Battle Antietam Staff Ride 287669

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the battle of antietam was a crucial turning point in the american civil war this staff ride guide examines the maryland campaign and battle of antietam the bloodiest day in american history on 17 september 1862 the army of the potomac met the army of northern virginia on the rolling farmlands around

sharpsburg maryland while general lee sought to bring the war to the north and liberate maryland general mcclellan having gained important intelligence would endeavor to defeat lee and reverse the momentum of several union losses ted ballard has once again crafted a definitive battle guide drawing on the official records of the war of the rebellion though neither the union nor the confederate side gained the decisive victory both desired the battle provides many lessons in command and control communications intelligence technology versus tactics and the fog of war foreword the u s army has long used the staff ride as a tool for professional development conveying the lessons of the past to contemporary soldiers in 1906 maj eben swift took twelve officer students from fort leavenworth's general service and staff school to the chickamauga battlefield on the army s first official staff ride since that time army educators have employed the staff ride to provide army officers with a better understanding of a past military operation of the vagaries of war and of military planning it can also serve to enliven a unit's esprit de corps a constant objective in peacetime or war to support the army s initiatives the center is publishing staff ride guides such as this one on the battle of antietam this account is drawn principally from contemporary and after action reports as well as from reminiscences of participants both officers and enlisted men the battle of antietam provides important lessons in command and control leadership and unit training this small volume should be a welcome training aid for those undertaking an antietam staff ride and valuable reading for those interested in the civil war and in the history of the military art

the u s army has long used the staff ride as a tool for professional development conveying the lessons of the past to contemporary soldiers antietam is ideal for a staff ride since a continuing goal of the national park service is to maintain the site in the condition in which it was on the day of the battle the purpose of any staff ride is to learn from the past by analyzing the battle through the eyes of the men who were there both leaders and rank and file soldiers antietam offers many lessons in command and control communications intelligence weapons technology versus tactics and the ever present confusion or fog of battle we hope that these lessons will allow us to gain insights into decision making and the human condition during combat includes 15 maps 4 tables 18 illustrations explanatory sections on artillery and logistics as well as order of battle information originally published by the army s center for military history

contains more than 20 maps diagrams and illustrations the battle of antietam has been called the bloodiest single day in american history by the end of the evening 17 september 1862 an estimated 4 000 american soldiers had been killed and over 18 000 wounded in and around the small farming community of

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sharpsburg maryland emory upton then a captain with the union artillery battery later wrote i have heard of the dead lying in heaps but never saw it till this battle whole ranks fell together the battle had been a day of confusion tactical blunders individual heroics and the effects of just plain luck it brought to an end a confederate campaign to liberate the border state of maryland and possibly take the war into pennsylvania a little more than one hundred and forty years later the antietam battlefield is one of the best preserved civil war battlefields in the national park system antietam is ideal for a staff ride since a continuing goal of the national park service is to maintain the site in the condition in which it was on the day of the battle the purpose of any staff ride is to learn from the past by analyzing the battle through the eyes of the men who were there both leaders and rank and file soldiers antietam offers many lessons in command and control communications intelligence weapons technology versus tactics and the ever present confusion or fog of battle we hope that these lessons will allow us to gain insights into decision making and the human condition during combat

the antietam staff ride is a computer driven guide to the battle of antietam it provides the user with a comprehensive graphical picture of the major battles fought on 17 september 1862 at sharpsburg maryland it uses a simple point and click interface and is completely interactive the user views the movement of military units on a series of color maps in 30 second to one minute snapshots the battles may be viewed one frame at a time or through continuous animated movement when viewed one frame at a time the user is provided with text description of actions occurring at that moment additionally short audio and visual cues such as gun fire and cannon fire are presented to aid in describing the current situation the program contains an extensive database on unit locations movements order of battle and casualties it also contains scanned color photos of key leaders and battlefield terrain a glossary of terms is included and contains graphic depictions of regimental formations and drill weapons artillery gunnery etc the glossary is directly linked to words and terms shown as italicized text the user simply points and clicks on the word or term to access the definition or graphic depiction the antietam staff ride was written using the hypermedia authoring application aldus supercard

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this guide contains remarkable detail on several firsts and rarities for the time period from crossings under fire and street fighting to now familiar trench warfare

sections 1 2 keyword index section 3 personal author index section 4 corporate author index section 5 contract grant number index ntis order report

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the use and abuse of military history is the theme of this book the author scrutinizes the army s first systematic attempt to use military history to educate its future leaders and traces the army s struggle from the end of the civil war to claim intellectual authority over the study of war

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