# Bastogne: The Pivotal Battle That Turned the Tide of the Bulge

The Battle of the Bulge was one of the most important and bloody battles of World War II. The fighting was fierce and the outcome was in doubt until the very end. Bastogne was a key objective for the Germans, and the Americans fought desperately to hold the city. The battle was a turning point in the war, and it helped to pave the way for the Allied victory.

#### The German Plan

In December 1944, the Germans launched a surprise offensive in the Ardennes Forest. The goal of the offensive was to split the Allied armies and capture Antwerp, Belgium. The Germans hoped that this would force the Allies to sue for peace.



#### Battle of the Bulge 1944 (2): Bastogne (Campaign Book

145) by Ray Kurzweil

★★★★★ 4.8 out of 5
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Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
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Print length : 195 pages
X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled



The German plan was ambitious, but it was also risky. The Germans were outnumbered and outgunned by the Allies. They also had to contend with the harsh winter weather.

#### The Battle of Bastogne

Bastogne was a key objective for the Germans. The city was located at a crossroads, and it controlled access to several important roads. The Germans believed that if they could capture Bastogne, they would be able to split the Allied armies and reach Antwerp.

The Americans were determined to hold Bastogne. The city was defended by the 101st Airborne Division, which was one of the most experienced and battle-hardened units in the US Army.

The battle for Bastogne began on December 19, 1944. The Germans quickly surrounded the city, and they launched a series of fierce attacks. The Americans fought back bravely, but they were outnumbered and outgunned.

On December 21, the Germans demanded that the Americans surrender. The Americans refused, and the fighting continued.

On December 26, the Allies launched a relief offensive. The offensive was successful, and the Germans were forced to retreat. The Battle of Bastogne was a victory for the Americans, and it helped to turn the tide of the war.

#### The Legacy of Bastogne

The Battle of Bastogne was a turning point in the war. The American victory at Bastogne helped to stop the German advance and it paved the way for the Allied victory. The battle also showed the world the courage and determination of the American soldiers.

The Battle of Bastogne is still remembered today as one of the most important battles of World War II. The battle is commemorated by a museum in Bastogne, and it is the subject of numerous books and films.

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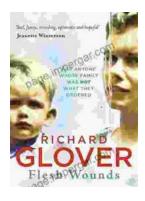
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