

## **Battle Of The Bulge Hitlers Ardennes Offensive 1944 1945**

At a secret meeting on 3 November 1944, Hitler's plan for seizing back the initiative from the advancing Allies was briefed to his commanders. Under the codename Operation Wacht Am Rhein, a massive counter-attack would be launched against the Americans in the Ardennes sector, which was not only the weakest part of the front but also the least likely axis of attack due to the mountainous terrain and the harsh winter weather. Certainly, when it came in December, the German offensive achieved devastating surprise. Those Americans unfortunate enough to bear the brunt of the attack, were thrown into confusion and, in many cases, panic. For a time it looked as though Hitler's last great gamble, known today as the Battle of the Bulge, would pay off sensationally. Sixty years on, these momentous events of the winter of 1944-1945 are recorded in pictorial form in this informative book which portrays the horror of war under the most desperate conditions.

The prizewinning historian and bestselling author of D-Day, Stalingrad, and The Battle of Arnhem reconstructs the Battle of the Bulge in this riveting new account. On December 16, 1944, Hitler launched his 'last gamble' in the snow-covered

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forests and gorges of the Ardennes in Belgium, believing he could split the Allies by driving all the way to Antwerp and forcing the Canadians and the British out of the war. Although his generals were doubtful of success, younger officers and NCOs were desperate to believe that their homes and families could be saved from the vengeful Red Army approaching from the east. Many were exultant at the prospect of striking back. The allies, taken by surprise, found themselves fighting two panzer armies. Belgian civilians abandoned their homes, justifiably afraid of German revenge. Panic spread even to Paris. While some American soldiers, overwhelmed by the German onslaught, fled or surrendered, others held on heroically, creating breakwaters which slowed the German advance. The harsh winter conditions and the savagery of the battle became comparable to the Eastern Front. In fact the Ardennes became the Western Front's counterpart to Stalingrad. There was terrible ferocity on both sides, driven by desperation and revenge, in which the normal rules of combat were breached. The Ardennes—involving more than a million men—would prove to be the battle which finally broke the back of the Wehrmacht. In this deeply researched work, with striking insights into the major players on both sides, Antony Beevor gives us the definitive account of the Ardennes offensive which was to become the greatest battle of World War II.

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In his riveting new book, Steven Zaloga describes how American foot soldiers faced down Hitler's elite armored spearhead--the Hitler Youth Panzer Division--in the snowy Ardennes forest during one of World War II's biggest battles, the Battle of the Bulge. Zaloga carefully reconstructs how American G.I.s stymied Hitler's panzers and grand plans. \*Includes historic pictures of the fighting. \*Includes accounts of the fighting written by common soldiers and important generals. \*Includes pictures of important people, places, and events. \*Includes a bibliography for further reading. "We were across the Saar River in Delling, where the Battle of the Bulge started. That was where Axis Sally told us about the Bulge. The Germans had a loud speaker back in the woods and she was talking on that. They played a few American records first. I don't remember everything she said. She said, 'Your wives and girlfriends are probably home in a nice warm building, dancing with some other men. You're over here in the cold.'" – Dent Wheeler

After the successful amphibious invasion on D-Day in June 1944, the Allies began racing east toward Germany and liberating France along the way. The Allies had landed along a 50 mile stretch of French coast, and despite suffering 8,000 casualties on D-Day, over 100,000 still began the march across the western portion of the continent. By the end of August 1944, the German Army in France was shattered, with

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200,000 killed or wounded and a further 200,000 captured. However, Adolf Hitler reacted to the news of invasion with glee, figuring it would give the Germans a chance to destroy the Allied armies that had water to their backs. As he put it, "The news couldn't be better. We have them where we can destroy them." While that sounds delusional in retrospect, it was Hitler's belief that by splitting the Allied march across Europe in their drive toward Germany, he could cause the collapse of the enemy armies and cut off their supply lines. Part of Hitler's confidence came as a result of underestimating American resolve, but with the Soviets racing toward Berlin from the east, this final offensive would truly be the last gasp of the German war machine, and the month long campaign was fought over a large area of the Ardenne Forest, through France, Belgium and parts of Luxembourg. From an Allied point of view, the operations were commonly referred to as the Ardennes Offensive, while the German code phrase for the operation was Unternehmen Wacht am Rhein ("Operation Watch on the Rhine"), with the initial breakout going under the name of "Operation Mist." Today, Americans know it best as the Battle of the Bulge. Regardless of the term for it, and despite how desperate the Germans were, the Battle of the Bulge was a massive attack against primarily American forces that inflicted an estimated 100,000 American casualties, the worst American

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losses in any battle of the war, However, while the German forces did succeed in bending, and at some points even breaking through Allied lines (thus causing the “bulge” reflected in the moniker), the Germans ultimately failed. As Winston Churchill himself said of the battle, “This is undoubtedly the greatest American battle of the war, and will, I believe be regarded as an ever famous American victory.” After resisting the German attack, the Allied armies began advancing, and with that, the race to Berlin was truly on, with the Allied armies in Western Europe desperate to reach the German capital before Stalin's Soviets could arrive from the east. Less than 2 months after the Battle of the Bulge ended, Allied armies entered Germany, and by early May, Hitler would be dead in his bunker and the war in Europe would be over. The Greatest Battles in History: The Battle of the Bulge comprehensively covers the entire military situation that led up to the battle, analyzes the decisions made by the battle's most important leaders, and explains the aftermath of the Allied victory. Along with a bibliography and pictures of important people and places, you will learn about the Bulge like you never have before, in no time at all.

Based on new research, Hitler's Winter tells the story of the Battle of the Bulge from the German perspective. The Battle of the Bulge was the last major German offensive in the West. Launched in

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the depths of winter to neutralize the overwhelming Allied air superiority, three German armies attacked through the Ardennes, the weakest part of the American lines, with the aim of splitting the Allied armies and seizing the vital port of Antwerp within a week. It was a tall order, as the Panzers had to get across the Our, Amblève, Ourthe and Meuse rivers, and the desperate battle became a race against time and the elements, which the Germans would eventually lose. This new study of the famous battle focuses on the German experience, telling the story from the perspective of the German infantrymen and Panzer crewmen fighting on the ground in the Ardennes, through to the senior commanders such as SS-Oberstgruppenführer Josef 'Sepp' Dietrich and General Hasso von Manteuffel whose operational decisions did so much to decide the fate of the offensive.

In December 1944, desperate to hold out for the new weaponry he expected and shocked by losing the port of Antwerp, Adolf Hitler embarked on an audacious counter-offensive that was intended to drive back the all-conquering Allied forces that had caused Germany to retreat from Normandy to its own borders. It was a foolhardy exercise but it had surprise on its side and for some days the fate of the war in Europe was in the hands of the commanders and men of a few American divisions and some supporting British forces. The Germans got within a

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few miles of their first objective - the River Meuse - but, by then, their own shortcomings had been found out and the Allies had regrouped. This avidly studied battle is given a fresh and all-embracing approach in this 55000 word account of the fluctuating fortunes of the combatants and the role in the action of the leading generals, including Eisenhower, Patton, Montgomery, Model, Dietrich and von Rundstedt. Though Germany was destined for defeat, its industry produced remarkable amounts of weaponry for this offensive and an assortment of troops, many too young or too old, were assembled for Hitler's astonishing but ultimately futile final battlefield venture. The Battle of the Bulge is an example of a short action where almost every military tactic was deployed and is charted on a daily basis here.

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The third book in the 'Voices From' series features incredible first-hand accounts of the Ardennes offensive of December 1944. The Battle of the Bulge was Hitler's last chance to turn back the Allied invasion of France, which had started with D-Day. Hitler's ambitious plans to force two Panzer armies through to take the vital port of Antwerp, separating the British and American forces could have resulted in a second Dunkirk. This would have bought him time to launch a full-scale assault on Britain with his 'miracle weapons'. A wide selection of contemporary voices, from diaries, letters, archives and eye witness accounts from all sides of the battle bring history to life. Collected here are the voices of soldiers, next to the formidable narratives of General Eisenhower, General Montgomery and Adolf Hitler, as well as the recollections of the civilians who stood witness to this piece of history.

The Battle of the Bulge was arguably the most pivotal - and bloodiest - battle of World War II. From the middle of December 1944 to January 25, 1945, more than a million Allied and German troops fought for control of Belgium, France, and Luxembourg. The bitter conflict ended with more than 200,000 dead and wounded on both sides. The German counteroffensive was Adolf Hitler's last gasp, born out of desperation as he came to grips with reports that the Third Reich was losing ground in

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battlefields across Europe. Even in its weakened state, Germany's assault took Allied leaders by surprise. Hitler had correctly calculated that the Allied armies had moved too rapidly: The troops were not only undersupplied but unprepared for a surprise attack. Hitler was betting that a victory would allow Germany to negotiate for peace on its terms. He was almost right. If not for the bravery of American troops, who against all odds held up the German attack – and quick decisions made by General Dwight B. Eisenhower - history may have taken a much different turn. This is the story of World War II's final showdown.

One of World War II's most famous battles recounted from the German point of view Covers Otto Skorzeny, Kampfgruppe Peiper, the siege of Bastogne, and more Includes the story of the hard-hit U.S. 106th Infantry Division and based on unpublished primary sources, including after-action reports and soldiers' memoirs Before dawn on December 16, 1944, German forces rolled through the icy Ardennes in their last major offensive on the Western Front. Catching the Allies--predominantly Americans, in what they believed was a "quiet" sector--by surprise, the Germans made early gains, but Allied counterattacks combined with German fuel shortages and mounting casualties forced the German Army into a retreat from which it never recovered.

When German forces went on the offensive against a thin American front in the Ardennes region, their goals were quite lofty. After four weeks of fighting, they had done little more than create a bulge in the American line

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and dwindle their own forces.

James Arnold describes the planning of the attack and the course of events, including the defense of Bastogne and the heroic delaying actions fought by GIs.

This text examines preparations for the offensive, the progress of the operation and assessments of the Wehrmacht's performance from leading figures in German high command, including a transcription of Hitler's key speech on December 12th, 1944.

Explains the events of the Battle of the Bulge in graphic novel format.

With Nazi-Germany about to crumble and Allied and Soviet forces closing in from all directions, Adolf Hitler ordered his forces into one last, desperate attempt to turn the tide. Sending his most powerful Panzer formations through the Ardennes Forrest and to Antwerp; they caught the understrength and inexperienced American units completely off-guard. What followed was a cataclysmic battle which would go down in history as the costliest ever to be fought by the US military. The fierceness with which both sides fought each other ultimately reached a level previously unseen on the Western Front.

The Battle of the Bulge was the last major German offensive campaign on the Western Front during World War II. It was launched through the densely forested Ardennes region of Wallonia in eastern Belgium, northeast France, and Luxembourg, towards the end of World War II. The furthest west

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the offensive reached was the village of Foy-Nôtre-Dame, south east of Dinant, being stopped by the British 21st Army Group on 24 December 1944. The German offensive was intended to stop Allied use of the Belgian port of Antwerp and to split the Allied lines, allowing the Germans to encircle and destroy four Allied armies and force the Western Allies to negotiate a peace treaty in the Axis powers' favor. Once that was accomplished, the German dictator Adolf Hitler believed he could fully concentrate on the Soviets on the Eastern Front. This book is a compilation of high quality articles from the Internet. A comprehensive, photo-filled account of the six-week-long Battle of the Bulge, when panzers slipped through the forest and took the Allies by surprise. In December 1944, just as World War II appeared to be winding down, Hitler shocked the world with a powerful German counteroffensive that cracked the center of the American front. The attack came through the Ardennes, the hilly and forested area in eastern Belgium and Luxembourg that the Allies had considered a "quiet" sector. Instead, for the second time in the war, the Germans used it as a stealthy avenue of approach for their panzers. Much of US First Army was overrun, and thousands of prisoners were taken as the Germans forged a fifty-mile "bulge" into the Allied front. But in one small town, Bastogne, American paratroopers, together with remnants of tank units, offered dogged resistance.

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Meanwhile, the rest of Eisenhower's "broad front" strategy came to a halt as Patton, from the south, and Hodges, from the north, converged on the enemy incursion. Yet it would take an epic, six-week-long winter battle, the bloodiest in the history of the US Army, before the Germans were finally pushed back. Christer Bergström has interviewed veterans, gone through huge amounts of archive material, and performed on-the-spot research in the area. The result is a large amount of previously unpublished material and new findings, including reevaluations of tank and personnel casualties and the most accurate picture yet of what really transpired from the perspectives of both sides. With nearly four hundred photos, numerous maps, and thirty-two superb color profiles of combat vehicles and aircraft, it provides perhaps the most comprehensive look at the battle yet published.

In this work, The author retraces the fields of the battle in Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany which were once bitterly contested killing grounds in the struggle to halt Hitler's final gambit in the West. The battle touched dozens of towns and villages throughout the Ardennes and each is depicted through the photographer's lens in 1944-45 and exactly 50 years later. Vorwald manages to precisely match the wartime photographs with present-day comparisons, and has striven in many cases to achieve a weather match.

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By late 1944 the Allies were poised to smash the Siegfried Line and break into Germany. Supply lines were shorter thanks to the port of Antwerp. Arnhem aside, there had been a long run of victories and there was no intelligence even from ULTRA to suggest a German counter-offensive. So the major December attack through the mountainous Ardennes by massed Panzers and infantry took the Allies totally by surprise. Fog and low cloud negated the Allies' air supremacy, English-speaking German commandos in captured jeeps created panic and withdrawal of US forces became a near rout with morale all but broken. For ten days the situation worsened and Antwerp was seriously threatened and 21st Army Group in danger of being cut off. Clear skies for the Thunderbolts and coherent counter-attacks by rapidly deployed reinforcements turned the tide in the nick of time, so preventing a catastrophic defeat for the Allies. All this and more is graphically narrated in this fine study of a pivotal battle, that so nearly changed the course of war. The Battle of the Bulge, sometimes known as "Hitler's Last Desperate Gamble", was a massive German offensive beginning in December of 1944. The Allies did not believe such an offensive was possible in the thick forest of the Ardennes region. As a result, the Allies were caught completely off-guard and the German advance created a "bulge" in their lines. German defeat would result from poor

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logistics and Allied resolve. This defeat in the Ardennes would cripple German ability to wage war and seal the end of the Third Reich in May

1945. Instructions included in this volume are:

(Germans) Schwimmwagen, SdKfz 234-2 Puma, Panzer IV L/70, Marder III auf M, Panther Ausf , Messerschmitt Bf-109 ; Kurfurst; (USA) WWII Jeep, WC56 KD Ambulance, GMC CCKW 2 1/2 Ton Cargo Truck, M3A1 Half Track, M18 Hellcat, M36 Jackson, P-51D "Blue Nose" Mustang

This volume is printed on heavy-weight glossy paper with a special lay-flat spiral binding. Also included is a vinyl sticker sheet with vehicle markings, insignia, and uniforms for 17 figures. Each model includes a parts list to help locate all of the parts needed to build your model.

There are also beautiful full-color photographs throughout the book, filled with ideas for displaying your models.

It was the endgame for Hitler's Reich. In the winter of 1944–45, Germany staked everything on its surprise campaign in the Ardennes, the “Battle of the Bulge.” But when American and Allied forces recovered from their initial shock, the German forces were left fighting for their very survival—especially on the Eastern Front, where the Soviet army was intent on matching, or even surpassing, Nazi atrocities. At the mercy of the Fuehrer, who refused to acknowledge reality and forbade German retreats, the Wehrmacht was slowly annihilated in horrific battles that have

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rarely been adequately covered in histories of the Second World War—especially the brutal Soviet siege of Budapest, which became known as the “Stalingrad of the Waffen-SS.” Capping a career that has produced more than forty books, Dr. Samuel W. Mitcham now tells the extraordinary tale of how Hitler’s once-dreaded war machine came to a cataclysmic end, from the Battle of the Bulge in December 1944 to the German surrender in May 1945. Making use of German wartime papers and memoirs—some rarely seen in English-language sources—Mitcham’s sweeping narrative deserves a place on the shelf of every student of World War II. First published in 1992 to rave reviews, Danny Parker's Battle of the Bulge has since become the "standard" history of the battle, praised by historians for its stirring narrative, meticulous research, and its wealth of new information and fresh interpretations. Published now in a new edition, including a photo section with fascinating then-and-now images of the Ardennes area battlefield, this "classic" history of the Battle of the Bulge will be released to coincide with the 60th anniversary of the battle.

Based on a series of fascinating 'What ifs' posed by leading military historians, this compelling new alternate history reconstructs the moments during the Battle of the Bulge which could conceivably have altered the entire course of the Second World War and led to a German victory. Based on real battles, actions and characters, each scenario has been carefully constructed to reveal how at points of decision a different choice or minor incident could have set in motion an entirely new train of events altering history for ever. What if

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the Germans successfully prevented Patton from riding to the rescue at Bastogne? Or if the Allies had suffered a major setback at the Battle of the Bulge which allowed the Red Army to overrun Berlin and drive on to the Rhine? What if Hitler had not launched his massive gambit and, instead, the Allies had progressed with the operations plan they had prior to the Bulge? These are some of the intriguing scenarios played out by leading authors.

Notes on one of the most infamous and bloody battles of World War II—from the German perspective. As the Allied armies swept towards the Reich in late 1944, the German high command embarked on an ambitious plan to gain the initiative on the western front and deal a crippling blow to the Allied war effort. As early as August 1944, when the Germans were being crushed in the east and hammered in Normandy, Hitler was talking of an offensive aimed at destroying as many American and British divisions as possible in a massive surprise assault. By December 1944, Hitler was telling his generals, “the final decisions have been made, everything points to victory.” This volume consists of primary source material, including translations of German documentation and debriefs of German generals, edited by a foremost expert on this decisive campaign. The Battle of the Bulge presents the assessments by leading figures in the German high command, of the preparations for the offensive, the progress of the operation, and the performance of the Wehrmacht. There are accounts of Generaloberst Alfred Jodl, head of the high command of the armed forces; Schramm, the keeper of the Wehrmacht’s war diary, transcripts of two of Hitler’s key speeches to his generals; and much more. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Arcade imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in history--books about World War II, the Third Reich, Hitler and his henchmen, the JFK assassination, conspiracies, the

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American Civil War, the American Revolution, gladiators, Vikings, ancient Rome, medieval times, the old West, and much more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

In December 1944, the German Army launched an attack through the Ardennes Forest in Belgium that aimed to seize the port of Antwerp and cut the Allied supply lines, hoping to force the Western Allies either to delay their advance on Berlin, or even agree a peace settlement. The Battle of the Bulge is a comprehensive history of Hitler's last offensive in the West, the failure of which undoubtedly hastened the end of World War II. The book begins with a study of the background to the battle, and a description of events in the West leading up to the offensive, including the Allied landings in Normandy on D-Day and Operation Market Garden. The lack of Allied readiness for a surprise attack and the tactics used by Otto Skorzeny's commandos are covered in depth. After initial success, the Germans became bogged down in a siege of the crucial communications hub at Bastogne which was defended by the 101st Airborne Division and other scratch US forces. The book describes how the attack lost vital momentum that was compounded when the weather cleared by the superiority of Allied airpower, and the final chapter discusses the far-reaching implications of the battle for the Germans and the Allies. The book's authoritative text is complemented with appendices with information on orders of battle, losses and equipment. [This is a text-only ebook edition.]

Osprey's first title examining the Battle of the Bulge, which was the largest and most costly battle fought by the US Army in World War II (1939-1945). The Ardennes fighting was

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Hitler's last gamble on the Western Front, crippling the Wehrmacht for the remainder of the war. In the first of two volumes on the Ardennes campaign Steven Zaloga details the fighting in the northern sector around St Vith and the Elsenborn Ridge. Sixth Panzer Army, containing the bulk of German Panzer strength, was expected to achieve the breakthrough here. It was the failure around St Vith that forced the Germans to look south towards Bastogne.

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Draws on previously secret sources to detail the decisive World War II battle, from Hitler's inception of a counteroffensive to the American victory

This is the dramatic story of the last great battle of World War II in Europe that sealed Germany's defeat. It is based on the most comprehensive collection of documents and provides detailed backgrounds on all senior American and German commanders.

On December 16, 1944, Hitler launched his last desperate offensive of World War II. It was his final great gamble and later became known as the Battle of the Bulge.

Fought during the frigid winter of 1944-45, the Battle of the Bulge still ranks as the single largest battle ever waged by the US Army. It was also a test: Could this conscript ground force from the Allies defeat the best remaining men and machines that Nazi Germany could produce? In The Battle of the Bulge artist Wayne Vansant takes you into the

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frozen foxholes, haunting forests and devastated villages of the Ardennes in Belgium and Luxembourg. Almost one million soldiers fought in the battle, at the end of which Winston Churchill stated in the House of Commons that the Battle of the Bulge was 'undoubtedly the greatest American battle of the war and will, I believe, be regarded as an ever famous American victory'. The Battle of the Bulge is a true story of American triumph.

While much has been written about the Battle of the Bulge—Hitler's gigantic counteroffensive in the Ardennes Forest—the question of exactly how Germany was able to secretly mass its strategic reserves opposite the U.S. front remains as shrouded in mystery today as it was at the time. In December 1944, the snow-covered Ardennes was so quiet it was termed by Allied planners "the Ghost Front." The U.S. placed its greenest units among the wooded hills, along with combat-shattered units. But beneath trees just miles away, the Germans were stealthily massing two full Panzer armies and 300,000 assault troops. Week after week, Hitler poured the cream of the Wehrmacht into the "quiet" sector, for a surprise attack designed to shatter the American front. And while the Germans were eventually defeated in the Bulge, the preparations for the attack marked a victory for German stealth, deception, and organization. Charles Whiting, one of the best-selling historians of the war, examines how

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the Allies could have anticipated the attack had they not been lulled into a false sense of security. He also delves into the controversy over whether George Patton had received advance word of the offensive but failed to warn the frontline divisions. This question and many others are at last answered in Ghost Front.

In this gripping, unusual volume, insight into the Battle of the Bulge is told through firsthand accounts by German officers. The battle, a major German offensive, caught the allied forces off-guard in Belgium, France, and Luxembourg and, lasting from December 1944–January 1945, had devastating consequences for both sides. There were eighty-nine thousand Americans casualties and between eighty thousand and one hundred thousand German ones. It was the largest and bloodiest battle fought by the Americans during the war—and, yet, in the end, an allied victory. There are Western accounts of the battle, but very little has been told from the German perspective. In Hitler's Ardennes Offensive, acclaimed military historian Danny S. Parker has compiled together accounts by German officials who reveal how they perceived the battle, how they believe Adolf Hitler perceived it, and what, in their opinion, went wrong. The assessments featured include ones from Nazi leaders such as SS-generals Josef Dietrich and SS-Brigadeführer Fritz Krämer, and they are paired with nine rarely seen

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photographs and three maps. The images include a photograph of Josef Dietrich taken by Eva Braun, one of Adolf Hitler pouring over a map, and one of SS grenadiers pausing to enjoy captured American cigarettes. The maps show different parts of the German offensive. The unique volume was created after Parker spent twenty-five years studying World War II and conducting more than two hundred interviews on it. Released ten years ago in a limited print run, it is now, shortly after the seventieth anniversary of the battle, finally back in print.

Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Arcade imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in history--books about World War II, the Third Reich, Hitler and his henchmen, the JFK assassination, conspiracies, the American Civil War, the American Revolution, gladiators, Vikings, ancient Rome, medieval times, the old West, and much more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

The German counterattack against American and British soldiers approaching the German border from the west came as a complete surprise. But the Americans hung on heroically, and, when the smoke cleared, Hitler was finished. This impressive recounting of the Battle of the Bulge provides a

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compelling yet evenhanded treatment of this tide-  
turning event. 42 photos. 22 maps.

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