

TITLE

GREAT MILITARY LEADERS

SUBTITLE

20th Century Warlords

CONCEPT

The “short” 20th century was an “Age of Extremes”, following the title of a famous essay written by the British historian Eric Hobsbawm.

For sure it was a century of extreme violence, when two world wars and a myriad of guerrillas and revolutions were fought, as well as colonial and post-colonial, cold, low intensity and asymmetric wars...

To tell 20th century story, thousands of books and magazines have been published, and public has always shown interest in this topic.

Following this trend, we have conceived a collection of volumes devoted to the most iconic characters that waged, led and fought wars during 20th century: modern Warlords who left their mark in history, fighting from different sides and in different ways.

The series is made up of 50 titles, each one devoted to a Warlord, whose life, battles, destiny and memory are told using a clear style, supported by pictures and maps.

Number of issues

50 (+)

Size

Width 160 mm – Height 215 mm

Pages

160 pages + cover

Cover type

Hard cover

Contents**Strands:**

- **Biography**
[A summary of character's life and career, with notes about origins, family, education...]
- **Battles and feats**
[The main events that made our character a true warlord]
- **Armies and weapons**
[Focus on the main “instruments” used: armies, tactics, technology, weapons...]
- **Battlefields**
[The main places of our characters feats, described through a “then and now” approach]
- **Friends and foes**
[Brief portraits of main adversaries as well as allies of our character]
- **About him**
[Quotes and judgements by contemporaries and historians]

- **Bibliography**

In addition, in every issue:

10+ black and white pictures – Maps showing main battles and engagements

COLLECTION TITLES [in chronological order]

Beginning of the century

1. Horatio Kitchener (UK, 1850-1916)
The most legendary symbol of British Empire military, until his dramatic death when his ship sank after hitting a mine laid by a German submarine.
2. John Fisher (UK, 1841-1920)
The architect of Royal Navy expansion, the man who managed the transition from sail to steel battleships and made the British navy an effective tool for ruling the world.
3. Alfred von Schlieffen (GER, 1833-1913)
The very symbol of German general staff strategic planning, author of the famed “Schlieffen plan” which led to France invasion in WWI.
4. Tōgō Heihachirō (JAP, 1848-1934)
The first non-European Admiral who defeated a European navy in battle (Tsushima, 1905). The founder of Japanese naval power.

The Great War

5. Luigi Cadorna (ITA, 1850-1928)
The Italian chief of staff during the Great War. An aggressive and stubborn leader, was blamed for the crushing defeat at Caporetto.
6. Joseph Joffre (FRA, 1852-1931)
French chief of staff during the opening stages of the Great War, was considered slow to response but managed to hold together the French Army in the most difficult phase of the war.
7. Douglas Haig (UK, 1861-1928)
Commander of the British Expeditionary Force in France, was the main actor of the most important battles fought by Tommies on French soil. His critics considered him a “butcher general”.
8. Ferdinand Foch (FRA, 1851-1929)
Allied supreme commander, was the director of the joint efforts which ultimately led to German defeat.
9. Franz Conrad von Hötzendorf (UK, 1852-1925)
Austro-Hungarian supreme commander, the very symbol of declining Habsburg Empire. He

failed to defeat Italy despite the major offensives he conceived and led on that front.

10. Helmut von Moltke (GER, 1848-1916)

Imperial chief of staff at the opening stages of WWI, failed to seize Paris and proved to be grossly inadequate in the role, suffering a nervous break-down. Probably the most dramatic character of the war.

11. Erich Ludendorff (GER, 1865-1937)

A real tactical genius, outstanding in planning and true "strong man" of German establishment during the war.

12. Kemal Ataturk (TUR, 1881-1938)

Father of modern Turkey, following his outstanding performance during the Gallipoli campaign, when he was able to defend his positions against British and ANZAC forces.

13. Thomas Edward Lawrence (UK, 1888-1935)

The legendary "Lawrence of Arabia", leader of Arab rebellion against Ottoman and German forces, indefatigable defender of Arab identity and a true master in guerrilla warfare.

Inter war years

14. Lev Trockij (RUS, 1879-1940)

Founder and organizer of the Red Army, which he led to victory against the White forces supported by Western powers. The greatest military leader in first times of Soviet Union.

15. Józef Klemens Piłsudski (POL, 1867-1935)

A stubborn, aggressive and resolute military and political leader, was the fiercest enemy of Soviet Union in the interwar years, trying to secure Poland sovereignty.

16. Giulio Douhet (ITA, 1869-1930)

In his essay "The Command of the Air" he was the first to theorize the air power doctrine. His influence was enormous in shaping modern air forces and strategic aerial bombing.

World War Two

17. Erwin Rommel (GER, 1891-1944)

The most famous German general of WWII, was a bold commander who beloved movement tactics. For his outstanding performance in North Africa he earned the nickname of "Desert Fox".

18. Erich von Manstein (GER, 1887-1973)

Regarded as the most brilliant mind of the war, was the father of the masterpiece invasion of France in 1940 and a tough adversary for Soviet forces on the Eastern front.

19. George S. Patton (USA, 1885-1945)

Considered the most "German" of American generals for his bold attitude, was a real legend among his men and probably the most renowned general in US history.

20. Dwight Eisenhower (USA, 1890-1969)

A perfect example for military and political leadership at the highest levels, served as

Supreme allied commander during WWII and two terms as US president after the war.

21. Douglas MacArthur (USA, 1880-1964)

A sort of "Pacific" Patton, was the main actor of US comeback against Japan but, after the war, poorly led the UN forces in Korea.

22. Chester Nimitz (USA, 1885-1966)

Probably the greatest American admiral, was the undisputed winner of the Pacific war against Japan.

23. Bernard Law Montgomery (UK, 1887-1976)

The most famous British general in WWII, was a controversial figure: his critics consider his commanding style somewhat old-fashioned but despite this he won crucial battles in North Africa.

24. Georghi Zhukov (RUS, 1896-1974)

The highest-ranking commander of Red Army during WWII. He never lost a battle and ultimately crushed the German forces on Eastern front.

25. Isoroku Yamamoto (JAP, 1884-1943)

A strategic genius, he was the man who planned the bold attack on the American base of Pearl Harbor. Clever and wise, was killed when his plane was shot down by an American fighter.

26. Charles Orde Wingate (UK, 1903-1944)

An odd character, so bizarre that many disputed his mental health, was like a WWII Lawrence of Arabia, leading a un conventional force against Italians in Eastern Africa.

27. Vladislav Anders (POL, 1892-1970)

A Polish national hero, was the leader of Polish forces that won the Monte Cassino battle against German armies.

28. Heinz Guderian (GER, 1888-1954)

Theorist and leader of armored warfare, father of the "Lightning War" tactics that led German forces to the most brilliant victories in the first years of WWII.

29. David Stirling (UK, 1915-1990)

Founder and leader of the British SAS, the most famous special forces unit, involved on some of the boldest actions of the war.

The Cold War

30. Charles de Gaulle (FRA, 1890-1970)

Stubborn leader of the "Free French Forces" in WWII, was the man who restored France honor after the humiliating defeat in 1940. After the war was an outstanding political leader.

31. Matthew Ridgway (USA, 1895-1993)

A bold paratrooper officer, after fighting the Germans at Bastogne, was appointed

commander in Korea succeeding to MacArthur and proved himself a successful commander.

32. Curtis LeMay (USA, 1906-1990)

“Prophet” of strategic bombing, led the air campaign that crippled Japan in the closing stages of the war. During the Cold War, was the aggressive leader and advocate of US nuclear bomber force. Portrayed by Stanley Kubrick in “Dr. Strangelove” movie.

33. Vo Nguyen Giap (Vietnam, 1911-2013)

The most successful guerrilla leader of all times, defeated France at first and then the mighty US Army during the Vietnam war.

34. William Westmoreland (USA, 1914-2005)

Leader of the ill-fated US campaign in Vietnam, where he suffered the most humiliating defeat in American history.

35. Norman Schwarzkopf (USA, 1934-2012)

A brilliant general, was the main actor of the successful Gulf War against Saddam Hussein.

36. Moshe Dayan (Israel, 1915-1981)

The most famous of the brilliant Israeli leaders that won several wars against overwhelming Arab armies. Dayan was a master of modern armored warfare.

37. Ahmad Massoud (Afghanistan, 1953-2001)

A legendary guerrilla leader, known as “the Panshir Lion”, fought with great success against the Soviet invaders and the Taliban regime, only to be killed in a plot organized by al-Qaeda militants.

South American Warlords

38. Francisco “Pancho” Villa (MEX, 1878-1923)

A highly successful military leader of non-conventional forces, distinguished himself in the Mexican civil war and even forced a US force led by Patton to retreat out of Mexico.

39. Augusto Sandino (Nicaragua, 1895-1934)

A true symbol of Latin American struggle for autonomy and sovereignty, forced the US occupying forces out of Nicaragua in the 1930s.

40. João Batista Mascarenhas de Moraes (BRA, 1883-1968)

The commander of the Brazilian Expeditionary Force that fought in Italy during WWII.

41. Che Guevara (ARG, 1928-1967)

A legend and a myth still alive more than 60 years after his death. A guerrilla leader, symbol of struggle against dictatorships as well as American imperialism.

The “Evil breed”

- Joachim Peiper (GER, 1915-1976)

A young and resolute SS officer, as commander of armored units was held responsible of

war crimes against civilians and US prisoners.

- Paul Hausser (GER, 1880-1972)
The most famous Waffen-SS commander of the war, leader of SS armored force.
- Otto Skorzeny (GER, 1908-1975)
An ambiguous man involved in some of the most secret operations organized by Nazis. After the war he cooperated with Western secret services.
- Junio Valerio Borghese (ITA, 1906-1974)
Legendary leader of the X MAS, at first a special unit of Italian Navy, then a fascist force which backed Mussolini's Republic in 1943-45.
- Marcel Bigeard (FRA, 1916-2010)
French paratrooper officer, considered the most prominent leader during the post war French colonial conflicts. Gillo Pontecorvo portrayed him as Colonel Mathieu in "Battle of Algiers" movie.
- Ilich Ramírez Sánchez "Carlos" (Venezuela, 1949-)
Regarded as the most famous terrorist, his real name is Ilich Ramírez Sánchez. He is responsible of more than 200 victims and raided the OPEC HQ in Wien in 1975.
- Ratko Mladic (YUG, 1943-)
Serbian general responsible for massacres and ethnic cleansing during the former Yugoslavia civil war.
- Osama bin Laden (Saudi Arabia, 1957-2011)
Founder and leader of al-Qaeda terrorist network, responsible of numerous actions and, in particular, the September, 11th attack against the World Trade Center towers.
- Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi (Iraq, 1971-?)
Mysterious leader and self-proclaimed caliph of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

Note:

The sequence can be changed/adapted/modified to follow preferences of specific markets