

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910164075103321
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Titolo	Napoleon's Campaign in Poland, 1806-1807
Pubbl/distr/stampa	San Francisco : , : Wagram Press, , 2011 ©2011
ISBN	9781908692719 1908692715
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (236 pages)
Altri autori (Persone)	PublishingPickle Partners
Disciplina	940.273438
Soggetti	Napoleonic Wars, 1800-1815 Military campaigns
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Intro -- LIST OF WORKS AND DOCUMENTS CONSULTED AND REFERRED TO IN THE FOOTNOTES -- I-PUBLISHED WORKS -- II-UNPUBLISHED DOCUMENTS -- III-MAPS AND PLANS -- PART I THE SITUATION AND THE CONTENDING ARMIES -- CHAPTER I - THE STATE OF EUROPE -- CHAPTER II - THE ARMIES AND THE LEADERS -- (a) THE FRENCH ARMY -- (b) THE RUSSIAN ARMY -- (c) THE GENERALS -- CHAPTER III - THE THEATRE OF WAR -- PART II THE FIRST CAMPAIGN - PULTUSK AND GOLYMIN -- CHAPTER I - THE PLAN OF CAMPAIGN AND THE PASSAGES OF THE VISTULA AND BUG -- CHAPTER II - PASSAGE OF THE UKRA, AND OPERATIONS OF THE 24TH AND 25TH DECEMBER -- CHAPTER III - THE BATTLES OF PULTUSK AND GOLYMIN 26TH DECEMBER, 1806 -- (a) PULTUSK -- (b) GOLYMIN -- CHAPTER IV - THE FIRST WINTER QUARTERS AND EVENTS OUTSIDE POLAND -- (a) WINTER QUARTERS -- (b) SILESIA -- (c) POMERANIA -- (d) TURKEY AND PERSIA -- PART III THE CAMPAIGN OF EYLAU -- CHAPTER I - THE MOVEMENTS UP TO THE BATTLE OF EYLAU -- ACTION OF MOHRUNGEN, 25TH JANUARY -- ACTION OF BERGFRIED, 3RD FEBRUARY -- ACTION OF HOF, 6TH FEBRUARY -- CHAPTER II - THE BATTLE OF EYLAU -- (a) ACTION OF THE 7TH FEBRUARY -- (b) THE BATTLE OF THE 8TH FEBRUARY -- (c) STRATEGY AND TACTICS OF THE EYLAU CAMPAIGN -- CHAPTER III - EVENTS ON THE NAREW IN JANUARY AND FEBRUDARY -- PART IV

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Sommario/riassunto

F. Lorraine Petre was at the forefront of a number of British historians who wrote at the turn of the 20th Century who advanced the knowledge, understanding of Napoleonic times and warfare hugely. Petre wrote a number of books on the subject, particularly because of the dearth of information focusing on Napoleon's "lesser-known" campaigns, with a depth of research unheard of at the time. His writings have stood the test of time and have been re-printed a number of times, as recently as the last ten years. In this book his second in his series, shines the spotlight of the Napoleon's quest to vanquish his last remaining continental enemy, Russia. Having smashed Prussia in 1806, Napoleon eagerly sought out his Russian opponents, however his tactics of lightning advances and strategic envelopment founded in the mud and cold of Poland. Extended over a vast area, his troops acutely suffered from shortages and played a deadly game of cat and mouse with the last of the Prussian forces under Lestocq whilst waiting for the thaw that would enable them to come to grips with the enemy. As it transpired they did not have to wait as long as they might have imagined, fighting the bloody slugging match in the snow with the Russians at Eylau and although they held the field, it was a field covered by their own comrades' corpses. After another brutal but more successful engagement at Heilsberg, during which the Russians lost heavily, Napoleon finally ran his quarry to the ground at Friedland. After a sterling delaying action by Lannes' corps and supporting cavalry under Grouchy, Napoleon found his opponent pinned with his back to a river. After an abortive attack by Marshal Ney, General Senarmont drove a battery of thirty guns into canister range of the Russian centre leaving a red ruin, and allowing a victory for the French turn into a bloody rout for the Russians as many drowned trying to reach their lines on the other side of the river. The peace of Tilsit was to be signed soon after, marking arguably the highpoint of the French Empire. Author - Francis Lorraine Petre OBE - (1852-1925)

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