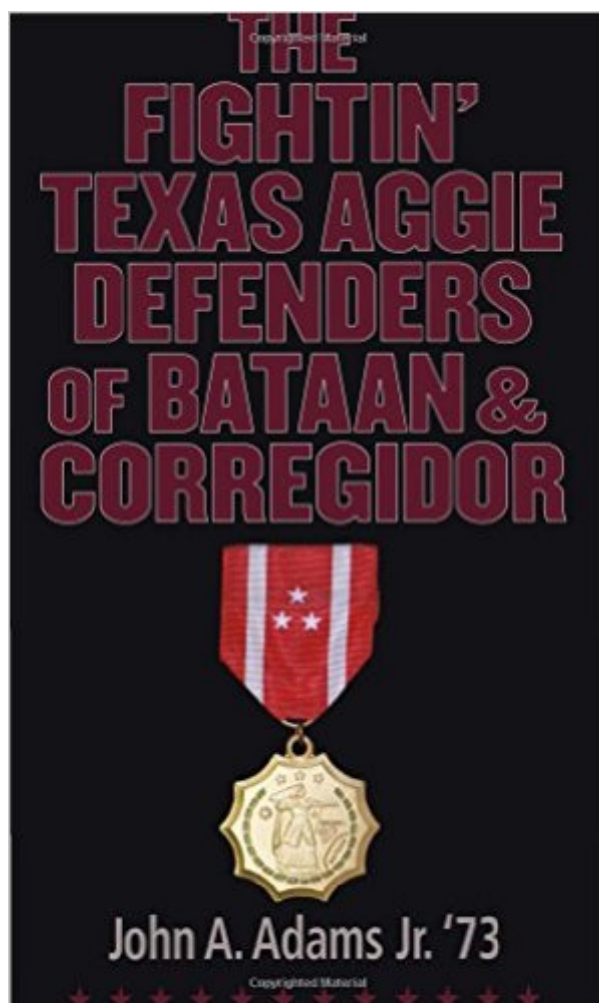


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The Fightin' Texas Aggie Defenders Of Bataan And Corregidor



Synopsis

By any measure, the battles of Bataan and Corregidor were among the most intensely fought and devastating episodes in the World War II Pacific theater. Beginning in early 1942, the Japanese Imperial Army invaded the Philippines in an attempt to control the Pacific region and expand its sphere of influence. The defense and last stand of Filipino and American allied forces marked the largest surrender in their respective military histories. Their efforts slowed the Japanese advance but only at great cost. John A. Adams Jr. provides a new and compelling exploration of these pivotal events by recounting the history of Bataan and Corregidor through the eyes of 89 soldiers and officers who were former students and citizen soldiers from the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas. All were products of the Corps of Cadets, and indeed no other institution could boast of such a large deployment in the opening of the war. While many words have been written on Bataan and Corregidor, none have taken the approach of collective biography as *The Fightin'™ Texas Aggie Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor* does here. As a result, this book is not only a new contribution to the history of World War II but also stands to be a landmark publication on the history of Texas A&M University.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

John Adams is the foremost authority on the military service of the graduates of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets. This book adds to that reputation as he tells the story of the defense of Bataan and Corregidor through the eyes and experiences of Texas Aggies. Maps, charts, pictures, and detailed footnotes add significant to this in-depth analysis. Adams is especially good in showing the

savage, barbaric actions of the Japanese against their American captives during the Bataan Death March, in the Philippine POW camps, and aboard the "Hell ships" that transported prisoners to Japan. He also does not shy away from emphasizing the lack of preparedness on the part of the American military and political system to defend the Philippines and the complete lack of effort to come to their aid once attacked. This book will make every Aggie, every Texan, and every American proud of those who gave so much--and perhaps a bit angry at the way they were abandoned by our country and brutalized by their enemy.

This is another book I wanted to like. A good friend (and Texas Aggie) sent this as a gift because he knew of my interest in the Bataan/Corregidor campaign. And I do admit when Adams discusses the Texas Aggie alums who gave their lives in this campaign he is at his best. However, for the graduate of a school who prides themselves on their military expertise, I found a large number of nagging "military" errors. Adams got the Philippine Scouts and Philippine National Army mixed up on several occasions - trust me, there was a WORLD of difference between those two groups. He brought up the fact that the M1917 Enfield was used, but apparently, hadn't heard of either the M1903 Springfield or M1 Garand, both of which were used in fairly large quantities. There were also mistakes in describing leadership and battles, as well. In short, this could have been a better tribute to the brave men Adams reports on, had he either had someone proofread his work, or if he had done a little more homework.

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