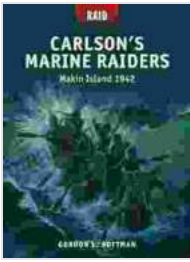


Carlson's Marine Raiders: The Forgotten Heroes of Makin Island 1942



The Forgotten Heroes of the Pacific War

In the annals of World War II, the name Carlson's Marine Raiders stands out as a symbol of courage, determination, and sacrifice. This elite unit of Marine Corps commandos was formed in 1942 by Colonel Evans Carlson, a brilliant and unconventional officer who believed in the power of small, highly trained units to strike with devastating effect.



Carlson's Marine Raiders: Makin Island 1942

by Gordon L. Rottman

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 16681 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 80 pages



The Raiders' first major test came in August 1942, when they were tasked with capturing and holding the strategically important Japanese-held island of Makin in the Gilbert Islands. Outnumbered and outgunned, the Raiders fought with unimaginable tenacity, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy and ultimately forcing their withdrawal.

The Battle of Makin Island was a watershed moment in the Pacific War. It proved that the Raiders were a formidable force, capable of taking on the Japanese at their own game. It also set the stage for the Raiders' legendary role in the island-hopping campaign that eventually led to Japan's defeat.

The Makin Island Raid: A Close-Up Look

The Makin Island Raid was a daring and complex operation that required meticulous planning and flawless execution. The Raiders were divided into three groups, each with a specific objective. The first group was tasked with seizing the island's airfield, while the second group would attack the Japanese garrison. The third group would provide support and cover.

The Raiders landed on Makin Island under the cover of darkness on August 17, 1942. They quickly overwhelmed the Japanese defenders and captured the airfield. However, the fighting soon became intense, as the Japanese launched a series of counterattacks. The Raiders were outnumbered and outgunned, but they refused to give up.

For two days and two nights, the Raiders fought a desperate battle against the Japanese. They were eventually forced to withdraw from Makin Island, but not before inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. The Raiders' sacrifice bought valuable time for the Allied forces and paved the way for the eventual victory in the Pacific War.

The Legacy of Carlson's Marine Raiders

Carlson's Marine Raiders were disbanded in 1944, but their legacy lives on. They are remembered as one of the most elite and effective fighting units in American history. Their courage, determination, and sacrifice inspired generations of Marines and helped to shape the course of World War II.

Today, the Raiders' story is told in books, movies, and documentaries. It is a story that continues to inspire and motivate people around the world.

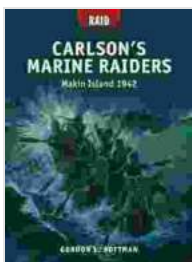
Recommended Reading

If you are interested in learning more about Carlson's Marine Raiders and the Battle of Makin Island, we recommend the following books:

- *Carlson's Raiders: The Daring Marine Commandos of World War II* by James Bradley
- *First to Fight: The Marines of Makin Island* by John C. Chapin

- *Makin Island Raid: The Forgotten Battle of World War II* by Oscar E. Gilbert

Carlson's Marine Raiders were the forgotten heroes of the Pacific War. They fought with courage and determination against overwhelming odds, and their sacrifice helped to secure victory for the Allied forces. Their story is an inspiring reminder of the power of the human spirit and the importance of never giving up.

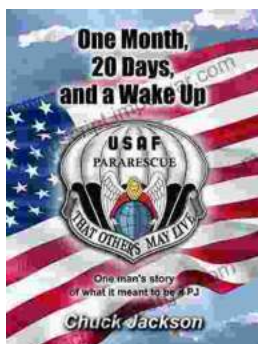


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