

THE WAR WE FOUGHT



366th Fighter Group
Hun Hunters
1943 - 1946



389th Fighter Squadron



390th Fighter Squadron



391st Fighter Squadron

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PREFACE

INTRODUCTION TO THE TEAM

Welcome to the dramatic history of the 366th Fighter Group. It had its start before many of you were born, June 1, 1943 to be exact. The 366th has made many contributions over the years to protect our precious freedom. This is the story of our beginning, our World War II accomplishments, the good times and the bad, along with the tragedies they have survived and the victories they have celebrated. It is a memorial to the dedicated individuals who sacrificed their lives so we could live without fear of tyranny. The 366th Fighter Group is carrying on the tradition today.

It was also motivated by the need to answer questions that were frequently asked by family, friends and relatives. As Col. George Arbuthnot, a World War II pilot and 391st Fighter Squadron Commander, put it so well when queried if the project should be initiated replied, "Please proceed so I'll have a documented answer for my grandchildren when they ask, "What did you do in the war, Grandpa?"

For the Aviation and Military History Buffs, we have compiled many anecdotes and dozens of photographs that have never before been published. The Nose Art section will be a treat for model builders and collectors. The description of the missions flown in war and peace provide an insight into what the day-to-day life was for those directly involved in that great conflict of World War II.

For those who have never experienced being part of the military, the following three segments will provide you with some understanding.

It is part of a Replacement Pilot's Training Manual, compiled by the senior pilots of the 391st, to acquaint newly assigned pilots without combat experience an introduction and reference document that would assist in preparing them to be approved for combat assignments. We owe a debt of gratitude to R. D. Hunt who served as a 391st pilot and Operations officer for his efforts as one of the authors, and for having the foresight to preserve a copy of the valuable manual. Additional segments from the manual are incorporated into other parts of the book to provide data and background.

BUCKLE YOUR SEAT BELT, SIT BACK AND ENJOY A TRIP THROUGH

THE 366th TEAM'S LEGACY!