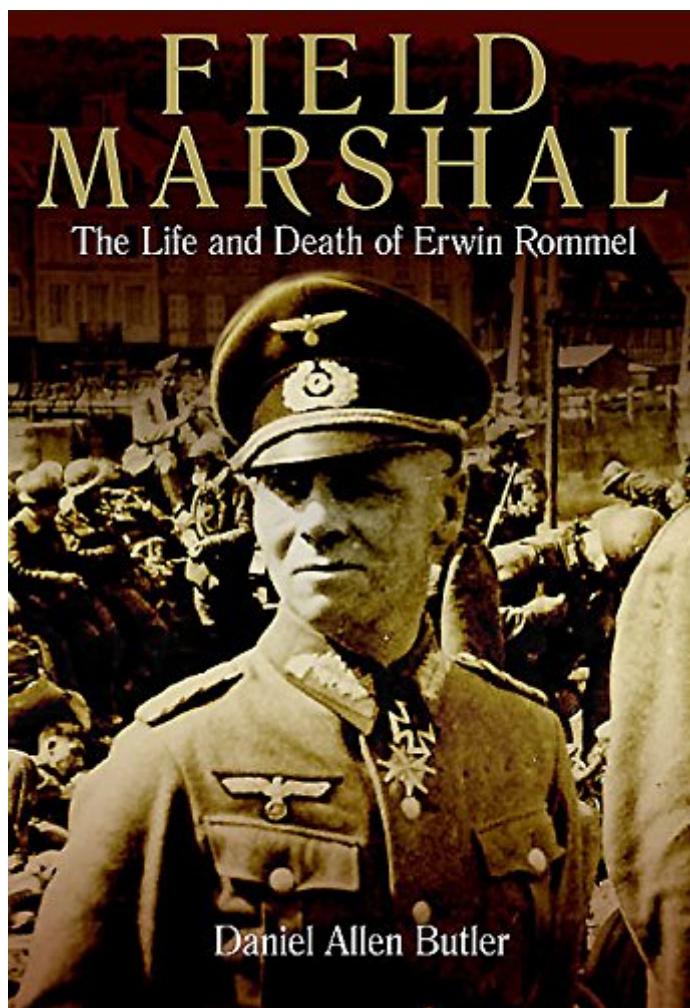


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Field Marshal: The Life And Death Of Erwin Rommel



Synopsis

Erwin Rommel was a complex man: a born leader, brilliant soldier, a devoted husband and proud father; intelligent, instinctive, brave, compassionate, vain, egotistical, and arrogant. In France in 1940, then for two years in North Africa, then finally back in France again, at Normandy in 1944, he proved himself a master of armored warfare, running rings around a succession of Allied generals who never got his measure and could only resort to overwhelming numbers to bring about his defeat. And yet for all his military genius, Rommel was also naive, a man who could admire Adolf Hitler at the same time that he despised the Nazis, dazzled by a Führer whose successes blinded him to the true nature of the Third Reich. Above all, he was the quintessential German patriot, who ultimately would refuse to abandon his moral compass, so that on one pivotal day in June 1944 he came to understand that he had mistakenly served an evil man and evil cause. He would still fight for Germany even as he abandoned his oath of allegiance to the Führer, when he came to realize that Hitler had morphed into nothing more than an agent of death and destruction. In the end Erwin Rommel was forced to die by his own hand, not because, as some would claim, he had dabbled in a tyrannical conspiracy, but because he had committed a far greater crime — he dared to tell Adolf Hitler the truth. In Field Marshal historian Daniel Allen Butler not only describes the swirling, innovative campaigns in which Rommel won his military reputation, but assesses the temper of the man who finally fought only for his country, and no dark depths beyond.

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Customer Reviews

This is an excellent biography although excessively detailed in describing battlefield actions. However, the author presents a most compelling explanation and description of the political, economic, and social situation in Germany that allowed the rise of Hitler and the Nazi regime--the best I have ever read and understood.

Very well written account of Erwin Rommel beautifully tied in and supported by Rommel's very own writings including letters and excerpts from his other works before his death. I enjoyed every minute from start to finish and felt as if I really got to know the Desert Fox himself. It also highlighted a personal account of the abundance of decent human beings within the Wehrmacht and their significant contributions to deflecting atrocity and shame.

Page turner. Packed with knowledgeable research and minutia. I am now conversant Wehrmacht mil-speak der Führer not The Führer. Great book. Lengthy but in a good way.

This book does a great job recounting the life and military career of Erwin Rommel. I would highly recommend reading this book as you will learn about the type of man and soldier he was. It's extremely well written and engaging for anyone who isn't used to reading non-fiction.

Got an A on my book report for a person from that era.

Good account of the life of Erwin Rommel. Highly detailed, account from Rommel's childhood up through the First World War & WWII. highly recommend!

A great, detailed, read of the hardships of war-torn Germany and the life of Field Marshal Rommel.

Well worth the read. A fascinating, fascinating character. What a tragic ending.

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