



The Oxford Companion to Military History

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From the Trojan War to World War II and beyond, *The Oxford Companion to Military History* brings together an international team of more than 150 experts who illuminate war's bloody past.

Ranging from the Alamo and Amphibious Operations to Marshal Zhukov and the Zulu War, here are 1,300 alphabetically arranged entries that provide a wealth of information on warfare from the classical period to the present day, including the social, political, technological, and economic background of major conflicts.

There are biographical profiles on military leaders (Napoleon, Caesar, Eisenhower), theorists (von Clausewitz, Sun Tzu), and inventors (Fulton), among other notable figures. The contributors also discuss weapons and equipment; wars, campaigns, and battles; strategy and tactics; espionage and propaganda; logistics and fortifications; and military life, literature, and medicine. In addition, the book includes many wide-ranging contextual entries on topics as diverse as animals in war, pacifism, and venereal disease. The *Companion* boasts 75 specially commissioned maps, 20 in-text line diagrams, extensive cross-referencing, and guides to further reading.

With superb coverage of land warfare in Europe and North America, plus numerous entries on war in the air and at sea around the world and throughout history, *The Oxford Companion to Military History* is the most wide-ranging and authoritative reference on all aspects of military history currently available.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Since there is no end to this planet's being plagued by wars, there is concomitantly no end to books on military history. The latest addition to the publisher's illustrious "Companion" series is this elegantly edited volume of essays covering people, places, and all things military since the beginning of recorded time when, it seems, wars also began. Holmes (military and security studies, Cranfield Univ. and the British Royal Military Coll. of Science) has obtained the talents of nearly 150 other prominent military historians in crafting more than 1300 entries relating to battles, generals, weapons, diplomats, military theorists, and nearly every other conceivable nuance generated by our incessant need for armed conflict. Excellent maps accompany entries about specific battles, and most entries conclude with a short, useful bibliography. One may quibble now and then about the sources recommended for further reading why, for example, is there no mention of Donald Smythe's *Guerrilla Warrior* (o.p.), an outstanding biography of John J. Pershing? but all in all this is a reference tool of remarkable quality. Highly recommended for both public and academic libraries. Ed Goedeken, Iowa State Univ. Lib., Ames
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From [Booklist](#)

Holmes is professor of Military and Security Studies at Cranfield University and the Royal Military College of Science. He has presented two popular BBC Television series on military history and authored six monographs on the subject.

Although this reference work surveys all military services from ancient to modern time periods, it emphasizes land warfare in Europe and North America from the eighteenth through the twentieth centuries. It contains approximately 1,300 entries arranged in an A-Z format written by some 148 contributors from Great Britain, Europe, and North America. There are 31 feature articles of two or more pages on topics such as *Artillery*, *Infantry*, *Logistics*, *Peacekeeping*, *Tactics*, and *Women in the military*. Appropriately placed throughout the text are 70 black-and-white maps and 15 black-and-white illustrations. Entries are cross-referenced and signed, and many contain a short bibliography of one to five items at the end.

There are numerous single-volume reference tools with coverage similar to that of *The Oxford Companion to Military History*. One recent example is Cowley's *Readers Companion to Military History* (Houghton Mifflin, 1996), which has more than 600 entries, 40 maps, and 89 black-and-white illustrations. All entries are signed, and most have short bibliographies. Holmes compares favorably with Cowley, with more entries and maps but fewer illustrations. *The Oxford Companion to Military History* should be considered by high-school, public, and academic libraries that need a convenient military history guide. *RBB*
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Review

`a must for anyone interested in war and its influence' Daily Express, 31/03/01

`The name Richard Holmes is to military history what Made in Britain once was to manufactured goods. . . The Oxford Companion to Military History is a most agreeable companion: faithful, authoritative and never dull.' Allan Mallinson, The Times, 28/03/01

`The book will provide hours of happy browsing for those with an interest in wars and warriors' Max

Hastings, Evening Standard, 12/03/01

`A deeply impressive encyclopedia of warfare' Military Illustrated May 2001

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Marietta Allred:

Reading a book tends to be new life style with this era globalization. With reading you can get a lot of information that can give you benefit in your life. Using book everyone in this world can share their idea. Ebooks can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire their particular reader with their story or maybe their experience. Not only the story that share in the ebooks. But also they write about advantage about something that you need illustration. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your kids, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors on earth always try to improve their ability in writing, they also doing some investigation before they write with their book. One of them is this The Oxford Companion to Military History.

Brandon Phelan:

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