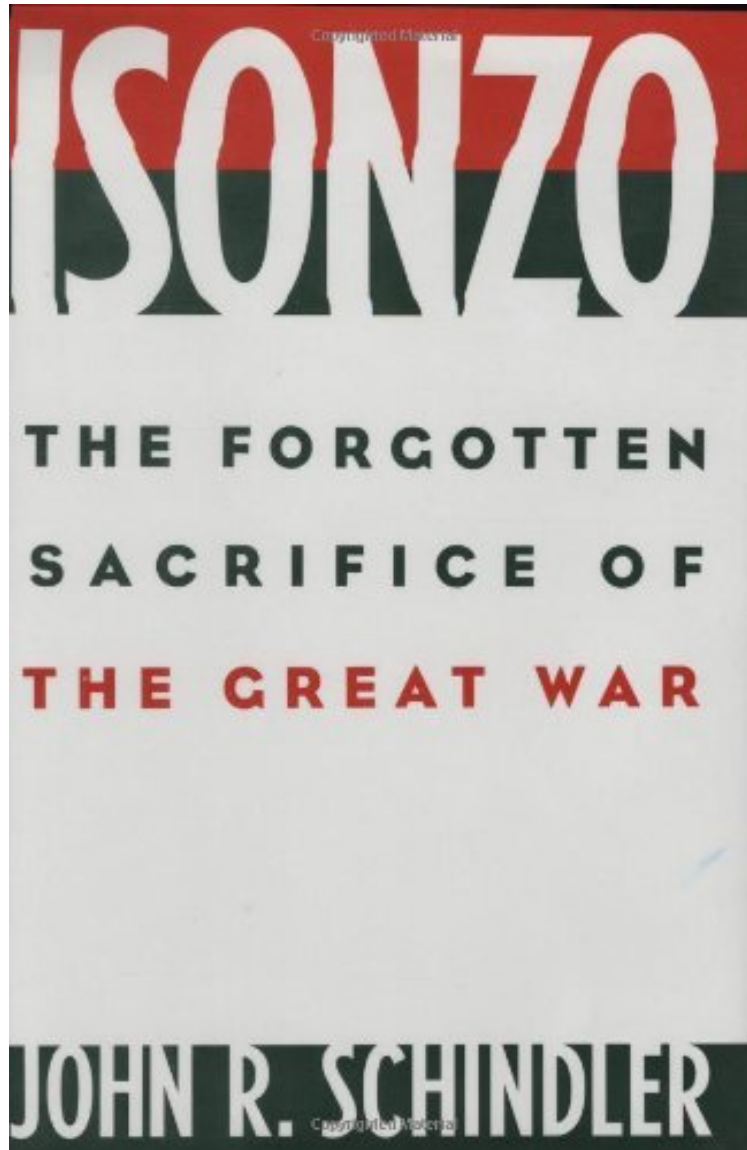


[Mobile library] Isonzo: The Forgotten Sacrifice of the Great War

Isonzo: The Forgotten Sacrifice of the Great War

Von John R. Schindler

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Von John R. Schindler : Isonzo: The Forgotten Sacrifice of the Great War before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Isonzo: The Forgotten Sacrifice of the Great War:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Clear, Accurate, Objective, Highly ReadableVon Frederick N. BosworthI was very happy to finally see a book on this subject in English. I was even happier when I read it and saw how good it was. If you are only going to read one book on the tragic battles on the Austro-Italian Front 1915-1918, read this one. The author provides a clear "big picture" of each

battle within the course of the whole war, yet often brings the story to life by focusing on actions by individual soldiers on both sides who either made a difference or were representative of many others who went through these ferocious campaigns. The author appears to be motivated by a genuine, heart-felt desire that the men and boys who made history on the Isonzo not be forgotten, yet he maintains his professional standards as a history professor. His narrative is very readable and engaging, and contains many examples of good men having a critical impact more often than one expects, yet these occasions only stand out the more sharply against the backdrop of the mountains of men and boys whose lives were thrown away in a dozen "Verduns." It also helps make root causes of WWI, from the rise of Mussolini to the Anschluss of Austria, more understandable. My only complaint is that the maps are just adequate, and there are no illustrations (hence only 4 stars). In my opinion, the book should be translated into German, Italian, Slovenian, and Croatian to reach a wider audience. It is a good complement to other works on this theater of the war such as Franz Weber's *DER ALPENKRIEG* or Rommel's *INFANTRY ATTACKS*, and is free from the political agendas noticeable in otherwise good works by some other modern authors on this and related subjects (und das sage ich nicht bloss, weil ich auch Amerikaner bin, und zufaellig in dem gleichen US Bundesstaat zu Hause bin wie Prof. Schindler).

Kurzbeschreibung This is the first account in English of a much-overlooked, but important, First World War battlefield located in the mountains astride the border between Italy and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Not well known in the West, the battles of Isonzo were nevertheless ferocious, and compiled a record of bloodletting that totaled over 1.75 million for both sides. In sharp contrast to claims that neither the Italian nor the Austrian armies were viable fighting forces, Schindler aims to bring the terrible sacrifices endured by both armies back to their rightful place in the history of 20th century Europe. The Habsburg Empire, he contends, lost the war for military and economic reasons rather than for political or ethnic ones. Schindler's account includes references to remarkable personalities such as Mussolini; Tito; Hemingway; Rommel, and the great maestro Toscanini. This Alpine war had profound historical consequences that included the creation of the Yugoslav state, the problem of a rump Austrian state looking to Germany for leadership, and the traumatic effects on a generation of young Italian men who swelled the ranks of the fascists. After nearly a century, Isonzo can assume its proper place in the ranks of the tragic Great War clashes, alongside Verdun, the Somme, and Passchendaele.

Pressestimmen Isonzo is a must read for those interested in World War I, modern Italian history, or the Hapsburg Army. - The New York Military Affairs Symposium Newsletter

His accuracy and attention to detail will impress readers who have traveled in the region. . . . Schindler's work is worthwhile reading for anyone with an interest in the First World War. - The Journal of Military History

The first definitive English-language account of WWI's just-about-forgotten epic clash between Italy and Austria-Hungary. The dozen battles fought in the Isonzo valley stand out for the scale of their slaughter, cruelty, and ghastly military-command pigheadedness in the face of failure. - Steve Forbes, in Forbes magazine

Schindler provides a vivid, compelling narrative of some of the most appalling fighting of the entire war. . . . the book meets a real need for a modern, English-language account of Italy's major effort in the war. the most appalling fighting of the entire war. . . . the book meets a real need for a modern, English-language account of Italy's major effort in the war. Of greatest interest to specialists and graduate students. - Choice

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