

Aces at War: The American Aces Speak

Eric M. Hammel



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Aces At War: The American Aces Speak by Eric Hammel Adding to the exciting first three volumes of his acclaimed series, The American Aces Speak, leading combat historian Eric Hammel comes through with yet another engrossing collection of thirty-eight first-person accounts by American fighter aces serving in World War II, the Israeli War of Independence, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Aces At War is a highly charged excursion into life and death in the air, told by men who excelled at piston-engine and jet-engine aerial combat and lived to tell about it. It is an emotional rendering of what brave airmen felt and how they fought in the now-dim days of America's living national history. Ride with Flying Tigers ace Charlie Bond as he is shot down in flames over the Chinese city he alone has been able to defend against Japanese bombers. Share the loneliness of command as Lieutenant Commander Tom Blackburn decides the fate of the fellow Navy pilot whose F4U Corsair malfunctions in a desperate battle over Rabaul. Feel 2d Lieutenant Deacon Priest's overwhelming sense of duty to a friend as he lands his P-51 Mustang behind German lines to rescue his downed squadron commander. Share Lieutenant Colonel Ed Heller's desperation as he fights his way out of his uncontrollable F-86 Sabre jet over the wrong side of the Yalu River. And join Major Jim Kasler as he leads what might well be the most important air strike of the Vietnam War. The American Aces Speak series is a highly charged five-volume excursion into life and death in the air, told by men who excelled and triumphed in aerial combat and lived to tell about it. In sum, it is an emotional rendering of what brave airmen felt and how they fought in the now-dim days of America's living national history. These are America's eagles, and the stories they tell are their own, in their very own words. Eric Hammel is an acclaimed military historian and author of more than thirty other combat histories, including Pacifica Military History's Guadalcanal: Starvation Island, Guadalcanal: Decision at Sea, Six Days in June, The Root: The Marines in Beirut, Ambush Valley, Fire in the Streets, and Khe Sanh: Siege in the Clouds. He lives with his wife in northern California.

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