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B-26 Invader Units Over Korea (Osprey Frontline Colour 4)



Synopsis

Although a hangover from World War II, the seemingly antiquated B-26 Invader proved to be one of the hardest-worked assets employed by the UN forces in Korea for the duration of the conflict. Indeed, B-26s of the 3rd Bomber Group had the distinction of being the first aircraft to drop ordnance on the North Koreans within hours of the communist invasion of the south. Capable of dropping bombs and napalm, firing off unguided rockets or simply strafing targets with its battery of .50-cal Browning guns, the B-26 was equally as effective during the day or at night. Over 200 bomber and reconnaissance variants saw action in Korea, and many were adorned with some of the most colourful nose art ever carried by American combat aircraft in any war. This volume includes a gallery of this artwork, with text outlining the exploits of the pilots featured, and appendices listing the units involved.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

These histories of classic military aircraft showcase the best in privately owned contemporary photography, supported by scale drawings, cutaways, comprehensive text and a wealth of first hand accounts.

Warren Thompson has been an avid military aviation historian and editor for over 40 years and his personal reference collection includes thousands of photos and detailed interviews with over 2,000 pilots and aircrew members. He has had 25 books published including three books on the Korean

War for Osprey. His book Korean War Aces in the Aircraft of the Aces series was a bestseller.

My late husband was a proud member of the Fifth Air Force and a member of The Royal Order of the Black Knights, completing 55 combat missions in Korea from February-August 1952. This book brought me closer to him and his military experience, especially the history, achievements, and the pictures. Thanks for putting it together so understandably for a civilian who knows her husband was a hero in every sense of the word. He would never mention it, but he was awarded the Air Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

There is a picture of my dad in this book.

Very pleased, very good condition.

Well done & good pictures.

My father was a part of a recon B-26 Invader squadron based in Langley after WW2. I bought the book for him, and when he read it, he said, "I knew they were heroes."

Many of the Korean air war sorties flown were made by WWII vets flying similarly 'retreaded' aircraft like the P-51, B-29, T-6 and B-26. The Douglas B-26, which had seen WWII service as the A-26, proved to be a potent ground-attack platform for day or night missions. Armed with 10 or more .50-caliber machine guns and toting 4,000-6,000 pounds of bombs, rockets and napalm, the Invader proved to be the bane of Communist forces in Korea. The Invader's outstanding combat record is told in this Osprey 'Frontline Colour' volume by Warren Thompson. B-26s flew the first and last bombing strikes of the Korean War. Between those two missions, three Invader units - the 3rd, 17th and 452nd Bomb Wings - killed hundreds of thousands of enemy troops and destroyed thousands of trucks, tanks, artillery pieces, trains, bridges and other materials. Over 150 B-26Bs, -Cs and photo recce models were lost in return. As with his other 'Frontline colour' titles, author Thompson's B-26 book is an interesting blend of numerous first-person narratives from various aircrew and over 120 nicely reproduced color photographs of aircrew, aircraft, weapons, targets under attack and so on. Thirty-two pages are given over to the striking nose art carried by Invaders. Despite the significant role the B-26 played in the Korean War, few books have been written detailing the exploits of this formidable warplane. Thompson's book fills that gap with this exciting,

well-researched and well-illustrated tribute to the B-26 and its intrepid crews. Recommended.

This book is a must for any modeler wanting to see color photos.

Purchased this book for 14 pounds at the Duxford Imperial War Museum in Cambridge (2008) - a great book, but not worth the market prices being charged

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