

Lonely Vigil: Coastwatchers of the Solomons (Bluejacket Books)

Walter Lord



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Lonely Vigil: Coastwatchers of the Solomons (Bluejacket Books) Walter Lord In the bloodiest island combat of World War II, one group of men risked it all to fight from behind Japanese lines

The Solomon Islands was where the Allied war machine finally broke the Japanese empire. As pilots, marines, and sailors fought for supremacy in Guadalcanal, Bougainville, and the Slot, a lonely group of radio operators occupied the Solomon Islands' highest points. Sometimes encamped in comfort, sometimes exposed to the elements, these coastwatchers kept lookout for squadrons of Japanese bombers headed for Allied positions, holding their own positions even when enemy troops swarmed all around.

They were Australian-born but Solomon-raised, and adept at survival in the unforgiving jungle environment. Through daring and insight, they stayed one step ahead of the Japanese, often sacrificing themselves to give advance warning of an attack. In *Lonely Vigil*, Lord tells of the survivors of the campaign, and of what they risked to win the war in the Pacific.

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