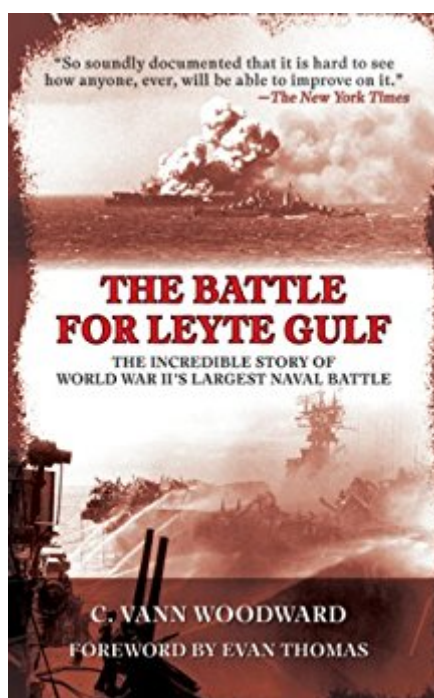


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The Battle For Leyte Gulf: The Incredible Story Of World War II's Largest Naval Battle



Synopsis

Pulitzer-Prize-winner and bestselling author C. Vann Woodward recreates the gripping account of the battle for Leyte Gulf—the greatest naval battle of World War II and the largest engagement ever fought on the high seas. For the Japanese, it represented their supreme effort; they committed to action virtually every operational fighting ship on the lists of the Imperial Navy, including two powerful new battleships of the Yamato class. It also ended in their greatest defeat—and a tremendous victory for the United States Navy. Features a new introduction by Evan Thomas, author of *Sea of Thunder*.

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Customer Reviews

The Battle for Leyte Gulf is an excellent descriptive account of the actions of both the Japanese and the US Navy in late October 1944. It begins by setting the stage—information about the two fleets, their leadership and their strategies. Some will say there's too much detail but in a seminal book like this that detail is the point. Don't expect much character development as the main players are portrayed through their commands, actions and reactions. This is the most comprehensive account of the Battle for Leyte Gulf I've read. Required reading for WWII Pacific theater buffs.

I found this book to be fascinating, although at times difficult to keep track of exactly where the various navy groups were operating. More maps would have been useful to keep the whole enormous battle zone in perspective. I did, however, come away with a great understanding of not only the battle itself but also the leaders on both sides who were involved. While hindsight obviously helps to determine who was or was not at fault, it can often shade the on-screen perspectives of the combatants. Woodward avoids this tendency by creating a balanced account as seen from both sides of the battle. What results is a good understanding of how the battles are clouded by the "fog of war". I found this book to an extremely valuable description of a real time conflict that created understanding of all of the combatants, not from the side of the right side of the causes, but for the lack of communication throughout the battle, as well as for the thousands of sailors on both sides who lost their lives.

Great book. It's cliché to say "makes you feel like you're actually there" however in this case that's exactly what I want to say. The bravery, sacrifice, and heroics of the Greatest Generation are truly captured in this book. I have to admit this book makes me feel like I want to be a better man.

The grandfather of Histories of the greatest sea battle ever fought. Read Woodward's book before any written later. It's written clearly, understandably and from an unambiguously American viewpoint. Concise and easy to read. The only negative comment is about the charts: black-and-white, grainy and hard to read. Other maps and charts are better accompaniment to an otherwise excellent work.

even though written shortly after the war, Vann Woodward covers the scope and details of this complicated battle with authority and insight. stands the test of time. And Vann Woodward has an excellent writing style.

Really liked the book, I think this event will be remembered for thousands of years and has been so overlooked. Exciting fantastic experience and I never knew a damn thing about it till now. My brother was a gunner on one of the LST's and he never understood what really happened till now. We owe these men a great deal for what they went thru and for the ones that lost it all I give a prayer for them and their families. I can not help but wonder if in the storms off of Leyte the ghost of Evan's is not seen on the fantail of his destroyer .

amazing reading. my priority is history - and i was amazed by reading the book. I look forward to read the two others I have ordered. Being Danish Citizen born 1933 and having spent more than 45 in International Shipping I believe I have - although a teenager - followed the ww2 in many different ways. Wish to thank for excellent service during the proces of ordering books. Yours Flemming Ramsby

The maps provided were very disappointing but the clear narrative helped explain a frightfully complex series of very confusing battles. Descriptions of unbelievable heroism and knowing self sacrifice are awe inspiring, while details of the making of command decisions - both wise and foolish - help me understand points of this battle I had long wondered about. A must read for navy buffs but also for any who doubt the courage and dedicated persistence of the average John Doe. US fighting man.

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