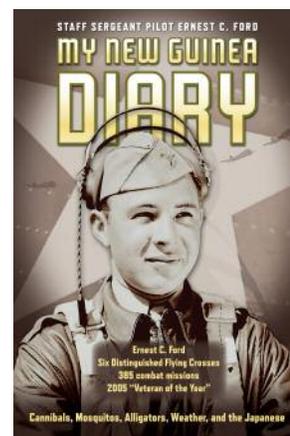


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PRAISE FOR *MY NEW GUINEA DIARY*

Pilot Hero Writes a Compelling Account of the New Guinea Campaign

“My New Guinea Diary is an excellent and very informative book. More than half of the pilots in the 6th TCS were Sergeant Pilots, including the author. That alone makes it historically important. The author was flying an airplane that left the factory with an inoperative artificial horizon and no autopilot, but he flew it through turbulent tropical weather crossing the Pacific and on missions in New Guinea where the ceilings were as low as 300-400 feet with visibility of less than a mile in mountainous terrain. With the most combat missions of any US Army pilot in World War II, the author participated in some of the most significant operations of the war, including the reinforcement of Wau. On one mission into Dobudura in late December 1942 he picked up a young P-38 pilot who had just shot down two Japanese aircraft. During their conversation, the lieutenant commented that he had become an ace. The lieutenant’s name was Bong, Richard Ira Bong. This book is a MUST READ for anyone with an interest in World War II aviation. I highly recommend it. GET IT!”

—**Sam McGowan**, US Air Force (Ret), Founder, Troop Carrier/Tactical Airlift Association

“My New Guinea Diary portrays both the pulse-pounding, life-or-death moments and the nuances of daily life in a war zone. ...an utterly unforgettable testimony.”

—**THE MIDWEST BOOK REVIEW**

“I highly recommend *My New Guinea Diary* to any reader interested in the greatest generation and all they did in their dedication to duty, honor, and country. All Americans owe a debt of gratitude to these great patriots.”

—**DANIEL E. LUNDGREN**, U.S. Congressman

“A remarkable story. Fascinating reading of great historical significance.”

—**GEORGE BEVERLY SHEA**

“Little has been written about combat in and over the jungles of New Guinea, less about transport pilots in that war, and even less about flying sergeants. SSG Ford fills in the history gaps with extraordinary recall. He recounts the challenges of flying unarmed transports over and through the mostly uncharted Owen Stanley Mountains during the early days of the war, facing the constant threat of bad weather and a determined enemy.”

—**JIM DELK**, Major General (USAF Ret)

“Told with candor, humor, and selflessness, describing the skill and daring that saved hundreds of lives. 364 combat missions and 6 DFC’s in one year! A “must read” for those who want to experience ultimate combat flying, from the pilot’s own lips!”

—**STEVE FRITTS**, MSgt Chief Aircrew, (USAF, Ret)
Board of Directors, Aerospace Museum of California

“You will learn that the aircrews in New Guinea had nothing to rely upon but their own wits, their devotion to their country, and trust in God. You will be awe struck and uplifted after reading Major Ford’s combat diary. He was a true hero.”

—**RICHARD SHULTZ**, Captain, US Naval Reserve (Retired)

“In one of WWII’s Pacific conflicts credited with turning back Japan’s invasion of Australia, a desperate Ernie Ford piloted a plane load of military evacuees ten feet above rocky terrain. Against the odds (and 70 enemy planes bombing from above) he heroically maneuvered his C-47, helping two following aircraft and 90 passengers escape destruction. His life story is interwoven with danger, innocence, humor, and the belief that no victory is achieved alone.”

—**SUSAN MAXWELL SKINNER**; Royal Columnist, Author

November 2010 Reviews of *My New Guinea Diary*

by Staff Sergeant Pilot Ernest C. Ford

Review of *My New Guinea Diary*

Ford vividly describes the evolution of the Troop Carrier mission through his personal day-to-day experience in the Southwest Pacific during World War II, and he describes it in fascinating detail—a lot of gaps are now filled and recorded. Ford tells the story in a straight-ahead and enlightening manner. It is just as much a human-interest story as it is an accurate and long-missing military history. His book stands almost alone and very tall indeed.

—Lt. Col. Alfred “Ace” Bowman, USAF (Ret.)
Chairman, Troop Carrier/Tactical Airlift Association

Review of *My New Guinea Diary*

...This is an excellent and very informative book and I learned quite a bit from it that I did not know. More than half of the pilots in the 6th TCS were Sergeant Pilots, including the author. That alone makes it historically important. In Ernie’s case, he was flying an airplane that left the factory with an inoperative artificial horizon and no autopilot, but he flew it through turbulent tropical weather crossing the Pacific and on missions in New Guinea with ceilings as low as 300-400 feet with visibility of less than a mile—in mountainous terrain. With the most combat missions of any US Army pilot in World War II, the author participated in some of the most significant operations of the war, including the reinforcement of Wau.

This book is a MUST READ for anyone with an interest in World War II aviation. GET IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

—Sam McGowan, Founder, Troop Carrier/Tactical Airlift Association

Review of *My New Guinea Diary*

I enjoyed the stories and it is an important history because of who wrote it and when he served in the theater. The difficulties that the Sgt. pilots had to put up with from their own side are amazing. Sgt. Pilots are a special bunch.

... I recommend the book. Mostly because of how important it is as the memoir of a Sgt. Pilot. So for that fact, and the fact that the pilot served in the beginning of the New Guinea Campaign in late 1942, it is a very important work. Very entertaining and informative. The stories are page-turning awesome. I recommend it.

—Anthony J. Mireles, Author of *Fatal Army Air Forces Aviation Accidents, 1941-45*

Review of *My New Guinea Diary*

My New Guinea Diary provides a uniquely valuable perspective on air operations in the Southwest Pacific Theater—from the left seat of a C-47 rather than the far more common view from a bomber or fighter. As such, it’s a valuable addition to our understanding of the men and machines engaged in a long, unglamorous but vital effort supporting General MacArthur’s forces in the region.

—Barrett Tillman, Author of *Whirlwind: The Air War Against Japan 1942-1945*
and *Clash of the Carriers: (Marianas Turkey Shoot)*

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