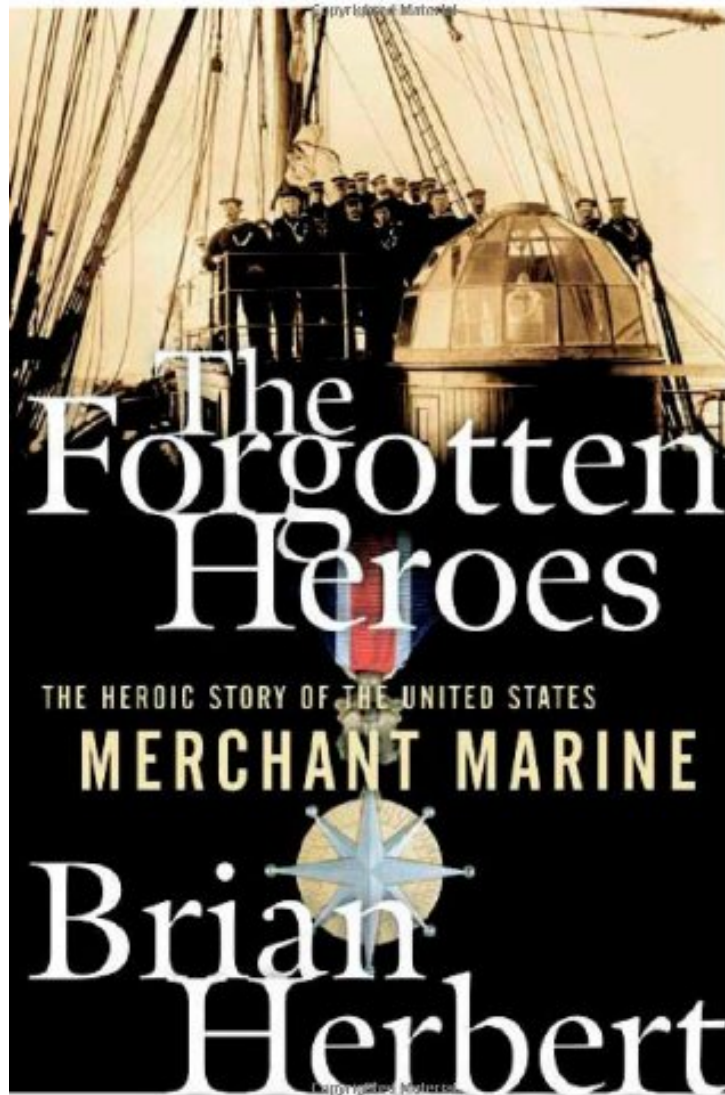


The Forgotten Heroes: The Heroic Story of the United States Merchant Marine

Brian Herbert

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#1090965 in Books 2004-05-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.58 x 1.24 x 6.36l, #File Name: 0765307065320 pages | File size: 33.Mb

Brian Herbert : The Forgotten Heroes: The Heroic Story of the United States Merchant Marine before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Forgotten Heroes: The Heroic Story of the United States Merchant Marine:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. They Delivered!!!!!! The US Merchant MarineBy James D. HortonThis is probably the best indication of what transpired within the Merchant Marine as a whole. Sorely lacking

was what the Coastwise barge and tug sailors contributed to that war effort. They provided the bulk war materials to the defense plants producing the war materials and to the power plants supplying the power to the defense plants that produced the war materials. Over all it is the best source on information on the US Merchant Marine during WW II. I would give it a six star rating if it were one. 11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Interesting but flawed book
By Wilson Stone
Brian Herbert's motivation for writing this book is fine. The U S Government treated the merchant marine (which suffered a higher death rate than any military branch) shamefully during and after WW II. Second only to the way it treated the women pilots who were kicked out without even bus fare home. For that reason alone, I hope a lot of people read this book. But Herbert makes the argument over and over again - seemingly on every second or third page - until you get really sick of reading it. Also the book is an example of awful editing. With typos on nearly every page, the publisher should be ashamed for serving the author so poorly. And one final complaint: Any author who presumes to write about the sea should know better than to use the phrase "knots per hour." A knot is a measure of nautical miles per hour. To say, "ten knots per hour," is to say, "ten nautical miles per hour per hour." Anyone who uses the term "knots per hour" is immediately and justifiably presumed to know absolutely nothing about the sea. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
By Cecil Williams
Wish my father was here to read it....

The United States Merchant Marine has a tradition---from the Revolutionary War to the present-day Gulf conflicts---of being in the forefront of every American military action. They have served with distinction in every case. Brian Herbert has chronicled the amazing exploits of these gallant seamen, assembling a fascinating array of data to describe the world of the Merchant Marine in peace and especially in war. Drawing from historical documents, government records, diaries, and interviews with surviving veterans, Herbert has constructed a brilliant history that details the heroism, self-sacrifice, and grim determination that has been the hallmark of the United States Merchant Marine. He also reveals one of the great injustices of American history---the grave failure of our legislators that has allowed the veterans of the Merchant Marine to become the forgotten heroes of World War II. The civilian fighters of the Merchant Marine performed feats of extraordinary bravery during World War II; they were the lifeline of the entire Allied war effort, delivering troops, materiel, food, fuel, and every essential needed for victory over the Axis enemy. While executing these duties, the Merchant Marine suffered losses so high that the casualty rates were kept secret. At the war's end, the men and women of every other branch of the service were honored by parades and given medical and educational benefits. But the members of the Merchant Marine, who were so vital to our victory, have received neither the benefits nor the recognition they deserved. New York Times bestselling author Brian Herbert is part of the growing movement across the United States to right this terrible wrong. *The Forgotten Heroes* is a history of the unsung heroes of the United States Merchant Marine and a plea for justice for these neglected veterans of World War II.

From Booklist
This somewhat jumbled but eloquent plea for recognition of the U.S. Merchant Marine veterans of World War II is by the son of the creator of the science fiction classic *Dune*, who was one of those veterans. The core of the book narrates the merchant sailor's perils and achievements during the war, as derived partly from anecdotes, many of which will be familiar to seasoned maritime readers, and partly from the wartime experiences of one Dean Beaumont and his liberty ship. Herbert then proceeds to state the case of his heroes by recording the neglect and discrimination merchant mariners suffered and offering suggestions for just restitution even at this late date. He skips from incident to incident and from theme to theme and doesn't always portray the larger strategic picture within which the merchant marine operated as assuredly as he does the merchant mariner in peril at sea and destitute on land. Still, he convincingly renders the merchant marine's wartime service as a triumph of production, persistence, and heroism.
Roland Green
Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "A tightly written chronicle of courage and terror. . . . There is no way you can read this book without becoming involved in it. It demands respect. And it isn't every day you can read a book that makes you simultaneously proud and angry."--Oregon Statesman Journal