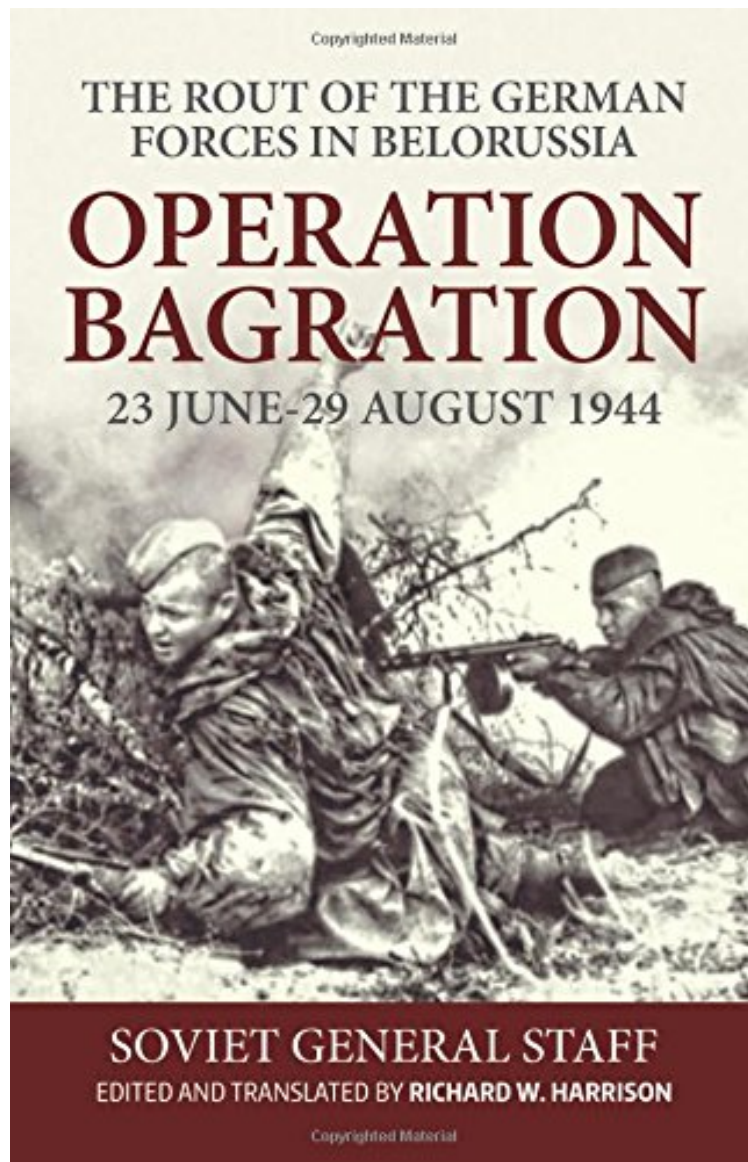


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From imusti : Operation Bagration, 23 June-29 August 1944: The Rout Of The German Forces In Belorussia before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Operation Bagration, 23 June-29 August 1944: The Rout Of The German Forces In Belorussia:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Operation BagrationBy History EnthusiastThe Soviet General Staff Study on Operation Bagration is divided into two parts, preparation and conduct. Similar to the other titles in this General Staff series, this is a text best suited for those intimately familiar with the Eastern Front of the Second World War and those who can often read between the lines of Soviet historical studies. Perhaps a reflection of the time this study was prepared and written in, there is no mention of Stalin but similarly commanders names, be they front, army, corps, or division, are also avoided. The same holds true for the enemy. This makes for a rather faceless exploration of Operation Bagration as readers will mainly be presented with descriptions of unit movements, attacks, counterattacks, defensive operations, etc. However, those interested in understanding some of the intricacies associated with the planning and implementation of one of the most successful Red Army operations in the Second World War will find this volume quite useful. Specifically the details the author(s) go into when describing initial preparations, tactics utilized by units in the beginning of the offensive, the continuous attempts to adapt to the ever-changing situation as the offensive took shape and commanders soon realized that initial expectations were surpassed by the victories achieved in the field, etc., make for compelling reading. Because of the success of Operation Bagration there is much praise for Soviet forces within the volume but the author(s) were not above pointing out difficulties encountered in the field and inadequacies in tactics, operational art, strategy and supply services in the rear (logistics, medical, etc.). The "international" implications of Bagration are also alluded to within this volume. There is regular reference to the German movement of forces from other theaters of operation to the Eastern Front to recreate a front where Army Group Center used to exist, making it that much easier for the allies to continue their offensive in the west after the initial D-Day victories had stalled. The tail-end of Operation Bagration is tied up with the Warsaw Uprising. There is a minor mention made of the uprising with some time spent discussing the numerous difficulties Soviet forces encountered attempting to reach the suburbs of Warsaw (specifically, Praga) but too context and too many details are left out. Undoubtedly this was for political reasons and to hide the losses Red Army units sustained as Operation Bagration was running out of steam. While there are numerous tables and mentions of losses sustained by both sides, they are best taken with a grain of salt. But there can be no mistaking the pride that's evident each time the author(s) were able to say Red Army losses were only a fraction of those lost by the enemy. So, for those interested in the details of Bagration, this volume is definitely recommended. 16 of 26 people found the following review helpful. Cheap Binding, brand new and already disintegratingBy M. Collier-ZansHelion delivers a ridiculous cheap binding. The pages are set in a glued spine, like a paperback. I really dislike this sort of thing. My copy of this book just arrived, and the glue layer is split and pages are already coming out. IMO, if a publisher is going to go to the trouble/expense of a hardcover, they should use a stitched binding. I don't know how much a stitched binding would add to the cost of the typical ~500pp hardcover, but I can't imagine it would be all that much relative to the MSRP (in this case, nominally \$80), and the binding would last FOREVER. If they must insist on a glued binding, just go ahead and publish a softcover... its effective durability would be NO DIFFERENT. Very disappointing. I may amend this review once I have a chance to actually read the book (currently in the middle of Glantz's "Barbarossa Derailed"). Not too much out there dedicated to Bagration, so this translation of the Soviet Staff Study should (in theory) constitute a useful contribution.

The Rout of the German-Fascist Troops in Belorussia in 1944 covers the Red Army's Belorussian strategic operation: the linchpin of the 10 major Soviet offensive efforts launched that year to clear the country of the invader. During the course of this operation, the German position along the western strategic direction was destroyed and the stage was set for an advance into Poland and Germany. The success of this operation also set the stage for the Red Army's subsequent advance into the Baltic and South-Eastern Europe. Like most works generated by the General Staff, the Belorussian study divides the operation into two parts: preparation and conduct. The first deals with the massive efforts by the First Baltic and the First, Second and Third Belorussian Fronts to accumulate the men and materiel to break through the German defenses in the swampy and forested terrain of Belorussia. This section contains valuable information on the overall correlation of forces, equipment and troops' densities along the breakthrough sectors and Soviet plans for supplying the offensive, as well as detailed information regarding the employment of the various combat arms. The second part deals with the actual conduct of the several front operations that comprised the overall effort. This section covers the initial breakthrough battles and the encirclement of the Vitebsk and Bobruisk garrisons, followed by the capture of Minsk and the encirclement of sizeable German forces east of the city. The narrative then continues with the follow-on operations to cut off German forces in the Baltic States and to seize crossings over the Vistula River in Eastern Poland. Compiled and written by professional staff officers, this study provides a detailed look at the conduct of one of the major operations of the Second World War. This latest work, along with other studies in this series, offers another insight into the Red Army's conduct of the war at the operational-strategic level.

"...those interested in understanding some of the intricacies associated with the planning and implementation of one of the most successful Red Army operations in the Second World War will find this volume quite useful. Specifically the details the author(s) go into when describing initial preparations, tactics utilized by units in the beginning of the

offensive, the continuous attempts to adapt to the ever-changing situation as the offensive took shape and commanders soon realized that initial expectations were surpassed by the victories achieved in the field, etc., make for compelling reading." (WWII and other Book s)“ ... the details the author(s) go into when describing initial preparations, tactics utilized by units in the beginning of the offensive, the continuous attempts to adapt to the ever-changing situation as the offensive took shape and commanders soon realized that initial expectations were surpassed by the victories achieved in the field, etc., make for compelling reading...” (Kunikov s)About the AuthorRichard W. Harrison earned his Undergraduate and Masters Degrees from Georgetown University, where he specialized in Russian Area Studies. In 1994, he earned his Doctorate in War Studies from King's College London. He was also an exchange student in the former Soviet Union and spent several years living and working in post-Communist Russia. Dr Harrison has worked for the US Department of Defense as an investigator in Russia - dealing with cases involving POWs and MIAs. He has also taught Russian History and Military History at college and university level - most recently at the US Military Academy at West Point. Dr Harrison is the author of two books dealing with the Red Army's theoretical development during the interwar period: *The Russian Way of War: Operational Art, 1904-1940* and *Architect of Victory: The Life and Theories of G.S. Isserson*. He has also authored a number of articles on topics regarding Soviet military history and is currently working on a history of the Red Army's High Commands during the Second World War and afterwards. Dr Harrison currently lives with his family near Carlisle, Pennsylvania.