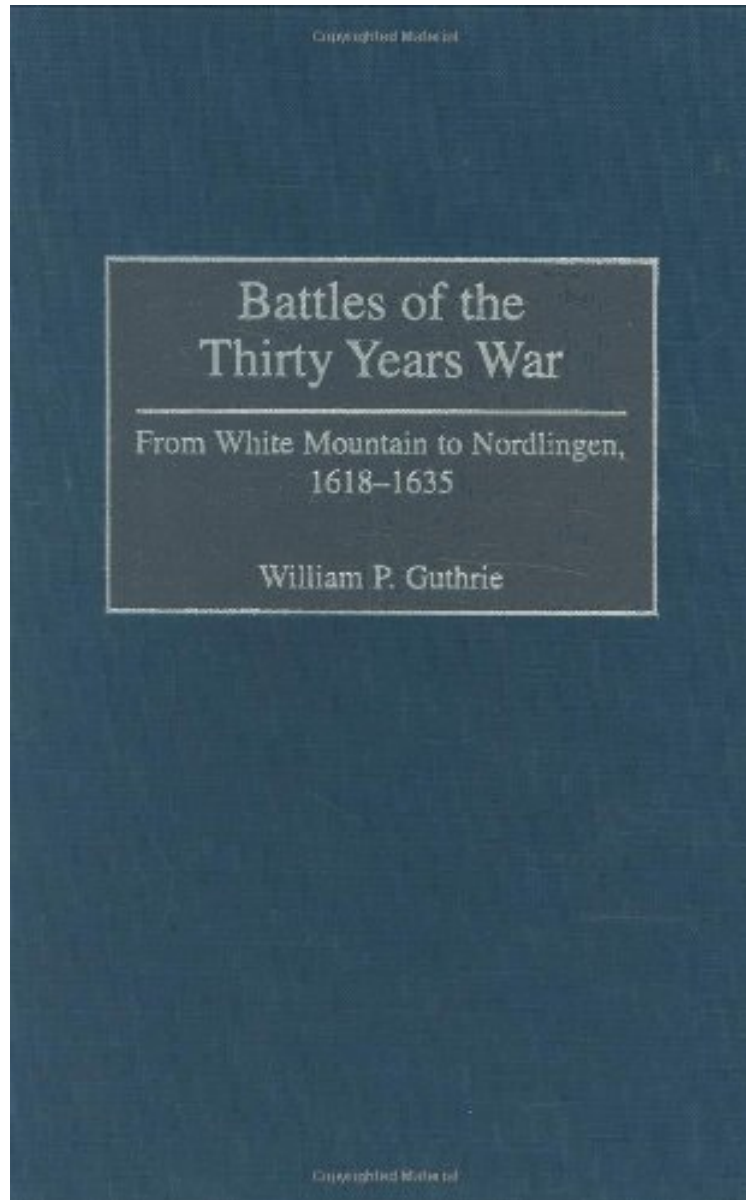


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Battles of the Thirty Years War: From White Mountain to Nordlingen, 1618-1635 (Contributions in Sociology,)

Von William P. Guthrie

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Von William P. Guthrie : Battles of the Thirty Years War: From White Mountain to Nordlingen, 1618-1635 (Contributions in Sociology,) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Battles of the Thirty Years War: From White Mountain to Nordlingen, 1618-1635 (Contributions in

Sociology,):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Sehr gut recherchiert; dicht an den EreignissenVon CalibanBei dem vorliegenden Werk handelt es sich um den ersten von zwei Teilen zu sämtlichen größeren Schlachten des Dreißigjährigen Kriegs. Etwas anachronistisch beginnt der Verf. mit der Schlacht bei Breitenfeld, die er zum Anlass nimmt, fundamental in die Militärtechnik des 15. und 16. Jahrhunderts einzuführen. Bei Breitenfeld trifft das klassische Terzio, die Schlachtordnung der Spanier, die seit Ravenna 1518 praktisch nicht zu besiegen war, auf die mit überlegener Schusskraft ausgestatteten Truppen Gustav Adolfs. Im Detail zeigt Guthrie wie etwa die leicht beweglichen Regimentskanonen als eine Wunderwaffe wirkten und die schwedischen Zündschlossschützen so massiert wurden, dass sie Tillys Terzios im entscheidenden Zeitpunkt zum stehen bringen konnten. Die ganze Darstellung ist zuerst sachlich und ohne Verzerrungen. Die militärischen Leistungen Tillys, die das ganze Buch durchziehen, werden auch bei Breitenfeld gewürdigt. Schließlich war auch hier das Ergebnis lange Zeit offen und die Schlacht kippte in einem kritischen Punkt.Danach folgt das Buch chronologisch den Schlachten des Dreißigjährigen Kriegs. Dem eigentlichen Schlachtgeschehen ist regelmäßig eine allgemeine Einführung vorangestellt, die in die zeitgeschichtlichen Hintergründe einführt und zeigt, aus welchen Gründen es gerade zu diesem Treffen kam. Vor der Schlacht am Weißen Berg gibt Guthrie beispielsweise eine sehr knappe, aber ansprechende Einführung in den deutsch-böhmischen Konflikt überhaupt. Auch heute vergessene Schlachten wie die bei "Wimpfern" werden im Detail errtert. Es finden sich regelmäßig Statistiken zur Mannschaftsstärke, Bewaffnung und Kurzportraits der Heerführer. Die eigentliche Darstellung ist trotz aller technischen Ausführungen bündig und prägnant und bemüht sich die Gründe für den Ausgang der Auseinandersetzung nachzuvollziehen. Auch die praktischen Folgen der Schlachten werden anschaulich errtert.Wegen der großen Faktendichte hat man als Leser wirklich den Eindruck unmittelbar in das Kampfgeschehen einzutauchen. Die Härte des Krieges und seine Erbarmungslosigkeit werden dem Leser ohne künstliche Drastik sehr rasch offenbart.Ich habe das Buch übrigens für meinen Kindle bestellt, weil diese Ausgabe nur halb so teuer ist wie die gebundene Variation. Mit der elektronischen Ausgabe war ich sehr zufrieden.

KurzbeschreibungThis is the first complete detailed study of the military aspects of the first half of this important conflict (1618-1635). Each chapter deals with a particular battle, but Guthrie also examines wider questions of strategy, leadership, armaments, organization, logistics, and war finances. The main emphasis is on the unique character and aspects of the Thirty Years War, with attention to the evolution of warfare and weapons, the impact of this evolution on actual operations, and the replacement of the previously dominant tercio style of warfare by the nascent linear system.The Thirty Years War is considered within its own context, rather than merely as a poor relation to the linear or Napoleonic periods. The campaigns covered in this volume include the defeat of the Bohemian and German Protestants (1618-1623), the Danish War (1625-1629), the victories of the Swedes under Gustavus Adolphus (1630-1632), and the final defeat of the Swedes at Nordlingen in 1634. Guthrie also pays particular notice to the important battle of Breitenfeld. With the inclusion of many secondary theaters and minor actions, the whole of this work constitutes a complete military history of the German War.Pressestimmen"Guthrie's Battles of the Thirty Years War attempts to fill this gap, and it does so in solid if formulaic style, laying out the strengths of the opposing forces, the abilities and personalities of the commanders, and the tactical details of the actions... Without this book one is forced to glean this kind of detail from a myriad of obscure works written in several languages. Nor does Guthrie simply summarize these older works; he also provides intelligent, original analysis-both tactical and strategic-of his own. Scholars will also find Guthrie's brief but effective introduction useful, for it provides a detailed explanation of military technology, tactical organization, and military practice of the period, something that is lacking in Anglophone historiography...this is a well-researched and unique reference work that should find favor with scholars of the Thirty Years' War or early modern warfare."-The Journal of Military History..."an immensely handy reference to military operations during the first 17 years of the war, with a focus on the actual engagements. There are numerous tables discussing the apportionment of personnel among the arms, mini-biographies of commanders notable and not so notable, and much more. Well worth reading--and having--for anyone with a serious interest in the conduct of war during the early seventeenth century."-The New York Military Affairs Newsletter?William Guthrie has performed a splendid service by writing a book that describes each of the major engagements of the Thirty Year War from its outbreak to the entry of France, at which point it expanded into a pan-European conflict.?-Arquebusier?...an immensely handy reference to military operations during the first 17 years of the war, with a focus on the actual engagements. There are numerous tables discussing the apportionment of personnel among the arms, mini-biographies of commanders notable and not so notable, and much more. Well worth reading--and having--for anyone with a serious interest in the conduct of war during the early seventeenth century.?-The New York Military Affairs Newsletter?Guthrie's Battles of the Thirty Years War attempts to fill this gap, and it does so in solid if formulaic style, laying out the strengths of the opposing forces, the abilities and personalities of the commanders, and the tactical

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