

Air War Iraq: The Definitive Account of the Allied Air Campaign against Saddam Hussein

The Allied air campaign against Saddam Hussein's Iraq in 1991 was one of the most successful military operations in history. In just 42 days, the air campaign destroyed Iraq's air defenses, crippled its military infrastructure, and forced Hussein to withdraw from Kuwait. But the air war was not without its challenges. Iraq's air defenses were formidable, and the Allied pilots faced constant threats from surface-to-air missiles and anti-aircraft artillery. In addition, the weather conditions were often difficult, and the pilots had to fly long missions over hostile territory.



Air War Iraq by Tim Ripley

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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Despite these challenges, the Allied air campaign was a resounding success. The air strikes destroyed over 4,000 Iraqi aircraft, tanks, and other military vehicles. They also crippled Iraq's infrastructure, destroying power plants, oil refineries, and communications systems. As a result of the air campaign, Iraq's military was severely weakened, and Hussein was forced

to withdraw from Kuwait. The air war also paved the way for the ground campaign that followed, which quickly defeated Iraq's remaining forces.

Air War Iraq is the definitive account of this historic air campaign. Written by renowned military historian Tim Ripley, this book provides a comprehensive overview of the air war, from its planning and execution to its aftermath. With over 300 photographs and illustrations, Air War Iraq is an essential resource for anyone interested in the history of modern warfare.

Planning and Execution

The planning for the Allied air campaign against Iraq began in earnest in the summer of 1990, after Iraq invaded Kuwait. The Allied planners faced a number of challenges, including the formidable Iraqi air defenses, the difficult weather conditions, and the need to minimize civilian casualties. The planners developed a detailed plan that called for a phased air campaign that would begin with strikes against Iraq's air defenses, followed by strikes against its military infrastructure and ground forces. The planners also developed a number of innovative tactics, such as the use of stealth aircraft and cruise missiles, to overcome Iraq's air defenses.

The air campaign began on January 17, 1991, with a massive air strike against Iraq's air defenses. The air strikes were successful in destroying a significant number of Iraqi aircraft and air defense systems. The Allies then began a series of strikes against Iraq's military infrastructure, including power plants, oil refineries, and communications systems. These strikes crippled Iraq's ability to fight the war.

In the final phase of the air campaign, the Allies began targeting Iraq's ground forces. The air strikes destroyed a significant number of Iraqi tanks,

armored vehicles, and artillery pieces. The air strikes also paved the way for the ground campaign that followed, which quickly defeated Iraq's remaining forces.

Aftermath

The Allied air campaign against Iraq was a resounding success. The air strikes destroyed Iraq's air defenses, crippled its military infrastructure, and forced Hussein to withdraw from Kuwait. The air war also paved the way for the ground campaign that followed, which quickly defeated Iraq's remaining forces.

The air war also had a number of negative consequences. The air strikes caused significant civilian casualties, and they also damaged Iraq's environment. The war also led to a significant increase in anti-American sentiment in the Middle East.

Despite these negative consequences, the Allied air campaign against Iraq was a necessary and effective response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. The air war prevented Iraq from annexing Kuwait, and it also weakened Iraq's military capabilities. The air war also paved the way for the ground campaign that followed, which quickly defeated Iraq's remaining forces.

Air War Iraq is a comprehensive and well-written account of the Allied air campaign against Saddam Hussein. The book provides a detailed overview of the planning and execution of the air campaign, and it also discusses the aftermath of the war. With over 300 photographs and illustrations, *Air War Iraq* is an essential resource for anyone interested in the history of modern warfare.

About the Author

Tim Ripley is a renowned military historian and author. He has written over 20 books on a variety of military topics, including the air war in Vietnam, the Gulf War, and the war in Iraq. Ripley's books have been praised for their accuracy, clarity, and insight.



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