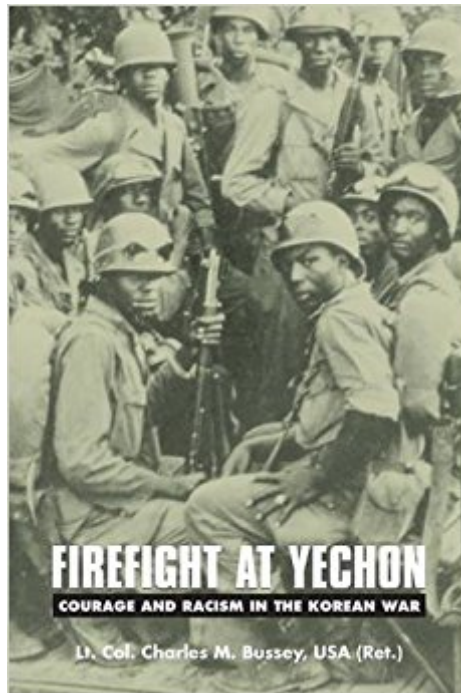




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Firefight At Yechon: Courage And Racism In The Korean War



Synopsis

Firefight at Yechon is the harrowing story of Charles M. Bussey, a former Tuskegee airman and one of the first American combatants in the Korean War. He led the Seventy-seventh Engineer Combat Company for 205 days filled with almost continual fighting, during which he and his fellow American soldiers served with distinction. They also felt the effects of racism in the U.S. Army and wartime media, which singled out African American units for blame in the early days of the war. Firefight at Yechon sets the record straight about the contribution of African Americans in the Korean War. It also paints an unforgettably realistic portrait of the terrifying first days of fighting in 1950, when American soldiers, both black and white, were reeling under the assault of the North Korean People's Army. The Seventy-seventh Engineer Combat Company played an instrumental role in the retaking of Yechon on 20 July, the first major victory for the U.S. Army. The carnage of that fight and the shining courage of his fellow soldiers would never be forgotten by Bussey.

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Lt. Col. Charles M. Bussey served in World War II and in the Korean War and flew military aircraft for twenty-four years. He retired in 1966. His decorations include the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the Air Medal, the Purple Heart, and the Army Commendation Medal.

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First person account of a young officer's experience dealing with racial issues in both the US at home and in the Army. Well told, with several very compelling incidents, including the author's heroism at Yechon, but many others. Some heroic, some not.

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