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BIOGRAPHICAL

To the Java Sea: Selections from the Diary, Reports, and Letters of Henry E. Eccles, 1940-1942 Edited by John B. Hattendorf and Pelham Boyer. (Naval War College Press, 2021)

Henry E. Eccles, a 1922 graduate of the Naval Academy, would earn a reputation as a stalwart intellect with the Naval War College during the early Cold War. His papers highlight his experiences in command of the destroyer John D. Edwards with the Asiatic Fleet at the beginnings of World War II.

Admiral Hyman Rickover: Engineer of Power [PROOF COPY] By Marc Wortman · (Yale, 2022)

Known as the “Father of the Nuclear Navy,” Admiral Hyman George Rickover (1899–1986) remains an almost mythical figure in the United States Navy. A brilliant engineer with a ferocious will and combative personality, he oversaw the invention of the world’s first practical nuclear power reactor.

20th CENTURY TO PRESENT

More Precious Than Peace: A New History of America in World War I
By Justus D. Doenecke (Notre Dame 2022)

An excellent treatment of the U.S. role as a belligerent covering diplomatic, ideological and military aspects of the war. A potential review might critique his portrayal of the naval aspect of the war.

Fly Boy Heroes: The Stories of the Medal of Honor Recipients of the Air War Against Japan
By James H. Hallas · (Stackpole 2022)

Thirty U.S. Navy, Army, and Marine Corps aviation personnel were awarded the Medal of Honor for their actions against the Japanese during World War II. They included pilots and crewmen manning fighters and dive bombers and flying boats and bombers. Some shot down large numbers of enemy aircraft in aerial combat. Others sacrificed themselves for their friends or risked everything for complete strangers.
Naval Aviation in the Korean War: Reflections of War – Vol. 1 Cover of Darkness. Warren Thompson (Penn and Sword, 2021)

This volume covers the role of US aircraft carriers and aircraft in stopping the initial North Korean Communist push, the UN counteroffensive, and the intervention by the Communist Chinese. Thompson also discusses the introduction of jets into the fleet.


A very impressive illustrated softbound book illustrating aspects of an aircraft that played a key electronic warfare mission for the Navy and Marine Corps.


Based on US Marine Corps field history interviews and the personal combat field history journal.

19th CENTURY & AGE OF SAIL

Conquering the Ocean: The Roman Invasion of Britain

By Richard Hingley (Oxford, 2022)

A riveting retelling of the Roman invasion as a centuries-long process in light of recent archaeology. Claimed to be the best account of the passage of Roman arms through the British Isles.

The Trafalgar Chronicle: Dedicated to Naval History in the Nelson Era: New Series 5 By John A. Rodgaard, Judith Pearson, & Sean Heuvel · (Seaforth 2020)

The Trafalgar Chronicle is a prime source of information as well as the publication of choice for new research about the Georgian Navy, sometimes also loosely referred to as 'Nelson's Navy', though its scope reaches out to include all the sailing navies of the period.

Pirate Killers: The Royal Navy and the African Pirates By Graham A. Thomas (Pen and Sword, 2020)

Graham A. Thomas uncovers the long tradition of piracy and privateering along the African shore. Vividly he describes attacks not only in the Mediterranean but also on the other side of the continent, along the shores of West Africa and around Madagascar. His account is based on documents held at the National Archives and other original sources. It gives a fascinating inside view into the way in which the Royal Navy responded to the menace of piracy in the nineteenth century.

Unlike Anything that Ever Floated: The Monitor and Virginia and the Battle of Hampton Roads: March 8-9, 1862 By Dwight Sturtevant Hughes (SAVAS Beatie, 2021)
This dramatic story unfolds through the accounts of men who lived in this two unique warships.

MARITIME/MISC.

Parker Hitt: The Father of American Cryptography
By Betsy R. Smoot (Kentucky, 2022)
Details the contributions to an Army officer and his wife during World War I written by Smoot who retired from the Center for Cryptologic History in 2017.

Developing the Naval Mind By Benjamin F. Armstrong and John Freymann · (Naval Inst. 2021)
Developing the Naval Mind serves as a how-to manual and syllabus for leaders to create and lead wardroom, ready room, and work center discussion groups across the fleet to create a more educated and professionally engaged Navy and Marine Corps.

First to Go: The History of the USMC Combat Correspondents Association
By Jack T. Paxton · (St Johan Press 2018)
The Marine Corps Combat Correspondents trace their history to the pioneering work started by Brigadier Gen. Robert L. Demig, Sr., who began Demig's Demons in WWII. Never forgetting that they were riflemen first and writers, photographers, et al, second, the CCs have gone from the highly trained professional newsmen of the 1940s to the dedicated trained specialists that followed.

Homecomings By Laura Bogan · (Mascot Books 2018)
The U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, better known as the Blue Angel, is one of the most iconic and respected aerobatics teams in the world. For years, photographer Laura Bogan has been chronicling the Blues as they return to Pensacola, the team's beautiful seaside home on Florida's Gulf Coast.

From War to Peace: The Conversion of Naval Vessels after Two World Wars. Nick Robins (Seaforth, 2021)
A fascinating book that studies the transformation of numerous ships built for war that were repurposed for commercial use with many still remaining in service. Nicely illustrated.

HISTORICAL FICTION

Hunters in the Stream: A Riley Fitzhugh Novel By Terry Mort · (McBooks Press, 2021)
Riley Fitzhugh goes through officer training and is assigned to PC 475, a new anti-U-boat vessel stationed in Key West. The 475 is nicknamed Nameless by her crew because patrol craft vessels were only given numbers…

*The Nugget: A Novel* By P.T. Deutermann · (St Martins Press, 2019)

A novice naval aviator grows into a hero in this gripping and authentic World War II adventure by master storyteller P.T. Deutermann

*Splinter on the Tide* By Phillip Parotti · (Casemate, 2021)

Having survived the sinking of his first ship, Ensign Ash Miller USNR is promoted and assigned to command one of the sleek new additions to “the splinter fleet,” a 110-foot wooden submarine chaser armed with only understrength guns and depth charges.

*Dead Man Launch: A Todd Ingram Novel of the Cold War* By John Gobbell · 2017

It’s 1968, a time when global upheaval seems the norm. The war in Southeast Asia rages along with prolonged civil unrest at home. Amongst this, turncoat Navy Warrant Officer Johnnie Walker begins an extended relationship with the Soviet Union by selling top-secret crypto key lists to them to fulfill a voracious appetite for the good life.