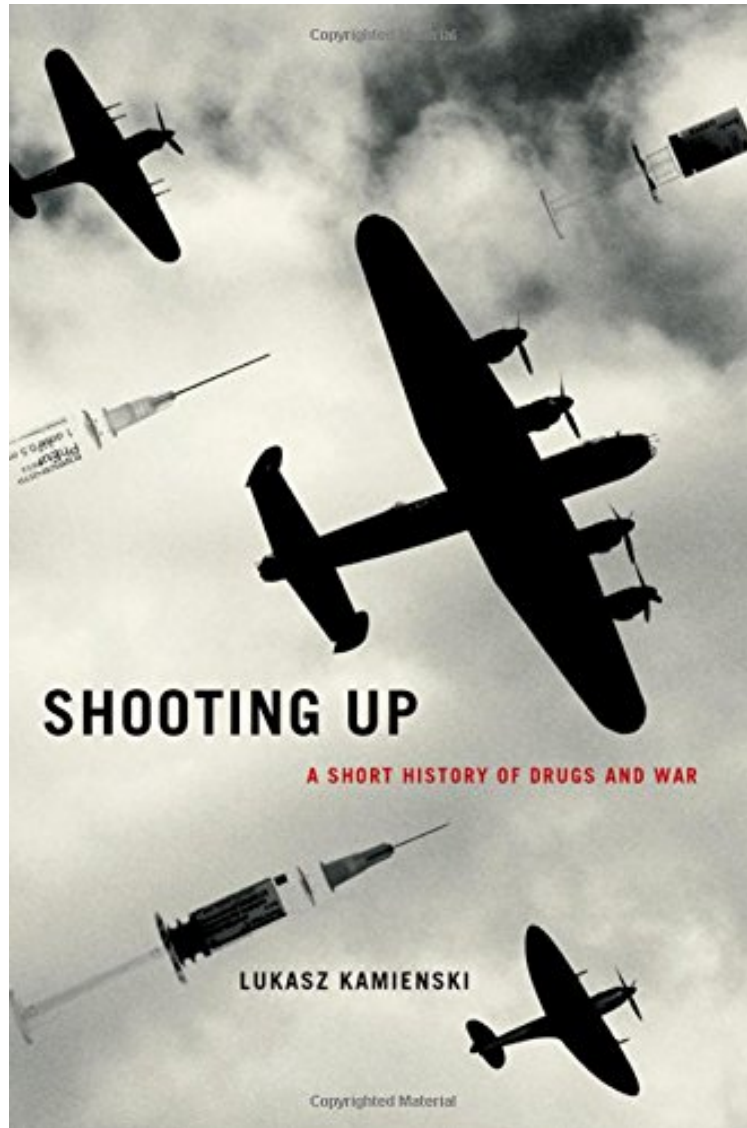


[Ebook free] Shooting Up: A Short History of Drugs and War

Shooting Up: A Short History of Drugs and War

Lukasz Kamienski

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Lukasz Kamienski : Shooting Up: A Short History of Drugs and War before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shooting Up: A Short History of Drugs and War:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A fascinating look at the uses and abuses of drugs during wartimeBy QUOKKA_54Well written account of drug use in wartime, including alcohol, meth, morphine, heroin, marijuana and cocaine by soldiers in the armies fighting all the wars of history. How the Germans used Percocet during WW2 in their quest for the "super soldier", along with accounts of alcohol and morphine addiction in the Civil war, psychedelic

plants used by savage Zulu warriors, and many other interesting facts and tales involving the use of drugs in wartime. Not the penultimate book on the subject but maybe the best account so far. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Eye opener in my case By CG The writing is so so, but it's a very interesting history lesson. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By goldie Good reading.

Shooting Up: A Short History of Drugs and War examines how intoxicants have been put to the service of states, empires and their armies throughout history. Since the beginning of organized combat, armed forces have prescribed drugs to their members for two general purposes: to enhance performance during combat and to counter the trauma of killing and witnessing violence after it is over. Stimulants (e.g. alcohol, cocaine, and amphetamines) have been used to temporarily create better soldiers by that improving stamina, overcoming sleeplessness, eliminating fatigue, and increasing fighting spirit. Downers (e.g. alcohol, opiates, morphine, heroin, marijuana, barbiturates) have also been useful in dealing with the soldier's greatest enemy - shattered nerves. Kamienski's focuses on drugs "prescribed" by military authorities, but also documents the widespread unauthorised consumption by soldiers themselves. Combatants have always treated with various drugs and alcohol, mainly for recreational use and as a reward to themselves for enduring the constant tension of preparing for. Although not officially approved, such "self-medication" is often been quietly tolerated by commanders in so far as it did not affect combat effectiveness. This volume spans the history of combat from the use of opium, coca, and mushrooms in pre-modern warfare to the efforts of modern militaries, during the Cold War in particular, to design psychochemical offensive weapons that can be used to incapacitate rather than to kill the enemy. Along the way, Kamienski provides fascinating coverage of on the European adoption of hashish during Napoleon's invasion of Egypt, opium use during the American Civil War, amphetamines in the Third Reich, and the use of narcotics to control child soldiers in the rebel militias of contemporary Africa.

"Who knew that an historical, scholarly psychopharmacology of soldiering could be a page-turner? It shocks, drives self-reflection, intellectual excitement, fury at hypocrisy, and that third Aristotelian katharsis: mental clarification. Above all, this is a book for citizens." - Jonathan Shay, MD, PhD, former MacArthur Fellow, Author of *Achilles in Vietnam*, *Combat Trauma and the Undoing of Character* and *Odysseus in America: Combat Trauma and the Trials of Homecoming* "Flipping the war on drugs, Kamienski gives us drugs at war, from the Greeks to high-tech armies, from drugs as tools of combat to combat as a drug itself. Starting with alcohol and opium, and ending in Hurt Locker territory, *Shooting Up* offers a novel and ambitious survey of a most timely topic." David Courtwright, author of *Forces of Habit* "Not only the definitive history of intoxication in warfare, this beautifully written book offers a deeply informed humanistic perspective on the addictiveness of war itself. Insights from Nietzsche, first-person accounts from combat, military scholarship, and biological explanations are woven together into a seamless analysis that should be required reading." - Chris Hables Gray, author of *Postmodern War: The New Politics of Conflict* "In *Shooting Up: A Short History of Drugs and War*, Lukasz Kamienski provides a diligent examination, keen view, and detailed discussion of the implications of the long standing, and often controversial use of drugs in military operations. *Shooting Up* is a most interesting read that makes an excellent contribution to the literature." - Prof. James Giordano, Department of Neurology, Georgetown University Medical Center "An impressive and accessible deep dive into the topic...it makes for a bracing and fascinating study." -- Publishers Weekly "In his profound, troubling, and deeply informative book, Kamienski investigates the relationship between intoxicants and warfare... With official approval and encouragement, the use of certain kinds of drugs has become widespread in militaries-and so, too, have addiction, sluggish and erratic behavior, and even hallucinations and paranoia. Kamienski's rich study starts with ancient Greece but mostly examines events from the last few centuries, including the Opium Wars and the Vietnam War, which the author dubs "the first true pharmacological war." --Lawrence D. Freedman, *Foreign Affairs* "Absorbing and comprehensive."-- *The Intercept* "Fascinating, immensely detailed and surprisingly sober... [A] rich and compendious book." -- *The Sunday Times* "An engaging read...a pharmacopoeia of interesting military history, medical research and cultural anecdote." -- *VICE* magazine "Those who want to build their own thoughts about the direction of drugged wars would be best served by starting with Kamienski's highly impressive work."-- *War on the Rocks* "Exceedingly informative... [A] gem of a work produced by a little-known, yet brilliant, academic."--*Parameters* "Kamienski has written an engaging book that testifies to the importance of drug use to the larger story of war in the human experience. The many myths he helps debunk speaks to the frequent manipulation of public opinion by governments and the media and to the convenience of drugs as a scapegoat for policy failures that invariably end up being repeated."-- *Journal of Social History* "Much of [Kamienski's] narrative is fascinating, plenty of it is new, and he advances some serious arguments."-- Allan Mallinson, *The Spectator* "In this compelling book about the history and prevalence of alcohol and drugs throughout the history of warfare, Kamienski reveals in copious detail the countless ways 'intoxication, in its various forms, has... been one of the distinctive features' of human life."-- Antony Loewenstein, *The Guardian* "Kamienski's book is the first comprehensive history of drugs... and is sure to become a classic."-- Geoffrey Roberts, *Irish Examiner* "Shooting Up should be read for its relentless cataloguing of the role that intoxicants have been put to in the ceaseless history of human depravity."-- Stuart Walton, *Hong Kong of Books* "An

original and weighty survey of drug use by combatants... [Kamienski] deserves promotions and rewards. He deals in ideas of danger, risk-taking, euphoria, pain, disinhibitions and fright... He demonstrates conclusively that intoxication is a natural and necessary state for most fighting men." -- Richard Davenport-Hines, *The Oldie*"Stories of military drug use are common, but this new work gives the reader a well-organized, closely documented history replete with examples." -- *Military Heritage*"The author takes the reader on a journey through time... *Shooting Up* is a great contribution to the literature on that fundamental resource that is essential to combat"-- Louis Lillywhite, *The World Today* "Kamienski has undertaken a sprawling subject, one that involves covering much ground in time and space... [and] his chapters on the Cold War suggest an imaginative attempt to recount the psychoactive residues of the war on communism and latter-day war communism."--H-Net About the AuthorLukasz Kamienski is Associate Professor at the Faculty of International and Political Studies, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland