

# Battle Of The Bulge Hitlers Ardennes Offensive 1944

## 1945

Battle Of The BulgeHitler's Ardennes OffensiveBattle of the BulgeArdennes 1944German Special Operations in the 1944 Ardennes OffensiveGerman Special Operations In The 1944 Ardennes OffensiveThe Demise of a Division German Infantry Success During the Ardennes Offensive 1944Failure Of German Logistics During The German Ardennes Offensive Of 1944Ardennes 1944Ardennes 1944The Reich's Last GambleThe Ardennes, 1944–1945The ArdennesThe ArdennesHitler's Ardennes OffensiveBattle of the BulgeSnow and SteelThe Battle of the Bulge: The German ViewThe Siege of BastogneThe Ardennes 1944–1945 Volume II Danny S. Parker Danny S. Parker David Jordan Antony Beevor Jeffrey Jarkowsky Major Jeffrey Jarkowsky R a B Bruijns Major James L. Kennedy Jr. Yves Buffetaut Antony Beevor George Forty Christer Bergström Hugh Marshall Cole Hugh Marshall Cole Edited by Danny S. Parker Danny Parker Peter Caddick-Adams Danny S. Parker Charles River Charles River Editors Christer Bergström Battle Of The Bulge Hitler's Ardennes Offensive Battle of the Bulge Ardennes 1944 German Special Operations in the 1944 Ardennes Offensive German Special Operations In The 1944 Ardennes Offensive The Demise of a Division German Infantry Success During the Ardennes Offensive 1944 Failure Of German Logistics During The German Ardennes Offensive Of 1944 Ardennes 1944 Ardennes 1944 The Reich's Last Gamble The Ardennes, 1944–1945 The Ardennes The Ardennes Hitler's Ardennes Offensive Battle of the Bulge Snow and Steel The Battle of the Bulge: The German View The Siege of Bastogne The Ardennes 1944–1945 Volume II *Danny S. Parker Danny S. Parker David Jordan Antony Beevor Jeffrey Jarkowsky Major Jeffrey Jarkowsky R a B Bruijns Major James L. Kennedy*

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on december 16 1944 hitler launched his last desperate offensive of world war ii it was his final great gamble and later became known as the battle of the bulge

in this gripping unusual volume insight into the battle of the bulge is told through firsthand accounts by german officers the battle a major german offensive caught the allied forces off guard in belgium france and luxembourg and lasting from december 1944 january 1945 had devastating consequences for both sides there were eighty nine thousand americans casualties and between eighty thousand and one hundred thousand german ones it was the largest and bloodiest battle fought by the americans during the war and yet in the end an allied victory there are western accounts of the battle but very little has been told from the german perspective in hitler s ardennes offensive acclaimed military historian danny s parker has compiled together accounts by german officials who reveal how they perceived the battle how they believe adolf hitler perceived it and what in their opinion went wrong the assessments featured include ones from nazi leaders such as ss generals josef dietrich and ss brigadier fritz krümer and they are paired with nine rarely seen photographs and three maps the images include a photograph of josef dietrich taken by eva braun one of adolf hitler pouring over a map and one of ss grenadiers pausing to enjoy captured american cigarettes the maps show different parts of the german offensive the unique volume was created after parker spent twenty five years studying world war ii and conducting more than two hundred interviews on it released ten years ago in a limited print run it is now shortly after the seventieth anniversary of the battle finally back in print skyhorse publishing as well as our arcade imprint are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in history books about world war ii the third reich hitler and his henchmen the jfk assassination conspiracies the american civil war the american revolution gladiators vikings ancient rome

medieval times the old west and much more while not every title we publish becomes a new york times bestseller or a national bestseller we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home

battle of the bulge the first 24 hours tells the dramatic story of the first day of the ardennes offensive explaining in detail how the allies were taken by surprise and the events that occurred along the length of the front as the germans attempted to break through the allied lines the book begins with an overview of the situation in the west in late 1944 describing the german plans as well as their successful efforts to mask the build up of their forces it also examines the allied high command s complacency highlighting how they became lax in their attention to ultra decrypts leading them to believe the ardennes region was secure this is accompanied with an in depth analysis of hitler s strategy and the dispositions of both the german and the american forces in the ardennes region in december 1944

from the bestselling author of stalingrad berlin and d day comes the story of the german s ill fated final stand rich in detail and drama enthralling mail on sunday on 16 december 1944 hitler launched his last gamble in the snow covered forests and gorges of the ardennes he believed he could split the allies by driving all the way to antwerp then force the canadians and the british out of the war although his generals were doubtful of success younger officers and ncos were desperate to believe that their homes and families could be saved from the vengeful red army approaching from the east many were exultant at the prospect of striking back the ardennes offensive with more than a million men involved became the greatest battle of the war in western europe american troops taken by surprise found themselves fighting two panzer armies belgian civilians fled justifiably afraid of german revenge panic spread even to paris while many american soldiers fled or surrendered others held on heroically creating breakwaters which slowed the german advance the harsh winter conditions and the savagery of the battle became

comparable to the eastern front and after massacres by the waffen ss even american generals approved when their men shot down surrendering germans the ardennes was the battle which finally broke the back of the wehrmacht if you re a fan of beevor s work find some space on your bookshelf for this one if you ve never read him before start here and work your way back it s history nerd heaven history of war magazine beevor weaves a brilliant narrative out of all this drama as in his previous books his gifts are strongest in focusing on telling details from different perspectives a vital historical insight sunday times a sweeping sobering read written with all the confidence and aplomb that beevor fans would expect beevor is as good on the rows behind the front lines as he is on the battles themselves independent

this is a well written and sourced historical analysis of the german special operations conducted in support of their ardennes offensive the battle of the bulge it focuses on the two major special operations of the german offensive operations greif and stoesser operation greif was the german attempt to infiltrate a commando unit behind american lines disguised as american soldiers operation stoesser the last german airborne operation of the war was designed to secure a key crossroads behind american lines the strategic setting planning preparations and conduct of these operations as well as their impact on the overall offensive campaign are examined to determine how successful the operations were

this study is a historical analysis of the german special operations conducted in support of their overall ardennes offensive it focuses on the two major special operations of the german offensive operations greif and stoesser operation greif was the german attempt to infiltrate a commando unit behind american lines disguised as american soldiers operation stoesser the last german airborne operation of the war was designed to secure a key cross roads behind american lines these special operations failed because of faulty planning inadequate preparation and a lack of coordination between the special and conventional forces these problems exacerbated by a lack of preparation time resulted in

a pair of ad hoc units that were unable to accomplish their primary missions although the operations were characterized by boldness initiative and improvisation this study also examines the strategic setting planning preparations and conduct of these operations as well as their impact on the overall campaign this study also examines the key lessons learned that can be derived from both operations lastly the study explores the implications of these lessons for the u s military of today

the focus on the 1944 ardennes offensive is always on the initial dash of kampfgruppe peiper and the battles around bastogne the tanks steal the show most german forces involved were however infantry divisions with little means of transport they are often regarded as the weak link the footsloggers who could not catch up with the tanks there was however an often overlooked german infantry success in the schneiffel sector the german 18th volksgrenadierdivision almost singlehanded defeated the american 106th infantry division in the historiography this is often either glossed over or grossly exaggerated why because an inferior german force in terms of infantry artillery and armour defeated a larger better trained american force this book explains how a german volksgrenadierdivision was shaped up for battle and which role its general played in the eventual success it also highlights the crucial role of a dozen assault guns an unassuming tracked vehicle in the german attack the american side is not forgotten and gets a thorough analysis on often overlooked aspects like the integration of replacements and the problems of command r a b bruijns is a military historian with a focus on the first and second world war he also runs the youtube channel armies and battles

this study investigates the role that logistics played in the failure of the german offensive in the ardennes in 1944 the thesis explains that despite the incredible build up of forces and supplies the inability of the german strategic and operational logistics systems to properly equip fuel arm and move forces caused the failure of the ardennes offensive the concept of this thesis starts with the overall strategic military and political situation of germany in the fall of 1944 that hitler used to base his decision to conduct the offensive

in december 1944 the study then examines in detail the strategic capabilities during the build up of supplies and the operational level organization and planning for the offensive an analysis of the details on the impact of terrain climate allied air interdiction and operation point blank is included in this chapter then it examines the first weeks of the offensive and looks at the failure of the fuel and arm and move tactical logistics functions an analysis of the impact of logistics on supporting operations is included in this chapter

german army deficiencies are often cited as the reason for the failure of the german counteroffensive in the ardennes region of france belgium and luxembourg in december of 1944 to january 1945 which the germans called operation wacht am rhein the allies named the ardennes counteroffensive and was also commonly known as the battle of the bulge it is certainly true that the three german armies regrouped for the offensive were in differing states only the 5th panzer army was in something resembling good condition with the 6th and the 7th mediocre at best the divisions were also often not mobile enough because of the lack of automotive equipment and were short on tanks and artillery but these cannot be considered the only reasons for the german failure it was also the speed of the allied reaction and especially the conduct of the americans who experienced some of the fiercest combat of the war and suffered over 100 000 casualties this volume in the casemate illustrated series with over 100 photographs and 24 color profiles describes in detail the different events that caused the german defeat from the beginning of the offensive on december 16 1944 to the retreat behind the siegfried line it looks at several topics in particular the american resistance at st vith the resistance of the 101st airborne in bastogne german obstinacy in persisting with the siege at bastogne the airlift and the intervention of the 9th us air force the rapid regrouping of the 3rd us army patton's counterattack the british counterattack and finally how the allies failed to transform the german withdrawal into rout missing an opportunity to cross the siegfried line and the rhine on the heels of the germans leading to an incomplete victory

the prizewinning historian and bestselling author of d day stalingrad and the battle of

arnhem reconstructs the battle of the bulge in this riveting new account on december 16 1944 hitler launched his last gamble in the snow covered forests and gorges of the ardennes in belgium believing he could split the allies by driving all the way to antwerp and forcing the canadians and the british out of the war although his generals were doubtful of success younger officers and ncos were desperate to believe that their homes and families could be saved from the vengeful red army approaching from the east many were exultant at the prospect of striking back the allies taken by surprise found themselves fighting two panzer armies belgian civilians abandoned their homes justifiably afraid of german revenge panic spread even to paris while some american soldiers overwhelmed by the german onslaught fled or surrendered others held on heroically creating breakwaters which slowed the german advance the harsh winter conditions and the savagery of the battle became comparable to the eastern front in fact the ardennes became the western front s counterpart to stalingrad there was terrible ferocity on both sides driven by desperation and revenge in which the normal rules of combat were breached the ardennes involving more than a million men would prove to be the battle which finally broke the back of the wehrmacht in this deeply researched work with striking insights into the major players on both sides antony beevor gives us the definitive account of the ardennes offensive which was to become the greatest battle of world war ii

the last major german offensive of world war ii commonly known as the battle of the bulge

a comprehensive photo filled account of the six week long battle of the bulge when panzers slipped through the forest and took the allies by surprise in december 1944 just as world war ii appeared to be winding down hitler shocked the world with a powerful german counteroffensive that cracked the center of the american front the attack came through the ardennes the hilly and forested area in eastern belgium and luxembourg that the allies had considered a quiet sector instead for the second time in the war the

germans used it as a stealthy avenue of approach for their panzers much of us first army was overrun and thousands of prisoners were taken as the germans forged a fifty mile bulge into the allied front but in one small town bastogne american paratroopers together with remnants of tank units offered dogged resistance meanwhile the rest of eisenhower's broad front strategy came to a halt as patton from the south and hodges from the north converged on the enemy incursion yet it would take an epic six week long winter battle the bloodiest in the history of the us army before the germans were finally pushed back christopher bergstrom has interviewed veterans gone through huge amounts of archive material and performed on the spot research in the area the result is a large amount of previously unpublished material and new findings including reevaluations of tank and personnel casualties and the most accurate picture yet of what really transpired from the perspectives of both sides with nearly four hundred photos numerous maps and thirty two superb color profiles of combat vehicles and aircraft it provides perhaps the most comprehensive look at the battle yet published

the german winter counteroffensive of december 1944 january 1945 with a detailed description of german plans and allied efforts to eliminate the bulge in their lines

first published in 1992 to rave reviews danny parker's battle of the bulge has since become the standard history of the battle praised by historians for its stirring narrative meticulous research and its wealth of new information and fresh interpretations published now in a new edition including a photo section with fascinating then and now images of the ardennes area battlefield this classic history of the battle of the bulge will be released to coincide with the 60th anniversary of the battle

peter caddick adams one of the leading military historians of his generation reviews one of the great final engagements of ww2 the battle of the bulge including specially commissioned maps black and white photography archive material and personal interviews this is a riveting landmark study of a pivotal historical moment and perfect for

readers of james holland john keegan anthony beevor and max hastings a thought provoking and compelling account of one of the most iconic battles of the second world war brilliant james holland caddick adams knows more about the bulge than any other historian i have read i admire his originality snow and steel offers an authoritative narrative of the drama max hastings the sunday times an encyclopaedic and eminently readable book times literary supplement a compelling read reader review the definitive bulge history reader review absolutely brilliant book reader review brilliant read captivating and informative reader review excellent authoritative and very well written reader review snow and steel is a huge reassessment of hitler s last great throw of the dice the battle of the bulge the battle for the ardennes from 16 december 1944 to 25 january 1945 this is an utterly fascinating five weeks when for a time it looked like hitler had outflanked the allied armies pushing toward the rhine and might just throw them back to the normandy beaches it is also the context for the catastrophic events at bastogne depicted so graphically in band of brothers for military history fans this is one of those touchstone battles of world war two written by an author with a world wide reputation with specially commissioned maps photographs primary archival material and personal interviews this is a truly controversial commercial and landmark book

as allied armies swept towards the reich in late 1944 the german high command embarked on an ambitious plan to wrest the initiative on the western front and deal a crippling blow to the allied war effort this superb book brings together a wealth of primary source material including german documentation and debriefs of german generals to tell the story of this famous campaign from the german point of view expertly edited by the acclaimed historian danny s parker this is an impressive volume which sheds fascinating light on one of the most crucial episodes of the second world war

includes pictures includes accounts of the fighting written by generals and soldiers on both sides includes online resources and a bibliography for further reading includes a table of contents they ve got us surrounded the poor bastards american army medic in

bastogne december 20th 1944 after the successful amphibious invasion on d day in june 1944 the allies began racing east toward germany and liberating france along the way the allies had landed along a 50 mile stretch of french coast and despite suffering 8 000 casualties on d day over 100 000 still began the march across the western portion of the continent by the end of august 1944 the german army in france was shattered with 200 000 killed or wounded and a further 200 000 captured however adolf hitler reacted to the news of invasion with glee figuring it would give the germans a chance to destroy the allied armies that had water to their backs as he put it the news couldn t be better we have them where we can destroy them while that sounds delusional in retrospect it was hitler s belief that by splitting the allied march across europe in their drive toward germany he could cause the collapse of the enemy armies and cut off their supply lines part of hitler s confidence came as a result of underestimating american resolve but with the soviets racing toward berlin from the east this final offensive would truly be the last gasp of the german war machine and the month long campaign was fought over a large area of the ardennes forest through france belgium and parts of luxembourg from an allied point of view the operations were commonly referred to as the ardennes offensive while the german code phrase for the operation was unternehmen wacht am rhein operation watch on the rhine with the initial breakout going under the name of operation mist today americans know it best as the battle of the bulge bastogne would become a legendary lynchpin in the defense against the ardennes offensive in part for its strategic importance but also because of the almost superhuman effort made to protect it seven important roads converged with the town of bastogne and the germans on their way to antwerp recognized its importance as a hub but with the weather obscuring the military map and intelligence at an unusually low rate of abundance or reliability no americans on the ground from private to general knew precisely what was about to happen or in what way it would manifest itself three officers colonel s l a marshall captain john g westover and lieutenant a joseph webber collaborated to put it quite succinctly in the washington infantry journal when they described bastogne as a series of small dramatic military

actions related more by circumstances beyond the control of the defensive forces involved than by the design of a single commander in an astonishing feat of planning logistics and discipline patton s army redirected 133 000 vehicles 62 000 tons of supplies and the vehicles and men covered a combined distance of 1 5 million miles to his superiors amazement patton was poised to reach bastogne and attack the germans on december 22 and on december 21 he told bradley brad this time the kraut s stuck his head in the meat grinder and i ve got hold of the handle of course for patton s third army to relieve the siege the men had to hold out a few days which they were able to do because supplies were parachuted in and the germans eschewed frontal assaults in the end patton s army reached bastogne in 4 days and lifted the siege even he used superlatives to describe the action at bastogne calling it the most brilliant operation we have thus far performed and it is in my opinion the outstanding achievement of the war this is my biggest battle

when christer bergström published the first english edition of his ground breaking mammoth work the ardennes 1944 1945 hitlers winter offensive in 2014 it hit the world war ii community with the impact of an earthquake based upon tremendous research into primary sources and interviews with very many of the veterans this book turned the previous image of the battle of the bulge completely upside down although tearing apart many myths that surrounded this battle it has hardly received any negative criticism with such scrutiny has the author treated the sources and source references this book has been called the new main reference work on the battle it still remains at the very edge of historical research on this epic battle especially the veterans from the battle of the bulge have praised the work as completely outstanding the new volume ii deals with various turning points in the battle first the failure of ss kampfgruppe peiper the allied air forces severing of the german supply lines around christmas and pattons counter offensive next the bitter defeat sustained by pattons third u s army in the tank battle at bastogne and several other german victories in tank battles that have previously been covered up in

history writing how the luftwaffe actually gained air superiority and the german offensive restarted in january 1945 although the bloody battles in january 1945 cost both sides higher losses per day than in december 1944 they have been neglected in previous history writing here they are described in detail the reason why the ardennes offensive failed is discussed as are its quite significant repercussions

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