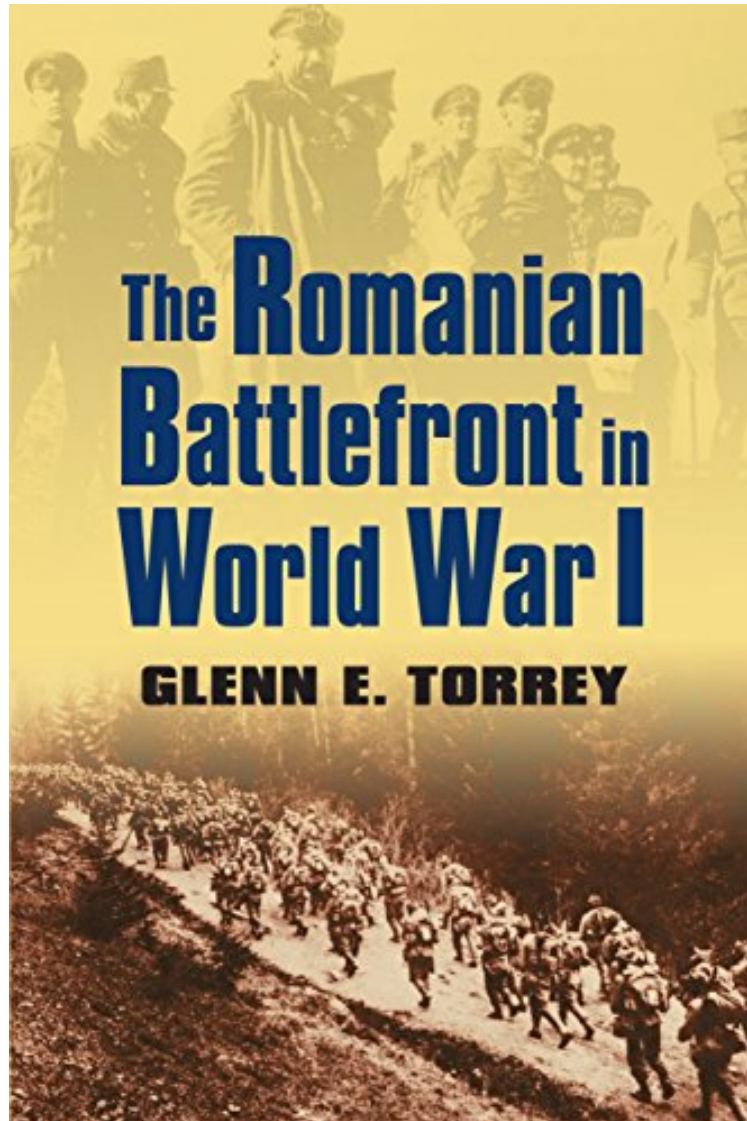


[Download pdf] The Romanian Battlefield in World War I

The Romanian Battlefield in World War I

Von Glenn E. Torrey

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Von Glenn E. Torrey : The Romanian Battlefield in World War I before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Romanian Battlefield in World War I:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Rock solid, reliable historical overviewVon Thomas BrandtnerThis is a clear, fair and beautifully written account of the fighting on the Romanian front in World War One. It firmly remains at the strategic level, rarely mentioning military units below the Division and thus not really helpful in reconstructing the actual fighting, but it provides at least a "flavour" of these desperate struggles and gives an invaluable first information on the ebb and flow of fighting in this

little-known theatre of operations. In addition, it provides a very useful shorthand description of political problems and entanglements in the Balkans during the first decades of the Twentieth century. Well provided with photographs and maps, which help a great deal to bring the period to life. This is also a very unbiased account, each and every belligerent is given his due, first and foremost of course (and rightly so, for they are so often overlooked) the heroic fighters of the Romanian army, but equally their Russian allies and their German, Bulgarian, Austro-Hungarian, and Turkish adversaries (these latter two mostly in a desperate state, ragged, hungry, understaffed, under-equipped and always fighting against impossible odds - and winning surprisingly often). Also gives due credit to the enormous impact of the French military mission which contributed so much to keeping Romania in the war for so long, and bringing her back in once the tide was turning. A lasting memorial to the heroism, imagination and dogged dedication of the fighters of World War One.

Kurzbeschreibung Despite a strategically vulnerable position, an ill-prepared army, and questionable promises of military support from the Allied Powers, Romania intervened in World War I in August 1916. In return, it received the Allies' formal sanction for the annexation of the Romanian-inhabited regions of Austria-Hungary. As Glenn Torrey reveals in his pathbreaking study, this soon appeared to have been an impulsive and risky decision for both parties. Torrey details how, by the end of 1916, the armies of the Central Powers, led by German generals Falkenhayn and Mackensen, had administered a crushing defeat and occupied two-thirds of Romanian territory, but at the cost of diverting substantial military forces they needed on other fronts. The Allies, especially the Russians, were forced to do likewise in order to prevent Romania from collapsing completely. Torrey presents the most authoritative account yet of the heavy fighting during the 1916 campaign and of the renewed attempt by Austro-German forces, including the elite Alpine Corps, to subdue the Romanian Army in the summer of 1917. This latter campaign, highlighted here but ignored in non-Romanian accounts, witnessed reorganized and rearmed Romanian soldiers, with help from a disintegrating Russian Army, administer a stunning defeat of their enemies. However, as Torrey also shows, amidst the chaos of the Russian Revolution the Central Powers forced Romania to sign a separate peace early in 1918. Ultimately, this allowed the Romanian Army to reenter the war and occupy the majority of the territory promised in 1916. Torrey's unparalleled familiarity with archival and secondary sources and his long experience with the subject give authority and balance to his account of the military, strategic, diplomatic, and political events on both sides of the battlefield. In addition, his use of personal memoirs provides vivid insights into the human side of the war. Major military leaders in the Second World War, especially Ion Antonescu and Erwin Rommel, made their careers during the First World War and play a prominent role in his book. Torrey's study fosters a genuinely new appreciation and understanding of a long-neglected aspect of World War I that influenced not only the war itself but the peace settlement that followed and, in fact, continues today. *Pressestimmen*-Torrey presents a model case study of a medium-sized power caught in the toils of total war and constrained to make the best of its situation and opportunities. Based on his mastery of the Romanian language and unrivalled access to Romanian sources, it fundamentally restructures our understanding of the Balkan and south Russian theaters of operation during the Great War's final years.---Dennis E. Showalter, author of *Tannenberg: Clash of Empires, 1914* -The definitive work on Romania in the First World War. Torrey's unparalleled research provides us with a clear picture of the causes and outcomes of this nation's fateful decision to enter the war.---Graydon A. Tunstall, author of *Blood on the Snow: The Carpathian Winter War of 1915* - The most balanced and most authoritative account of the war on the Romanian front available in any language.---Keith Hitchins, author of *A Concise History of Romania* -Fills a critical gap in our understanding of World War I. Meticulously researched and well written, this work is a major contribution to our knowledge of the Great War.---Richard L. DiNardo, author of *Breakthrough: The Gorlice-Tarnow Campaign, 1915* -Will change the way scholars view the Balkan Front in the Great War.---Timothy C. 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