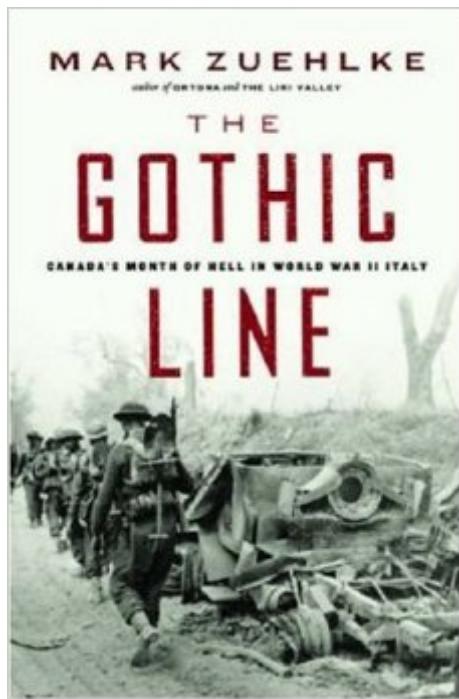


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The Gothic Line: Canada's Month Of Hell In World War II Italy



Synopsis

Stretching like an armor-toothed belt across Italy's upper thigh, the Gothic Line was the most fortified position the German army had yet thrown into the Allied forces' path. On August 25, 1944, it fell to Canadian troops to spearhead a major offensive: to rip through that fiercely defended line. This gripping chronicle tells, through the eyes of the soldiers who fought there, of the twenty-eight-day clash that ultimately ended in glory for the Canadians.

Book Information

Hardcover: 400 pages

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Customer Reviews

I enjoyed all three books (Ortona, Liri Valley being the others) in the series, however there are some sloppy errors such as referring to the Carleton and York Regiment as "English-speaking Nova

Scotians" (pg. 232) when the regiment was from New Brunswick (In Ortona, pg. 363, Zuehlke even states that the regiment "hailed from New Brunswick"). Another occurs on pg.182 where talking about Cape Breton Highlanders Private Alphonse Hickey "of Whitney Pier, New Brunswick".

Whitney Pier is a neighbourhood in Sydney, Nova Scotia. In Liri Valley there are numerous references to ".75 millimetre" and ".88 millimetre" guns. Overall, I enjoyed the books and would recommend them, as I think they give a fairly comprehensive look at the major Canadian operations in Italy, which is what I wanted when I bought them.

Another good, solid book by Mark Zuehlke. Like the two other books in this series, it consists in a mix between anecdotes and factual research, which makes for a pleasing read. However, "Ortona" was slightly better than this one. By the last 100 pages, it gets tiresome to read endless combat

reports at platoon or company level - no matter how well written they are. Still, I highly recommend the book and salute Mr. Zuehlke for his overall GREAT work.

This is another outstanding read about Canadian efforts during the Italy campaign. All the books in this series explain the plan and the effects in a way that makes you extremely proud of the efforts of our young men, and the wonder of how anyone survived not only the defence by the German soldiers, but the plans of the officers calling the shots. What is really wonderful is, that as you are reading along all of a sudden you are reading about someone you know from your community or that you have heard about, like Sgt. Fred Cederberg.

Another great history completed by Mark Zuehlke. As always, very readable and understandable. It flows well and the chapters are short so you can read it fast. I have enjoyed reading all of his work and will continue to do so.

I have not yet read this book. I am trying to read the Zuehlke books on WWII in chronological order.

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