



Scream of Eagles: The Dramatic Account of the U.S. Navy's Top Gun Fighter Pilots and How They Took Back the Skies Over Vietnam

By Robert K. Wilcox

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The mission:

Become the most skilled, highly-trained, and deadliest fighter pilots in the world.

The place: TOP GUN

In the darkest days of the Vietnam War, the U.S. Navy's kill ratio had fallen to 2:1 -- a deadly decline in pilot combat effectiveness. To improve the odds, a corps of hardened fighter pilots founded the Fighter Weapons School, a.k.a. TOP GUN. Utilizing actual enemy fighter planes in brutally realistic dogfights, the Top Gun instructors dueled their students and each other to achieve a lethal new level of fighting expertise. The training paid off. Combining the latest weaponry and technology, mental endurance, and razor-sharp instincts, the Top Gunners drove the Navy's kill ratio up to an astounding 12:1, dominating the skies over Vietnam.

This gripping account takes you inside the cockpit for an adventure more explosive than any fiction -- in a dramatic true story of the legendary military school that has created the most dangerous fighter pilots the world has ever seen.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Wilcox's gripping narrative describes how a handful of Navy fighter pilots established a special school called Top Gun at the Miramar Air Station in California in 1968 and virtually revolutionized air combat training. Top Gun doctrine was fully validated when Randy Cunningham and his radar interceptor officer, William Driscoll, became the first American aces of the Vietnam war. By the time of the U.S. pullout in 1973, Top Gun's kill ratio was 12 to 1, compared with the Air Force's "dismal" 2 to 1. Wilcox (*The Shroud*) contends that Top Gun training forged the only clear-cut victory America won during the 1965-1973 war. The book features breathtaking accounts of aerial duels--Wilcox is very good at describing the three-dimensional world of dogfighting. His account of the school's ad hoc origins and the effort to develop ways of meeting the MiG challenge in Vietnam is equally exciting. *Scream of Eagles* ranks with the best of the books about air combat. Photos. Military Book Club dual main selection.

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From Library Journal

The F-4 Navy Fighter Weapons School (nicknamed "Top Gun") was founded in March 1969 to train Phantom jet pilots to better fight Soviet-supplied MiG-17s in Vietnam. While no book can match the electrifying big-screen flight sequences of *Top Gun* the movie, this account capably describes the creation of the school at Miramar Air Station, California, and the combat tactics taught there. It shows soldiers undergoing dangerous training for a deadly game, with a pilot a month killed, often in a ball of fire. Much of the narrative depicts gripping combat action over the skies of Vietnam, where pilots seeking to push to "the edge of the envelope" were frustrated by rules of engagement. Recommended.

- *Richard W. Grefrath, Univ. of Nevada Lib., Reno*

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Review

"Brilliant."

-- Stephen Coonts

"Gripping narrative....Wilcox is very good at describing the three-dimensional world of dogfighting....Exciting."

-- *Publishers Weekly*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Christopher Mills:

Nowadays reading books are more than want or need but also turn into a life style. This reading habit give you lot of advantages. Advantages you got of course the knowledge your information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with training books but if you want feel happy read one together with theme for entertaining for instance comic or novel. Typically the *Scream of Eagles: The Dramatic Account of the U.S. Navy's Top Gun Fighter Pilots and How They Took Back the Skies Over*

Vietnam is kind of e-book which is giving the reader erratic experience.

Harry Thomas:

The reason why? Because this *Scream of Eagles: The Dramatic Account of the U.S. Navy's Top Gun Fighter Pilots and How They Took Back the Skies Over Vietnam* is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will jolt you with the secret that inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such amazing way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book include such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking method. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I have been you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

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Virgie Haynes:

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