



With a Black Platoon in Combat: A Year in Korea

By Lyle Rishell

Texas A&M University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 192 pages. Dimensions: 8.4in. x 5.5in. x 0.6in. The first year of the Korean Conflict was a dark and humiliating period for many of the troops who fought there. Against a backdrop of U. S. political indecision and reduced military capability, American soldiers fought a dedicated and numerically strong enemy force that was determined to overrun South Korea. One of these units, the segregated 24th Infantry Regiment, was made up of black soldiers commanded for the most part by white officers. Lyle Rishell, an infantry platoon leader, led a black platoon of Able Company in that regiment. This book tells the dramatic, often frustrating, sometimes heroic story of that platoon in that first, fateful year of war. From detailed notes he made at the time, and from his memories of those days, Rishell reconstructs the deployment and tactics of his unit, its day-to-day actions and survival. The story that unfolds is one of honor, fear, fighting spirit, fierce combat, and the cries of wounded men. The 24th Infantry Regiment has received bad press from many historians of the Korean War, who claim that the black soldiers and noncommissioned officers were undisciplined and...

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