The 8th fought the best Zero pilots, and took the war to the enemy with P-38s over Rabaul and Hollandia.

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My Personal Review:
Well-known aviation historians John Stanaway and Lawrence Hickey combine their talents to produce this massive - 300+ pages - history of the 8th Fighter Group, one of the stalwarts of General George Kenney's 5th Air Force.

The 8th FG had an illustrious combat history, as is well documented in this Schiffer book. It was the first American fighter group in the Southwest Pacific and took part in all 5th AF operations, flying a mixture of P-39s, P-40s, P-38s and P-51s. And its pilots scored the last V Fighter Command victories in August 1945. Ending the war with some 440 aerial victories and 200+ ground kills, the 8th was the third top scorer in V Fighter Command, helped by the efforts of aces such as Ed Cragg, Danny Roberts, Ken Ladd, Kenny Giroux, Jay Robbins, George Welch, Cy Homer and 'Corky' Smith.

Stanaway and Hickey's book will stand as the definitive work on this hard-charging unit. They had the assistance of the 8th FG Association and the 80th FS Association and it shows in the wealth of information and photos presented in the book. A visual highlight of the book is the inclusion of 16 pages of color profiles and rare wartime color photographs. This really is one well-done book and a grand tribute to a top-notch fighter group.

Highly recommended!

One quibble: I would have liked a listing of the group's aces included in the book.