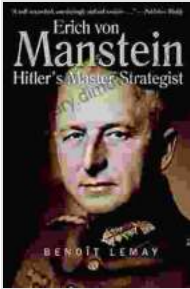


Erich Von Manstein: Hitler's Master Strategist



Erich von Manstein: Hitler's Master Strategist

by Benoît Lemay

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

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Erich Von Manstein was one of the most brilliant military strategists of World War II. He played a key role in some of the most important battles of the war, including the Battle of France, the Battle of Stalingrad, and the Battle of the Bulge.

Manstein was born in 1887 in Berlin, Germany. He joined the German army in 1906 and quickly rose through the ranks. By the outbreak of World War II, he was a general.

Manstein's first major victory came in the Battle of France in 1940. He commanded the German forces that broke through the French defenses at Sedan, leading to the collapse of the French army.

In 1941, Manstein was appointed commander of Army Group South in the invasion of the Soviet Union. He led his forces to a series of victories,

including the capture of Kiev and Rostov.

In 1942, Manstein was promoted to field marshal. He was given command of Army Group Don, which was tasked with relieving the German forces trapped in Stalingrad.

Manstein's relief attempt failed, and the German forces in Stalingrad were eventually defeated. However, Manstein's reputation as a brilliant strategist remained intact.

In 1944, Manstein was appointed commander of Army Group South Ukraine. He led his forces to a series of victories against the Soviet Red Army, but was eventually forced to retreat.

In 1945, Manstein was captured by the British. He was sentenced to 18 years in prison for war crimes, but was released in 1953.

Manstein died in 1973. He is considered one of the greatest military strategists of all time.

Manstein's Military Strategy

Manstein's military strategy was based on the principles of *Bewegungskrieg*, or "war of movement." He believed that the best way to defeat an enemy was to attack them with a swift and decisive blow, before they had a chance to react.

Manstein's strategy was highly successful in the early years of the war. However, it became less effective as the war progressed and the Allies gained air superiority.

Manstein's Legacy

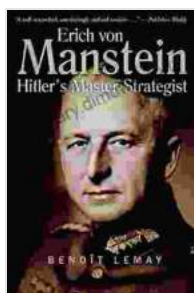
Manstein is considered one of the greatest military strategists of all time. His writings on military strategy are still studied by military leaders today.

Manstein's legacy is complex. He was a brilliant military strategist, but he also served in Hitler's army and was convicted of war crimes.

Despite his flaws, Manstein remains one of the most fascinating and enigmatic figures of World War II.

Recommended Reading

- Manstein, Erich Von. Lost Victories. Presidio Press, 1994.
- Kershaw, Ian. Hitler's Generals. Yale University Press, 2008.
- Mitcham, Samuel W. The Panzer Legions. Stackpole Books, 2001.



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