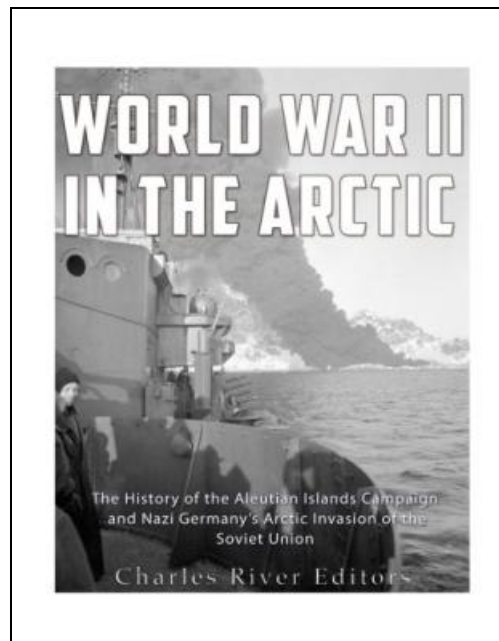


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WORLD WAR II IN THE ARCTIC: THE HISTORY OF THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS CAMPAIGN AND NAZI GERMANY S ARCTIC INVASION OF THE SOVIET UNION (PAPERBACK)



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Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Large Print. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. *Includes pictures *Includes soldiers accounts of the fighting *Includes a bibliography for further reading In the warm predawn darkness of June 22, 1941, 3 million men waited along a front hundreds of miles long, stretching from the Baltic coast of Poland to the Balkans. Ahead of them in the darkness lay the Soviet Union, its border guarded by millions of Red Army troops echeloned deep throughout the huge spaces of Russia. This massive gathering of Wehrmacht soldiers from Adolf Hitler s Third Reich and his allied states - notably Hungary and Romania - stood poised to carry out Operation Barbarossa, Hitler s surprise attack against the country of his putative ally, Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin. Today, everyone remembers the most famous consequences of Hitler s choice, particularly the fighting at Leningrad and Stalingrad, but the invasion was so comprehensive that it also involved fighting in the barren lands near the Arctic Circle, bringing fierce combat to the taiga and tundra. In fact, Arctic combat occurred in both the Pacific and European theaters of the war, and in both cases the operations were related in some measure to external lines of supply to the USSR. Meanwhile, the Wehrmacht and the Red Army also met in the boreal pine forests, bogs, and tundra of Lapland and far northern Russia during the Barbarossa campaign of 1941. Fighting separately from the other Army Groups of the Third Reich, elite German Gebirgs (mountain) division soldiers and tough, resourceful Finns clashed with relatively determined and experienced Red Army soldiers in the forbidding terrain east of Finland s border. This campaign bore the elegant operational tile of Silberfuchs, or Silver Fox. Aiming for Murmansk,...

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