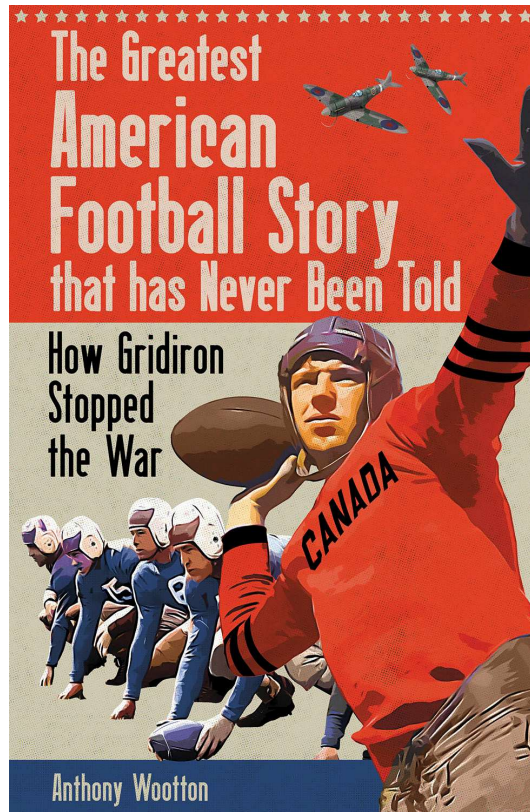




Title information



The Greatest American Football Story that Has Never Been Told

How Gridiron Stopped the War

By Anthony Wootton

Key features

- First-hand accounts from the main protagonists, including former Hamilton Tigers quarterback Denis Whitaker; the Canadian responsible for making the games happen
- Anthony has spoken to family members of the key players, including the niece of the Philadelphia Eagles' title-winning quarterback Tommy Thompson
- NFL players past and present discuss the league's ongoing commitment to supporting the armed forces
- Commemorates the fallen footballers who gave up their professional careers and made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom
- Publicity campaign planned including radio, newspapers, websites, podcasts and magazines

Description

This is the compelling story of how American football was used to boost morale and inject camaraderie between the Allied forces in wartime London. In December 1943, as London faced a fifth Christmas of blackouts and no sign of World War Two ending, a chance encounter at an English pub between a Canadian and an American officer led to the staging of a football game: the Tea Bowl. A few weeks later, 30,000 Canadian and American troops, as well as some confused British spectators, were gifted respite from the devastation. The game involved players who had paused their football careers back home to serve their country in foreign lands. The Canadians won, so a rematch was arranged in front of 50,000 at London's White City Stadium. They called it the Coffee Bowl. A few ringers were even drafted from the NFL, including Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Tommy Thompson. With first-hand accounts and detailed reports of the games, this is the first time the fascinating tales of the Tea and Coffee Bowls have been shared in one place.

Details

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