

"For you pilots...what you are taking on is extremely dangerous—it will scare you worse than any nightmare you have ever been tortured by.

I assure you...you have no idea how hard this is going to be...but you can do it.

If you dope off, even for an instant...you will die.

If you can't handle the constant pressure of teetering on the edge...you will crack."

—Lt. Col. M. M. Magruder

Review copy and author interview requests can be made to Antionette at adealteriis@pelicanpub.com or 504-368-1175 ext. 331

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BIOGRAPHY &
AUTOBIOGRAPHY/ Military
HISTORY/ Military/
World War II

Nightfighter: Radar Intercept Killer

By Mark A. Magruder

"THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT IS THIS... IF YOU HESITATE... YOU DIE."

Col. Marion M. "Black Mac" Magruder was the senior night fighting expert in the Pacific in WWII. He literally wrote the Radar Intercept Program he honed to perfection with his Squadron, VMF(N)533, setting all night fighting records. The never before released information in this book comes directly from the Colonel's personal files.

What Readers will Learn from this Book

- Marion M. Magruder was a pioneer in Radar Intercept Night Fighting.
- While training with the R.A.F. Marion M. Magruder was awarded the R.A.F. wings—the only time American pilots have ever flown with both sets of wings on their tunics.
- Magruder commissioned and commanded the top U.S. night fighter squadron in WWII.
- On 3 days notice to deploy, (a record for efficiency,)
 VMF(N)533 made the longest over water flight of single engine fighters in the Pacific Theatre, WWII, to get from Engebi to Okinawa.
- VMF(N)533, Black Mac's Killers is the only U.S. squadron to be named after its Commanding Officer, Colonel Marion M. "Black Mac" Magruder, USMC.
- VMF(N)533 set the records in WWII for: night kills, combat ready rate, safety, and the only Marine night fighter ace in U.S. history. For this they earned the Presidential Unit Citation. The squadron continues to earn distinction as VMFA(AW)533, Night Hawks.
- The secret techniques of improving night vision Magruder learned from the British.