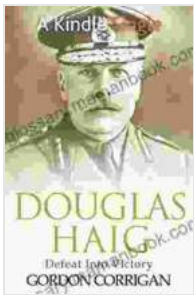


Douglas Haig: From Defeat into Victory - The Great WW1 Commander

Douglas Haig, the British commander during World War I, is a controversial figure. Some historians have criticized him for his tactics, which led to heavy casualties during the Somme and Passchendaele Offensives. However, Haig also led the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) to victory in 1918, and many believe that he was a great commander.



Douglas Haig: Defeat Into Victory (Great WW1 Commanders Book 3) by Gordon Corrigan

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1175 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 105 pages
Lending : Enabled



Haig was born in 1861 in Edinburgh, Scotland. He attended the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and was commissioned into the British Army in 1885. He served in India and Egypt before being appointed commander of the BEF in 1915.

Haig's first major offensive was the Battle of the Somme in 1916. The Somme was a disaster for the British, with over 400,000 casualties. Haig

was heavily criticized for his tactics, which involved sending waves of infantry into the face of entrenched German machine guns.

Despite the setback at the Somme, Haig continued to believe in the importance of offensive operations. In 1917, he launched the Passchendaele Offensive, which was another costly failure. However, in 1918, Haig's forces played a major role in the Allied victory on the Western Front.

Haig's legacy is complex. He was a determined and courageous leader, but he was also responsible for the deaths of many British soldiers. However, there is no doubt that Haig was a great commander, and he deserves to be remembered as one of the architects of Allied victory in World War I.

Haig's Leadership Style

Haig was a demanding and autocratic leader. He believed that discipline and obedience were essential to military success. He was also a firm believer in the importance of offensive operations, even when the odds were stacked against him.

Haig's leadership style was not always popular with his subordinates. Some generals, such as Henry Rawlinson and Edmund Allenby, openly criticized Haig's tactics. However, Haig was always able to maintain the loyalty of his troops. He was a charismatic leader who inspired his men to fight for him, even when the odds were against them.

Haig's Legacy

Haig's legacy is complex. He was a determined and courageous leader, but he was also responsible for the deaths of many British soldiers. However,

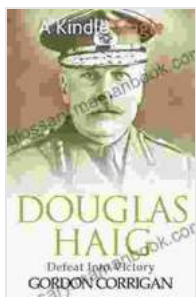
there is no doubt that Haig was a great commander, and he deserves to be remembered as one of the architects of Allied victory in World War I.

Haig's reputation has undergone a reassessment in recent years. Some historians now believe that Haig was not as incompetent as he has been made out to be. They argue that he was a victim of circumstances, and that he was fighting a war that was impossible to win without heavy casualties.

Whatever the verdict of history, there is no doubt that Haig was a significant figure in World War I. He was a complex and contradictory character, but he was also a great commander who played a major role in the Allied victory.

Additional Resources

- Douglas Haig - National Archives
- Douglas Haig - Imperial War Museum
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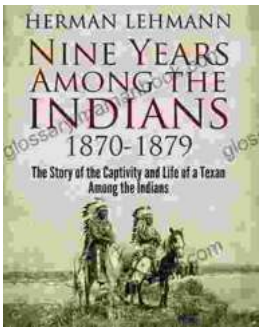
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