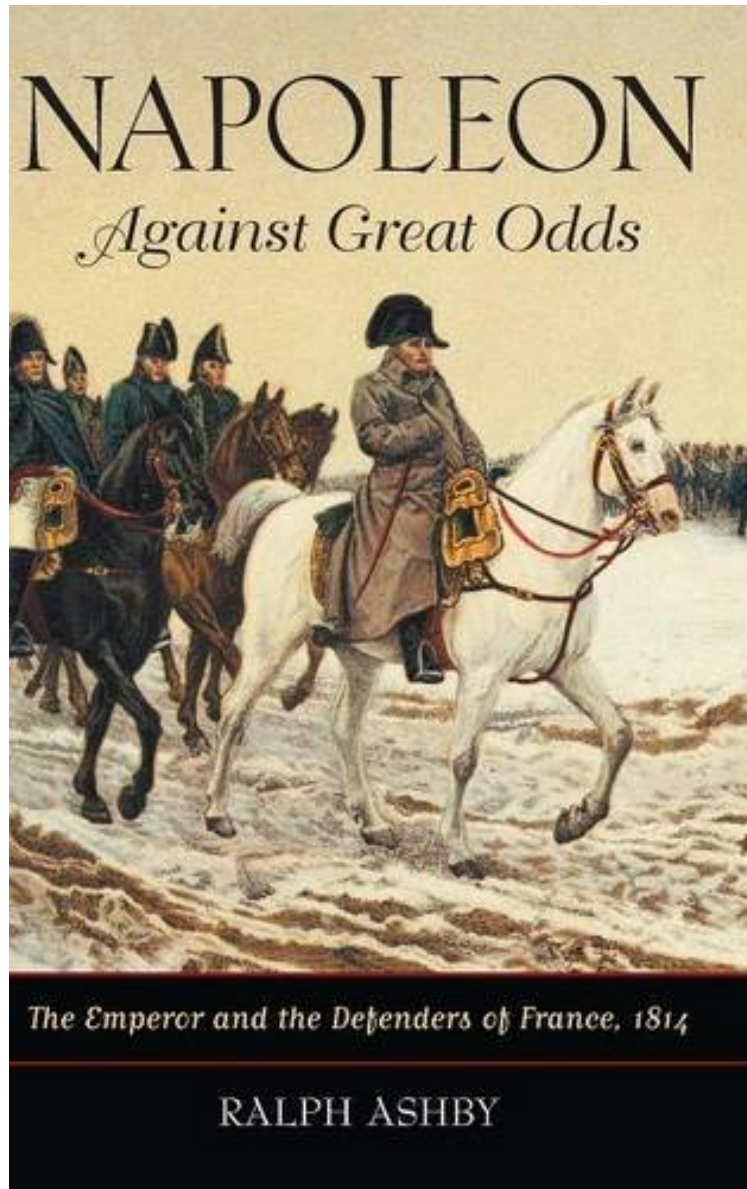


[Download] Napoleon Against Great Odds: The Emperor and the Defenders of France, 1814

Napoleon Against Great Odds: The Emperor and the Defenders of France, 1814

Ralph Ashby

audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#4002043 in Books Ralph Ashby 2010-06-02Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.21 x .63 x 6.141, 1.20
#File Name: 0313381909230 pagesNapoleon Against Great Odds The Emperor and the Defenders of France
1814 | File size: 44.Mb

Ralph Ashby : Napoleon Against Great Odds: The Emperor and the Defenders of France, 1814 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Napoleon Against Great Odds: The Emperor and the Defenders of France, 1814:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Great book from a new author By Roger Safian This is an outstanding title from a new author. Dr. Ashby takes what could be just another generic title about Napoleon, and breathes new life into the subject. He does this in two ways; He writes in a refreshingly readable style, especially for an academic, AND, he brings to light the very real challenges faced by Napoleon in 1814. I thoroughly enjoyed this read and am looking forward to Dr. Ashby's next title.

This revisionist history offers a fresh analysis of Napoleon and the French army as they defended their empire against the massive Coalition invasion of 1814. • 20 drawings, engravings, and paintings, primarily from the 19th century • Maps depicting the invasion of France, Napoleon's 1814 campaign, and the Battle for Paris • Charts and tables examining some of the French regiments, including information regarding age, physical size, and civilian occupations of recruits • A bibliography of general works, monographs, and archival sources

"Military historian/US armed forces veteran Ashby (Eastern Illinois U., Charleston) focuses on Napoleon's campaign of 1814 against a coalition force, rather than on the more widely-studied Napoleonic War defeats in the 1812 Russian campaign and the battle of Waterloo (1815). From an analysis of the diverse backgrounds and performance of the soldiers, partisans, and civilians who defended the Empire, he questions conventional interpretations that attribute the French loss wholly to a dramatic decline in recruits due to war-weariness and reduced support for the regime. He also places blame on Napoleon's poor strategic planning, diplomatic blunders, and material shortages. The book includes maps and illustrations." - Reference Research Book News "Napoleon's campaign of 1814 has habitually been framed in the language and emotions of nationalism. Professor Ashby takes a fresh look at the evidence. He persuades us that the Allies won not because Napoleon was betrayed, hadn't enough men, was hampered by bureaucratic ineptitude, fought without a number of his best marshals, and was undermined by French war weariness. All these played a part, but Ashby convincingly argues Napoleon just ran out of time. Tsar Alexander and Field Marshal Blücher, driven by a lust for revenge, insisted the Allies invade France in the winter rather than wait for spring. Even Napoleon was unable to stall long enough to build a viable army let alone fend off the assault." (David P. Jordan, Distinguished Professor of French History, Emeritus, University of Illinois at Chicago) "Body and soul of the Napoleonic triumph, the French army shouldered the responsibility for the Empire's defeat. In this fast-paced, even-handed, and well-argued account, Ashby re-examines the defense of France in 1814, suggesting new explanations for the success and failure on and off the battlefield that led to the Emperor's exile to Elba." (William A. Hoisington, Jr., Professor Emeritus of Modern European History, University of Illinois at Chicago) "Napoleon, his campaigns and regime fascinated his contemporaries and continue to fascinate us two centuries later. Ralph Ashby's *Against Great Odds: Napoleon and the Defenders of France, 1814* is the latest addition to Napoleonic scholarship and is an important one at that. Ashby challenges us to reconsider the assumption of war-weariness in 1814 France and posits a deeper interpretation of the factors which led to the demise of the empire. Ashby's examination of Napoleon's oft-overlooked campaign of 1814 offers a more subtle analysis that promises to become the standard in the field for years to come." (Eugene Beiriger, Associate Professor, Department of History, DePaul University, and author of *Churchill, Munitions and Mechanical Warfare*) About the Author Ralph Ashby is a visiting assistant professor at Eastern Illinois University.