



Finding Your Father's War: A Practical Guide to Researching and Understanding Service in the World War II U.S. Army

Jonathan Gawne

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Leading military historian and researcher, Jonathan Gawne, explains and shares the techniques he uses to research archives, libraries, veteran associations and myriad other sources of information to track down the wartime career of an individual. The author describes this as "What I did, and what you can do to find out what 'he' did in the army."

The book gives an overview of the Army in World War II, from the basics up. Learn the difference between a corporal and a major, or a squad and a brigade. What can you tell from a serial number? What is the difference between the quartermaster corps and the transportation corps? What was the path most soldiers took from civilian life to trained soldier? What (and where) is the ETO, PTO and ATO? All the basic facts you need to understand Army service in WW2.

He goes on to explain how to find information from such sources as discharges, uniforms, paperwork, the National Personnel records center, National Archives, other facilities and what you can expect from veterans organizations (and how to find them). Places to look for information and what you can or cannot get from them.

Finally the book helps you to assemble the data you have collected and piece the story of your relatives' wartime service together. It also gives advice on preserving the memories - oral histories, photos, artifacts, documents, etc.

Detailed appendices give information on such things as insignia of ranks and branches, listing of common MOS's, a breakdown of each division by sub unit, with a brief history and a listing of their campaigns, a capsule history of each campaign and a bibliography of useful books on various campaigns and units. Color illustrations of campaign ribbons, decorations and insignia accompany the detailed text.

This book addresses an increasing need to record and understand the lives of the greatest generation and their service to the country.

REVIEWS

"... helps you assemble the data you have collected and piece the story of your relative's wartime service together. It also gives advice on preserving the memories - oral histories, photos, artifacts, documents, etc. ... addresses an increasing need to record and understand the lives of the "greatest generation and their service to the country." - HistoryBuff.com, 01/2007

"...for those interested in WWII army service, there is no source better than FINDING YOUR FATHER'S WAR". We are greatly impressed with the depictions "...Gawne provides a wealth of background information and keys to interpreting military records and items from the WWII period.... This book is a great starting point."

ARMY Magazine,04/2007

"...This work is a road map for users seeking to trace their relative's wartime army service... a Useful source for genealogists and readers interested in the wartime military."

CHOICE, 06/2007

"...a useful book for anyone trying to establish the history of any US veteran during W.W.II."

Military Trader Magazine, 10/2007

"...a thoroughly comprehensive guide to the U.S. Army in the World War II period... covers an enormous range of subjects..."

The NYMAS Review 41, Summer 2007

"...very practical useful guide to assist all those whose relatives served in the wartime US Army. ...very well illustrated... Finding You Father's War is highly recommended for all those who find themselves in need of assistance in doing research on World War II."

Journal For America's Military Past Spring/ Summer 2007

"...a terrific guide that details how to go about researching and understanding the lives of a generation of servicemen that answered their nation's call when the world was at war."

On Point Magazine Winter 2007-8

"... a fascinating book...no veteran post should be without it."

Daily Times (Delaware County), 04/2008

"...a great read not only for genealogists wishing to research an ancestor, but also for those who simply have an interest in the United States Army during World War II... written so that anyone, even those with no military background, can understand, yet also includes more advanced information... detail is phenomenal... a must read reference book for any professional genealogist or military historian..."

Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly, 12/2009

"...focus is on researching individual and social history. Using this book will help you write a family history narrative."

Genealogy Book reviews

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From reader reviews:

Mike Yerkes:

A lot of people always spent their particular free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read any book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent the whole day to reading a book. The book Finding Your Father's War: A Practical Guide to Researching and Understanding Service in the World War II U.S. Army it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book features high quality.

Candice Foushee:

Why? Because this Finding Your Father's War: A Practical Guide to Researching and Understanding Service in the World War II U.S. Army is an unordinary book that the inside of the publication waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will jolt you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who have write the book in such remarkable way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining means but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book include such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking means. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

Dawn Bliss:

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