

The Defence Of Duffers Drift A Few Experiences In Field Defence For Detached Posts Which May Prove Useful In Our Next War

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KELLEY MARTINEZ

Quick Training for War Presidio Press

Ernest Dunlop Swinton is a military professional with experience in the Boer War who wrote this famous short book based on a series of thoughts he had on how an infantry unit with only 50 men could defend a river crossing. Through the perspective of a young Lieutenant, you are given the terrain features, the political situation, conflict with civilians and limits on your own military support. There is a brief history of the war with the "Dutch" and then your Lieutenant receives his assignment. With the use of maps, there are six scenarios of the Lieutenants approach to defending the crossing (drift). Each scenario is acted out and with each of the first five scenarios there are several lessons learned such as the effect of enfilading fire, the limitations of a simple trench, the use of the military crest versus being located on top of the hill, the effect the local sympathetic population may have on aiding guerrilla fighters, the effect of surprise, disguising your defense from view, proper posting of sentries and responsibilities, how to combat artillery, dealing with multiple directions of attack, using the terrain to advantage and on. As the Lieutenant in each scenario learns from his mistakes, he alters the outcome to his advantage but only incrementally. Only at the end and sixth scenario does he get it right but with realistic loss. The same map is introduced in each scenario with defense features matching the new defensive tactics. "The Defence of Duffer's Drift" is a fascinating book for all interested in basic infantry tactics, which has been used as a training manual for militaries worldwide. This is a very readable book that can be read in less than 2 hours time. Applicable to any war but this book would be interesting to read with an account of Rappahannock Station, which was a spearhead position held by Confederates in advance of Lee's line on November 7, 1863 where Meade's forces overwhelmed the defenders and took almost 3,000 prisoners. Duffer's Drift would be very applicable in that situation.

The Defence of Duffer's Drift. A Few Experiences in Field Defence for Detached Posts which May Prove Useful in Our Next War. By "Backsight Forethought." Reprinted from the *United Service Magazine* Stackpole Books

Following the bestselling novels *The Left Hand of God* and *The Last Four Things* comes the final installment of Paul Hoffman's stark, epic trilogy. Thomas Cale has been running from the truth.... Since discovering that his brutal military training has been for one purpose—to destroy God's greatest mistake,

mankind itself—Cale has been hunted by the very man who made him into the Angel of Death: Pope Redeemer Bosco. Cale is a paradox: arrogant and innocent, generous and pitiless. Feared and revered by those who created him, he has already used his breathtaking talent for violence and destruction to bring down the most powerful civilization in the world. But Thomas Cale's soul is dying. As his body is racked with convulsions, he knows that the final judgment will not wait. As the day of reckoning draws close, Cale's sense of vengeance leads him back to the heart of darkness—the Sanctuary—and to confront the person he hates most in the world....

The Defence of Duffers Drift Penguin

Following the invasion of Iraq in 2003 the U.S. military found itself in a battle with a lethal and adaptive insurgency, where the divisions between enemy and ally were ambiguous at best, and working with the local population was essential for day-to-day survival. From the lessons they learned during multiple tours of duty in Iraq, two American veterans have penned *The Defense of Jisr al-Doreaa*, an instructional parable of counterinsurgency that addresses the myriad of difficulties associated with war in the postmodern era. In this tactical primer based on the military classic *The Defence of Duffer's Drift*, a young officer deployed for the first time in Iraq receives ground-level lessons about urban combat, communications technology, and high-powered weaponry in an environment where policy meets reality. Over the course of six dreams, the inexperienced soldier fights the same battle again and again, learning each time—the hard way—which false assumptions and misconceptions he needs to discard in order to help his men avoid being killed or captured. As the protagonist struggles with his missions and grapples with the consequences of his mistakes, he develops a keen understanding of counterinsurgency fundamentals and the potential pitfalls of working with the native population. Accompanied here by the original novella that inspired it, *The Defense of Jisr al-Doreaa* offers an invaluable resource for cadets and junior military leaders seeking to master counterinsurgency warfare—as well as general readers seeking a deeper understanding of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Just as its predecessor has been a hallmark of military instruction, *The Defense of Jisr al-Doreaa* will draw the road map for counterinsurgency in the postmodern world. Visit a website for the book here: www.defenseofJAD.com

The Defence of Duffer's Drift CreateSpace

"Any fool can get into a hole."-Old Chinese proverb. "If left to you, for defence make spades."-Bridge Maxim. I felt lonely, and not a little sad, as I stood on the bank of the river near Duffer's Drift and watched the red dust haze, raised by the southward departing column in the distance, turn slowly into gold as it hung

in the afternoon sunlight. It was just three o'clock, and here I was on the banks of the Silliaasvogel river, left behind by my column with a party of fifty N.C.O.'s and men to hold the drift. It was an important ford, because it was the only one across which wheeled traffic could pass for some miles up or down the river.

The Defence of Duffer's Drift Merchant Books

A classic in small unit tactics in the British and U.S. Army, this book is recommended by the Commandant of the U.S. Army Infantry School "for the modern professional soldier." It is a thoroughly enjoyable read--witty, suspenseful AND instructive. The "hero" is Lieutenant Backsight Forethought (BF to his friends), who has been left in command of a 50-man reinforced platoon to hold Duffer's Drift, the only ford on the Silliaasvogel River available to wheeled traffic. Here is his chance for fame and glory. He has passed his officer courses and special qualifications. "Now if they had given me a job," says BF, "like fighting the Battle of Waterloo, or Gettysburg or Bull Run, I knew all about that, as I had crammed it up..." While BF's task appears simple enough, the Boer enemy causes a multitude of problems, which he (and you as you follow his predicaments) needs to solve. BF eventually gets there, but not before he makes a series of tactical errors along the way. He learns, as does the reader, what errors to avoid in the future.

The Defense of Jisr al-Doreaa Presidio Press

This tale of a dream is dedicated to the "gilded Popinjays" and "hired assassins" of the British nation, especially those who are now knocking at the door, to wit the very junior. It embodies some recollections of things actually done and undone in South Africa, 1899-1902. It is hoped that its fantastic guise may really help to emphasise the necessity for the practical application of some very old principles, and assist to an appreciation of what may happen when they are not applied, even on small operations. This practical application has often been lost sight of in the stress of the moment, with dire results, quite unrealised until the horrible instant of actual experience. Should this tale, by arousing the imagination, assist to prevent in the future even one such case of disregard of principles, it will not have been written in vain. The dreams are not anticipations, but merely a record of petty experiences against one kind of enemy in one kind of country only, with certain deductions based thereupon. But from these, given the conditions, it is not difficult to deduce the variations suitable for other countries, or for those occasions when a different foe with different methods of fighting and different weapons has to be met.

The Defence of Duffer's Drift University of Chicago Press

K. J. Parker's new novel is the remarkable tale of the siege of a walled city, and the even more remarkable man who had to defend it. A siege is approaching, and the city has little time to prepare. The people have no food and no weapons, and the enemy has sworn to slaughter them all. To save the city will take a miracle, but what it has is Orhan. A colonel of engineers, Orhan has far more experience with bridge-building than battles, is a cheat and a liar, and has a serious problem with authority. He is, in other words, perfect for the job. *Sixteen Ways To Defend a Walled City* is the story of Orhan, son of Siyyah Doctus Felix Praeclarissimus, and his history of the Great Siege, written down so that the deeds and sufferings of great men may never be forgotten.

The Defence of Duffer's Drift CreateSpace

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The Defence of Duffer's Drift PRAETORIAN PRESS LLC

Even as we head into twenty-first-century warfare, thirteen time-tested rules for waging war remain relevant. Both timely and timeless, *How Wars Are Won* illuminates the thirteen essential rules for success on the battlefield that have evolved from ancient times until the present day. Acclaimed military historian Bevin Alexander's incisive and vivid analyses of famous battles throughout the ages show how the greatest commanders—from Alexander the Great to Douglas MacArthur—have applied these rules. For example: • Feign retreat: Pretend defeat, fake a retreat, then ambush the enemy while being pursued. Used to devastating effect by the North Vietnamese against U.S. forces during the Vietnam War. • Strike at enemy weakness: Avoid the enemy's strength entirely by refusing to fight pitched battles, a method that has run alongside conventional war from the earliest days of human conflict. Brilliantly applied by Mao Zedong to defeat the Chinese Nationalists. • Defend, then attack: Gain possession of a superior weapon or tactical system, induce the enemy to launch a fruitless attack, then go on the offensive. Employed repeatedly against the Goths by the Eastern Roman general Belisarius to reclaim vast stretches of the Roman Empire. The lessons of history revealed in these pages can be used to shape the strategies needed to win the conflicts of today.

The Young Colonists Presidio Press

This book presents a fictional account of a young, inexperienced British officer who is ordered to hold a river crossing (*Duffer's Drift*) with 50 men against a larger Boer force. His failures and eventual success provide lessons learned for contemporary soldiers regarding the concepts of small group tactics. Originally published in *Infantry Journal* in April 1905.

Platoon Leader Penguin

"*The Defence of Duffer's Drift*" was first published in 1907, as an essay in small unit tactics for junior leaders in the British Army. Its author, Ernest Dunlop Swinton, based the essay on his experiences in the Boer war in South Africa. The book has become a classic, familiar to generations of British and American soldiers from their professional military education. The premise for Swinton's essay is "*The Defence of Duffer's Drift*" by Lieutenant Backsight Forethought and his fifty-man platoon. *The Drift* is a difficult piece of ground and Forethought expects an attack in the near future. In a series of dreams, Forethought tries repeatedly to defend the Drift, only to make fatal mistakes.

However, with each new dream, Forethought has the opportunity to learn from his errors in the previous dream. The result is an insightful exploration of small unit tactics and leadership that is as useful today as it was when first written. Swinton's prose is simple and accessible. The lessons of each defense are summed up at the conclusion of each chapter. "The Defence of Duffer's Drift" is very highly recommended to the junior leader, whether officer or NCO, as an amusing but realistic lesson in tactics.

The Defence of Duffer's Drift London, J. Murray

A journey through the mind of a commander as he learns and adapts in a complex, deadly environment.

The Beating of His Wings Grand Central Publishing

Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize • One of the Washington Post Book World's 10 Best Books of the Year • Time's 10 Best Books of the Year • USA Today's Nonfiction Book of the Year • A New York Times Notable Book "Staggeringly vivid and persuasive . . . absolutely essential reading." —Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times "The best account yet of the entire war." —Vanity Fair The definitive account of the American military's tragic experience in Iraq Fiasco is a masterful reckoning with the planning and execution of the American military invasion and occupation of Iraq through mid-2006, now with a postscript on recent developments. Ricks draws on the exclusive cooperation of an extraordinary number of American personnel, including more than one hundred senior officers, and access to more than 30,000 pages of official documents, many of them never before made public. Tragically, it is an undeniable account—explosive, shocking, and authoritative—of unsurpassed tactical success combined with unsurpassed strategic failure that indicts some of America's most powerful and honored civilian and military leaders.

The Defence of Duffer's Drift DIANE Publishing

What does it take to get the job done? How do you get the men in your unit to do what you say? To follow you into battle and shoot to kill? How you build the confidence that spurs men on to do their job, to stand by their leader and each other? Praise for Small Unit Leadership "Identifies in very specific terms what company grade officers and non-commissioned officers (NCOs) must do to ensure winning in land battle."—Marine Corps Gazette "Colonel Malone tackles the elusive topic of leadership with a real-world, pragmatic approach. This is not a book of intellectual theorization, but of specific techniques for leading soldiers on and off the battlefield."—U.S.N.I. Proceedings "The author condenses volumes of psychological studies into a readable and exciting book on practical military leadership."—ARMOR "Colonel Malone not only provides handy guides on what should be done and how it should be done . . . he also aids the reader in how to know that desired results are being achieved."—Leatherneck

The Defence of Duffer's Drift CreateSpace

Read this million-copy bestseller for leadership insights about top-down change to improve productivity in your business starting with the most important person: You. When Captain Abrashoff took over as commander of USS Benfold, it was like a business that had all the latest technology but only some of the productivity. Knowing that responsibility for improving performance rested with him, he realized he had to improve his own leadership skills before he could improve his ship. Within months, he created a crew of confident and inspired problem-solvers eager to take the initiative and responsibility for their actions. The slogan on board became "It's your ship," and Benfold was soon recognized far and wide as a model of naval efficiency. How did Abrashoff do it? Against the backdrop of today's United States Navy, Abrashoff shares his secrets of successful management including: See the ship through the eyes of the crew: By soliciting a sailor's suggestions, Abrashoff drastically

reduced tedious chores that provided little additional value.

Communicate, communicate, communicate: The more Abrashoff communicated the plan, the better the crew's performance. His crew eventually started calling him "Megaphone Mike," since they heard from him so often. Create discipline by focusing on purpose: Discipline skyrocketed when Abrashoff's crew believed that what they were doing was important. Listen aggressively: After learning that many sailors wanted to use the GI Bill, Abrashoff brought a test official aboard the ship—and held the SATs forty miles off the Iraqi coast. From achieving amazing cost savings to winning the highest gunnery score in the Pacific Fleet, Captain Abrashoff's extraordinary campaign sent shock waves through the U.S. Navy. It can help you change the course of your ship, no matter where your business battles are fought.

It's Your Ship Bell & Cockburn

"Brilliant, hardhitting description of modern war on the U.S. Army's premier training ground. A must-read tactical primer for today's warrior."—John C. "Doc" Bahnsen, Brigadier General, USA (Ret.) At the turn of the century a small, humorous book on tactics was published. The Defense of Duffer's Drift quickly became a bestseller and today is still widely read. The Defense of Hill 781 is a modern version of this classic—a tactical primer with ample funpoking, but with serious lessons to be learned. Lt. Col. A. Tack Always Finds himself in the California high desert, alone, disheveled, confused. A guide soon appears to inform him of his situation: He has died and is now in Purgatory (his humility in the Army was somewhat lacking) where he must atone for past sins. Purgatory is, aptly, the U.S. Army's National Training Center (NTC), and Lt. Col. Always may earn his way out by completing a successful mission. Through a series of six missions, the reader plans and fights with Lt. Col. Always, making the split-second decisions that determine victory or defeat, life or death. Through successive difficulties, some important lessons are burned into the commander's brain—lessons about tactics, about people, about what it takes to fight a winning battle. Like Duffer's Drift this book is a valuable resource for all military tacticians. For the armchair general, it is a fascinating look at how the members of a military unit work together in combat.

The Defence of Duffer's Drift Dale Street Book Company

A favorite of the United States Army Infantry School, "The Defence of Duffer's Drift" is a valuable instruction in the art of close quarters combat. One veteran recently observed that the war in Afghanistan might have fared better if commanders had not ignored the basic lessons taught in "Duffer's Drift." Originally published in 1904 by Major General Sir Ernest Dunlop Swinton, when he was still a captain, it remains relevant even in today's battlefields. The fictional main character is Lieutenant N. Baksight Forethought, commander of a 50-man reinforced platoon during a fictional encounter in the Boer War. BF, as he is known to his friends, is ordered to hold at all costs a key piece of ground known as Duffer's Drift. This is BF's big chance to prove himself on the battlefield and he is ready for the glory, or so he thinks. In a series of six scenarios he calls dreams, BF tries to solve tactical issues facing a young commander and his men assigned to a remote location with minimum supplies and maximum exposure to the enemy. In the first dream BF makes basic tactical errors that he summarizes in lessons learned at the end of the dream. In the second dream, he incorporates the lessons learned from the first dream and builds on them to improve his tactical effectiveness. Still, he makes new errors based on new challenges and at the end of the second dream, converts them as well into lessons learned. This continues until the sixth dream when he finally succeeds, drawing on all the lessons learned in the previous five dreams. General Swinton's contribution to the revolution in military affairs of the 20th

century is illustrated in this book and its tutelage in the art of tactical warfare. It presages Swinton's ultimate contribution to tank warfare, which would come to dominate the battlefields of World War II. These lessons remain as relevant today as they were one hundred years ago and as long as our military keeps deploying to remote and austere regions in defense of our country.

The Defence of Duffer's Drift DIANE Publishing

A remarkable memoir of small-unit leadership and the coming of age of a young soldier in combat in Vietnam.' "Using a lean style and a sense of pacing drawn from the tautest of novels, McDonough has produced a gripping account of his first

command, a U.S. platoon taking part in the 'strategic hamlet' program. . . . Rather than present a potpourri of combat yarns. . . McDonough has focused a seasoned storyteller's eye on the details, people, and incidents that best communicate a visceral feel of command under fire. . . . For the author's honesty and literary craftsmanship, *Platoon Leader* seems destined to be read for a long time by second lieutenants trying to prepare for the future, veterans trying to remember the past, and civilians trying to understand what the profession of arms is all about."-Army Times

[The Defence of Duffer's Drift](#) Crown Forum

The Defence of Duffer's Drift University of Chicago Press