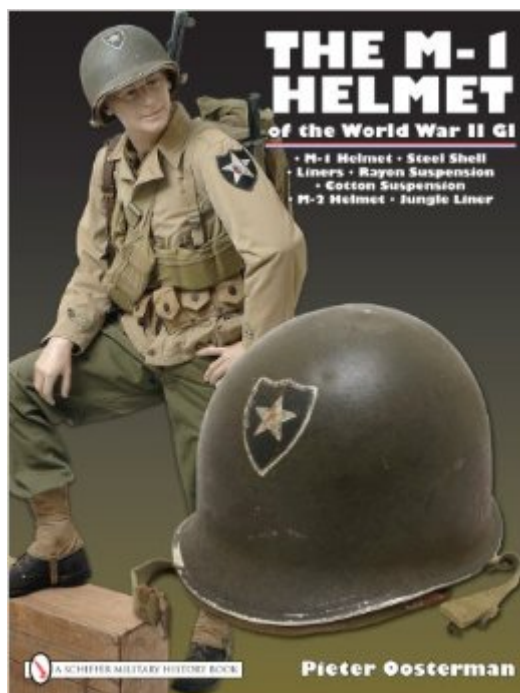


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The M-1 Helmet Of The World War II GI



Synopsis

The development and combat use of the U.S. World War II era, fixed bail M-1 helmet is covered in this all new volume. Years of research has resulted in this well-balanced and complete work, which includes previously unknown material and unique examples of the M-1 helmet. Much attention is given to the many specific manufacturing details, contract numbers and dates involved in the production of M-1 and M-2 helmets. Each variation has been carefully photographed and presented. Also, ten mannequin ensembles represent the GI during basic training, through the fighting in Italy, Normandy, Holland, the Ardennes and Germany. The museum section of the book contains a wealth of rare liners, unit painted helmets, rank marked helmets, camouflaged helmets, paratrooper helmets, battlefield found helmets and much more!

Book Information

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The M-1 Steel Helmet or Helmet, Steel, M-1, Combination provided the American soldier with ballistic protection against shell fragments and ricocheting projectiles. According to one World War II veteran, Lt. Colonel Charles Cawthon, "the helmet afforded protection, was without peer as a field wash basin, and had the military dash of a thunder mug". It was also used as a seat, cooking pot, an emergency entrenching tool, and latrine. In fact, its uses were legion, depending only on the inventiveness of the wearer. The M-1 was used by the U.S. military for over 40 years

and was introduced officially during World War II in 1941 to replace the M-1917A Brodie or Doughboy helmet but saw little action until 1942. Apart from the tank crews who had a special tank crew crash helmet, and airborne troops who wore a slightly modified version of the regular steel helmet. The McCord Radiator and Manufacturing Company had been the manufacturer of the M-1917 helmet of the pre-war years. In 1941, McCord started working on the production of the new manganese shell with some assurance that the company would receive orders for both the steel shell and liner. Dyes to make the steel shell had been under construction since February, 1941. The basic model of the new M-1 helmet was a M-1917 with added steel on the sides and back for additional protection. On April 20, 1941, it was arranged with McCord to produce 100 test helmets, the T.S. 3. The production of the M-1917 helmet was discontinued in early May, 1941.

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