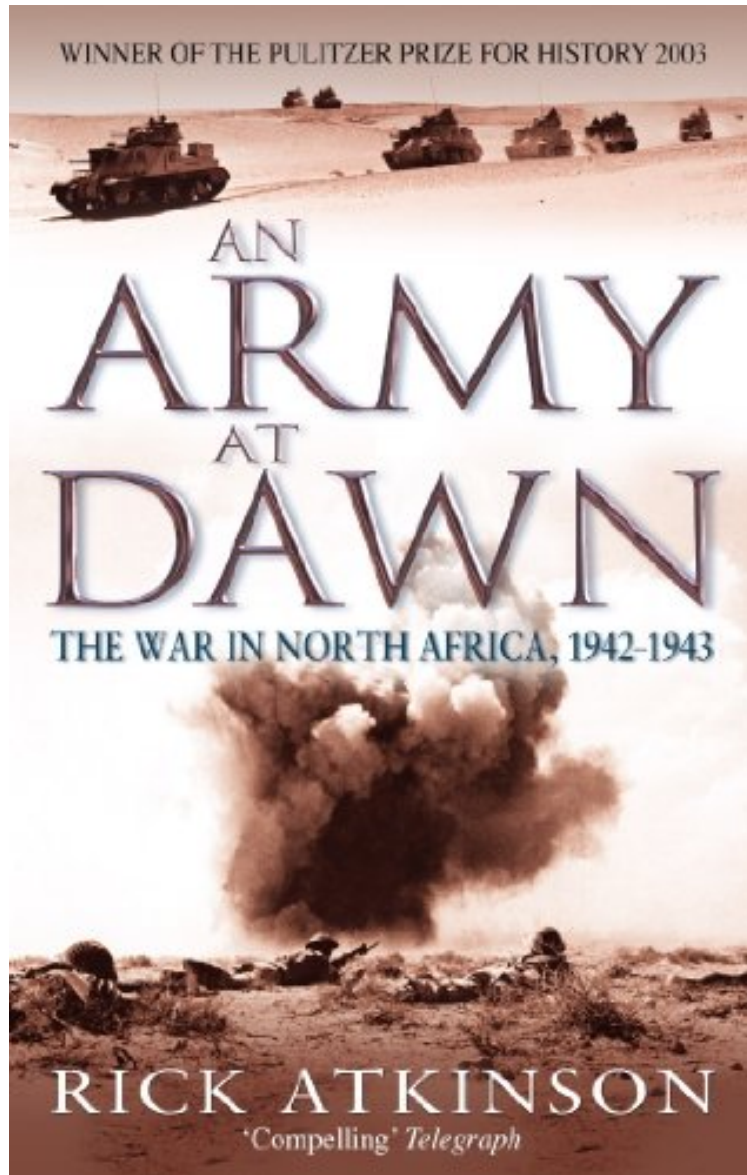


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## An Army At Dawn: The War in North Africa, 1942-1943 (Liberation Trilogy)

Von Rick Atkinson

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Von Rick Atkinson : An Army At Dawn: The War in North Africa, 1942-1943 (Liberation Trilogy) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised An Army At Dawn: The War in North Africa, 1942-1943 (Liberation Trilogy):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen6 von 6 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An

Army At Dawn Grows... Von James Gallen "An Army At Dawn" tells the of the American Army from its first taste of battle in Operation Torch, the Invasion of French North Africa, through the closing of the Tunisian campaign. Author Rick Atkinson does an excellent job of blending the stories of individual soldiers and actions with the big picture of generals and theatre-wide implications. The rivalries between the Americans, French and British are given fair play. The theme of this book is that the American Army which went ashore in Operation Torch was not fit for heavy combat. From General Eisenhower on down to the privates, it had lessons to learn which were better learned against French and Italians than Germans. Through adversity the army learned to hate and to fight, the generals learned to command and the wheat was separated from the chaff. The Army which was unfit at Dawn was, by Dusk, ready for the battles which lay ahead. This book gives the reader a good understanding of the North African Theatre of the war. I had read about it previously, but this put it into a new perspective. I often judge a book by whether it whets my appetite for more. This one passes that test. As I was reading this one, I kept wanting to read more about World War II, the North African campaign and North Africa itself. A book that can do that is a worthy read. 8 von 8 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Superb work! Von Jonnie10 There isn't much that I can say here that hasn't already been said by the previous reviewer (a 'cousin' I notice!), other than 'Thank you, Mr. Atkinson!' I originally bought this book in the hope of gaining background information for a new wargames campaign that I wanted to start, having finally grown tired of 'doing' the Russian Front for the last 25 years or so. Thankfully, I wasn't disappointed. Rick Atkinson has written a wonderfully readable and fascinating book that is totally unbiased; I can read it again and again. Mr Atkinson's work is packed with delightful (and often humorous) details that have left me with an urge to learn more about the North African Campaign of 1942 -1943. What I actually found the most intriguing, however, was the bitter in-fighting and national rivalry that went on amongst the so-called 'Allies' which left me wondering how we ever managed to win! My own father (now deceased) served as a young Lieutenant in a (British) armoured car unit in Tunisia (later Sicily / Italy) and confirmed to me much of what the author says, including the remark about referring to American troops as "our Italians". He and his mates also referred to the Italians as "The Gentlemen," the French as "the REAL enemy" and in one instance they even shot down an aircraft of the "American Luftwaffe" that had had the audacity to strafe their vehicles in error (the pilot happily survived and was duly made into the 'tea boy' for his sins, being returned a few days later after having 'bought' his freedom by promising a case of Scotch in return! (I'm serious). As for the Germans, well, they were their usual efficient, disciplined and extremely annoying selves as ever (I live in Germany and I married a German, so I'm allowed to say that). On the negative side - and it is a very small gripe - I think the Italians, particularly those of the more elite units such as 'Centauro,' the Bersaglieri and the 'Giovanni Fascisti' might have earned more mention. Having now finished reading the book I was for some inexplicable reason left feeling somewhat sad and deflated, despite the eventual Allied 'happy ending.' It was then that I remembered something my father once said to me many years ago: "A lot of good men died there, and they all wore different uniforms." Quite.

Kurzbeschreibung The liberation of Europe and the destruction of the Third Reich is a story of courage and enduring triumph, of calamity and miscalculation. In this first volume of the Liberation Trilogy, Rick Atkinson shows why no modern reader can understand the ultimate victory of the Allied powers without a grasp of the great drama that unfolded in North Africa in 1942 and 1943. Beginning with the daring amphibious invasion in November 1942, An Army at Dawn follows the British and American armies as they fight the French in Morocco and Algeria, and then take on the Germans and Italians in Tunisia. Battle by battle, an inexperienced and sometimes poorly led army gradually becomes a superb fighting force. Central to the tale are the extraordinary but fallible commanders who come to dominate the battlefield: Eisenhower, Patton, Bradley, Montgomery and Rommel. de In An Army at Dawn,, a comprehensive look at the 1942-1943 Allied invasion of North Africa, author Rick Atkinson posits that the campaign was, along with the battles of Stalingrad and Midway, where the "Axis ... forever lost the initiative" and the "fable of 3rd Reich invincibility was dissolved." Additionally, it forestalled a premature and potentially disastrous cross-channel invasion of France and served as a grueling "testing ground" for an as-yet inexperienced American army. Lastly, by relegating Great Britain to what Atkinson calls the status of "junior partner" in the war effort, North Africa marked the beginning of American geopolitical hegemony. Although his prose is occasionally overwrought, Atkinson's account is a superior one, an agile, well-informed mix of informed strategic overview and intimate battlefield-and-barracks anecdotes. (Tobacco-starved soldiers took to smoking cigarettes made of toilet paper and eucalyptus leaves.) Especially interesting are Atkinson's straightforward accounts of the many "feuds, tiffs and spats" among British and American commanders, politicians, and strategists and his honest assessments of their--and their soldiers'-- performance and behavior, for better and for worse. This is an engrossing, extremely accessible account of a grim and too-often overlooked military campaign. --H. O'Billovich.com In An Army at Dawn,, a comprehensive look at the 1942-1943 Allied invasion of North Africa, author Rick Atkinson posits that the campaign was, along with the battles of Stalingrad and Midway, where the "Axis ... forever lost the initiative" and the "fable of 3rd Reich invincibility was

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