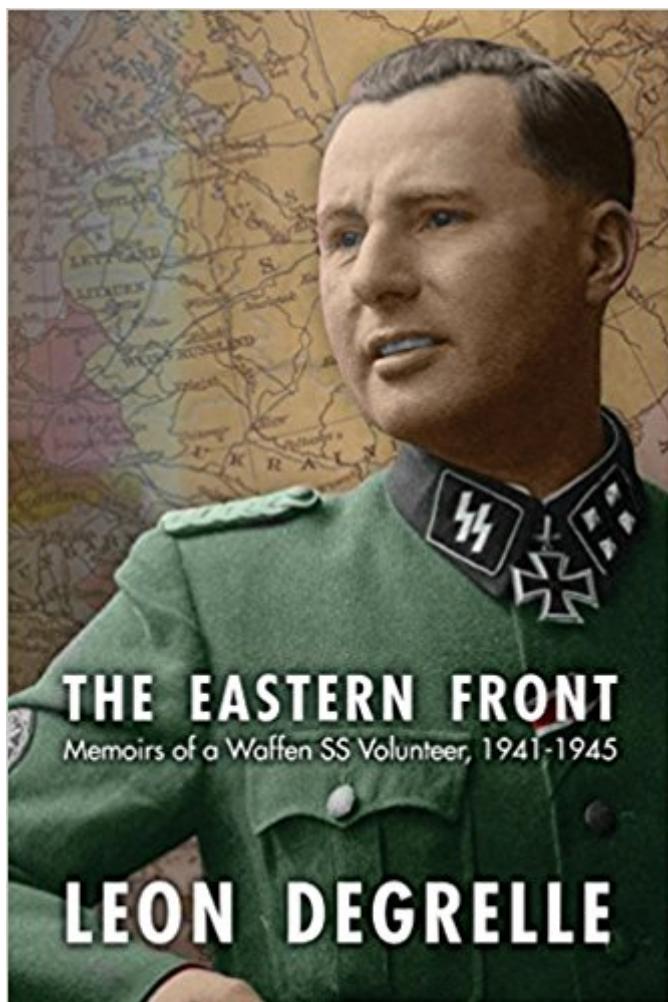


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The Eastern Front: Memoirs Of A Waffen SS Volunteer, 1941-1945



Synopsis

A gripping first-person memoir of soldierly sacrifice, heroism and fierce combat against numerically superior Soviet forces during World War II, by a charismatic Belgian writer and politician turned Waffen SS front-line infantryman. In a laudatory review appearing in an official US Army Department magazine, US Army Brigadier General John C. Bahnsen wrote: "The pace of the writing is fast; the action is graphic, and a warrior can learn things from reading this book. I recommend its reading by students of the art of war. It is well worth the price." Here is the epic story of the Walloon Legion, a volunteer Belgian unit of the World War II pan-European SS force, as told by the legendary figure whose unmatched frontline combat experience and literary talent made him the premier spokesman for his fallen comrades. Captures the grit, the terror and the glory of Europe's crusade against Communism in absorbing prose. Includes fascinating first-person descriptions of Hitler, Himmler and other Third Reich personalities. Degrelle vividly describes how he and his comrades endured danger, privation and torrents of shot and shell -- on the sun-baked steppes of Ukraine, at the foothills of the Caucasus, in the depths of bone-chilling winter, through the stinking mud and the flaming hell of Cherkassy, and across the rolling plains of Estonia and the Pomeranian lake country. You'll learn what moved the 35-year-old Degrelle -- a brilliant intellectual and his country's most colorful political leader -- to enlist as a private in the volunteer legion he himself organized to join with Third Reich Germany and its allies in their titanic fight against the Bolshevik enemy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Amazing stories of the Eastern Front. This is not Degrelle's political manifesto, but his well written

and intriguing story telling of Russian Front combat. Not to be missed.

This book was written by a Belgian man who led a small political party before WWII. Like many Europeans of his time, he was much more concerned about Communism than Nationalism. Much of the book narratives his experiences serving with thousands of Belgians fighting the Soviets on the eastern front. The author met most of the principal personalities of the era including Mussolini, Churchill and Hitler. He evidently survived the war and went to Spain. It was refreshing to read an account of this period from someone who was personally involved instead of a "third hand" account from some historian.

Leon Degrelle is one hell of a man. I first stumbled upon a snippet of writing in the form of "Epic: The Story of the Waffen SS" and was hooked soon after on the history of the man. This book is not your ordinary story line book, but the voice of a man re-living his experience. I have but one regret, this man died before I could ever meet him!

If you enjoyed Blood Red Snow you will definitely enjoy this book. As expected of Leon Degrelle (and many thanks owed to the translator) the story flows with impressive articulation. I guarantee one will not regret reading this book.

A really good book detailing the ferocious fighting on the Russian Front by someone that rose up from the rank of private to commanding officer.

Great details of the daily life of a soldier on Eastern Front

Extremely exciting!

I have to say this book is disappointing to me. It's a laborious read. 1. The author describes close combat in vivid terms and these excerpts are the highlights of the book. 2. There are no maps - even hand-drawn ones - so trying to follow where his unit is deployed and where the enemy is seems nearly impossible. 3. He doesn't discuss his movement through the ranks. The book starts with him as a Grenadier then suddenly he's an officer. I found it very difficult to figure out how and when he got promoted. 4. He tries to show the dichotomy of his situation by describing how horrible things are then how beautiful the landscape is. Once or twice would have made the point, but it is repeated

over and over. I don't think I'd recommend this unless you're really hard-up for a book to read. Nothing he discusses or reveals is anything beyond what you've probably already read about or heard.

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