



Railway Guns

United States Department of the Army



Railway Guns:

Railway Guns of World War II Steven J. Zaloga, 2016-02-25 World War II marked the zenith of railway gun development. Although many of the railway guns deployed at the start of the conflict were of World War I vintage, Germany's ambitious development programme saw the introduction of a number of new classes including the world's largest the 80cm calibre *Schwerer Gustav* and *Schwerer Dora* guns which weighed in at 1 350 tons and fired a huge 7 ton shell. This book provides an overview of the types of railway guns in service during World War II with a special focus on the German railway artillery used in France, Italy and on the Eastern Front and analyzes why railway guns largely disappeared from use following the end of the war.

Railway Guns of World War I Marc Romanych, Greg Heuer, 2017-08-24 World War I was the Golden Age of the railway gun. Even though at the start of the conflict none of the armies possessed any railway artillery pieces and the very idea was comparatively new, more railway guns were used during this war than in any other conflict. Designed to break the stalemate of trench warfare, the first railway guns were simple improvised designs made by mounting surplus coastal defence fortress and naval guns onto existing commercial railway carriages. As the war dragged on, railway artillery development shifted to longer range guns that could shell targets deep behind enemy lines. This change of role brought much larger and more sophisticated guns, often manufactured by mounting long barrel naval guns to specially designed railway carriages. This book details the design and development of railway guns during World War I from the very first basic designs to massive purpose built monster railway guns. Accompanying the text are many rare, never before published photographs and colour illustrations depicting how these weapons were used during World War I.

Railway Guns John Goodwin, 2016-08-30 In the nineteenth century the War Office showed little interest in developing large heavy artillery for its land forces, preferring instead to equip its warships with the biggest guns. Private initiatives to mount a gun on a railway truck pulled by a steam engine were demonstrated before military chiefs in the Southern Counties but not taken up. However the development of longer range guns weighing up to 250 tons to smash through the massive armies and trench systems on the Western Front in 1916 led to a rethink. The only way to move these monsters about quickly in countryside thick with mud was to mount them on specially built railway trucks towed by locomotives. The railway guns were to be put on little used country lines where they could fire on beaches, road junctions and harbors. The locations and cooperation given by the independent railway companies is explained as are the difficulties of using the same lines for war and civilian traffic. The First World War also saw the emergence of large training camps for railway men. When the war ended most railway guns were dismantled and lost in ordnance depots. The Army Council was uncertain about artillery needs in a future war so training and development stopped. This book largely concentrates on the realities of the time: the type of gun, the locomotives, artillery targets, locations and what it was like when firing took place. It is fully illustrated with pictures, maps and plans covering different aspects of railway guns, their locomotives and equipment.

Railway Guns of World War II Steven J. Zaloga, 2016-02-25 World War II marked the

zenith of railway gun development Although many of the railway guns deployed at the start of the conflict were of World War I vintage Germany's ambitious development programme saw the introduction of a number of new classes including the world's largest the 80cm calibre *Schwerer Gustav* and *Schwerer Dora* guns which weighed in at 1 350 tons and fired a huge 7 ton shell This book provides an overview of the types of railway guns in service during World War II with a special focus on the German railway artillery used in France Italy and on the Eastern Front and analyzes why railway guns largely disappeared from use following the end of the war *Great War Railwaymen* Jeremy Higgins,2015-09-03 The railways were intrinsic to fighting the First World War whether at home or abroad On the Western Front and beyond trains ferried men and supplies to and from the front on a staggering scale ensuring that the war machine functioned without pause Back in Britain the railway network shipped millions of tonnes of war material from the factories to the ports becoming the lifeblood of the war effort *Great War Railwaymen* details this incredible achievement exploring not only the vast infrastructure but also those who operated it Despite the importance of the railways many of those involved in the industry went off to fight in the mud and trenches on the world's oceans or in the skies above war torn Europe Between them they were awarded 2500 Military medals 44 Distinguished Conduct Medals 27 Military Crosses and 6 Victoria Crosses This is their story Meticulously researched and lovingly produced Jeremy Higgins narrates the fascinating stories of over a thousand of these men vividly capturing their wartime experiences and pressing home the vital importance of the railways and those that ran them to the Allied victory in the First World War *California's Railway Guns* Charles S. Small,1984 **Journal of the United States Artillery** ,1922

World War I Spencer C. Tucker,2014-10-28 Offering exhaustive coverage detailed analyses and the latest historical interpretations of events this expansive five volume encyclopedia is the most comprehensive and detailed reference source on the First World War available today One hundred years after the beginning of World War I in 1914 this conflict still stands as perhaps the most important event of the 20th century World War I toppled all of the existing empires at the time transformed the Middle East and vaulted the United States to becoming the world's leading economic power Its effects were profound and lasting and included outcomes that led to World War II This multivolume encyclopedia provides a wide ranging examination of World War I that covers all of the important battles key individuals both civilian and military weapons and technologies and diplomatic social political cultural military and economic developments Suitable as a reference tool for high school and undergraduate students as well as faculty members and graduate level researchers *World War I The Definitive Encyclopedia and Document Collection* offers accessible in depth information and up to date analyses in a format that lends itself to quick and easy use The set comprises alphabetically arranged cross referenced entries accompanied by further reading selections as well as a comprehensive bibliography A fifth volume provides chronologically arranged documents and an A Z index *Railway Artillery* United States. Army. Ordnance Department,1921 **German Guns of the Third Reich** Ian Baxter,2007-10-06 *German Guns of the Third Reich* is an illustrated record of German light and heavy artillery heavy

mortars anti tank and anti aircraft guns at war Using previously unpublished photographs many of which have come from the albums of individuals who took part in the war it presents a unique visual account of the various German guns that were deployed for action between 1939 and 1945 The book analyses the development of the German gun at war and shows how it became of decisive importance for the preparation and the successful conduct of attack and defense It describes how German forces carefully built up their assault forces utilizing all available guns and making into an effective killing machine It shows how various Panzerjäger and Panzergrenadier units fought on the battlefield using a host of antitank guns with lethal effect Throughout the book it depicts life as a gunner how the guns were deployed for action and illustrates the various modes of transport that were used to move the guns from one battle front to another Each chapter details the various guns that went into production and eventually saw action on the battlefield *The Concise Encyclopedia of World War II* Cathal J.

Nolan,2010-04-22 A comprehensive and integrated military political and strategic history of World War II ranging from the daily life of conscripts and civilians to operational and strategic decision making at the highest levels Filled with up to date scholarship yet supremely manageable and accessible The Concise Encyclopedia of World War II offers the opportunity to explore a conflict that remains a source of fascination for scholars students and general readers alike From the battlefields to the corridors of power from the barracks to the home front The Concise Encyclopedia of World War II provides a complete portrait of the war Entries not only address major battles and campaigns but political economic and cultural issues as well plus brief portraits of the conflict's commanding personalities Its global perspective notably corrects the usual Western focus of World War II studies incorporating a wealth of information on often underreported topics such as the Eastern Front and the Sino Japanese War

World War II German Super-Heavy Siege Guns Marc Romanych,Martin Rupp,2020-07-23 As the outbreak of World War II approached Nazi Germany ordered artillery manufacturers Krupp and Rheinmetall Borsig to build several super heavy siege guns vital to smash through French and Belgian fortresses that stood in the way of the Blitzkrieg These secret weapons were much larger than the siege artillery of World War I and included the largest artillery piece of the war the massive 80cm railway gun schwere Gustav Heavy Gustav However these complex and massive artillery pieces required years to build and test and as war drew near the German High Command hastily brought several WWI era heavy artillery pieces back into service and then purchased and later confiscated a large number of Czech Skoda mortars The new super siege guns began entering service in time for the invasion of Russia notably participating in the attack on the fortress of Brest Litovsk The highpoint for the siege artillery was the siege of Sevastopol in the summer of 1942 which saw the largest concentration of siege guns in the war Afterwards when Germany was on the defensive in the second half of 1943 the utility of the guns was greatly diminished and they were employed in a piecemeal and sporadic fashion on both the Eastern and Western Fronts In total the German Army used some 50 siege guns during World War II far more than the thirty five it had during World War I Supported by contemporary photographs and detailed artwork of the guns and their

components this is an essential guide to these guns exploring their history development and deployment in stunning detail

Railway and Locomotive Engineering ,1919 **German Artillery of World War Two** Ian V. Hogg,2013-10-12 The best reference there is to this day about the guns and ammunition used by the German armed forces in WW2 Military Modelling The complete story of German artillery during World War Two this illustrated volume is divided into sections according to the weapon classes Infantry Mountain and Field Artillery Heavy Field Artillery Heavy Artillery Railway Artillery Anti Aircraft Artillery Anti Tank Artillery Coastal Artillery and Recoilless Artillery German Artillery of World War Two also contains details of the general organization of the German artillery arm together with development histories of the weapons and their ammunition In addition the book contains a series of comprehensive data tables and appendices including a glossary of technical terms The first edition of this book published over twenty years ago is highly sought after by collectors and enthusiasts today This new edition brings an enduring classic to a new generation of readers A classic on modern artillery by Ian V Hogg this volume is well established and must be regarded as a standard reference work on the subject Gun Mart This is both a valuable reference book and an absorbing read British Army Review **World War II in Europe** David T. Zabecki,2015-05-01 World War II defined the 20th century and shaped many events from the decolonization of Africa to the rise and fall of the Berlin Wall This encyclopedia offers a focused overview of this complex and volatile era the circumstances that led up to war the underlying causes its unfolding and consequences Organized for quick and precise access More than 1300 entries by 150 experts are arranged in six sections for easy reference and consultation All the key ideas events actions weapons individuals and organizations that played vital roles in the war are covered from the Axis Pact to the Arab League from the OSS to the Africa Korps from the Chetniks to the Jedburghs from the battle of Kursk to Operation Mincemeat from Bill Donovan to Otto Skorzeny from Gestapo to SMERSH from Georgi Zhukov to Jean Leclerc from the 88 gun to the Norden Bombsight Covers important neglected subjects The Encyclopedia puts special emphasis on the often neglected operations in Eastern Europe and Russia A key section inspects and rates all the major weapons with handy tables for easy comparison And in recognition of the first large scale participation of women in the war the volume thoroughly documents their individual and unit contributions to the Allied effort Finally the encyclopedia discusses battlefield realities that explain for example why the airborne drops at Normandy succeeded and the ones at Arnheim failed A bibliography glossary maps photographs and weapons and data tables enhance the coverage Also includes 16 maps

Official Proceedings of the New York Railroad Club New York Railroad Club,1922 **Fortress America** J.E. Kaufmann,H.W. Kaufmann,2004-12-13 A comprehensive account of North American fortifications and defense structures from colonial times to the twentieth century supplemented by scores of remarkable photographs technical drawings maps and diagrams book jacket **Hearings** United States. Congress. House. Committee on Appropriations,1931 **War Department Appropriation Bill for 1932** United States. Congress. House. Committee on Appropriations,1930

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