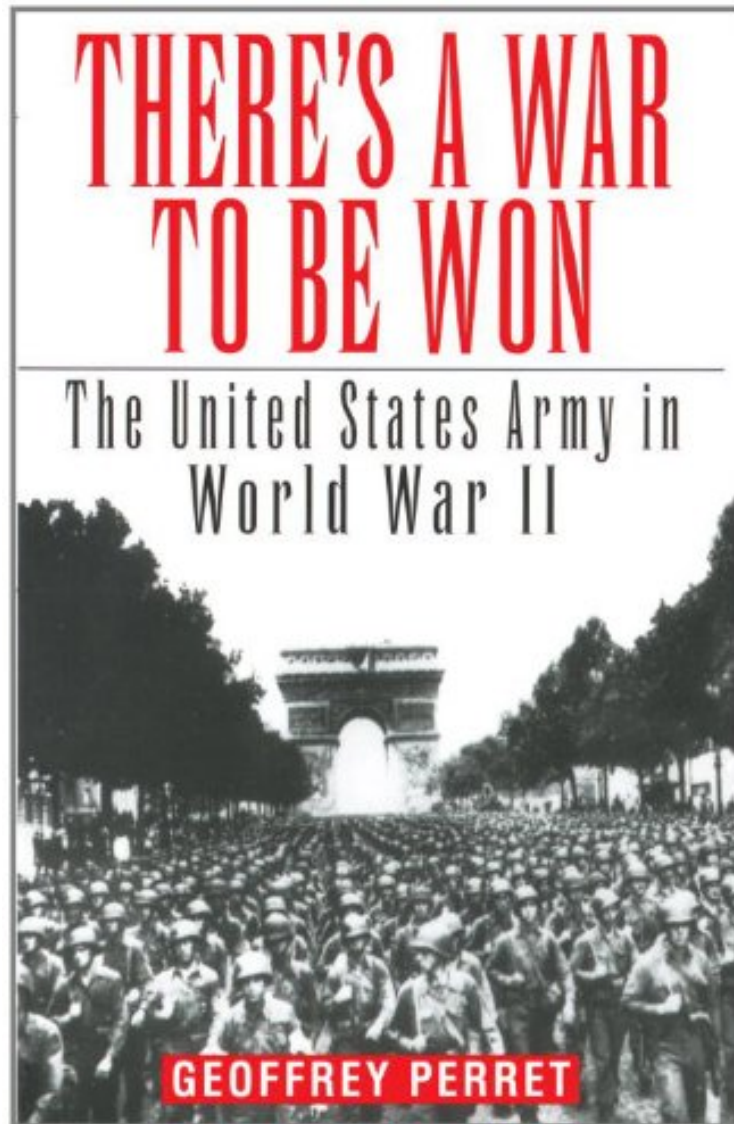


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There's a War to Be Won: The United States Army in World War II

Von Geoffrey Perret

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Von Geoffrey Perret : There's a War to Be Won: The United States Army in World War II before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised There's a War to Be Won: The United States Army in World War II:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Superb . Best one volume history of the U.S. Army in WW II Von jod2256@aol.com Geoffrey Perret has done an excellent job of explaining how the U.S. Army trained for, equipped, and subsequently fought the key campaigns of WW II. Lots of

interesting detail. Highly recommended

Kurzbeschreibung THERE'S A WAR TO BE WON is the landmark story of one of the greatest armies in history, a conscript force of amateur soldiers who had an unparalleled record of combat success. Here -- for the first time in one volume -- is the chronicle of the United States Army's dramatic mobilization and stunning march to victory in World War II. In a lively and engrossing narrative that spans theaters of operations around the world, Geoffrey Perret tells how the Army was drafted, trained, organized, armed, and led at every stage of the war. Beginning with the prescient military planners of the 1930s, he offers vivid warts-and-all profiles of the farsighted commanders who would lead the way, men like Marshall, MacArthur, Eisenhower, Ridgway, Bradley, and Patton. Drawing heavily on important new source material in major archives throughout the United States, THERE'S A WAR TO BE WON offers new insights into the wartime Army, its commanders, and its battles. A major work of American military history. "An immensely readable, well-researched history . . . Dramatic." -- Chicago Tribune From the Paperback edition. From Kirkus sA wide-ranging overview of the conscript army that compiled a genuinely impressive record of victory and collateral accomplishment during WW II. Focusing on the major campaigns undertaken by American ground troops in Europe, North Africa, and the Pacific, Perret (America in the Twenties, 1982, etc.) pays particular attention to the military planners of the 1930's, whose prescience contributed greatly to the next decade's triumphs. He also provides detailed briefings on the organizational skills that permitted the US Army to mobilize, procure weapons, ensure generally reliable supply lines, and otherwise do what was necessary to wage war in nine far-flung theaters. Indeed, the author makes clear that management and logistical savvy was as important as firepower in defeating the Axis powers. Similarly, he shows how gifted commanders were able to mold inexperienced draftees into a well-nigh irresistible force. All told, Perret points out, American soldiers lost only one of the hundreds of battles they fought in WW II (against the Germans at Sidi Bou Zid in Tunisia). In addition to combat duty, he notes, the US Army built the atomic bomb, ran the Lend-Lease program, operated ports on the home front as well as overseas, rode herd on stateside industry, trained millions of foreign troops, and fed the hungry in liberated nations. In his essentially chronological narrative, the author devotes several chapters to special-interest topics, e.g., the treatment of casualties and POWs. Covered as well are the creation of black units, decorations, morale, and the USO. Perret has a breezy, often witty style that affords comic relief without trivializing the subject matter. On the minus side, he makes excessive use of acronyms and initialisms--ASTP, COM Z, FUSAG, and RCT could baffle readers who lack a military glossary. This cavil apart, a rousing, opinionated tribute to one of history's greatest armies. (Thirty-two pages of photos, plus six maps--not seen.) -- Copyright 1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. From Library Journal This is a brassy, forceful case study expanding the thesis of A Country Made by War (LJ 6/1/89): the U.S., far from being a babe in the military woods, has been extraordinarily successful in developing and employing armed forces. Perret argues that in World War II the U.S. Army did so many things so well that its achievements have largely gone unnoticed. Trained and commanded by some of the world's best professional soldiers, American draftees lost only one battle: Kasserine Pass in 1943. Thereafter, neither Germans nor Japanese were able to do more than temporarily check an army that, from the forward foxholes to the desks of GHQ, demonstrated unusual ability to adapt to challenges and circumstances. Perret's colloquial style and clear narrative enhance his presentation of a wartime creation that by 1945 was years ahead of any of its counterparts. Recommended for all collections on World War II. Previewed in "The Day of Infamy in Print," LJ 9/1/91.--Ed.- Dennis E. Showalter, Colorado Coll., Colorado Springs Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.