

[Download pdf ebook] Napoleon: As Military Commander

## Napoleon: As Military Commander

*James Cornwall-Marshall*

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**James Cornwall-Marshall : Napoleon: As Military Commander** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Napoleon: As Military Commander:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Buyer beware...By Bookworm64 This is probably the most biased book on Napoleon I ever read. Not that that is necessarily a bad thing in and of itself, but it certainly doesn't help. Much of the book is mere recounting, and if you are looking at his military career, I'm not sure how much when he changed his name from the Italian spelling to the French should matter, or how his Corsican upbringing made him inherently criminal and prone to trust family...which sounds like every ancient regime France fought during the wars, but it's different because he's Napoleon, I guess. There really wasn't much explanation for why things were a mistake, either. At Essling, he makes it sound more like Archduke Charles gave up than Napoleon won, and somehow gave the French far more casualties than some sources, but he doesn't explain just HOW Charles's trap would have worked to begin with. It pretty much continues in this vein...call something a mistake, 'failure' is proof it was a mistake, move on without details or explaining. There was really no discussion of his ability to inspire his men, his organization, anything, and this permeated the whole book. He's calls Lannes a mediocre at best general, then states how bad this loss was to Napoleon when he got killed. What?!? There's minimal at best discussion about why he made major decisions or movements (leave Spain after effectively winning in order to fight the Austrians and Prussians, then has to deal with other things, and finally his invasion of Russia) but no linking them together in a coherent fashion. Certainly no mention about how Britain was always supporting everyone against France in order to maintain the policy of making sure no one nation gained hegemony on the continent in order to keep Britain safe. Also: the author

worked for the SOE in WWII...and they did not do too many smart things themselves, and were big on guerilla and terror tactics. Not sure how well that qualifies him for discussing 'honest' warfare.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy D. OlpadwalaExcellent book with rich details of Napoleon' campaigns.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. OuchBy HistorianVery dry. There must be better studies out there

Whether as a general or a statesman, the two decades of Napoleon's maturity, from the triumphant invasion of Italy to the final defeat at Waterloo, were years of extraordinary achievement. Almost as remarkable as the victories were the disasters at Trafalgar, in the Iberian Peninsula, in Russia and at Leipzig which the Imperial forces survived. James Marshall-Cornwall here analyzes Napoleon as military commander. Since, however, strategy and statecraft were as closely intertwined in Napoleon's career as in that of Oliver Cromwell, it is impossible to consider his generalship in complete isolation.

About the AuthorGeneral Sir James Marshall-Cornwall (1887-1985) served on Field-Marshal Haig's Staff in the First World War and played an active part in WWII, in charge of Western Command 1941-1942 and subsequently working with the SOE and MI6. He spoke two dozen languages, was President of the Royal Geographical Society and his other books include 'Marshal Massena' (OUP), an autobiography 'Wars and Rumours of Wars', and 'Haig as Military Commander', to be in Penguin Classic Military History in September 2002.