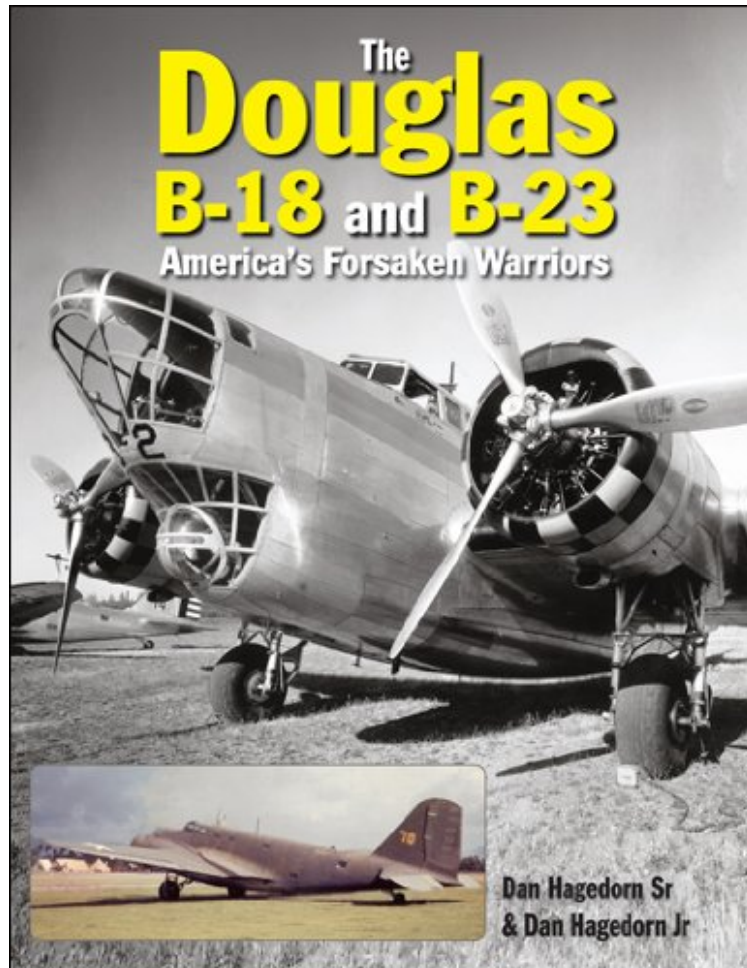


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The Douglas B-18 and B-23: America's Forsaken Warriors (Crecy Publishing)

Dan Hagedorn Sr., Dan Hagedorn Jr.
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Dan Hagedorn Sr., Dan Hagedorn Jr. : The Douglas B-18 and B-23: America's Forsaken Warriors (Crecy Publishing) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Douglas B-18 and B-23: America's Forsaken Warriors (Crecy Publishing):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Worth the waitBy William WolfI am writing this review of Dan Hagedorn's new book, The Douglas B-18 and B-23: America's Forsaken Warriors, as the author of the "other" B-18 book: The Douglas B-18 Bolo: The Ultimate Look: from Drawing Board to U-boat Hunter (Schiffer, PA, 2007). After the release of my book in early 2007 Mr. Hagedorn contacted me saying he also had been researching a book on the B-18 for many years. At the time I told him I was looking forward to his book as he was the acknowledged B-18 expert and his new book proves my point. Definitely worth the wait and definitely 5 Stars. For those who have purchased my B-18 book you certainly will not be wasting your \$ on the Hagedorn's book. He has expanded on my material and has

added many new photos. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Book By Me109glenI was not sure about this book but since I am getting ready to build a model of a B-18 I figured why not. This is one of the most if not best reference sources for this aircraft I have seen. I been building models since the late 50s and I have a reference library par to non other. My son who is an airplane nut also was looking at the book and after a few pages just said, "Dad, this is really great book on the B-18, maybe now you will build it." Again if you are interested in this type of aircraft or era you can not find a better reference source. Well done, home for tea! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. All, Perhaps More, Than You Wanted To Know About The B-18 By Auntie Analogue Though its prose is often clumsy and is at times confusing, especially on the development of the B-18 design, this is an exceedingly well-documented book on the long-underappreciated B-18 (its section on the B-23 is fittingly brief because the B-23 was built in quite small numbers and it filled no major operational role). This book is so well-documented that the sheer mass of its minutiae may cause more than a few readers' eyes to glaze over. Contains a wealth of design, exterior, interior and detail photographs whose first-rate quality is amplified by the book's high-quality paper, yet many of the images are of such small dimensions that one should have a magnifying glass to hand to make out details which one may find piquant.

What manner of aircraft pioneered airborne radar and anti-submarine warfare, almost replaced the immortal Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress, and yet disappeared from the annals of aviation history with not so much as a footnote in most authoritative histories of WWII? The elusive Douglas B-18 bomber. The very few stories that have appeared since the end of the war invariably spoke of the aircraft in crude and disparaging terms including "the bomber that nobody wanted," but more than 30 surviving crew members who served aboard the aircraft had no such disparaging words. How could so many people be so wrong? Developed in parallel to the DC-1, the B-18 and its obscure development, the handsome B-23 were precisely the right aircraft, at the right time, to help America defeat the serious Axis submarine threat in the Caribbean and train most of the B-17 crews who headed overseas. Serving in every theater of war, from Iceland, Canada and the U.S. Eastern Seaboard, through the Caribbean and Latin America to the remote Galapagos, Alaska, Hawaii, Java, Australia and the Philippines, the B-18 was lauded by crew members as a superb anti-submarine aircraft. Indeed, some were amongst the first USAAC aircraft to strike back at the invading Japanese forces in the Far East, and others were lost to both aerial and surface combat. For the first time, this in depth study of the development, operational units, series colors, wartime activities and full production list of these 340 aircraft combine with over 350 drawings and photographs to reveal the true impact of America's forgotten warriors.

"Easily supplants all previous B-18 and B-23 coverage. I savored every page." (David L. Veres Cybermodeler Online 2015-12-17) "...in every regard a shining example for how to do a book if this kind in regards to research, organization, and presentation." (Sabu Advani speedreaders.info 2015-12-21) From the Inside Flap Even the most knowledgeable aviation historian may know little about the Douglas B-18 and its contribution to WWII aviation. At best, there may be the sense of an unwanted and unpopular aircraft that contributed little to the US war effort. Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, the authors, during more than 20 years of research and after interviewing more than 30 surviving crew members, found not a single person who had a disparaging word for the aircraft. As they delved further into the design, evolution and actual wartime contributions of the series, it became clear that the B-18 was in fact the culmination of everything that has been learned up to the 1935. The B-18 ended up being precisely the right aircraft, at the right time, to help America train and field globe-girdling air forces. It was the B-19 that defeated the extremely serious Axis submarine threat in the Caribbean during the first, crucial eight months following the US entry into the war and it was the B-18 that trained most of the crews who took the first B-17 squadrons overseas. US tax payers truly got their money's worth from the 340 aircraft built and as this long-overdue study will reveal, the impact of these aircraft was out of all proportion to their numbers. This is an aircraft for which a detailed history can now be told and its true place in aviation history properly assessed at last. From the Back Cover If ever an aircraft has been unfairly treated by history, it must be the elusive Douglas B-18 bomber. The very few times that it has been described in aviation journals, the articles invariably speak of the aircraft in crude and disparaging terms? "the bomber that nobody wanted" and "the Great Bolo Boondoggle" are some of the kinder epithets. Indeed, the myths surrounding the B-18 and its even more obscure development, the handsome B-23, start at its very beginning in 1935. It was not a development of the DC-1 or DC-2, but was, in fact, developed precisely in parallel to the DC-1 as the DB-1. B-18s served in almost every theater of WW2, from Iceland, Canada, and the US Eastern Seaboard, through the Caribbean and Latin America and to the remote Galapagos, to Alaska, Hawaii, and the Philippines and even to Java and Australia. Examples were lost to both aerial and surface combat, but as one crewman put it, "had Douglas set out to do so, they could not have designed a better anti-submarine aircraft." B-18s came close? within a matter of minutes? to being the first USAAC aircraft to strike back at the invading Japanese forces in the Far East, and could well have taken the war to the enemy months in advance of the legendary Doolittle Raid. This was an aircraft that pioneered airborne radar and anti-submarine warfare and almost replaced the immortal Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress, and yet the B-18 disappeared from the annals of aviation history with not so much as a footnote in most authoritative histories of WW2.

But now, at last, the true story of this remarkable and maligned aircraft is told in this exhaustively researched and heavily-illustrated book which will set the record straight on one of the great forgotten aircraft of WW2.