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*The 23rd Fighter Group
in World War II*

CARL MOLESWORTH

Sharks Over China 23rd Fighter Group

Braxton Eisel



Sharks Over China 23rd Fighter Group:

Sharks Over China Carl Molesworth,1994 Based on interviews with the group s survivors and containing numerous photographs this is the first complete history of the unit that included Gen Claire Chennault s famous Flying Tigers **23rd Fighter Group** Carl Molesworth,2013-01-20 A fascinating and action packed look at the highest scoring unit within the CBI theatre telling the story of the colourful characters who fought a difficult guerrilla war against the Japanese Famous for the fearsome sharksmouths that adorned their planes the 23rd FG fought a guerrilla war against the Japanese steadily moving pilots and aircraft from one remote air base in China to another to keep the enemy off balance Because China could only be supplied by air from India there were constant shortages of aircraft fuel and ammunition with which to contend The 23rd FG met these challenges head on and by the end of the war its pilots had compiled a score of 594 aerial victories and nearly 400 ground kills The human cost was high however 126 pilots lost their lives in China while serving in the 23rd *With the Tigers over China, 1941-1942* Jerome Klinkowitz,2021-12-14 In the twelve months centered around the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor a diverse group of American and British flyers fought one of the most remarkable air campaigns of WWII Pilots including Claire Chennault Pappy Boyington and Art Donahue bought time for an Allied regrouping against Japan s relentless assault in the China Burma India theater In the face of the 1941 bombings Chiang Kai shek turned to air power to survive which he did thanks to Chennault s rebuilding of the Chinese Air Force and the leadership of the American Volunteer Group or AVG Formed by Chennault the AVG also known as the Flying Tigers were contract employees working for the Chinese government As a result they received virtually no official American recognition for their efforts The group was known for their romantic reckless spirit They performed remarkably with outdated planes and equipment in ill repair were almost always heavily outnumbered in battle and were seen by outsiders as hard drinking rebels Whatever their image the Flying Tigers were highly effective In the words of Air Force Major General Charlie Bond During that first week of action the AVG destroyed fifty five enemy bombers and fighters while losing only five Tomahawks Unfortunately two of our colleagues were killed but at the same time two hundred enemy airmen were either killed or captured We were shattering the myth that the Japanese Air Force was invincible Jerome Klinkowitz whose earlier books focused on flyers attitudes toward the air war in Britain and Europe continues his work with an exceptionally interesting group of Pacific warriors He brings together not only the commanders stories but the often more colorful and sometimes more accurate accounts of life and battle by the men who flew these planes and the women who participated on the ground **23rd Fighter Group** Carl Molesworth,2013-01-20 Famous for the fearsome sharksmouths that adorned their planes the 23rd FG fought a guerrilla war against the Japanese steadily moving pilots and aircraft from one remote air base in China to another to keep the enemy off balance Because China could only be supplied by air from India there were constant shortages of aircraft fuel and ammunition with which to contend The 23rd FG met these challenges head on and by the end of the war its pilots had compiled a score of 594 aerial

victories and nearly 400 ground kills The human cost was high however 126 pilots lost their lives in China while serving in the 23rd *Fallen Tigers* Daniel Jackson,2021-05-11 Mere months before the attack on Pearl Harbor President Franklin D Roosevelt sent a volunteer group of American airmen to the Far East convinced that supporting Chinese resistance against the continuing Japanese invasion would be crucial to an eventual Allied victory in World War II Within two weeks of that fateful Sunday in December 1941 the American Volunteer Group soon to become known as the legendary Flying Tigers went into action For three and a half years the volunteers and the Army Air Force airmen who followed them fought in dangerous aerial duels over East Asia Audaciously led by master tactician Claire Lee Chennault daring pilots such as David Lee Tex Hill and George B Mac McMillan led their men in desperate combat against enemy air forces and armies despite being outnumbered and outgunned Aviators who fell in combat and survived the crash or bailout faced the terrifying reality of being lost and injured in unfamiliar territory Historian Daniel Jackson himself a combat tested pilot recounts the stories of downed aviators who attempted to evade capture by the Japanese in their bid to return to Allied territory He reveals the heroism of these airmen was equaled and often exceeded by that of the Chinese soldiers and civilians who risked their lives to return them safely to American bases Drawing from thorough archival research and compelling personal narratives from memoirs wartime diaries and dozens of interviews with veterans this vital work offers an important new perspective on the Flying Tigers and the history of World War II in China *The Flying Tigers* Braxton Eisel,2009 Product Description They volunteered For a variety of reasons patriotic altruistic mercenary or just for the hell of it Nearly three hundred U S servicemen and a couple of female nurses volunteered to fight a war in a place they knew little about Recruited at military bases around the country the members of the American Volunteer Group AVG set off for the unknown in the summer and fall of 1941 While U S support for the Allied cause was growing at a steady pace most Americans still felt distanced from the conflict enveloping Europe and Asia and did not want to go to war At the highest levels of the government however entering the war appeared inevitable The AVG was one way of gaining experience in this vicious war while increasing support for the nations fighting the Axis powers Despite incredible odds against them from numerically superior Japanese forces and a near complete lack of supply and replacement parts they took the first successful fight to the Japanese during a time of Japan s unrelenting successes It was not pretty and their legend has eclipsed the reality but the reality of the AVG is still an amazing story Led by Claire Lee Chennault they made history *World War II in Asia and the Pacific and the War's Aftermath, with General Themes* Loyd Lee,1998-10-23 A companion to World War II in Europe Africa and the Americas this volume reevaluates the most enduring literature on basic aspects of the war in Asia and the Pacific It also covers themes pertaining to societies at war culture the arts and science and technology as well as international relations and the postwar world Included are not only grand strategy military and naval campaigns and matters of diplomacy but also resistance collaboration prisoners of war and broad topics of the home front including chapters on gender issues film literature popular culture and

propaganda This volume and its companion provide the first comprehensive historiographic reference work on the war Each chapter describes the state of knowledge on the topic relating each bibliographic reference to the chapter s themes and issues and concludes with a bibliography Recent original scholarship is included when it aids new understanding and older works of enduring value also find a place The essays in this volume will interest scholars and college teachers as well as advanced students and serious amateurs seeking insight into the history of the war and its literature

Clash of Empires in South China Franco David Macri, 2015-06-05 Japan s invasion of China in 1937 saw most major campaigns north of the Yangtze River where Chinese industry was concentrated The southern theater proved a more difficult challenge for Japan because of its enormous size diverse terrain and poor infrastructure but Generalissimo Chiang Kai shek made a formidable stand that produced a veritable quagmire for a superior opponent a stalemate much desired by the Allied nations In the first book to cover this southern theater in detail David Macri closely examines strategic decisions campaigns and operations and shows how they affected Allied grand strategy Drawing on documents of U S and British officials he reveals for the first time how the Sino Japanese War served as a proxy war for the Allies by keeping Japan s military resources focused on southern China they hoped to keep the enemy bogged down in a war of attrition that would prevent them from breaching British and Soviet territory While the most immediate concern was preserving Siberia and its vast resources from invasion Macri identifies Hong Kong as the keystone in that proxy war vital in sustaining Chinese resistance against Japan as it provided the logistical interface between the outside world and battles in Hunan and Kwangtung provinces a situation that emerged because of its vital rail connection to the city of Changsha He describes the development of Anglo Japanese low intensity conflict at Hong Kong he then explains the geopolitical significance of Hong Kong and southern China for the period following the German invasion of the Soviet Union Opening a new window on this rarely studied theater Macri underscores China s symbolic importance for the Allies depicting them as unequal partners who fought the Japanese for entirely different reasons China for restoration of its national sovereignty the Allies to keep the Japanese preoccupied And by aiding China s wartime efforts the Allies further hoped to undermine Japanese propaganda designed to expel Western powers from its Greater East Asia Co Prosperity Sphere As Macri shows Hong Kong was not just a sleepy British Colonial outpost on the fringes of the empire but an essential logistical component of the war and to fully understand broader events Hong Kong must be viewed together with southern China as a single military zone His account of that forgotten fight is a pioneering work that provides new insight into the origins of the Pacific War

United States Air Force and Its Antecedents James T. Controvich, Martin Gordon, 2004-06-24 This expanded and revised edition of the bibliography originally compiled for the United States Air Force Historical Research Agency is the most comprehensive listing of unofficial published histories of the United States Air Force and its antecedents It covers the air force from its genesis as the US Army Signal Corps Aviation Section to the present These titles are a rich source of information for anyone interested in the history of combat and

peacetime operations of the Air Force Researchers and libraries will find the organization of titles easy to use Entries include private sponsored or unofficial histories often written by the unit historian personal narratives purely photographic or pictorial histories route of battle maps published or printed rosters officially produced titles This is an indispensable resource for military aviation historians libraries with strong collections in military and air force history and unit history collectors It is also of special interest to genealogists as many unit histories contain rosters and photos of personnel Flying Tiger Ace Carl Molesworth, 2020-02-20 The moving biography of Lt Col William Norman Reed a World War II fighter ace who fought with the Flying Tigers and died in defence of the two nations he loved Bill Reed had it all brains looks athleticism courage and a talent for leadership After a challenging childhood in Depression era Iowa Reed joined the US Army Air Corps but the outbreak of World War II saw him give up his commission Instead he travelled to China to fly for the American Volunteer Group the legendary Flying Tigers After a brief return to America he resumed the fight as a senior pilot and later squadron commander in the Chinese American Composite Wing Soon afterwards Reed tragically lost his life in a desperate parachute jump late in the war by which point he was a fighter ace with nine confirmed aerial victories His obituary was front page news throughout the state of Iowa This book is a biography of his extraordinary life focusing on his time spent flying with some of the famous aerial groups of World War II It draws heavily on Reed s own words along with the author s deep knowledge of the China air war and years of research into Reed s life to tell his compelling story

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