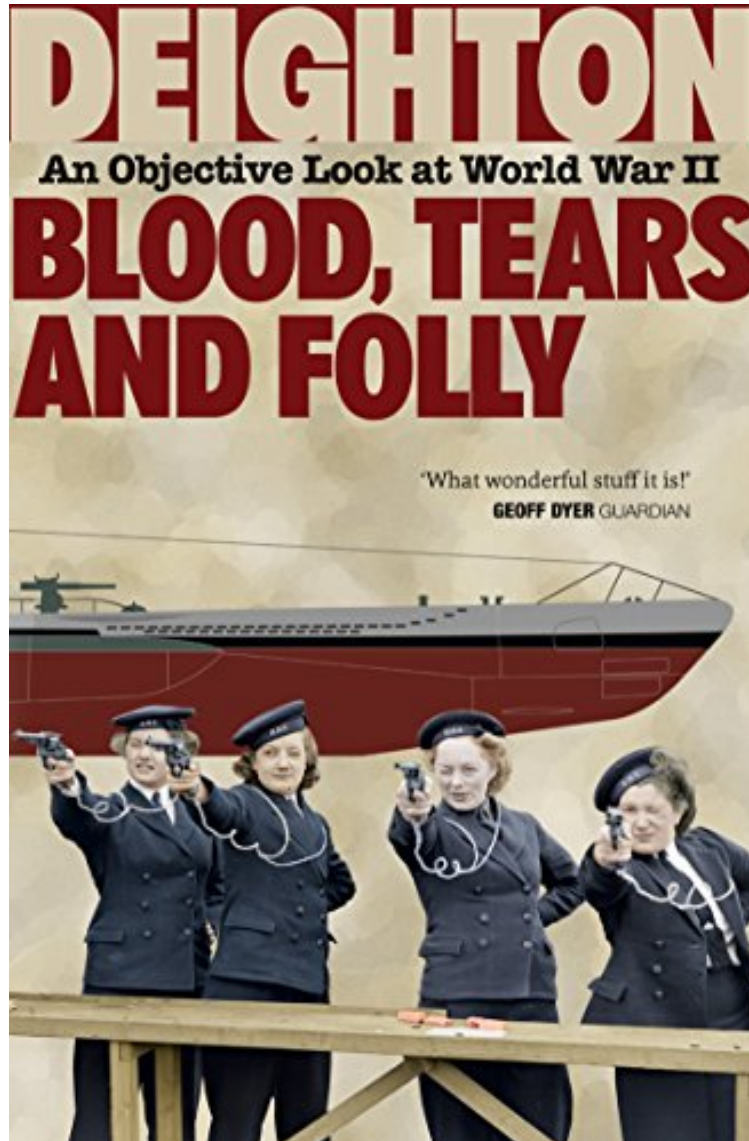


## Blood, Tears and Folly: An Objective Look at World War II

Von Len Deighton

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**Von Len Deighton : Blood, Tears and Folly: An Objective Look at World War II** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blood, Tears and Folly: An Objective Look at World War II:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Fascinating look at World War IIVon Tim F. MartinLen Deighton does an excellent job in looking at nearly all aspects of the Second World War. One of its strongpoint is that he provides a lot of background in addressing the problems

and events of the Second World War. In order to understand why the Battle of France was fought the way it was, he takes you back to the First World War, the lessons "learned," and events in the various armies between the war. To shed light on the Battle of Britain and the Blitz, he brings you the bombings of London in WWI, and what was thought of that at the time. In many cases, in order to understand why generals and admirals commanded their troops to do certain things, and why certain types of equipment were or were not available, you had to understand the mind set of the time, and the history they were drawing upon. Another strength of the book is its look at the personalities of the people involved, which as much as anything else helped determine who won or lost. From Churchill to Rommel to Zhukov, you have to understand to an extent their personal motivations, how they interacted with their subordinates and superiors, and the lessons they had learned earlier in life. Churchill for instance was shaped by early life experiences in Cuba prior to the Spanish-American War and during the Boer War, and by his serving as the civilian head of the Royal Navy. The book is pretty harsh on the British. While clearly liking the British (he is British himself), and greatly impressed by the courage of many of her warriors, again and again he lays into them for shortsightedness, petty infighting, turf wars, and failure to learn from battle. All and all a good book. Less good for an overall history of the war, but better to understand some of the background of the war, some of the personalities involved, and why the two sides did not do better than they did.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. One terrific book

Von Doug Vaughn Despite its subtitle, this is NOT an 'objective look' at World War II. Whatever else Len Deighton may be - and he is certainly a terrific writer - this book bristles with opinions and may fairly be viewed as a long argument, using very detailed analyses of weapons, events and personalities, to demonstrate that much of what is now taken for true about the war is myth. Deighton takes especial delight in puncturing certain British pomposities, and while he is not the first, he is certainly one of the best writers to turn the spotlight of a considerable intelligence on stupid and self-serving decision making. He shows repeatedly the human cost of decisions that seem to have been made out of misplaced allegiance to a particular branch of the service or from clinging to unfounded beliefs in the face of all conflicting evidence. He seems to be saying to his English audience that though Britain 'won' the war, it was only through exceptional sacrifice, accident and outside intervention. While this book can be enjoyed as a war history - heavy on specifics related to combat on sea, land and in the air and light on political and social aspects - it is especially interesting as argument. The comparison of weapons systems, especially in light of the brief histories that Deighton presents showing how each country had positioned itself (or not) for the war, allows the reader to see much that was already known in an entirely different light. We leave this book feeling as though we have really learned something new. No mean feat when we consider that this is the most written about war of all time. Deighton manages to make his use of detail and specific anecdote work by employing his skill as a story teller. And his story becomes more significant because it is really a very involved argument. This is a book that is satisfying on many levels and one I strongly recommend to anyone interested in the history of our era. One doesn't have to agree with Deighton's opinions to appreciate the clarity of his writing and thought. This is simply one terrific book.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An Amazing Look At World War II

Von Cody Carlson "Blood, Tears, and Folly" is simply one of the best books on World War II ever published. For those already familiar with the basic dimensions of the war, Deighton's book magnifies key elements which shaped the conflict and defined the times. For instance, Deighton explains how Germany's lack of a strategic bomber force was a major contribution to the Luftwaffe's defeat in the battle of Britain. Deighton also tears down the myths surrounding Erwin Rommel and explains in detail the breakdown of the German offensive in Russia. Rarely has an author made detailed history so easy to read and understand. If your looking for a simple study of the overall war look elsewhere, but if you wish to learn more about key moments, men, weapons and strategies of all the major powers, Deighton's book will amaze and delight.

Kurzbeschreibung Drawing on the authors deep understanding of military life and the strengths and frailties of politicians and generals, this is a myth-puncturing analysis of the advent of the Second World War. Blood, Tears and Folly offers a sweeping and compelling historical analysis of six theatres of war: the Battle of the Atlantic, Hitlers conquest of western Europe, the war in the Mediterranean, the battle for the skies, Operation Barbarossa and the German assault on Russia, and the entry of Japan into a truly global war. This is the period during which the Allied powers were brought to the very brink of defeat. Deighton offers an unflinching account of the political machinations, the strategy and tactics, the weapons and the men on both sides who created a world of terror and millions of dead, of the Holocaust, and of nuclear devastation.

Pressestimmen A splendid read He has a novelist s eye for the sort of facts that bring a narrative to life Evening Standard Every page of Deighton s work glows with the excitement of discovery What wonderful stuff it is! Guardian The skill with which he unmask his villains, the brilliance with which he can sketch a scene and the sharpness of his characterisation are all unrivalled Independent" A splendid read He has a novelist s eye for the sort of facts that bring a narrative to life Evening Standard Every page of Deighton s work glows with the excitement of discovery What wonderful stuff it is! Guardian The skill with which he unmask his villains, the brilliance with which he can sketch a scene and the sharpness of his characterisation are all unrivalled

Independent''A splendid read ... He has a novelist's eye for the sort of facts that bring a narrative to life' Evening Standard'Every page of Deighton's work glows with the excitement of discovery ... What wonderful stuff it is!' Guardian'The skill with which he unmasks his villains, the brilliance with which he can sketch a scene and the sharpness of his characterisation are all unrivalled' IndependentWerbetextAfter FIGHTER and BLITZKRIEG, Len Deighton now sets a drama of war on a world stage, revealing the reality of global conflict in moving individual accounts by participants at every level. 'Remarkable and absorbing. . . an absolute landmark as regards the history of the Second World War. ' Jack Higgins