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Stephen Robinson



STEPHEN ROBINSON

9781922539205 | 234 x 151 mm | Hardcover | approx. 50 photographs and 25 maps | 304 Pages | USA \$35.99 | RIGHTS SOLD AND DISTRIBUTION: USA, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand

Eight Hundred Heroes

China's Lost Battalion and the Fall of Shanghai Stephen Robinson

The fascinating story of the legendary heroism of a Chinese battalion during the Battle of Shanghai.

From acclaimed historian Stephen Robinson comes an account of a battle which has taken on mythic dimensions in Chinese and international military history. From 26th October to 1st November 1937, the '800 Heroes' defended Sihang Warehouse from wave after wave of Japanese assaults. This is the exciting story of the Battle of Sihang Warehouse told as never before, bringing together Chinese and western accounts for the first time to create a thorough and compelling depiction of the battle. The result is a thorough analysis of both the last stand of the '800 Heroes', and the legend it became.



An Epic Last Stand

In October 1937 a battalion of around 420 Chinese soldiers led by the stoic 32-year-old Lieutenant Colonel Xie Jinyuan defended Sihang Warehouse in Shanghai against an overwhelming force of Japanese troops. The lone battalion was comprised of Republic of Chinese soldiers from the elite 88th Division. As these determined men fought the Japanese invaders with intense bravery, the rest of the Chinese Army withdrew from the city. However, as the isolated Chinese detachment was only a small force, they informed the outside world that 800 soldiers were defending the warehouse in order to deceive the Japanese into not realising their true number. This successful ruse created the legend of the 'Eight Hundred Heroes' and their demonstration of valour raised Chinese morale during the first year of the long Sino-Japanese War (1937-45).

The Eight Hundred Heroes performed an incredible feat of heroism that quickly gained international fame and sympathy. Even before the fighting ended, the New York Times declared: 'The stand of the battalion stirred Shanghai Chinese to patriotic frenzy.' 1 The story of Sihang Warehouse created its own mythology that helped define the modern Chinese nation. The actions of the Eight Hundred, as the journalists Chen Yu-fu and Jonathan Chin explained in 2017, is 'considered one of the most heroic and symbolic events in the Republic of China Army's history.'2

Stephen Robinson tells this story in an exciting 360 degree blow by blow account. Then he sets the context and vividly explains this dramatic piece of history.

1 'Remnant of 88th Division'

2 Chen and Chin, 'Veterans Protest Pension Reform Plans'





Stephen Robinson studied Asian history and politics at the University of Western Sydney, graduating with First Class Honours. He has worked at the Department of Veterans' Affairs researching British atomic weapons tests and as a policy officer in the Department of Defence. Stephen has graduated from Australian Command and Staff College, worked as an officer in the Australian Army Reserve and has served as an instructor at the Royal Military College.

Stephen Robinson

The Blind Strategist John Boyd and the American Art of War Stephen Robinson

An in-depth, critical evaluation of the maneuver warfare revolution that has transformed the American military.

Colonel John Boyd, a maverick fighter pilot, revolutionized the American art of war through his ideas on conflict and the human mind. Boyd claimed that victory is won by the side that transitions through 'decision cycles' faster than the enemy, mentally checkmating them with minimal violence. Maneuver warfare concepts became military doctrine during the 1980s but this revolution accidentally undermined American security. When formulating his theories on conflict, Boyd relied upon fraudulent accounts of WWII written by Wehrmacht veterans who fabricated historical evidence to disassociate their reputations from Germany's defeat and cover up their willing participation in Nazi war crimes. Boyd fell for this deception and unknowingly injected dangerous misinformation into the American military mind. Maneuver warfare has accordingly corrupted the art of war and resulted in catastrophic decisions made in Iraq and Afghanistan during 21st-century conflict.

The Blind Strategist separates fact from fantasy and exposes the myths of maneuver warfare through a detailed evidence-based investigation. A must-read for anybody interested in American military history.



9781922539861 | 234 x 151 mm | Hardcover | 360 Pages | USA \$24.99 | RIGHTS SOLD AND DISTRIBUTION: USA, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, JAPANESE

"Stephen Robinson does a superb job of analyzing the momentous debate about the virtues of "maneuver warfare" that took place in the United States during the latter years of the Cold War ... The Blind Strategist is a must read for all serious students of modern warfare." -John J. Mearsheimer, the R. Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science at the University of Chicago

"Stephen Robinson makes a bold, but utterly convincing, assault on the foundations of nearly fifty years of military thinking. As the United States military and its allies across the globe reorient themselves for the challenges of great state competition, Robinson's fascinating book is certain to be at the center of the debate." - Dr. James Lacey, Horner Chair of Military Theory, Marine Corps University



10 and Wanaw Pact countries during the Cold Way, 1975

In battles and so in was it was necessary simply to outnumber the other side. Therefore the growing conventional strength of Soviet and Soviet sumgare or clear texase growed froms, respectibly those annyed against NATO Europe's Central Region, has been and is a most vesing problem.¹¹

General William DePuy's Active Defense concept sought to defeat a Soviet invasion as close to the West German border as possible, which William 8. Lind associated with static defease: 'As Guderian, amongst others with



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Stephen Robinson



9781922539113 | May 4, 2022 | Paperback | US RRP: 22.99 | H: 234 W: 151 | Page Extent: 304 | 50 b/w photos and maps | Biography / Military / World War II

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Panzer Commander Hermann Balck Germany's Master Tactician

Stephen Robinson



AN AUTHORITATIVE HISTORY OF ONE OF THE GREATEST ARMOURED WARFARE COMMANDERS OF ALL TIME, PANZER COMMANDER HERMANN BALCK.

PANZER COMMANDER HERMANN BALCK is regarded as one of the world's greatest armoured warfare commanders. During World War II, he directed panzer troops from the front line and led by example, putting himself in extreme danger when rallying his soldiers to surge forward. He fought battles that were masterpieces of tactical operations, utilising speed, surprise and a remarkable ability to motivate his men to achieve what they considered to be impossible. In this intriguing history, we follow his perilous journey through the fields of France, the mountains of Greece and the steppes of Russia. In Greece, through flair and innovative leadership, his soldiers overcome every obstacle to defeat determined Allied forces defending the narrow mountain passes. But this is also the story of a cultured and complex man with a great love of antiquity and classical literature, who nevertheless willingly fought for Hitler's Third Reich while remaining strangely detached from the horrors around him. The book is the result of extensive research of primary and secondary sources, including Balck's battle reports, panzer division war diaries, campaign assessments and eyewitness accounts written by his Allied adversaries. As a result, Balck's dramatic story has finally been fully told for the first time.













Disguised German Raiders of World War II Stephen Robinson

TELLS THE DRAMATIC STORIES OF THE SOUTH SEAS 'PIRATE WAR' WAGED BY THE GERMAN RAIDERS DURING THE EARLY YEARS OF WORLD WAR II.

False Flags tells the epic story of German raider voyages to the South Seas during the early years of World War II.

In 1940 the raiders Orion, Komet, Pinguin and Kormoran left Germany and waged a 'pirate war' in the South Seas - part of Germany's strategy to attack the British Empire's maritime trade on a global scale. Their extraordinary voyages spanned the globe and are maritime sagas in the finest tradition of seafaring. The four raiders voyaged across the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans as well as the Arctic and Antarctic. They sank or captured 62 ships in a forgotten naval war that is told here in its entirety. The Orion and Komet terrorised the South Pacific and New Zealand waters before Pearl Harbor when the war was supposed to be far away. The Pinguin sank numerous Allied merchant ships in the Indian Ocean before mining the approaches to Australian ports and capturing the Norwegian whaling fleet in Antarctica. The Kormoran raided the Atlantic but will always be remembered for sinking the Australian cruiser Sydney off Western Australia, killing all 645 sailors on board in tragic circumstances. False Flags is also the story of the Allied sailors who encountered these raiders and fought suicidal battles against a superior foe as well as the men, women and children who endured captivity on board the raiders as prisoners of the Third Reich.



9781925335804 |Sept. 1, 2019 | Paperback | US RRP: 22.99 | H: 234 W: 151 | Page Extent: 320 | 50 b/w photos and maps | Biography / Military / World War ΤT

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ADVENTURERS AND EXPLORERS

Guiding Lights The Extraordinary Lives of Lighthouse Women Shona Riddell

Women have a long history of keeping the lights burning, from tending ancient altar flames or bonfires to modern-day lighthouse keeping. Yet most of their stories are little known. *Guiding Lights* includes stories from around the world spanning two millennia, as we discover the physical and mental risks of isolation, the heroism of the female keepers, how they came to be hired (especially in the 19th century), and the mysteries and legends that are inextricably part of lighthouse history.

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PAY CATHERINE NOWE (1899-1948) Brains bland Lightheum, Albury

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9781925820621 | Oct. 7, 2020 | True stories of endurance & survival | Cased with Jacket | 229 x 152 mm | 256 pages | Colour | US \$27.99

RIGHTS SOLD AND DISTRIBUTION: USA, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand

"A unique, eloquent, and impressively informative study ... an extraordinary and highly recommended addition to community, college, and university library Women's Biography & History collections in general, and Lighthouse History supplemental studies reading lists in particular." - Midwest Book Review





The subantarctic islands circle the lower part of the globe below New Zealand, Australia, Africa and South America in the 'Roaring Forties' and 'Furious Fifties' latitudes. They are filled with unique plants and wildlife, constantly buffeted by lashing rain and furious gales, and have a rich and fascinating human history. *Trial of Strength* tells the compelling stories of these islands and will leave you with an appreciation for the tenacity of the human race and the forbidding forces of nature.

9781775593560 | Oct. 1, 2018 | Cased with Jacket | History / Polar Regions / Explorers / Nature] 260 x 186 mm | 264 pages | US \$29.99 RIGHTS SOLD AND DISTRIBUTION: USA, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand





BIOGRAPHY

Daughter of the Reich

The Incredible Life of Louise Fox Louise Fox and Cindy Dowling



9780908988655 | April 1, 2006 | Paperback | Biography: historical, political & military | 234 x 153 mm | 232 pages | US \$14.99

THE STORY OF HERMAN GOERING'S SECRETARY

This is a story of an ordinary girl from Germany who became caught up in the inner workings of the Nazi war machine. Louise Fox had grown up while the Nazis steadily took full control of the country and like so many of her age group Nazism was considered to be just normal. As a teenager she was first involved in the effort to provide anti-aircraft equipment for the Luftwaffe and to kit out Rommel for the North African campaign. She was a hard worker and was promoted to the rank of captain in the Luftwaffe's supreme command headquarters in Potsdam, near Berlin. She caught Herman Goering's eye when he awarded her a medal for bravery in the capture of a downed British airman, and was sent to work in the Air Ministry making appointments and assisting Goering. As the war intensified on two fronts Louise was transferred back to Potsdam to manage the huge task of securing appropriate ammunition supplies for the Luftwaffe, a job she held for the rest of the war. She married an airman who three weeks later was killed in action. Louise was posted with her colleagues to the Eastern front and escaped with them all in Hitler's 'strategic retreat' ahead of the Red Army. In the last few months of the war she was captured and imprisoned by the Americans. She escaped and began an event-filled 1,000-kilometre hike to the safety of relatives. Life was difficult after the war and Louise entered the black market and was imprisoned. She eventually found a pen pal in Tasmania and much to the amazement of friends migrated there - selling Volkswagens to make a living.



Arawata Bill The Story of Legendary Gold Prospector William James O'Leary Ian Dougherty

Arawata Bill (1865-1947) was a New Zealand folk hero. He spent decades in the unforgiving mountain country of North-west Otago and South Westland, prospecting for gold and making new tracks in unexplored areas. His astonishing feats of endurance and tenacity, coupled with his charming eccentricity, have captured the imagination of generations of New Zealanders. This is his definitive, updated biography.

IN PRINT FOR 30 YEARS!

9781927147535 | Paperback | 4th Edition: Sept. 10, 2019 | Biography / Adventurers & Explorers | 210 x 148 mm | 196 pages | US \$14.99

One Woman's War and Peace A Nurse's Journey in the Royal Australian Air Force Wing Commander Sharon Bown (Retd)

Sometimes humorous, at times tragic, often deeply moving, Sharon Bown's story is that of a courageous, compassionate and inspirational woman who has experienced a life most of us could never imagine. When Sharon, as a young Registered Nurse from Tasmania, joined the Royal Australian Air Force it was with the goal of providing humanitarian aid to the world. She never imagined that, on her retirement, she would have served in East Timor, Bali and Afghanistan - working to save the lives of others, but almost losing her own. As an Air Force Officer, she not only survived a helicopter crash that left her with a shattered jaw and a broken back, but fought back from her injuries to resume her military duties. As commander of a combat surgical team during some of the most intense fighting in Afghanistan, she made sure that the first and last sight for any Australian soldier on the operating table was the Australian flag. As a nurse, she experienced the heartbreak of losing patients, some of whom she and her team had battled for hours to save. Sharon's journey is a confronting, but ultimately inspirational, account of what our men and women in the military experience, and the price they pay for their service.

"Sharon's often traumatic story is one of great courage and compassion and highlights how service to the ADF can come at a great personal, physical, emotional and physiological cost." - Australian Defence Magazine



9781925335316 | Nov. 1, 2016 | Paperback | Autobiography | 229 x 152 mm | 248 pages | US \$24.99





Desert War

The Battle of Sidi Rezegh Peter Cox

This is both a very accessible account of a significant New Zealand contribution to World War II and a tribute to the thousands of men who took part in this punishing battle.

Sir Geoffrey Cox described Sidi Rezegh, fought during Operation Crusader in Libya over November and December 1941, as 'the forgotten battle of the Desert War'. The objective of Crusader was to retake Cyrenaica, the eastern region of Libya, and ultimately drive the Italians and Germans out of North Africa. The campaign also involved British and South African troops, and did achieve the badly needed relief of Tobruk. Despite the New Zealand Division's major role, and the importance of this campaign in achieving British victory in North Africa, it has largely been neglected by historians, failing to receive as much attention as Crete, El Alamein or Cassino. Yet more New Zealand soldiers were killed or taken prisoner during Crusader than in any other campaign fought by 'the Div' during the war. Peter Cox, whose father fought at Sidi Rezegh, draws on his experience of twice visiting the battlefield to tell the story of this complex and costly campaign. He sets the scene for the fighting in Libya, describes the unforgiving and inhospitable desert landscape, follows the stages of the action itself and recounts the often moving and heroic stories of the New Zealanders who fought there. Many never returned home.

9781921966705 | Paperback | May 1, 2015 | History / Military / World War II | 234 x 151 mm | 240 pages | US \$14.99 | RIGHTS SOLD: United Kingdom



Dogfight The Battle of Britain Adam Claasen

THE AUSTRALIAN PERSPECTIVE ON THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN

This book tells the story of Australians and New Zealanders in one of the Second World War's defining and most memorable campaigns.

From July until October 1940, the German air force (the Luftwaffe) sought aerial supremacy in skies over England as a prerequisite for an invasion of Britain (Operation Sealion). The ensuing conflict of Luftwaffe and RAF aircraft in the long summer of 1940 became forever known as the Battle of Britain. Of the 574 overseas pilots in the campaign, the New Zealand contingent of 134 airmen was second in size only to the Polish contribution. The Australian involvement, though smaller, was a healthy 37. Thus a fifth of overseas pilots were Anzacs. Among these colonials were some of the Battle of Britain's widely admired aces. Of the top ten pilots with the greatest number of victories two were New Zealanders (C. F. Gray and B. Carbury) and one an Australian (P. Hughes). Australian and New Zealand aircrew were also employed in attacking enemy Channel ports and airfields as part of Bomber and Coastal Command's attempts to thwart invasion preparations and blunt the Luftwaffe aerial onslaught. The Anzacs also had a fellow compatriot at the highest level in the Fighter Command system: the highly regarded New Zealander Air Vice-Marshal Sir Keith Park, who was instrumental in devising and implementing the integrated air defence of Britain around Spitfire and Hurricane aircraft, radio control and radar. In the spring of 1940, he was given the command of Group 11, which would face the brunt of the German aggression in south-east England. The success of Park's plans and operational initiatives, and the role played by Anzac pilots and aircrew. would all contribute to the conflict's eventual successful outcome.

9781921497285 | Nov. 1, 2012 | History / Military / World War II | Paperback | 234 x 153 mm | 232 pages | US \$14.99 | RIGHTS SOLD: United Kingdom CEO AND PUBLISHER Gareth St John Thomas - gareth@exislepublishing.com PUBLISHER Anouska Jones - anouska@exislepublishing.com FOREIGN RIGHTS MANAGER Lucy Wawrzyniak - lucy@exislepublishing.com

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