

Ridgeways Paratroopers The American Airborne In World War Ii

Ridgeways Paratroopers The American Airborne In World War Ii Book Review: Unveiling the Magic of Language

In an electronic era where connections and knowledge reign supreme, the enchanting power of language has become much more apparent than ever. Its ability to stir emotions, provoke thought, and instigate transformation is truly remarkable. This extraordinary book, aptly titled "**Ridgeways Paratroopers The American Airborne In World War Ii**," compiled by a highly acclaimed author, immerses readers in a captivating exploration of the significance of language and its profound effect on our existence. Throughout this critique, we will delve into the book's central themes, evaluate its unique writing style, and assess its overall influence on its readership.

The Fighting 30th Division
Martin King 2015-07-19 The full story of the legendary US infantry division and their remarkable service in WWII, told through interviews with surviving servicemen. The 30th Infantry Division earned more Medals of Honor than any other American division in

World War I. In World War II, it spent more consecutive days in combat than almost any other outfit. Recruited mainly from the Carolinas, Georgia, and Tennessee, they were some of the hardest-fighting soldiers in Europe. They possessed an intrinsic zeal to engage the enemy that often left their adversaries in awe. Their US

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Army nickname was the "Old Hickory" Division. But after encountering them on the battlefield, the Germans called them "Roosevelt's SS." The Fighting 30th Division chronicles the exploits of this illustrious unit through the eyes of those who were actually there. From Normandy to the Westwall and the Battle of the Bulge, each chapter is meticulously researched with accurate timelines and after-action reports. The last remaining veterans of the 30th to see action firsthand relate their experiences here for the first time, including previously untold accounts from survivors.

Four Stars of Valor Phil Nordyke 2006 Recounts the stirring exploits of America's foremost World War II parachute regiment, the only regiment to have earned to earn four gold stars for their parachute wings, one for each of their four combat jumps.

There's a War to Be Won Geoffrey Perret 2011-08-03 THERE'S A WAR TO BE WON is the landmark story of one of the greatest armies in history,

a conscript force of amateur soldiers who had an unparalleled record of combat success. Here -- for the first time in one volume -- is the chronicle of the United States Army's dramatic mobilization and stunning march to victory in World War II. In a lively and engrossing narrative that spans theaters of operations around the world, Geoffrey Perret tells how the Army was drafted, trained, organized, armed, and led at every stage of the war. Beginning with the prescient military planners of the 1930s, he offers vivid warts-and-all profiles of the farsighted commanders who would lead the way, men like Marshall, MacArthur, Eisenhower, Ridgway, Bradley, and Patton. Drawing heavily on important new source material in major archives throughout the United States, THERE'S A WAR TO BE WON offers new insights into the wartime Army, its commanders, and its battles. A major work of American military history. "An immensely readable, well-researched history . . . Dramatic." --

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Chicago Tribune

Operation Market-Garden 1944

(1) Steven J. Zaloga 2014-08-19

Immortalized by the movie *A Bridge Too Far*, the parachute landings of the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions were the first part of an Allied breakthrough attempt. In the late summer of 1944, the First Allied Airborne Army began to plan a complex operation to seize a Rhine River Bridge at Arnhem in the Netherlands. The airborne mission was code-named Operation Market, and the ground assault was designated Garden. The American portion of Operation Market was to employ the two divisions of Gen. Matthew Ridgway's US XVIII Airborne Corps to seize key terrain features that might otherwise delay the advance of British tank columns towards the ultimate objective of the Rhine bridge at Arnhem. The plan envisioned landing the US 101st Airborne Division near Eindhoven to clear a path for the advance of the armored divisions of the British XXX Corps, and to land the 82nd

Airborne Division around

Nijmegen to seize the Waal river bridges there. In view of the problems experienced in Normandy with night landings, Operation Market was scheduled to take place on the afternoon of September 17th, 1944, with an elaborate tactical air plan to suppress German flak positions. The initial 101st Airborne Division conducted its combined parachute/glider landings on the afternoon of September 17th, 1944, using its three Parachute Infantry Regiments (PIR). The 82nd Airborne Division was dropped further northeast with its three regiments having separate assignments. Overall, the first day's operation was a considerable success compared to the Normandy drops. The Wehrmacht did not anticipate the airborne attack so resistance on the first day was light. The fighting intensified dramatically over the next several days as the Germans attempted to stamp out the landings, attacking the Allied forces on all sides of the salient. The 101st Airborne

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Division pressed south towards Eindhoven on the morning of September 18th, while the British Guards Armoured Division pressed north. The paratroopers captured the city by early afternoon and linked up with the British tanks in the evening. After quickly bridging the Wilhelmina canal in the dark, the Guards Armored Division crossed around dawn on September 19th and raced up to the 82nd Airborne Division sector by 0820. Combined British and American attacks to seize the vital Nijmegen bridge were repulsed through September 19th due to the arrival of elements of the 10.SS-Panzer Division from the Arnhem area. But in a bold move, the 82nd Airborne outflanked the defenses on the afternoon of September 20th by using boats to cross a mile downstream from the bridge. Last minute German attempts to detonate the bridge failed, and British tanks were streaming over the bridge that night, heading for Arnhem. Nevertheless, the delays caused by the initial

defense at Eindhoven, the need to build a bridge at Son, and the fighting for the bridge at Nijmegen slowed the advance by XXX Corps and put it behind schedule. German resistance against the 1st Airborne Division in Arnhem was far fiercer than anticipated due to the unexpected presence of two Waffen-SS panzer divisions refitting in the area. The positions of the British 1st Airborne Division at Arnhem proved untenable and permission to withdraw was given on September 25th with the action taking place on the night of September 25-26th. *The Airborne in World War II* Michael E. Haskew 2017-08 D-Day, Operation Market Garden, Battle of the Bulge--the US Airborne divisions were integral at all these major points in World War II. But they also played a significant role in North Africa, where they first saw action, and in Italy in 1943. Right on the tail of these planes, this expert history follows the airborne divisions from the redesignation and initial

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training of the 82nd in 1942 through to their final, momentous missions in the Pacific. Featuring the equipment, division structure, and uniforms, as well as first-hand accounts, this book is the true history popularized by such titles as *Band of Brothers*, *A Bridge Too Far*, and *The Dirty Dozen*. With one hundred and sixty photographs, maps, and illustrations, *The Airborne in World War II* is an accessible account of remarkable men and the battles that they fought. [No Better Place to Die](#) Robert Murphy 2009-04-07 The you-are-there story of one of the most ferocious small-unit combats in US history . . . As part of the massive Allied invasion of Normandy, three airborne divisions were dropped behind enemy lines to sew confusion in the German rear and prevent panzer reinforcements from reaching the beaches. In the dark early hours of D-Day, this confusion was achieved well enough, as nearly every airborne unit missed its drop zone, creating a kaleidoscope of small-unit

combat. Fortunately for the Allies, the 505th Regimental Combat Team of the 82nd Airborne Division hit on or near its drop zone. Its task was to seize the vital crossroads of Ste Mère Eglise, and to hold the bridge over the Merderet River at nearby La Fièrè. Benefiting from dynamic battlefield leadership, the paratroopers reached the bridge, only to be met by wave after wave of German tanks and infantry desperate to force the crossing. Reinforced by glider troops, who suffered terribly in their landings from the now-alert Germans, the 505th not only held the vital bridge for three days but launched a counterattack in the teeth of enemy fire to secure their objective once and for all, albeit at gruesome cost. In *No Better Place to Die*, Robert M. Murphy provides an objective narrative of countless acts of heroism, almost breathtaking in its "you are there" detail. No World War II veteran is better known in 82nd Airborne circles than Robert M. ("Bob") Murphy. A Pathfinder and

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member of A Company, 505th PIR, Bob was wounded three times in action, and made all four combat jumps with his regiment, fighting in Sicily, Italy, Normandy, and Holland. He was decorated for valor for his role at La Fièrre, and is a Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor. After the war, he was instrumental in establishing the 505th RCT Association. A selection of the Military Book Club

Out of the Blue James A. Huston 1998 Beginning with a case study of the greatest airborne operation of the war, the 1944 invasion of Holland, Huston examines the inception, organization, training, equipment, strategies, Allied cooperation, and overall effectiveness of the airborne in the total war effort. Operations in North Africa, Sicily, Italy, Southern France, the Pacific, and the Far East are discussed. No other book brings together as much information and documentation on the airborne. Of special interest to the veterans who took part in the great paratroop and glider

movements, this book will become invaluable to students of aerial warfare and of World War II.

Paratrooper Generals Mitchell YOCKELSON 2020 "Jumping into Normandy during the early hours of D-Day, Matthew Ridgway and Maxwell Taylor fought on the ground for six weeks of combat that cost the airborne divisions more than 40 percent casualties. This is the first book to explore in depth the significant role these two division commanders played on D-Day."--

Ridgway's Paratroopers Clay Blair 1985 Chronicles the history of America's paratroopers in World War II and recounts the achievement of General Matthew Ridgway in successfully implementing the new airborne warfare.

The Lost Paratroopers of Normandy Stephen G. Rabe 2022-11-10 The fateful days and weeks surrounding 6 June 1944 have been extensively documented in histories of the Second World War, but less attention has been paid to the tremendous impact of these

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events on the populations nearby. The *Lost Paratroopers of Normandy* tells the inspiring yet heartbreaking story of ordinary people who did extraordinary things in defense of liberty and freedom. On D-Day, when transport planes dropped paratroopers from the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions hopelessly off-target into marshy waters in northwestern France, the 900 villagers of Graignes welcomed them with open arms. These villagers - predominantly women - provided food, gathered intelligence, and navigated the floods to retrieve the paratroopers' equipment at great risk to themselves. When the attack by German forces on 11 June forced the overwhelmed paratroopers to withdraw, many made it to safety thanks to the help and resistance of the villagers. In this moving book, historian Stephen G. Rabe, son of one of the paratroopers, meticulously documents the forgotten lives of those who participated in this integral part of D-Day

history.

The Lost Paratroopers of Normandy Stephen G. Rabe
2022-11-10 The inspiring story of 162 US paratroopers, dropped hopelessly off target, and the French villagers who assisted and supported them.

On to Berlin James M. Gavin
1992-04 From the foxholes of Italy and Normandy to the tense Allied high command headquarters in London, the Allied victory in Europe is dramatically recounted in this stirring memoir by a general who was there, making history both in the war rooms and on the front lines. Gavin organized the famous 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions.

The General & His Daughter

Barbara Gavin Fauntleroy
2009-08-25 The fascinating personal correspondence from a commanding general of the eighty-second Airborne Division to his young daughter during World War II. James Maurice Gavin left for war in April 1943 as a colonel commanding the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the eighty-second Airborne

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Division—America's first airborne division and the first to fight in World War II. In 1944, at age thirty-seven, "Slim Jim" Gavin, as he was known to his troops, became the eighty-second's commanding general—the youngest Army officer to become a major general since the Civil War. At war's end, this soldier's soldier had become one of our greatest generals—and the eighty-second's most decorated officer. In this book, James Gavin's letters home to his nine-year-old daughter, Barbara, provide a revealing portrait of the American experience in World War II through the eyes of one of its most dynamic officers. Written from ship decks, foxholes, and field tents—often just before or after a dangerous jump—they capture the day-to-day realities of combat and Gavin's personal reactions to the war he helped to win. With more than 200 letters spanning from Fort Bragg in 1943 to New York's victory parade, this collection provides an invaluable self-portrait of a great general, and

a great American, in war and peace. Includes a prologue and epilogue by Barbara Gavin Fauntleroy; a foreword by Rufus Broadaway; commentary and notes by Starlyn Jorgensen; and an introduction by Gerard M. Devlin.

Airborne E. M. Flanagan 2003
The United States Army's experiment with airborne forces started at Fort Benning, Georgia, in early 1940 with a single platoon of paratroopers. From this tiny seed grew the mighty American airborne legion that spearheaded America's attack against Nazi Germany in Sicily and Normandy. Ultimately this branch included an airborne corps headquarters, five full airborne divisions, and several independent battalions and regiments. On the nights of June 5 and 6, 1944, the parachutes and gliders of six regiments of American airborne infantry filled the dark sky over Normandy. Paratroopers and glidermen of the 101st Airborne Division Screaming Eagles were literally dropping into battle for

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the first time, harbingers of the vast Allied D-day armada. Moments later, they were joined by the veteran All Americans of the 82d Airborne Division, who had first jumped into combat almost a year earlier in Sicily. For the American airborne troopers, the road to victory in Europe led through the ill-conceived Arnhem campaign and on to the Bulge, where the American paratroopers saved the day for the Allies. The 17th Airborne Division “bounced the Rhine” in the last airborne operation in Europe and fought across Germany until VE Day with their band of brothers. In the Pacific, the Angels of the 11th Airborne Division saw hard combat in the Philippines. The independent 503d Regimental Combat Team fulfilled General MacArthur’s promise to return when it daringly parachuted onto the small area known as Topside on the rocky fortress island of Corregidor. Following World War II, the airborne fought with distinction in Korea, Vietnam, and the Gulf War. Along the way American

paratroopers have also given yeoman service on smaller battlefields such as the Dominican Republic, Grenada, and Panama. Written by a former paratrooper, Airborne is the definitive combat history of these elite forces.

Paratrooper Thomas Michael Booth 1994 The first complete biography of one of the legendary heroes of World War II and the most famous paratroop leader of that war draws from Gavin's own papers, including his unpublished autobiography, to provide this candid portrait. Photos.

Four Hours of Fury James M. Fenelon 2020-05-12 “Compellingly chronicles one of the least studied great episodes of World War II with power and authority...A riveting read” (Donald L. Miller, New York Times bestselling author of Masters of the Air) about World War II’s largest airborne operation—one that dropped 17,000 Allied paratroopers deep into the heart of Nazi Germany. On the morning of

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March 24, 1945, more than two thousand Allied aircraft droned through a cloudless sky toward Germany. Escorted by swarms of darting fighters, the armada of transport planes carried 17,000 troops to be dropped, via parachute and glider, on the far banks of the Rhine River. Four hours later, after what was the war's largest airdrop, all major objectives had been seized. The invasion smashed Germany's last line of defense and gutted Hitler's war machine; the war in Europe ended less than two months later. *Four Hours of Fury* follows the 17th Airborne Division as they prepare for Operation Varsity, a campaign that would rival Normandy in scale and become one of the most successful and important of the war. Even as the Third Reich began to implode, it was vital for Allied troops to have direct access into Germany to guarantee victory—the 17th Airborne secured that bridgehead over the River Rhine. And yet their story has until now been relegated to history's footnotes. In this

viscerally exciting account, paratrooper-turned-historian James Fenelon "details every aspect of the American 17th Airborne Division's role in Operation Varsity...inspired" (*The Wall Street Journal*). Reminiscent of *A Bridge Too Far* and *Masters of the Air*, *Four Hours of Fury* does for the 17th Airborne what *Band of Brothers* did for the 101st. It is a captivating, action-packed tale of heroism and triumph spotlighting one of World War II's most under-chronicled and dangerous operations. *If Chaos Reigns* Flint Whitlock 2013-05-07 "A gem of a book that highlights the 'fog of war' as seen by American, British, and Canadian airborne units when they parachuted behind enemy lines." —WWII History Magazine "Gentlemen, do not be daunted if chaos reigns; it undoubtedly will." So said Brigadier S. James Hill, commanding officer of the British 3rd Parachute Brigade, in an address to his troops shortly before the launching of Operation Overlord—the D-Day invasion of Normandy. No

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more prophetic words were ever spoken, for chaos indeed reigned on that day, and many more that followed. Much has been written about the Allied invasion of France, but award-winning military historian Flint Whitlock has put together a unique package—the first history of the assault that concentrates exclusively on the activities of the American, British, and Canadian airborne forces that descended upon Normandy in the dark, pre-dawn hours of June 6, 1944. Landing into the midst of the unknown, the airborne troops found themselves fighting for their lives on every side in the very jaws of the German defenses, while striving to seize their own key objectives in advance of their seaborne comrades to come. Whitlock details the formation, recruitment, training, and deployment of the Allies' parachute and glider troops. First-person accounts by veterans who were there—from paratroopers to glidermen to the pilots who flew them into the battle, as well as the

commanders (Eisenhower, Taylor, Ridgway, Gavin, and more)—make for compelling, “you-are-there” reading. If Chaos Reigns is a fitting tribute to the men who rode the wind into battle and managed to pull victory out of confusion, chaos, and almost certain defeat. *The Human Tradition in the World War II Era* Malcolm Muir 2001 This collection of brief biographical sketches presents the American experience in the World War II era by looking at the conflict through the ordeals of a broad array of men and women. The stories of soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who served in the European and Pacific theaters are included here. Among the persons in uniform, subjects include an aviation trainer and combat commander, an infantryman, and a prisoner of war. The critical homefront comes to life through such diverse figures as a Kansas farmer, a famous Hollywood actor, women workers in the Iron Range of Minnesota, a Mennonite conscientious objector, and a

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wartime congresswoman. The varied experiences of a Japanese-American couple, a Jewish policymaker, and black leader reveal the trials and accomplishments of minority groups during this tumultuous time. By focusing on a wide variety of Americans, *The Human Tradition in the World War II Era* gives readers a fuller understanding of the tremendous war effort mounted by the U.S., but also, a deeper sense of its profound impact on American society at large and on the lives of individuals both in the field and on the homefront. These compelling, personal stories will capture the imagination of all those interested in military history, American history, and World War II.

Military Review 1994

The Day of Battle Rick Atkinson 2008-09-16 In the second volume of his epic trilogy about the liberation of Europe in World War II, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Atkinson tells the harrowing story of the campaigns in Sicily and Italy.

World War II in Europe

David T. Zabecki 2015-05-01

First Published in 1999.

Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

Matthew Ridgway Thomas Fleming 2016-10-13 The greatest American general of the twentieth century wasn't Dwight Eisenhower or George Patton or Douglas MacArthur. The honor, according to New York Times bestselling historian Thomas Fleming, belongs to Matthew Ridgway, who led America's Eighth Army to victory in Korea. Here, in this essay, is his courageous story.

All American, All the Way Phil Nordyke 2010-11-10 The 82nd Airborne Division parachuted into history on 9 July 1943 when they led Operation Husky, the invasion of Sicily. Less than a year from their formation in August 1942, the All Americans (the name of the division in World War I when Sgt. Alvin York was one its soldiers) found themselves in the thick of the action, something that would become

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familiar to them for the rest of the war. Heavy combat followed on the Italian mainland. Then came the main event of the war: D-Day!

Airborne Tom Clancy 1997-11-01 They are America's front lines--serving proudly in forward areas around the world. Representing the very best from the Army and Air Force, the Airborne Task Force is an unstoppable combination of manpower and firepower. Now, Tom Clancy examines this elite branch of our nation's armed forces. With pinpoint accuracy and a style more compelling than any fiction, the acclaimed author of Executive Orders delivers an fascinating account of the Airborne juggernaut--the people, the technology, and Airborne's mission in an ever-changing world...*Two Tom Clancy "mini-novels"--real world scenarios involving the airborne task force*Airborne's weapons of the 21st century, including the Javelin anti-tank missile, the fiber-optically guided N-LOS fire support system, and the Joint Strike Fighter*18 weeks:

~~Life in an Airborne Alert~~

Brigade*Exclusive photographs, illustrations, and diagramsPLUS: An in-depth interview with the incoming commander of the 18th Airborne Corps, General John Keen

The Paratrooper Generals

Mitchell Yockelson 2023-06-14 A military history detailing the key role two US Army special forces commanders and their infantry divisions played in during the second world war. Generals during World War II usually stayed to the rear, but not Matthew Ridgway and Maxwell Taylor. During D-Day and the Normandy campaign, these commanders of the 82nd "All-American" and the 101st "Screaming Eagle" Airborne Divisions refused to remain behind the lines and stood shoulder-to-shoulder with their paratroopers in the thick of combat. Jumping into Normandy during the early hours of D-Day, Ridgway and Taylor fought on the ground for six weeks of combat that cost the airborne divisions more than forty percent casualties.

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The Paratrooper Generals is the first book to explore in depth the significant role these two division commanders played on D-Day, describing the extraordinary courage and leadership they demonstrated throughout the most important American campaign of World War II.

Gavin at War Lewis Sorley 2022-11-30 "General Gavin was a very brave man who had great faith in his men. The battle or the weather never stopped him from going to check the troops. He would go in the rain or snow. If the battle was severe, he would crawl from foxhole to foxhole to talk to his men to let them know he was with them. Words cannot explain the love and pride I had for General Gavin." □Walter Woods, World War II aide to General Gavin Lieutenant General James Gavin, commander of the 82nd Airborne Division during WWII, is one of the best-known figures of the war. Beginning as the commander of the 505th Parachute Combat Team that spearheaded the American

assault on Sicily in July 1943, Gavin advanced to division command and finally command of US forces in Berlin. Throughout this time he kept a wartime diary that starts in April 1943, as the unit was preparing to go to northern Africa, and continues through to his final entry on 1 September 1945 during the occupation of Berlin. During the war years, Gavin came into close contact with virtually all the leading airborne commanders and many others who would advance to the top levels of Army leadership. His diary includes observations on fellow military and political leaders such as General Dwight Eisenhower and the British Field Marshal Montgomery, army operations, and the general's personal life. Gavin was an officer who led by example: on four combat jumps □into Sicily, at Salerno, then Normandy and the Netherlands □he was the first man out the door. Two Distinguished Service Crosses, two Silver Stars, and the Purple Heart rewarded his

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service. For decades, Gavin kept the existence of the journal a secret; the general's family discovered it among his belongings after his death. Editor Lewis "Bob" Sorley has worked closely with the Gavin family and the Army Heritage Center to prepare the diary for publication. His edited and annotated version includes a prologue and epilogue to frame the entries within the wider scope of the general's life.

82nd Airborne Stephen Smith
2017-08-19 An account of the heroic D-Day actions of the US Army's first airborne division in the series that brings World War II battles to life. Since its formation on August 15, 1942, the 82nd Airborne, commanded by Major General Matthew B. Ridgway, trained exhaustively for their new role, which involved parachuting from C-47s and insertion by Waco CG-4A gliders. After participating in the invasion of Sicily and performing night parachute drops onto the Salerno beachhead in September 1943, the bulk of the division left for the United

Kingdom and training for D-Day. Reorganized with two new parachute infantry regiments, the 507th and the 508th, joining the 505th, the division dropped onto the Cotentin peninsula between Ste-Mère-Église and Carentan on the night of June 5-6, in a mission codenamed Boston. Their glider-borne component, the 325th GIR, arrived the next day. Widely dispersed on landing, the division overcame its problems and strong German defenses to take the important town of Ste-Mère-Église. Further intense action along the Merderet River ensured that the Utah beachhead wasn't compromised, and subsequently, the division fought on losing 5,245 troopers killed, wounded, or missing. When withdrawn after 33 days of action, the division could be satisfied it had performed heroically and helped establish the Allied forces' foothold in France. The Past & Present Series reconstructs historical battles by using photography, juxtaposing modern views with

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those of the past together with concise explanatory text. It shows how much infrastructure has remained and how much such as outfits, uniforms, and ephemera has changed, providing a coherent link between now and then.

From Skies of Blue James Emory Baugh 2003-07 This tells the experiences of a country boy growing up in a small town in Georgia, going through school in a military environment and working on a farm. He worked his way through the University of Georgia and was called to military service just before going to the Medical College of Georgia. This is the story of how these experiences impacted his life.

Hell's Highway John Antal, George E. Koskimaki 2008

The Sword of St. Michael Guy LoFaro 2011-08-30 From decorated veteran, acclaimed West Point lecturer, and inspirational military speaker Guy LoFaro, the first complete history of America's legendary World War II airborne division.

Operation Market Garden

Tim Lynch 2016-08-04 On 20 September 1944, a force of US paratroopers launched a desperate, near suicidal river crossing in an effort to reach their airborne brethren trapped at Arnhem, only to see their efforts squandered by British tank crews who, instead of racing ahead, sat down to drink tea. The story of the Waal crossing - as told by American veterans of the operation - has become a part of the Arnhem legend, a legend of airborne heroism set against the timidity of the armoured forces sent to relieve them; of American professionalism wasted by British incompetence. But what really happened? Why was the operation even necessary? Using first-hand accounts and official records, *Operation Market Garden* examines the legend of the Waal Crossing and the truth behind it, revealing how a culture of elitism mixed with national and personal rivalries led to arguably the greatest western Allied defeat of the war.

Jump Commander Mark J.

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Alexander 2010-04-19 The thrilling memoir of the legendary army colonel and paratrooper—the only airborne officer to lead three different battalions into combat during WWII. In his distinguished service during World War II, Col. Mark James Alexander took command of three separate battalions of parachute infantrymen within the 82nd Airborne Division. A legend in his own time, he fought in North Africa, Sicily, Italy, and France. Even after sustaining serious wounds in Normandy, he insisted on playing a role in the Battle of the Bulge. Alexander's exploits in Italy, from capturing hundreds of prisoners in Sicily to holding ground against German counterattacks in Salerno, won him a reputation known from the lowest private to Airborne generals Gavin and Ridgway. At Normandy, Lt. John "Red Dog" Dolan called him "the finest battalion commander I ever served under," after witnessing his leadership through the bloody battle for La Fièrre Bridge and

Causeway. This memoir is based on the transcription of hundreds of hours of recorded interviews made by Alexander's grandson, John Sparry, over a period of years late in his life. Providing valuable insight into the beloved commander who led three of the most storied battalions in the US Army, Jump Commander also contains a wealth of new detail on 82nd Airborne operations and unique insight into some of the most crucial battles in the European Theater.

Fearing the Worst Samuel F. Wells Jr. 2019-11-26 After World War II, the escalating tensions of the Cold War shaped the international system. Fearing the Worst explains how the Korean War fundamentally changed postwar competition between the United States and the Soviet Union into a militarized confrontation that would last decades. Samuel F. Wells Jr. examines how military and political events interacted to escalate the conflict. Decisions made by the Truman

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administration in the first six months of the Korean War drove both superpowers to intensify their defense buildup. American leaders feared the worst-case scenario—that Stalin was prepared to start World War III—and raced to build up strategic arms, resulting in a struggle they did not seek out or intend. Their decisions stemmed from incomplete interpretations of Soviet and Chinese goals, especially the belief that China was a Kremlin puppet. Yet Stalin, Mao, and Kim Il-sung all had their own agendas, about which the United States lacked reliable intelligence. Drawing on newly available documents and memoirs—including previously restricted archives in Russia, China, and North Korea—Wells analyzes the key decision points that changed the course of the war. He also provides vivid profiles of the central actors as well as important but lesser known figures. Bringing together studies of military policy and diplomacy with the roles of technology, intelligence, and

domestic politics in each of the principal nations, Fearing the Worst offers a new account of the Korean War and its lasting legacy.

Army 1973

Tragedy at Graignes

Margaret R. O'Leary

2011-02-24 Tragedy at

Graignes tells the story of Captain Bud Sophian, the only US Army officer who did not flee Graignes, France, as the Waffen SS overran the American positions and stormed the village. Sophian was a surgeon, and he refused to abandon the fourteen wounded paratroopers in his care. He surrendered by waving a white flag at the door of the badly shelled Norman church where his aid station was located. He hoped for fair prisoner treatment in accordance with the Geneva Convention of 1929. The German troops instead committed unspeakable atrocities, leaving many of the American prisoners mutilated in grotesque heaps. All of the American prisoners, including Sophian, were killed. Captain

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Sophians judgment and actions in the US Army were the culmination of the rich and challenging life he led prior to the Second World War. Buds correspondence with his sister and other Sophian archival materials tell the story of this compelling life. These letters are reproduced verbatim in Tragedy at Graignes: The Bud Sophian Story so that Bud and other authors may speak directly to you and to the historical record.

The Conquering 9th Nathan N. Prefer 2020-03-31 This WWII regimental history traces an unsung U.S. Army from its important role in the liberation of Europe through the postwar lives of its leaders. The Ninth Army was formed in May of 1944 under the command of General William Hood Simpson. By late August, it was ready to join the crusade in Europe. Known by its radio call sign "Conquer," this brave army landed at Utah Beach, France, and joined General Patton's Battle for Brest, finally capturing Brittany's largest port in late September. The

Ninth Army went on to become the only American army to fight under British Field Marshal Montgomery's command, crossing the Rhine and playing a role in the Battle of the Bulge. The Ninth was involved in the reduction of the Wesel Pocket, Operation Varsity, the airborne drop across the Rhine, the reduction of the Ruhr Pocket, and then the "Race to Berlin." The Ninth reached the Elbe River before it was stopped not by the enemy, but by high command. Following the end of hostilities, the army was dissolved. This new history of the Ninth covers all levels of the army's activities from the responsibilities and duties of the higher echelon, the commanders through to combat stories of the units under its command and Medal of Honor actions.

The First Men In Ed Ruggero 2007-05-29 Of the nearly 15,000 Allied paratroopers dropped into France on D-14 (two weeks before D-Day), only one regiment--the 3,000 men of the 505 Parachute

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Infantry--had been tested in battle, and so they were given the toughest mission. For a few critical days, while the fate of occupied Europe hung in the balance, these troopers held their ground against savage assaults. In doing so, they changed the course of World War II. Within hours of landing in Normandy, the paratroopers of the 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment had gathered in the darkened fields outside Ste. Mere Eglise and moved rapidly to the edge of town. A French civilian pointed out the German positions, and in a lightning attack the GI's liberated the first town in Europe, planting the United States flag on top of city hall. Shortly after daylight, as reports streamed in, Allied commanders were shocked to learn that the 505 was the only one of six U.S. parachute regiments to hit its mark. Because Ste. Mere Eglise was the gateway to Utah Beach, the regiment--now fighting virtually alone--hastily dug in to await the German counterattacks that were sure to follow. Colonel Bill Ekman

and his men held critical ground: half of the American invasion force was to pass through this area, and that would only happen if the 505 held Ste. Mere Eglise. It was an almost unimaginable challenge: at ten that morning the German attacks began, and by early afternoon enemy armored columns were slamming GI lines from three directions in an attempt to reach the vulnerable invasion beaches. But despite heavy losses, the 505 was still in control of Ste. Mere Eglise on June 8, when they were relieved by units that came across the beach. When their unseasoned replacements faltered, U.S. commanders called on the exhausted paratroopers to stay in the fight and lead the series of ground assaults that would secure the invasion. A single unit, a relative handful of men, had helped turn the course of one of the most important battles of the war.

Paratrooper! Gerard M. Devlin 1979 Om amerikanske faldskærmssoldater i 2.

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Verdenskrig. Forfatteren har ~~United States Army 1997~~ **War II**

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Soldier Matthew Bunker Ridgway 1956 "General Matthew Bunker Ridgway (March 3, 1895-July 26, 1993) was the 19th Chief of Staff of the United States Army. He served with distinction during World War II, where he was the Commanding General of the 82nd Airborne Division, leading it in action in Sicily, Italy and Normandy, before taking command of the newly formed XV,III Airborne Corps in August 1944, holding this post until the end of the war, commanding it in the Battle of the Bulge, Operation Varsity, and the Western Allied invasion of Germany. Ridgway held several major commands after the war and was most famous for resurrecting the United Nations (UN) war effort during the Korean War. His long military career was recognized by the award of the Presidential Medal of Freedom on May 12, 1986."--Wikipedia, January 11, 2018.
Professional Journal of the

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