Commandos: The Making of America's Secret Forces

Commandos: The Making Of America's Secrets



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Commandos are the elite of the elite. They are the men and women who are called upon to carry out the most dangerous and sensitive missions. From the early days of the Revolutionary War to the present day, commandos have played a vital role in American history. This book tells their story, from the daring raids of Rogers' Rangers to the covert operations of the modern era.

The Early Years

The first American commandos were Rogers' Rangers, a group of frontiersmen who fought in the French and Indian War. Rogers' Rangers were known for their daring raids and their ability to operate behind enemy lines. They were the precursors to the modern-day Army Rangers and the Green Berets. During the American Revolution, commandos played a vital role in the war effort. They conducted raids on British supply lines and outposts, and they helped to gather intelligence. One of the most famous commando raids of the war was the raid on Fort Ticonderoga in 1775. This raid was led by Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold, and it helped to secure control of Lake Champlain for the Americans.

The Civil War

During the Civil War, commandos were used by both the Union and the Confederacy. Union commandos conducted raids on Confederate supply lines and outposts, and they also helped to gather intelligence. Confederate commandos carried out similar missions, and they were also used to disrupt Union troop movements.

One of the most famous commando raids of the Civil War was the raid on St. Albans, Vermont in 1864. This raid was led by Confederate cavalryman John Hunt Morgan, and it resulted in the capture of a large amount of Union supplies.

The 20th Century

In the 20th century, commandos continued to play a vital role in American military operations. During World War II, commandos were used to conduct raids on enemy territory, to gather intelligence, and to rescue downed pilots. One of the most famous commando raids of the war was the raid on Dieppe in 1942. This raid was a disaster, but it provided valuable lessons that were used in later commando operations.

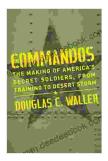
During the Cold War, commandos were used to conduct covert operations against the Soviet Union and its allies. These operations included spying,

sabotage, and assassination. One of the most famous commando operations of the Cold War was the Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961. This invasion was a failure, but it highlighted the importance of commandos in modern warfare.

The 21st Century

In the 21st century, commandos continue to play a vital role in American military operations. They have been used in the War on Terror to conduct raids against terrorist targets, to gather intelligence, and to train foreign forces. One of the most famous commando raids of the War on Terror was the raid on Osama bin Laden's compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan in 2011. This raid was a success, and it resulted in the death of bin Laden.

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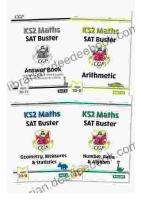


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by Vicky Osterweil

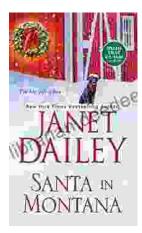
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