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Into The Blue: Uniforms Of The United States Air Force 1947 - To The Present Vol.1



Synopsis

Into the Blue covers USAF uniform heritage beginning with the early days of the USAS in World War I, through its progression to the modern day USAF uniforms. The primary focus of this first volume is the dress and service uniforms of both men and women, including summer and winter uniforms of the early decades, along with the transformation to the two-tone uniforms and economic design changes which occurred within the past few decades. This well-researched book contains over 1100 photos, as well as contributions from established experts and official USAF historical entities. Also chronicled is the development of Air Force collar brass, accoutrements, footwear, and headgear. These books will become the standard for USAF uniform collectors and an invaluable tool for historians, museum employees, collectors and veterans.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Back when I was about 12 years old, I became interested in military uniforms and still find it a fascinating subject to this day. For my own background, after four years in Air Force ROTC, I served on active duty in the Air Force for over 24 years and then worked as a government contractor with the Air Force for more than 18 more years, so the Air Force is probably in my DNA by now! This book is outstanding. The title is slightly misleading--but in a positive way. The author actually goes back many years before the establishment of the USAF as a separate service in 1947, so he provides us with a good history of the uniform from back in the days of the Air Service and Air Corps as well. In my own collection, I have copies of AFM 35-10, AFR 35-10, and AFI 36-2903 (uniform regulations) dating back to 1968. This book provides comprehensive information for all eras, the

most important for me, personally, being those years prior to 1968 (the year after I entered active duty). One thing that I find especially impressive is the rich array of hundreds of photos--almost all full color--of actual uniform and insignia items from over the year. It is obvious that he did a tremendous amount of research on this, and he covers many things I did not previously know. The binding and paper quality is exceptional too--top quality. This is a great book and a great buy. If you want a rich history of U.S. Air Force uniforms in one convenient volume, you need a copy of this book!

"Into the Blue: Uniforms of the United States Air Force..." is a large, scholarly and definitive work. Dealing entirely with the evolution of USAF uniforms since the services inception in 1947, it is a supply sergeants' dream! The book presents the enlisted/officer uniform, both male and female, as a work in progress. Photo and illustration-rich, this work is a must for anyone with a historical eye on the USAF. The book covers ONLY uniforms and uniform parts, NOT flight equipment/uniforms which, one may hope is the companion volume. It is well worth the cover price for me as an amateur historian and USAF retiree!DAJ1

Great resource book, and an interesting read. There are two volumes. Some minor points of reference I might quibble over with the author on many of the women's items over the years but overall a great resource. I personally wished that he had used more from older printings of AFR 35-10 and the newer AFI 36-2903 to illustrate and explain.

The one and only reference to US Air Force uniforms and accessories. My only complaint is that several photos are blurry. I wish they were not. I cannot wait for volume three. I need information on fatigues.

As an AF brat growing up in the 50's-70's, I thought this book looked interesting and would bring back some of the memories of a classy, but by-gone era. I must say, although my main focus revolved around those uniforms my father wore, I ended up going through the entire book from page 1 because of the inviting writing style, stories of veterans and vast array of professionally photographed images of the uniforms from various sources. Validating period photos were plentiful as well as analysis of non-standard articles. It's a very comprehensive, detailed and informative body of work and is written in a way that can be enjoyed not only from a professional standpoint, but also from those just seeking a proverbial walk down memory lane. It was well worth the investment

and a real crowd pleaser for friends and family. Great gift for those of you that have Grandparents or Great-Grandparents who were part of our nations great history with the armed services.

Full disclosure: I know the author personally, my wife and I are both former USAF officers (duty mid 70s to early 80s), my wife provided examples of uniforms and photos during the author's research, and my wife is actually in several photos in the book. With that disclosure, on to the book. I am impressed beyond measure with this book. It is encyclopedic, exceptionally well researched, and presented with superb graphics, narrative, credits, and materials. I find it addictive. Whenever I go to it to look into a given era, uniform, or item of interest, I find that I simply cannot resist letting one item of interest lead me off onto another, and another, and another. And the history, explanations, and discussion on the evolution of styles, materials, what worked, what did not, is fascinating. This is a book that will keep you coming back, again and again, as you continue to marvel at the back story behind this surprisingly fertile area for study. Highly recommended.

This book just blows me away. I cannot say enough about this very organized, detailed, informative and exceptionally photographed book. Collectors, military historians, USAF veterans reminiscing about "traditions" and even John Q. Citizen wanting to take a peek at a little piece of the world's greatest Air Force, this is the book to take a gander at. Not a day goes by that, as a collector, I do not open this encyclopedia of Air Corps/USAF militaria, filled with all that I love, and drool a little. HIGHLY recommended and encouraged. Well worth it. Looking forward to the next volume!

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