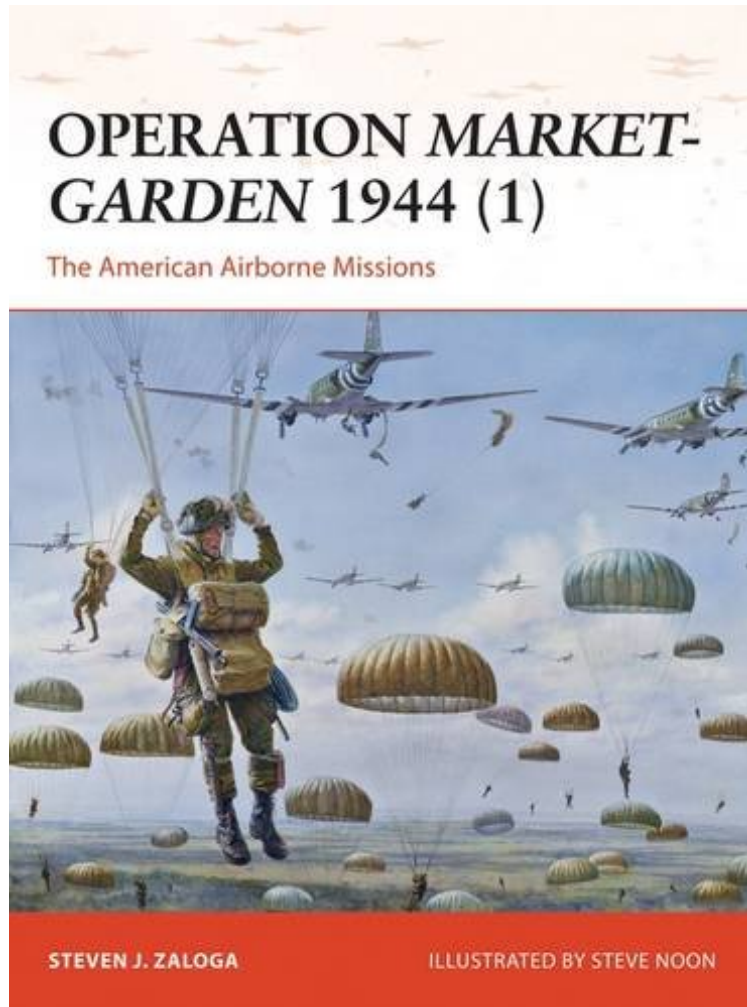


[Ebook free] Operation Market-Garden 1944 (1): The American Airborne Missions (Campaign)

# Operation Market-Garden 1944 (1): The American Airborne Missions (Campaign)

Steven J. Zaloga

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#512686 in Books Campaign Series - World War II - Western Front 2014-08-19 2014-08-19 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.86 x .21 x 7.411, #File Name: 178200816096 pages9781782008163 | File size: 76.Mb

**Steven J. Zaloga : Operation Market-Garden 1944 (1): The American Airborne Missions (Campaign)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Operation Market-Garden 1944 (1): The American Airborne Missions (Campaign):

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. American forces in Operation Market Garden By Steven Peterson Very nice! This short book does a nice job of discussing the American role in Operation Market Garden--the bold plan by Bernard Montgomery (who was more often not so bold) to capture a Rhine bridge at Arnhem and open the way for the invasion of Germany itself. Two American paratroop divisions--the 82nd and 101st--were assigned to

play a key role in the plan. They would capture two key bridges (at Nijmegen and Eindhoven) as British troops sped (or so it was hoped) up a road that would lead to Arnhem. British paratroopers were deposited at Arnhem to hold until the British XXX Corps arrives to complete the operation. The book develops along the standard lines of the Osprey Campaign series. Opposing plans. Key leaders. Opposing forces. The fighting. The two division American commanders were top notch officers--James Gavin and Maxwell Taylor. Their troops were hard fighters. The expectation was that German forces would be wrecks from the retreat from France after D-Day. Unhappily for the Allies, the forces were more powerful than anticipated--making success of the bold plan a challenge. The book does a nice job of summarizing the American involvement within the larger plan. One issue: early maps don't show the full picture. It would have been helpful to have the proposed plan of attack laid out. Nonetheless, maps do provide a sense of the larger picture. Overall, a very useful book. . . . 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A bridge too far...By HMS WarspiteSeventy years on, Operation Market-Garden remains one of the controversial moments of World War II, a daring armor and airborne thrust into German-occupied Holland. It was famously a "bridge too far" in the Allied effort to reach and cross the Rhine River into Germany. Two U.S. airborne divisions helped open the way, seizing key bridges for British XXX Corps."Operation Market-Garden 1944 (1) is an Osprey Campaign Series entry, and a good one, authored by Steven Zaloga, with illustrations by Steve Noon. It focuses tightly on the battle by the U.S. 101st and 82nd Airborne Divisions to seize a series of river crossings as far as Nijmegen, and on the struggle to hold open Hell's Highway in the face of unexpectedly ferocious German counterattacks. The narrative does a good job of explaining the plan and the battle. The aftermath offers a concise but very solid explanation for why the operation ultimately failed. The text is much enhanced with a nice collection of photographs, maps, diagrams and illustrations. Recommended as an excellent introduction to the battle and presumably to be followed by an additional book on British First Airborne at Arnhem.5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. airborne, paratrooper, Nijmegen, Netherlands, gliderBy Gary E. BinderThere are a number of books about Operation Market-Garden, the valiant effort to liberate Holland and to open a pathway into Germany. Many concentrate on the British efforts at Arnhem and the tragic results there, Few books look at the US airborne effort that provided the little success that Market-Garden had. In this short volume Zaloga provides an overview of the US airborne contribution. Several important actions are studied in detail as are the problems faced by the Allied commanders. An excellent addition to anyone's library of WW2 subjects.

Immortalized by the movie *A Bridge Too Far*, the parachute landings of the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions were the first part of an Allied breakthrough attempt. In the late summer of 1944, the First Allied Airborne Army began to plan a complex operation to seize a Rhine River Bridge at Arnhem in the Netherlands. The airborne mission was code-named Operation Market, and the ground assault was designated Garden. The American portion of Operation Market was to employ the two divisions of Gen. Matthew Ridgway's US XVIII Airborne Corps to seize key terrain features that might otherwise delay the advance of British tank columns towards the ultimate objective of the Rhine bridge at Arnhem. The plan envisioned landing the US 101st Airborne Division near Eindhoven to clear a path for the advance of the armored divisions of the British XXX Corps, and to land the 82nd Airborne Division around Nijmegen to seize the Waal river bridges there. In view of the problems experienced in Normandy with night landings, Operation Market was scheduled to take place on the afternoon of September 17th, 1944, with an elaborate tactical air plan to suppress German flak positions. The initial 101st Airborne Division conducted its combined parachute/glider landings on the afternoon of September 17th, 1944, using its three Parachute Infantry Regiments (PIR). The 82nd Airborne Division was dropped further northeast with its three regiments having separate assignments. Overall, the first day's operation was a considerable success compared to the Normandy drops. The Wehrmacht did not anticipate the airborne attack so resistance on the first day was light. The fighting intensified dramatically over the next several days as the Germans attempted to stamp out the landings, attacking the Allied forces on all sides of the salient. The 101st Airborne Division pressed south towards Eindhoven on the morning of September 18th, while the British Guards Armoured Division pressed north. The paratroopers captured the city by early afternoon and linked up with the British tanks in the evening. After quickly bridging the Wilhelmina canal in the dark, the Guards Armoured Division crossed around dawn on September 19th and raced up to the 82nd Airborne Division sector by 0820. Combined British and American attacks to seize the vital Nijmegen bridge were repulsed through September 19th due to the arrival of elements of the 10.SS-Panzer Division from the Arnhem area. But in a bold move, the 82nd Airborne outflanked the defenses on the afternoon of September 20th by using boats to cross a mile downstream from the bridge. Last minute German attempts to detonate the bridge failed, and British tanks were streaming over the bridge that night, heading for Arnhem. Nevertheless, the delays caused by the initial defense at Eindhoven, the need to build a bridge at Son, and the fighting for the bridge at Nijmegen slowed the advance by XXX Corps and put it behind schedule. German resistance against the 1st Airborne Division in Arnhem was far fiercer than anticipated due to the unexpected presence of two Waffen-SS panzer divisions refitting in the area. The positions of the British 1st Airborne Division at Arnhem proved untenable and permission to withdraw was given on September 25th with the action taking place on the night of September 25-26th.

About the Author Steven J. Zaloga received his BA in History from Union College and his MA from Columbia University. He has worked as an analyst in the aerospace industry for over two decades, covering missile systems and the international arms trade, and has served with the Institute for Defense Analyses, a federal think tank. He is the author of numerous books on military technology and military history, with an accent on the US Army in World War II, as well as Russia and the former Soviet Union. The author lives in Abingdon, MD.