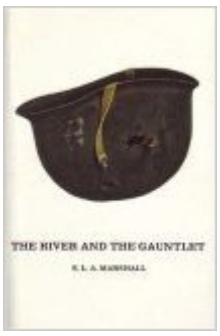
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The River And The Gauntlet: Defeat Of The Eighth Army By The Chinese Communist Forces, November, 1950, In The Battle Of The Chongchon River, Korea (Time Reading Program Special Edition)



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Synopsis

Battle of the Chongchon River, Korea.

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Customer Reviews

Battle of the Chongchon River, Korea.

This is an excellent book that I highly recommend to anyone who wants to know what happened on the west side (the Battle of the Chosin Resevoir was occurring almost simultaneously on the eastern side of Korea) of the Korean peninsula during late November 1950.In the beginning of my career, I was an absolute novice to the Korean War, even though Korea was to be my first duty station. When I started my tour of duty, when I was being shown around, we passed a manmade cave called ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“the Chinese tunnelÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•. I was told it was from the Korean War. I replied ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“well thatÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s dumb. We fought the North Koreans, not the Chinese.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• Needless to say, that day I didnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t exactly prove my Korean War competenceÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¦Even after reading Fahrenbach, I had always wondered how the US Army was defeated in North Korea during November 1950. This book goes a long way toward answering my question. This book is about the major battles against the Chinese Communist Forces (CCF) that took place in Western Korea just after Thanksgiving 1950. It talks terrain and small unit tactics, as well as decisions made by some of the tactical actors in the battle. As one review said, the Army was beaten before any shot was fired. The Army was configured to, as Fahrenbach said, march against failing North Korean resistance and was not positioned to fight the

ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“latte colored hordes that poured out of the hills against itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•.Regardless of the strategic situation, this book does a great job at showing the struggle of the rifleman during freezing nights when bugles blow and huge numbers of men that they can barely see come running up the hill against them. It shows the absolute chaos as they are taking incoming fire from all directions, engaging in hand to hand combat, seeing grenades that land next to them and kicking them back towards the CCF. It shows the fury of a lieutenant who, to cover his retreating men, charges at the CCF, throwing everything he can get his hands on, like canned food, and swinging his rifle like a club.Anyone who reads this and Fahrenbach can tell that Fahrenbach borrows heavily from this book. Again, I highly recommend it.

An excellent book by S.L.A. Marshall. I have a more than passing interest in this particular Korean War history. I lost an uncle in the battle. He was captured by the Chinese and died in prisoner of war camp of malnutrition and exposure. The author did his usual highly informative and detailed analysis of this particular early phase of the war. His research was very thorough. I have the paperback print copy of this book and it will go into my "keeper" library for re-reading somewhere down the line.

I read that book 40 years ago and it’s still gripping.

This is a good book for a realistic at hand to hand combat and also the climate of Red china treachery in the Korean war..this book should be required reading for all infantry soldiers it shows the hardships that has to be endured in combat

Great history of Korean War.

My Husband owned a book like this many years ago. It was lost in moving! He as so happy and surprised to receive this for a gift!I had looked everywhere for this book. I am very pleased with this purchase.

The errors of the Divisions commander not to change his retreat orders led to the destruction of his command. There was a road open for him to take. Its in the book. The road to Kuni-ri was well blocked by the Chinese. Its sad,so many men lost. I was one of the lucky ones who took the open road out.

Reading Marshall’s excellent description of the first ignominious defeat of U.S. and South Korean forces by the Chinese "volunteers" is a painful experience. It was depressing to read of the incompetence of senior commanders who failed to adequately prepare their troops for military operations north of the 38th parallel, to recognize the arrival of significant Chinese, not North Korean, forces, and to follow normal combat procedures with regards to troop movements, scouting, etc. The cost of these failures was the loss of thousands of American and South Korean lives. Recommend David Halberstam’s "The Coldest Winter" for a broader context for this debacle.

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