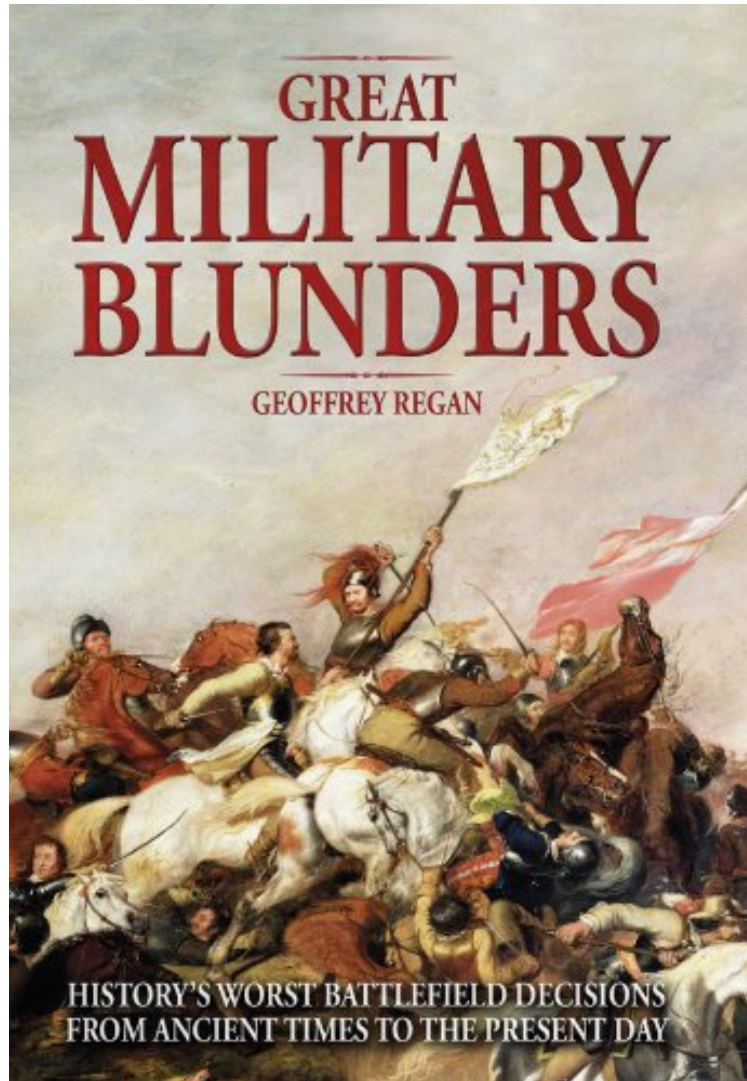


Great Military Blunders

Von Geoffrey Regan

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Von Geoffrey Regan : Great Military Blunders before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Great Military Blunders:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Interessant, lustig und lehrreichVon NidhoggurIch habe mir die Great Military Blunders aus einer Laune heraus gekauft und war wirklich positiv berrascht. Geoffrey Regan schreibt mit einer guten Portion Humor und behlt dabei doch einen Blick fr die menschlichen Tragdien, die hinter diesen militrischen Fehlschlgen stecken. Er gelingt ihm beinahe spielerisch, dem Leser die Begleitumstnde dieser Geschehnisse zu vermitteln. Sogar die geschichtlichen Zusammenhnge und Kommentare knnen berzeugen, was angesichts der relativ kurzen Eintrge nicht gerade einfach ist.

Dass Geoffrey Regan etwas von dem Thema versteht, ist offensichtlich und er hat penibel recherchiert. Fazit: Ein gutes Buch, das auf unterhaltsame Art und Weise Wissen vermittelt. Sehr empfehlenswert. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Amazing and judicious compilation Von Eddy Marquez Just great Interesting to see how big military campaigns failed due to sheer incompetence. Important lessons not to be repeated in the future

Kurzbeschreibung From ancient times to the Bay of Pigs and the Falklands War, military history has been marked as much by misjudgements and incompetence as by gallantry and glory. Such blunders have sometimes ended in tragedy, sometimes in farce - such as the English troops, supposedly marching on Cadiz in 1625, who instead got drunk in a salt marsh. And sometimes they have ended in triumph, despite all the odds. In this fascinating and entertaining collection, author Geoffrey Regan not only recounts some of the staggering stories, but also highlights the kinds of difficulties that can lead to military disaster. His anecdotes encompass every aspect of warfare from the insanity of commanders to the provision of inadequate supplies. This entertaining and instructive book will appeal to the military buff and general reader alike. The public relations gurus would have us believe that, in all its modern technological glory, warfare is something akin to an exact science, but in reality the best-laid plans go out the window when the shooting starts, and it was ever thus. The term military precision may be accurate describing parade drills but often becomes something of a sick joke in the field, as *Great Military Blunders*, published to accompany the Channel 4 television series, amply demonstrates. Drawing his subjects almost exclusively from the past two centuries (only the Battle of Hattin in 1187 falls outside this period), Geoffrey Regan, who has written widely on the subject of military incompetence, still finds more than enough material for this survey. The book comprises six chapters, each examining one of the major reasons that leads to military blunder, although there is, of course, a good deal of overlap with the common ground being serious misjudgement at some point along the chain of command. These are, broadly, over-promoted leaders stretched beyond their abilities and with subordinates unwilling to challenge their obvious errors; incompetent and unrealistic planning; scornful underestimation of the enemy, with, conversely, overestimation of one's own abilities mirroring it; political meddling by non-military men; and over-reliance on technology incapable of fulfilling the wishful thinking of commanders. Several battles or operations are held up as examples for each case and are dissected with the aid of a wide array of experts and eye-witnesses. The extensive use of quotation does at times make it seem as if one is reading the script for the series but there is much fascinating stuff here and particularly so on the more recent cock-ups such as the nearly apocalyptic race for Pristina airport and the abject failure of the Patriot missiles in the Gulf War. As you would expect, the book sports an extensive selection of colour and black and white photographs adding plenty of colour and background, although the lack of any maps and diagrams illustrating movements is an oversight in what is, altogether, a very attractive and engaging book. --Alisdair Bowles *Pressestimmen* "This book should be approached with the same expectations as an evening with Peter Ustinov-- it is greatly amusing yet deep in perception and intelligence." --Country Life "Regan is Britain's premier authority on military disasters and the content of the series [*Great Military Blunders*, Channel 4] is informed by his refreshingly blunt approach." --Time Out