

A WWII Scrapbook

AMERICA IN WWII celebrates the 65th anniversary of V-J Day with this expanded War Stories section! It's chock full of end-of-war stories from the front and the home front—plus WWII stories from two postwar celebrities who served their country during the war.



COURTESY OF EDITH SHAIN AND WWW.SPIRITOF45.ORG

PHOTO BY ALFRED EISENSTAEDT/TIME & LIFE PICTURES GETTY IMAGES

A KISS MADE HER FAMOUS

EDITH SHAIN, a nurse working in wartime New York City, inadvertently became an American icon on August 14, 1945. That day, Life magazine's Alfred Eisenstaedt photographed her being kissed vigorously by a sailor in Times Square during an impromptu celebration

of the news of Japan's surrender. Today, at 91, Shain is one of the national spokespersons for Keep the Spirit of '45 Alive, a nonprofit effort to establish a national day of remembrance to commemorate the end of World War II. Here are some of her WWII memories...

It was August 14, 1945, and all of New York City was in the streets, delirious with excitement. Japan had surrendered. The war was over! Nurse Edith Shain (above, inset) headed for Times Square after her shift at Doctors Hospital, to witness the revelry. Her pretty face caught the eye of a rowdy sailor—right in front of *Life* photographer Alfred Eisenstaedt—and a spontaneous kiss (above) became history!

EVERYONE IN THE STATES was helping, with a sense of community.... Mothers left their homes and went to work. It was a whole new way of living for many people. When the war started we were all in there, doing our bit. Even the kids were collecting papers, tinfoil, whatever they could do. We were all involved in it. Of course, we also had the limits on how much meat we could take, no tires, no cars, no cigarettes—well, we got cigarettes but they were limited because they were sending them over to the troops....

Times were hard, she recalls: I worked in the emergency room in Florida [earlier in the war, before her stint at New York City's Doctors Hospital] and it was during the time when there were no doctors around. So it was very, very busy and people who could well afford a doctor couldn't get a doctor so they had all these people coming in to the emergency room.... People were angry because they didn't have their doctors there and they had to wait like everybody else....

So, what about that famous kiss? I saw the photograph in *Life* but I didn't say anything about it to anyone. It was kind of an embarrassing thing. You know, so what?

I was urged by my friends please to write [to *Life*] and tell them who I was. And 20 years later I wrote to Time-Life and told them who I was and said all I wanted was a copy of that photograph. *Instead*, *Life* invited her up to New York for a party: Alfred Eisenstaedt, he came up to me and handed me the photograph....

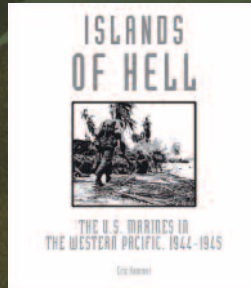
Leaving New York after the party, she discovered she had no cash on her: I checked out of the hotel and I didn't have a credit card and I couldn't write a check for them because they wouldn't accept a check. I didn't have any money to get the bus to go back to the airport. So I gave one of the people who was working there the original *Life* magazine for \$20 so I could get my cab there, and I signed it for them. I said, "This will be worth more, you'll see!" I also gave them a check for \$20.

Edith Shain

*wartime stateside nurse
and famous V-J Day kisser,
Los Angeles, California*

From Pearl Harbor to Tokyo Bay

New perspectives on the epic battle for the Pacific



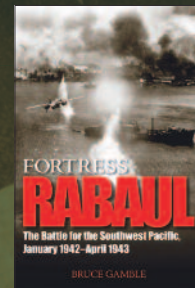
Islands of Hell

The U.S. Marines in the Western Pacific, 1944-1945

By Eric Hammel

978-0-7603-3779-0 • \$50.00

Illustrated with hundreds of never-before-published photographs and supplemented with full-color maps, *Islands of Hell* is a detailed photographic history of the Fighting Leathernecks' fierce combat for the Marianas, Peleliu, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa.



Fortress Rabaul

The Battle for the Southwest Pacific, January 1942-April 1943

By Bruce Gamble

978-0-7603-2350-2, \$28.00

In *Fortress Rabaul*, author Bruce Gamble chronicles the Japanese fortress on Rabaul and its crucial role in Japanese operations in the Southwest Pacific, detailing a critical and, until now, little understood chapter in World War II history.



New in Paperback

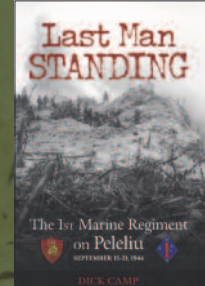
Tales from a Tin Can

The USS Dale from Pearl Harbor to Tokyo Bay

By Michael Keith Olson

978-0-7603-3826-1, \$17.99

Written in the words of those who manned the USS Dale during World War II, *Tales from a Tin Can* tells the complete story of the ship and her crew from the morning of December 7, 1941, through the Japanese surrender in August of 1945.



Last Man Standing

The 1st Marine Regiment on Peleliu

By Dick Camp

978-0-7603-3493-5, \$28.00

Drawing extensively on personal interviews and many never-before-published sources, *Last Man Standing* gives readers a new and harrowing vision of what really happened at the Battle of Peleliu—one of the bloodiest battles in Marine Corps history.



QUAYSIDE
PUBLISHING GROUP



ZENITH
PRESS

800-328-0590 • www.zenithpress.com

Zenith Press, an imprint of the Quayside Publishing Group

In bookstores and online retailers everywhere.

WYATT EARP, DRILL INSTRUCTOR
 HUGH KRAMPE was just 17 years old when he joined the US Marine Corps in 1943 and became the youngest drill instructor in the corps's history. After the war he achieved fame under a new name as actor Hugh O'Brian, perhaps best known for his starring role in *The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp*, televised on ABC from 1955 to 1961.

Inspired by nine days he spent in Africa working with Dr. Albert Schweitzer in 1958, O'Brian founded the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership programs (HOBY) to nurture leadership skills in young people, and later the Hugh O'Brian World Youth Network. Now 85, O'Brian is a national spokesperson for the Keep the Spirit of '45 Alive initiative.

I ENLISTED IN CHICAGO and there were about 30, 40 of us that went on the train at the same time to San Diego, to boot camp. The sergeant that took us in the bus to the train station where everybody was supposed to meet, before he put us on the train he gave me a big envelope, actually a

couple, and he said, "Krampe"—my real name was Krampe—"Krampe, you're in charge. Make sure you take care of the troops and make sure they got their meal tickets, etc. You handle it." So at 17 I was in charge of these 46 guys, or whatever it was, heading to boot camp, and making sure they got their meal tickets and all that other shit, any other problems that came up. And we did have a couple problems. One or two of them got off the train to grab a hot dog or something at one of the stops and they missed the goddamn train.

When we got off the train in San Diego [a bus] came to pick us up. When I pulled them off the train they all went off in formation and stood at parade rest waiting for the marines to pick us up to take us to the boot camp. And as I saw them coming towards us I brought them to attention. And the two marines looked at each other

★ WAR STORIES



COURTESY OF HUGH O'BRIAN AND WWW.PRINTOF45.ORG

Hugh Krampe—later known on movie and TV screens as Hugh O'Brian—joined the US Marine Corps in 1943 at age 17, and became the corps's youngest drill instructor.

and they looked at the group and they said, "How the hell did this happen?" And one of the guys, who was about 40, said, "Hey, just talk to the kid." That was the first time they had a group come in that was organ-

MERRIAM PRESS
 The Merriam Press has published over 100 World War II titles including over two dozen memoirs. Details on all can be found on the web site
merriam-press.com
 or send \$1.00 for the current catalog
Merriam Press
 133 Elm St Apt 3R
 Bennington VT 05201
 USA
 802-447-0313
 MasterCard, Visa, Amex, PayPal

Also available are dozens of PDF files of manuals, documents and other publications supplied on CD/DVD disks. Most only \$5.00. Visit web site for all the details.

And the World War II Archives series of PDF files of dozens of articles and documents and hundreds of photographs on computer disk. Sample issue only \$10.00 ppd.

Hellicat Tales: A U.S. Navy Fighter Pilot in World War II
 by Robert "Gabby" Gadbois
 F6F, USS Randolph (CV-15). 210 pp., 6x9 in., 20 B&W and 4 color photos.
 Paper: #MM1-P \$19.95
 Hard/dj: #MM1-H \$34.95

A PT Skipper in the South Pacific: A Naval Officer's Memoir of Service on PTs and a PT Boat Tender
 by Kenneth W. Prescott
 PT61, PT48, USS Jamestown (AGP-3). 177 pp., 6x9 in., 100 photos.
 Paper: #MM110-P \$19.95
 Hard/dj: #MM110-H \$34.95

What Were They Thinking? A Fresh Look At Japan At War, 1941-1945
 by John D. Beatty and Lee A. Rochwerger
 Why did Japan fight a war at all? 190 pp., 6x9 in., 107 photos, index.
 Paper: #MM90-P \$20.00
 Hard/dj: #MM90-H \$35.00

He Wore a Pair of Silver Wings: The World War II Memoir of a Lightning Recon Pilot
 by Thomas K. Follis
 32nd Photo Recon Sqdn., 5th Photo Group, 15th Air Force, Italy, 1944-45. 254 pp., 6x9 in., 37 photos, 4 illus., 1 map.
 Paper: #MM80-P \$19.95
 Hard/dj: #MM80-H: \$34.95

I'll Be Home For The Christmas Rush: Letters From Europe, 1944-45
 by Albert W. Hoffman. Edited for publication by David R. Hoffman
 36th and 29th Inf. Divs. 255 pp., 6x9 in., 27 photos, 3 maps, index.
 Paper: #MM83-P \$19.95
 Hard/dj: #MM83-H \$36.95

United States vs. German Equipment
 by Maj. Gen. Isaac D. White, CG, 2nd Armd. Div.
 March 1945 report for Eisenhower compares U.S. and German vehicles, weapons, equipment. 164 pp., 6x9 in., 63 photos, 2 illus., 1 table.
 Paper: #MM240-P \$15.95
 Hard/dj: #MM240-H \$34.95



COURTESY OF HUGH O'BRIAN AND WWW.PRINTOFS.ORG



AMERICA IN WWII COLLECTION

O'Brian (above, on the left, at California's Camp Pendleton) was about to head to Iwo Jima alongside pals like Private 1st Class Joe Smith in the 28th Marines' 5th Tank Battalion.

Instead, he was sent to a US Naval Academy prep school. It may have saved his life.

He lived to begin a film career playing, among other things, a WWII marine (right).

ized. So I had them come to attention, left face, and we marched to the bus and got on squad by squad.

The marines decided young Krampe would make a good drill instructor. As you

can imagine, being 17 and taking a platoon of boots, all of them except maybe one or two older than you, can you imagine that? If you talk to a marine about it he probably won't believe you. But you can look it

up and there it is in the record.

It was kind of a tough situation but it worked out okay because I'd load them up with their gear and their piece—their M-1—sea bag, and all that crap. The first

ALL OF THE GUT'S, GLORY & VALOR... IN MINIATURE!



- ★ Metal Toy Soldiers
- ★ Plastic Toy Soldiers
- ★ 12" Action Figures
- ★ Wargaming
- ★ Model Kits
- ★ Paints & Supplies
- ★ Diorama & Scenic Materials
- ★ Military Books & Publications



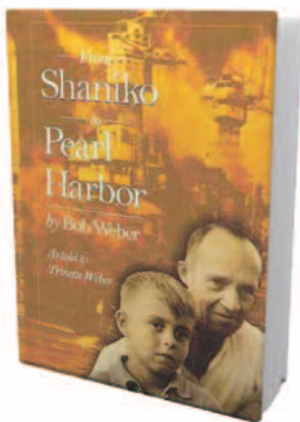
Tel: 1-781-321-8855

Email: matt@hobbybunker.com

www.hobbybunker.com

Hobby Bunker Inc. • 33 Exchange St.
Malden, MA 02148

★
WAR
STORIES



“From Shaniko to Pearl Harbor”

*A 12 year old's true
eyewitness account of the
bombing of Pearl Harbor*

\$14.95 postpaid (US only)
Send check or money order to:
Trinette Weber
8037 S.E. Stark St.
Portland, Or 97215

www.pearlharboreyewitness.com

Save Your Issues



Keep this valuable source of information fresh and available for future reference. Library quality. Constructed with heavy bookbinder's board and covered in a rich flag blue leather-grained material. A silver label with the *America in WWII* logo is included for personalizing.

One - \$15 Three - \$40 Six - \$80
Add \$3.50 per slipcase for P&H. USA orders only.

Send to: **TNC Enterprises Dept. AWW**
P.O. Box 2475, Warminster, PA 18974

Enclose name, address and payment with your order. (No P.O. boxes please) PA residents add 6% sales tax. You can even call **215-674-8476** to order by phone or fax **215-674-5949**.

Credit Card Orders:

Visa, MC, AmEx accepted. Send name, card number, exp. date and signature.

To Order Online:
www.tncenterprises.net/aww

thing they got was shaved, which took about 30 seconds to shave the head bald, and then I'd run them out to the boon-docks in the back of the training ground, the Marine Corps Depot, and I said, "You got to get here all at the same time. Your buddy next to you is having a problem, you pick him up and carry him, but I want everybody here at the same time."

By the time we got out there they were all sweating and already they hated my



COURTESY OF HUGH O'BRIAN AND WWW.SPIRITOFF45.ORG

As a marine, O'Brian was following in the footsteps of his father, a WWI horse marine. When O'Brian enlisted, his dad was a US Marine Corps Reserve captain in Chicago.

In this family shot, the Krampe marines stand together in their uniforms.

guts, you know. And I said, "That's what it's going to be—right?—the time in boot camp here. And if you don't like it you can go to the brig and get one meal a day, or whatever." I said, "I need to have you guys all work together in order for us to get through this alive, and at the end of it, when we're in formation and I come by and tap you on your butt and tell you you're not a marine there's not going to be a dry eye in the joint."

O'Brian even says he's responsible for something that has become a marine trademark: Have you ever heard Marines

go, "oo-ah" [often rendered oo-rah or hoo-ah]? Well, I'm the guy who originated it. Back in '43. I said, "I need to know where you are every minute of the day. I'm going to give you three potty breaks. But if you have to go in-between, whatever, nature calls, I understand—you gotta go, you gotta go. But you're going to be separate from the other guys, so I need to know when you're coming out. I need to hear from you. So when you get up I want to hear, 'oo-ah!'" When they got off the john they said that as loud as they could so I could hear it. So that's where that came from."

Hugh O'Brian

*wartime drill instructor, US Marine Corps,
Los Angeles, California*

A KID'S V-J DAY MEMORIES

I WAS FIVE YEARS OLD on V-J Day. We lived in Chicago, but my family summered near the little town of Burlington, Wisconsin.

This is one of my earliest recollections. I was playing outside when my mother called me (she was all excited), threw me into the car and drove the few miles to town. There, we found that everyone for miles around had done the same thing. We joined a big cavalcade of cars and snaked our way through town, horns honking, people calling out to one another. I recall that the fronts of all of the stores were decorated with streamers and American flags.

My most vivid recollection is that the hardware store had a big homemade replica of the Liberty Bell out front, covered in tinfoil. All of this made a huge impression on a five-year-old boy. As you can see, I still remember it 65 years later.

Paul Schwartz

*wartime child on the home front,
Buffalo Grove, Illinois*

SCARED BY V-J MAYHEM

I SPENT ABOUT TWO YEARS as an ensign in the Navy Nurse Corps toward the end of the war. V-J Day found me in San Francisco. My roommate and I had had dinner with some friends. Then I walked with her to the train station. She boarded a train for San Diego, where we would both be stationed ultimately.

I needed to return downtown to get on a train to get to Alameda Naval Air Station, where I was to be stationed temporarily.