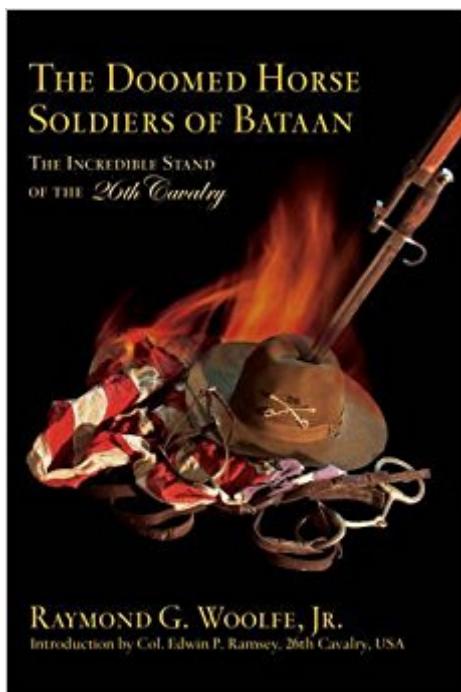


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The Doomed Horse Soldiers Of Bataan: The Incredible Stand Of The 26th Cavalry



Synopsis

This is the story of the last mounted American troops to see action in battle, when, in late 1941, six-hundred men and their horses held off the Japanese invasion of Luzon in the Philippines just long enough to allow General Douglas MacArthur's forces to withdraw to Bataan. The 26th continued to fight on horseback until late February 1942 when, tragically, they were ordered dismounted and their horses and mules transferred to the Quartermaster's center and slaughtered for food for the defenders. It is on record that the 26th troopers refused to accept meat rations from their animals, regardless of their own starvation. This stirring account of a little-known aspect of the Philippine campaign is military history at its best.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Woolfe, a professional horseman, steeplechase rider, and author, has written a detailed account of the 26th Cavalry's actions in the Philippines, from facing the initial Japanese landings at Lingayen Gulf to their last stand at Bataan... [T]he narrative is animated and informative.... [A]n ... excellent book. (On Point: The Journal of Army History)

A lifelong horseman, Raymond G. Woolfe, Jr. was a professional steeplechase rider by the time he was sixteen. A licensed trainer, manager of horse farms, and designer of racecourses and thoroughbred facilities, he is the author of the bestselling Secretariat. He is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran. He lives outside of Charlottesville, Virginia.

The biggest problem with this book is the lack of maps - there are none! This is a book where maps would be helpful on at least every other page. Otherwise the book is terrific. The author sets the stage for every event in the book with very detailed background information. The sources listing appears to be very complete and the rosters of the Officers and the Philippine Scouts of the 26th Cavalry (Philippine Scouts) alone tells a grim story. With appropriate maps, this book would rate 5 stars!

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