

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910816202203321
Autore	Ostwald Jamel
Titolo	Vauban under siege : engineering efficiency and martial vigor in the War of the Spanish Succession / / by Jamel Ostwald
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden ; ; Boston, : Brill, 2007
ISBN	1-281-45789-2 9786611457891 90-474-1150-1
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xii, 390 pages) : illustrations, maps
Collana	History of warfare ; ; v. 41
Disciplina	940.2/526
Soggetti	Siege warfare - Europe - History - 18th century Manpower - Europe - History - 18th century Spanish Succession, War of, 1701-1714
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [371]-381) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Materials / J. Ostwald -- Chapter One. Introduction / J. Ostwald -- Chapter Two. The Perfect Siege Of Ath 1697 / J. Ostwald -- Chapter Three. Efficiency And The Perfect Siege / J. Ostwald -- Chapter Four. The Transitional War Of The Spanish Succession / J. Ostwald -- Chapter Five. Implementing The Paradigm Siege / J. Ostwald -- Chapter Six. Contesting The Paradigm Siege / J. Ostwald -- Chapter Seven. Vigor: An Alternative Paradigm / J. Ostwald -- Chapter Eight. Succeeding With Vigor / J. Ostwald -- Chapter Nine. The Vigorous Future / J. Ostwald -- Appendices / J. Ostwald -- Bibliography / J. Ostwald -- Index / J. Ostwald.
Sommario/riassunto	Vauban under Siege is the first systematic comparison of the theory of Vauban's siegecraft with its reality. It places Vauban's siege accomplishments back into their broader context, highlighting his continuation of the quest for ever-greater efficiency pursued by a century of military engineers. Based on a comprehensive inventory of sieges in the War of the Spanish Succession, it describes how both French and Allied military officers rejected this efficiency paradigm and embraced instead vigorous brute force tactics. Ignoring their over-worked and under-compensated engineers at key points, generals

chose to save precious campaign time by sacrificing their soldiers' lives in siege after siege. This early modern cult of the offensive has influenced the Western way of war ever since. Winner of the 2009 Distinguished Book Award of the Society for Military History.
