Victory at Mortain: Stopping Hitler's Panzer Counteroffensive

By Mark Reardon

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Reardon reveals how professional rivalries and lack of accurate battlefield information hampered the efforts of German generals to execute a successful counteroffensive. He also tells how the U.S. Army profited from the bitter lessons of hedgerow fighting to gain superiority in ground maneuver, fire support, and the use of airpower, logistics, communications, and reconnaissance in the face of more experienced and better armed opponents. Victory at Mortain follows operational decisions taken by the Germans and the Allies through tactical execution, focusing primarily on the efforts of the 30th Infantry Division (ID) in and around Mortain against elements of several German divisions. Reardon lays out the operational architecture for both sides quite clearly.
In a vivid recreation of this pivotal battle—less celebrated than the encounter at the Falaise Pocket but just as decisive—Mark Reardon tells how the 30th Infantry Division held off the German panzer juggernaut, which was designed to drive a wedge between Allied forces. In recounting this showdown, he offers a new perspective on the German defeat in Normandy and a convincing counterpoint to the conventional view of most military analysts that Germany lost the war as a result of Allied materiel superiority or Hitler’s strategic meddling. Through vigorous prose laced with compelling anecdotes, Reardon, M.J. 2002. Victory at Mortain: stopping Hitler’s Panzer counteroffensive. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas. Richardson, S. 2008. Archäologischer Wanderweg Hürtgenwald 1944–45 (Flyer 94). Vettweiss-Müddersheim: Konejung Stiftung Kultur. Available at: http://www.rureifel-tourismus.de/fileadmin/data/Downloads/Flyer-Archaeologischer.pdf (accessed 10 June 2014). Woodward, R. 2014. Military landscapes: agendas and approaches for future research.
Victory at Mortain. Stopping Hitler's Panzer Counteroffensive. Mark J. Reardon. A powerful German counterattack in Normandy in August 1944 might have been one of the Wehrmacht's great shining moments in the Second World War. The odds were certainly in their favor. Determined to drive the Allies back to the English Channel, elements of four combat-hardened panzer divisions faced off against a single American infantry division near the town of Mortain. Instead, the Americans held their ground, enabling the Allied armies to secure the invasion and ultimately liberate France. In a vivid recreation of this pivotal battle—less celebrated than the encounter at the Falaise Pocket but just as decisive—Mark Reardon tells how the 30th Infantry Division held off the German panzer juggernaut, which was designed to drive a wedge between Allied forces. In recounting this showdown, he offers a new perspective on the German defeat in Normandy and a convincing counterpoint to the conventional view of most military analysts that Germany lost the war as a result of Allied materiel superiority or Hitler's strategic meddling. Through vigorous prose laced with compelling anecdote, this item:

Victory at Mortain: Stopping Hitler's Panzer Counteroffensive by Mark J. Reardon Hardcover $39.95. Only 4 left in stock (more on the way). Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. FREE Shipping. Details. The poor road networks in the area were also a problem for both sides but particularly so for the Germans in moving all their panzers westward. During the several attempts by the Germans to reach Avranches, there is good battle coverage of 47th PzC and other units on the German side and the 30th, 35th, 2nd and 3rd ADs on the defending side. The author also shows Patton's drive eastward in an attempt to encircle the Germans who are prevented to retreat by Hitler until the very last moment. To prevent this, Hitler ordered his favorite response to an enemy offensive: a massive panzer counterattack to halt the American drive by cutting off its supply lines, making Patton vulnerable to isolation and destruction. Hitler's plan was bold, calling for Seventh Army, under SS Lt. Gen. Paul Hausser, to hurl four panzer divisions, two of them elite SS outfits, and an SS panzergrenadier division at the thin center of the American line and drive on the road junction town of Avranches where Normandy met Brittany, cut all the roads, and strangle American supply lines. The plan was named "Lüttic". Items related to Victory at Mortain: Stopping Hitler's Panzer Counteroffensive. Reardon, Mark J. Victory at Mortain: Stopping Hitler's Panzer Counteroffensive. ISBN 13: 9780700611584. Victory at Mortain: Stopping Hitler's Panzer Counteroffensive. Reardon, Mark J. 3.77 avg rating â€œI liked this book. He reveals how professional rivalries and lack of accurate battlefield information hampered the efforts of German generals to execute a successful counteroffensive. He also tells how the U.S. Army profited from the bitter lessons of hedgerow fighting to gain superiority in ground maneuver, fire support, and the use of airpower, logistics, communications, and reconnaissance in the face of more experienced and better armed opponents.