



Berlin Raids

Alan W. Cooper



Berlin Raids:

The Berlin Raids Martin Middlebrook, 2010-07-12 A meticulously documented account that covers the RAF's controversial attempt to end World War II by the aerial bombing of Berlin. Kirkus Reviews: The Battle of Berlin was the longest and most sustained bombing offensive against one target in the Second World War. Bomber Command Commander in Chief Sir Arthur Harris hoped to wreck Berlin from end to end and produce a state of devastation in which German surrender was inevitable. He dispatched nineteen major raids between August 1943 and March 1944; more than ten thousand aircraft sorties dropped over thirty thousand tons of bombs on Berlin. It was the RAF's supreme effort to end the war by aerial bombing. But Berlin was not destroyed and the RAF lost more than six hundred aircraft and their crews. The controversy over whether the Battle of Berlin was a success or failure has continued ever since. Martin Middlebrook brings to this subject considerable experience as a military historian. In preparing his material, he collected documents from both sides; many of the German ones never before used. He has also interviewed and corresponded with over four hundred of the people involved in the battle and has made trips to Germany to interview the people of Berlin and Luftwaffe aircrews. He has achieved the difficult task of bringing together both sides of the Battle of Berlin: the bombing force and the people on the ground, to tell a coherent single story. His straightforward narrative covers the 19 major raids with a detailed description of three in particular and includes recollections by British and German airmen as well as German civilians who weathered the storm.

Bomber Battle for Berlin Martin Middlebrook, 2010 The Battle of Berlin was the longest and most sustained bombing offensive against one target in the Second World War. Bomber Command's Commander in Chief Sir Arthur Harris hoped to wreck Berlin from end to end and produce a state of devastation in which German surrender is inevitable. He dispatched nineteen major raids between August 1943 and March 1944; more than 10,000 aircraft sorties dropped over 30,000 tons of bombs on Berlin. It was the RAF's supreme effort to end the war by aerial bombing. But Berlin was not destroyed and the RAF lost more than 600 aircraft and their crews. The controversy over whether the Battle of Berlin was a success or failure has continued ever since. Martin Middlebrook brings to this subject considerable experience as a military historian. In preparing his material, he collected documents from both sides; many of the German ones never before used. He has also interviewed and corresponded with over 400 of the people involved in the battle and has made trips to Germany to interview the people of Berlin and Luftwaffe aircrews. He has achieved the difficult task of bringing together both sides of the Battle of Berlin: the bombing force and the people on the ground, to tell a coherent single story. The author describes the battle month by month as the bombers waited for the dark nights with no moon to resume their effort to destroy Berlin and end the war. He recounts the ebb and flow of fortunes, identifying the tactical factors that helped first the bombers then the night fighters to gain the upper hand. Through the words of the participants, he brings to the reader the hopes, fears, and bravery of the young bomber aircrews in the desperate air battles that were waged as the Luftwaffe attempted to protect their capital city.

And he includes that element so often omitted from books about the bombing war the experiences of ordinary people in the target city showing how the bombing destroyed homes killed families affected morale and reduced the German war effort Martin Middlebrook's meticulous attention to detail makes *The Bomber Battle of Berlin* one of his most accomplished books to date

Berlin Raids Martin Middlebrook, 1997-11-01 The Battle of Berlin was the longest most sustained offensive against a single target and its merits remain a subject of debate even today Here is the story behind these costly raids including crucial tactical shifts within the R A F and month by month coverage of the most important runs Based on over 400 interviews of both British and German aircrews

The Berlin Raids Martin Middlebrook, 2000-03 Martin Middlebrook enjoys an international reputation with his superbly researched compelling accounts of major turning points in the two World Wars An absorbing account of the biggest bombing offensive in World War Two based on the accounts of those who experienced it on both sides in the air and on the ground

Index to Records of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey United States Strategic Bombing Survey, 1947

Berlin at War Roger Moorhouse, 2010-10-05 The thrilling and definitive history of World War I in the Middle East By 1914 the powers of Europe were sliding inexorably toward war and they pulled the Middle East along with them into one of the most destructive conflicts in human history In *The Fall of the Ottomans* award winning historian Eugene Rogan brings the First World War and its immediate aftermath in the Middle East to vivid life uncovering the often ignored story of the region's crucial role in the conflict Unlike the static killing fields of the Western Front the war in the Middle East was fast moving and unpredictable with the Turks inflicting decisive defeats on the Entente in Gallipoli Mesopotamia and Gaza before the tide of battle turned in the Allies favor The postwar settlement led to the partition of Ottoman lands laying the groundwork for the ongoing conflicts that continue to plague the modern Arab world A sweeping narrative of battles and political intrigue from Gallipoli to Arabia *The Fall of the Ottomans* is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand the Great War and the making of the modern Middle East

The Berlin Raids Martin Middlebrook, 1990

World War II in Europe David T. Zabecki, 2015-05-01 World War II defined the 20th century and shaped many events from the decolonization of Africa to the rise and fall of the Berlin Wall This encyclopedia offers a focused overview of this complex and volatile era the circumstances that led up to war the underlying causes its unfolding and consequences Organized for quick and precise access More than 1300 entries by 150 experts are arranged in six sections for easy reference and consultation All the key ideas events actions weapons individuals and organizations that played vital roles in the war are covered from the Axis Pact to the Arab League from the OSS to the Africa Korps from the Chetniks to the Jedburghs from the battle of Kursk to Operation Mincemeat from Bill Donovan to Otto Skorzeny from Gestapo to SMERSH from Georgi Zhukov to Jean Leclerc from the 88 gun to the Norden Bombsight Covers important neglected subjects The Encyclopedia puts special emphasis on the often neglected operations in Eastern Europe and Russia A key section inspects and rates all the major weapons with handy tables for easy comparison And in recognition of the first large scale

participation of women in the war the volume thoroughly documents their individual and unit contributions to the Allied effort Finally the encyclopedia discusses battlefield realities that explain for example why the airborne drops at Normandy succeeded and the ones at Arnheim failed A bibliography glossary maps photographs and weapons and data tables enhance the coverage Also includes 16 maps *Airborne in 1943* Kevin Wilson,2018-12-04 The year 1943 saw the beginning of an unprecedented bombing campaign against Germany Over the next twelve months tens of thousands of aircrews flew across the North Sea to drop bombs on German cities They were opposed not only by the full force of the Luftwaffe but by a nightmare of flak treacherously icy conditions and constant mechanical malfunction Most of these courageous crews were either shot down and killed or taken prisoner by an increasingly hostile enemy This is the story of the everyday heroism of these crews in the days when it was widely believed that the Allies could win the Second World War by air alone American pilots had a special role in the Dambusters campaign in particular Even before the attacks on Pearl Harbor scores of eager pilots travelled across the Canadian border to train with other future Dam busters all eager to take part Authoritative and gripping *Airborne in 1943* brings these remarkable men and women to vivid life **The Red Line: The Gripping Story of the RAF's Bloodiest Raid on Hitler's Germany** John Nichol,2013-04-11 From best selling author of Tail End Charlie and Tornado Down comes this powerful and deeply moving account of Bomber Command's 1944 Nuremberg Raid the RAF's bloodiest night of the Second World War **Battle of Berlin** Martin W Bowman,2020-05-30 The Battle of Berlin the bombing of the Big City as it was known to the crews of RAF Bomber Command raged from 18 November 1943 to the end of the war in Europe in 1945 It is recalled here both by those in the air over capital of the Third Reich as well as those who suffered under the bombing onslaught At the start of the Battle of Berlin Sir Arthur Harris had predicted that the Big City would cost between 400 500 aircraft but that it would also cost Germany the war He was proved wrong on both counts Berlin was not wrecked from end to end as Harris predicted on 3 November 1943 if the USAAF will come in on it although a considerable part of it was destroyed And the Main Battle of Berlin did not cost Germany the war a grinding land campaign had yet to be fought More than 9 000 bombing sorties were flown during the battle on round trips of about 1 200 miles to Berlin and back Berlin was bombed by four Allied air forces between 1940 and 1945 British bombers alone dropped 45 517 tons of bombs whilst the Americans a further 23 000 tons By 1944 some 1 2 million people 790 000 of them women and children about a quarter of Berlin's population had been evacuated to rural areas An effort was made to evacuate all children from Berlin but this was defeated by parents and many evacuees who soon made their way back to the city However by May 1945 1 7 million people 40% of the population had fled the city This fitting tribute to those who died in the relentless struggle to knock Berlin and hopefully Germany out of the war resonates with eyewitness accounts and background information which the author has painstakingly investigated and researched The result is a hugely fascinating and highly readable narrative containing very real and unique observations by British and Commonwealth aircrew and equally importantly the long

suffering citizens of Berlin and well as the capital's defenders Up to the end of March 1945 there had been a total of 314 air raids on Berlin eighty five of these in the last twelve months Estimates of the total number of dead in Berlin from air raids range from 20 000 to 50 000 the relatively low casualty figure in Berlin is partly the result of the city's formidable air defenses and shelters The Battle of Berlin was not a defeat in absolute terms but in the operational sense it was an offensive that Air Marshal Sir Arthur Harris and his aircrews could not win Berlin won concluded Sir Ralph Cochrane the Air Officer Commanding 5 Group RAF Bomber Command It was just too tough a nut

The War: Fifth year Edgar McInnis, 1945
Primarily a military chronicle of the World War

Bombers Over Berlin Alan W. Cooper, 2013-02-19 First published to acclaim in 1985 this book is set to be a timely release in line with the 70th Anniversary of the outset of the Raids near approaching in November 2013 Berlin itself was the Big City It was deep in the heart of Germany and heavily defended with flak and night fighters not only because it was the administrative capital but also because it was vital for the German war production machine Heavy losses could be expected on any raid to Berlin So when the curtain was swept back on the briefing map to reveal the red ribbon stretching towards Berlin there was added tension for the bomber crews Between November 1943 and March 1944 Berlin was the target no less than sixteen times 9 112 sorties were flown and 495 aircraft were lost As in his previous books Alan Cooper has painstakingly researched all the details of the raids telling the stories of individual crews who flew on them of those who returned safely and those who were shot down becoming POWs or evading capture either returning to the UK or remaining at large in occupied Europe He tells of the heroism of the pilots and crews grappling with heavily loaded bombers against night fighters often nursing stricken aircraft back to base with many failing to return Acclaim for Bombers Over Berlin What makes this book so remarkable and interesting is its anthology of short but graphic accounts of the trials and tribulations of the dozens of bomber crews involved Bombers Over Berlin is unique in its compilations of such a large number of personal anecdotes covering the hazards of sustained fighter and flak attacks a thoroughly well researched chronicle Ken Batchelor former Chairman of the Bomber Command Association

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