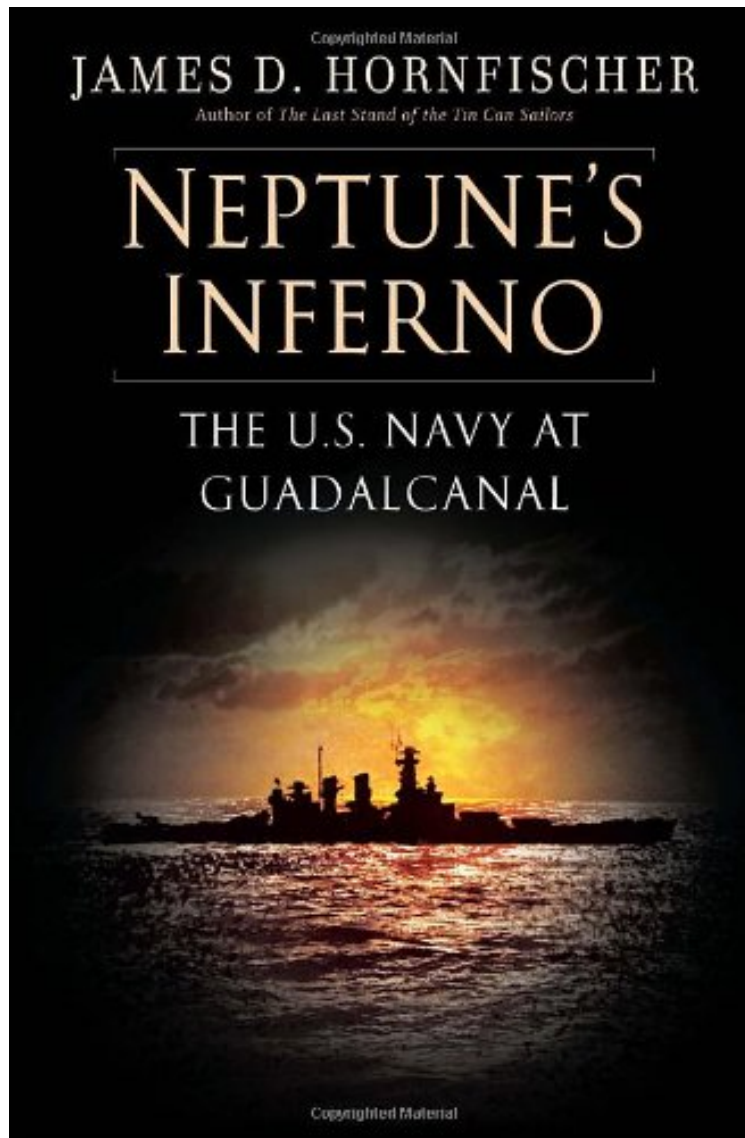


[Ebook free] Neptune's Inferno: The U.S. Navy at Guadalcanal

Neptune's Inferno: The U.S. Navy at Guadalcanal

James D. Hornfischer

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James D. Hornfischer : Neptune's Inferno: The U.S. Navy at Guadalcanal before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Neptune's Inferno: The U.S. Navy at Guadalcanal:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Through it all the courage of those sailors to go in harms way repeatedly speaks again of that Great Generation! It was only disappointing in the attempt ...By Jeff E. CumminsThis follows in detail naval operations around Guadalcanal. When I say detail, Im talking Hornfischer detail. If you have read Tin Can Sailors, you understand what I mean. And, if you have not read Tin Can Sailors, do so now. Even

knowing the outcome, Hornfischer puts you right on that ship making you wish so hard for a different outcome. It is sometimes infuriates with the slowness of American commanders to adapt to new technology. That slowness to accept what their radar was telling them cost way too many lives and ships. Through it all the courage of those sailors to go in harms way repeatedly speaks again of that Great Generation! It was only disappointing in the attempt of the Navy to hold someone accountable. Neptunes Inferno is another James Hornfischer five star book. I loved the read! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful review of events that changed the course of naval operations against Japan in the Pacific By Barry Kaye Thank you for this insightful review of this period of naval history when the peacetime navy learned how to fight in spite of the inertia of the past. I could not reconcile these events until I read this version of events. Amazing today to look back and see how senior officers trained in the old ways were unable to use their new technologies and operated their ships much like sailing ships under Nelson. Ignoring the utility of radar, intelligence reporting, torpedoes, closing the enemy units to deliver broadsides - now I understand but nevertheless it's still unbelievable. Our inexperienced admirals and ship captains apparently thought they could somehow control night-time engagements with a experienced enemy standing exposed on the bridge with nothing more than a pair of binoculars and a phone talker. The stalwart captain is on the bridge, tradition! But in reality what did he think he could accomplish in that location in the dead of night? This book brings it all together, I felt like I was in the action with those gallant men who somehow overcame the odds against them many of which were self-imposed and eventually prevailed. I couldn't put this book down and will now read it again. Thank you. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Humility, bravery, and detailed By Wil M. Wow, what a read! I don't write reviews often, but I definitely had to on this one. This book describes in detail many aspects of the Solomon campaign, and specifically Guadalcanal, that go unnoticed or disregarded by many other sources. I read the book because is highly recommended by many current senior U.S. Navy leadership and analysts. I was not disappointed! I was grabbed by the authors ability to describe the challenge and balancing act faced by the Sailors between mission accomplishment and human nature to save their brethren. The author was successful in demonstrating the complexity of decision making in the fog of war. Many books focus on the operational aspects of conflicts and avoid the "cost" associated in terms of human lives, mental health, and their effects on decision cycle. Much to learn from these experiences on how we shape, train, and manage expectations for the future. Highly recommend this book!

With *The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors* and *Ship of Ghosts*, James D. Hornfischer created essential and enduring narratives about Americas World War II Navy, works of unique immediacy distinguished by rich portraits of ordinary men in extremis and exclusive new information. Now he does the same for the deadliest, most pivotal naval campaign of the Pacific war: Guadalcanal. *Neptunes Inferno* is at once the most epic and the most intimate account ever written of the contest for control of the seaways of the Solomon Islands, Americas first concerted offensive against the Imperial Japanese juggernaut and the true turning point of the Pacific conflict. This grim, protracted campaign has long been heralded as a Marine victory. Now, with his powerful portrait of the Navys sacrificethree sailors died at sea for every man lost ashore Hornfischer tells for the first time the full story of the men who fought in destroyers, cruisers, and battleships in the narrow, deadly waters of Ironbottom Sound. Here, in brilliant cinematic detail, are the seven major naval actions that began in August of 1942, a time when the war seemed unwinnable and America fought on a shoestring, with the outcome always in doubt. But at Guadalcanal the U.S. proved it had the implacable will to match the Imperial war machine blow for violent blow. Working from new interviews with survivors, unpublished eyewitness accounts, and newly available documents, Hornfischer paints a vivid picture of the officers and enlisted men who took on the Japanese in Americas hour of need: Vice Admiral William Bull Halsey, who took command of the faltering South Pacific Area from his aloof, overwhelmed predecessor and became a national hero; the brilliant Rear Admiral Norman Scott, who died even as he showed his command how to fight and win; Rear Admiral Daniel Callaghan, the folksy and genteel Uncle Dan, lost in the strobe-lit chaos of his burning flagship; Rear Admiral Willis Lee, who took vengeance two nights later in a legendary showdown with the Japanese battleship *Kirishima*; the five Sullivan brothers, all killed in the shocking destruction of the *Juneau*; and many others, all vividly brought to life. The first major work on this essential subject in almost two decades, *Neptunes Inferno* does what all great battle narratives do: It cuts through the smoke and fog to tell the gripping human stories behind the momentous events and critical decisions that altered the course of history and shaped so many lives. This is a thrilling achievement from a master historian at the very top of his game.

From Booklist *Starred* Hornfischer's third outstanding book on the U.S. Navys surface forces in WWII will have a ready-made audience because its subject is the naval side of the Guadalcanal campaign of 1942. The campaign began when marines landed on that deservedly unfrequented island to halt the creation of a Japanese airbase that might threaten U.S. communications with Australia. The Japanese riposte inflicted a disaster on the U.S. Navy second only to Pearl Harbor, called the Battle of Savo Island. Over the next few months, the two navies went at each other hammer and tongs in what was probably the most intense naval campaign of the war. The Japanese had an ace up their sleeve in the Long Lance torpedo, the best in the world. The U.S. eventually counterbalanced the Japanese by learning (all

too slowly) to use radar-directed gunfire to take back the night seas. The author offers balanced assessments of the leaders on both sides, but the real heroes are the American bluejackets, who too often paid with suffering and death for those leaders' slowness to learn. And as in his first two books, the author's narrative gifts and excellent choice of detail give an almost Homeric quality to the men who met on the sea in steel titans. --Roland Green Advance praise for Neptune's Inferno

The New York Times, Publishers Weekly, and Boston Globe bestseller
A main selection of the History Book Club and the Military Book Club
Selected as a Best Book of 2011 by Military History Quarterly
With the publication of Neptune's Inferno, a masterpiece of 20th century naval history, it's time to declare James Hornfischer a national treasure, a member of the distinguished band of brothers--Stephen Ambrose, Shelby Foote, Ken Burns, Spielberg and Hanks--whose sacred mission has been vital to America's journey, preserving the stories of our fathers and grandfathers for future generations, before those stories fade forever out of our consciousness into the shadows of time.

Bob Shacochis, National Book Award winner, author of The Immaculate Invasion "Hornfischer has produced an account that is visceral, yet technical; sweeping, yet personal. It's a terrific read, and an important new addition to the literature on this most important naval campaign in the Pacific." Jonathan Parshall, co-author of Shattered Sword: The Untold Story of the Battle of Midway "Hornfischer's accounts of naval combat in the Pacific are simply the best in the business." Ian W. Toll, author of Six Frigates: The Epic History of the Founding of the U.S. Navy "With this grand, sweeping, history-correcting book, James Hornfischer takes his place among the elite historians of the United States war in the Pacific during World War II. Like a Curtiss Helldiver, Neptune's Inferno catapults the reader high into the skies for a clear perspective on the vast oceanic conflict, then dives relentlessly to propel us right into the smoke and fire and human valor of the brutal inferno known as Guadalcanal. Along the way, and drawing on newly available papers, Hornfischer clears up lingering misconceptions about this battle, including the full extent of the U.S. Navy's role in victory. And in his character portraits of the brilliant, quirky top admirals and generals of the fractious Army-Navy command, Hornfischer offers a worthy counterpart to Doris Kearns Goodwin's Team of Rivals." Ron Powers, author of Mark Twain: A Life and co-writer, Flags of Our Fathers "Neptune's Inferno is a superb portrait of the U.S. Navy's critical role in the Guadalcanal campaign, both the surface and aerial combat. Comprehensive with much that is new, yet immensely readable, it covers not only the admirals, but the junior officers and bluejackets as well. Highly recommended." John B. Lundstrom, author of The First Team

An epic work
In Neptune's Inferno: The U.S. Navy at Guadalcanal, Hornfischer deftly captures the essence of the most pivotal naval campaign of the Pacific war
Compiling interviews with survivors, unpublished eyewitness accounts, and previously unavailable documents, [he] skillfully re-creates the bravery displayed by sailors who opposed the Japanese in what could be called America's finest hour of the Pacific campaign. The book is richly supported by meticulous source notes, a concise bibliography, rare photos and campaign maps
With Neptune's Inferno, Hornfischer has earned his place among the hallowed ranks of military historians. [It] is a literary tour de force that is destined to become one of the most definitive works about the battle for Guadalcanal. It deserves a place of honor on every military bookshelf. San Antonio Express-News
Ambitious, entertaining, insightful, judicious
A vivid and engaging account of war at sea in 1942. Ronald Spector, The Wall Street Journal
Neptune's Inferno is well written, packed with scene-setting details and clearly the product of extensive research, including interviews with some of the battles now-aged survivors
The author's two previous WWII books, The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors and Ship of Ghosts, thrust him into the major leagues of American military history writers. Neptune's Inferno is solid proof he deserves to be there. Dallas Morning News
Hornfischer (Ship of Ghosts) understands the human dynamics of the U.S. Navy in the Pacific war [he] gives an empathetic but balanced account [reconstructing] the fighting in a masterful synthesis of technical analysis, operational narrative, and tales of courage. Publishers Weekly
Outstanding
The author offers balanced assessments of the leaders on both sides, but the real heroes are the American bluejackets, who too often paid with suffering and death for those leaders' slowness to learn. And as in his first two books, the author's narrative gifts and excellent choice of detail give an almost Homeric quality to the men who met on the sea in steel titans. Booklist (starred review)
This work's major strengths are its careful organization, readable prose, and...well-reasoned conclusions. Depictions of battles and ships are enlivened with...apt comments from participants and relevant character sketches of the key figures. Proceedings Magazine
Neptune's Inferno is an exceptional piece of military history. Hornfischer has broadened and deepened our understanding of the U.S. Navy's role in the Solomons campaign in this eminently readable account of the bloody naval battles of attrition in the fall of 1942 that doomed the Imperial Japanese Navy to defeat and irrevocably shifted the strategic initiative in the Pacific War. Dr. Peter R. Mansoor, colonel, U.S. Army (ret.), Gen. Raymond E. Mason Jr. Chair in Military History, The Ohio State University "With good maps and extensive documentation, this is gripping and readable, not a dry military report." Library Journal
The star of this year's reading list is James D. Hornfischer, a military historian whose flair for narrative is rivaled only by his ability to organize the sweep of battle and assess strategy and tactics in layman's terms. Cleveland Plain Dealer
About the Author
James D. Hornfischer's new book, The Fleet at Flood Tide, will be published in October 2016. Hornfischer is the author of the New York Times bestsellers Neptune's Inferno, Ship of Ghosts, and The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors, winner of the Samuel Eliot Morison Award. A native of Massachusetts and a graduate of Colgate University and the University of

Texas School of Law, he lives in Austin, Texas.