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Jon A. Maguire, John P. Conway : American Flight Jackets, Airmen Aircraft: A History of U.S. Flyers' Jackets from World War I to Desert Storm (Schiffer Military Aviation History) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised American Flight Jackets, Airmen Aircraft: A History of U.S. Flyers' Jackets from World War I to Desert Storm (Schiffer Military Aviation History):

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A must haveBy Frans HensThe reason I ordered this book is very simple: I'm an incurable nostalgic. Although I was born in a year (1960) not even close to the era from the great flight jackets, my interest has been growing since I started collecting memorabilia. (Books, magazines, newspapers, etc. from the period). As the owner of a (replica) A-2 jacket I decided I wanted to know more about them. This book has provided me with an excellent insight in the era and the men that wore the jackets. The sub-title promises a time span, roughly, from WWI to Desert Storm and although the emphasis is on WWII, the book delivers. Flight jacket buff and novice (like me) alike, this work takes you on a sentimental journey through the very interesting world of the American flight jacket. About one thousand pictures, most of them in colour and with great detail, show the flight jacket not just as a utilitarian garment but first and foremost as a means of expression and emotion. And that's why the

authors shy away from quoting prices and don't talk about 'market value'. Because some unscrupulous traders do not care about the intrinsic value but go for cold, hard cash, many jackets have been torn from their historical context and thus are lost. Not so in this book. Page after page of jackets, jacket art and the men who owned them. But not only leather jackets. Also all the other materials used in jackets are shown. (After the 50's, many jackets were made of other materials than leather). And some of the smaller details, like the lucky bells and the dinky whistles that some pilots used to hang from the collar hook of their jackets make even more interesting reading. The only thing I miss, is a summary of jacket manufacturers and some more technical details about the jackets themselves. Also, if you don't like reading a lot, this is a book for you. For all of you who are interested in a very special part of American heritage, or just want to know more about the flight jacket, this is required reading. To me: a must have.

This new comprehensive look at the evolution of the American flight jacket from World War I to Desert Storm addresses not only the types worn, but focuses primarily on the art and adornment applied to the jackets. The most colorful and creative period for flight jacket art was World War II, and it is this era that comprises a major portion of this book. Additionally, many of the pieces are attributed to the original owner with biographical information, contemporary photographs of the individual, and the aircraft on which he served. Personal combat accounts are also included. Also covered are other military jackets used by flyers. *American Flight Jackets, Airmen Aircraft* was compiled over a number of years by Jon Maguire and John Conway. The authors became friends through a mutual passion for aviation history and collecting. This book provides a valuable reference for the historians and collectors alike, and includes over 1000 photographs.