

gabby a fighter pilots life schiffer military history

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Explore the extraordinary life of Gabby Schiffer, a distinguished fighter pilot whose bravery and skill left an indelible mark on military history. Delve into his experiences, challenges, and triumphs within the context of aviation and warfare, gaining a deeper understanding of the dedication and sacrifice involved in defending freedom from the cockpit.

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Gabby

A World War II pilot describes his rise in the military, combat record, and time as a POW

The Jagged Edge of Duty

The World War II fighter-pilot story On the very first day of the invasion of Sicily, three months into his combat career, Allan Knepper flew his P-38 Lightning fighter in a squadron sent out to sweep the island and interdict German ground targets. Retreating German infantry unexpectedly pounded the American flyers. Knepper was one of two shot down; he was never found. Knepper's story is the story-in-microcosm of thousands of American fighter pilots in World War II. Richardson recounts Knepper's experiences from training through combat and uses them to discuss the aircraft, tactics and doctrine, training, base life, and aerial combat of the war. This is the intimate account of one pilot at war, but also the anatomy of the fighter-pilot experience in World War II.

Carrier Air Group 86

This book is the actual cruise book of CAG 86 which was originally published just after World War II. This quality, large format volume contains biographies of all VF, VBF, VB, VT and Air Group Combat personnel, as well as those serving on the USS Wasp. Included are photos of pilots in their aircraft, group portraits, and combat scenes.

Fighter General

Adolf Galland began World War II in Poland, as a lieutenant and squadron commander, flying obsolescent biplanes. He ended the war as a Lieutenant General - and was again a squadron commander - this time flying Me 262 jet fighters. In all of aviation history there is no comparable rise and fall by a fighter pilot. The most famous German ace and fighter leader of his generation, Galland's story is simultaneously that of the Luftwaffe Fighter Arm, in which he served from foundation to finish. Fighter General recounts the career of an outstanding combat leader torn from the fighter cockpit to defend his

country - and sometimes his own pilots - in the bizarre bureaucracy of the Luftwaffe High Command. Galland's battles against the Allied air forces, both as a general and in individual combat, hold no less drama than his head-on battles with Goering and Hitler. Galland's triumphs and tragedies, his friends and his flames, his humor and heartaches pulse anew in *Fighter General*. Here in this official biography is real-life adventure to shame the wildest fiction.

Unforgotten Hero

Unforgotten Hero tells the captivating life story of Second Lieutenant Jimmy L. Escalle, a U.S. Air Force fighter pilot who became missing in action during the Korean War. Growing up in a small farming town in California's San Joaquin Valley during the 1930s and 1940s, Jim was a devoted son, a caring older brother, a talented athlete, and a young man of moral character who always put others first. He started high school as the Second World War was at its peak, and graduated during a time of transition within America and around the world. He had always wanted to fly airplanes someday, and with the introduction of jet propulsion during his high school years, he dreamed of becoming a jet pilot. Called to serve his country after the Korean War began, his dream became a reality when he joined the Air Force and eventually got the opportunity to fly the F-86 Sabre, regarded as the most advanced jet fighter of its time. Soon after arriving in Korea he went on his first missions, which were MiG Alley sweeps. However, since Jim was assigned to a fighter-bomber squadron, the majority of his combat missions were air-to-ground. These were the most dangerous missions. In Korea, more pilots had been killed or listed as MIA due to being shot down by ground fire rather than enemy aircraft. For Jim, this fact was realized only five weeks before the armistice was signed. He paid the ultimate price for freedom when he disappeared while on a combat mission over North Korea and was never seen or heard from again.

Air Power History

Written by more than 100 international scholars and experts, this encyclopedia chronicles the individuals, equipment, and drama of nearly a century of aerial combat. *Air Warfare: An International Encyclopedia* is the first encyclopedia to document the entire history of aerial combat, from the primitive biplanes of World War I to the sophisticated stealth fighters of the 21st century. The more than 900 entries, lavishly illustrated with photographs and maps, cover it all--the first, the fastest, the highest, the latest. More than 100 top international scholars and experts--many with personal combat experience--offer thoroughly researched, clearly written articles on the famous aces, designers, battles, air campaigns, weapons, and flying machines of air warfare's first 90 years. Accessible to student, enthusiast, and scholar alike, *Air Warfare* provides the reader with argument-settling expertise, lively and entertaining entries, and answers to thousands of questions: Who first used air power against civilians? How did a handful of Royal Air Force aces defeat the mighty Luftwaffe in the Battle of Britain? Has bombing alone ever won a war? Where does the future of aerial warfare lie? - More than 900 A-Z entries zero in on the first, the best, the worst, the fastest, the highest, the latest - Contributions from some 100 top international experts--many with combat experience - Lavish set of illustrations with numerous photos including the Mitsubishi G4M equipped with the Okha suicide missile, the Red Baron, and the first all-female aircrew of the U.S. Air Force - Maps ranging from the Western front as stabilized in 1915 to the Persian Gulf War in 1991

Air Force Magazine

This comprehensive volume provides a wealth of information with annotated listings of more than 3,500 titles--a broad sampling of books on the war years 1939-1945. Includes both fiction and nonfiction works about all aspects of the war. Professional resources for educators aligned to the educational standards for social studies; technical references; periodicals and electronic resources; a directory of WWII museums, memorials, and other institutions; and topics for exploration complement this excellent library and classroom resource.

Air Warfare: an International Encyclopedia: A-L

American volunteers Don Gentile (pronounced Jen-tilly) and John Godfrey flew together as leader and wingman respectively, with the USAAF 4th Fighter Group based at Debden near Cambridge in England. At the end of their missions with the 4th the two of them had accounted for over 58 enemy aircraft destroyed. Major Gentile had scored 22 air and 6 ground kills before he was returned to the USA to help raise money for the war effort. Major Godfrey was credited with 18 air and 12 ground kills before he was shot down and taken prisoner of war. This is the story of their amazing adventures and

wartime partnership from their basic training in Canada and then onto England where they first flew the Supermarine Spitfire. It continues with their transfer to the USAAF 4th Fighter Group when the US entered the war and when the two were retrained to fly the P-47 Thunderbolt and eventually the superb P-51 Mustang. These two ace pilots loved life as much as flying - and as well as being hell-bent on destroying the enemy in the skies of Europe they also lived life to the full in their off-duty time in England.

Military Law Review

They are America's best fighter pilots -- from the Navy, Air Force, and Marines. Heroes who push the envelope with their machines, their bodies, and the will to fight and win on their... WINGS OF FURY Here, these airborne warriors reveal themselves as never before. Ride shotgun with TOPGUN pilot Dale "Snort" Snodgrass as he becomes the first student pilot ever to land an F-14 Tomcat on an aircraft carrier. Silver Star winner Rob Graeter recalls a Cold War close call as he flew his F-15 Eagle over Soviet waters -- almost triggering World War III. Feel the adrenaline as Brian "Rocky" Fitzpatrick remembers test-flying the F/A-18 Hornet when it suddenly went haywire, leaving him with a crippled plane, a faulty parachute -- and a very long way down.... From the training grounds of Miramar to combat in Vietnam and Desert Storm, these are the stories of those who defend our skies -- and the dramatic evolution of modern air warfare.

World War II in Literature for Youth

Day-by-day account of a German fighter squadron, one of only two Luftwaffe units to spend the entire war in the West Covers D-Day and the Normandy campaign, Operation Market Garden, the Battle of the Bulge, and more JG 26 was known as "The Abbeville Boys" and seen as an elite squadron Unit flew Messerschmitt Bf 109s and Focke-Wulf Fw 190s

Two-Man Air Force

Harry L. Gill, of Fredericton, New Brunswick, enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1940 at the age of 18. During his short but adventure-filled career, he flew a Hurricane fighter bomber over France, England, and India and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal. In 1943 his airplane was shot down over Burma, and he died in the crash. Hurricane Pilot captures the perspective of a young man in the middle of a war in Europe and Asia. Drawing extensively on Gill's correspondence with his parents and his siblings, this very personal account of war shows how Gill was transformed from a small-town boy to a mature fighter pilot serving in a global war on another continent. His letters depict the enthusiasm of youth, a strong sense of humour, his plans for the future, and this continuing attachment to home. Hurricane Pilot is volume 10 in the New Brunswick Military Heritage Series.

Wings of Fury

In December 2015, the Pentagon changed a rule to allow American women to serve for the first time ever in front-line ground combat troops. Women have fulfilled many military roles throughout history, including nursing; driving ambulances; handling administrative duties; working as mechanics; and serving in the WASPs, WACs, WAVES, and SPARS. More recently women are flying jets, conducting surveillance, commanding naval ships, and now fighting on the front lines. Yet no matter their official title, they have faced devastating discrimination—from lack of advancement, economic inequity, and inadequate veteran support, to sexual harassment and rape. Meet the women who have served their country courageously and who are standing up for fairness in the US military.

JG 26 Luftwaffe Fighter Wing War Diary

On the azure blue morning of 9/11 the skies were pronounced "severe clear," in the parlance of airline pilots; a gorgeous day for flying. Nearly 5,000 flights were cruising the skies over America when FAA Operations Manager Ben Sliney arrived at the Command Center for his first day on that job. He could never have anticipated the historic drama that was about to unfold as Americans who found themselves on the front lines of a totally unprecedented attack on our homeland sprang into action to defend our country and save lives. In this gripping moment-to-moment narrative, based on groundbreaking reporting, Lynn Spencer brings the inspiring true drama of their unflinching and heroic response vividly to life for the first time, taking us right inside the airliner cockpits and control towers, the fighter jets and the military battle cabs. She makes vital corrections to the findings of the 9/11 Commission Report,

and reveals many startling, utterly unknown elements of the story. As a commercial pilot herself, for whom the attacks hit terribly close to home, she knew that the true scope and nature of the response so brilliantly improvised that morning by those in the thick of the action -- with so little guidance from those at the highest levels -- had not at all been captured by the news coverage or the 9/11 Commission. To get to the truth, she went on a three-year quest, interviewing hundreds of key players, listening to untold hours of tapes and pouring through voluminous transcripts to re-create each heart-stopping moment as it happened through their eyes and in their words as the drama unfolded. From the shocking moment at 7:59 a.m. that American 11 fails to respond to a controller's call, until the last commercial flight has safely landed and military jets rule the skies, all Americans will find themselves deeply moved and amazed by the grace and fierce determination of these steely men and women as they draw on all of their exquisite training to grasp, through the fog of war, what is happening, put their lives on the line, and mount an astonishing response. This beautifully crafted and deeply affecting account of the full story of their courageous actions is a vital addition to the country's understanding of a day that has forever changed our nation.

Hurricane Pilot

Lt. Kara Hultgreen was just twenty-nine and the U.S. Navy's first fully qualified female fleet fighter pilot when her Tomcat slammed into the Pacific Ocean in October 1994. Her death was not only a tragic loss to her family but a serious blow to a navy struggling to redefine the role of women in its ranks. The image of this beautiful and vibrant young woman with her fierce warplane -- plastered across the front pages of newspapers around the world after the crash -- provoked strong emotions and gave new life to the controversy. Written by Kara's mother, Sally Spears, the book goes behind the headlines to tell the story of a remarkable woman who made history. Spears presents Kara's shortcomings along with her strengths -- the ups and downs in her personal life along with her professional career. She draws freely from Kara's journals, kept from the time Kara entered the navy, and from extensive interviews with her daughter's friends and peers as well as some of her commanding officers. From the athletic teenager who dreamed of becoming an astronaut to her pursuit of that dream earning a degree in aerospace engineering and joining the navy, this book chronicles Kara's efforts to become a navy pilot. It demonstrates how her outspokenness sometimes created problems in an environment hostile to women and how her sense of humor allowed her to cope. It describes how her ambition to fly combat aircraft collided with the customs of the navy, the mores of society -- and, until the repeal of the combat exclusion rules in 1991, with the laws of the United States.

Women in the Military

Chock full of breathtaking descriptions of aerial dogfights as well as the stories of other of the heroic 'few', this book is the ultimate story of War in the air, told by one of the Second World War's outstanding fighter pilots.

Touching History

Offering an inside look at military family life spanning WWII through the Korean and Vietnam Wars, this memoir not only chronicles the heroism of those in combat, but also that of the wives and families at home as they live under the constant shadow of potential loss. Married at the age of 22 to a dashing young jet pilot, young bride Gilberta Guth embarked on what was for many years a global journey, following her husband all over the world as he pursued his career. From their honeymoon in Las Vegas to an Ichibon sayonara and a St. Gobain au revoir to his final assignment in civilian life, she stood by his side and raised their four children. In the process she learned to cope with the tragic death of young pilots and how the other wives and family members comforted the widows and helped them pack up their children and leave the familial embrace of the military. Reproductions of letters, photos, and newspaper clippings further enrich this moving account of the challenges faced by a military family in both wartime and peacetime.

Call Sign Revlon

"This is the biography of an extraordinary Air Force pilot, Richard F.B. Gimmi, who began his career flying B-25s in World War II and ultimately flew the F-105 in Vietnam."--Jacket page II.

Tumult in the Clouds

Bringing to life the story of American pursuit pilots in the Pacific during the disastrous early days of World War II ...

The Fighter Pilot's Wife

Return to Honor is the incredible true-life story of Scott O'Grady's fierce struggle to survive in the hostile territory of war-torn Bosnia after his F-16 fighter plane was shot down by an antiaircraft missile.

Airman

Sensational eyewitness accounts from the most heroic and legendary American aviators of World War II, never before published as a book. They are voices lost to time. Beginning in the late 1970s, five veteran airmen sat for private interviews. Decades after the guns fell silent, they recounted in vivid detail the most dangerous missions that made the difference in the war. Ed Haydon dueled with the deadliest of German aces—and forced him to the ground. Robert Johnson racked up twenty-seven kills in his P-47 Thunderbolt, but nearly lost his life when his plane was shot to ribbons and his guns jammed. Cigar-chomping Curtis LeMay was the Air Corps general who devised the bomber tactics that pummeled Germany's war machine. Robin Olds was a West Point football hero who became one of the most dogged, aggressive fighter pilots in the European theater, relentlessly pursuing Germans in his P-38 Lightning. And Jimmy Doolittle became the most celebrated American airman of the war—maybe even of all time—after he led the audacious raid to bomb Tokyo. Today these heroes are long gone, but now, in this incredible volume, they tell their stories in their own words.

Destined to Live

Profiles the twenty-eight Americans who joined the Royal Air Force and became aces during the first World War

Every Day a Nightmare

Nickel On The Grass is a series of vignettes that capture the life of an extraordinary aviator, fighter pilot and leader, Colonel Phil Handley. In a career that spanned 26 years "Hands" earned a reputation as an exceptional pilot and leader in war and peace. I do not know anybody who served with him who does not admire him for his dedication, integrity and courage. The central theme of the stories he relates is that the fraternity of true fighter pilots is made up of men who share a love of adventure, have exceptional flying skills, are willing to risk all rather than admit defeat and believe earning the respect of their peers is their greatest accomplishment. The really good ones possess a sixth sense about people and machines that gives them an edge over mere mortals in the air and on the ground. This is a book about a man who lived most of the stories and counts among his friends and acquaintances the central characters in the others. It has been my privilege to have been his friend and fellow fighter pilot for the past 30 years. General Ron Fogleman, USAF, Ret. Chief of Staff, USAF, 1994-1997

Return with Honor

A detailed look at the aircraft proposed by Gotha to replace the Horten Ho 229, which had already been selected for series production by the RLM. Includes a comparison of the two aircraft, as well as firsthand interviews with those involved in the program.

Above the Reich

Thunderbolt! The Extraordinary Story of a World War II Ace is the incredible true life story of Robert S. Johnson, one of America's leading fighter pilot aces in World War II. His memoir is an action-packed account of how a young man from Lawton, Oklahoma went on to amass 28 enemy kills, the first U. S. Army Air Force pilot in the European theater to surpass Eddie Rickenbacker's World War I tally of 26 enemy planes destroyed. Johnson's detailed, vivid descriptions of close-scrapes with Goering's elite fighters and his numerous other skirmishes makes Thunderbolt! essential reading for World War 2 buffs.

In Clouds of Glory

This WWII fighter pilot memoir recounts the author's many exploits as a flying ace during WWII in the Normandy invasions, the Battle for France and beyond. Born in Minneapolis in 1916, William R. Dunn

decided to become a fighter pilot at the age of twelve. In 1939 he joined the Canadian Army and was soon transferred to the Royal Air Force. As part of the RAF's famous Eagle Squadron, Dunn was sent to Europe to fight in the Second World War. Flying Hawker Hurricanes and Supermarine Spitfires, he was the first Eagle Squadron pilot to shoot down an enemy aircraft. When he later transferred to the US Army Air Forces, he became the first American ace of the war. Lieutenant Colonel Dunn saw action in the Normandy invasion and in Patton's sweep across France. Twenty years later he fought again in Vietnam. In this lively memoir, Dunn keenly conveys the fighter pilot's experience of war—the tension of combat, the love of aircraft, the elation of victory, the boisterous comradeship and competition of the pilot brotherhood.

Nickel On The Grass

Action-packed memoir by an American pilot and squadron commander in the Korean War.

Gotha P Sixty

The world is at war—Pearl Harbor and WWII. A desire to serve, a chance to fly—he joins the navy's V-5 program, the finest flight training ever devised. Come fly with him in open-cockpit biplanes, low-wing trainers, dive bombers, and fighters as he wins the gold wings of a naval aviator, an officer's stripes, and the designation of carrier-based fighter pilot. Recalled for the Korean War—this time to fly newly developed jets. Soar with him on his first flight, to heights he'd not reached and speeds he'd never seen. Recalled for the Korean War—take a front-row seat on a massive U.S. Navy aircraft carrier in combat and experience the riveting, heart-stopping life of a jet fighter pilot racking up fifty-five missions over Korea. Catapult launches, shootings and being shot at, and landing on a rolling, bobbing flight deck are vividly depicted—along with spectacular crashes and agonizing fatalities, while cavorting with stars in Hollywood and Palm Springs. Recalled for the Korean War – this time to fly newly developed jets. Soar with him on his first flight, to heights he'd not reached and speeds he'd never seen. Recalled for the Korean War -take a front-row seat on a massive U.S. Navy aircraft carrier in combat, and experience the riveting, heart-stopping life of a jet fighter pilot racking up fifty- five missions over Korea. Catapult launches, shootings and being shot at and landing on a rolling, bobbing flight deck are vividly depicted – along with spectacular crashes and agonizing fatalities. While cavorting with stars in Hollywood and Palm Springs.

Thunderbolt!

Absolutely Fearless: The Life of Raymond H. Littge, Missouri's Top Scoring WWII Fighter Pilot Ace, written by Kathy Evans and Lisa Frankel, has just been released on Amazon. Captain Littge's story moves from his childhood in the small town of Altenburg, Mo., through his service in the Army Air Corps during World War II. His war exploits are described through military records, Ray's flight log, gun camera film and his partially completed autobiography, along with family interviews, news articles and his sister, Altheda Littge Schmelig's diary. Captain Littge's battles included flying support during the D Day Invasion, the Battle of the Bulge, Market Garden and Y-29. He flew multiple bomber escorts. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with 15 Oak Leaf Clusters, Distinguished Unit Citation and French Croix de Guerre with Palm for his bravery. This book was written to honor and preserve RayLittge's memory for his family and for those interested in the history of WWII as well as what life was like growing up in rural Missouri in the 1920s, 1930s and beyond, as told in Altheda's voice through her diary, included in the book. Even if one is not a WWII or aviation history buff, readers will be engaged by the period stories and details described in this book.

Fighter Pilot

'A classic' Len Deighton Anglo-American James Goodson's war began on Sept 3rd 1939, when the SS Athenia was torpedoed and sank off the Hebrides. Surviving the sinking and distinguishing himself rescuing survivors, Goodson immediately signed on with the RAF. He was an American, but he wanted to fight. Goodson flew Spitfires for the RAF before later joining his countrymen with the Fourth Fighter Group to get behind the controls of Thunderbolts and Mustangs, where he became known as 'King of the Strafers'. Chock full of breathtaking descriptions of aerial dogfights as well as the stories of others of the heroic 'few', *Tumult in the Clouds* is the ultimate story of War in the Air, told by one of the World War Two's outstanding fighter pilots. 'A thrilling adventure story and an enthralling, compassionate witness to incredible heroism' John Nichol

Bully Able Leader

Letters from the Heart is a story of Dana A. Webb, Jr., "Cobby,\

Flying High

During the Second World War, women pilots were given the opportunity to fly military aircraft for the first time. In the United States, famed aviatrix Jacqueline Cochran formed the Women Airforce Service Pilots program, where over one thousand women flyers ferried aircraft from factories to airbases throughout the United States and Canada from 1942 to 1944. The WASP operated from 110 facilities and flew more than 60 million miles in 78 different types of aircraft, from the smallest trainers to the fastest fighters and the largest bombers. The WASP performed every duty inside the cockpit as their male counterparts, except combat, and 38 women pilots gave their lives in the service of their country. Notwithstanding their outward appearance as official members of the U.S. Army Air Forces, the WASP were considered civil servants during the war. Despite a highly publicized attempt to militarize in 1944, the women pilots would not be granted veteran status until 1977. In the Soviet Union, Marina Raskova, Russia's Amelia Earhart, famous for her historic Far East flight in 1938, formed the USSR's first all-female aviation regiments that flew combat missions along the Eastern Front. A little over one thousand women flew a combined total of more than 30 thousand combat sorties, producing at least 30 Heroes of the Soviet Union. Included in their ranks were at least two fighter aces. More than 50 women pilots were killed in action. Sharing both patriotism and a mutual love of aviation, these pioneering women flyers faced similar obstacles while challenging assumptions of male supremacy in wartime culture. Despite experiencing discrimination from male aircrews during the war, these intrepid airwomen ultimately earned their respect. The pilots' exploits and their courageous story, told so convincingly here, continue to inspire future generations of women in aviation.

Absolutely Fearless

First person stories of The Friday Pilots of Tucson Arizona. Lessons learned flying the old airplanes in the old Air Force, Army and Navy in peace and war. They crashed, they burned, they laughed, they cried, they soared. These pilots are the REAL DEAL. They've been there, done that. You'll enjoy.

Tumult in the Clouds

This instant New York Times bestseller tells the story of two fighter pilots, an American and a German, whose remarkable encounter during World War II became the stuff of legend.

Letters from the Heart

A biography of the leader of the top scoring Nightfighter Squadron who risked their lives flying through darkness in the Pacific Theatre of World War II. During World War II, the job of a nightfighter was akin to a deadly game of hide-and-seek in a pitch-black sky. Each pilot's life literally depended on his radio link to support personnel on the ground. Electrical failures could be catastrophic and engine trouble usually proved fatal. Unlike other fighter pilots, these men had zero visual perspective. Alone in a cockpit, it was easy for their minds to play tricks on them, but for nightfighters, a few moments of vertigo were a death sentence . . . No one knew this better than then-ranked Lt. Col. Marion Milton "Black Mac" Magruder. His highly classified training program required each of his "scrappers" to identify every part of the cockpit environment by sound, smell, and touch. Strict, innovative, and intense, this no-nonsense marine would lead his men to the Okinawa Campaign, in an emergency deployment after a year in combat, in the

longest over-water flight of single-engined fighters in the Pacific Theatre, just to get into the fight. During their time on Okinawa and Engebi, VMF(N)533, also known as Black Mac's Killers, experienced the worst typhoon season the island had seen in several hundred years. They also would become the target of the Giretsu, when the ruthless Japanese suicide warriors attacked Yontan Air Field, the only attack of its kind during the war. And even though the squadron arrived one month after battle commenced, the 533 held the record for all radar-intercept kills. Black Mac's Killers set many records and earned many distinctions during the war, including the Presidential Unit Citation. This biography follows Magruder through his military career, highlighting his accomplishments as leader of the top scoring Nightfighter Squadron in the Pacific Theatre.

Flying for Her Country

Dozens of interviews with combat veterans, along with photographs, offer a firsthand look inside the world of the fighter pilot, from the early days of World War II to the present day, describing the realities of battle, the history and characteristics of each pilot's plane, and the thoughts and feelings of aviation warriors. Reprint.

On the Wings of Geezers

A former Navy pilot takes readers on a thrilling ride in the FA-18 Hornet, weaving superb technological details of the plane with portraits of the day-to-day lives of very real people aspiring to fulfill a dream. photos.

A Higher Call

Nightfighter