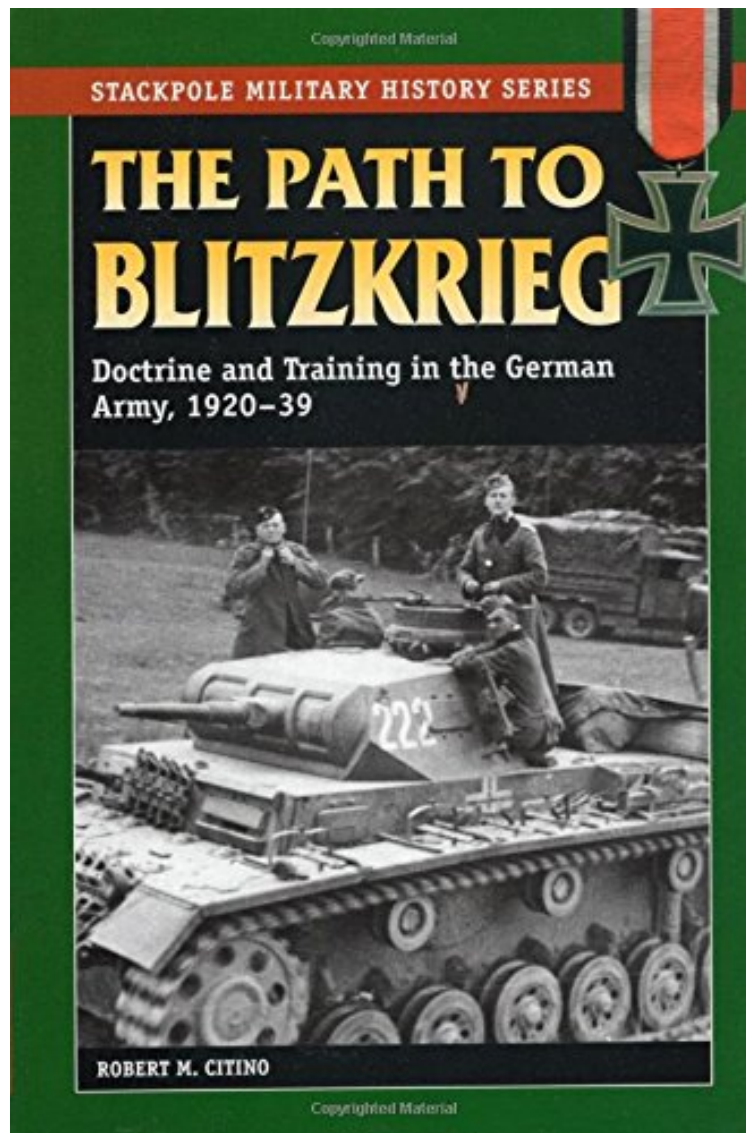


(Mobile pdf) Path to Blitzkrieg: Doctrine and Training in the German Army, 1920-39 (Stackpole Military History Series)

Path to Blitzkrieg: Doctrine and Training in the German Army, 1920-39 (Stackpole Military History Series)

Robert M. Citino

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Robert M. Citino : Path to Blitzkrieg: Doctrine and Training in the German Army, 1920-39 (Stackpole Military History Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Path to Blitzkrieg: Doctrine and Training in the German Army, 1920-39 (Stackpole Military History Series):

23 of 24 people found the following review helpful. Excellent example of the theory of German WWII warBy Bill

Hensler Most readers and (if you're like me) arm chair historians study WWI and WWII. But we miss the points and this book provides excellent insight into the problems German had in fighting WWI and how these reforms let smaller and less well equipped German units defeat larger Soviet and Allied Forces. I had ordered this book expecting a "tell all" of German training techniques. It is not that at all. If you want that then you'll have to sort of read a half dozen books, the best by Guy Sajer called "The Forgotten Soldier" The Forgotten Soldier to get an idea of how hard German training actually was on its soldiers. This book concentrates on the reforms of the German Army during the period after WWI, the Great War. The Germans begin a top down review of how commanders should conduct wars. The actual papers the German generals write are translated to English and examined. The Germans start treating the organization of soldiers and equipment like a science. Also, maneuver is brought back to the battlefield. The Germans saw their folly in the Great War. With the exception of one battle in the east, the Germans were unable to use their forces well at all in the Great War. This book gives the origins of the need for the German Army reforms of the '20s and '30s. This book tells of the officers and how that information was sent down from the top to the bottom. Additionally, the 100,000 army of post WWI Germany was a blessing. It allowed Germany to select the best and most forward thinking. Anyway, from 1919 to 1934 was the time of the small German Army. Post 1935 the Germans were rearming and it was a large army again. Can this book be used by the present US military? Sadly no. The Germans stressed speed, verbal orders, and small unit initiative. The US Army did use some lessons of the Germans in its renaissance period of 1980 to 1991. But after Desert Storm (the 1st Persian Gulf War) the US Army instituted a paperwork driven system that has been magnified by computer age. Until the US Army is reformed from its paperwork addiction there is nothing that can fix it. Still, a typical historian will learn about the basic theory in this book on how the Germans integrated combined arms warfare. I highly recommend it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer Comprehensive account of Germany's long path to create the Blitzkrieg in 1939. 8 of 10 people found the following review helpful. The path to Blitzkrieg By Fredrick E. Rector A very interesting book not because it summarizes that most of us know only too well, but the evolution of an new idea which revolutionized the process of warfare. I'd particularly emphasize importance of the book is much more about the evolution of an idea which altered our actions nearly 70 years after its inception. Most people myself included generally think of the Blitzkrieg as an action of fast moving heavy tanks instead of static defenses. But equally important is the coordination of this activity facilitated by advanced communication. The only thing that has changed that idea in the last 70 or so years communications have been steadily improved.

Essential background to the German blitzkrieg of World War II Complements the stories of panzer aces like Otto Carius and Michael Wittmann In the wake of World War I, the German army lay in ruins--defeated in the war, sundered by domestic upheaval, and punished by the Treaty of Versailles. A mere twenty years later, Germany possessed one of the finest military machines in the world, capable of launching a stunning blitzkrieg attack against Poland in 1939. Well-known military historian Robert M. Citino shows how Germany accomplished this astonishing reversal and developed the doctrine, tactics, and technologies that its military would use to devastating effect in World War II.

A well-written, well-organized, and superbly researched work. --The Journal of Military History About the Author Robert M. Citino is professor of history at Eastern Michigan University. His many publications include Blitzkrieg to Desert Storm (978-0-7006-1300-7), Death of the Wehrmacht (978-0-7006-1531-5), The German Way of War (978-0-7006-1410-3), and Quest for Decisive Victory (978-0-7006-1176-8). He lives in Ypsilanti, Michigan.