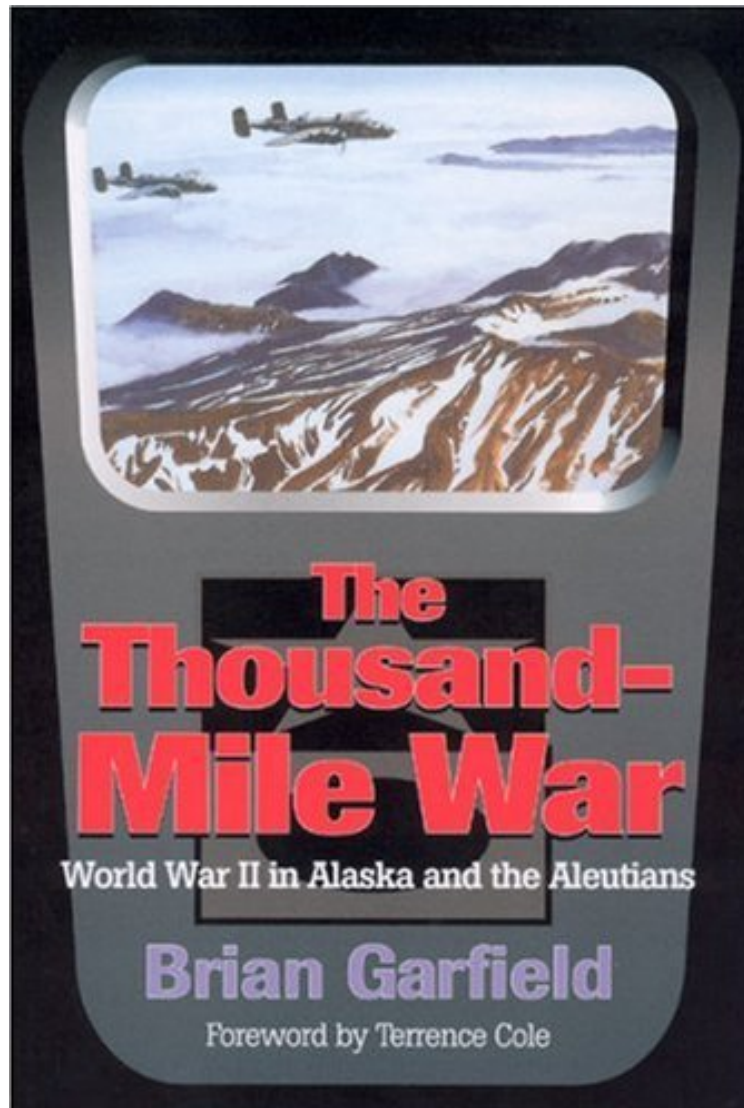


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## Thousand-Mile War: World War II in Alaska and the Aleutians (Classic Reprint Series)

*Brian Garfield*

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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Thousand-Mile War: World War II in Alaska and the Aleutians (Classic Reprint Series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent account of the Aleutian WWII campaign By John in Bethesda I bought this to read during a trip to Alaska. This is one of the better books that I have read about WWII. The

war in the Aleutians is mostly a forgotten part of the war. The author paints an unvarnished picture of the war: the waste of man and material, the political infighting among American services, the mistakes made both by Americans and Japanese, and the botched attacks and defenses. He also calls out names of those that did well and those that did not - unvarnished and no rah-rah. A constant theme throughout the book is the extreme difficulty that both sides experienced fighting a war in this hostile climate. Ground crews would drain the engine oil from returning aircraft, keep it heated, and return it to the engines before the next take-off - otherwise, the oil would thicken so much in the cold that the engines could not turn over. Living conditions were constantly cold and damp. Landings on the islands were hazardous as best. Planes were lucky if they could find the next island. I highly recommend this book and I hope that you enjoy it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Have you ever heard of the northern north American front ...By CustomerHave you ever heard of the northern north American front in WW II? Well I hadn't until I visited the Alaskan War Memorial this summer. Now having read this summary, I am in awe as to how much action took place, the significance of it, the possible exponential expansion of it and how close each side was to using this front to gain control over territory of the other. You also get the plus of the author's reviewing the work years after original writing as new documents have been released and comments for participants have been received. This book is a must to understanding the complete meaning of "World" in World War II. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Aleutian Front-a Long, Hard, Victorious, and Unsung CampaignBy Carl RobinsonA cousin of mine-my grandmother always told me-was killed in Alaska fighting the Japanese. Yes, Alaska was invaded by the formidable foe in WWII. Large Japanese garrisons were occupied Attu and Kiska Island and the Northern Pacific was under air raid threat from the Japanese Air Force. Brian Garfield relates the tale of how the Americans fought back and re-won the Aleutians. It is a tale of cold weather, fog, logistical excellence, naval battles, and air raids with obsolete or second hand aircraft. The scope of the campaign involves thousands of troops and a thousand miles of front over barren wilderness. This is the definitive work on the Aleutians Campaign and a must read for anyone interested in the Pacific War.

The Thousand-Mile War, a powerful story of the battles of the United States and Japan on the bitter rim of the North Pacific, has been acclaimed as one of the great accounts of World War II. Brian Garfield, a novelist and screenwriter whose works have sold some 20 million copies, was searching for a new subject when he came upon the story of this "forgotten war" in Alaska. He found the history of the brave men who had served in the Aleutians so compelling and so little known that he wrote the first full-length history of the Aleutian campaign, and the book remains a favorite among Alaskans. The war in the Aleutians was fought in some of the worst climatic conditions on earth for men, ships, and airplanes. The sea was rough, the islands craggy and unwelcoming, and enemy number one was always the weather--the savage wind, fog, and rain of the Aleutian chain. The fog seemed to reach even into the minds of the military commanders on both sides, as they directed men into situations that so often had tragic results. Frustrating, befuddling, and still the subject of debate, the Aleutian campaign nevertheless marked an important turn of the war in favor of the United States. Now, half a century after the war ended, more of the fog has been lifted. In the updated University of Alaska Press edition, Garfield supplements his original account, which was drawn from statistics, personal interviews, letters, and diaries, with more recently declassified photographs and many more illustrations.

Students of World War II history will delight to find an exclusive focus on how the battles were fought in Alaska and the Aleutians: something commonly overlooked in favor of the more graphic and active European and Pacific arenas. This first appeared in 1969: it remains one of the best accounts of the war, reading like fiction and including fine documentary records in this reprint. -- Midwest Book