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ALLIED COMMANDERS OF WORLD WAR II

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Introduction

Several fat volumes would obviously be necessary to do full justice to this subject; what follows is simply a brief review of the careers of some of the more interesting men who achieved high command in 1939–45. The selection is mine, and implies no order of merit. The omission of important figures associated mainly with staff rather than field appointments is deliberate.

A large proportion of luck is involved in military success—the luck to be in the right place at the right time, with the right contacts. Montgomery was only appointed to command 8th Army because the first choice, General Gott, was killed; Bradley, junior to Patton, was given US 1st Army as Eisenhower's choice. Personality also played a distinct rôle. Patton's often irrational actions nearly cost him his career several times; and perhaps if Wavell had been a more forceful character he might have talked Churchill out of the Greek venture of 1941, with all its evil consequences.

Successful generals have all had the ability to establish a rapport with both their staffs and their men; all the commanders considered here had this ability to a greater or lesser extent. Dowding, cut down in his prime by intrigue, has a loyal following to this day among those who served under him. Both Cunningham and Patton were characterised as martinets—but both were adored by their men. The Second World War, unlike the First, fostered the projection of 'characters',

A galaxy of US and British military 'brass' ranged behind their political masters at the Casablanca Conference of January 1943. Among those visible in the front row are Gen. 'Hap' Arnold, Adm. Ernest King, and Gen. George C. Marshall; Adm. Sir Dudley Pound, AM Sir Charles Portal, Gen. Sir Alan Brooke, and Adm. Lord Mountbatten. (US Army/ Personality Picture Library, London)

The new team in the desert, August 1942: Gen. Alexander, C-in-C Middle East, and his field commander, Lt. Gen. Montgomery. (Imperial War Museum/Pers. Pic. Lib.)

thanks to the power of the media. Some generals understood and used the tendency of each army's press corps to boost the image of 'their' general. Montgomery and Patton could both have made a career in show business; but this does not lessen their standing as field commanders.

All armies of the period had their incompetents, but most were weeded out early on. It is no coincidence that the brief campaign in France in 1940 brought to the fore men such as Alexander, Brooke and Montgomery. Some commanders failed, and suffered eclipse; some won great victories, and enjoyed lifelong prestige and rewards; some did their job competently and never attracted the attention they perhaps deserved; and still others, promoted beyond their competence, later served with distinction at a lower level of command—Gen. Ritchie failed in command of 8th Army, but had a fine record as a corps commander in NW Europe.

Historians tend to over-use the term 'genius', which was the more difficult of definition in a war where senior commanders inevitably spent much time simply co-ordinating the work of large specialist staffs, and were always vulnerable to sometimes disastrous political interference. No Second World War commander considered here qualifies as a 'genius' in the sense of a Marlborough or a Napoleon; they were simply good at their jobs. Whether they became household names, or lived out a retirement of decent obscurity writing their memoirs, all the men in this book left some mark on their own times.

That the alliance which they served succeeded at all was due, let it be remembered, to the work, skill and tact of one man—Dwight Eisenhower. In North Africa, Sicily, Italy and NW Europe he juggled tirelessly with the sometimes ferociously competing claims of the allied nations, his subordinate commanders, and the politicians. Whether or not he can be described as a 'great' field commander is irrelevant to a recognition of his enormous contribution towards victory.

The Commanders

in alphabetical order:

Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander (later Earl Alexander of Tunis): 1891–1969

Harold Rupert Leofric George Alexander, third son of Lord Caledon, came from a family of Ulster Protestants with a tradition of military and public service. At Harrow and Sandhurst he emerged as a good all-rounder, but with no discernible streak of brilliance. He was commissioned into the Irish Guards, and his battalion was one of the first to go to France in August 1914. He served throughout the First World War on the Western Front—Ypres, the Somme, Cambrai and Passchendaele—rising to acting lieutenant-colonel. Twice wounded, and awarded the DSO and MC, he survived the ordeal as a fine leader of men with great practical experience. Immediately after the war he was sent first to Poland and then to the Baltic states, where he ended up commanding *Landwehr* troops in Lithuania fighting the Bolsheviks.

Returning in May 1920, he achieved in 1922 the substantive rank of lieutenant-colonel, and led his battalion on its posting to Turkey. He attended the Staff College in 1926 and the Imperial Defence College in 1930, with various staff

posts in between. Given a brigade on the NW Frontier of India in 1934, he fought in two campaigns against the tribes. In October 1937 came promotion to major-general and command of the 1st Division of the Regular army at Aldershot. In the forefront of preparation for war, he took his division to France in September 1939.

After the German break-throughs of May 1940 Alexander brought his units back to the coast with great skill; and it was at Dunkirk that he first became a nationally known figure. Given command of I Corps and left to organise the rearguard on 31 May, he got the remnants of the British forces off the beaches calmly and without panic, and left himself on one of the very last boats. After a further period commanding I Corps in defence of the north-east coast he took over Southern Command in December 1940 with the rank of lieutenant-general. In February 1942 Churchill sent him on a 'forlorn hope'—the retrieval of the situation in Burma. Inevitably, he was involved in a terrible defeat; Rangoon fell, and the scattered British forces were bundled out of Burma towards India in some disarray and under appalling conditions. But Alexander at least succeeded in extricating what was left of the army, and avoiding a further costly and humiliating encirclement and surrender.

Earmarked to command the British forces in the 'Torch' landings in N. Africa, he was sent instead to replace Auchinleck as C-in-C Middle East in the August 1942 purge. In this capacity he was content to remain in the background as the organiser of victory, leaving his Army Commander, Montgomery, to defeat the Axis at Second Alamein. This shunning of personal publicity, which genuinely embarrassed him, was typical of his character.

At the Casablanca Conference of January 1943 Alexander was appointed deputy to Eisenhower to command land forces for the capture of Tunis and the invasion of Sicily. He earned the respect of the Americans in a potentially difficult position, welding their green troops into the Allied framework with tactful diplomacy. He subsequently took the name of Tunis, his greatest victory, as his title.

For the Sicily operation Alexander's title was C-in-C 15th Army Group, with Patton and Montgomery as his Army Commanders. The campaign involved him in bitter inter-allied disputes and argument with naval and air commanders. The main criticism is that the German forces largely escaped to Italy, and that Alexander was not firm enough to bridle Montgomery. In fact there were far too many commanders, and Eisenhower gave no firm direction, leaving his deputy in an invidious position. For operations on the mainland Alexander retained command of his Group; and it was his firmness which saved the Salerno landings when at one stage the Navy was preparing evacuation plans. Although Eisenhower would have preferred him as ground forces commander for 'Overlord', it was thought wiser to leave him in charge in Italy, and he thus became fated to command the 'unknown' front—

Alexander with Gen. L. Truscott at Nettuno in the Anzio bridgehead, March 1944. (Imp. War Mus./Pers. Pic. Lib.)

the costly and frustrating Anzio and Cassino operations, and the eventual capture of Rome on 4 June 1944. Alexander entered the city not as a conqueror but as a sightseer, riding in a jeep.

With his eyes fixed on a rapid advance north with all his forces, and the ultimate capture of Vienna, Alexander was again frustrated by political considerations when seven of his divisions were removed to take part in the 'Anvil' landings in the south of France. He was forced to attack the Gothic Line although outnumbered by the defenders, and failed to break through in winter 1944. In December he was promoted to field marshal and given supreme command in the Mediterranean theatre; in this capacity he presided over the final victory in Italy, as well as becoming involved in Greece and Yugoslavia.

After the war, instead of the expected post of CIGS, he went to Canada for six years as Governor General. Perhaps the least successful period of his career was from March 1952 to October 1954 when he served as Minister of Defence in Churchill's government, and he was replaced at

An informal conference of British X Corps senior commanders shortly before the second battle of Alamein, September 1942. (L to r): Maj. Gen. Briggs, GOC 1st Armoured Division; Lt. Gen. Sir Bernard Freyberg, GOC 2nd New Zealand Division; Maj. Gen. Gatehouse, GOC 10th Armoured Division; Lt. Gen. Lumsden, GOC X Corps; and Maj. Gen. Gardiner, GOC 8th Armoured Division. (Imp. War Mus./ Pers. Pic. Lib.)

his own wish. He spent a happy retirement 15 years.

'Alex' was not a 'great' soldier in the historic sense, and lacked the spark of true genius; b his great merit was his sheer professional co petence and his ability to take orders. Unli some of his contemporaries he was neither a prim donna nor a 'crowd pleaser'. The personal se confidence and tradition of dutiful service i stilled by his aristocratic background were gre strengths; as a leader he inspired genuine dev tion, and his reputation will not be tarnished subsequent criticism.

Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck: 188 1981

Auchinleck is one of those commanders abo whose head a question-mark will always hang was his dismissal from the Middle East comma in summer 1942 justified, or was he unjus treated?

Claude John Eyre Auchinleck was the son an officer, and, typically of his background, educated at Wellington College and Sandhu In 1903 he went to India as a newly-comm sioned second-lieutenant in the 2nd Punjab and from that point his career was to be dominat by India apart from brief excursions elsewhe This ultimately worked to his disadvantage,

Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck photographed in 1942 with the man he replaced as C-in-C Middle East, Gen. Sir Archibald Wavell (right). Within months Auchinleck would suffer the same fate. (Imp. War Mus./Pers. Pic. Lib.)

the British Army tended to look down on the Indian service.

During the First World War he served in Egypt, Aden and Mesopotamia, being awarded the DSO and mentioned in despatches. He reached the temporary rank of brevet lieutenant-colonel in Kurdistan in 1919—a rank not reached again until 1929, when he took over a battalion of the 1st Punjabis. He attended the Staff College at Quetta, and as a bright student had a year at the Imperial Defence College in 1927, subsequently followed by three years as an instructor at Quetta. In 1933 he commanded the Peshawar Brigade in operations on the NW Frontier, where his co-brigadier was the younger Alexander. The successful conclusion of the Mohmand campaign brought him the post of Deputy Chief of Staff in India and, in 1938, command of the Meerut District.

Returning to England after the outbreak of war, he became involved in the Norway débâcle as C-in-C of the forces in the northern part of the country. Once evacuation had been decided upon he attacked Narvik in order to deceive the Germans about Allied intentions, and as a result the subsequent evacuation was successful despite enemy air superiority. Returning home, Auchinleck served under Brooke as GOC Southern Command until being sent back to India in 1941 as Commander-in-Chief—the very pinnacle of an Indian Army officer's career. When rebellion broke out in Iraq in the spring he responded promptly to Churchill's call for reinforcements, earning the Prime Minister's gratitude and erasing the 'black mark' from Norway. In June 1941 he was appointed to replace Wavell as C-in-C Middle East.

He inherited a tangled situation, and his troubles were not slow in coming. He had had no experience of armoured warfare, and was often unfortunate in his choice of subordinates, tending to pick men he had known in India. Churchill's

Senior commanders tend to acquire orders and decorations by virtue of rank; but few Allied commanders wore such impressive evidence of personal gallantry as Lt. Gen. Sir Bernard Freyberg, whose ribbons included a VC and three DSOs. He led the crack 2nd New Zealand Division with great distinction in Greece, Crete, and North Africa, and later commanded a corps in Sicily and Italy. Churchill wrote of him: 'Freyberg is so made that he will fight for King and country with an unconquerable heart anywhere he is ordered and with whatever forces he is given . . . He imparts his own invincible firmness of mind to all around him.' (NZ High Commission/Pers. Pic. Lib.)

'new broom' was soon in trouble with his master: the Prime Minister exerted enormous pressure for an early attack, which Auchinleck resisted strongly. He was not prepared to go into battle until he had built up his forces, and he won Churchill's grudging assent to a delay until November.

For this Operation 'Crusader' Gen. Cunningham was given command of 8th Army. Auchinleck soon impressed his personality on his new command, building high morale. When 'Crusader' started to go badly wrong he relieved Cunningham and personally took command at a critical stage of the battle: Tobruk was relieved, and all thoughts of a retreat to Egypt were shelved. His resolute behaviour earned Churchill's praise; but a theatre command entailed more than leading a field army, and 8th Army was handed over to Gen. Ritchie, a capable officer but inexperienced for such a post.

Again there was massive pressure from Churchill for an early offensive, and again Auchinleck resisted manfully. However, at Gazala in May 1942 an opportunity to defeat Rommel decisively was lost, and again the army began a sorry retreat. Under political pressure Auchinleck made the unwise decision to hold on to Tobruk, although it was impossible to defend for any length of time. The loss of the garrison and stores to Rommel far outweighed the potential nuisance value of the port, which Churchill wanted to retain for prestige reasons. Once again Auchinleck intervened in person, taking over from Ritchie just before the messy battle of Mersa Matruh, too late to hold off defeat. The demoralised army straggled back to the Alamein position, the only force barring Rommel's path to Suez and Persian oilfields. 'The Auk' rallied the troops and led them in person in the July battles along the ridges ('First Alamein') which put paid to Rommel's dreams of capturing Egypt. His victory went unnoticed in England, however, and when Churchill visited Cairo in August Auchinleck was sacked and replaced by the duo of Alexander and Montgomery. The latter took over some of Auchinleck's plans and the army that he had rebuilt at a moment of desperate demoralisation, and with them won Second Alamein. Many of the German commanders reckoned 'the Auk' to be the finest of our desert commanders.

Churchill had the grace to be uncomfortable about his sacking, comparing it to the feeling of 'shooting some magnificent stag'; Auchinleck was offered, but refused, the post of C-in-C Persia and Iraq, and in 1943 returned to his old post of C-in-C India, where his life-long experience of Indian troops was invaluable in the build-up for the final offensive against the Japanese. He remained until the British departure in 1947, being promoted field marshal in 1946, but refusing the peerage he was offered. He lived in retirement in Morocco until the age of 97, and died as this book was going to press. The Western Desert was the grave of many reputations, and after the victory of Second Alamein it was perhaps in-

evitable that the achievements of July 1942 should have been forgotten. Churchill needed a victory, and those who could not provide one—except at the end of a bitter retreat—had to go. But the question mark will always remain.

General of the Army Omar N. Bradley: 1893–1981

Omar Bradley was the longest surviving senior commander who took part in the final defeat of Germany. He died while this book was going to press. His active career outlasted the war, but his fame stems from his command of 12th Army Group in 1944–45—with 1,300,000 men, the largest single formation in US military history. The American component of the Grand Alliance has been summed up thus: 'Eisenhower was the co-ordinator, Bradley the thinker, and Patton the doer'. There is some truth in this, as Bradley was able to judge clearly the wider implications of strategy, though this was sometimes tempered by an inherent timidity.

The son of a Chicago schoolmaster and a seamstress, Omar Nelson Bradley was a classmate of Eisenhower at West Point in 1915. Like 'Ike', he saw no French service in the First World War, and in the reduced peacetime army he had to seek employment where he could, teaching mathematics at a university and West Point. In 1925 he attended the Infantry School with Marshall, and in 1929 the Command and General Staff School.

During the upheaval following the fall of France he commanded successively the 82nd and 28th Divisions in training, but his rise corresponded with Eisenhower's. He was a major-general on the latter's staff in N. Africa in late 1942. When Patton took over II Corps after the Kasserine disaster Bradley became his deputy, later succeeding to command of the corps. He led it in Sicily, hacking through the central massif, a task somewhat overshadowed by the dramatics of Patton and Montgomery. 'Ike' was impressed, however, and it was Bradley rather than Patton who was earmarked for command of US troops in Normandy. He returned to England early in 1944 for the planning of 'Overlord', in which he commanded the US 1st Army under Montgomery for the assault phase. When further American troops took the field he moved up to command the

Bradley and Rear Admiral Kirk visit the Normandy beaches in an LCI on 14 June 1944. (US Navy/Pers. Pic. Lib.)

12th Army Group, becoming Monty's equal under Eisenhower, with the rank of lieutenant-general.

His feelings about Monty were mixed, but as a loyal subordinate Bradley kept them largely to himself. His successful leadership in the landing and exploitation of the beach-head proved his capacity to command large formations. He was perhaps at his best during the Normandy break-out and the pursuit across France, directing his armies and handling the complexities of supply and communications.

It was logistic problems which embroiled Bradley in the 'great argument' that at times threatened the integrity of the alliance. Without losing sight of the ultimate Allied goal, Bradley naturally wanted a fair share of the glory for his armies. The question of supply priorities caused a direct confrontation with Montgomery, of whom Bradley was highly critical in his memoirs. Loyal to Eisenhower, he found himself caught between the Supreme Commander and the strident demands of Patton.

Gen. Henry 'Hap' Arnold commanded the US Army Air Forces in all theatres. An early supporter of US aid to Britain, he travelled to the UK shortly after America's entry into the war and was personally responsible for the development of the US 8th Air Force's daylight strategic bombing offensive. (Northrop Corp./Pers. Pic. Lib.)

The Americans were caught unawares by the Ardennes offensive; at one stage it threatened to split Bradley's forces in two, and to a certain extent he lost control of the situation, hesitating too long before ordering counter-measures. In this emergency 'Ike' gave temporary control of all forces north of the 'Bulge' to Montgomery, including the bulk of the US 1st and 9th Armies—a move bitterly resented by many Americans, including Bradley. The final straw was Monty's subsequent claim of the credit for saving the situation. With victory in the Ardennes Bradley was able to get back to manoeuvring his 35-odd divisions, but was thunderstruck to learn that Simpson's 9th Army was to remain under British command. Moreover, Bradley was to fight his way through the difficult Eiffel area while the hated Montgomery was to make the great sweep to the Ruhr. In fact it was Bradley's troops who were to cross the Rhine first, and to begin the great drive through central Germany and down to the Alps.

Bradley received his long-overdue promotion to general in 1945, and after the war was appointed head of the Veterans' Administration, responsible for the welfare of America's wartime soldiers. This was a task for which he was well suited, as he had a solid reputation as a 'GI's general'. In 1948–49 he was US Army Chief of Staff, and in 1949–53 Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, becoming involved in the Korean War and the MacArthur affair. In 1950 he was promoted General of the Army.

One of Patton's biographers described Bradley as having 'a clockwork mind capable of thorough attention to detail'; others have been less complimentary. Chester Wilmot was critical, judging that he seemed unable to appreciate the importance of concentration and balance: 'He was successful in conducting operations as long as someone else was controlling the battle as a whole.' Beside the flamboyant Patton, his unassuming common sense and his care for his men are clear.

Admiral of the Fleet Sir Andrew Cunningham (later, Viscount Cunningham of Hyndhope): 1883–1963

It is indicative of Cunningham's character that although he was probably Britain's only really great sailor of the Second World War, he is almost unknown to the public.

Of Lowland Scots stock, Cunningham was sent to *Britannia* as a cadet when just 14, and passed out with credit the next year. Certain lifelong characteristics were already becoming evident: the tall, fair-haired young man was pugnacious, and always eager for a scrap. Throughout his career he had the reputation for being a martinet; but although any failure to meet his demanding standards met with ruthless dismissal he was

genuinely loved by his subordinates, without any suggestion of showmanship or currying of favour. He had a puckish sense of humour, and the Nelsonian ability to turn a blind eye to orders he considered ridiculous.

By the time he became a sub-lieutenant in 1903 he had already seen land service in the Boer War as a midshipman. He served in a destroyer, a class of warship with which his name will always be associated; and by the time the First World War broke out he was a senior lieutenant in command of the destroyer HMS *Scorpion*. His first active service was at Gallipoli, where he won his first DSO; his second came for operations with the Dover Patrol, and he was awarded his third in 1919 when serving with Sir Walter Cowan's fleet in the Baltic. Promoted captain in 1920, Cunningham commanded the 6th Destroyer Flotilla in 1922, and subsequently the 1st in the Mediterranean—the sea which was to dominate his career. After attending the Imperial Defence College in 1929 he commanded HMS *Rodney*; promoted rear-admiral in 1932, he was back in the Med as commander of destroyers the following year. Next came spells as Second in Command, Mediterranean Fleet, and as Deputy Chief of Naval Staff. He was never an enthusiast for staff work, but was blessed with the ability to delegate. By the outbreak of war he was an officer who had amassed a wealth of practical experience, and in the handling of ships he had no equal. In May 1939, with the acting rank of admiral, he returned to the Mediterranean as C-in-C. With France knocked out of the war and Italy joining in, he soon had his hands full.

One of his main tasks throughout his period of command was the securing of the sea route to Malta—a task greatly complicated, as were most of his responsibilities, by the air superiority enjoyed by Axis land-based squadrons. He was forced to withdraw the fleet to Alexandria, but even so his warships were subjected to almost continuous bombing whenever they put to sea. Cunningham did not believe in commanding a fleet from shore, however, and was always in the thick of action on the bridge of HMS *Warspite*.

Two actions with which he will always be associated were Taranto and Cape Matapan; coming during the period when Britain was fighting alone, they were invaluable morale-boosters. On the night of 11 November 1940 Swordfish aircraft flown off HMS *Illustrious* successfully attacked the Italian fleet in Taranto harbour, sinking two battleships and damaging another. In March 1941 Cunningham fought a fleet action off Cape Matapan, sinking three cruisers and a number of destroyers and damaging the battleship *Vittorio Veneto*, for total Royal Navy losses of one aircrewman.

Cunningham's responsibilities included support of the army in the desert, and the interception of Axis convoys to that theatre. He was also involved in troop evacuations from Greece and Crete under a sky full of Stukas, which cost him many of his smaller vessels. When he was awarded his KCB he retorted characteristically that he would rather have had three squadrons of Hurricane fighters.

In April 1942 he went to Washington as the

Adm. William F. 'Bull' Halsey, commander of the South Pacific area from October 1942, and one of the leading architects of American victory in that theatre. His great tactical ability in the handling of carrier task forces of the 3rd Fleet made an important contribution to the Solomons campaign, and his advice also proved very valuable in the reconquest of the Philippines. (US Navy/Pers. Pic. Lib.)

Lt. Gen. Frederick 'Boy' Browning was largely responsible for the formation of Britain's airborne forces. Transferred from the Guards armoured training unit in 1941, he used his experience as a glider pilot and his study of German methods to good advantage, with the enthusiastic support of Churchill but against Air Ministry opposition. Within two years he had formed and trained a division of one glider-borne and three parachute brigades. In 1944 he was deputy to the American Gen. Lewis Brereton, commanding 1st Allied Airborne Army; and at the end of the war he served as chief of staff to Mountbatten in the Far East. Here, photographed in May 1944, he wears normal battledress and Guards titles, rather than the specially-tailored jacket he designed for himself; this bore some resemblance to the First World War uniform of the Royal Flying Corps. (Imp. War Mus.)

First Sea Lord's representative on the Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee, a post hardly to his taste, although he was a worthy opponent in negotiation with the redoubtable USN Chief of Staff, Adm. King. In September he was appointed Allied Naval Commander under Eisenhower for the 'Torch' landings, operating first from Gibraltar and then from Algiers; he established excellent co-operation with the Americans, who responded to his straightforward style. In January 1943, aged just 60, he was promoted admiral of the fleet ahead of many officers more senior in service. He planned and co-ordinated the naval side of the Sicily invasion from advanced headquarters in Malta, and on 10 September 1943 his career was crowned when he presided over the surrender of the Italian fleet.

Appointed First Sea Lord in October 1943, Cunningham became, with Brooke and Portal, responsible for the higher direction of the war. Made viscount in 1946, he resigned due to ill health in the same year, but enjoyed a long and happy retirement. One feels that he would have been content with Eisenhower's judgement: 'He was the Nelsonian type of admiral. He believed that ships went to sea to find and destroy the enemy.'

General Sir Miles Dempsey: 1896–1969

Like his fellow army commander Crerar, Dempsey never enjoyed the limelight while serving under Montgomery in 21st Army Group. A highly competent professional soldier rather than a genius, he never became a public figure. Gazetted a second-lieutenant in the Royal Berkshire Regiment in 1915, he was wounded, mentioned in despatches, and won the MC in France. After a period in Iraq he pursued a steady if unspectacular inter-war career, and in 1940 commanded 13th Infantry Brigade in France. He had been one of 'Monty's' students at Staff College, and had found favour. After Alamein he was given XII Corps for the pursuit of Rommel, and led this formation in Sicily and the early stages of the Italian campaign. He was Montgomery's personal choice for command of British 2nd Army in the invasion of Europe, and his chief wrote: 'I had the greatest admiration for Dempsey, whom I had known for many years. He took the 2nd Army right through to the end of the war and amply justified this confidence in his ability and courage.' Dempsey's army fought solidly in Normandy, where it bore the brunt of the battles round Caen and, under Montgomery's guidance, advanced through France and on to the Rhine. After VE-Day Dempsey took over 14th Army from Slim and commanded it during the campaign to liberate Malaya; he subsequently remained in that theatre as C-in-C Allied Land Forces, SE Asia. In 1946 he was promoted general and took over the Middle East command. He

retired the following year, devoting the rest of his life mainly to activities connected with the Turf.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Dowding (later, Baron Dowding of Bentley Priory): 1882–1970

It is rare that a commander has either the opportunity or the talent to forge the weapon which he will ultimately wield in battle. Hugh Dowding is remembered as the victor of the Battle of Britain, and as a man shamefully discarded by his superiors; but it is as important to recall that as the first commander-in-chief of RAF Fighter Command he was instrumental in its very creation in the pre-war years.

Hugh Caswall Tremenheere Dowding came from an academic family, and was a contemporary of Wavell at Winchester. His decision to join the Army Class was apparently taken in order to avoid Greek studies; he passed into the RMA Woolwich in 1899, and spent his early years of service in uneventful overseas postings with the Royal Garrison Artillery. Nevertheless, he gained an early reputation as a rebel against authority and a debunker of military bureaucracy. While at Staff College in 1913 he learned to fly at his own expense; but although he gained his RFC 'wings' in 1914 the 32-year-old captain went back to the Garrison Artillery, apparently as a result of parental pressure. Within a few days of the outbreak of war he was recalled to the junior service.

During the First World War he flew as observer, pilot, squadron commander, commander of a fighter wing, and served in various administrative posts, ending the war as a brigadier. (He later wrote: 'I had served for 13 years as a subaltern, and in less than four years I had become a brigadier-general.') During the latter part of the war he drew upon himself the enmity of Lord Trenchard, 'founding father' of the new RAF, and it was by no means certain that he would receive a permanent commission in the peacetime service; in the event he was retained, serving in various staff posts until 1926 when he went to the Air Ministry as Director of Training. In 1929 he was given command of the home defence fighter group as Air Officer Commanding Inland Area;

Lt. Gen. Brian Horrocks briefs officers of 51st Highland Div. in a ruined Rhineland town, early 1945. His inimitable style made him a popular commander, but the mannerisms of a cheerful English squire did not conceal the fact that he was perhaps Britain's ablest corps commander in the second half of the war. His leadership of XIII Corps at Alam el Halfa and Second Alamein earned him Montgomery's complete trust. He commanded XXX Corps with calm professional skill in the very costly Normandy battles, in the dash across Belgium, in the heartbreaking attempt to relieve Arnhem, and over the Rhine into Germany. (Imp. War Mus.)

and the following year he became Air Council Member for Supply and Research. It was in this period that Dowding was responsible for placing the development contracts for the Hurricane and Spitfire prototypes, and began his long, lonely battle against the Air Ministry hierarchy.

In 1935 the immense workload was split, and Dowding became responsible solely for Research and Development. The following year he took over as AOC of the newly formed Fighter Command, with headquarters at Bentley Priory near Stanmore. In 1937 he was promoted Air Chief Marshal (equivalent to full general), the rank he was to hold for the rest of his life. As AOC he waged a single-handed battle with authority to get the resources he needed to build the organisa-

tion responsible for the air defence of Great Britain. Under his care the whole interlocking structure of radar stations, communications, plotting rooms, control centres and fighter squadrons was welded together into a viable force.

Paradoxically, he was nearly robbed of the chance to command his organisation in war; although promised the appointment, he was passed over as Chief of Air Staff in 1938, and was asked merely to stay on for another few months to complete his work at Fighter Command. In July 1938 he was informed that his services would not be required after June 1939, and a successor was appointed; this decision was later reversed, and he was offered employment until March 1940. His struggle to complete the air defence network was thus carried out under constant threat of dismissal; and even after the outbreak of war the Air Ministry still resisted his demands for the necessary resources. The day before his supposed retirement he was curtly informed that he was to stay on until 14 July 1940.

During the Battle of France he clashed with Churchill, who wished to send further fighter squadrons to France. Dowding pointed out, in terms of courteous but merciless clarity, that this would inevitably destroy Britain's ability to defend herself, for no credible gain. He won the argument, and thus probably saved Britain from German invasion—but at the cost of Churchill's enmity. In July Dowding's service was again extended at the last moment until October, and he thus fought the Battle of Britain with no security of command. The brunt of the fighting was borne by No. 11 Group, covering the South Coast, and No. 12 covering the Midlands and East Anglia, commanded respectively by Sir Keith Park and Sir Trafford Leigh-Mallory. There is no space here to discuss the Battle of Britain except as it affected Dowding. Briefly, a tactical argument blew up about the relative wisdom of sending squadrons into battle individually as soon as possible, and of forming them into larger wings before committing them. Park, whose airfields were much closer to France and were the targets of most German activity, naturally followed the former practice, and was completely loyal to Dowding. It is felt by many that Leigh-Mallory's championing of the 'wing' theory extended to the lengths of working for Dowding's dismissal. After a great deal of background lobbying the victor of the Battle of Britain was sacked on 25 November 1940, to be followed shortly by Park, posted to a training command. Park was later given a fighting command on Malta, but Dowding spent the rest of his service in dead-end postings. He was never promoted to Marshal of the RAF, and his well-deserved peerage came only in 1943. His attempts to publish a book were blocked by the authorities.

Although undoubtedly a thorn in the side of authority, Dowding never opposed for the sake of opposition; he was a master of the common-

Eisenhower visits the 3rd Armored Division on manoeuvres in Britain in February 1944. (US Army/Pers. Pic. Lib.)

'Ike' chats to paratroopers of the US 101st Airborne Division shortly before the troops emplane for the Normandy invasion drops. His 'common touch' never deserted Eisenhower; he enjoyed the company of his troops, identified with them, and always got a good response from them, due to the obvious and simple decency of his character. (US Army/Pers. Pic. Lib.)

sense approach to problems, and this country owes him an incalculable debt. A very human commander, he gained the loyalty and respect of all who worked for him.

General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower (later, 34th President of the United States): 1890–1969

The US Army's most famous soldier was a classic case of the openness of the American system to the poor but talented. This unassuming man, whose boyish grin became one of the best-known faces in the world, was also living proof that 'some are born great, and others have greatness thrust upon them'.

Born in Texas, the third of seven sons in a poor family, he was raised in Abilene, Kansas. He entered West Point in 1911, graduating in 1915. The First World War brought him responsibility, but only in a training capacity; he did not get his hoped-for posting to France. As a temporary lieutenant-colonel in 1918 he was briefly involved with the embryo Tank Corps. Apart from the Command and General Staff School, from which he graduated top of his class, he spent much of the inter-war period in the tropics. From 1933 he served as Chief of Staff under MacArthur, and from 1935 to 1939 he was his military assistant in the Philippines, with the rank of major, regaining his wartime rank in 1936. In 1939 he returned to the USA and briefly commanded an infantry battalion—his only active troop command, as his detractors are eager to point out. At this time Patton, several years his senior, offered him a regiment in his new armoured division. By December 1940, however, he was back on the staff, rising to Chief of Staff of the US 3rd Army and the star of a brigadier-general. At 50 his career had been steady but quite unspectacular.

Shortly after Pearl Harbor Eisenhower was summoned to Washington by Gen. Marshall to serve in the War Plans Division; feeling keenly that he was about to be passed over for active command yet again, he resisted, but to no avail. He found himself in a position of great responsibility, however, working closely with Marshall in planning strategy and American/Allied relations. At this stage Allied planners envisaged an invasion of the Continent in 1942; and when it was decided early in that year that a new commander be appointed for US troops in Britain, Eisenhower was named as US Forces Commander designate on 11 June, with Mark Clark under him in command of US II Corps.

Eisenhower settled in London to plan cross-Channel operations; but with the change of plan which led to the 'Torch' landings in N. Africa he was appointed in August as Allied C-in-C for that operation. (At this stage it was still generally assumed that Marshall would be supreme com-

Mark Clark photographed in December 1943 with Gen. Alphonse Juin. Juin cultivated the image of a hard-headed Gallic peasant, but in fact passed out top of his class at St Cyr. Captured as a divisional commander in 1940, he was repatriated at Pétain's request and offered the Vichy Ministry of War. He refused it, preferring the command of French troops in North Africa. After token resistance to the 'Torch' landings he took his army over to the Allies, and led the French expeditionary force in Italy in 1943–44, where these hardy colonial troops made a great reputation. (Imp. War Mus.)

mander for the main operation against Germany.) 'Ike' thus found himself for the first time in the rôle of bandmaster, forced to reconcile the many conflicting claims and interests of different nationalities and services. His years in staff jobs had given him a distinct awareness of the 'art of the possible', which stood him in good stead. He was, however, an American army officer, not a European politician; and he can hardly be blamed too severely for the difficulties he got into when forced to play a part in the delicate politics of French North Africa. He has been criticised for not exercising tighter leadership over the US forces in Tunisia at this distracting period, and this may have played a part in American setbacks; in the aftermath of Kasserine, however, he displayed a firm grip, ruthlessly purging the inadequate.

Still a peacetime lieutenant-colonel, Eisenhower was promoted temporary general on 11 February 1943. In his first large operation he had been successful, avoiding most of the political pitfalls and integrating his green troops. At the Casablanca Conference he was ordered to prepare for the invasion of Sicily, the greatest combined operation yet attempted. He tended to keep out of the detailed planning work, using his skill as a diplomat to ensure harmony between the services, and leaving Alexander to command the ground forces.

His great moment came at the end of 1943 when he was named as supreme commander for the invasion of Normandy. His rôle in this is comparatively well known, particularly his agonising decision to postpone the actual D-Day. From then until VE-Day he carried on in his quiet, competent way to direct the vast Allied armies, never free from the conflicting opinions of subordinates, allies and politicians, but always commanding loyalty. The main problem was his insistence on a broad-front advance after the Seine had been crossed, which brought him into conflict with both Montgomery and with the Bradley/Patton lobby, each pushing for a narrow corridor of advance for their own commands, with logistic priority. In fact 'Ike's' decision was the only one possible in the political circumstances, given the precarious supply situation. Under the weight of criticism—including that of Brooke—a lesser man would have resigned, or hit back. 'Ike' remained a gentleman, and in his memoirs he stated his case fairly and without recrimination. It was he alone who welded the Grand Alliance together and made final victory possible.

Promoted to General of the Army, he served as commander of the US Zone of Germany, as Supreme Commander Allied Powers in Europe, as US Army Chief of Staff—and, after his retirement from the army in 1952, as President of the United States.

General Courtney H. Hodges: 1887–1966

Like Miles Dempsey (q.v.), it was Hodges's fate to be eclipsed by the erratic brilliance of his more colourful contemporaries—in his case, Patton. Graduating from West Point into the infantry in 1905, he saw service in Pershing's expedition against Pancho Villa in 1916. He fought as a major in the battles of St. Mihiel and the Meuse-Argonne in 1918. His inter-war career was unremarkable but competent, and he reached the rank of brigadier-general in 1940. His first major appointment was to form the US 3rd Army—not at that time earmarked for overseas service. When it was decided to send it to England he was supplanted in command by Patton; his classmate

President Roosevelt photographed on board the USS *Baltimore* in July 1944, flanked by his two great commanders in the Pacific: Gen. Douglas MacArthur, and Adm. Chester Nimitz. Appointed C-in-C Pacific Fleet shortly after Pearl Harbor, and enjoying as area commander responsibility for Marine as well as Navy deployments, Nimitz often acted as a calming mediator between MacArthur and Adm. King. His quiet, strong leadership of the eventually vast US naval forces achieved the virtual destruction of the Japanese fleet by June 1945. (US Navy/Pers. Pic. Lib.)

Eisenhower had him appointed deputy commander of 1st Army, on the understanding that he would take it over when Bradley stepped up to 12th Army Group. Bradley hesitated to use Hodges, who had never before had a field command, when exploitation was possible; he preferred Patton, who naturally grabbed the headlines.

Hodges coped, competently but unremarkably. He operated at a disadvantage in that he was left with too long a front, while Patton and Montgomery made all the running on either side of him. For this reason he failed to bounce through the Siegfried Line and capture Aachen in mid-September 1944. In November 1st Army suffered heavy casualties in the attacks towards the Roer and Jülich. Owing to the length of his front he left the Ardennes sector weakly held, and was taken by surprise in December, although much of the blame must lie with Bradley. Under 'Monty's' command for a period, he then took his army over the Rhine, and it was one of his units which grabbed the Remagen Bridge. In the final phase his army helped mop up the Ruhr Pocket and cleared central Germany. After the war Hodges again disappeared from the limelight, retiring as a general in 1949.

General of the Army Douglas MacArthur: 1880–1964

Egotistical — arrogant — aloof — pretentious: these are some of the characteristics ascribed to MacArthur by his many detractors. They could equally well be applied to several of his contemporaries, however, notably Montgomery, and should not disguise the fact that MacArthur's contribution to victory in the Pacific was a very real one.

Douglas MacArthur graduated top of his class at West Point in 1903, and was posted as a second-lieutenant of Engineers to the Philippines, thus starting a life-long association with that country. In 1905 he was ADC to his father, then the highest ranking officer in the US Army. (Arthur MacArthur was a highly decorated hero of the American Civil War, an extraordinary

reminder of the hectic pace of history during Douglas MacArthur's lifetime.) In 1906–07 he served as an aide to President Theodore Roosevelt; thus, as a young officer, he was already familiar with the atmosphere of rank and power. By 1908 he was a captain, and in 1914 he took part in the Vera Cruz expedition. He went to France in 1917, ending up as acting brigadier-general commanding the 84th Brigade, decorated with the DSM and DSC. This was followed by a period as Superintendent of West Point. By 1930 he had reached the top of the tree, spending the following five years as US Army Chief of Staff with the rank of brevet general. Seconded to the Philippines as Director of the Organisation of National Defence in 1935, he played a central part in creating a Philippine Army, in which he was made field marshal. In 1937 he officially retired from the US Army. Before the USA was bombed into the Second World War MacArthur was therefore a 61-year-old retired officer, at the end of a brilliant career.

He was recalled to active duty in 1941 and appointed to command all US ground forces in the Far East, in his former rank of four-star general. Overwhelmed by the Japanese onslaught on the Philippines, the US and Filipino forces withdrew into the mountainous Bataan Peninsula, where MacArthur at first led their resistance. Late in February he was appointed Supreme Allied Commander, South-West Pacific, and ordered to make his way to Australia. He handed over to Gen. Wainright, leaving the Philippines with the famous pledge: 'I will return'.

The 'island-hopping' campaign brought MacArthur to prominence as a public figure—with the aid of a shrewd press relations organisation. The tall, handsome figure stepping off a landing craft on to the beach of some captured island, puffing on the famous corn-cob pipe, became the accepted public image of America's restored pride in the Pacific. A shrewd observer later remarked that if Patton had served under MacArthur he would have ended up as the unknown soldier! Stripping away the journalistic clichés, however, we are left with the picture of a considerable strategist, who planned his reconquest of the Pacific with great skill, minimising losses and using air and naval power expertly; he was at that time the most effective co-ordinator of combined operations the Allies had, and this at a time when his theatre was so starved of resources that he could justly wise-crack that he was fighting 'the stony-broke war'.

It was by no means an easy campaign; the Japanese forced MacArthur's landing troops to dig them out of every bunker and fox-hole the hard way, no matter what weight of bombs and shells had been poured on to their islands in preparation for the landing. In October 1944 MacArthur fulfilled his pledge by leading his forces back to Leyte in the Philippines; and that December he was promoted to the newly-created rank of five-star 'general of the army'. When the atomic bombs forced Japan to surrender, he invited the newly released Generals Wainright and Percival, captured at Bataan and Singapore respectively, to witness the capitulation ceremony on the deck of the USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay on 2 September 1945.

Once peace had been signed MacArthur spent five years as a proconsul, ruling Japan almost single-handed as Supreme Commander Allied Forces, and playing a major and constructive rôle in the transformation of Japanese society. Despite some early war crimes convictions which are open to question now that the bitterness has healed, he was not a vindictive conqueror.

Towards the end of this period he found himself wearing two hats, being appointed to command UN forces in Korea when the North Koreans invaded the South in June 1950. After early reverses, MacArthur landed troops at Inchon in September; this audacious landing far behind enemy lines was an unqualified success, and their advance was only checked when Chinese troops crossed the border and forced UK troops back beyond the 38th Parallel once again. Early in 1951 MacArthur was ready to begin a counter-offensive, but became involved in a head-on clash with his political masters. President Truman, advised by the cautious Bradley, was against any escalation of the war. MacArthur insisted on a total blockade of Chinese waters, an invasion of the Chinese mainland by Nationalist troops from Formosa, and the bombing of Chinese bases in Manchuria. He expressed his views forcefully and publicly, in a classic case of a general refusing

to accept that operations must be subject to overall political direction. In April 1951 matters reached such a head that Truman was forced to dismiss him. MacArthur returned home not to disgrace, but to a hero's welcome and a cloud of ticker-tape. A political career was considered, but in the event he was never seriously canvassed as a presidential candidate. He made many public appearances, the last being a farewell address at West Point in 1962. He died in Washington two years later.

It is difficult to sum up his extraordinary character and career succinctly. A consummate actor, with great charisma and theatrical flair, he was by no means simply a showman. There was a good deal of justification in his view of himself as a *grand seigneur*; a recent biography aptly terms him 'The American Caesar'. In the end, however, his self-confidence blinded him to the reality of his position as subordinate to the civil power.

Montgomery discusses arrangements for the surrender of Axis forces in Tunisia with the Italian Marshal Messe (left) and Maj. Gen. von Liebenstein. (Imp. War Mus./Pers. Pic. Lib.)

Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery (later, Viscount Montgomery of Alamein): 1887–1978

'Monty' was probably the best-known and certainly the most controversial general Britain has ever produced. A master of public relations, he revelled in being a 'character', and enjoyed sublime self-confidence. He was often downright rude, and nearly always overbearing; but there is no denying his greatness as a soldier in the Cromwellian mould—the Bible in one hand, a sword in the other.

Bernard Law Montgomery was the fourth child of a clergyman who became Bishop of Tasmania. His childhood was spent in Australia under iron maternal discipline, and he grew up tough, wiry, rebellious and determined to excel. Returning to England he won a brilliant sports

reputation at St. Paul's School, but did not particularly shine at Sandhurst. Posted to India in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, his relative poverty, non-smoking, non-drinking, and serious interest in soldiering made him something of an outsider. He served as a platoon commander in France from the very start of the First World War, fighting at Le Cateau in the retreat from Mons and winning a DSO at First Ypres. A severe wound kept him in staff appointments for the rest of the war, which he finished as a temporary lieutenant-colonel, reverting in peacetime to substantive major.

He went to the Staff College in 1920, where he regarded the curriculum as 'all nonsense'. He did not regain his wartime rank until 1934 as an instructor at the Quetta Staff College, where he was in his element, being able at last to expound his philosophy of war. In summer 1937 he commanded an infantry brigade at Portsmouth, quickly turning it into a crack unit. In 1938 he had a division in Palestine, where he operated with impartial ruthlessness against Arab and Jewish terrorists; having no interest in politics, he regarded his job simply as carrying out orders.

He was evacuated home with an illness which might have ended his career, but he bounced back to demand—and receive—the 3rd Division shortly after the outbreak of war. He took it to

Eisenhower—wearing an uncharacteristically flamboyant uniform, apparently with some embarrassment—poses with Montgomery and with his Deputy SCAEF, Air Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, in Normandy shortly after D-Day. A considerable strategist who made a major contribution to the war effort, Tedder had first served alongside 'Ike' in the Mediterranean in 1942, when he was Allied Air Commander. (Imp. War Mus. /Pers. Pic. Lib.)

France and into Belgium, and his conduct during the long retreat to Dunkirk was highly praised by his corps commander, Brooke. Largely as a result of this report he was given V Corps, guarding the threatened south-east coast. He soon put a stop to the digging of fixed defences, emphasising mobile tactics instead. By 1942 Lt. Gen. Montgomery led South-Eastern Command, and was a well-known figure in the Army, either loved or loathed whole-heartedly. He regarded his soldiers as his children and spent more time with his troops than his staff.

In the summer of 1942 the desert army had been driven back to Alamein, and Churchill wanted a new 8th Army commander to stamp out the mood of defeatism. When his first choice, Gen. 'Strafer' Gott, was shot down and killed on 8 August, Montgomery was ordered out to Egypt. At the age of 54 he at last had a chance to practise what he had preached for so long. Within a matter of days he transformed the situation. There was no more talk of retreat. This strange little man came, spoke to the troops, and began to issue orders that were to culminate in the victories of Alam el Halfa and Second Alamein. Recognising the weaknesses as well as the strengths of the desert veterans, he emphasised conventional disciplines and a sense of identity in permanent units and formations. He deliberately made himself a highly visible and talked-about commander, visiting all his units. There is no space here for a detailed discussion of Second Alamein; within four months of his arrival the *Afrika Korps* was decisively beaten and on the run, and his name was a household word. His 8th Army was then involved in clearing the rest of N. Africa in conjunction with Allied forces from Algeria, and subsequently in the invasion of Sicily and Italy. Here he was under Allied command, and did not make the plans himself; perhaps it was as well that he only stayed in that theatre as long as things were going well. Sicily saw the beginnings of his rivalry with Patton.

Shortly after Christmas 1943 he was informed that he would command the ground phase of 'Overlord', the cross-Channel invasion. He was not the automatic choice, and many felt that his abrasive personality would damage Anglo-American co-operation; he was recognised, however, as the supreme morale-builder. At first he tore up the plans and substituted his own, not without opposition. At this stage he was apparently mellowing, being tactful and forbearing in his dealings with Eisenhower and Bradley despite the unfamiliar rôle of being one of the team instead of the captain. His workload in the months before D-Day was hectic, and he made a point of meeting the troops and enthusing them with his will to win.

The details of 'Monty's' career in Normandy and on into Germany need little comment here; they are extensively discussed elsewhere. He fought the land battle in Normandy, and when 'Ike' took personal control of ground forces on 1 September Montgomery was made field-marshal as a consolation. From then until the end of the war he led his Anglo-Canadian 21st Army Group to final victory on the Baltic coast. He was never far removed from controversy, much of which he brought upon himself by his chronic tactlessness. It became increasingly difficult for him to remain one of 'Ike's team', and in the aftermath of the Ardennes he came terribly close to overreaching himself, to the detriment of the Allied cause.

After the war came many rewards; he was Britain's best-known soldier, and in spite of some opposition he was brought back to London as CIGS in 1946. In 1948 he moved to France as Chairman of the Western Union Chiefs of Staff Committee, and served from 1951 to 1958 as deputy under four SHAPE commanders. He remained a semi-public figure all his life. Churchill once said of him: 'In defeat, unthinkable; in victory, insufferable.'

General George S. Patton: 1885–1945

Even more controversial and outrageous than his great rival Montgomery, Patton is remembered after many more illustrious contemporaries have been forgotten. He has been hero-worshipped, condemned as a braggart and martinet, and made the subject of a very popular film. His still-vast fan club maintains that he could have won the war in 1944 if given his head; yet his impetuosity nearly led to his being disgraced on several occasions. Under the surface bluster and foul-mouthed bravado Patton was a highly intelligent,

Surrounded by a positive battery of Tommy guns, George S. Patton (bottom left) goes ashore in Morocco during the 'Torch' landings, 9 November 1942. (US Army/Pers. Pic. Lib.)

sensitive and complex man; and it could never be said of him that he did not back up the bravado with results.

George Smith Patton was born into a wealthy Californian family, and his career after graduating from West Point in 1909 was meteoric. He married a wealthy heiress, and moved in the higher circles of the Army even as a second-lieutenant; he was ADC to the Chief of Staff, and a friend of Secretary of War Stimson; he competed in the pentathlon at the 1912 Olympics; and in 1916 he fought Pancho Villa in Mexico as an aide to Gen. Pershing, revelling in adventures worthy of Hollywood.

He went to France on Pershing's staff in April 1917. Eager for action, he got himself transferred to the Tank Corps—which then existed only on paper—and almost single-handed he set up and trained America's first tank units, gaining in the process a reputation for exaggerated smartness. Promoted temporary lieutenant-colonel in March 1918, he fought with his tanks at St. Mihiel—though most of them broke down, and he spent much of the battle afoot. His single-handed sallies against the enemy brought the first threat of dismissal, but as a full colonel he took part in the Meuse-Argonne offensive, where he was wounded.

Frustrated by official apathy in his post-war attempts to reform the tank units, he rejoined the mounted cavalry in 1920 in the rank of major, which he remained until 1934. Competition in horse shows and a spell at the War College was followed in 1938 by promotion to colonel and command of the 5th Cavalry, an appointment seen as a prelude to honourable retirement. When war broke out in Europe he even tried for a commission in the Canadian Army, but before long Marshall gave him his chance: a brigade in the newly formed 2nd Armored Division. He took over the division and led it to spectacular results in major manoeuvres, and acquired at this time his nickname of 'Old Blood and Guts'—he referred to himself as 'the best goddamn butt-kicker in the US Army'. His men lapped up his fiery and blasphemous pep-talks, and by Pearl

Harbor he had the smartest division in the Army. After a spell in command of a vast desert training area he was told, in July 1942, that he was to be involved in the 'Torch' landings. Initially engaged in planning in Washington, he led the Western Task Force which landed around Casablanca. After his 'conquest' of Morocco he became enmeshed in French colonial politics, an arena for which he was not suited.

After the Kasserine Pass disaster he was sent, on 4 March 1943, to replace Fredendall in command of II Corps, with the considerably junior Bradley as his deputy. Within days he had transformed his shaken command and led it into battle, provoking in the process his first clashes with British officers on Alexander's staff. In April Bradley took over the corps and Patton was involved in planning the Sicily invasion, in which he took part in July in command of US 7th Army. His victory was won at the expense of establishing a rivalry with Montgomery, which was perhaps inevitable between two such volatile personalities, but which showed neither in their best light. At this point Patton damaged his career badly in the famous incident at a field hospital, where he slapped and accused of cowardice a man apparently suffering from combat shock. The press furore cost him an army in Italy, and ultimately command of US forces in Normandy. After a spell in the dog-house he was recalled in January 1944 to take over the US 3rd Army, at that time still in America; as his units arrived piece-meal in the UK they were put through the Patton brand of training, but it was not until 6 July that he arrived in Normandy—to serve under Bradley. By the time 3rd Army officially became operational on 1 August Patton

Patton in 1944 at the height of his success, glorying in his command of what he had turned into a crack tank army. His worst critics could never deny that Patton delivered the goods. Even his flamboyant six-shooters were at least partly for use rather than show: he was an accomplished combat pistol shot, as he had proved the hard way when a young cavalryman in Mexico. (Imp. War Mus.)

Slim, the victor of Burma; only ten years before his brilliant success in 1945, Major Slim had seriously considered resigning his commission due to the hardship of supporting a family on his meagre pay. In the event he decided against this drastic step, and supplemented his income by writing pulp magazine fiction under an assumed name. (Imp. War Mus.)

was already directing the break-out from Avranches.

From then on Patton's advance was hectic; he led from the front, driving his corps and divisional commanders, and leaving detail work to his staff. Displaying his superb talents as a fighting tank general, he swept over the Seine and the Meuse; but on 1 September his army stalled on the Moselle, having outrun its supplies and communications. Patton found himself involved in trench warfare before Metz, something for which he had neither the taste nor the talent. When Metz fell in late November he was caught up in the Ardennes counter-offensive, and the flexibility with which he changed his army's axis to move north against this serious threat is greatly to his credit. It was not until February 1945 that he was able to resume 3rd Army's advance towards the distant Rhine, still suspicious of a SHAEF plot to rob him of the spoils of victory, and still embroiled with his British allies.

On the evening of 22 March he crossed the Rhine, forestalling Montgomery by one day; then began his headlong charge across Germany and into Austria and Czechoslovakia. When the shooting stopped Patton was made Military Governor of Bavaria, a disaster for all concerned. Repeatedly in trouble for employing ex-Nazis, he was finally sacked from command of 3rd Army in a painful interview with 'Ike' on 28 September. On 9 December 1945 the 60-year-old Patton—nominally commanding the 'paper' 15th Army—was fatally injured in a motoring accident near Mannheim. He died on 21 December, and was buried among his men in the Hamm cemetery. A great tactical commander who made a very real contribution to the war effort, he died at the peak of his fame—perhaps mercifully: he would have found it hard to adjust to peace.

Field Marshal Sir William Slim (later, Viscount Slim): 1891–1970

That Bill Slim ever joined the Army at all was pure chance. His middle-class family were unable to contemplate the expense of Sandhurst or the private income required by an Edwardian officer. However, while working in Birmingham he was able to join the university OTC, and in 1914 was a lance-corporal. He obtained one of the first commissions in the Kitchener Army and was gazetted to the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. He was seriously wounded at Gallipoli, and later won an MC in Mesopotamia, where he was wounded again. He managed to obtain one of the small number of Regular commissions offered to temporary officers, and opted for the Indian Army, where he had heard he would be able to live on his pay. After the war he joined the 1/6th Gurkha Rifles, and in 1925 was selected for the Quetta Staff College. Passing out top of his class, he was later seconded to Camberley as an instructor. He returned to England in 1934 as a major, and in 1937 entered the Imperial Defence College. The outbreak of war thus found him with an

above-average theoretical grounding in his profession.

In 1939 he was given 10th Indian Infantry Brigade, training it for operations outside India. He led it in the Sudan in 1940–41 and was wounded a third time. He later commanded 10th Indian Division in Iraq, and was awarded the DSO. In March 1942 he was recalled to India and given command of I Burma Corps during the disastrous retreat. With two ill-equipped and widely scattered divisions he conducted a fighting withdrawal, but was eventually outflanked once too often. He kept morale up, and extricated the remains of his force; in other theatres this defeat might have been fatal to his career, but he had learned a lot from his mistakes and misfortunes. His chance came when he was given command of the newly formed XV Corps, and he at once set about a rigorous training programme to fit his troops to meet the Japanese on equal terms. He instilled offensive spirit, working to overcome the psychological advantage the Japanese had acquired in jungle warfare. The period 1942–43 was not particularly distinguished on the low-priority Burma front, but taught those concerned a lot about jungle fighting, tropical medicine, and the vital aspects of supply and communications in appalling terrain and weather conditions. In October 1943 Slim was appointed commander of the new 14th Army created to take over the eastern frontier of India; in time its members would take a perverse pride in their nickname 'the Forgotten Fourteenth'. The following month Adm. Lord Mountbatten took over as Supreme Allied Commander SE Asia.

Gen. 'Vinegar Joe' Stilwell, the US commander in the China-Burma-India theatre, suffered from being burdened with conflicting responsibilities. He was expected to serve simultaneously as chief of staff to Chiang Kai-shek's Chinese forces; as the politico-military go-between for Chiang and the US government; as Deputy Supreme Allied Commander under Mountbatten; and as field commander of the Chinese formations eventually committed to combat in Burma. He did succeed in bringing Chinese forces up to a standard which allowed them to contribute to Allied victory in Burma, despite the paralysing corruption and inefficiency of Chiang's command echelons. However, when lightly equipped British and American combat units were placed under his command for the fighting around Myitkyina in May 1944, Stilwell's staff displayed such callous ignorance of their sufferings under impossible demands that the morale of these élite combat troops was broken. Stilwell's savage dislike and distrust of his British colleagues did no service to the Allied cause. Eventually he was recalled as a result of Chiang's shabby political manoeuvres, and his dismissal was the subject of a shameful 'cover-up'. The intolerable strains imposed on this dedicated but volatile general undoubtedly contributed to his early death in 1946. (Imp. War Mus.)

Slim's plans to take the offensive in 1944 were to some extent forestalled by the enemy. He resolved to let them attack and waste their strength—which resulted in the punishing but victorious defensive battles of Kohima and Imphal. From July 1944 the initiative passed to 14th Army, and Slim's aim was to turn the Japanese defeat into a rout. Nothing succeeds like success; despite heavy casualties, dreadful weather and impossible terrain, 14th Army had been welded into a cohesive fighting force.

Early in 1945 Slim crossed the Chindwin, and advanced to the Irrawaddy as a pre-requisite for the capture of Rangoon. Mid-February saw bridgeheads established across the Irrawaddy. Correctly interpreting Japanese hopes of drawing him into a long-drawn-out battle in central Burma, Slim outflanked the enemy with such skill that by early April Mandalay had fallen in savage fighting, leaving two Japanese armies cut off for systematic reduction. With only 45 days to go before the onset of the next monsoon he now faced a 350-mile advance to grab the final prize of Rangoon. This was achieved on 2 May by a seaborne assault co-ordinated with a southwards

Wavell (right) confers with his gifted field commander, Lt. Gen. O'Connor, during their victorious campaign against the Italians in N. Africa, January 1941. O'Connor's capture by the Afrika Korps later that year robbed Britain of his talents until the invasion of Europe, where he commanded VIII Corps in 1944. (Imp. War Mus./Pers. Pic. Lib.)

dash overland by five divisions. Slim did not remain to preside over the final destruction of the Japanese forces trapped in Burma, as in June he replaced Gen. Leese as commander of Allied land forces for the reconquest of Malaya.

After the war Slim reaped the honours and rewards of victory, and in 1953–60 he was a highly popular and successful Governor General of Australia.

In many ways the Burma campaign was the triumph of one man—William Joseph Slim. He fought a different kind of war from his contemporaries in the desert and Europe; engaged with an enemy who did not fight by the book, he was talented enough to beat them on their own terms. In many ways the operations in Burma in 1944–45 were a repeat performance of the Japanese advance down the Malayan peninsula in 1941–42, with the Japanese being demoralised and outfought this time. Slim stamped his personality on his army and on the campaign. He was not a 'character'—there is no great store of witty anecdotes; but he was greatly respected and commanded great loyalty. A quiet, composed, and thoroughly professional soldier, he had the strengths of the 'ranker general' when dealing with soldiers under wretched circumstances. He succeeded in mastering the logistic difficulties which bedevil an army fighting in country devoid of normal roads and communications, making skilled use of air supply and improvisation to keep his men moving and supplied even in the rainy season. Slim was a man of absolute integrity, who fully mastered the business of war.

Field Marshal Viscount Wavell: 1883–1950

Historians are deeply divided over Wavell: for some, he was an incompetent who was justly 'kicked upstairs', and for others he was a great general who was unjustly removed after being given impossible tasks. The truth, as always, lies somewhere between these extremes.

The son of a general, Archibald Percival Wavell was educated at Winchester, and passed out of Sandhurst in 1901. As a young officer in the Black Watch he fought in the Boer War and on the Indian frontier. After being wounded in France in 1916 he was sent as a liaison officer to the Caucasus in 1916–17 with a brevet lieutenant-colonelcy. Then came three years with the Egypt Expeditionary Force as a staff officer with XX Corps. His inter-war promotion was fairly rapid: colonel in 1921, major-general in 1933 and lieutenant-general in 1938, with command of a brigade and later a division, and subsequently a posting as GOC Troops in Palestine and Transjordan. The outbreak of war found him in charge of Southern Command, and as one of the Army's most senior soldiers he was sent to Egypt as C-in-C Middle East almost at once.

There he found himself responsible for the defence of nine countries, with the equivalent of three and a half divisions between them. The

collapse of France and Italy's entry into the war faced him with the prospect of operations on several fronts while sadly deficient in resources. The main threats were to Egypt from Italian armies to the west in Libya and to the south in Ethiopia. In a series of brilliant battles starting in December 1940 and ending on 7 February 1941, Gen. O'Connor's small forces annihilated the Italians in Libya. Meanwhile Gen. Cunningham's command, equally outnumbered, marched from Kenya to smash the Italians in Somaliland and Ethiopia, clearing the whole of Italian East Africa by June. These campaigns demonstrate Wavell's strategic skill: weighing up the various threats and resources, he used his forces wisely to defeat the enemy in detail. Had he been left alone to fight the desert campaign he might well have expelled the Italians from N. Africa completely in summer 1940; the Germans would then have been unable to intervene, and enormous British resources could have been used more profitably elsewhere. However, political considerations intervened. Instead of a victorious reputation, disaster awaited him; and he was led to it by the brilliant but mercurial Churchill's preoccupation with the Balkans. Against Wavell's advice the Prime Minister decided to intervene in Greece, thus putting an end to offensive operations in the desert.

In mid-February 1941, as preparations were being made to strip Wavell's desert army for a Greek expedition, Rommel arrived in Africa. By 29 April the Allies had been bundled out of Greece, and the tempo of disaster speeded up. On 5 May the Raschid Ali rebellion broke out in Iraq, drawing Indian troops; and on 20 May the German airborne attack on Crete opened. Shortly afterwards Wavell was ordered to invade Vichy French Syria, at the same time as Churchill was exerting pressure on him to attack Rommel in the desert. The result was the defeat of Operation 'Battleaxe'—the first of many the British were to suffer at Rommel's hands—on 15 June 1941. A week later Wavell was relieved of command and replaced by Auchinleck.

In his two years in the Middle East Wavell had built up from scratch a strong military organisation, and had taken 250,000 prisoners. Frequently fighting three campaigns at once—five, in May 1941—he had avoided total disaster by his strategic sense; the defeats were Churchill's responsibility. Now he was appointed C-in-C India, at the time a non-active command; but in December the Japanese attacks in the Far East began, and he faced an even worse débâcle.

At the Washington Conference Roosevelt pressed for a unified Far East command, and suggested Wavell. On 29 December 1941 he was made Supreme Commander of American, British, Dutch and Australian forces, but it was 15 January before his HQ was established at Bandoeng, Java, and things were already going from bad to worse. Even Churchill realised that Wavell had once more been set an impossible task. He had to juggle a number of fronts with totally inadequate resources. His Java HQ was too far away for him to intervene successfully in Malaya; by the time he persuaded Percival to fortify the north shore of Singapore Island the Japanese were already in Johore. His messages of that period, hovering between optimism and pessimism, suggest that control of events was eluding him; this is not to claim that he could have defeated the Japanese, but if he had taken operational control in Malaya he might well have turned a humiliating collapse into a gallant defence.

With the collapse of his command Wavell returned to India where, the following year, he was made viceroy, field marshal, and viscount. For the rest of the war he was more involved with internal unrest in India than with strategy in the Far East. He remained viceroy until 1947, when he retired and was created Earl Wavell. He died three years later, a much-loved and greatly respected gentleman; unusually in a soldier, he was an artistic and deeply cultured man. He was also a great commander, but one whom the Fates had not treated kindly.

Marshal of the Soviet Union Georgi K. Zhukov: 1896–1974

Zhukov, the victor of Berlin, is the only one of many senior Russian commanders of the Second World War whose name is generally remembered in the West. This ignorance is regrettable, especially when one recalls the relative scale of operations in the West and the East; but it is an ignorance apparently preferred by the Soviets.

Zhukov photographed in 1940, with the rank of General of the Army and the post of Chief of Staff of the Soviet Army. (Novosti)

Zhukov must surely rank as one of the war's greatest commanders of large formations, and it is a pity that his personality is not better known. His memoirs have the inevitable overlay of bombast and propaganda, but still give quite a clear picture of an essentially modest man, justly proud of his rows of medals, and of his part in the destruction of his country's invaders.

After a wretched peasant childhood Zhukov was drafted into the Tsarist cavalry in 1915, apparently surviving the brutal training methods of the day sufficiently unbowed to be selected for NCO training himself. In 1916 he was wounded while serving on the south-eastern front with the 10th Novgorod Dragoons. He was not very active politically, and volunteered for the Red Army only in August 1918. He saw much action, rising to be a junior officer in the 4th Moscow Cavalry by the end of the Civil War. A squadron commander in 1922–23, and briefly a deputy regimental commander, he was promoted to command the 39th Buzulak Cavalry Regiment in late 1923, at the age of 26.

He still lacked theoretical knowledge of his profession, which he had learned in the saddle, and he was sent to the Advanced Cavalry Commanders' Course at Leningrad together with the future Marshal Rokossovsky. He led a brigade in 1929; attended the Higher Commander's Course later that year; moved to Moscow as Assistant Inspector of Cavalry in 1930; and was posted to take over and shake up the run-down 4th Cavalry Division in 1933. At this interesting period of the Red Army's history, when the foundations of mechanisation were being laid down and a general expansion and modernisation of all arms was taking place, Zhukov worked to rehabilitate his division. He succeeded, gaining the Order of Lenin and, in 1937, command of a corps, which involved him in the problems of integrating horsed cavalry and armour. Russian generals of the period had much more experience than their British and American counterparts of handling large formations in peacetime.

After a spell as deputy-commander of a military district Zhukov was sent in summer 1939 to command Russian forces fighting the Japanese in Mongolia. His defeat of the Japanese 6th Army in the Khalkin-Gol campaign brought him the

rank of General of the Army, and the post of C-in-C Kiev Military District. In 1941 he was made Chief of Staff of the Red Army; no 'yes-man', he inevitably suffered from friction with Stalin, and shortly before the German invasion he was relieved at his own request. He was given a kind of roving commission as Stalin's representative at threatened parts of the front, and early in September 1941 he was sent into Leningrad to co-ordinate the defence. The following month he went to the Western Front, and shortly afterwards assumed direct command of the armies facing Germany's advance.

This placed him in the position to win his greatest defensive victory, the battle of Moscow, one of the decisive engagements of the war. When the Germans stalled early in December 1941 Zhukov's armies went over to the offensive, robbing the Wehrmacht of the initiative for the first time. In August 1942 Zhukov was appointed

Marshal Zhukov signs the German instrument of surrender in May 1945. (Novosti)

Gen. Vassili I. Chuikov, the victor of Stalingrad, photographed in a command bunker of his Soviet 62nd Army near the banks of the Volga during the battle. The bandaged hand is a sign of the nervous eczema which plagued Chuikov as the strain of the desperate defence began to tell on his health. (Novosti)

Chuikov (left) examines the rifle of the 'super-sniper' V. G. Zaitsev (right), who was credited with killing 242 Germans during the battle of Stalingrad. (Novosti)

Deputy Supreme Commander of Soviet Armed Forces—in other words, second only to Stalin in the military direction of the war. He was sent to Stalingrad to co-ordinate the battle for the city; and when the counter-attack which he had largely helped to plan was launched he was assigned overall control of the Western and Kalinin Fronts. He continued to act as Stalin's 'fireman' throughout 1943, and was the background director of the successes at Kursk, Orel, Kharkov, the Dnieper crossings and the relief of Kiev. The clearing of the Ukraine and Bulgaria occupied most of 1944.

In November 1944 Zhukov was appointed commander of the 1st Byelorussian Front with the mission of preparing for the final advance to Berlin, and it was his impetus that led those armies to victory in the ruins of the German capital. Appointed C-in-C of the Soviet Occupation Zone, it was Zhukov who signed the final German surrender document as his country's representative. In the post-war years came great rewards; a period in political disgrace; and finally an apparently happy and honoured retirement, and a place in the affections of his countrymen which seems not unlike that enjoyed by the aged Duke of Wellington in his day.

The Plates

Uniform research by Martin Windrow and William Fowler. Although individual orders and medals cannot be listed here for reasons of space, every effort has been made to ensure that the ribbons illustrated are generally correct for the period depicted.

A1: Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Dowding, AOC Royal Air Force Fighter Command; England, summer 1940

'Stuffy' Dowding is shown in absolutely regulation RAF officer's service dress, his SD cap distinguished in this rank by two rows of gold oak-leaves. Sleeve ranking is worn in the form of light blue lace rings on black lace backing. The RAF pilot's brevet is worn on the left breast above the order and medal ribbons.

A2: Admiral Andrew Cunningham, Royal Navy FOC Mediterranean; Alexandria, 1940–41

Cunningham wears immaculate summer 'whites'. The white-topped cap has the gold leaves of this rank on the peak; as in the RAF, the cap badge itself was common to all officer ranks. On the white uniform the normal RN officer's sleeve ranking was replaced by stiff shoulder boards.

For this rank they are of gold lace backed in navy blue, with a crown above a sabre and baton and three rosettes.

A3: General Sir Harold Alexander, C-in-C 15th Army Group; Italy, winter 1944

Never a man to seek personal adulation, the charming 'Alex' was nonetheless something of a dandy, in the tradition of his class. The service dress cap acquired in his hands a dashingly 'slashed' appearance, traditionally a taste which he formed when serving with White Russian officers after the First World War. It is otherwise regulation for this rank; on the red band of a staff colonel or general officer is the general's cap badge in gold on black: a crossed sabre and baton in a wreath surmounted by a crown and a lion. Alexander's uniforms seem to have been usually of the dark khaki favoured by Guards officers. Here he wears battledress blouse, riding breeches and riding boots, with an RAF Irvin flying jacket with added right pocket. Other photos show him wearing pale Bedford cord breeches, and an American flying jacket with off-white fleece. He habitually wore the holster of the 'Sam Browne' set reversed on the left hip from the belt's sword attachments.

Adm. Sir Bertram Ramsey watching ships move out into the Channel for the Normandy invasion, during which he served as C-in-C Allied Naval Forces. Born in 1883, Ramsey passed the Staff College in 1913, and spent much of the First World War with the famous Dover Patrol. As Flag Officer Commanding Dover in 1940 he was largely responsible for the successful rescue of some 338,000 men from the Dunkirk beaches. In 1942 he was C-in-C Eastern Task Force for the 'Torch' landings, and the following year commanded the naval forces which landed 8th Army in Sicily. He was killed in an air crash in January 1945. (Imp. War Mus./Pers. Pic. Lib.)

B1: General Sir Claude Auchinleck, C-in-C Middle East; Libya, 1942

'The Auk' wears a shirtsleeve-and-shorts desert uniform in khaki drill cloth with long socks and suede 'chukka boots'. Metal ranking—a crown and a 'pip' above crossed sabre and baton—is pinned to removable shoulder strap slides, and general's gorget patches are fixed to the collar points. Ribbons are worn on a pin-on bar.

B2: General Sir Archibald Wavell, C-in-C Middle East; Egypt, 1941

The flat shape of Wavell's cap seems to have been characteristic of him. The immaculate tropical service dress, worn over a light khaki shirt and tie, has gilt buttons and buckle. Note the full size gorget patches, with gilt foliage in place of the simple gold 'gimp' on Auchinleck's patches. Gilt ranking is pinned directly to the shoulder straps of the tunic.

B3: General Philippe 'Leclerc' de Hautcloque; Libya, 1942

'Leclerc' was the *nom-de-guerre* adopted by this French cavalry officer when he escaped to England after being wounded and captured in the Battle of France. As organiser of Free French forces in French Equatorial Africa he first came to prominence when he assembled a column of 2,500 volunteers and led them from Chad 1,500 miles across the Sahara to link up with British 8th Army before the Mareth Line. His command

Gen. Leclerc photographed at Antony on 24 August 1944, the day before his tanks entered liberated Paris. He wears a khaki drab French general's service dress képi with three gold stars in a triangle high on the front, a gold and black foliate-pattern chinstrap, and black peak; motorcycle goggles; and the light OD twill US tank overalls, with his stars of rank on a black patch buttoned to the right breast. Another favourite uniform during the Liberation was a US tank windcheater, British battledress trousers, and British web anklets, worn with a KD shirt and tie, this képi, and brown boots.

fought in Tunisia, asking nothing of the British but food, petrol and clothing. With the support of Churchill he was selected to lead a Free French formation in the liberation of France; his 2nd Armoured Division landed at Utah Beach on 30 July 1944, and fought under XV Corps in Patton's 3rd Army with immediate distinction. Leclerc and Patton got on well; both were dashing, audacious, strong-willed cavalrymen, inclined to insubordination. After helping close the Falaise Pocket the 2^{e}DB was shifted to 1st Army, and on 25 August Leclerc's tanks entered Paris to a tumultuous reception. They later fought effectively in the Vosges, liberating Strasbourg, and eventually reaching Berchtesgaden. Leclerc resigned his early command of the French Expeditionary Force in Indo-China over political disagreements; he was killed in an air crash in 1947.

Photographed at the time of his Saharan epic, he wears a battered *képi* with his gold rank stars attached to a sand-khaki cover. Over a tunic, shirt, tie and breeches of sand-khaki French material he wears an old cavalry greatcoat, its cuffs adorned with ranking on black patches, and on its collar the gold foul anchors of France's Colonial troops on black diamonds. The walking-stick appears in most photographs.

C1: Lieutenant-General Mark W. Clark, GOC US 5th Army; Italy, 1944

Mark Wayne Clark was responsible for much of the 'Torch' planning. Given 5th Army for the Salerno landings, he was saved by his friendship with Eisenhower from replacement by Patton when they began to go wrong. He was in trouble again when the Anzio landings stalled in January 1944, but stopped the rot in time. He entered Rome in June 1944 and liberated Florence in August; he afterwards claimed that only the removal of seven of his divisions for the 'Anvil' landings in southern France prevented him beating the Germans out of Italy in 1944. He took over from Alexander as C-in-C 15th Army Group when the latter was promoted; and later served as C-in-C of UN forces in Korea at the end of that war.

He wears a dark OD overseas cap with gold general's piping and the three silver stars of his rank. These are repeated on the collar of the OD wool shirt, which bears the 5th Army's left shoulder patch. OD slacks are tucked into paratroop boots. His standard-issue webbing pistol belt supports the .45 in its russet leather holster, clip pouches, first aid pouch, and what seems to be a compass pouch hanging from right front.

C2: General of Division Wladyslaw Anders, GOC Polish 2nd Corps; Italy, June 1944

Fuller notes on the career of this distinguished Free Polish field commander will be found in Men-at-Arms 117, *The Polish Army 1939–45*. He carries a black British RAC beret with hanging tapes; on the front are the Polish eagle cap badge above the two silver stars and 'zig-zag' of his rank, and beside it the small 'Jerusalem cross'

worn by Poles with service in the Middle East. The Canadian BD blouse is lavishly badged and decorated. On the collar are carmine-piped dark blue patches with the silver eagles of a Polish general. Ranking is repeated on each shoulder strap, and at the top of each sleeve is the silver-on-crimson 'Poland' title. Below this on the left sleeve is the Warsaw mermaid patch of 2nd Corps; on the right, the British 8th Army patch. On the left breast is the metal regimental badge of Polish 12th Lancers; on the right, the Polish Staff College badge. The top row of ribbons is in the form of

Wladyslaw Anders (left), the Polish cavalry officer who led 70,000 Poles from the misery of Soviet prison camps to the Middle East in 1942–43, and into battle in Italy in September 1943. It was his 12th Podolski Lancers who finally raised their flag over the Monte Cassino monastery in May 1944. At right is a signals NCO of the 6th 'Lwow' Rifle Bde., 5th 'Kresowa' Inf. Div. (Imp. War. Mus.)

Lt. Gen. Mark Clark, commanding US 5th Army, goes ashore at Anzio in a PT-boat. He wears shoulder strap ranking and a 5th Army patch on his pale fawn trench coat. (Imp. War Mus.)

the blue Polish wound medal ribbon with eight stars.

Other details to note are the US officer's 'pinks'; the British web belt modified to take suspenders for the Polish holster on the left hip; the characteristic cigarette holder and pocket watch chain; and moccasin-shaped brogues.

C3: Josip Broz 'Tito', spring 1943

The great commander of Yugoslav partisans, and later head of state, never hid his liking for the fine things of life, including fancy uniforms; but he certainly did not indulge himself when fighting in the mountains for his own and his country's life. Photos show a number of different outfits, but this seems to be accurate for the period just before his 'closest call'—the German encirclement of Mt. Durmitor, which nearly trapped the whole of his forces. During the break-out he was wounded and his dog Lux was killed by a German air attack. He wears a khaki sidecap of characteristic national shape, with an enamelled hammer, sickle and star badge. A plain dark grey uniform tunic and leather-reinforced breeches, without insignia of any kind—note odd collar shape—is worn over a buttoned civilian shirt,

Three great British leaders take a light lunch on the banks of the Rhine, 26 March 1945: Prime Minister Winston Churchill; FM Sir Alan Brooke, Chief of the Imperial General Staff; and FM Sir Bernard Montgomery, GOC 21st Army Group. (Imp. War Mus./Pers. Pic. Lib.)

with black top-boots and a brown belt set with added Walther P.38 holster. Note the peculiarly Slavonic cigarette holder!

D1: Lieutenant-General Brian Horrocks, GOC XXX Corps; NW Europe, 1944

An armoured warfare specialist who commanded British XIII Corps at Second Alamein and XXX Corps of British 2nd Army in NW Europe after D-Day, Horrocks was one of 'Monty's' most trusted lieutenants. He was largely responsible for the very rapid advance across Belgium; but was unable to fight his way through to relieve the paratroopers at Arnhem in September, being confined to a narrow corridor defended by unexpectedly heavy enemy forces. After the war this most English of generals became a popular public figure through broadcasting work. He wears a British BD blouse with the collar open and faced khaki, and bearing gorget patches. The XXX Corps patch, a black boar on a white disc on a black square, is worn on both sleeves; characteristically he wears over the blouse a soldier's leather trench-jerkin. Standard BD trousers are confined by web anklets; note brown officers' boots.

D2: Lieutenant-General Henry Crerar, GOC 1st Canadian Army; NW Europe, 1944

An almost unknown figure, Crerar won the DSO on the Western Front with an artillery unit in the First World War. Staff appointments occupied most of his career, and he came to the UK as senior officer of Canadian Military HQ on the outbreak of war. He was Chief of the General Staff in Canada in 1940, but returned to Europe first as a divisional and later as a corps commander as Canadian forces increased. After brief service in Italy he formed 1st Army for the Normandy invasion, and led it in some of the heaviest fighting of the campaign. He wears a general's SD cap, identical to the British Army pattern; and on the shoulder straps of his trench coat, metal ranking above a metal 'Canada' title.

D3: General Sir Bernard Montgomery, GOC 21st Army Group; NW Europe, 1944

'Monty's' fondness for odd uniforms is legend. Here he wears his famous beret with the general officer's and Royal Tank Regiment cap badges. His BD blouse has an opened, faced collar with gorget patches; woven ranking on the shoulder straps; and the 21st Army Group patch on both sleeves. He wears it over a grey pullover and old KD slacks, relics of the desert, and in several photos sports this long scarf of camouflaged parachute silk. He habitually wore a gold watch chain looped between the breast pockets of the blouse.

E1: Lieutenant-General George S. Patton, GOC US 3rd Army; Normandy, summer 1944

The flamboyant 'Blood and Guts', who perhaps loved uniforms more than any other Second World War personality except Göring, wears his

silver stars of rank fixed to a highly polished and varnished helmet liner. His 1944 wool field jacket, shirt, and tie are all in contrasting shades of 'Olive Drab'; he wears them with riding breeches in officer's 'pink', and russet top-boots. The jacket is adorned with gilt buttons, 'US' lapel clips, 3rd Army patches on both sleeves, and service and wound bars on the left forearm; rank stars appear on jacket shoulder straps and shirt collar. A black leather belt with polished brass fittings supports two open-topped holsters for his silver-plated, ivory-handled Colt Peacemakers. A riding crop was often in evidence. Needless to add, this is only one of the combinations of uniform and insignia in which Patton was occasionally photographed.

E2: General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander Allied Expeditionary Force; England, February 1944

Photographed while inspecting the US 3rd Armoured Division during preparation for the Normandy invasion, 'Ike' wears the dark Olive Drab overseas cap, with general's gold piping and the four silver stars of his rank. The short wool overcoat bears the same ranking on shoulder straps partly hidden by the shawl collar; on the sleeves are one ½in. and one 1¼in. black bands, identifying a general officer. The OD wool slacks are worn—for some reason—tucked into British webbing anklets; and 'Ike' sports a pair of yellowish wash-leather gloves.

E3: Lieutenant-General Omar N. Bradley, GOC US 1st Army; Normandy, 1944

'Brad's' homely features and steel-rimmed spectacles are in keeping with his unassuming style, and his plain field uniform is in contrast to the military dandyism of Patton. He wears his rank stars on a helmet liner; the popular 'tanker's jacket' with knitted collar, cuffs and waist, with ranking pinned to the strapless shoulders and a 1st Army patch on the left sleeve; issue OD wool slacks, and strapped field boots.

F1: Major-General Richard Gale, GOC 6th Airborne Division; NW Europe, 1944

Gale spent much of his career in staff appointments, but was highly influential in the formative

'Windy' Gale at his divisional HQ in Normandy, 1944; note the 'Pegasus' flag of British airborne troops. (Imp. War Mus.)

years of British airborne troops. He commanded the first battalion, and subsequently the first brigade of British paratroops; did much background work on this type of operation, including the evolution of RAF liaison; and led 6th Airborne Division into victorious battle in Normandy in June 1944. He filled senior airborne staff appointments during the Arnhem operation and the Rhine crossings; and before his final retirement served both as C-in-C British Rhine Army and Deputy Supreme Commander Europe. A photo shows him wearing this rather eccentric combination of a Denison smock with Bedford cord breeches and ankle boots. The smock has the knitted collar lining popular with senior officers, and a full-length zip. The general officer's cap badge is worn on the maroon paratrooper's beret, and the only other insignia are gorget patches on the BD blouse.

Since Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor (left) spent four years during the 1930s observing Japanese operations in China, and was fluent in Japanese, it is hardly surprising that the US Army employed his talents exclusively in Europe during the Second World War ... After serving as Ridgway's chief of staff Taylor was promoted to command the 101st Airborne Division in February 1944, and jumped with them over Normandy on 6 June and at Eindhoven in September. He was prevented from parachuting to join his men during the siege of Bastogne in the Ardennes, but led them into Germany in 1945. Here, photographed at Brindisi during talks with Marshal Badoglio in October 1943, he wears the Airborne cap insignia. (Imp. War Mus.)

F2: Major-General Matthew B. Ridgway, GOC US 18th Airborne Corps; NW Europe, winter 1944

After a succession of staff appointments Ridgway served first as deputy commander and later as commander of the US 82nd Airborne Division. Badly mauled in the Sicily invasion, the 82nd achieved real fame in Normandy in June 1944 when it was dropped in darkness to secure the areas inland of Utah Beach. Badly scattered in its landings around Ste Mère Eglise, and with most heavy equipment gone astray, the 'All American' Division had to fight for its survival. Under these strained circumstances, and with the Wehrmacht just 400 yards from his CP, Ridgway made his famous signal: 'Short 60 per cent infantry, 90 per cent artillery, combat efficiency excellent.' By 1000 hrs on D-Day his paratroops had successfully linked up with the seaborne invasion units. Given the task of forming an airborne corps in late 1944, Ridgway fought in the Ardennes and at the Rhine crossings. He later commanded US forces in Korea, still wearing the grenade on his webbing that had become his 'trademark'. He was photographed in the Ardennes wearing a steel helmet with painted stars; the light OD jeep coat, with added shoulder straps bearing ranking and what seems to be the green unit commander's slide; OD wool slacks, and jump-boots. His webbing comprises belt, braces, clip pouches, first aid pouch, and canteen carrier, with a holstered .45; to his braces are taped a grenade and a first field dressing.

F3: Major-General James M. Gavin, GOC US 82nd Airborne Division; Holland, September 1944

'Jumping Jim' Gavin, America's youngest general at 37, took over this division from Ridgway after serving as his deputy in Normandy. He led it in

Maj. Gen. James M. Gavin photographed near St Vith on the northern shoulder of the 'Bulge' during the Ardennes fighting of December 1944. Gavin had his first application for parachute training turned down with the comment that he was 'not particularly fitted for this type of duty'. Two years later he was leading his regiment in a night jump over Sicily; and the following year, America's youngest two-star general at 37, he was commander of the 82nd Airborne Division. He led this crack formation in the Nijmegen and Ardennes operations, the breaching of the Siegfried Line and the final advance into Germany. (Imp. War Mus.)

the capture of the Waal and Maas bridges during Operation 'Market-Garden', his energy and effectiveness apparently unimpaired by a cracked vertebra sustained in the drop—an agonising injury. Photographed at Graves during the operation, he wears a uniform distinguishable from that of any private in his division only by the stars on helmet and shoulder strap. A small US quick-identification flag is worn on the right shoulder, and the divisional patch on the left. He wears minimal web equipment, and carries a Garand M1.

G1: Major-General Orde Wingate; Burma, February 1944

From photographs of the Chindit commander taken at 'Broadway', the improvised airfield behind Japanese lines used by two of his three brigades in the second Chindit operation. An eccentric in his dress and kit, as in other things, Wingate wears his battered sun-helmet covered in KD cloth, a faded old jungle green bush jacket, and KD slacks. Gorget patches are worn on the collar, and woven ranking on shoulder strap slides. His '37 pattern webbing equipment consists of belt, braces, brace attachments, compass pouch, canteen, and a small pack slung on his shoulder. He habitually carried the standard .303 SMLE rifle, and here wears a cotton clip bandolier slung round his body.

G2: Lieutenant-General Sir William Slim, GOC 14th Army; Burma, 1944–45

Taken from a well-known colour photo of Bill Slim, in a superbly characteristic aggressive stance. The bush jacket and trousers, originally jungle green, are faded to a nondescript khaki; the jacket is fitted with woven leather half-ball buttons. Ranking is worn on shoulder strap slides in woven form, and gorget patches on the collar. A 14th Army patch is worn on both upper sleeves, and the general officer's cap badge on the paggri of the felt bush hat.

G3: General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Allied Commander SW Pacific; Philippines, January 1945

MacArthur was shrewd enough to understand that a simple uniform with a single touch of

Maj. Gen. Orde Wingate, seen here taking his ease in a C-47 aircraft fitted out for transporting the mules which carried much of the Chindits' heavy equipment in combat, was a self-styled 'boot up the backside of mankind'. He was a visionary and innovative leader of lightly-equipped independent units operating in the enemy's rear, creating the Chindit brigades for operations in Burma by drawing on his past experience of this type of fighting in Palestine and Abyssinia. He was also a neurotic, undisciplined, intense intellectual, a religious fanatic, and a Zionist, who invites comparison with 'Chinese' Gordon and T. E. Lawrence. He was killed in an air crash in March 1944. (Imp. War Mus.)

martial splendour was much more impressive under the circumstances of the Pacific war than an over-decorated effect! He habitually wore starched khaki shirtsleeve uniform enlivened only by his collar ranking, and by his unique uniform cap incorporating the US Army cap badge and the gold foliage of his Filipino field marshal's rank.

H1: Marshal of the Soviet Union Semyon K. Timoshenko, commanding SW Front; winter 1941

After leading Soviet forces in the occupation of parts of Poland in September 1939, Timoshenko

Timoshenko photographed in 1937, with the rank of Army Commander. His efforts to modernise the Red Army when appointed Commissar of Defence were handicapped by the massacre of command talent in Stalin's purges. After the disasters of 1941–42 he was overshadowed by his former subordinate Zhukov. (Novosti)

was posted to the Finnish front. The humiliation of the Red Army in the Winter War led him, as Commissar of Defence, to embark on a swingeing reform of the Soviet armies on the Central Russian Front. Despite his energy the re-organisation was far from complete when Germany attacked in 1941; Timoshenko's 47 divisions were forced back 600 miles, losing 400,000 men. The worst losses were in the south, and Timoshenko was sent to this front to replace Budenny in winter 1941–42. His command was once more pushed into vast retreats by the German southern offensive of 1942. After a period in command in the far north Timoshenko was given, in the aftermath of Stalingrad, overall command of 2nd and 3rd Ukrainian Fronts (equivalent to two army groups), but in fact played little part in the direction of operations.

He wears the general officer's traditional astrakhan *papakha* cap with a general's badge, and a grey *kaftan*; this lacks, according to photographs, the collar piping and cuff detail one would expect from the 1935 regulations, but bears the marshal's sleeve ranking of July 1940 regulations. The collar ranking of the same regulations appears on the coat, and on the khaki December 1935 'French' tunic. The Marshal's Star hangs at the throat. Red-striped blue breeches and black top-boots are worn (see H3).

H2: Marshal of the Soviet Union Konstantin K. Rokossovsky, commanding 1st Byelorussian Front; Ukraine, 1944

Appointed to senior command in the wake of the purges of the 1930s, Rokossovsky earned high praise for his steadfastness in defence of Moscow in late 1941. He later served—under his old comrade Zhukov—in command of the northern pincer of

Rokossovsky as General of the Army, commanding 1st Byelorussian Front in 1944. (Novosti)

the Stalingrad counter-offensive, and at Kursk. In command of the southern army group, the Byelorussian Front, he cleared the Ukraine, reached Poland, and then earned the hatred of many Poles by standing still before Warsaw while the Germans slaughtered the inhabitants during the suppression of the rising Moscow had ordered. In fact Rokossovsky's advance had genuinely run out of impetus at this point; but it is impossible to believe that Stalin was not behind his inactivity. In the last months of the war he swept across northern Poland, captured Danzig, and linked up with the British near Lübeck in May 1945. From 1949 to 1956 he was imposed on the Poles as defence minister; Rokossovsky was in fact of Polish stock.

Here he wears the marshal's daily uniform cap in khaki and red, with the general officer's badge. The black leather coat has marshal's shoulder boards of the January 1943 regulations, and the khaki, gold-piped 'field' collar patches of a general officer. The stand collar of the *Kitel* tunic, piped in red, is visible under the coat.

H3: Marshal of the Soviet Union Georgi K. Zhukov, Deputy Supreme Commander Soviet Armed Forces; Germany, May 1945

Zhukov wears the January 1943 regulation uniform of his rank. The *Kitel* has breast pocket flaps, marshal's shoulder boards, red piping, and the decorations worn by Zhukov at the time of Germany's surrender—many more were soon to be added. The blue breeches, piped and striped red, were worn throughout the war by this rank.

December 1941: Lt. Gen. K. K. Rokossovsky (centre) at the headquarters of the Russian 16th Army, north of the Moskva River. His conduct of bitter defensive battles before Moscow that winter marked Rokossovsky out for rapid advancement under his old comrade Zhukov. (Novosti)

Notes sur les planches en couleur

A1: Uniforme absolument règlementaire pour ce grade. Le même insigne de casquette était porté par les officiers de tous grades, avec des feuilles de chêne sur la visière pour les grades équivalents à celui de général d'armée. **A2:** Ceci s'appliquait aussi aux officiers de la Royal Navy. L'uniforme blanc tropical avait les insignes du rang reportés des manchettes aux plaques d'épaules. **A3:** Sa casquette était remarquable par sa cassure, une habitude contractée à l'epoque où il avait servi avec des officiers Russes Blancs en 1919. Il porte un blouson règlementaire de la Royal Air Force 'Irvin'; notez la position caractéristique de l'étui de revolver.

B1: Simple uniforme de désert—chemise et short—avec les fameuses bottes 'chukka boots'. **B2:** Par contraste, voici une tenue de service tropicale, avec boutons dorés. **B3:** Son vieux manteau de cavalerie porte l'écusson des troupes coloniales, et les etoiles aux manchettes.

C1: Calot avec galon d'or pour un général et les étoiles appropriées au grade, porté avec la chemise vert-olive et les pantalons règlementaires. Grade indiqué sur le col, insigne de la 5th Army sur l'épaule gauche; ceinturon de treillis avec étui de revolver, munitions, sacoche de premier secours et poche pour la boussole. **C2:** Blouson canadien, pantalons américains, béret d'unité de tanks anglais, avec galons et insignes d'unité polonais. **C3:** La préférence très nette de Tito pour les uniformes flamoyants s'est exprimée à partir de 1944; en 1943, dans la montagne, il portait cette simple tenue dont le seul ornement est l'insigne communiste sur le calot.

D1: Casquette de général; 'battledress' anglaise avec l'insigne du 30 Corps sur la manche; gilet de cuir sans manche de soldat. **D2:** Grade indiqué sur les pattes d'épaules de ce 'trench-coat', avec l'insigne 'Canada'. **D3:** Les uniformes hauts en couleur de Montgomery étaient légendaires; il en porte ici une version assez simple: béret de tankiste avec ses deux fameux insignes; blouson de 'battledress'; vieux pantalons de désert; insigne d'épaule du 21st Army Group; foulard en soie de parachute.

E1: La prédilection de Patton pour les uniformes fantaisie est ici manifeste; notez la doublure intérieure très polie du casque, le blouson orné d'insignes en tous genres, et son fameux 'six-guns'. **E2:** 'Ike' porte le manteau court en laine avec les galons noirs de général à la manchette; le calot; et, pour une raison quelconque, des guêtres anglaises. **E3:** Le sobre uniforme de combat de Bradley contraste avec les parures de Patton. Il porte le blouson des tankistes avec seulement les étoiles de son grade et l'insigne de la 1st Army sur l'épaule gauche.

F1: Béret de parachutiste avec l'insigne de général; sarrau de parachutiste 'Denison'; et, curieusement, des culottes de cheval portées avec des bottines. **F2:** 'Jeep-coat', bottes de parachutiste et équipement de toile, y compris la marque personnelle de Ridgway—une grenade attachée a la bretelle. **F3:** Le jeune Gavin est impossible à distinguer des autres soldats de sa division si ce n'est par les étoiles de son casque et à la patte d'epaule.

G1: L'excentrique Wingate portait un simple uniforme tropical avec un casque colonial demodé, un équipement de toile de soldat et un fusil. **G2:** Uniforme tropical règlementaire de général, avec chapeau de brousse décoré d'un insigne de général, et l'insigne de la 14th Army sur chaque manche. **G3:** L'uniforme très dépouillé que MacArthur portait toujours, avec sa casquette particulière portant l'insigne de l'armée américaine et les feuilles de chêne dorées auxquelles il avait droit en tant que maréchal de l'armée Filipino.

H1: Uniforme d'hiver règlementaire de 1935 avec bonnet de fourrure de général (*papakha*), et l'étoile de maréchal en pendant. **H2:** Manteau de cuir avec casquette et plaques suivant les instructions de 1943. **H3:** La tunique '*Kitel*' introduite en 1943, quand les insignes du rang furent enlevés du col et des manchettes pour être placés sur les épaules—une tradition rappellant l'époque tsariste.

Farbtafeln

A1: Vollkommene Vorschriftsuniform für diesen Dienstgrad. Dasselbe Mützenabzeichen wurde von allen Offiziersrängen getragen, mit Eichenlaub auf dem Mützenschirm für den Rang, gleichwertig dem des Armeegenerals. **A2:** Dasselbe galt für die Royal Navy Offiziere. In der weissen Tropenuniform wurde das Abzeichen von den Armelaufschlägen zu den Schulterklappen versetzt. **A3:** Seine Mütze war bekannt fur deren 'zerknitterte' Form, eine Angewohnheit, die er sich aneignete als er mit den weissrussischen Offizieren in 1919 diente. Er trägt eine Royal Air Force Ausgabe 'Irvin' Fliegerjacke; bemerke die charakteristische Position der Pistolentasche.

B1: Einfache Wustenuniform, bestehend aus Hemd und Shorts, mit den beliebten wildledernen 'chukka boots'. **B2:** Im Gegensatz dazu, perfekte tropische Dienstausgehuniform mit vergoldeten Knöpfen und Rangabzeichen. **B3:** Sein alter Kavalleriemantel trägt das hinzugefügte Kragenabzeichen der Kolonialtruppen und sein Rangabzeichen an den Armelaufschlägen.

C1: 'Overseas cap' (Feldmütze) mit Goldpaspelierung für einen General sowie Rangabzeichensterne, mit olivgrünem Hemd und Hosen getragen. Rangabzeichen am Kragen, das Abzeichen der US 5. Armee auf der linken Schulter; gewebter Leinengürtel mit Pistolentasche, Munitions- und Erste Hilfebeutel, Kompassbeutel. **C2:** Kanadisches Blouson, US Hosen, Baskenmütze britischer Panzertruppen, mit polnischem Rang- und Einheitsabzeichen. **C3:** Titos Liebe zu auffälligen Uniformen wurde von 1944 an bemerkt; in den Bergen im Jahr 1943 trug er dieses einfache Kostüm, nur mit dem kommunistischen Mützenabzeichen geschmückt.

D1: Schirmmütze des Generals; britischer battledress mit Rangabzeichen und Abzeichen des 30 Corps am Armel; lederne ärmellose Weste des Soldaten. **D2:** Rangabzeichen an den Schulterklappen des 'trench coat', mit 'Kanada' Abzeichen. **D3:** Montgomery's farbenfrohe Uniformen waren legendär; hier trägt er eine ziemlich einfache Version: Baskenmütze der Panzertruppen mit seinen zwei berühmten Abzeichen; battledress Blouson; alte Wüstenuniformhosen; Schulterabzeichen der 21st Army Group; Schal aus Fallschirmseide.

E1: Pattons Liebe für ausgefallene Uniformen ist hier demonstriert; bemerke das hochpolierte innere Helmfutter, Blouson, geschmückt mit jedem nur möglichen Abzeichen und seine wohlbekannten 'six-guns'. **E2:** 'Ike' trägt den kurzen Übermantel aus Wolle mit den schwarzen Armelaufschlagstreifen eines Generals; die 'overseas cap' und, aus irgendeinem Grund, britische Gasmaschen. **E3:** Die einfache Kampfuniform Bradleys kontrastiert mit Pattons Staat. Er trägt die Windjacke der Panzertruppen nur mit seinem Rangstern und dem Abzeichen der 1. Armee auf der linken Schulter.

F1: Baskenmütze der Fallschirmjäger mit dem Abzeichen der Generalsmütze; 'Denison' Fallschirmkittel; und—exzentrisch genug—Reithosen aus Kammgarnstoff mit kurzen Knöchelstiefeln. **F2:** 'Jeep-coat', Fallschirmjägerstiefel und Gürtelzeugausrüstung, einschliesslich Ridgways 'Warenzeichen'—eine Handgranate vorne an der Schulter angebracht. **F3:** Der jugendliche Gavin unerkennbar von jedem anderen Soldat seiner Division, ausser an seinen Rangsternen am Helm und Schulterklappen.

G1: Der exzentrische Wingate trug sehr einfache Tropenuniform mit dem altmodischen Sonnenhelm, das Gürtelzeug eines Soldaten und ein Gewehr. **G2:** Reguläre Tropenuniform für einen General, mit dem Dschungelhut, geschmückt mit einem Generalsmützenabzeichen und dem Abzeichen der 14th Army auf jedem Armel. **G3:** Die sehr einfache, immer von Mac Arthur getragene Uniform, mit seiner speziellen Schirmmütze, die das Schirmmützenabzeichen der US Armee trägt, und das goldene Eichenlaub, zu dem er als Feldmarschall der Filipino Armee berechtigt war.

H1: Winteruniform nach den Bestimmungen von 1935, mit der Generals papakha (Vlieshut) und die 'Marschallsstern'-Auszeichnung am Hals Hängend. **H2:** Persönlicher Ledermantel, mit Mütze und Rangabzeichen nach den Bestimmungen von 1943. **H3:** Der Kitel Uniformrock, eingeführt im Jahr 1943, als die Rangabzeichen vom Kragen und den Armelaufschlägen zu den traditionellen Schulterklappen nach zaristischem Muster versetzt wurden.

Continued from back cover

160 Nap's Guard Infantry (2)
44 Nap's German Allies (1)
43 Nap's German Allies (2)
90 Nap's German Allies (3)
106 Nap's German Allies (4)
122 Nap's German Allies (5)
199 Nap's Specialist Troops
211 Nap's Overseas Army
227 Nap's Sea Soldiers
88 Nap's Italian Troops
176 Austrian Army (1): Infantry
181 Austrian Army (2): Cavalry
223 Austrian Specialist Troops
152 Prussian Line Infantry
149 Prussian Light Infantry
192 Prussian Reserve & Irregulars
162 Prussian Cavalry 1792-1807
172 Prussian Cavalry 1807-15
185 Russian Army (1): Infantry
189 Russian Army (2): Cavalry
84 Wellington's Generals
114 Wellington's Infantry (1)
119 Wellington's Infantry (2)
253 Wellington's Highlanders
126 Wellington's Light Cavalry
130 Wellington's Heavy Cavalry
204 Wellington's Specialist Troops
167 Brunswick Troops 1809-15
98 Dutch-Belgian Troops
206 Hanoverian Army 1792-1816
226 The American War 1812-14
96 Artillery Equipments
77 Flags of the Nap Wars (1)
78 Flags of the Nap Wars (2)
115 Flags of the Nap Wars (3)

19TH CENTURY

232 Bolivar and San Martin
281 US Dragoons 1833-35
173 Alamo & Texan War 1835-6
56 Mexican-American War 1846-8
272 The Mexican Adventure 1861-67
63 American-Indian Wars 1860-90
170 American Civil War Armies:
(1): Confederate
177 (2): Union
179 (3): Staff, Specialists, Maritime
190 (4): State Troops
207 (5): Volunteer Militia
37 Army of Northern Virginia
38 Army of the Potomac
252 Flags of the American Civil War
(1): Confederate
258 (2): Union
265 (3): State & Volunteer
163 American Plains Indians
186 The Apaches
168 US Cavalry 1850-90
275 The Taiping Rebellion 1851-66
241 Russian Army of the Crimean War
193 British Army on Campaign
(1): 1816-1853
196 (2): The Crimea 1854-56
198 (3): 1857-81
201 (4): 1882-1902
212 Victoria's Enemies
(1): Southern Africa
215 (2): Northern Africa
219 (3): India
224 (4): Asia
249 Canadian Campaigns 1860-70
67 The Indian Mutiny
268 British Troops in the
Indian Mutiny 1857-59
91 Bengal Cavalry Regiments
92 Indian Infantry Regiments
233 French Army 1870-71 (1)
237 French Army 1870-71 (2)
277 The Russo-Turkish War 1877
57 The Zulu War
59 Sudan Campaigns 1881-98
230 US Army 1890-1920
95 The Boxer Rebellion

THE WORLD WARS

80 The German Army 1914-18
81 The British Army 1914-18
245 British Territorial Units 1914-18
269 The Ottoman Army 1914-18
208 Lawrence and the Arab Revolts
182 British Battle Insignia:
(1) 1914-18
187 (2) 1939-45
74 The Spanish Civil War
117 The Polish Army 1939-45
112 British Battledress 1937-61
120 Allied Commanders of WW2
225 The Royal Air Force
70 US Army 1941-45
216 The Red Army 1941-45
246 The Romanian Army
220 The SA 1921-45
24 The Panzer Divisions
266 The Allgemeine SS
34 The Waffen SS
229 Luftwaffe Field Divisions
124 German Commanders of WW2
213 German MP Units
139 German Airborne Troops
131 Germany's E. Front Allies
103 Germany's Spanish Volunteers
147 Wehrmacht Foreign Volunteers
254 Wehrmacht Auxiliary Forces
238 Allied Foreign Volunteers
142 Partisan Warfare 1941-45
169 Resistance Warfare 1940-45
282 Axis Forces in Yugoslavia 1941-45
270 Flags of the Third Reich
(1) Wehrmacht
274 (2) Waffen-SS
278 (3) Party & Police Units

MODERN WARFARE

132 Malayan Campaign 1948-60
174 The Korean War 1950-53
116 The Special Air Service
156 The Royal Marines 1956-84
133 Battle for the Falklands
(1): Land Forces
134 (2): Naval Forces
135 (3): Air Forces
250 Argentine Forces in the Falklands
127 Israeli Army 1948-73
128 Arab Armies (1): 1948-73
194 Arab Armies (2): 1973-88
165 Armies in Lebanon 1982-84
104 Vietnam War Armies 1962-75
143 Vietnam War Armies (2)
209 War in Cambodia 1970-75
217 War in Laos 1960-75
183 Modern African Wars
(1): Rhodesia 1965-80
202 (2): Angola & Mozambique
242 (3): South-West Africa
159 Grenada 1983
178 Russia's War in Afghanistan
221 Central American Wars

GENERAL

65 The Royal Navy
107 British Infantry, Equipts (1)
108 British Infantry, Equipts (2)
138 British Cavalry Equipts
72 The Northwest Frontier
214 US Infantry Equipts
205 US Army Combat Equipts
234 German Combat Equipts
157 Flak Jackets
123 Australian Army 1899-1975
164 Canadian Army at War
161 Spanish Foreign Legion
197 Royal Canadian Mounted Police

1. ACM Sir Hugh Dowding, AOC RAF Fighter Command; 1940
2. Adm. Cunningham, RN FOC Mediterranean; 1940-41
3. Gen. Sir Harold Alexander, C-in-C 15th Army Gp.; 1944

A

1. Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck, C-in-C Middle East; 1942
2. Gen. Sir Archibald Wavell, C-in-C Middle East; 1941
3. Gen. 'Leclerc', 1942

B

1. Lt. Gen. Mark Clark, GOC US 5th Army; 1944
2. Gen. Anders, GOC Polish 2nd Corps; 1944
3. Josip Broz 'Tito', 1943

C

1. Lt. Gen. Brian Horrocks, GOC XXX Corps; 1944
2. Lt. Gen. Crerar, GOC 1st Canadian Army; 1944
3. Gen. Sir Bernard Montgomery, C-in-C 21st Army Gp.; 1944

D

1. Lt. Gen. George Patton, GOC US 3rd Army; 1944
2. Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, SCAEF; 1944
3. Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley, GOC US 1st Army; 1944

1. Maj. Gen. Gale, GOC 6th Airborne Div.; 1944
2. Maj. Gen. Ridgway, GOC US 18th Airborne Corps; 1944
3. Maj. Gen. Gavin. GOC US 82nd Airborne Div.; 1944

F

1. Maj. Gen. Orde Wingate, 1944
2. Lt. Gen. Sir William Slim, GOC, 14th Army; 1945
3. Gen. of the Army Douglas MacArthur, SAC SW Pacific; 1945

G

H

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THE ANCIENT WORLD

218 Ancient Chinese Armies
109 Ancient Middle East
137 The Scythians 700-300 B.C.
69 Greek & Persian Wars 500-323 B.C.
148 Army of Alexander the Great
121 Carthaginian Wars
46 Roman Army:
(1): Caesar-Trajan
93 (2): Hadrian-Constantine
129 Rome's Enemies:
(1): Germanics & Dacians
158 (2): Gallic & British Celts
175 (3): Parthians & Sassanids
180 (4): Spain 218 B.C.-19 B.C.
243 (5): The Desert Frontier

THE MEDIEVAL WORLD

247 Romano-Byzantine Armies 4th-9th C.
154 Arthur & Anglo-Saxon Wars
255 Armies of the Muslim Conquest
125 Armies of Islam, 7th-11th C.
150 The Age of Charlemagne
89 Byzantine Armies 886-1118
85 Saxon, Viking & Norman
231 French Medieval Armies 1000-1300
75 Armies of the Crusades
171 Saladin & the Saracens
155 Knights of Christ
200 El Cid & Reconquista 1050-1492
105 The Mongols
222 The Age of Tamerlane
251 Medieval Chinese Armies
50 Medieval European Armies
151 Scots & Welsh Wars
94 The Swiss 1300-1500
136 Italian Armies 1300-1500
166 German Armies 1300-1500
195 Hungary & E. Europe 1000-1568
259 The Mamluks 1250-1517
140 Ottoman Turks 1300-1774
210 Venetian Empire 1200-1670
111 Armies of Crécy and Poitiers
144 Medieval Burgundy 1364-1477
113 Armies of Agincourt
145 Wars of the Roses
99 Medieval Heraldry

16TH AND 17TH CENTURIES

256 The Irish Wars 1485-1603
191 Henry VIII's Army
38 The Landsknechts
101 The Conquistadores
263 Mughul India 1504-1761
235 Gustavus Adolphus (1): Infantry
262 Gustavus Adolphus (2): Cavalry
14 English Civil War Armies
110 New Model Army 1645-60
203 Louis XIV's Army
267 The British Army 1660-1704
97 Marlborough's Army
86 Samurai Armies 1550-1615
184 Polish Armies 1569-1696 (1)
188 Polish Armies 1569-1696 (2)
279 The Border Reivers

18TH CENTURY

261 18th Century Highlanders
260 Peter the Great's Army (1): Infantry
264 Peter the Great's Army (2): Cavalry
118 Jacobite Rebellions
236 Frederick the Great (1)
240 Frederick the Great (2)
248 Frederick the Great (3)
271 Austrian Army 1740-80 (1)
276 Austrian Army 1740-80 (2)
280 Austrian Army 1740-80 (3)
48 Wolfe's Army
228 American Woodland Indians
39 British Army in N. America
244 French in Amer. War Ind.
273 General Washington's Army (1): 1775-1778

NAPOLEONIC PERIOD

257 Napoleon's Campaigns in Italy
79 Napoleon's Egyptian Campaign
87 Napoleon's Marshals
64 Nap's Cuirassiers & Carabiniers
55 Nap's Dragoons & Lancers
68 Nap's Line Chasseurs
76 Nap's Hussars
83 Nap's Guard Cavalry
141 Nap's Line Infantry
146 Nap's Light Infantry
153 Nap's Guard Infantry (1)

Title list continued on inside back cover

Please note that for space reasons abbreviated titles are given above; when ordering, please quote the title number, e.g 'W3 Viking Hersir', etc.

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