

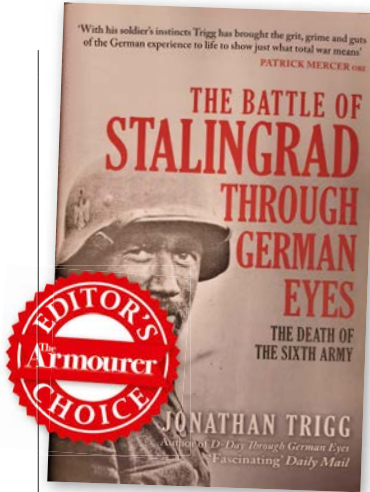
reviewsroundup

Duncan Evans reviews the latest releases in the world of military history and collecting

The Battle of Stalingrad through German Eyes

JONATHAN TRIGG

The meat grinder of Stalingrad and the destruction of the German Sixth Army is well enough known, but here Jonathan Trigg tries to offer a new perspective by asking the question as to whether this was the turning point of the war in the East, or was that Kursk? It's really just a smokescreen because the real story is, as the title suggests, the letters and comments from the German's who fought there. They reveal not only the unfolding disaster, but also how their enemy kept funnelling men into the ruined city, all while the devastating counter-offensive was being built up. There are some fresh insights



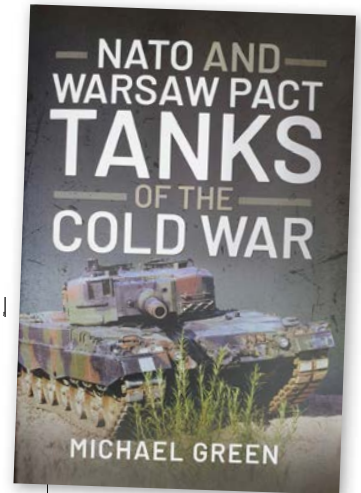
and it's fascinating reading. ■

- Amberley Books
- ISBN 978-1-3981-1071-7
- 324 pages • Hardback • £20

Nato and Warsaw Pact Tanks of the Cold War

MICHAEL GREEN

Almost as soon as WWII ended the Soviet occupation and implementation of puppet regimes across Eastern Europe meant the Cold War began. At this point, the T-34-85 was better than anything the Americans had and the arms race began. As the author confides at the start, this isn't an exhaustive guide, it's a look at the main players from all sides in the Cold War, setting the scene for why each tank was introduced and what it had to offer. As such, it's done



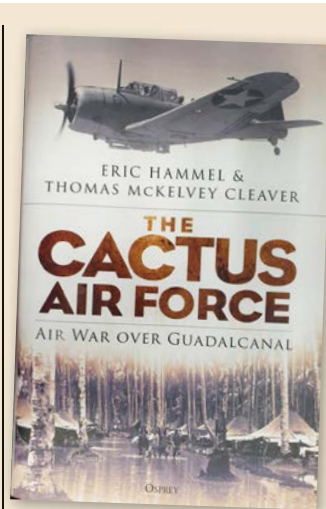
chronologically, with plenty of photos, both colour and mono, on the high quality, glossy paper, making it a great introduction to the subject. ■

- Pen and Sword
- ISBN 978-1-3990-0431-2
- 248 pages • Hardback • £25

The Cactus Air Force

HAMMEL/CLEAVER

Guadalcanal was the first offensive action in the Pacific Theatre against the Japanese and was accompanied by three months of air combat. The late Eric Hammel conducted over 150 interviews with American aviators and those testimonies have been skilfully developed into this story by Pacific expert Thomas McKelvey Cleaver. The issue with this is that there aren't as many quotes as you might expect and those that are there tend to be very similar. So what you're left with is a fairly dry



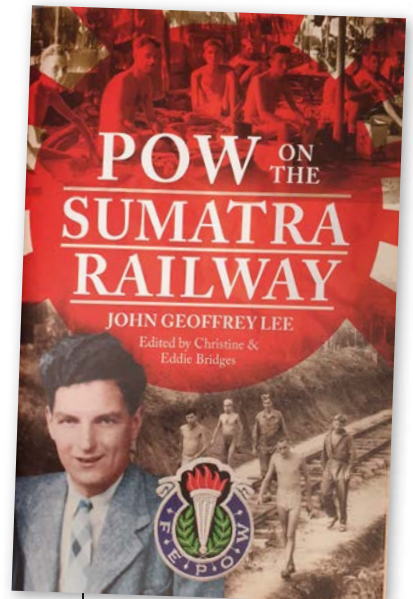
account of the overall campaign. It's good, rather than thrilling. ■

- Osprey Publishing
- ISBN 978-1-4728-5107-9
- 340 pages • Hardback • £25

POW on the Sumatra Railway

JOHN GEOFFREY LEE

If you're scratching your head and thinking that the railway was in Burma, you're not alone. Geoff, as he liked to be called, had letters in the 1970s from the MoD, CWGC and IWM all stating they were unaware of it. This then, is Geoff's story of his experiences as a Far East PoW and the appalling conditions in camps, on ships and the brutal treatment meted out by his Japanese captors. It's also the story of a lesser-known railway and Geoff's experiences after he came home weighing just six stone. It's not a big book, but it's a sobering story that deserved to be told. ■



- Pen and Sword
- ISBN 978-1-3990-1525-7
- 200 pages • Hardback • £20