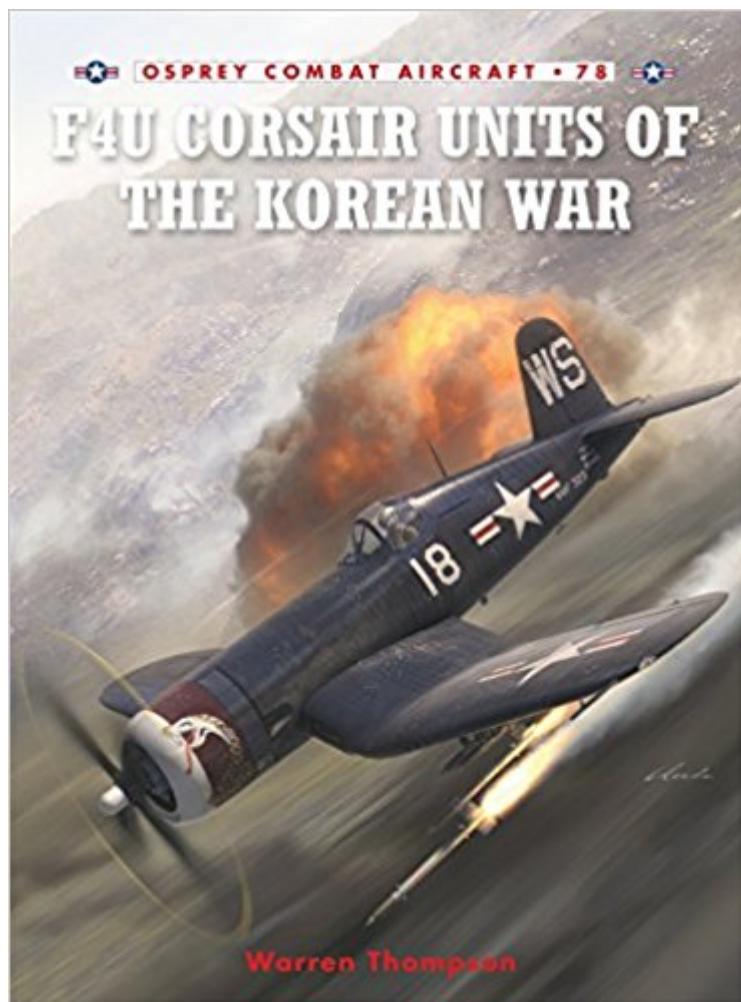


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F4U Corsair Units Of The Korean War (Osprey Combat Aircraft 78)



Synopsis

The definitive account of F-4 Corsair Units deployed in the Korean War (1950-1953), this book tells the story of the 26 US Navy Squadrons, most of which were carrier based, and the 6 Marine Corps F-4 squadrons that flew combat missions against the North Koreans. Drawing from a vast repository of personal interviews with F-4 pilots, the author paints a harrowing picture of the deadly combat of this often forgotten air war. Included in this volume is the story of Lt Guy Bordelon, the US Navy's sole ace of the Korean War, who flew an F4U-5N night-fighter against the night raiders sent up by the Korean Air force. Backing up the text is a vast number of previously unpublished private photographs that bring the stories of these pilots to life. Finally the book contains extensive appendices that detail every unit deployment by carrier, air group, Corsair model and tail code. Also included is a detailed list noting every Corsair lost in the war, with tail number, pilot, date of loss and the unit.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Vought's F4U was a workhorse of the Korean War air war. Navy and Marine Corps Corsair units flew thousands of missions during that 'police action,' the majority being Close Air Support that saved thousands of lives of Allied ground troops. In return, over 600 USN/USMC F4Us were lost. Warren Thompson, who had authored more books on the Korean air war than you can shake a (control) stick at, summarizes the Corsair's Korean War record in this colorful Osprey 'Combat Aircraft' book, #78 in the series. Corsairs were in action a month after North Korea invaded its

southern neighbor. Navy carriers initially on station like Valley Forge and Boxer were later joined by Philippine Sea, Princeton, Bon Homme Richard, Essex and other carriers. Two months after the invasion, USMC Corsair units began operating from South Korean airfields; USMC units later flying from carriers as well. Throughout the war, Navy and Marine Corsair units provided CAS along with armed recce, their load-out of bombs, napalm, rockets and 50-caliber devastating North Korean - and later Chinese - troops, tanks, bridges, airfields and other targets. Corsairs also flew the night skies of Korea, hitting ground targets and dueling with NKAF nightfighters. The Navy's lone ace was an F4U pilot with five 'Bedcheck Charlies' to his credit; other Corsairs downed several NKAF Yak fighters and even a MiG-15! While F4U CORSAIR UNITS OF THE KOREAN WAR is replete with stats demonstrating the Corsair's great contribution to the war effort, Thompson keeps the text interesting and lively with many first-person reminiscences by pilots and groundcrew. Likewise, he has included a great collection of b&w and color shots. In fact, over half of the pix are color, a first for an Osprey book!

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