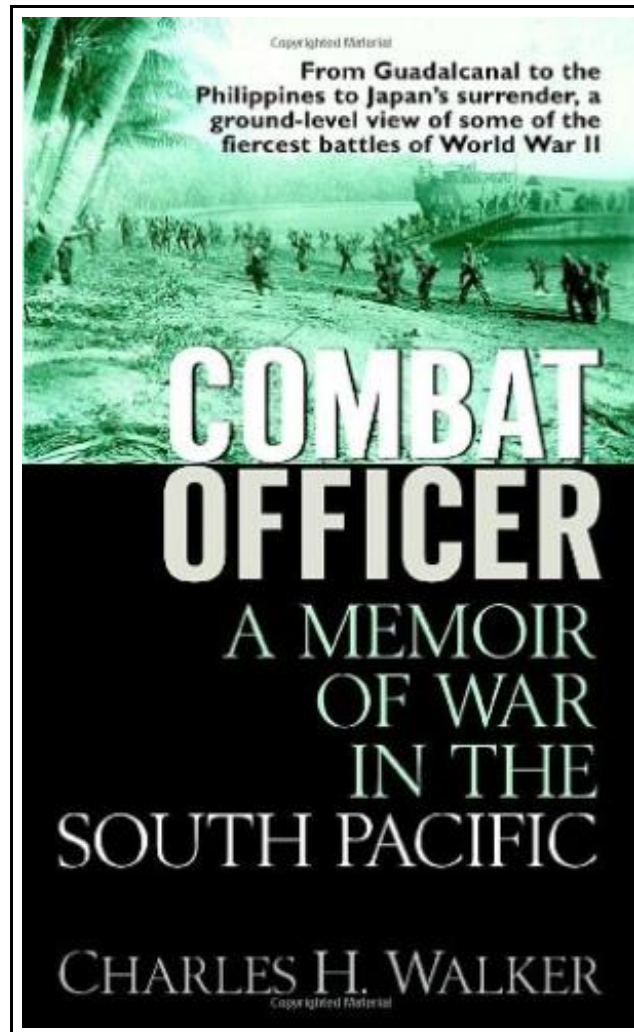


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Presidio Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Combat Officer: A Memoir of the War in the South Pacific, Charles H. Walker, In October of 1942, Charles Walker, a second lieutenant with the 164th Army National Guard Infantry Regiment, was in New Caledonia in the Southwest Pacific, waiting for his chance to fight the Japanese in the Pacific islands. Yet, just as he was about to board the McCawley, the ship that would take him into the fight, he received orders to report to the hospital to be evacuated to the U.S. Refusing to desert his men, and anxious to contribute to the downfall of the Japanese forces, Walker decided to sneak onto the Zeilin, another ship headed to Guadalcanal. Days later, reunited with his men, he found himself embroiled in heavy hand-to-hand combat with the Japanese, in what would ultimately become the heaviest land battle fought in the Pacific theatre. Over the two years Walker served during the war, he was promoted from second lieutenant to first, and ultimately became the commanding officer of the famed Easy Company. From this bastion, Walker saw it all: from superior officers who pretended to be have appendicitis" in order to escape battle to trying desperately to dodge "friendly fire" from the skies while on patrol; from narrowly avoiding capture by the Japanese while searching for supplies on the beach to receiving a telegram from his wife telling him he's a father for the first time. Combat Officer captures the day-to-day struggles and triumphs of the American soldier during these pivotal months in World War II.

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