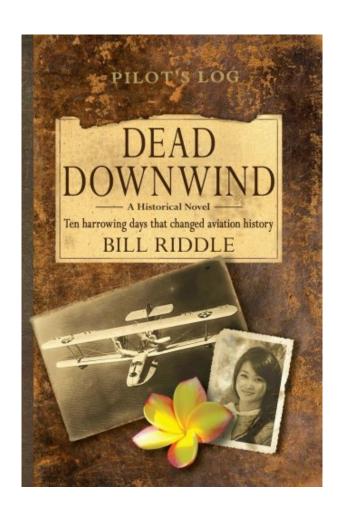
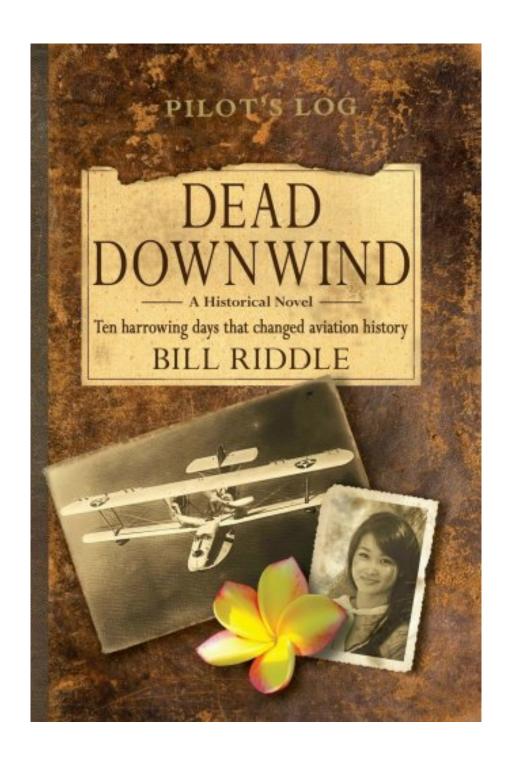
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About the Author

Bill Riddle has spent his entire adult life in Hawaii. An avid sailor, he has raced throughout the Hawaiian Islands, California, Mexico, and across the Pacific. He has hand-crafted wooden ship models, grandfather clocks, and

assorted furniture pieces, as well as an ultra-light airplane, which he has flown with some success. He enjoys all sports and can often be found on the golf links. Riddle is currently working on his second historically based novel.

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In 1924 . three years before Charles

Lindbergh makes his historic flight over the Atlantic - post WWI America is convinced she can do anything she puts her mind to. In the midst of the RoaringTwenties however, the boisterous nation's capitol is rocked by political infighting for the control of military aviation. The brash young army general Billy Mitchell is attempting to wrest air power

away from both the army and navy to

create an independent air force under his own command. To counter this move, the brilliant navy Rear Admiral William Moffett has challenged Hawaii-based

Commander John Rodgers with a deathdefying mission; one designed to sway the politicians and the public alike, to the navy's side. If Rodgers accepts, he will command three planes in a seemingly impossible mission; the first non-stop flight from San Francisco to Honolulu. This bold gamble could make or break the navy's bid for control of its own air power and unbeknownst to

Rodgers, Moffett has lined up a second publicity-grabbing stunt involving the world's largest dirigible.

In this gripping historic novel, follow

John Rodgers' spellbinding story to its

riveting conclusion as political intrigue, inter-service rivalries, engineering challenges and personal hurdles all conspire to doom the mission. Then, an anxious public is forced to hold its collective breath when one of the planes

is forced down in the middle of the vast Pacific Ocean and matters are made worse as the navy dirigible experiences serious trouble of her own. The dramatic aftermath will change the course of aviation history.

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6 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

Wonderful!

By Kathleen Keystone

This is an amazing book full of beautiful period piece photographs of Hawaii in the 1920s as well as an exciting, nearly forgotten story that you could never dream up on your own. To find out that the historical part is all true with actual quotes and newspaper headlines is a jaw dropper. For anyone who is, or knows of, someone interested in historical fiction, flying, sailing, Hawaii and/or a poignant love story, this is a must have for the collection.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful.

Dead Downwind is a page burner !! Great read!!

By Daniel Williams

This is an incredible saga that brings history alive. Mr. Riddle intertwines aviation history with tropical island flavors to create a tale, that once started, is hard to put down. The details of emergining state of the art technology with personal profiles of pride, strength, honor and love are tightly bound yet delicatly intertwinded.

In this case Dead Downwind is Dead On!! I bought 4 more copies as gifts.

Dan Williams

San DiegoDead Downwind: Ten Harrowing Days That Changed Aviation History

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

A Fantastic Read

By George Irion

An amazing story capturing a breathtaking ten days when America was at a crossroads in aviation history. Mr. Riddle masterly inserts wonderful historical photographs that add to the visual history of this exciting time in naval history and 1920 Hawaii. A love story, a history, a thriller,...all the above.

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