

Ernie's War: The Best of Ernie Pyle's World War II Dispatches

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This first major collection of Pyle's World War II dispatches is drawn from his complete body of work, from the Battle of Britain to the war in the Pacific and includes a fifty page biography of Pyle by David Nichols

In World War II, correspondent Ernie Pyle won worldwide acclaim for syndicated columns he wrote almost daily with simplicity and an eye for emotional detail while sharing in the life of front-line soldiers he once described as "destined merely by chance to suffer and die for the rest of us." Compiled here are columns from battle zones in North Africa, Italy, England, France and Okinawa, telling how American foot-slogging GIs and those of other military branches endured cold, filth, exhaustion, fear, sickness, wounds and death all around them with persistence, inventiveness and even humor. A Pyle column on the death in Italy of an infantry captain much revered by his men inspired a motion picture, *The Story of GI Joe*. Nichols has edited the work selectively, with comments linking events and a sketch of Pyle's rather unhappy personal life. The columnist was killed by a Japanese sniper on a Pacific island as the war neared its end.

Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. YA Pulitzer Prize winner Pyle became famous by focusing his journalistic abilities on the foot soldier of World War II. His best dispatches are compiled here in chronological order. The essays included here are either descriptions of war-torn countries and their people, infantry life, or details of soldiers' thoughts and emotions. There is a 34 - page biographical essay and a few black-and-white photographs. Short and easy to read, these essays will appeal to high - school students wanting information on World War II and will be a valuable resource for social studies classes. It will bring the war home to students in a meaningful and poignant way. Pat Royal, Prince George's County Public School System, Md.

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Other Books

Ernie Pyle in England, Ernie Pyle's human and unforgettable picture of England under the Blitzkrieg—a deeply moving story of courage and faith. *Ernie Pyle in England*, first published in 1941, is the account of the journalist's stay in England, Scotland and Wales during the height of the German bombing blitz on London and other cities of the United Kingdom. Pyle, one of the most famous correspondents of the Second World War, had an easy-going, folksy-style of writing, making the book an enjoyable yet informative read about the conditions he encountered. His descriptions of the effects of the bombing, nights spent in air raid shelters, food- and gas-rationing, and daily life in London remain classic pieces of war-time reporting.

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