



Thach Weave: The Life of Jimmie Thach

By Steve Ewing

Naval Institute Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 370 pages. Dimensions: 8.9in. x 5.9in. x 1.0in. This biography completes a trilogy on the three Navy fighter pilots--Jimmie Thach, Butch OHare, and Jimmy Flatley--who developed sweeping changes in aerial combat tactics during World War II. While OHare and Flatley were instrumental in making the weave a success, Thach was its theoretical innovator, and his use of the tactic in combat at Midway documented its practical application. This portrait of the famous pilot provides a memorable account of how Thach, convinced that his Wildcat was no match for Japan's formidable Zero, found a way to give his squadron a fighting chance. Using matchsticks on his kitchen table, he devised a solution that came to be called the Thach Weave. But as Steve Ewing is quick to point out, this was not Thach's sole contribution to the Navy. Throughout his forty-year career, Thach provided answers to multiple challenges facing the Navy, and his ideas were implemented service wide. A highly decorated ace, Thach was an early test pilot, a creative task force operations officer in the last year of World War II, and an outstanding carrier commander in the Korean War. During the Cold...

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