



The Battle of Midway: The Naval Institute Guide to the U.S. Navy's Greatest Victory

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The best way for today's sailors to learn about a battle is from those who fought it. The Battle of Midway, commemorated annually in the U.S. Navy, warrants close attention. This Naval Institute guide includes some of the most vibrant and informed accounts by individuals who fought on both sides of the June 1942 battle. The anthology pulls together memoirs, articles, excerpts from other Naval Institute books, and relevant government documents to help readers understand what happened and explain why the battle was so significant to the naval service. The core of the book focuses on events leading up to the battle and the battle itself, with a separate section examining how others have interpreted the battle's often desperate engagements.

When the U.S. Navy stopped the Japanese steamroller off Midway Island, it not only turned the progress of the war but set the Navy's foundation for future counter offensives. The Navy's comeback spread to the Solomon Islands and on to the other key strategic areas in the Pacific. While many know that Midway was a crucial American victory, they often do not know the details of the battle. This book tells how, for example, the American PT boats contributed to the victory, how the carrier planes formed up for their attacks, and what role radar played in the battle. In addition to excerpts from books and articles, the guide includes selections from several important Naval Institute oral histories. From the enlisted man's perspective all the way to the admiral's, for both Americans and Japanese, readers see the U.S. Navy's greatest victory as the participants saw it.

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Review

"A refreshing and original look at a key American naval victory using judiciously-chosen reprints." ?

Galveston Daily News

"Overall, *The Battle of Midway* is an excellent guide to a defining battle of modern history. The reader will not come away with an in-depth understanding of the battle but will appreciate its significance and, more importantly, its complexity. The diversity of the anthology means that this large collection of short articles provides an excellent starting point for new researchers and a handy reference for those with existing knowledge. But, more importantly, its focus on the importance of the human dimension at all levels in complex warfare should see this book enter the professional reading list of every military member, irrespective of his or her rank or role." – **Australian Defence Force Journal**

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"A masterful, all-embracing work detailing both the American and Japanese sides of the pivotal Battle of Midway in World War II. Distinguished historian Thomas C. Hone has grouped power-packed chapters by acknowledged experts on all facets of the Battle of Midway. Thus he provides an absolutely essential and exceptionally comprehensive addition to the libraries of military historians and anyone interested in a complete and superbly analyzed understanding of one of the most important naval battles ever. An eminently readable book to be carefully digested and revisited often." ? **Douglas V. Smith, professor of strategy and policy, U.S. Naval War College, Historian General of the Naval Order of the United States, author of *Carrier Battles: Command Decision in Harm's Way*, and editor of *One Hundred Years of U.S. Navy Air Power***

"Midway stands as one of the most dramatic and important battles in all of naval history. From the rich resources of the U. S. Naval Institute, renowned historian Thomas C. Hone has compiled a most useful and engaging introduction to the battle that did so much to turn the tide of the Pacific War and that the U.S. Navy now annually commemorates."

?JOHN B. LUNDSTROM, author of *Black Shoe Carrier Admiral: Frank Jack Fletcher at Coral Sea, Midway, and Guadalcanal*

About the Author

Thomas C. Hone is a former senior executive in the Office of the Secretary of Defense and a former member of the faculty of the Naval War College with a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin. He is the author or

coauthor of three books on naval administration and innovation, the coauthor of a book on the Navy between the world wars, and an award-winning author of articles and essays on naval and military affairs. He resides in Arlington, VA.

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