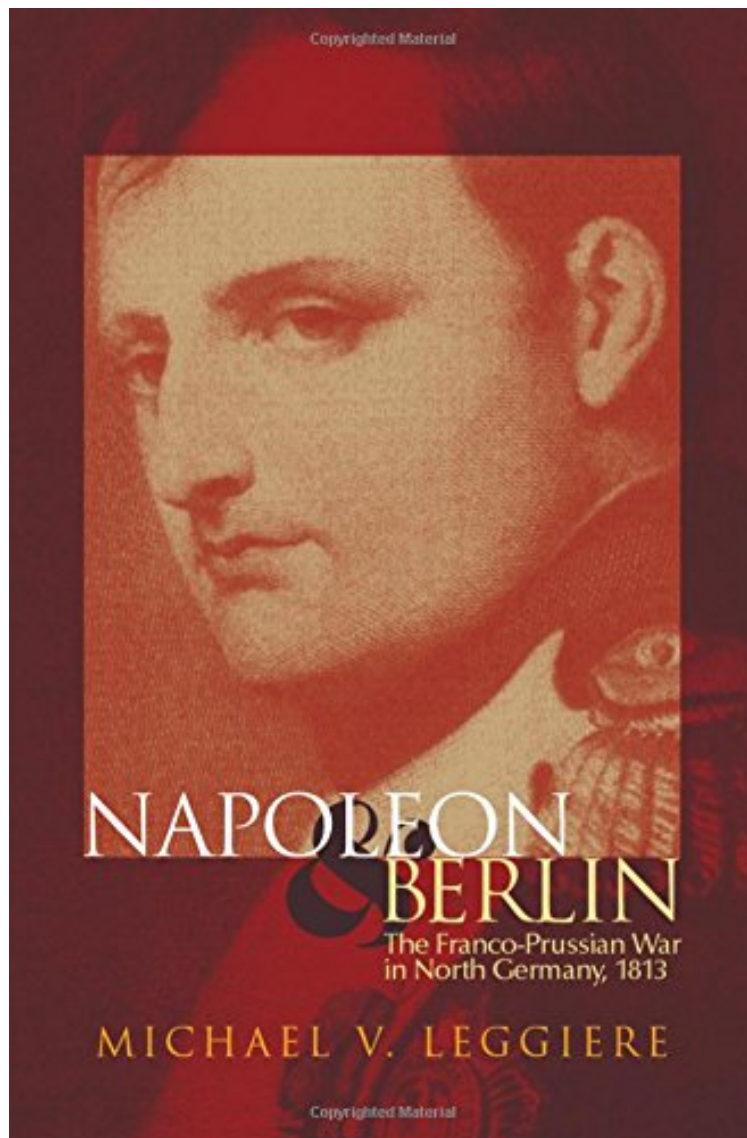


[Read and download] Napoleon and Berlin: The Franco-Prussian War in North Germany, 1813 (Campaigns and Commanders Series)

Napoleon and Berlin: The Franco-Prussian War in North Germany, 1813 (Campaigns and Commanders Series)

Michael V. Leggiere

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#2588867 in Books University of Oklahoma Press 2002-04-15 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x 1.11 x 6.00l, 1.44 #File Name: 0806133996400 pages | File size: 59.Mb

Michael V. Leggiere : Napoleon and Berlin: The Franco-Prussian War in North Germany, 1813 (Campaigns and Commanders Series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Napoleon and Berlin: The Franco-Prussian War in North Germany, 1813 (Campaigns and Commanders Series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book - but has a wrong and misleading title! By Koba This book analyzes the war in northern Germany (chiefly Prussia) in the wake of Napoleon's disastrous retreat from Russia in 1812. The principal focus is on Prussia's effort, as a coalition partner, to defend Berlin against a French offensive in 1813. The book is chiefly written from a Prussian perspective. It covers Prussian internal politics, the mobilization of the Prussian Army, Prussian logistics, and the politics of Prussian military cooperation with the Russians and the Swedes under Bernadotte. The French are discussed to a far lesser degree, and they did not fight this campaign under Napoleon himself, but under Marshals Oudinot and Ney. For that reason, the book should not have been called "Napoleon and Berlin". If anything, it should have been called "Von Bülow and Berlin" - because Friedrich von Bülow led the Prussian force defending Berlin - or "Prussia Reborn" or "The War of Prussian Liberation", or something like that. In any event, I have no complaints about the analysis in the book, which I find excellent and convincing. I also emerged with a profound contempt for the loathsome, treacherous schemer Bernadotte. This book very easy to read and is a must for anyone interested in the Napoleonic Era. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Maps are one requirement and there are plenty of good maps on hand – some are taken from older ... By Larry Casey In general I found Napoleon and Berlin met or exceeded my expectations. There are several things I look for in a book on military history. Maps are one requirement and there are plenty of good maps on hand – some are taken from older historical texts and are a bit hard to read but overall there are more than enough to help the narrative along. Another thing I look for are the references/bibliography and footnotes. Here again there is a fine set of notes with an extensive bibliography. These are two big pluses. There are two other items that I wish were included – a set of Order of Battles to cover the various organizations mentioned in the text and a timeline. Both are not present but are not necessary to the flow of the text and the points the author is making. Campaigns and battles do not occur in a vacuum. Too often space and time limit the narrative and force “minor” events to the sidelines where they are ignored or only summarized. A really good history will focus on the oft ignored and present a fresh new look at events. Napoleon and Berlin does just that and this elevates the book to its 5 star rating. I won't go into the details but I will say this is a look at part of the 1813 War of the 6th Coalition that has been ignored for a long time. You will get to see how Prussia transitioned into war and the difficulties of mobilizing the Army, Landwehr and the Reserves. Also presented are the French actions to seize Berlin and the problems the various allied commands had working together. I was pleased with the book – it nicely fills a gap in the published information covering the 1813 campaigns in Germany.

At a time when Napoleon needed all his forces to reassert French dominance in Central Europe, why did he fixate on the Prussian capital of Berlin? Instead of concentrating his forces for a decisive showdown with the enemy, he repeatedly detached large numbers of troops, under ineffective commanders, toward the capture of Berlin. In *Napoleon and Berlin*, Michael V. Leggiere explores Napoleon's almost obsessive desire to capture Berlin and how this strategy ultimately lost him all of Germany. Napoleon's motives have remained a subject of controversy from his own day until ours. He may have hoped to deliver a tremendous blow to Prussia's war-making capacity and morale. Ironically, the heavy losses and strategic reverses sustained by the French left Napoleon's Grande Armée vulnerable to an Allied coalition that eventually drove Napoleon from Central Europe forever.

“No other book in English . . . discusses the two campaigns conducted by Napoleon in North Germany . . . in as much scope.”—*Journal of Military History*