

About the author: Daniel Ford

Daniel Ford has spent a lifetime studying the wars of the past century, from the Irish rebellion of 1916 to America's misadventures in Iraq and Afghanistan. Born 1931 in Arlington, Massachusetts, the son of Irish immigrants, he attended public and parochial schools in New Hampshire and Massachusetts, meanwhile working jobs from farm laborer to school janitor. He graduated in 1950 as the top student in his class at Brewster Academy in Wolfeboro, N.H., and was again at the top of his class at the University of New Hampshire (A.B. Political Science 1954). He was awarded a Fulbright fellowship to study at the Victoria University of Manchester, taking the opportunity to travel through the Continent—an adventure that long afterward he wrote about in *Poland's Daughter: How I Met Basia, Hitchhiked to Italy, and Learned About Love, War, and Exile*.

Drafted into the U.S. Army upon his return to the United States, Ford trained at the Special Warfare Center, Fort Bragg, and then was stationed at Coligny Caserne in Orléans, France. He took his discharge in Europe to work as a reporter for the *Overseas Weekly* in Frankfurt, Germany.

Home again in 1958, he settled in Durham, N.H., to become a free-lance journalist and novelist. An assignment for *The Nation* took him to South Vietnam in 1964, traveling with American advisors and Special Forces troops, which provided grist for *Incident at Muc Wa*, published by Doubleday and later filmed as *Go Tell the Spartans*, starring Burt Lancaster. In 1967 he married Sarah Lansing Paine. They have a daughter, Katharine, a sailor, writer, mother, and homeschool teacher.

In 1986 Ford began to research the American Volunteer Group, mercenary pilots who won fame as the "Flying Tigers" of Burma and China, work that took him to Taipei, Rangoon, Kunming, London, and Washington. He received a Verville Fellowship (1989–90) at the National Air and Space Museum to work with Japanese accounts of the air war in Southeast Asia. When *Flying Tigers: Claire Chennault and His American Volunteers, 1941-1942* was published in 1991 by the Smithsonian Institution Press, it won the year's Award of Excellence from the Aviation-Space Writers' Association. It has twice been updated and revised, by HarperCollins in 2007 and by Warbird Books in 2016.

Ford is a resident scholar at the University of New Hampshire. He contributes to the *Wall Street Journal*, *Michigan War Studies Review*, and *Air & Space / Smithsonian*; publishes the Warbird's Forum, Piper Cub Forum, and Reading Proust websites; and blogs on Daniel Ford's Blog. He soloed in a J-3 Piper Cub at the age of 68 and flew as a sport pilot until he grounded himself twelve years later. Meanwhile he earned a degree "with distinction" from King's College London (M.A. War Studies 2010) in a class comprised of mid-career British Army officers and other military men and civilians from around the world. His lesser passions include opera, alpine skiing, and reading all possible translations of *À la recherche du temps perdu*. Home and office: 433 Bay Road, Durham, N.H. 03824 USA.

Further information

Wikipedia article: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daniel_Ford

UNH Magazine profile: <http://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/2014/06/write-stuff>

Author website: <http://www.danfordbooks.com>

Books by Daniel Ford

Flying Tigers: Claire Chennault and His American Volunteers, 1941-1942 (third edition 2016)

Tales of the Flying Tigers (2016)

Poland's Daughter: How I Met Basia, Hitchhiked to Italy, and Learned About Love, War, and Exile (2013)

Editor: *When I Am Going*, by Anne Crowley Ford (2012)

A Vision So Noble: John Boyd, the OODA Loop, and America's War on Terror (2010)

Michael's War: A Story of the Irish Republican Army (2003)

Editor: *The Lady and the Tigers*, by Olga Greenlaw (2002)

The Only War We've Got: Early Days in South Vietnam (2001)

Remains: A Story of the Flying Tigers (2000)

Glen Edwards: The Diary of a Bomber Pilot (1998)

The Country Northward: A Hiker's Journal (1976)

The High Country Illuminator: A Tale of Light and Darkness and the Ski Bums of Avalon (1971)

Incident at Muc Wa: A Story of the Vietnam War (1967; translated into Dutch; filmed as *Go Tell the Spartans*)

Now Comes Theodora (1965)