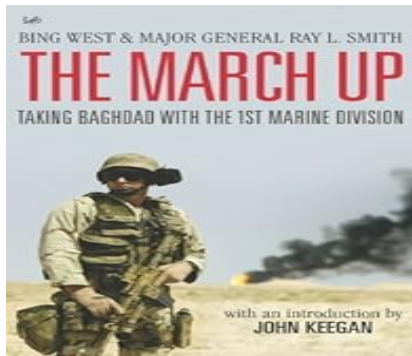


The March Up: Taking Baghdad with the 1st Marine Division By Bing West

Taking us straight to the front lines The March Up follows the famed 1st Marine Division on their decisive 1184 kilometre trek to Baghdad from first assault to the taking of the city. With unprecedented access to everyone from three-star generals to privates authors West and Smith men with 60 years of military and combat experience between them trace the strategic war plans as they unfolded in battle providing unflinching portrayals of what went well and what went poorly and detailing power struggles and failures which have never before been reported. What emerges is a dramatic personal and human account of how the corporals fought and the generals plotted revealing the men behind the guns and the brave and sometimes unorthodox actions that resulted in astonishing triumphs. Complete with a 16- page four-colour photo insert and endpaper maps The March Up is the behind-the-scenes story of how the men on the frontlines and the strategists in the backroom turned the march to Baghdad into a road to victory. The March Up: Taking Baghdad with the 1st Marine Division Getting a report on first Marine Division and it's run up to Baghdad by authors after the fact tells part of the story. A thrilling book that kept you sometimes frustrated sometimes excited and always in the know of what war and the various units involved in a 21st century military battle is all about. The March Up: Taking Baghdad with the 1st Marine Division As the mother of one of the brave Marines of the 1st Marine Division I was intrigued to read this account and comprehend the situation experienced by my son. Ooh-rah! The March Up: Taking Baghdad with the 1st Marine Division It was a pretty good book and is written for non-military to understand The March Up: Taking Baghdad with the 1st Marine Division I enjoyed this book but I don't think it's especially accessible to readers who don't have military experience. ({site_link} wikipedia) {site_link} I was surprised by this book because going off the average of the reviews here on Goodreads I expected it to be mediocre but turns out it wasn't so average and I thoroughly enjoyed it. For those who have read other Iraq War books set in this phase of the War (the push to Baghdad) you may find this book as interesting as I did in that it ties together with other books to give you a view across the battlefield. Also some of the things mentioned in Generation Kill are mentioned in The March Up eg the J Lo dying rumour and the death of a First Recon soldier Horsehead who was operating external to his former recon team in another battalion. On a side note; Bing West and his travelling companion Ray are both Vietnam Vets and I got a real thrill out of the comparisons and information they brought from that war to this. A lot of details the biggest thing I got out of this book was a deeper appreciation for Generals Mattis and General Kelly The March Up: Taking Baghdad with the 1st Marine Division The march from Kuwait to Baghdad in the Gulf War by the 1st Marine Division is documented here on from a personal perspective. The March Up: Taking Baghdad with the 1st Marine Division The March Up is a pretty good read about the War in Iraq and the day to day operations of the First Marine Division and their march through Iraq and straight into Bagdad. The 1st Marine Division which had fought in Guadalcanal Khe San and Kuwait City provided the critical force in Operation Iraqi Freedom: No other journalist had the mobility battlefield knowledge or personal contacts as West or Smith: They were able to observe eighteen separate combat units in the division: Having a USMC Major General Ray Smith (ret) and a second reporter embedded with the unit throughout the fight gives you the first hand report of what actually went on: I appreciated the accounting of the military and the humorous situations related in this book. The March Up: Taking Baghdad with the 1st Marine Division A look at the 1st Marine Division's role in the taking of Baghdad during the initial stages of the Iraq War. It's interesting to contrast and compare this account of conventional warfare with later accounts of anti-insurgency operations: The paperback edition even includes some of that in an epilogue added that revisits the division a few months later: The March Up: Taking Baghdad with the 1st Marine Division



Francis J. (born May 2 1940) is an American author Marine combat veteran and former Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs during the Reagan Administration: In the Vietnam War he fought in major operations and conducted over a hundred combat patrols in 1966-1968. (born May 2 1940) is an American author Marine combat veteran and former Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs during the Reagan Administration, In the Vietnam War he fought in major operations and conducted over a hundred combat patrols in 1966-1968: Of course I gave it 4 stars and not 5 and that indicates something went wrong. I couldn't give it 5 stars because it was missing some dialogue: It was few and far between and I would have thought seeing as they were travelling alongside the 1st Marine Division that Bing West Jr would have recorded plenty of dialogue, An example of this is Generation Kill and Ambush Alley: The Most Extraordinary Battle of the Iraq War, In The March Up you get the odd glimpse of the First Recon Team profiled in Generation Kill operating on the peripheral of 1st Marine Division, You also get another perspective on the horrific blue on blue incident that happened in Nasiriyah along Ambush Alley, As explained to us in detail in the book of the same name Ambush Alley. There are other books from this time frame of the war that you feel in The March Up but those are two prominent examples, Maybe this book isn't for the 'some times or never' military non fiction reader: Maybe it is also not for the military reader who needs a barrage of strategy and battlefield plans, I liked it because I do read modern war non fiction and it was what I expect (barring the lack of dialogue) from a spectators view: I don't expect a plethora of battle strategy from a book like this. What I want from an embedded journalist is a more candid style of writing and that is precisely what The March Up gives you. Good to read those connections and it gives this book an extra edge that i have not gotten from other books of this ilk, The March Up: Taking Baghdad with the 1st Marine Division A first-hand account of the Marines invading Iraq: Our two authors have access from privates to generals and manage to place themselves at the point of action throughout most of the campaign. They give us an interesting perspective of the fighting desert and the enemy with numerous accounts and anecdotes. The incredible firepower organisation and professionalism of the Marines are clear although it seemed that when action was joined chaos often reigned over the radio net. I thought this was quite a readable account on a campaign about which I knew little: This is told by a couple of combat veterans and is a pretty good run through the daily life and details of 21st century combat in the field: Some interesting perspectives and a good feel of what it was like in the action the realistic opposition of the Iraqis and the daily challenges facing our Marines: I thought the groundwork early in the book around the importance of capturing the oilfields before they were destroyed ad cost the US Billions to repair was interesting: I also gained more respect for Tommy Franks and his executed strategy: If you are interested in 21st century field combat and also a Marine or US Military History buff you will likely enjoy this read: If anything the story does not do a great job of flowing and grabbing your attention: The March Up: Taking Baghdad with the 1st Marine Division So slow and boring this book is a waste of paper: The March Up: Taking Baghdad with the 1st Marine Division.

. A true page turner. I was not disappointed. For them I'd recommend Generation Kill. Bing West Jr.West writes about the military warfighting and counterinsurgency.({site_link} wikipedia) Francis J. Bing West Jr.West writes about the military warfighting and counterinsurgency. If he did.he didn't

include much of it in this book. I expect some and got it. This is NOT a political book. I would say this is 3.5 stars