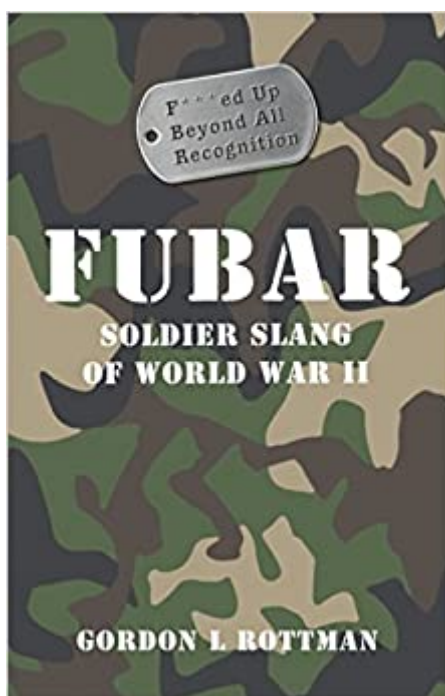


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# FUBAR F\*\*\*ed Up Beyond All Recognition: Soldier Slang Of World War II (General Military)



## Synopsis

The soldier slang of World War II was as colourful as it was evocative. It could be insulting, pessimistic, witty, and even defeatist. From 'spam bashers' to 'passion wagons' and 'roof pigs' to 'Hell's Ladies,' the World War II fighting man was never short of words to describe the people and events in his life. *F\*\*\*ed Up Beyond All Recognition* takes a frank look at the British, Commonwealth, American, German, Japanese and Russian slang used by the men on the ground, and shows how, even in the heat of battle, they somehow managed to retain their sense of humour, black though it might have been.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"FUBAR: Soldier Slang of World War II" was a fun book to flip through. When HBO's "The Pacific" goes on the air, I am going to keep this book nearby; I am thinking that it just might be useful!" -C Peter Chen, World War 2 Database/ww2db.com (December 2009)"FUBAR" is a compilation of thousands of slang terms and their definitions from WWII. It is a wonderful companion for both new students of the war and experienced historians. Some phrases will be familiar to modern readers. Most of us already know that a "jarhead" is a slang term for a member of the United States Marine Corps. and that "scuttlebutt" is a reference to rumors. You probably did not know, however, that a scuttlebutt was also a water fountain on a ship. Accordingly, "scuttlebutt" seems to embrace the same concept as water cooler conversations.FUBAR" is a lot of fun to

read and I have kept it close by my reading chair since I received it. Rarely do I read a book that does not include slang terms that previously I had understood only by intuiting the meaning. Now I have a definitive resource to guide me through the soldier slang of the Second World War." -David Mitchell, World War II Forums/ww2f.com (November 2009) Reviews of the hardcover edition:

"Reading this book brings to life the rich culture of the men and women of the armed forces of WWII. The level of detail in Rottman's collection of terms is astounding and the size of the volume speaks to its completeness. Writers of historical fiction or reference books will find this book invaluable. Hobbyists and modelers will also find the book useful as many of these phrases and terms can add to the character and detail of nearly any WWII model. Most of all, anyone with an interest in WWII will enjoy this colorful book." -Steven Weakly, Historical Miniature Magazine (2008)

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"Even though World War II ended 62 years ago, it is still with us in books and films. This small and important guide is one more testament to that... Academic libraries, as well as a variety of special readers, will want to add this useful and reasonably priced volume." -Charles R. Andrews, American Reference Books Annual (March 2008)

"I purchased FUBAR and stayed awake reading until sleep could no longer be avoided, great book." -Greg Sunyak (January 2008)

"Soldier slang of World War II is colorful and could range from insults to witty sayings: any collection strong in World War II history thus needs Fubar: Soldier Slang of World War I, a dictionary defining World War II slang from all armed forces sides. From conscripted 'koala' Australian soldiers to identifying a 'Chinese attack', this is loaded with phrases and insights." -California Bookwatch (December 2007)

"The overwhelming implication of FUBAR is that this remarkable reference book, a unique witness to the language of war, represents a class of men passing away with inexorable force. Dove or hawk, it makes no difference: If one truly want to understand this important aspect of the fighting men one supports or condemns, it would be infinitely myopic to ignore their words, how they said them, and why." -David Cotner, VC Reporter (October 4, 2007)

"This is a highly informative book packed with fascinating insights into the military language used in WWII, but also for those with an interest in the development of the English (and German) language." -Timothy Baghurst, The Traveler (September 2007)

"...this is more of a reference or easy browsing book than one where you sit down and start

reading. You'll find many of the words to be pretty funny and some even a bit shocking... It is a book that I thoroughly enjoyed browsing through and it is one that I know you will find just as much fun to read. Most highly recommended." -Scott Van Aken, modelingmadness.com (September 2007)

Gordon L. Rottman entered the US Army in 1967, volunteered for Special Forces and completed training as a weapons specialist. He served in the 5th Special Forces Group in Vietnam in 1969-1970 and subsequently in airborne infantry, long-range patrol and intelligence assignments until retiring after 26 years. He was a Special Operations Forces scenario writer at the Joint Readiness Training Center for 12 years and is now a freelance writer, living in Texas.

This book will take you back through many wars and battles while learning what this crazy info we Vets used to talk to each other.... So if you wanted to get "Squared Away" it will tell you why Vets all love to be squared away unlike many civilians who don't understand that being clean and neat is squared away lol "Fubar and Snafu will be explained. Probably the 2 most often words used after WWII and introduced before the "F" work became common in civilian life while in the Military it is used in common conversation. I don't think I dare write the meanings of this Lingo here without getting thrown off. lol You will find that the words change as we moved into Korea and Vietnam and all of the other wars and conflicts we have had It's a funny read just keep it away from Minors in your home.....

I own several different dictionaries of military slang, and this is far and away the best. Rottman did his homework. In addition to library research, he worked with online discussion groups including WW II vets to understand the precise meaning (or meanings) of expressions. He also has a way with words himself -- it's not easy to get ideas across in brief dictionary entries, but Rottman does it. The entries are always informative, often full of personality, and sometimes funny -- never pedantic. It's also obvious that helping to recreate and preserve the culture of WW II soldiers is something Rottman really cares about. Before I peeked at his listing, I was pretty sure that this wasn't Rottman's first book on the war. The depth of his knowledge really shines through. I had more than a few "Wow, I didn't know that!" moments while reading. For example: "Zombies." These were Canadian soldiers who declined to volunteer for overseas deployment. Apparently if you didn't volunteer, Canada would not send you. Didn't know that. Reading this book is like eating a really well-prepared meal -- it's full of little surprises and pleasures. Highly recommended. If you have a serious interest in WW II, this should be in your collection.

If you have read much WW2 history, many of the terms will be old hat, but I did find lots of educational entries. The information on British, Commonwealth, and German slang was mostly new to me. I was surprised to see that "Furphy" was omitted (WW1 Australian slang for erroneous water cooler gossip). Also, the slang is oriented towards ground forces only (Army and Marines), with no Navy slang to speak of. Three and one-half stars. If you are not a regular reader of WW2 history, the rating is higher.

Anyone familiar with Gordon Rottman's work know they can expect excellence. In this book he takes the dictionary format to its highest level with humor and common sense practicality. When looking for quick research type books I always look for Rottman's work and order with confidence that it will be as described and will meet my needs. In this case I needed Wehrmacht slang without spending hours researching and translating. FUBAR: Soldier Slang of World War II delivered very nicely.

The only source on the Internet that I can find for Imperial Japanese slang. As a translator fascinated with the Greater East Asia War I highly recommend it.

Having been a MARINE's wife forever, I found some of this factual, but a lot of it not ...the title is classic USMC, however. Someone should have looked a little more closely at some of the author's definitions.

Great book

NAM memories.

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