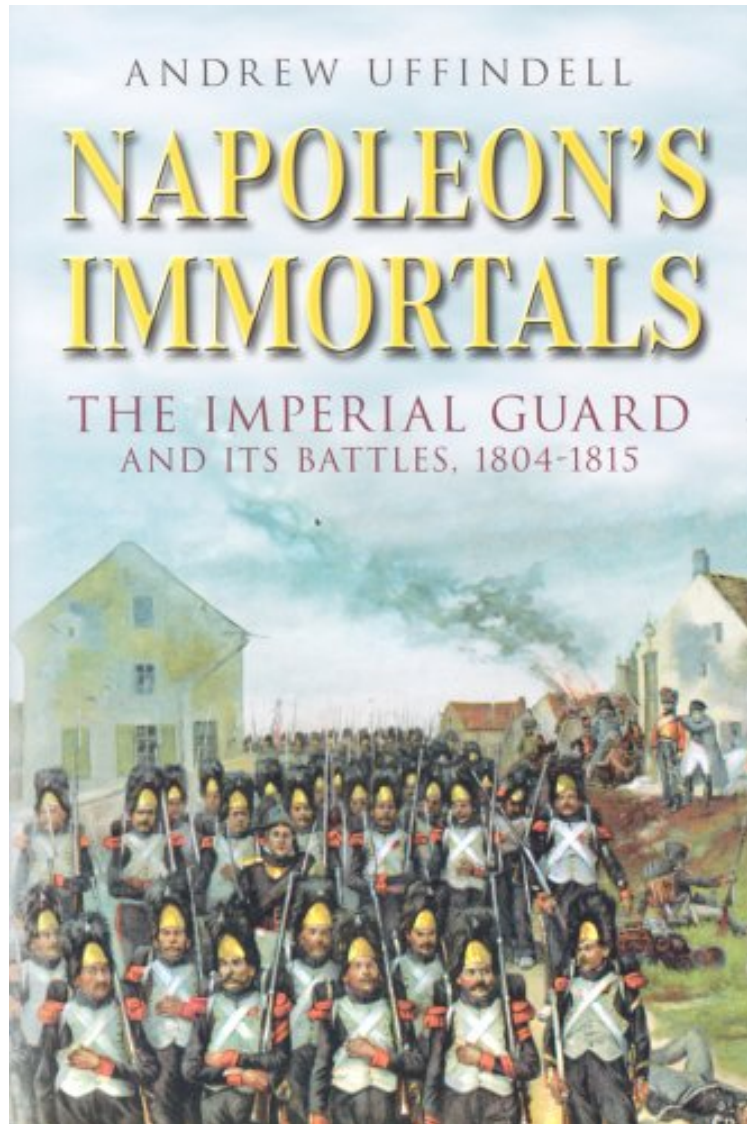


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# Napoleon's Immortals: The Imperial Guard and it's Battles, 1804-1815

*Andrew Uffindell*

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**Andrew Uffindell : Napoleon's Immortals: The Imperial Guard and it's Battles, 1804-1815** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Napoleon's Immortals: The Imperial Guard and it's Battles, 1804-1815:

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A balanced view By Robert A., Shoaf Despite the title, this book is not a combat history of Napoleon's legendary Imperial Guard, but rather a study of it's raising, expansion, makeup,

military and political impact, and whether its 'invincible' reputation is truly warranted. The Guard's record was actually a mixed bag, especially that of the Young Guard regiments, and not a long string of nothing but victories until Waterloo. An interesting tidbit about the 2nd (Dutch) Lancers of the Guard's fear of the Cossacks while in Russia in 1812, who called them the red children, and the Old Guard's poor behavior in Moscow and the retreat to the Beresina are balanced by feats of valor and discipline on other fields by the Guard. The book contains numerous maps, including the location of Guard regiments in Paris and environs that I had never seen before. The illustrations, all in black and white, are nothing special. However, a number of appendices on the makeup of the guard, etc., is quite worthwhile, along with the chapter notes and extensive bibliography. For those, like myself, who have read Lachoque's "The Anatomy of Glory", this volume should provide a more nuanced, and likely, more accurate record of the Imperial Guard. Highly recommended for anyone with a serious interest in the Napoleonic wars.

Andrew Uffindell explores the life and battles of Napoleon's Imperial Guard and destroys the many myths that have surrounded it. In doing so, he throws new light on Napoleon himself and contributes to the ongoing debate about the value of elite military units."

About the Author Andrew Uffindell has written many books on the Napoleonic period, including *Great Generals of the Napoleonic Wars*; *Waterloo Commanders*; and *The Eagle's Last Triumph*. He has edited a collection of essays by the late Jac Weller, *On Wellington*, and also wrote *The National Army Museum Book of Wellington's Armies*, which was part of a series that collectively won the Royal United Services Institute's Duke of Westminster Medal for Military Literature (2004).