



# Into the Rising Sun: World War II's Pacific Veterans Reveal the Heart of Combat

Patrick K. O'Donnell

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**Into the Rising Sun: World War II's Pacific Veterans Reveal the Heart of Combat** Patrick K. O'Donnell In his award-winning book *Beyond Valor*, Patrick O'Donnell reveals the true nature of the European Theater in World War II, as told by those who survived. Now, with *Into the Rising Sun*, O'Donnell tells the story of the brutal Pacific War, based on hundreds of interviews spanning a decade.

The men who fought their way across the Pacific during World War II had to possess something more than just courage. They faced a cruel, fanatical enemy in the Japanese, an enemy willing to use anything for victory, from kamikaze flights to human-guided torpedoes. Over the course of the war, Marines, paratroopers, and rangers spearheaded D-Day—sized beach assaults, encountered cannibalism, suffered friendly-fire incidents, and endured torture as prisoners of war. Though they are truly heroes, they claim no glory for themselves. As one soldier put it, "When somebody gets decorated, it's because a lot of other men died."

By at last telling their stories, these men present a hard, unvarnished look at the war on the ground, a final gift from aging warriors who have already given so much. Only with these accounts can the true horror of the war in the Pacific be fully known. Together with detailed maps of each battle, *Into the Rising Sun* offers a complete yet deeply personal account of the war in the Pacific and a ground-level view of some of history's most brutal combat.



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