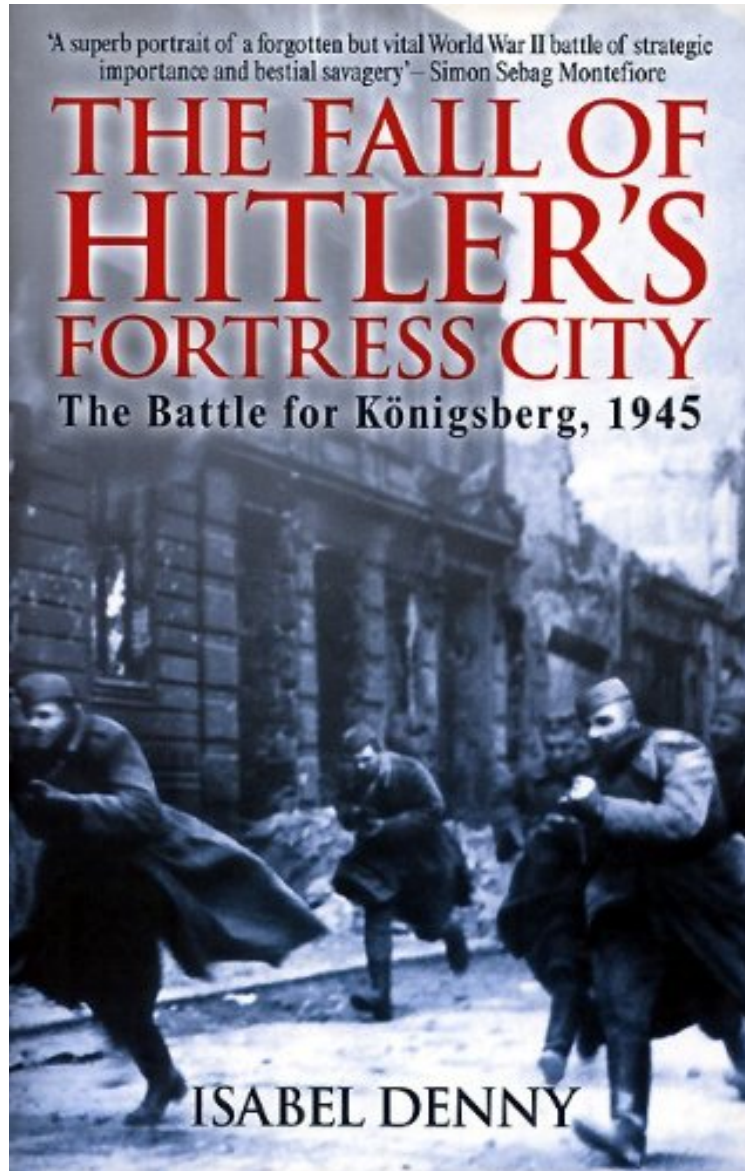


(Free) Fall of Hitler's Fortress City: The Battle for Knigsberg 1945

Fall of Hitler's Fortress City: The Battle for Knigsberg 1945

Von Isabel Denny

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Von Isabel Denny : Fall of Hitler's Fortress City: The Battle for Knigsberg 1945 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fall of Hitler's Fortress City: The Battle for Knigsberg 1945:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Good effort, but historically far too genericVon ChrispI must say that I really looked forward to reading this book, hoping to

get new insights on the battle for Königsberg. The book is well written and makes an effort to show the unspeakable cruelty of the Soviet Army and the suffering of the German population. However, if one looks for details on military operations or if the reader already possesses some background knowledge regarding the Soviet Campaign in East Prussia, this is not the right book. I also disliked the following 3 aspects: a) The author mentions on every third page that the German army was the first to commit acts of barbarism against the Soviet population and that the Red Army was "only" out for revenge. I got the impression that this was repeated time and again to make sure the book would not be seen as "revisionist literature". b) Historical facts are vaguely described and there are many inaccuracies. c) It seems that the author did not research or interview any individual who was involved in the events which unfolded in East Prussia during the first half of 1945. The book is just a brief and generic overview of what happened, based on other much more detailed work by others. Overall, worth reading if you want to familiarize yourself with the subject, but not more.

Kurzbeschreibung Heroism and tragedy in the East, in the face of the Red Army's onslaught . . . In 1945, in the face of the advancing Red Army, two and a half million people were forced out of Germany's most easterly province, East Prussia, and in particular its capital, Königsberg. Their flight was a direct result of Hitler's ill-fated decision to invade the Soviet Union in 1941. Now that the Germans were in retreat, the horrors of Leningrad and Stalingrad were to be avenged by an army determined not only to invade Germany but to take over its eastern territories. The Russians launched Operation Bagration in June 1944, to coincide with the D-Day landings. As US and British forces pushed west the Russians liberated Eastern Europe and made their first attacks on German soil in the autumn of 1944. Königsberg itself was badly damaged by two British air raids at the end of August 1944, and the main offensive against the city by the Red Army began in January 1945. The depleted and poorly armed German Army could do little to hold it back, and by the end of January East Prussia was cut off. The Russians exacted a terrible revenge on the civilian population, who were forced to flee across the freezing Baltic coast in an attempt to escape. On 9 April, the city surrendered to the Russians after a four-day onslaught. Through firsthand accounts as well as archival material, *The Fall of Hitler's Fortress City* tells the dramatic story of a place and its people that bore the brunt of Russia's vengeance against the Nazi regime. *Pressestimmen World War II Database*", May 2007 "This book is well presented and extremely readable. Denny did an excellent job casting a totally non-military perspective on the fortress of Königsberg, unlike most WW2 books that focus more so from a military strategy point of view. She presented Königsberg and its rich history as the cultural gem of East Prussia, and beyond the broken families and the lives lost, a piece of human history was destroyed when the Russian conquerors practically razed the city. Even in the post-war years, Russian authorities deliberately refused to maintain or outright demolish buildings of historical value in order to wipe out Königsberg, now Kaliningrad, from German memory ... This book is a wonderful source for those looking for the human side of war. Glorious battles and duels of ideologies aside, it is the civilians who truly suffer, and Denny did a great job illustrating it with first-hand accounts." Kurzbeschreibung Heroism and tragedy in the East, in the face of the Red Army's onslaught . . . In 1945, in the face of the advancing Red Army, two and a half million people were forced out of Germany's most easterly province, East Prussia, and in particular its capital, Königsberg. Their flight was a direct result of Hitler's ill-fated decision to invade the Soviet Union in 1941. Now that the Germans were in retreat, the horrors of Leningrad and Stalingrad were to be avenged by an army determined not only to invade Germany but to take over its eastern territories. The Russians launched Operation Bagration in June 1944, to coincide with the D-Day landings. As US and British forces pushed west the Russians liberated Eastern Europe and made their first attacks on German soil in the autumn of 1944. Königsberg itself was badly damaged by two British air raids at the end of August 1944, and the main offensive against the city by the Red Army began in January 1945. The depleted and poorly armed German Army could do little to hold it back, and by the end of January East Prussia was cut off. The Russians exacted a terrible revenge on the civilian population, who were forced to flee across the freezing Baltic coast in an attempt to escape. On 9 April, the city surrendered to the Russians after a four-day onslaught. Through firsthand accounts as well as archival material, *The Fall of Hitler's Fortress City* tells the dramatic story of a place and its people that bore the brunt of Russia's vengeance against the Nazi regime.