

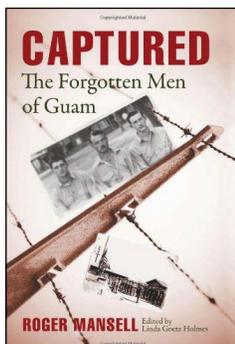
to know such as President Van Buren's address in 1838 about not assisting Canadian rebels against the British government.

The major events of the war, however, are very detailed. For example, Hannings' descriptions of the defense of Fort Texas in 1846 list each officer who fought during the battle, which lasted 3-6 May. He also details the positions of the garrison, cavalry, and infantry with respect to both U.S. and Mexican armies. This attention to detail is drawn from his many sources and compiled into one elaborate description of battles fought before and during the U.S.-Mexican War. Injuries and casualties are also listed for each battle.

While the scope of Hannings' chronology is wide, I would have liked to see more details regarding the occupation of the West and its policy on slavery.

Hannings' detailed list of events comes from an impressive collection of texts that paint an accurate history of life before and during the U.S.-Mexican War. I found that this book is a must-read for any historian or teacher who wants to know more about the battles and events of the U.S.-Mexican War. While the book is organized quite well, I wouldn't recommend it to anyone new to the U.S.-Mexican's war history, as it could use a little more background to introduce newer readers. I would treat this as a companion book to read with other source material in order to get an even wider scope of the U.S.-Mexican War. Overall, this book was an entertaining read.

Captured: The Forgotten Men of Guam
By Roger Mansell, edited by Linda Goetz Holmes
Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 2012, 228 pages
 Reviewed by LTC (Retired) Rick Baillergeon



Upon until his passing in October 2010, Roger Mansell dedicated countless hours in researching the experiences of American World War II prisoners of war (POWs) in the Pacific. His efforts continue to touch the lives of many people. This has included assisting in finding the remains of POWs, linking

up survivors of POW camps with each other, and providing family members with information on their loved ones who had been POWs. His research continues to be utilized on the website he developed, which is still active today — <http://www.mansell.com/pow-index.html>.

Prior to his death, Mansell was near completion on a book tied to his efforts. With the manuscript complete, what was now needed was someone with subject matter expertise to edit it. That someone was Linda Goetz Holmes. Clearly, Holmes possessed the expertise with many books published on POWs held in Japan during World War II. Her knowledge of the subject and past experience in publishing her own works were instrumental in bringing *Captured* to fruition.

The inspiration for *Captured* began when Mansell started his research of POWs in the Pacific. In his acknowledgments section he states, "As I gathered more stories, I realized no one had written much about the military and civilian personnel captured on Guam in the early days of the Pacific war; this became my mission for the next 10 years." Without question, Mansell achieves this mission and fills a void in our understanding of this area within World War II.

Within *Captured*, Mansell tells the story of the Guam POWs in significant detail — time spent in Guam prior to the Japanese invasion, their actions during the attack, their capture and subsequent movement to the POW camps in Japan, their years in captivity, and their ultimate release from the camps following Japan's surrender. Readers will obviously not truly understand what the POWs experienced, but they certainly obtain an appreciation of it.

The key ingredients in accomplishing this are the outstanding organizational skills and writing ability of Mansell (with the support of Holmes). First, the organization of the volume is superb. I have read several prior books of this genre where the author had difficulty connecting events, which made the volume a bit confusing to read. This is not the case in *Captured*. Mansell and Holmes have expertly developed a chronological flow which makes it effortless to follow the story of the Guam POWs.

The writing within *Captured* is exceptional. What is readily apparent is the ability of Mansell to express the wide spectrum of emotions through the complete ordeal of the Guam POWs. He captures the unthinkable lows of their captivity to the incredible highs of their release. In between, there is no sugarcoating or understating of anything the POWs experienced.

Have you read a book lately that you think would be of interest to the Infantry community and want to submit a review? Or are you interested in being a book reviewer for *INFANTRY*? Send us an email at: usarmy.benning.tradoc.mbx.infantry-magazine@mail.mil or call (706) 545-2350.