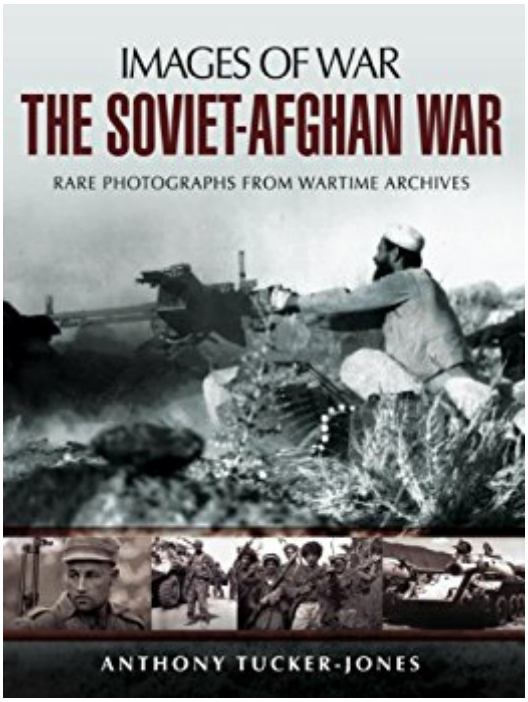
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The Soviet-Afghan War (Images Of War)



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Synopsis

This photographic history of the Soviet-Afghan War of 1979 to 1989 gives a fascinating insight into a grim conflict that prefigured the American-led campaign in that country. In an unequal struggle, the mujahedeen resisted for ten years, then triumphed over Moscow. For the Soviet Union, the futile intervention has been compared to the similar humiliation suffered by the United States in Vietnam. For the Afghans the victory was just one episode in the long history of their efforts to free their territory from the interference of foreign powers. By focusing on the Soviet use of heavy weaponry, Anthony Tucker-Jones shows the imbalance at the heart of a conflict in which the mechanized, industrial might of a super power was set against lightly armed partisans who became experts in infiltration tactics and ambushes. His work is a visual record of the tactics and the equipment the Soviets used to counter the resistance and protect vulnerable convoys.It also shows what this grueling conflict was like for the Soviet soldiers, the guerrilla fighters and the Afghan population, and it puts the present war in Afghanistan in a thought-provoking historical perspective.

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Customer Reviews

fabulous book.

Most of the photos of soviet weapons are not from Afghanistan, are from the USSR training, the T-72 was never deployed in Afghanistan, but is in the book, the most important weapon of the soviet forces, the Mil Mi-24 is showed in images of Russia, even Nicaragua, BUT NOT AFGHANISTAN!!

Part of Pen & Sword Books' IMAGES OF WAR series, Anthony Tucker-Jones' THE SOVIET-AFGHAN WAR is an illustrated history of Russia's invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 and its decade-long struggle to conquer the Taliban.Confident that a quick incursion into neighboring Afghanistan would prop up its Marxist government, Russian airborne and motor rifle divisions swept into the country in 1979. The Russians soon learned the Afghans wouldn't roll over and, in time, Afghanistan became Russia's Vietnam.Utilizing photographs from various Afghan sources, the U. S. Department of Defense and private collections, Tucker-Jones, a former British Defence Intelligence analyst, presents a visual guide to the Afghan morass. While there are a number of pix of Mujahideen and 'Ivan' soldiers, the bulk of the images depict equipment such as T-62s, T-72s, BTRs, BMPs, Mi-8 Hips, FROG-7 missiles, DShKM machine guns, bombs, rockets, Su-25s, 122mm field guns, SA-7 Grails, AK-47s, etc. Complimenting the over 200 pix are ten chapters that summarize the fighting that ravaged that country until the Rusian pull-out.Having little knowledge of the subject, I found Tucker-Jones' book an informative and certainly well-illustrated primer on the Russian-Afghan fighting. Recommended.

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