



Inside Wellington's Peninsular Army 1808 - 1814

By Muir, Rory & Burnham, Robert & Muir, Howie & McGuigan, Ron

Pen & Sword, Barnsley, South Yorkshire United Kingdom, 2014. Soft Cover. Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: No Dustjacket. Paperback Edition. 328 pages, index, biblio, b/w illustrations, mapwork. The British army reached the apogee of its success in the war against Napoleon, and in particular in the famous campaigns in the Peninsula, while under Wellington's command. Yet many aspects of how it achieved its victories have been ignored or taken for granted. This book breaks new ground in a series of meticulous studies, which reveal the hidden mechanisms that lie behind triumphs such as Salamanca and Vitoria. At the same time it places Wellington's campaigns in their strategic context and explains how he achieved his success. The organization of Wellington's army and the principles underlying the way in which the troops were placed in the line of battle are uncovered in a penetrating new analysis. The subordinates who commanded his brigades and divisions are given the attention they deserve, and there is an authoritative explanation of the importance of army rank and seniority. Fascinating studies of bridging operations, including the construction of Europe's first suspension bridge, and the role of reconnaissance (or 'exploring') officers reveal the practical difficulties of campaigning in a...

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