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Bloody Buna: Campaign That Halted The Japanese Invasion Of Australia



Book Information

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Customer Reviews

My father fought with the 163rd infantry in this battle. He never spoke of his experiences in the war. He died in 1978 of leukemia as a result of radiation poisoning after being stationed at Hiroshima 10 days after the bomb fell. I've researched much of what he experienced and I've never found a more fascinating and graphic account of the war than this book, 'Bloody Buna' written by Lida Mayo. I highly recommend it to anyone interested in WWII primarily because it is so well-written and secondly because these battles have been so grossly overlooked. You'll find this accounting to be far more fascinating than most other WWII battles. This really was the first time that we gave the japs hell.

My family has many copies of this book, and I just bought it for my father-in-law. My grandfather fought in this battle, and is actually in this book. These soldiers are true heroes, though they will never think that of themselves.

"Bloody Buna" covers the events leading up to and the battle for Buna-Gona-Sananda on New Guinea in the early days of the war in the Pacific. It took place in parallel with the Marine struggle for Guadalcanal, yet this U.S. Army engagement is virtually forgotten. But this is where the U.S. Army learned vital lessons for the jungle struggles that would push the Imperial Japanese army back across the Pacific. Read this along with "Ghost Mountain Boys" for a complete picture of the engagement.

what a waste of time all the detailed info on officer's I did miss the part about witched side there hair was parted. My uncle died/killed there he was in the 128th the iron brigade

Excellent supplement to "Ghost Mountain Boys" by Campbell.

The book was as described and was delivered in a timely manner! I am happy with the purchase.

Contemporaneous with Guadalcanal, with more casualties and a similarly steep learning curve for men and officers, the Battle for Buna was a bloody disaster from start to finish. Led by, a man with a great ego, Douglas MacArthur, far from the battle lines, luxuriously and safely ensconced in Australia with directives such as "sweep them into the sea" and "we need total victory" produced combat much like that of WW1 with futile charges into very strong defensive positions held by a very determined enemy. Even the Japanese wondered why "we did not pass them by and leave them to starve". Few of the survivors, on either side, were ever used in combat again. The good news is that it did lead to MacArthur bypassing Rabaul. The bad news is that he repeated his mistake by invading Peleliu, which like Buna secured airfields that were not necessary. An ugly early story of WW2 well told.

Lida Mayo's thrilling, definitive BLOODY BUNA shines for the ages. It celebrates the crucial victory at little-known Buna (New Guinea) by forces led by General MacArthur, delivering the Pacific War's "first important and permanent land victory over the Japanese." Allied communique proclaimed that a "striking victory, annihilating the enemy at Buna" was achieved on January 22, 1943, predating the much-heralded fight for Guadalcanal, which was finally won on February 9..

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