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Prinz Eugen: Story Of 7 Freiwilligen Gebirgs Division 1942 - 1945 (Green Series)



Synopsis

The 7th SS Volunteer Mountain Division Prinz Eugen was a German mountain infantry division of the Waffen-SS, the armed wing of the German Nazi Party that served alongside but was never formally part of the Wehrmacht during World War II. Formed in 1941 from Volksdeutsche (ethnic German) volunteers and conscripts from the Banat, Independent State of Croatia (NDH), Hungary and Romania, it fought a counter-insurgency campaign against communist-led Yugoslav Partisan resistance forces in the Territory of the Military Commander in Serbia, NDH and Montenegro. It was given the title Prinz Eugen after Prince Eugene of Savoy, an outstanding military leader of the Habsburg Empire who liberated the Banat and Belgrade from the Ottoman Empire in the Austro-Turkish War of 1716–1718. It was initially named the SS-Freiwilligen-Division Prinz Eugen (SS-Volunteer Division Prinz Eugen). This lavishly illustrated book tells the story of this unit and its operations. Many previously unpublished photos are included, and maps of the operational areas. Essential reading for armor enthusiasts, WW2 military enthusiasts and modelers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a beautiful eye catching book, and should be on every enthusiasts bookshelf. The layout and quality of the pictures would be hard to better. Given the size and price of the book, it's not a definitive history, and nor was I expecting such, but there is something in here for everyone. I have an interest also in the Luftwaffe, and there is much detail on some of the aircraft of the Divisional Commanding Officers, (the first book I have seen to include pictures and Profiles of same). The text

is brief but to the point, including at least 12 various Operations the Division was involved in. The maps are simple and easily understood. I just find it hard to see how they managed to get so much between the covers. As you might expect given the times (film roll cameras) some of the pictures would have a continuity about them, eg officers leaving on a plane might consist of 3 or 4 pictures, the same convoy from a few angles, and so on. But this is in some ways only enhances the detail I think, rather than appearing repetitive. There are many Profiles of pictures of vehicles included, and quite a number are of French vehicles which the Division seemed to make much use of. All the photos have the "drop shadow" format which I find very pleasing to the eye, and seems to be increasing in popularity. Of great interest also is the showing of the Prinz Eugen symbol in many of the vehicle photos. In many other books of Divisional histories you would see few such images of the said Divisional symbols. The only negative comment I can make about the book is it's "perfect binding" which has to be the most imperfect binding ever devised for books. Publishers please take note..Polish Publishers of late are publishing first rate military books I notice, and will be a hard act to follow....

This is a very interesting book in that most books about World War II are about those divisions that take place in large battles, i.e. Rommels Africa Corp, the invasion of Russia or D-Day. Instead this division was primarily engaged in fighting the Communist Led Yugoslav partisan forces. Here you don't find the broad sweeping long distance battles, but smaller engagements trying to eliminate essentially guerrilla forces. This was not unlike our efforts in Viet Nam or the subsequent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Here you do not find large units armed with German Panther/Tiger tanks. Instead you find units with a few French tanks captured in the early stages of the war. Here are Renault R35s, Char B1s, Somua S-35's and Hotchkiss 38Hs. Heavy artillery is primarily the 20 mm Flak 38s and a few captured Czech larger guns. The division was considered to be effective in its fighting with guerrilla forces. But this came with a history of atrocities that caused two of the four division commanders to be found guilty of war crimes and executed. Latter on when facing regular units of the invading Russian Red Army, they did not do nearly so well. As with all of the books from this publisher, the book is of high quality. Good printing on high quality paper. It is illustrated with some 375 photographs.

More books of this quality needed.

very good history of 7SS Div. A buy

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