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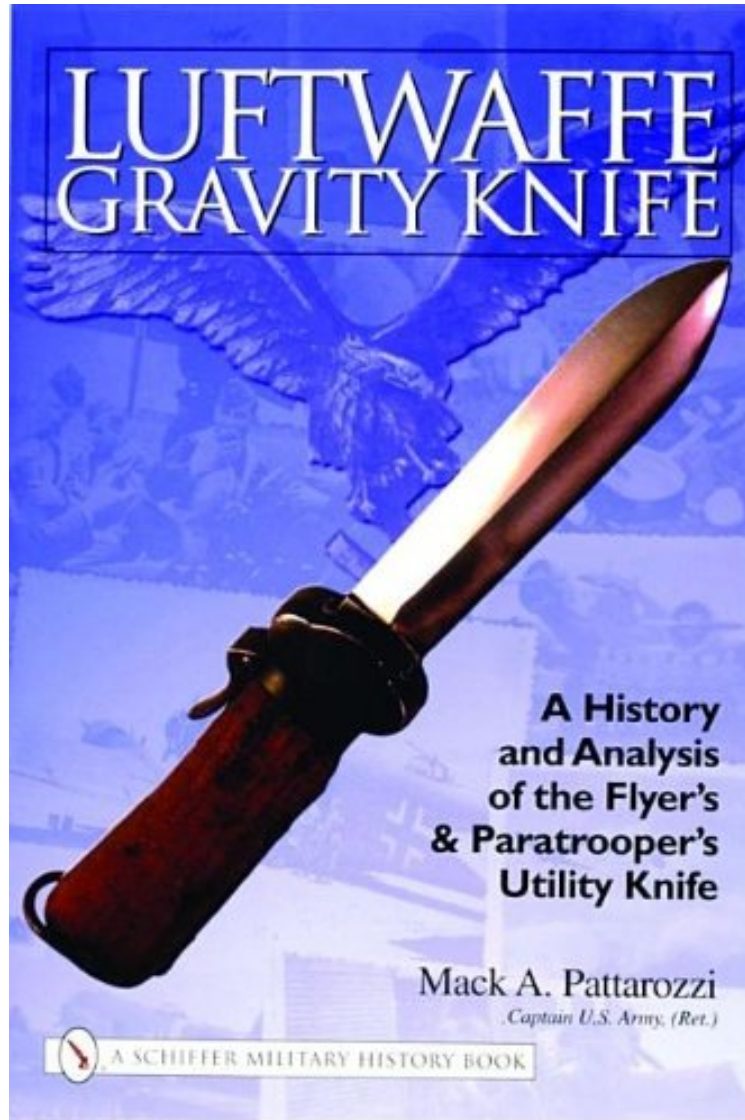
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Mack Pattarozzi : Luftwaffe Gravity Knife: A History and Analysis of the Flyer's and Paratrooper's Utility Knife (Schiffer Military History Book) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Luftwaffe Gravity Knife: A History and Analysis of the Flyer's and Paratrooper's Utility Knife (Schiffer Military History Book):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Job on a Esoteric SubjectBy BeakerAs a sometimes

contributor to Knife World Magazine I know how hard it is to research and gather materials on a subject like this. I wrote on American Paratrooper switchblade knives dispelling many of their myths and confirming who the actual manufacturers were, who they were not, what company got the first order and I also did an article on the Collins # 18 Carlson's Raiders knives. I feel I have a right to say Mack A. Pattarozzi did a wonderful job on the Luftwaffe Gravity Knife book. The book is very readable. I loved the recap section Appendix B: which made for easy reference without having to constantly flip through the book. The research seems to be extensive especially on an item from a heavily bombed out country, it would be no simple thing to search out the documents. Yet Mr. Pattarozzi did so with an amazing assortment of photos, diagrams, documents and closeups. To those who argue he needed to add more info on the Chinese and other junk copies I say "Take a Hike" that is off subject and he did review the relevant copies made to resemble these knives. I originally balked at the price of the book, but after reading it I will treasure it, worth every dime to a researcher. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A book for all serious knife collectors By Glen Knight In 268 pages, this book provides a detailed study of the Luftwaffe Gravity knife from its early beginnings to some of the modern day variations of the knife. It is a quality hardback book printed on quality glossy paper with a Contents and Index and has some additional information in eight Appendicies. It provides some value comparisons in terms of what each knife type is worth (circa 2006) - a feature which has limited utility in 2008, especially when prices for these knives has skyrocketed. The book has a multitude of black and white pictures of the various knives and their parts etc and includes pictures of airmen that shows how the knife was carried etc. Some of the pictures are not the best quality given their age. Coverage of the gravity knife extends into modern era knives which is also interesting, but it doesn't extend into all of the modern day variations or to the Chinese knock-off versions of the gravity knife - an extra chapter on modern day knock-off gravity knives would have been an interesting addition. The only real failing in the book is the poor coverage of the Ibberson gravity knife (an English made gravity that was copied from the first version German gravity knife) which doesn't even have a picture of the knife, although the author does provide a sketch of what the knife looked like. Coverage of the Ibberson knife is largely by way of already published material on that knife. On balance, the Luftwaffe Gravity Knife book by Mack A. Pattarozzi is a very useful addition to the library of books for the knife collector, especially so for collectors who have German gravity knives in their collections. Glen Knight (Australian Legal Practitioner - Melbourne, Australia.) 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By William Bellok

This book provides fellow collectors with a detailed reference on the famed World War II Luftwaffe gravity knife (Flieger-Kappmesser). The book dispels many common misconceptions about the gravity knife's origin, purpose, evolution and history while thoroughly familiarizing the reader with every facet of the gravity knife. To this end the book presents the reader an historical context with which to view the knife and imparts an appreciation for the gravity knife's development and use. As well, through the provision of a general historical backdrop, by briefly introducing the Luftwaffe and its formations, the reader gains a better understanding of how the knife fits into the larger scheme relative to its time and other weapons. As well this book demonstrates, from an historical perspective, that the knife bears testament to the high level of German technology that emerged during the 1930s. Innovative, ergonomic, and of the highest quality, it truly stands far above its contemporaries. The FKM is, undeniably, a state-of-the-art knife from its time.