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The Battle for L'vov, July 1944: The Soviet General Staff
Study (review)

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find from the wide range of sources consulted.

The book is organized in logical fashion, beginning with a brief review of the geo-military characteristics of the Pacific Theater and a thumb-nail chronology of major events of the Pacific War before proceeding to the main section covering each geographic region of the Theater. The author has grouped his coverage of individual islands within six geographic areas, including Central and South Pacific U.S. Possessions, South Pacific, Southwest Pacific, Central Pacific, Western Pacific, and North Pacific. Reproduced from the sources he tapped are maps of individual atolls and islands.

Given the research limits of the vast enterprise Rottman has undertaken, it is not surprising that his coverage is much greater for those islands where major battles were fought, as widely described in American accounts, than for those where American troops were not engaged, despite their strategic significance for the Japanese. As examples of the latter, I would have liked to have seen more thorough coverage for the Carolines (including its bastion, Truk), the outer Marshalls, and the Shortlands (including Ballale), which would have required greater research on the Japanese side than the author was able to carry out.

At the end of each geographic section the author has usefully included reading suggestions, as well as a select bibliography at the end of the book. As he notes, the focus in selecting entries was on official service histories and popular campaign histories easily available to the reader. My only observation here is that in addition to the books cited, he could have included articles of particular relevance, including for instance those published in *After the Battle* magazine that are an excellent source of the type of information he wished to include in his study.

As a specialized reference work, the volume is worth its relatively steep price in a small market. It reflects sound scholarship on the part of the author, who has presented his material in a clear and readable manner.

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The Battle for L'vov, July 1944: The Soviet General Staff Study. Translated and edited by David M. Glantz and Harold S. Orenstein. Portland, Oreg.: Frank Cass, 2002. ISBN 0-7146-5201-6. Maps. Tables. Appendixes. Index. Pp. xiv, 231. \$57.50.

This translation is a useful contribution to the body of knowledge of the Nazi-Soviet struggle during World War II from the Soviet perspective. As the title makes clear this is the Soviet General Staff's study of the victorious Battle for L'vov. It was originally prepared in the postwar years to educate Soviet commanders and staff officers, and offers insight to Soviet military thought during and after the war. The entire study of the battle is not translated, only the salient issues for the student of military history are included. These issues include the prebattle operational planning and the plans for opera-

tional support, including artillery, aviation, and engineer support. Coordination of command and control and radio and wire communications are included. Regarding the fighting, only the experiences of major forces and critical encounters are included, for instance, the penetration of the enemy's defense, the destruction of the Germans' Brody Grouping, and the capture of L'vov and Peremyshl'. Coverage of the combat operations of major units of the 1st Ukrainian Front, which fought the battle, include those of the 4th, 60th, and 38th Armies and the 3d Guards Tank Army.

This battle is important because it shows how much Soviet military thinking and organization had advanced from the initial disasters of 1941, and because it resulted in the destruction of a German Army Group. This was a massive operation under the command of one of the USSR's premier marshals, Ivan S. Konev, and involved more than one million Red Army soldiers. In a period of only fifteen days the 1st Ukrainian Front destroyed German Army Group North Ukraine, liberated much of Poland and reached the Vistula River at a cost to itself of nearly 290,000 casualties, 1,269 tanks, and 289 aircraft.

The only minor criticism to be made is that the maps on pages 169 to 180 are cluttered and hard to read, thus rendering them less useful than the other maps found in the appendix. Other than that, this book will be warmly embraced by the specialist in Soviet strategy and tactics of the Second World War.

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Teenage Soldier: Working Intelligence and Reconnaissance Missions from Hedgerow to Hedgerow, River to River, and Canal to Canal. By Roger E. Campbell. Kingston Springs, Tenn.: Teenage Soldier Trust, 1999. ISBN 0-9707363-0-4. Maps. Photographs. Illustrations. Appendixes. Glossary. Pp. vii, 189. Price unavailable.

Roger E. Campbell's book is a good example of the GI memoirs of World War II that have poured from the presses in recent years. He tells his story in remarkable but believable detail. He was a tall, bespectacled, straight arrow youth who graduated from Louisville Male High School in 1943, and was promptly drafted at age eighteen. In high school he had taken four years of Junior ROTC, which gave him an advantage over other draftees.

He skipped the standard basic training and was sent to a training program for specialists in Intelligence and Reconnaissance (I & R) at Ft. Blanding, Florida. His experiences there, which included training in communications and map use, are recounted in great detail, almost on a day-to-day basis. Since he was an avid letter writer, he may have had a cache of letters to jog his memory.

In July 1944 he was shipped overseas, and was assigned to the I & R