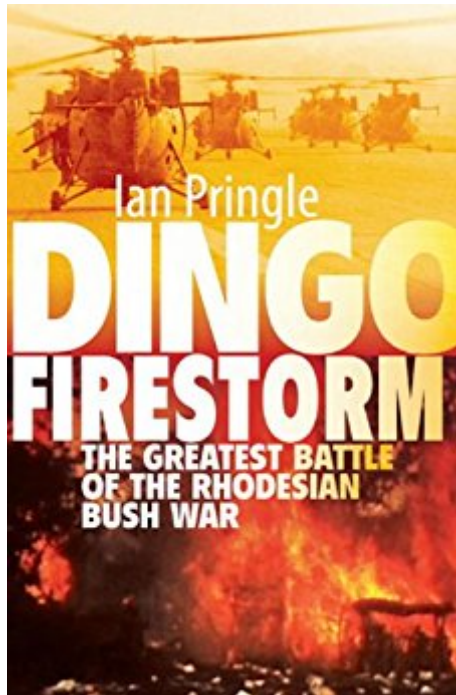




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Dingo Firestorm: The Greatest Battle Of The Rhodesian Bush War



Synopsis

On 23 November 1977, an armada of helicopters and airplanes took off from Rhodesian airbases and crossed the border into Mozambique. Their objective: to attack the headquarters of the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army, where thousands of enemy forces were concentrated. Codenamed Operation Dingo, the raid was planned to coincide with a meeting of Robert Mugabe and his war council at the targeted HQ. It would be the biggest conflict of the Rhodesian Bush War. In this fascinating account, Ian Pringle describes the political and military backdrop leading up to the operation, and he tells the story of the battle through the eyes of key personalities who planned, led and participated in it. Using his own experience as a jet and helicopter pilot and skydiver, he recreates the battle in detail, explaining the performance of men and machines in the unfolding drama of events. DINGO FIRESTORM is a fresh, gripping recreation of a major battle in southern African military history.

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Customer Reviews

this story provides background and then details the planning and execution of two very successful raids using limited resources. It is amazing how much was accomplished by a relatively small

Rhodesian military against a much larger insurgent force for so many years. This is particularly amazing considering the relative ease of funding and supply for the insurgents compared to the international sanctions against the Rhodesian settler government. I was in my late teen and 20s when the Rhodesian war was happening. I knew little about it and was likely misled by the mainstream media as to what was happening. Because of this book I plan to read more deeply in the various liberation and post-colonial wars in the southern Africa area.

Rhodesia's largest external attack on Mugabe's terrorist camp in Mozambique when you read the numbers of men Rhodesia committed to the battle, and the number of terrorists in the camp, it was a miracle that Rhodesia incurred so small amount of casualties. This can only be described as one of history's great battles, where excellent planning, troop management in the field of battle, use of resources and most of all God's providence brought about a great victory.

Ian Pringle has filled in gaps that have existed even for those who were on the ground during this operation. His commentary on the history of the conflict in Rhodesia is well articulated and fascinatingly informative. Anyone who has an interest in the political climate as it existed in Rhodesia during the period of her protracted bush war should read this book. Highly recommended from one of the men who experienced many of the events included in this book first hand.

Excellent description of the build up and actual execution of the raids. It highlights how a small number of highly trained special forces can overwhelm hugely superior numbers. A lesson the US military should take better note of. A personal element is also added which gives the book an additional depth of interest. The maps and descriptions of the various landscapes are very useful to fully understand the planning of the raids. I traveled in Rhodesia in the mid-seventies and passed by many of the locations mentioned, which made the book even more valuable to me. Definitely worth reading especially for those interested in military history and African studies in general.

Outstanding battle history. Too bad Rhodesia did not have more resources to outlast the commies. It is the story of Vietnam. Win all the major battles but lose the war. The meticulous planning of this battle showed outstanding generalship by the Rhodesian Military. A must on counter-insurgency warfare. In the summation at the end of the book, the Rhodesians back off of one last try. With 20/20 hindsight they should have gone for broke.

It's a pity about the getting the politicians in the fight. How things could have turned out if it wasn't for the rest of the world forcing the types of governments into our Africa

This is a well written and researched book about an operation in Rhodesia that was only known about by the people involved. The operation was an incredible success story. It describes in great detail how a small well co-ordinated force can achieve great results. It is also history of a country fighting for survival against great odds.

The book gives a detailed account of a battle that set back insurgent efforts in Rhodesia and clears up falsehoods spread by both the communists and Western foes of Rhodesia in that it was a military training camp for insurgents, not a refugee camp. The unfortunate part was the targeted leadership of the insurgents happened to be absent the day of the raid. That was unfortunate as Rhodesia--now Zimbabwe--has been cursed with Robert MUGabe because of that lucky absense. The book ws made more memorbale to me because I knew some of the participants in the battle.

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