

The Crushing Of Army Group North 1944 Ndash 1945 On The Eastern Front Images Of War Series

[#Army Group North](#) [#Eastern Front WW2](#) [#Operation Bagration](#) [#German Army 1944](#) [#military history WWII](#)

Explore the catastrophic defeat of Army Group North on the Eastern Front during the pivotal years of 1944-1945. This compelling volume from the 'Images of War Series' delves into the brutal Soviet offensive, including Operation Bagration, which utterly destroyed Germany's forces, dramatically altering the course of World War II. Discover the intense battles and strategic blunders through a vivid collection of historical photographs documenting this immense military collapse.

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The Crushing of Army Group North 1944–1945 on the Eastern Front

The Crushing of Army Group North 1944-45 on the Eastern Front tells the story in words and images of the last bitter months fought on Russian soil and the battle of the Baltic States that ensued. Drawing on rare and unpublished photos it reveals in detail how remnants of Army Group North were driven back to the borders of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. In the battles that followed, the retreating German Panzer and infantry divisions were encircled and annihilated. With the remnants were pushed back into East Prussia, and then fought to the death in the last few small pockets of land surrounding three ports of Libau in Kurland, Pillau in East Prussia and Danzig at the mouth of the River Vistula. It was here that the final battle of Army Group North would take place after Hitler ordered his troops to `stand and fight` and wage an unprecedented battle of attrition.

The Crushing of Army Group North 1944-1945

* The latest in the ever popular Images of War Series. * Describes the bitter fighting and extreme conditions of the Eastern Front. * Superb and rare images of Axis and Russian armour and other weapons/equipment in action. * Compiled by our foremost Images of War author and photographic collector.

Himmler's Death Squad

This WWII pictorial history offers an unsettling up-close account of the Nazi death squads committing mass murder on the Eastern Front. The murderous activities of Himmler's Einsatzgruppen – or death squads—rank high among the horrors of the Nazi regime during the Second World War. As the Waffen-SS and Wehrmacht advanced into Eastern Europe and Soviet Russia, these hand-picked

groups followed in their wake, committing mass murder of civilians. Their killing in occupied territories will never be accurately quantified but is likely to have exceeded two million people, including some 1.3 million of the 6,000,000 Jews who perished in the Holocaust. The graphic and shocking photographs in this Images of War book show Einsatzgruppen operations, including the hunt for and rounding up of civilians, communists, Jews and Romani people. It also shows the active support given to the Einsatzgruppen by SS and Wehrmacht units. The latter strenuously denied any collusion, but the photographic evidence here refutes this.

German Army on the Eastern Front - The Retreat 1943-1945: Rare Photographs From Wartime Archives

The Final Days of the Reich is the latest in the popular Images of War series by Ian Baxter. Drawing on rare and previously unpublished photographs accompanied by in-depth captions and text, this book is a compelling account of the final weeks of the Nazis' struggle for survival against overwhelming odds. Each photograph fully captures the tension, turmoil and tragedy of those last, terrible days of war as Wehrmacht, Waffen SS, Luftwaffe, Hitlerjugend, Volkssturm and other units, some of which were comprised of barely trained conscripts, fought out their last battles. Exhausted and demoralized skeletal units must have been aware of the impending defeat. Yet the German General Staff was still resolved to fight at all costs. By late March 1945, less than 100 miles east of Berlin, some 250,000 German troops had slowly withdrawn to the Oder, and what followed was a series of fierce and determined defensive actions that would finally see the Germans encircled and fighting the last desperate battle within Berlin itself against overwhelming odds.

Final Days of the Reich

From Retreat to Defeat is a unique insight into the last desperate years of the German Army at war on the Eastern Front 1943-45. On the vast steppes of the Soviet Union, it describes how the German Army together with the elite mountain troops and Luftwaffe field divisions played a decisive role in trying to stem the rout along the disintegrating front lines. Drawing on previously rare and unpublished photographs with in-depth captions, the book provides an absorbing analysis of this traumatic period of the war. It reveals in detail how the beginning of the end began at the battle of Kursk, and how this massive operation led to the Red Army recapturing huge areas of the Soviet Union and bleeding white the German armies it struck. Despite the adverse situation in which the German Army was placed, soldiers were still infused to fight to the bitter end and attempt to build new lines of defense. But as the Red Army launched its long-awaited summer offensive in 1944, code-named 'Operation Bagration', the book reveals how the German Army were forced to withdraw under the constant hammer blows of ground and air bombardments. Those German forces that survived the artillery barrages, the onslaught of the tank armadas, and mass infantry assaults, streamed back from the battlefield and fought vicious battles through the Baltic states, Byelorussia, and built up new defenses along the Vistula in Poland. As the final months of the war were played out on the Eastern Front it depicts how the German Army, with diminishing resources, withdrew across a devastated Reich and fought out the last battles with party militia forces around a bombed and blasted Berlin.

From Retreat to Defeat

"Drawing on a superb collection of rare photographs this sequel to Battle in the Baltic States 1944-45 covers the last battles fought by the Wehrmacht and their SS counterparts in East Prussia, Pomerania and the West Prussian city of Danzig ... The book provides ... insight into this long, most bitter and most unknown Eastern Front campaign. It reveals how the remnants of Hitler's once-vaunted forces were hurled out of the Baltic States and ordered to wage an unprecedented war of attrition against an overwhelming foe. Here is East and West Prussia, Pomerania and the ancient city of Danzig the Germans stood on the fringes of the Reich and fought a series of colossal battles ... The Last Rally is a unique study of a struggling German Army trying in vain to avoid being sucked into a maelstrom of destruction. It was the final desperate attempt by the German forces to hold onto land conquered by the Reich during its conquest through Poland five years earlier. Now, as tension, turmoil and tragedy reached its peak in the ruined villages, towns and cities, the ethnic Germans, or so-called Volksdeutsche, fled their homes to avoid the Red Army's advance. What followed was a mass exodus of men, women and children intermingled with withdrawing German troops trying to stave off defeat"--Page 7.

The Last Rally

Road to Destruction' offers a unique visual insight into the climactic Battle of Stalingrad during the autumn and winter of 1942-43. Pushing forward through the southern steppes aiming to capture the vital Caucasian oil fields, before being caught up in some of the most vicious street fighting known in military history, the German 6th Army was bled white and ultimately destroyed. The author has drawn on a wide selection of rare and mostly previously unpublished photographs accompanied by in-depth captions to provide a superb photographic history of this key turning point in the Second World War. The images reveal the unfolding story, through the hopeful beginnings and major successes at the beginning of operations, as German forces cut a rapid swathe towards the oil fields. By early autumn 1942, the Germans were seemingly on the brink of success as they reached the banks of the Volga and the vitally important city of Stalingrad. Yet the Red Army dug extremely deep, and relying on grim determination, courage and resourcefulness, fought bitterly. The German advance was slowed to a crawl, as incredibly bitter hand-to-hand fighting took place throughout the city. The situation for the German troops became worse and worse, winter set in, and with it major Soviet counter-attacks. By late November 1942 the situation was worsening for the Germans fighting at Stalingrad. Completely encircled, Soviet forces slowly closed in as the vicious winter took hold, and the Luftwaffe's air support operations became increasingly ineffective. The remnants of 6th Army surrendered in February, shadows of the troops that had advanced across the steppes the previous summer. In all, the horrendous fighting resulted in more than 1.5 million casualties on both sides. An important visual record of one of history's greatest and most bitterly fought battles.

Road to Destruction

A study, based on Soviet and German archival sources, of Soviet partisan activities in the rear of the German Army Group North 1941-44.

The War Behind the Eastern Front

"[This book] is a collection of a truly unique record of rare and unpublished photographs that were not taken by professional cameramen, but an amateur soldier with a camera. Their intended use was purely a catalogue of personal experience"--Foreword.

Panzer Divisions at War, 1939-1945

Provides a pictorial account of the Eastern Front campaign from Hitler's Operation Barbarossa, through the Nazis' Blitzkrieg successes, to the fall of Berlin using images from Russian, German, and British collections.

The Eastern Front in Photographs

Photo chronicle of the German-Soviet campaign on the Eastern Front during its first brutal winter after Operation Barbarossa ground to a halt outside Moscow.

First Winter on the Eastern Front

These photographs are taken from three unpublished albums featuring the German invasion of Poland in 1939. One set was taken by an SS officer, another by a regular officer and a third by a soldier attached to a medical unit. Included are German units on the move, tanks, artillery and aircraft.

Blitzkrieg Poland

Contains 300 photographs, many sourced from Russian archives. Drawing on these images, the author recreates the experience of war on the Eastern Front in 1941.

Images of Barbarossa

After the defeat at Stalingrad in January 1943, the German Army's front lines were slowly smashed to pieces by the growing might of the Soviet Army. Yet these soldiers continued to fight gallantly. Even after the failed battle of the Kursk in the summer of 1943, and then a year later when the Russians launched their mighty summer offensive, code names Operation BAGRATION, the German Army continued to fight on, withdrawing under constant enemy ground and air bombardments. As the final months of retreat were played out on the Eastern Front in early 1945, it depicts how the once vaunted German Army, with diminishing resources, withdrew back across the Polish/German frontier to Berlin itself.

German Army on the Eastern Front, the Retreat 1943-1945

This pictorial WWII history explores the evolution of the Third Reich's Luftwaffe ground force through rare wartime photographs. From the outset of the Second World War, Luftwaffe Flak units saw extensive fighting with their 2cm, 3.7cm and deadly 8.8cm anti-aircraft guns. By the time of Hitler's invasion of Russia, Luftwaffe ground forces had been expanded and were being used in both the army support and air roles. After initial success on the Eastern Front gave way to a costly quagmire, Hitler ordered the raising of Luftwaffe Field Divisions to bolster the Army. Initially under Hermann Goring's command, they were reorganized under the Army in 1943 as standard infantry divisions. The most famous was the elite Hermann Goring Division, which was reorganized as a Panzer Division. By 1944 there were no less than twenty-one Luftwaffe Field Divisions, plus many similar regiments, fighting on all fronts.

Luftwaffe Flak and Field Divisions, 1939–1945

By 1944, the overwhelming majority of the German Army had participated in the German war of annihilation in the Soviet Union and historians continue to debate the motivations behind the violence unleashed in the east. Jeff Rutherford offers an important new contribution to this debate through a study of combat and the occupation policies of three frontline infantry divisions. He shows that while Nazi racial ideology provided a legitimizing context in which violence was not only accepted but encouraged, it was the Wehrmacht's adherence to a doctrine of military necessity which is critical in explaining why German soldiers fought as they did. This meant that the German Army would do whatever was necessary to emerge victorious on the battlefield. Periods of brutality were intermixed with conciliation as the army's view and treatment of the civilian population evolved based on its appreciation of the larger context of war in the east.

Combat and Genocide on the Eastern Front

Hitler's mountain troops or Gebirgsjager were a group of elite soldiers ready for battle in any conditions. They fought in all theaters of World War II, notably on the Eastern Front. This book shows the Gebirgsjager in training and action from Poland and France, through Yugoslavia, the Eastern Front, and in the closing stages of the War.

Hitler's Mountain Troops

Written by three leading military historians, the Eastern Front is a superb history of the cataclysmic struggle between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union.

The Eastern Front

Photo chronicle of the German invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941.

Operation Barbarossa 1941

This is the powerful record of the lightning campaign against Poland as documented by the Kriegsberichter. This book incorporates the whole of the results of extensive post war interviews carried out by the US department of the Army. The result is a vivid military history of the Polish campaign of September 1939 from the front lines. This view of the campaign from the sharp end draws upon previously unpublished images. The events of Hitler's war on land sea and air were photographed on a day by day basis by the Kriegsberichter; their huge legacy is estimated to encompass over 2,000,000 images which constitute a powerful primary visual record of the main events of World War II as witnessed from the front lines. Written by Emmy award winning author Bob Carruthers, this unique publication documents the primary accounts of many of those who fought in Hitler's army.

Poland 1939: The Blitzkrieg Unleashed

On June 22, 1941, Hitler began what would be the most important campaign of the European theater. The war against the Soviet Union would leave tens of millions of Soviet citizens dead and large parts of the country in ruins. This title provides a concise history of the Germans' opening campaign of conquest and genocide in 1941.

War of Annihilation

Describes the battles, weapons, and men who took part in the Nazi invasion of Soviet Russia in 1941.

The Soviet Partisan Movement, 1941-1944

Hitler's shock decision to launch the Axis invasion of the Soviet Union on 22 June 1941 was arguably the turning point of the Second World War. Spectacular early victories saw the Nazis close in on Moscow but the Soviet 1941/42 winter counter offensive changed the odds entirely. Without doubt Russian winter conditions were a major factor compounded by the Germans' woeful lack of preparedness. As this fascinating book reveals, Wehrmacht and SS units only began to be issued with winter clothing in late 1941 and many had to improvise well into 1942. In an attempt to restore morale adversely affected by the harsh conditions and military reversals 'The Winter Warfare Handbook' (Winter Buch) was produced in 1942 and extracts are quoted in this work. Commanders had to adapt to the snow, freezing conditions and, almost worse, the impassable roads during the melt. With customary thoroughness and drastic measures the Germans largely mastered the climatic challenges but nothing could mask the reality of the ruthless and numerically superior enemy that they faced.

The Soviet Partisan Movement, 1941-1944

The third volume in Nik Cornish's photographic history of the Second World War on the Eastern Front records in vivid visual detail the sequence of Red Army offensives that pushed the Wehrmacht back across Russia after the failure of Operation Citadel, the German attack at Kursk. Previously unpublished images show the epic scale of the build-up to the Kursk battle and the enormous cost in terms of lives and material of the battle itself. They also show that the military initiative was now firmly in Soviet hands, for the balance of power on the Eastern Front had shifted and the Germans were on the defensive and in retreat. Subsequent chapters chronicle the hard-fought and bloody German withdrawal across western Russia and the Ukraine, recording the Red Army's liberation of occupied Soviet territory, the recovery of key cities like Orel, Kharkov and Kiev, the raising of the siege of Leningrad and the advance to the borders of the Baltic states. Not only do the photographs track the sequence of events on the ground, they also show the equipment and weapons used by both sides, the living conditions experienced by the troops, the actions of the Soviet partisans, the fight against the Finns in the north, the massive logistical organization behind the front lines, and the devastation the war left in its wake."

The Eastern Front

Between 1941 and 1944, in the war on the Eastern Front, Soviet partisans fought a ruthless underground campaign behind the German lines. During those three terrible years of occupation, they spied on the Germans, disrupted their communications, sabotaged road and rail routes and carried out assassinations and raids, and thousands of these irregular soldiers lost their lives. Yet their exploits are frequently overlooked in general histories of the conflict, and their experience of the war and their contribution to the Soviet victory are rarely recognized. That is why Nik Cornish's collection of photographs of the Soviet partisans is a landmark in the field. In a sequence of over 150 images, most of them previously unpublished, he gives a fascinating all-round portrait of the lives of the partisans and their struggle to resist and survive in a war that was waged with almost unparalleled cruelty on both sides. In addition, in his commentary, he outlines the history of the partisans - their desperate, chaotic beginnings in the wake of the German attack, their increasing coordination, daring and effectiveness as the war went on, and the key role they played as the Germans were forced back. He also records, through the photographs, the merciless counter-measures taken by the Germans and the reprisals. His book gives a compelling insight into one of the most important sideshows of the Second World War.

The Nazis' Winter Warfare on the Eastern Front 1941-1945

Featuring 250 previously unpublished action photographs, this work depicts the battles between the Waffen SS and the Red Army on the Eastern Front between 1941 and 1945.

Hitler Versus Stalin

Hitler's decision to invade Poland in August 1939 was the first demonstration of Blitzkrieg tactics - the ruthless use of armor, mobile infantry, and air support. The Polish Army was taken by surprise and overwhelmed by this display of military power. This book captures the drama and raw aggression in photographs and captions.

Partisan Warfare on the Eastern Front 1941-1944

In this second volume examining the German infantryman before and during World War 2, post-1941 training, weapons, equipment, combat experiences and medical care are examined. The 'faceless' German soldier who struggled through bitter fighting up to and including Stalingrad retains his identity both as a human being and as a vital part of the Wehrmacht's order of battle. Containing a full array of previously unpublished photographs taken by German soldiers during the invasion of Russia this book shows in superb detail daily life and duties, the soldiers themselves, and combat action.

Hitler's Greatest Defeat

The murderous activities of Himmler's Einsatzgruppen - or death squads - rank high among the horrors of the Nazi regime during the Second World War. These hand-picked groups followed in the wake of Waffen-SS and Wehrmacht units advancing into Eastern Europe and Soviet Russia. Their mass murder of civilians in the occupied territories will never be accurately quantified but is likely to have exceeded two million people, including some 1.3 million of the 6,000,000 Jews who perished in the Holocaust. The graphic and shocking photographs in this Images of War book not only show the hunt for and rounding up of civilians, communists, Jews and Romani people but the active support given to the Einsatzgruppen by SS units and Wehrmacht units. The latter strenuously denied any collusion but the photographic evidence here refutes this.

Eastern Front

The term Panzergrenadier was introduced in 1942 and applied equally to the infantry component of Wehrmacht, Luftwaffe and later Waffen-SS Panzergrenadiere divisions. As this classic new Images of War book describes, these elite divisions fought as mechanized infantry and escort for and in close cooperation with panzers and other armoured fighting vehicles. Trained to fight both mounted and on foot, their priority was to maintain the fast momentum of armoured troops on the battlefield. Using a wealth of rare, often unpublished, photographs with detailed captions and text, the author charts the fighting record of the Wehrmacht and Luftwaffe Panzergrenadiertruppe units. This includes their initial successes on the Eastern Front. But as defeat approached, they were forced on the defensive on all fronts including the bitter fighting in Italy and the Western Front. As well as describing their many actions, the book details the vehicles and weapons used and main personalities.

The German Northern Theater of Operations, 1940-1945

The war between Nazi Germany and Stalin's Soviet Union that raged between 1941 and 1945 was unprecedented in the scale of the destruction that it wrought and the deep scars that it left behind. The invasion of the Soviet Union was the conflict that Hitler had always ultimately planned for in his dream of creating a 'Thousand Year Reich'. From the beginning it was a struggle for survival, conducted with great bitterness and savagery by opponents who knew that defeat meant the destruction of everything they stood for. By 1945 a huge swathe of Europe between Berlin and Moscow had been reduced to a devastated wasteland in which whole societies had been erased from the face of the earth. Over 26 million Soviets and between four and five million Germans lay dead. The eventual victory of the Red Army transformed the Soviet Union into one of the world's two superpowers. It also saw the complete destruction of Hitler's megalomaniac vision for the East, the division of the German Reich, and the Soviet domination of Eastern Europe for a generation. Enriched by a wealth of eye-witness testimony from both the Soviet and the German sides, Operation Barbarossa paints a masterly overview of these momentous four years and their human consequences - one that is both gripping and deeply moving.

Crushing of Poland

Drawing on a superb collection of rare and unpublished photographs the 6th SS Mountain Division Nord 1941 - 1945 is the 6th book in the Waffen-SS Images of War Series compiled by Ian Baxter. The book tells the story of the 6th SS Mountain Division Nord, which was formed in February 1941 as SS Kampfgruppe Nord (SS Battle Group North). The Division was the only Waffen-SS unit to fight in the Arctic Circle when it was stationed in Finland and northern Russia between June and November 1941. It fought in Karelia until the Moscow Armistice in September 1944, at which point it left Finland. It suffered heavy losses in the Operation Nordwind in January 1945 and in early April 1945, the division was destroyed by the US forces near Bidingen, Germany.

World War II German Military Studies: Part IV. The OKW war diary series.v. 12. Part V. The western theater

Report by the Supreme Commander to the Combined Chiefs of Staff on the Operations in Europe of the Allied Expeditionary Force, June 6, 1944 to May 8, 1945