



Or Go Down in Flame: A Navigator's Death Over Schweinfurt

By W. Raymond Wood

Casemate Books. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Or Go Down in Flame: A Navigator's Death Over Schweinfurt, W. Raymond Wood, Though Anglo-American air power may be unrivalled in today's world, this was certainly not the case during Europe's last great war. Decades ago, when our airmen flew against Germany, horrific casualties resulted on both sides, and certain battles fought by the Allied powers can be termed nothing less than calamitous. "Black Thursday," the second Schweinfurt raid, was the most savagely fought air battle in U.S. history, and a milestone in the course of World War II. On October 14, 1943, the U.S. Eighth Air Force launched nearly 300 bombers deep into German territory to destroy the ball-bearing plants at Schweinfurt, hoping this would bring enemy industry to a halt. On that clear, sunlit day, hundreds of German fighters raced among the unescorted B-17s, guns blazing, knocking down plane after plane, each with ten men aboard. Other German aircraft flew just outside machine-gun range of the tightly packed formations, lobbing rockets that exploded into thousands of pieces of shrapnel. U.S. bombers that split off from a formation, either wounded or disoriented, became prey for the agile packs of German fighters...



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