fans and world war ii buffs alike with a captivating breakdown of the history and combat that defined the ultimate victory of us forces in the pacific publisher s description

The First South Pacific Campaign 2014-04-15

winner of the northern california book award for nonfiction both a serious work of history and a marvelously readable dramatic narrative san francisco chronicle on the first sunday in december 1941 an armada of japanese warplanes appeared suddenly over pearl harbor hawaii and

devastated the u s pacific fleet six months later in a sea fight north of the tiny atoll of midway four japanese aircraft carriers were sent into the abyss a blow that destroyed the offensive power of their fleet pacific crucible through a dramatic narrative relying predominantly on primary sources and eyewitness accounts of heroism and sacrifice from both navies tells the epic tale of these first searing months of the pacific war when the u s navy shook off the worst defeat in american military history to seize the strategic initiative

World War II Pacific 2021

one of the most decisive naval battles in history midway was fought barely six months after pearl harbor here the u s carriers that had escaped that surprise attack dealt a devastating blow to the imperial japanese fleet

United States Naval Administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands: The wartime military government period, 1942-1945 1957

the respected british military historian h p willmott presents the first of a three volume appraisal of the strategic policies of the countries involved in the pacific war remarkable in its scope and depth of research his thoughtful analysis covers the whole range of political economic military and naval activity in the pacific this first volume comprehensively covers events between december 1941 and april 1942 concluding with the doolittle raid on april 18 when published in hardcover in 1982 the book was hailed as an eloquent portrayal of great empires on trial that no one should miss willmott s stimulating and original approach to the subject remains unmatched even today

Pacific Crucible: War at Sea in the Pacific, 1941-1942 (Vol. 1) (The Pacific War Trilogy) 2011-11-14

from may 1942 to october 1943 japan and the us engaged in clashes in the southwest pacific forces on both sides were evenly matched and the troops fought one another to exhaustion this book looks at the war with japan focusing on this period of balance between us and japanese forces

Midway 1942 2004

fahey was a 24 year old garbage truck driver when he enlisted in the navy on oct 3 1942 and became a seaman first class on the uss montpelier during almost three years of battle in the pacific ocean he defied navy rules against keeping a diary by writing copious notes on loose sheets of paper that appeared to anyone watching to be ordinary let

Empires in the Balance 2008-09-01

a john gresham military library selection a masterly account of america s first offensive in the pacific during world war ii when the marines campaign to wrest the remote southwest pacific island of guadalcanal from the japanese began in august 1942 few knew how to conduct it and no one expected it to last six months hammel collects the stories of more than 100 participants on both sides to brilliantly tell one of the most bitter campaigns of world war ii in the pacific

The War with Japan 2002

the battle for guadalcanal that lasted from august 1942 to february 1943 was the first major american counteroffensive against the japanese in the pacific the battle of savo island on the night of 9 august 1942 saw the japanese inflict a sever defeat on the allied force driving them away from guadalcanal and leaving the just landed marines in a perilously exposed position this was the start of a series of night battles that culminated in the first and second battles of guadalcanal fought on the nights of 13 and 15 november one further major naval action followed the battle of tassafaronga on 30 november 1942 when the us navy once again suffered a severe defeat but this time it was too late to alter the course of the battle as the japanese evacuated guadalcanal in early february 1943 this title will detail the contrasting fortunes experienced by both sides over the intense course of naval battles around the island throughout the second half of 1942 that did so much to turn the tide in the pacific

Pacific War Diary, 1942-1945 2003

a sweeping narrative history the first in over twenty years of america s first major offensive of world war ii the brutal no quarter given campaign to take japanese occupied guadalcanal from early august until mid november of 1942 us marines sailors and pilots struggled for dominance against an implacable enemy japanese soldiers inculcated with the bushido tradition of death before dishonor avatars of bayonet combat close up personal and gruesome the glittering prize was henderson airfield japanese planners knew that if they neutralized the airfield the battle was won so did the marines who stubbornly defended it the outcome of the long slugfest remained in doubt under the pressure of repeated japanese air land and sea operations and losses were heavy at sea in a half dozen fiery combats the us navy fought the imperial japanese navy to a draw but at a cost of more than 4 500 sailors more american sailors died in these battles off guadalcanal than in all previous us wars and each side lost 24 warships on land more than 1 500 soldiers and marines died and the air war claimed more than 500 us planes japan s losses on the island were equally devastating starving japanese soldiers called it the island of death but when the attritional struggle ended american marines sailors and airmen had halted the japanese juggernaut that for five years had whirled through asia and the pacific guadalcanal was america s first major ground victory against japan and most importantly the pacific war s turning point published on the 75th anniversary of the battle and utilizing vivid accounts written by the combatants at guadalcanal along with marine corps and army archives and oral histories midnight in the pacific is both a sweeping narrative and a compelling drama of individual marines soldiers and sailors caught in the crosshairs of history

Guadalcanal 1987

lost in the pacific is the first book in a new narrative nonfiction series that tells the true story of a band of world war ii soldiers who became stranded at sea and had to fight for survival world war ii october 21 1942 a b 17 bomber drones high over the pacific ocean sending a desperate sos into the air the crew is carrying america s greatest living war hero on a secret mission deep into the battle zone but the plane is lost burning through its final gallons of fuel at 1 30 p m there is only one choice left an emergency landing at sea if the crew survives the impact they will be left stranded without food or water hundreds of miles from civilization eight men three inflatable rafts sixty eight million square miles of ocean what will it take to make it back alive

The naval battles for Guadalcanal 1942 2013-05-20

a unique chronicle of the war from the perspective of a sensitive twenty four year old sergeant who wrote for the army s in house paper yank the army weekly and a tale of the south pacific that will not soon be forgotten correspondent mack morriss reluctantly left his diary in the honolulu yank office in july 1943 here is contained an account of the past eight and one half months he wrote in his last entry a period which i shall never forget the next morning he was on a plane headed back to the south pacific and the new georgia battleground morriss was working out of the press camp at spa belgium in january 1945 when he learned that the diary he had kept in the south pacific had arrived in a plain brown wrapper at the new york office he was so happy to know that this impossible thing had happened he wrote to his wife that he helped two friends murder a quart of scotch what was preserved and appears in print here for the first time is a unique chronicle of the war in the south pacific from the perspective of a sensitive twenty four year old sergeant this is an intensely personal account reporting the war from the ridge known as the sea horse on guadalcanal from the bars and dance halls of auckland to a b 17 flying through the moonlit night to bomb japanese installations on bougainville morriss thought deeply and wrote movingly about everything connected with the war the sordiness and heroism the competence and ineptitude of leaders the strange mixture of constant complaint and steady courage of ordinary gis friendships formed under combat stress and above all what he perceived to be his own indecisiveness and weaknesses ronnie day introduces morriss s diary and illuminates the work with extensive notes based on private papers government documents travel in the solomon islands and the recollections of men mentioned in the diary

Midnight in the Pacific 2017-08-01

this book deals with the incidents that really began the war in the pacific and the internal conflicts within japan

Lost in the Pacific, 1942: Not a Drop to Drink (Lost #1) 2016-10-25

a fascinating exploration of how between february 1 and march 10 1942 three small us task forces launched several unexpected raids across the japanese defensive perimeter in the central and south pacific after the devastating japanese blows of december 1941 the allies found

themselves reeling with defeat everywhere in the pacific although stripped of his battleships and outnumbered 10 3 in carriers the us navy commander in chief admiral ernest j king decided to hit back at japan s rapidly expanding pacific empire immediately in an effort to keep the japanese off balance on february 1 1942 vice admiral bill halsey led the us pacific fleet carriers on their first raid using high speed hit and run tactics to strike at the japanese at a time when most of the japanese carrier fleet was in the indian ocean halsey s aggressive commitment inspired its american participants to invent the mythical haul ass with halsey club the last of the 1942 us carrier raids in march 1942 would form a defining moment in the pacific war prior to a new phase of high seas battles between the opposing fleets this superbly illustrated book documents for the first time in a single volume this little known but important world war ii naval campaign the fabulous illustrations including maps and colour artworks bring to life the us air and naval raids on the japanese bases in the marshall and gilbert islands rabaul wake island marcus island and lae and salamaua in northern new guinea

South Pacific Diary, 1942-1943 2021-12-14

the battle of the coral sea is unique in the annals of naval history it is the first battle in which enemy fleets never came within sight of one another instead aircraft launched from carrier decks were sent out to attack the enemy with bombs and torpedoes in may of 1942 the japanese fleet moved on port moresby the last allied base between australia and japan forced to respond the americans sent two aircraft carriers to protect the base in the ensuing battle one american carrier was destroyed and the other severely damaged however the japanese also lost a carrier and decided to withdraw although bloody it proved to be an important strategic victory for the allies as the japanese were forced to attempt future attacks on port moresby over land using the latest research and numerous period photographs retired usn commander mark o stille tells the story of this important and unique battle in the pacific war

History of United States Naval Operations in World War II. 2001

the battle of the java sea fought in february 1942 was the first major surface engagement of the pacific war and one of the few naval battles of the entire war fought to a decisive victory it was the culminating point of the japanese drive to occupy the netherlands east indies nei and to defend the territory the allies assembled a striking force comprised of dutch american british and even an australian ship all under the command of a resolute dutch admiral on 27 february 1942 the allied striking force set course to intercept the japanese invasion force in the java sea in one of the few such times during the whole of world war ii a protracted surface engagement was fought unmolested by airpower for over seven hours the allied force attempted to attack the japanese invasion force finally breaking off in the early evening some three hours later the allied force now reduced to just four remaining cruisers and two destroyers attempted another attack on the invasion convoy during which japanese torpedoes scored heavily sinking two dutch cruisers and bringing the battle to a conclusion over the next two days as the allies attempted to flee five more ships were sunk from that point on allied naval power was eliminated from southeast asia in this illustrated title mark stille tells the full story of the battle of the java sea explaining how and why the japanese achieved such a resounding victory and delving into the tremendous impact of the battle on the course of the pacific war

Early Pacific Raids 1942 2023-06-22

this volume chronicles aerial warfare in the south pacific from december 1941 until march 1942 during which air operations by both sides became a daily occurrence as imperial japanese navy flying boats and landbased bombers penetrated over vast distances a few under strength squadrons of the royal australian air force put up a spirited fight however it was the supreme power of aircraft carriers that had the biggest impact four japanese fleet carriers facilitated the capture of rabaul over a devastating four day period in january 1942 the following month the uss lexington s fighter squadron vf 3 scored one of the most one sided victories of the entire pacific war by march 1942 the japanese had landed on mainland new guinea and the scene was set for a race to control port moresby this is the full story of both sides of an air war that could have been won by either incumbent but for timing crucial decisions and luck the two authors are uniquely qualified to tell this story raised in port moresby michael claringbould is a globally acknowledged expert on the new guinea air war and japanese aviation in particular peter ingman is an acclaimed military history author specialising in the early pacific war period

The Coral Sea 1942 2012-06-20

the ijn was a pioneer in naval aviation having commissioned the world s first carrier which was used against the us fleet at pearl harbor the americans followed suit initiating a huge aircraft carrier development program as the war in the pacific escalated into the largest naval conflict in history the role of the carrier became the linchpin of american and japanese naval strategy as these rival vessels found themselves locked in a struggle for dominance of this critical theater this book provides an analysis of the variety of weaponry available to the rival carriers in particular the embarked aircraft as well as the powerful ship borne guns study the design and development of these revolutionary ships and live the experiences of the rival airmen and gun crews as they battled for victory in a duel of skill tenacity and guts

Java Sea 1942 2019-11-28

after the japanese attack on pearl harbor america s fast carrier task forces with their aircraft squadrons and powerful support warships went on the offensive under orders from fleet admiral ernest j king the newly appointed admiral chester w nimitz as the commander in chief of the pacific fleet took the fight to the japanese using island raids to slow their advance in the pacific beginning in february 1942 a series of task force raids led by the carriers uss enterprise uss yorktown uss lexington and uss hornet were launched beginning in the marshall islands and gilbert islands an attempted raid on rabaul was followed by successful attacks on wake island and marcus island the lae salamaua raid countered japanese invasions on new guinea the most dramatic was the unorthodox tokyo doolittle raid where 16 carrier launched b 25 medium bombers demonstrated that the japanese mainland was open to u s air attacks the raids had a limited effect on halting the japanese advance but kept the enemy away from hawaii the u s west coast and the panama canal and kept open lines of communications to australia

South Pacific Air War Volume 1 2017-11

midway through 1942 japanese and allied forces found themselves fighting on two fronts in new guinea and the solomon islands these concurrent campaigns conducted between july 1942 and february 1943 proved a critical turning point in the war being waged in the pacific as the advantage definitively shifted from the japanese to the americans key to this shift was the allies seizing of the strategic initiative a concept that sean judge examines in this book particularly in the context of the pacific war the concept of strategic initiative in this analysis helps to explain why and how contending powers design campaigns and use military forces to alter the trajectory of war judge identifies five factors that come into play in capturing and maintaining the initiative resources intelligence strategic acumen combat effectiveness and chance all of which are affected by political will his book uses the dual campaigns in new guinea and the solomon islands as a case study in strategic initiative by reconstructing the organizations decisions and events that influenced the shift of initiative from one adversary to the other perhaps the most critical factor in this case is strategic acumen without which the other advantages are easily squandered specifically judge details how general douglas macarthur and admiral chester nimitz in designing and executing these campaigns provided the strategic leadership essential to reversing the tide of war whose outcome judge contends was not as inevitable as conventional wisdom tells us the strategic initiative once passed to american and allied forces in the pacific would never be relinquished in its explanation of how and why this happened the turn of the tide in the pacific war holds important lessons for students of military history and for future strategic leaders

USN Carriers vs IJN Carriers 2012-05-20

the ijn was a pioneer in naval aviation having commissioned the world s first carrier which was used against the us fleet at pearl harbor the americans followed suit initiating a huge aircraft carrier development program as the war in the pacific escalated into the largest naval conflict in history the role of the carrier became the linchpin of american and japanese naval strategy as these rival vessels found themselves locked in a struggle for dominance of this critical theater this book provides an analysis of the variety of weaponry available to the rival carriers in particular the embarked aircraft as well as the powerful ship borne guns study the design and development of these revolutionary ships and live the experiences of the rival airmen and gun crews as they battled for victory in a duel of skill tenacity and guts

Early U.S. Navy Carrier Raids, February-April 1942 2019-10-16

in the build up to world war ii both the united states and japan believed their battleships would play a central role in battle but after the pacific war began in december 1941 the role of the battleship proved to be much more limited than either side expected there would be only two battleship vs battleship actions in the pacific in world war ii both of which are assessed in this engaging study at Guadalcanal in 1942 Kirishima faced two modern us battleships USS Washington and USS South Dakota in the Surigao Strait in 1944 two world war i era japanese battleships Yamashiro and Fuso faced six american battleships supported by four heavy cruisers in history s last ever clash

between battleships employing full colour artwork carefully selected archive photographs and expert analysis former us navy commander mark e stille examines the two head to head clashes between the battleships deployed by the united states and japan in the struggle for control of the pacific during world war ii

First South Pacific Campaign 2014

in the early morning hours of 9th august 1942 a japanese task force moved into the solomon islands and unleashed a barrage of shells and torpedoes on us and allied naval ships this book examines this disaster and answers many questions about the incident that later arose

The Turn of the Tide in the Pacific War 2018-03-15

you don t have anything like this yet check your collections never before has such a unique assembly of rare documents been available war in the pacific brings to life the story of the heroic actions of the men who fought the relentless war against japan in world war ii includes recorded memories photographs maps and actual reproductions of 20 rare key documents and memorabilia the dispatch to general macarthur to abandon the philippines the pocket guide to australia issued to us army and navy forces in 1942 and much more war in the pacific is being released to coincide with the much anticipated 10 part mini series coming from hbo in march war in the pacific 1941 1945 looks at the relentless war against japan in the pacific islands which formed an integral part of eventual allied victory in world war ii setting the scene with the unprovoked japanese attack on pearl harbor and the almost simultaneous attack on us bases on guam and wake island it then goes on to document the bloody battles fought in the jungle islands of guadalcanal and the philippines and the seas of the pacific as fortunes turned in 1942 the allies fought hard to regain lost ground and the intensity of battle did not waver it tells the story of the heroic actions of the men who toiled on the islands the names of which have now become synonymous with bloodshed hardship and unstoppable spirit which eventually resulted in victory for the allies guadalcanal tarawa rabaul guam iwo jima and finally okinawa this fascinating and heart wrenching story is brought to life by the addition of 20 carefully selected facsimile pieces of memorabilia ranging from military orders to propaganda leaflets dropped by the japanese on us troops to the personal diaries and letters home of both generals officers and ordinary soldiers

Military Intelligence in the Pacific, 1942-1946 1984

masterful pacing vivid character sketches and gripping action blend with rigorous historical detail in samuel b griffith s the battle for guadalcanal launched on august 7 1942 to protect allied control of the strategic south pacific islands the guadalcanal operation was the most costly american offensive of world war ii in the history of the u s navy up to that time griffith who fought with edson s raiders on guadalcanal describes in gritty detail the vicious close range fighting the valiant defense of the henderson field airstrip and the dramatic naval engagements that led in february 1943 to an american victory drawing on american and japanese sources griffith delineates the strategic decisions that shaped the conflict as well as the determination and endurance of combatants on both sides a breathtaking narrative of military action anchored by a historian s objectivity the battle for guadalcanal is a story of raw courage desperate measures

and ultimate triumph

Pacific Islands Pilot 1943

this wide ranging study of the pacific islands provides a dynamic and provocative account of the peopling of the pacific and its broad impact on world history spanning over 50 000 years of human presence in an area which comprises one third of our planet melanesia micronesia and polynesia the narrative follows the development of the region from new guinea s earliest settlement to the creation of the modern pacific states thoroughly revised and updated in light of the most recent scholarship the second edition includes an overview of the events and developments in the pacific islands over the last decade coverage of the latest archaeological discoveries several new maps an updated and expanded bibliography steven roger fischer s unique text provides a highly accessible and invaluable introduction to the history of an area which is currently emerging as pivotal in international affairs a history of the pacific islands traces the human history of nearly one third of the globe over a fifty thousand year span this is history on a grand scale taking the islands of melanesia micronesia and polynesia from prehistoric culture to the present day through a skilful interpretation of scholarship in the field fischer s familiarity with work in archaeology and anthropology as well as in history enriches the text making this a book with wide appeal for students and general readers

USN Carriers vs IJN Carriers 2012-05-20

following the disastrous java sea campaign the allies went on the offensive in the pacific in a desperate attempt to halt the japanese forces that were rampaging across the region with the conquest of australia a very real possibility the stakes were high their target the japanese held solomon islands in particular the southern island of guadalcanal hamstrung by arcane pre war thinking and a bureaucratic mind set the us navy had to adapt on the fly in order to compete with the mighty imperial japanese navy whose ingenuity and creativity thus far had fostered the creation of its pacific empire starting with the amphibious assault on savo island the campaign turned into an attritional struggle where the evenly matched foes sought to grind out a victory following on from his hugely successful book rising sun falling skies jeffrey r cox tells the gripping story of the first allied offensive of the pacific war as they sought to prevent japan from cutting off australia and regaining dominance in the pacific

The Barrier and the Javelin 1983

Chronology of U.S. Navy Submarine Operations in the Pacific, 1939-1942 1997

USN Battleship vs IJN Battleship 2017-11-30

Disaster in the Pacific 1992

War in the Pacific 1941-1945 2010-02-16

The Battle for Guadalcanal 2000

Annotated Bibliography of Geologic and Soils Literature of Western North Pacific Islands
1956

**History of United States naval operations in World War II. 3. The rising sun in the pacific
: 1931 - April 1942 1957**

A History of the Pacific Islands 2013-03-13

Morning Star, Midnight Sun 2018-02-22

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