



Warthog (P)

By William L. Smallwood

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This volume is about the special pilots and the missions they flew in Operation Desert Storm during the Gulf War. Built around a two-ton, 20-foot-long Gatling gun, the Warthog was very successful in its Desert Storm baptism of fire. With the full co-operation of the Air Force, the author interviewed over 100 A-10 pilots immediately after the war. The hangar-talk of Fish, Gator, Growth, Fannspeed and the other "Hog drivers" tells the story of the A-10s unlikely rise to glory, and what it's like to fly combat in a plane so ugly that it was dubbed the Warthog. William L. Smallwood is the author of "Strike Eagle: Flying the F-15E in the Gulf War".

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Warthog (P) By William L. Smallwood Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

The A-10 is a slow, stick-and-rudder airplane built around a Gatling gun capable of firing 4000 rounds a minute. It is an ugly beast (thus its nickname: Warthog), but "hog drivers" think highly of it because of its ability to remain aloft after absorbing gross punishment from enemy aircraft. Smallwood, who interviewed 143 of the pilots who flew the A-10 in the Gulf War, here presents an exhilarating, fact-packed narrative that conveys the emotional as well as the technical/tactical aspects of the Warthog effort during Desert Storm. In the war's first phase, A-10 squadrons carried out a precise preemptive campaign against targets that could affect the outcome of the allied ground campaign. Throughout that four-day operation, A-10s provided close air support for advancing coalition forces and decimated two Republican Guard divisions. The Warthogs flew an average of 193 missions per day for 42 days and are credited with destroying at least half of the Iraqi armor. Six Warthogs were lost. Two pilots were killed. A valuable addition to air-war literature. Military Book Club main selection.

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From Kirkus Reviews

A valentine for one of the ugliest, albeit most lethally effective, warplanes ever built--as well as for the men who flew them during the Desert Storm campaign. Drawing on interviews with over one hundred A-10 pilots who served in the Persian Gulf during the 1990-91 hostilities, Smallwood (himself an aviator and Korean War vet) offers riveting perspectives on aerial combat. Setting the stage with an informative briefing on how, in the 70's, the Air Force developed the A-10 (a.k.a. "Warthog") as a means of supporting ground troops with massive firepower, he moves into anecdotal vignettes detailing the ways in which so-called "hog drivers" and their commanders whiled away the weary hours of the calm before the storm in Saudi Arabia's inhospitable clime. At the heart of his narrative, however, are vivid accounts of how A-10s accomplished their tank-busting missions and then some once the battle was joined. Tasked, among other objectives, to take out missile launchers and artillery emplacements far behind the front lines (assignments normally reserved for jet fighters), the slow-moving, heavily armed Warthogs were credited with over half the bomb damage inflicted on Iraqi forces and installations. Employing improvisational tactics, A-10s also flew reconnaissance and assisted in rescues of coalition pilots; they even scored air-to-air kills, downing a couple of enemy choppers. Indeed, the plane's ungainly Gatling-gun platform performed so well that pilots demanded their craft be redesignated "RFOA-10" (for "reconnaissance/fighter/observation/attack"). An absorbing tale of how a decidedly ugly duckling became a military hero of some consequence. (Nineteen photos, map--not seen) (Main Selection of the Military Book Club) -- *Copyright ©1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Review

"Exhilarating, fast-paced narrative."

"One of the more valuable additions to the literature of the Persian Gulf War."

"An absorbing tale of how a decidedly ugly duckling became a military hero."

"Smallwood writes so well that we feel the sweat in the small of our backs and the adrenaline pumping. . . ."

"A fitting tribute."

“As fascinating a flying tale as you will ever read, and it’s all true.”

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frankie Graybill:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the coastal world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. One particular activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition details. Even you love Warthog (P), you are able to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't buy it, oh come on its named reading friends.

Danna Bullock:

Reading a book to get new life style in this year; every people loves to examine a book. When you read a book you can get a large amount of benefit. When you read books, you can improve your knowledge, mainly because book has a lot of information on it. The information that you will get depend on what types of book that you have read. If you need to get information about your analysis, you can read education books, but if you act like you want to entertain yourself you can read a fiction books, these kinds of us novel, comics, and soon. The Warthog (P) will give you a new experience in reading through a book.

Patricia Miller:

That reserve can make you to feel relax. This kind of book Warthog (P) was colourful and of course has pictures on there. As we know that book Warthog (P) has many kinds or genre. Start from kids until adolescents. For example Naruto or Private investigator Conan you can read and believe you are the character on there. Therefore , not at all of book usually are make you bored, any it offers you feel happy, fun and rest. Try to choose the best book for yourself and try to like reading in which.

Alice Navarro:

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