The exploits of the 3rd Battalion, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment (PIR) have been long overshadowed by those of Easy Company, 2nd Battalion, who were immortalized in Stephen Ambrose's book Band of Brothers. Yet the actions of the 3rd Battalion were every bit as incredible and this book finally gives them deserved attention. Formed in 1942, the 506th PIR were shortly after attached to the 101st Airborne Division. After training they were transported to Wiltshire in 1943 to prepare for the invasion of Europe. Whilst taking part in the D-Day landings, the battalion suffered many immediate casualties, including the battalion commander. This is the
astounding story of how the surviving paratroopers fought on towards their objectives against horrendous odds, told in their own words, and those of the French civilians who witnessed the Normandy campaign. Through many hours of interviews, and in-depth research, the authors have pieced together the perspectives of the soldiers to create a unique, comprehensive account. Including a foreword by Ed Shames, veteran of the 3rd Battalion, and illustrated with black and white photographs and maps throughout, this book vividly details the experiences of the 3rd battalion from training through to D-Day and beyond.

**Personal Review: Tonight We Die As Men: The untold story of Third Battalion 506 Parachute Infantry Regiment from Toccoa to D-Day (General Military) by Roger Day**
I couldn't put this one down. It adds to Ambrose's work in Band of Brothers. Because of the authors' work here, we now know about the stories of Third Battalion 506th PIR. I found myself using Google Maps to see what the terrain looks like today because of the maps furnished in the book to describe how certain battles took place. For instance, with the map it gives a deeper insight about the Battle of Bloody Gully near Carentan. This particular battle was portrayed in the mini series Band of Brothers. If you have read/seen Band of Brothers or even if you haven't, don't miss this one.

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