



The Doom Pussy

By Elaine Shepard

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The Doom Pussy By Elaine Shepard

The doom Pussy was the first book on Vietnam to chronicle aerial combat. Among the truckloads of fan mail the author received were scores of letters from veteran pilots who claimed they had carried the book as their "bible" on the conflict.

At a Vietnam War veteran's reunion in Las Vegas in August 1969, the celebrants were current members of two of the oldest units in the U.S. Air Force: The 8th and the 13th Tactical Bomb Squadrons (TBS). Formed as "aero squadrons" in 1917, their histories are studded with stirring escapades and flying lore. Patriotism to them was not a thing of scorn, but of tradition and high challenge. In over half a century of serving their country the squadrons had flown everything from SPADS and DH-4s at Saint Mihiel to B-26s in Korea.

The 8th and 13th veterans of Vietnam were honored to have as their special guests six men in their eighties, a rare and vanishing breed who had helped pioneer aerial warfare over Europe in frail, single-engine biplanes.

These gallant aviators of the 8th and 13th Aero Pursuit Squadrons who flew in World War I, sat at a table near the rostrum. In a touching scene before the program began, the glorious old pelicans quietly rose, shoulder blades straight, to toast with champagne the squadron hero of other times and other wars, General Carl A. "Tooeey" Spaatz. After World War I, he had made global headlines flying the famed Question Mark to a world endurance record of 150 hours and 50 minutes. In 1947 he was named the first Chief of Staff of the new U.S. Air Force and remained an uncommonly popular officer.

Earlier in the evening, Gen. Spaatz had stopped by Elaine Shepard's table. "I have read your book, The Doom Pussy, twice," he said. "I keep it on my night table."

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Editorial Review

Review

"Absolutely fantastic book on the action in Vietnam. Every American citizen should read it. That a woman reporter wrote it is even more amazing." -- *Arthur Godfrey*

"Elaine focuses on the fighting men's pride, their courage, their vernacular, their humor. They come alive. Her swashbuckling guardians, Pilot Nails and Navigator Smash belong in this war's roster of memorable characters." -- *The Louisville Times*

"Miss Shepard does not boggle at recreating soldier's speech. Even better is her skill at putting on pages their gallant humor. The book is frank and makes Vietnam seem close as one street over." -- *Arizona Republic*

"This may reach a market no other Vietnam book has done -- the ladies. It has glamour and guts." -- *Virginia Kirkus*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frankie Evans:

In this 21st century, people become competitive in every single way. By being competitive currently, people have to do something to make these people survive, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that sometimes many people have underestimated this for a while is reading. That's why, by reading a guide your ability to survive enhance then having chance to stand up than other is high. For you who want to start reading some sort of book, we give you this The Doom Pussy book as basic and daily reading publication. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Jon Farris:

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Billy Gallardo:

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