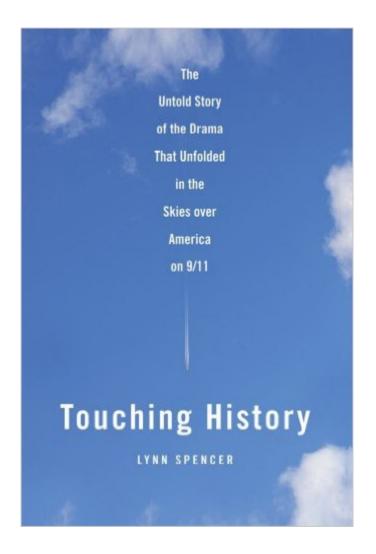
The book was found

Touching History: The Untold Story Of The Drama That Unfolded In The Skies Over America On 9/11





Synopsis

On the azure blue morning of 9/11 the skies were pronounced "severe clear," in the parlance of airline pilots; a gorgeous day for flying. Nearly 5,000 flights were cruising the skies over America when FAA Operations Manager Ben Sliney arrived at the Command Center for his first day on that job. He could never have anticipated the historic drama that was about to unfold as Americans who found themselves on the front lines of a totally unprecedented attack on our homeland sprang into action to defend our country and save lives. In this gripping moment-to-moment narrative, based on groundbreaking reporting, Lynn Spencer brings the inspiring true drama of their unflinching and heroic response vividly to life for the first time, taking us right inside the airliner cockpits and control towers, the fighter jets and the military battle cabs. She makes vital corrections to the findings of the 9/11 Commission Report, and reveals many startling, utterly unknown elements of the story. As a commercial pilot herself, for whom the attacks hit terribly close to home, she knew that the true scope and nature of the response so brilliantly improvised that morning by those in the thick of the action -- with so little guidance from those at the highest levels -- had not at all been captured by the news coverage or the 9/11 Commission. To get to the truth, she went on a three-year quest, interviewing hundreds of key players, listening to untold hours of tapes and pouring through voluminous transcripts to re-create each heart-stopping moment as it happened through their eyes and in their words as the drama unfolded. From the shocking moment at 7:59 a.m. that American 11 fails to respond to a controller's call, until the last commercial flight has safely landed and military jets rule the skies, all Americans will find themselves deeply moved and amazed by the grace and fierce determination of these steely men and women as they draw on all of their exquisite training to grasp, through the fog of war, what is happening, put their lives on the line, and mount an astonishing response. This beautifully crafted and deeply affecting account of the full story of their courageous actions is a vital addition to the country's understanding of a day that has forever changed our nation.

Book Information

File Size: 669 KB Print Length: 320 pages Publisher: Free Press; Reprint edition (June 3, 2008) Publication Date: June 15, 2008 Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC Language: English ASIN: B0015DYJT4 Text-to-Speech: Enabled X-Ray: Not Enabled Word Wise: Enabled Lending: Not Enabled Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled Best Sellers Rank: #262,881 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #58 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Aviation > History #174 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > World > Transportation #210 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Aviation > History

Customer Reviews

I picked this book up at Costco two days ago having heard nothing about it. It tells the story of the response to the 9/11 attack as it was improvised by the military, the airline pilots and the air traffic controllers. A little bit of it was shown in the movie "United 93" but in that film it appeared that the military was completely ineffective. In fact, the military response was rapid and effective but the nation's air defense command was fighting to stay in existence at the time and had extremely limited capability. In an afterward to the book, General Larry Arnold tells how he was informed by a superior that, "If everyone would turn off CNN, there wouldn't be a threat from Osama bin Laden." General Arnold was, at the time, commander of the Continental U.S. North American Air Defense Command and the statement was made two weeks before 9/11. On September 7, 2001, the Secretary of the Air Force and the chief of staff of the USAF decided to cut off funding for air defense. On 9/11, there were only 14 jet fighters available in the entire U.S. to be scrambled for an alert and all air defense units were National Guard, many of whose pilots were also airline pilots. In spite of this critical weakness, by two hours after the first airliner hit the World Trade Center, there was a combat air patrol over Washington. They were there in time to stop United 93, had that been necessary. The rapid response by Air Force, Air National Guard and FAA personnel, often using telephones to relay information between incompatible communication systems, was totally improvised by the people involved. This story has not been told before and it makes a gripping tale. It was not all locking the barn door after the horse was gone, either.

Download to continue reading...

Touching History: The Untold Story of the Drama That Unfolded in the Skies Over America on 9/11 Indian Cooking Unfolded: A Master Class in Indian Cooking, with 100 Easy Recipes Using 10

Ingredients or Less WAR HEROES OF WORLD WAR TWO WRITTEN AS EVENTS UNFOLDED: VOL. 1 4 COMPLETE CLASSIC COMIC BOOKS FROM 1942-1943 The Panama Papers: How it unfolded, the players & implications Turbulent Skies: The History of Commercial Aviation (Sloan Technology) Under Minnesota Skies: John and Dorothy Hondl Family History and Farm Memories Touching Heaven: A Cardiologist's Encounters with Death and Living Proof of an Afterlife A Very Touching Book...for Little People and for Big People You always lag one child behind (Barbara revisited): A touching and practical book written in memory of his daughter by a thoughtful father for other parents of mentally retarded children TOUCHING THE WIRE: Auschwitz:1944 A Jewish nurse steps from a cattle wagon into the heart of a young doctor, but can he save her? 70yrs later, his granddaughter tries to keep the promise he made. Touching Feeling: Affect, Pedagogy, Performativity (Series Q) Chicano Drama: Performance, Society and Myth (Cambridge Studies in American Theatre and Drama) In Search of Open Skies: Law and Policy for a New Era in International Aviation Regional Liberalization in International Air Transport: Towards Northeast Asian Open Skies (Essential Air and Space Law) A Remembered Land (Maniototo Skies Book 2) Ember Skies Arkadian Skies: Fallen Empire, Book 6 Ancient Earth, Ancient Skies: The Age of Earth and its Cosmic Surroundings DIY RC Airplanes from Scratch: The Brooklyn Aerodrome Bible for Hacking the Skies Idaho Falls: The Untold Story of America's First Nuclear Accident

<u>Dmca</u>