



Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II

John R. Walker

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II

John R. Walker

Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II John R. Walker

After the end of World War II, General George Patton declared that artillery had won the war. Yet howitzers did not achieve victory on their own. Crucial to the success of these big guns were forward observers, artillerymen on the front lines who directed the artillery fire. Until now, the vital role of forward observers in ground combat has received little scholarly attention. In *Bracketing the Enemy*, John R. Walker remedies this oversight by offering the first full-length history of forward observer teams during World War II.

As early as the U.S. Civil War, artillery fire could reach as far as two miles, but without an “FO” (forward observer) to report where the first shot had landed in relation to the target, and to direct subsequent fire by outlining or “bracketing” the targeted range, many of the advantages of longer-range fire were wasted. During World War II, FOs accompanied infantrymen on the front lines. Now, for the first time, gun crews could bring deadly accurate fire on enemy positions immediately as advancing riflemen encountered these enemy strongpoints. According to Walker, this transition from direct to indirect fire was one of the most important innovations to have occurred in ground combat in centuries.

Using the 37th Division in the Pacific Theater and the 87th in Europe as case studies, Walker presents a vivid picture of the dangers involved in FO duty and shows how vitally important forward observers were to the success of ground operations in a variety of scenarios. FO personnel not only performed a vital support function as artillerymen but often transcended their combat role by fighting as infantrymen, sometimes even leading soldiers into battle. And yet, although forward observers lived, fought, and bled with the infantry, they were ineligible to wear the Combat Infantryman’s Badge awarded to the riflemen they supported. Forward observers are thus among the unsung heroes of World War II. *Bracketing the Enemy* signals a long-overdue recognition of their distinguished service.

 [Download Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World W ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II John R. Walker

From reader reviews:

Maxine Elam:

The book Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II gives you the sense of being enjoy for your spare time. You can utilize to make your capable considerably more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting stress or having big problem along with your subject. If you can make looking at a book Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II to be your habit, you can get much more advantages, like add your personal capable, increase your knowledge about a few or all subjects. You are able to know everything if you like open up and read a e-book Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science publication or encyclopedia or other individuals. So , how do you think about this book?

Janice Oconnell:

In this 21st millennium, people become competitive in most way. By being competitive currently, people have do something to make these people survives, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice by means of surrounding. One thing that occasionally many people have underestimated the item for a while is reading. That's why, by reading a publication your ability to survive enhance then having chance to endure than other is high. For yourself who want to start reading a new book, we give you that Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II book as nice and daily reading book. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Judith Cole:

This Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II is great book for you because the content and that is full of information for you who also always deal with world and get to make decision every minute. This kind of book reveal it data accurately using great organize word or we can claim no rambling sentences within it. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole details in it. Doesn't mean it only gives you straight forward sentences but hard core information with beautiful delivering sentences. Having Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II in your hand like getting the world in your arm, info in it is not ridiculous one. We can say that no publication that offer you world within ten or fifteen minute right but this reserve already do that. So , this is good reading book. Hello Mr. and Mrs. hectic do you still doubt this?

Robert Colgan:

Is it a person who having spare time after that spend it whole day by means of watching television programs or just telling lies on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II can be the respond to, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are and so out of date, spending your extra time by reading in this brand new era is common not a geek activity. So what these ebooks have than the others?

**Download and Read Online Bracketing the Enemy: Forward
Observers in World War II John R. Walker #0PWDYUHR5CN**

Read Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II by John R. Walker for online ebook

Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II by John R. Walker Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II by John R. Walker books to read online.

Online Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II by John R. Walker ebook PDF download

Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II by John R. Walker Doc

Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II by John R. Walker Mobipocket

Bracketing the Enemy: Forward Observers in World War II by John R. Walker EPub