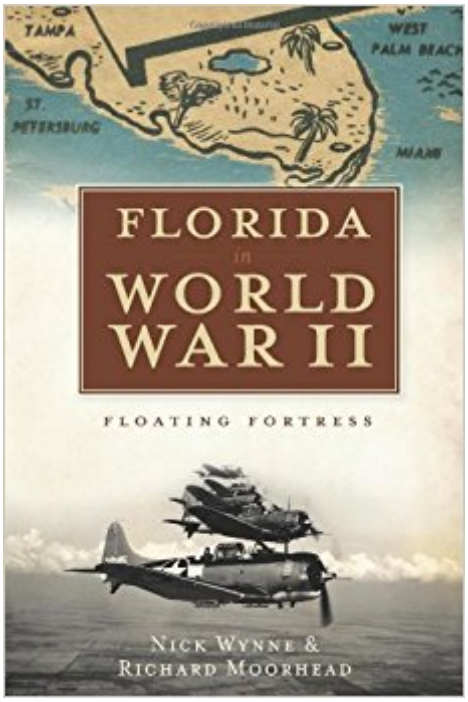
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Florida In World War II: Floating Fortress



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Synopsis

Few realize what a vital role World War II and Florida played in each other's history. The war helped Florida move past its southern conservative mentality and emerge as a sophisticated society, and thousands of military men were trained under Florida's sunny skies. Here are stories from some of the one hundred military bases, including Tyndall Field, where Clark Gable trained, and Eglin Air Force Base, where Doolittle planned his raid on Tokyo. Read about Camp Gordon Johnston, referred to as "Hell by the Sea," built in a swampy, snake-infested subtropical jungle, and uncover the secrets of "Station J," a base that monitored the transmissions of German U-boats prowling off the coast. This fascinating collaboration between historians Nick Wynne and Richard Moorhead reveals the lasting impact of World War II on Florida as the United States heads into the seventieth anniversary of its entry into the war.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dr. Nick Wynne retired in 2008 from his post as executive director of the Florida Historical Society. After obtaining his PhD in history, Dr. Wynne taught college history at the University of South Florida. Since 1996, he has served as executive director of the Florida Historical Library Foundation. He is an active lecturer who has given 450 presentations and speeches in the past five years and more than one hundred television and radio interviews. He is a member of the Southern Historical Association, the American Historical Association, the Florida College Teachers of History, the Georgia Association of Historians and, of course, the Florida Historical Society. He currently resides in Rockledge, Florida (near Cocoa Beach).

interesting facts I never knew about my home state...my Cousin wasfirst to land and take off a carrier in 1910 & also developed the landing technique.

This was an enlightening book that provided facts unknown to this native Floridian as to some of the military activity and bases on the Florida peninsula during WWII. It in fact was a virtual fortress.

Very informative. Wish there had been mention of the flight out of Ft..Lauderdale of the several planes that went missing on a training mission and were never found. Also a couple sent to find them that were lost as well. Great read.

Best book I have read regarding Florida in WWII. The authors do a good job of setting the stage for WW II and Forida’s envolvement.

As a floridian, I real enjoyed reading about the history to WWII and its impact on Florida.

As a native Floridian, I was continually surprised and amazed by the revelations in this outstanding book. I knew WWII was a major historical event that reshaped the modern world, of course, but I had no idea how deep and long term the local impact was throughout my home state. For example: prior to WWII nearly 80 percent of Florida’s population lived in small towns or rural areas. Post WWII, just 19 percent lived in rural areas.The writing is excellent. Readers will find this book to be enjoyable and entertaining. It is not dense or tedious. I loved several side-stories about dramatic events in Florida. They would fascinate the state’s current residents, particularly high school and college students. Most Floridians probably don’t know, for example, that a German U-boat put four saboteurs ashore in 1942. Their plan was to attack war factories with high explosives but they were betrayed by the leader of the mission.I was also surprised to learn about the large number of military bases, aircraft and personnel in Florida during the war. Florida really could be called "a floating fortress--the biggest damn aircraft carrier in the world".*Highly recommended for fans of World War II history and Florida history.-Guy P. Harrison, author of "50 Popular Beliefs That People Think are True" and other books.

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