

Chapter 1 : Top 20 Battles in U.S. History - best, most ranked User Contributed Rankings - theinnatdunvilla

An extensive list of important battles and influential leaders, from BC to present times. Families In British India Society, List of Battles In British India List of Battles & Actions in British India A list of battles that took place in the time of the British Raj giving details and co-ordinates of the battles.

Army Battles win wars, topple thrones, and redraw borders. Every age of human history has experienced battles that have been instrumental in molding the future. Battles influence the spread of culture, civilization, and religious dogma. They introduce weapons, tactics, and leaders who dominate future conflicts. Some battles have even been influential not for their direct results, but for the impact of their propaganda on public opinion. The following list is not a ranking of decisive engagements, but rather a ranking of battles according to their influence on history. Each narrative details location, participants, and leaders of the battle, and also provides commentary on who won, who lost, and why. It also stopped the advance of Islam into central and western Europe, and ensured that the Christian rather than the Muslim religion and culture would dominate the region. Suleiman had inherited the largest, best-trained army in the world, containing superior elements of infantry, cavalry, engineering, and artillery. At the heart of his army were elite legions of Janissaries, mercenary slaves taken captive as children from Christians and raised as Muslim soldiers. From his capital of Constantinople, the Turkish sultan immediately began making plans to expand his empire even farther. Suleiman had also inherited a strong navy, which he used with his army to besiege the island fortress of Rhodes, his first conquest. Granting safe passage to the defenders in exchange for their surrender, the Sultan took control of Rhodes and much of the Mediterranean in This victory demonstrated that Suleiman would honor peace agreements. In following battles where enemies did not surrender peacefully, however, he displayed his displeasure by razing cities, massacring the adult males, and selling the women and children into slavery. By , Suleiman had neutralized Hungary and placed his own puppet on their throne. Taking advantage of discord between his enemies, Suleiman made a secret alliance with King Francis I of France. As a result, by the spring of , King Charles and his Austrians stood alone to repel the Ottoman invaders. On April 10, Suleiman and his army of more than ,, accompanied by as many as , support personnel and camp followers, departed Constantinople for the Austrian capital of Vienna. Along the way, the huge army captured towns and raided the countryside for supplies and slaves. All the while, Vienna, under the able military leadership of Count Niklas von Salm-Reifferscheidt and Wilhelm von Rogendorf, prepared for the pending battle. Their task appeared impossible. The entire Austrian garrison numbered only about 20, soldiers supported by 72 cannons. The only reinforcements who arrived in the city were a detachment of musket-armed infantrymen from Spain. Despite its disadvantages, Vienna had several natural factors supporting its defense. The Danube blocked any approach from the north, and the smaller Wiener Back waterway ran along its eastern side, leaving only the south and west to be defended. The Vienna generals took full advantage of the weeks before the arrival of the Turks. They razed dwellings and other buildings outside the south and west walls to open fields of fire for their cannons and muskets. They dug trenches and placed other obstacles on avenues of approach. One other factor greatly aided Vienna: The constant rains delayed the Ottoman advance and made conditions difficult for the marching army. By the time they finally reached Vienna in September, winter was approaching, and the defenders were as prepared as possible. When the Austrians refused, he began an artillery barrage against the walls with his cannons and ordered his miners to dig under the walls and lay explosives to breach the defenses. The Austrians came out from behind their walls to attack the engineers and artillerymen and dig counter-trenches. By October 12, the cold winds of winter were sweeping the city. Suleiman ordered another attack with his Janissaries in the lead. Two days later, Suleiman ordered one last attack, but the Viennese held firm once again. For the first time, Suleiman had failed. Scores of his never-before-defeated Janissaries lay dead outside the walls. The Turkish army had no choice but to burn their huge camp and withdraw back toward Constantinople, but before they departed they massacred the thousands of captives they had taken on the way to Vienna. Along their long route home, many more Turks died at the hands of raiding parties that struck their flanks. The loss at Vienna did not greatly decrease the power of the

Ottoman Empire. It did, however, stop the Muslim advance into Europe. Suleiman and his army experienced many successes after Vienna, but these victories were in the east against the Persians rather than in the west against the Europeans. The Ottoman Empire survived for centuries, but its high-water mark lay somewhere along the Vienna city wall. Following the battle for Vienna, the countries of the west no longer viewed the Turks and the Janissaries as invincible. If Vienna had fallen to Suleiman, his army would have continued their offensive the following spring into the German provinces.

Battle 9 Waterloo Napoleonic Wars, The Allied victory over Napoleon Bonaparte at the Battle of Waterloo in brought an end to French domination of Europe and began a period of peace on the continent that lasted for nearly half a century. He remained in the military after the revolution and rapidly advanced in rank to become a brigadier general six years later. Napoleon was instrumental in suppressing a Royalist uprising in , for which his reward was command of the French army in Italy. In late , he returned to Paris, where he joined an uprising against the ruling Directory. Napoleon backed up these aggrandizing moves with military might and political savvy. He established the Napoleonic Code, which assured individual rights of citizens and instituted a rigid conscription system to build an even larger army. Napoleon declared himself Emperor of France in and for the next eight years achieved a succession of victories, each of which created an enemy. Downplaying the loss of much of his navy at the Battle of Trafalgar in , Napoleon claimed that control of Europe lay on the land, not the sea. In , he invaded Russia and defeated its army only to lose the campaign to the harsh winter. He lost more of his army in the extended campaign on the Spanish peninsula. In the spring of , Britain, Russia, Prussia, and Sweden allied against France while Napoleon rallied the survivors of his veteran army and added new recruits to meet the enemy coalition. Although he continued to lead his army brilliantly, the stronger coalition defeated him at Leipzig in October , forcing Napoleon to withdraw to southern France. Finally, at the urging of his subordinates, Napoleon abdicated on April 1, , and accepted banishment to the island of Elba near Corsica. Napoleon did not remain in exile for long. Less than a year later, he escaped Elba and sailed to France, where for the next one hundred days he struck a trail of terror across Europe and threatened once again to dominate the continent. King Louis XVIII, whom the coalition had returned to his throne, dispatched the French army to arrest the former emperor, but they instead rallied to his side. Louis fled the country, and Napoleon again claimed the French crown on March . On March 17, Britain, Prussia, Austria, and Russia agreed to each provide , soldiers to assemble in Belgium for an invasion of France to begin on July 1. Other nations promised smaller support units. Napoleon learned of the coalition plan and marched north to destroy their army before it could organize. He sent part of his army, commanded by Emmanuel de Grouchy, to attack the Prussians under Gebhard von Bluecher in order to prevent their joining the Anglo-Dutch force near Brussels. Napoleon led the rest of the army against the British and Dutch. The French army won several minor battles as they advanced into Belgium. Although the coalition commander, the Duke of Wellington, had little time to prepare, he began assembling his army twelve miles south of Brussels, just outside the village of Waterloo. There he arrayed his defenses on high ground at Mount St. Jean to meet the northward-marching French. By the morning of June 18, Napoleon had arrived at Mount St. Jean and deployed his army on high ground only yards from the enemy defenses. Both commanders sent word to their other armies to rejoin the main force. A hard rain drenched the battlefield, causing Napoleon to delay his attack as late as possible on June 18 so that the boggy ground could dry and not impair his cavalry and artillery. After ordering a sustained artillery bombardment, Napoleon ordered a diversionary attack against the allied right flank in the west in hopes of getting Wellington to commit his reserve. The British defenders on the west flank, including the Scots and Coldstream Guards, remained on the reverse slope of the ridge during the artillery bombardment and then came forward when the French advanced. The attack against the Allied right flank failed to force Wellington to commit his reserve, but Napoleon pressed on with his main assault against the enemy center. Napoleon, disdainful of British fighting ability, and overly confident of his own leadership and the abilities of his men, continued the attack in the belief that he could defeat Wellington before the Prussians joined the fight or that Grouchy would arrive in time to support the assault. For three hours, the French and the British fought, often with bayonets. The French finally secured a commanding position at the center at La Haye Sainte, but the Allied lines held. After a brutal battle decided by bayonets, the French forced the Prussians to withdraw. Napoleon then turned back against

Wellington. Napoleon ordered his most experienced battalions forward from their reserve position for another assault against the Allied center. The attack almost breached the Allied defenses before Wellington committed his own reserves. The Prussians, who had regrouped, attacked the French flank, sending the remainder running in disorder to the south. Although defeated, the French refused to give up. Allied casualties totaled 22, At the end of the one-day fight, more than 45, men lay dead or wounded within the three-square-mile battlefield. Thousands more on both sides were killed or wounded in the campaign that led to Waterloo. Napoleon agreed once again to abdicate on June 22, and two weeks later, the Allies returned Louis to power. Napoleon and his hundred days were over. This time, the British took no chances; they imprisoned Napoleon on remote St. Helena Island in the south Atlantic, where he died in Even if Napoleon had somehow won the battle, he had too few friends and too many enemies to continue. He and his country were doomed before his return from Elba. France never recovered its greatness after Waterloo.

Chapter 2 : Lists of battles - Wikipedia

The Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World: from Marathon to Waterloo is a book written by Sir Edward Shepherd Creasy and published in 1874. This book tells the story of the fifteen military engagements, which, according to the author, had a significant impact on world history.

World History Famous Military Leaders This is a compilation of famous military leaders whose strategic influence shaped the way history unfolded. This list includes the honorable, the despised, and the courageous military leaders who were not afraid to fight against all odds. The compilation includes leaders, those ranked and those whose command pre-dated the formal establishment of ranks, as well as senior commanders in irregular militaries who may not hold rank. Here are the greatest military leaders in history presented in chronological order.

Military Leaders of Antiquity

- King David c. China** An ancient Chinese philosopher, strategist, and military general who is said to have written *The Art of War*, an ancient Chinese text on military strategy. He is famous for his leadership at the Battle of Thermopylae.
- Alexander the Great BC** Nation: Greece Established one of the largest empires of the ancient world, with boundaries from the Ionian Sea to the Himalayas. One of the most successful military commanders, he was undefeated in battle.
- Punic Carthage** A great military leader with successful skirmishes against the Roman Republic. Hannibal lived during a time of heavy conflict in the Mediterranean.
- Thracia** Former gladiator who became an accomplished military leader of the slaves during the Third Servile War, a massive slave uprising against the Roman Republic.
- Julius Caesar BC** Nation: Roman Republic Accumulated vast military power. His actions eventually led to his assassination, civil wars, and the creation of the Roman Empire.
- Titus AD** Nation: Hadrian AD Nation: Great reputation as a military administrator and emperor. Hadrian was a philhellene and a humanist.
- Marcus Aurelius Nation:** He was regarded as a Stoic philosopher and the last of the Five Good Emperors. He believed in finding and preserving equanimity in the midst of conflict by following nature as a source of inspiration and guidance.
- Saint Constantine or Constantine I.** Roman Emperor from to First Roman emperor to convert to Christianity.
- Attila the Hun c.** Hunnic Empire Reigned as ruler of the Huns from 453 to 454. One of the most feared enemies of the Eastern and Western Roman Empires during his reign.
- Scotland** A king of the Scots who is best known from the fictional account by William Shakespeare. In the fictional account, he is portrayed as evil and ruthless. In reality, he was an able monarch who was greatly admired.
- Normandy** First Norman King of England, reigning from 1066 until his death in 1101.
- Egypt, Syria** Founded the Ayyubid dynasty. Kurdish Muslim who became the first Sultan of Egypt and Syria.
- Genghis Khan Nation:** The empire became the largest empire in history.
- Kublai Khan Nation:** Mongol Empire Grandson of Genghis Khan. Second son of Tolui and Sorghaghtani Beki.
- Scotland** Scottish landowner who became an effective leader during the Wars of Scottish Independence. He achieved many victories and was later knighted. Eventually he was captured and brutally executed.
- Henry V Nation:** England King of England from 1418 to 1422. He acquired much military experience while fighting lords who rebelled against his father, Henry IV.
- Joan of Arc c.** Spain Spanish conquistador whose expedition conquered the Inca Empire. Compared to other conquistadors, Pizarro faced larger armies, had fewer men, and was far from Spanish outposts in the Caribbean which could have supplied provisions, arms, and men.
- Spain** Spanish Conquistador in the early 16th century. Led an expedition that fell the Aztec Empire and brought large portions of modern-day Mexico under the rule of the King of Castile.
- Aztec** Final Aztec ruler of Tenochtitlan, ruled from 1520 to 1521. At age 25 he was elected to the post by a council of noblemen, during the Spanish conquest. He defied the invaders and swore to sacrifice Christian all converts in Aztec lands to his gods. He was later captured and hung for treason, but became immortalized as a Mexican hero.
- Japan** In the late 16th century, Nobunaga started the unification of Japan under the shogunate, which ruled Japan until the Meiji Restoration in 1868. Achieved victories against Spanish armies armed with lances, muskets and horses even when his own forces were armed with only spears and axes.

Chapter 3 : Famous Military Battles At Quotes. QuotesGram

The 'Top Ten Battles' article presented here is from his latest book: "The Battle The Stories Behind History's Most Influential Battles," illustrated by Bob Rosenburgh. Lanning has written fourteen books on military history, including "The Military A Ranking of the Most Influential Military Leaders of All Time."

Share Shares While some military tactics are set in stone, a mixture of desperation and quick thinking have led to some tactics which simply make their creator look like a lunatic. But rarely do we see animals being used as elegantly as Cambyses II of Persia used cats. He was fighting the Egyptians in the battle of Pelusium in B. Cambyses ordered his men to paint felines on their shields, and he brought hundreds of actual cats into his front lines. The Egyptian archers refused to fire on his felines, fearing that they would injure the animalsâ€™ a crime punishable by death. Instead they retreated, and most were massacred by the pursuing Persians. This ultimately led to the capture of the pharaoh. After seeking shelter in a mud fort, they were awoken by the Mughal forces, who had surrounded them. For most, this would mean surrendering before the horde had the chance to knock on the front gate. But for the Sikhs, it meant leading a defense against a vastly superior enemy long enough for their Guru to escape. Somehow, the 48 men defended the fort through the night, distracting the enemy, killing 3, of them, and ensuring the survival of their religion. When word reached Caesar that a relief force of , was marching towards his forces, instead of retreating, he ordered his men to build a second set of walls around the first. For the next few weeks , while outnumbered four to one, Caesar led both a siege of Alesia and the defense of his own fortifications. On October 2, he personally led a devastating cavalry charge against an attacking force of 60, men with 6, of his own, forcing both the relief force and those in Alessia to surrender. Single German U-boat captains such as Kretschmer were responsible for the sinking of , tons of shipping alone. These glorified tin cans were starving out Europe one merchant ship at a time, replacing Christmas turkeys with Christmas potatoes. With no submarines of their own and no real countermeasures, one might expect some strange solutions. But nothing was nearly as insane as the British solutionâ€™ a hammer and bag. Convoys would send a blacksmith and a few gunners out on a small raft in the dead of night. Once the team spotted a U-boat periscope, they would approach it in silence and either secure the bag around it or smash it with their hammer, blinding the captain and forcing them to surface. The method was surprisingly effective, with 16 U-boats being hammered. The Polikarpov Po-2 biplanes were entrusted to the Night Witchesâ€™ a brigade of women bombers. At first, they were given the inferior technology because they were women. They soon proved themselves, with many flying over 1, missions by the end of the war. There was one secret to their success: The speedy German Mes were unable to decelerate and hit the slow moving Po-2 planes without stalling. Though they could only carry two bombs each, their wooden frames made them undetectable to radar, and they remained some of the only Soviet aircraft to be able to survive the skies during the German occupation. And they were flown by schoolgirls with around four hours of training. Hastein, a Viking leader, was looking to sack Rome in A. Knowing that Vikings were far better at pillaging villages than cities, he came up with a plan to bypass the city walls: Pretend to be a dead Norseman seeking burial in the city. Hastein played dead in his coffin and his raiding force just walked through the front gate. Although his plan was met with great success, he later learned that he had mistaken the city of Luna for the city of Rome and pillaged the wrong city. He was outnumbered three to one by a force of mostly mounted troops. Facing the army in a pitched battle would be suicide, and instead Richard formed a defensive perimeter with his back to a river and waitedâ€™ while under constant and heavy missile attackâ€™ from early morning until mid-afternoon. His tactic was to wait for Saladin to get impatient and give up some kind of advantage, and after hours of constant missile attack, he was given his chance. Upon seeing this, Richard ordered his heavy cavalry to charge, decimating the unmounted enemy and winning the battle. When faced by the Sultan and his war elephants in , Timur ordered his terrified, fleeing men to dismount and load their camels with as much hay as possible. Strangely not a monumental mistake, the sight of the burning camels was enough to spook the elephants and send them back into the Indian frontline. The Indian army was trampled by their own elephants, which were equipped with chain mail and poisoned tusks, allowing Timur an easy victory. He was

also able to replace his camels with elephants, which he used later in his invasion of India. When the Americans arrived to evacuate the prisoners and their former captors, they were engaged by elements of the 17th SS Grenadier Division who had been sent to execute the prisoners. Gangl, realizing that the prison would be overrun before help arrived, offered his assistance to the Americans. Throughout the morning, German and American soldiers fought side by side in the only recorded case of this happening in the war. After some time, an American relief force arrived and routed the SS, but not before Gangl was killed by a sniper. It should be noted that giving automatic weapons to prisoners of war is only advisable in extreme situations. The Crusaders were far more equipped than the Russians, with full plate mail and armored horses. The Russians would have been easily beaten in a straight fight, so they retreated over the frozen Lake Peipus and then turned around to face them, hoping the lake would slow the enemy down. The over-eager knights followed them, not realizing that the ice would be unable to hold their armored weight. According to reports, the Crusader ranks were in chaos, slipping and breaking through the ice while fighting the armored Russian infantry. Eventual archer bombardment led to a full retreat of the Teutonic Knights. Mark is an award-winning 10 meter swimmer and not-so-award-winning shoe wearer and air breather. You can find him on Twitter [here](#).

Chapter 4 : Most Famous Military Leaders - Greatest Military Leader of All Time

These famous American battles helped the US become the country it is today, for better or worse. There's no denying that, whether or not you agree with the politics of war, these important battles were fought during some of the most important wars in history and left their mark on many countries, not just the United States.

The Greeks tried to hold the Persian force with Spartiates and hoplites under the leadership of King Leonidas in a narrow pass. Despite of gallant efforts of Spartan, Persia conquered the Thermopylae and had several victories in Artemisium, Thessaly, Boeotia, Euboea, and Attica. However, they lost the Battle of Salamis. He put Mardonius in charge in Boeotia. The Historic battle took place near Plataea modern Plataiai in Boeotia. A huge portion of the Persian army was trapped in the camp and slaughtered. This battle allegedly happened on the same day at the Battle of Mycale and marked the end the invasion started by the Persians. Persian and Greek Leaders: Thermopylae, Greece In the summer of BC, an unparalleled Greek force of 7, men, led by King Leonidas of Sparta, blocked the outnumbered Persian army at the pass. The Greeks held off the Persians for 7 days with 3 vicious battles, often epitomized as famous last-stand battles in history. Leonidas blocked the road with his force for 2 days; this road being the one and only way for the Persian army to pass. After the continuous two-day battle, Greek resident Ephialtes revealed the secret pass, where the Persian army could enter. Leonidas with his Spartans, and several other Thespians and Thebans died of a glorious death at the pass. Battle of Red Cliffs A. Sun Quan and Liu Bei Location: A decisive battle took place in A. Cao Cao assembled his , soldiers and attacked his southern rivals swiftly with a mission to unify China. Southern warlords had altogether 50, soldiers, including 30, trained naval soldiers led by Zhou. The biggest disadvantage Cao Cao faced was the lack of unstable rear supply, and the fact that many of the soldiers were inexperience in water battles. May BC Victory: The battle opened a gateway to develop the Greek and Indian cultures that lasted throughout many centuries. Wang He, Bai Qi Date: State of Qin Location: Qin won the decisive victory. Qin attempted to invade Zhao in BC but was forced back. After 46 days without the supplies Zhao finally surrendered. Battle of Chalons Battle Between: February or March Victory: This battle was remembered for years because of the high death toll. The battle ended the Gallic Empire and reunified it with the Roman Empire after 13 years of separation. Battle of Kadesh Battle Between: May BC Location: Orontes River near Kadesh Roman Army: Ramses, along with his bodyguard, arrived from the north to join the Amun division and to set up a fortified camp to await the Ra division, who were marching from the North. After learning the location, Ramses summoned the remainder of the army and planned to attack the Ra division. When Muwatali saw an approaching army, he sent his chariot force south of Kadesh to attack the approaching Ra division army. Marcus Claudius, Marcellus State of Qin: Sicily was fragmentally divided into two rulers. After the death of Hiero, his young grandson Hieronymus succeeded him. He started negotiating with Hannibal, which did not turn out well for him. Hieronymus was assassinated and Syracuse was declared a democratic republic primarily dominated by Carthaginian. The assassination of Hieronymus led to a conflict between pro-Carthaginian and pro-Roman factions. The two brothers, Hippocrates and Epicydes, of mixed Syracusan and Carthaginian descent, took control of the city with a hope to make a Sicily Carthaginian stronghold. In order to deal with the situation, the Romans sent Marcus Claudius Marcellus to Sicily, who took control of the Leontini and took all the Carthaginians prisoner "beating and beheaded them. The two brothers escaped from the Leontini and spread the story to the Romans. The Romans slaughtered all the inhabitants of the city. Marcellus encircled Syracuse and commenced the military operation in BC. Hannibal was waiting for reinforcements and seized equipment from his brother Hasdruda. The reinforcements and equipment were pivotal for victorious battle against Rome. Claudius, who fought Hannibal in Grumentum, km south of the Metaurus river, reached Metaurus to accompany Marcus Livus. The vicious and undetected forces trapped Hasdrubal in Metaurus. Third Servile War Battle Between: Roman Republic and Army of escaped slaves Slaves Leader: Near Carrhae Harran Slaves Army: The small group of 78 slaves and escaped gladiators grew into a massive army consisting of , men, women, and children. With the growing alert from the slave rebellions, the Romans formed an army of eight legions under the leadership of Marcus Licinius Crassus. The

war ended in 71 BC with the decisive Roman victory. Battle of Gaugamela Battle Between: October 1, BC
Victory: The two great armies met near Gaugamela the present day city of Mosul in Iraq. Battle of Salamis
Battle Between:

Chapter 5 : 10 Insane Military Tactics That Actually Worked - Listverse

A crucial battle of Caesar's Civil War, it was fought by two great military tacticians who were once allies - Pompey Magnus ("Pompey the Great") who had the backing of Roman senators, and Gaius Julius Caesar.

Share Shares Military history is full of amazing feats, the greatest of these being when victory is achieved despite the odds being stacked against the winning side. These battles tell tales of determination and courage, leading to victories that no one thought possible. It occurred when a large number of Pakistani troops and tanks entered India, meeting Major K. Chandpuri of the Indian army with his men, some of whom were training to be mortar men, and their single Jeep, which was fitted with an anti-tank weapon. The major was occupying a fortified sand dune at Longewala, a small hamlet in the Thar desert, when his position came under bombardment early in the morning of December 5, , killing five camels. During the course of the night, the major and his men destroyed 12 enemy tanks, pushing back attack after attack from their sand dune with limited means of retaliation. Due to a lack of night vision in outdated Indian planes, air support was refused to the defenders until morning. When two Indian hunter planes arrived at dawn, the desert became a killing field, with nowhere for the enemy tanks to hide and sand making it difficult to maneuver. Major Chandpuri was able to rout the enemy on December 6, with only eight enemy tanks escaping the wrath of the The Oda, a relatively weak family, was led by Oda Nobunaga, a reckless and unpredictable year-old, thought by some to be mentally unstable. In , Imagawa Yoshimoto, from the far more powerful Imagawa family, made an attempt to take Kyoto, crossing through Owari, controlled by the Oda family. Oda Nobunaga met the enemy army of between 20, to 40, with a force of 2,, even after his generals had told him to surrender. Setting up camp at Zenshoji, a temple fortress, on June 11, , Nobunaga ordered his men to construct a dummy army. When he arrived, Yoshimoto set up camp and allowed his men to eat and drink the loot they had captured from the easily conquered Oda fortresses, under the belief that victory against such a small defending force would be easy. On June 22, Nobunaga and his army made their move. They left the fortress and sneaked into the hills overlooking the enemy force, with a thunderstorm silencing their noisy approach. Suddenly, they charged the drunk and unprepared enemy. Yoshimoto, thinking the commotion was merely a drunken squabble between his men, was slain before he had any idea what was happening. The numerically inferior Oda force won the battle within two hours. After unsuccessful military attempts by Ferdinand I, the brother of the Holy Roman Emperor, to retake the land, the Ottomans marched to take control of Hungary on May 10, He commanded the defense alongside a year-old German mercenary, Niklas Graf Salm. The Viennese were able to muster around 20, men and 75 artillery guns to defend the city. The Ottoman army that arrived at Vienna in September numbered , men and artillery pieces. The siege began with a bombardment of over of those guns, used to cover attempts by the Ottomans to undermine the walls by digging tunnels. Upon learning of these attempts, Niklas had bowls of water, filled with dried peas, placed around the walls. The dried peas floated on the surface of the water and, when disturbed by nearby digging, created ripples in the water, informing the defenders that the Ottomans were coming. On October 6, , 8, troops left the city in a rather risky raid that aimed to put a stop to the mining operations. Magruder attacked the Union-occupied city of Galveston, Texas. The city wharf was occupied and heavily fortified by men, as well as being covered by six Union gunboats with their many guns. The Confederates, on the other hand, had 21 pieces of artillery, men, and two river steamers, Bayou City and Neptune, both with some cotton bales and a single gun protecting the flanks of the crew and boarding parties. At around dawn, the Confederate artillery bombarded the Union boats, to little effect. A small rebel ground force attacked by land, though they met with tough resistance and their ladders proved too short to climb the Union defenses. At the same time, the two river steamers led an attack against the Union gunboats. All hope was pinned on the Bayou City, outnumbered six to one against far superior ships. A truce was called for the two sides to consider their positions. As they departed the ship in row boats, the explosion failed and Renshaw decided to return to the ship to see what was wrong. The ship exploded as they re-boarded, killing Renshaw and 13 of his crew. The Union ships retreated to sea the moment they saw their commander blown to kingdom come. Having lost their sea support, the Union forces surrendered. The

Confederates suffered losses of 26 killed and wounded. The Union suffered captured, about casualties on the ships, and the destruction of the USS Westfield. Colonel Paavo Talvela, of the Finnish army, planned to divide his already outnumbered forces and launch a pincer attack over two frozen lakes. Three groups of Finns, attacking the north, center, and south of Soviet defensive lines, would attempt to encircle the overwhelming forces and destroy as much of it as possible. One group of Finns attacked the Soviet defenses to the north and met a far superior Soviet regiment that was planning to attack the Finnish flank. After four hours of vicious fighting the group of Finns was forced back, though they had kept the Soviets from being able to do anything against the other two attacks. On top of this, a small Finnish company stayed behind, proving too stubborn to defeat and preventing the th Soviet Division from sending reinforcements to the south. The second group of Finns attacked the Soviets from the center, overwhelming an entire Soviet division despite their artillery support proving extremely weak. Advancing toward a hotel, which had been turned into a fortress and used as a command center by the Soviets, they captured the building after a bloody fight in which their commander was killed. Finns to the south captured Kotisaari Island after bloody fighting. They also captured vast supplies of weapons and killed over 1, Soviet soldiers compared to the or so killed on the Finnish side. In February , Major General James Wilkinson led a force of 4, men and 11 artillery pieces to try and seize Montreal. Early in the afternoon of March 30, Wilkinson, forced to use a bridge to cross the strong Lacolle river, met a British garrison at Lacolle Mill. Major Richard Handcock commanded the British soldiers and Marines, along with Canadian Fencibles an infantry unit nearby, which later reinforced him. Wilkinson could only fire three of his 11 artillery guns on the enemy position, leading hours of bombardment to achieve little damage on the stone mill. Outnumbered 12 to 1, and relatively untouched by American attacks, the plucky Handcock, running out of ammunition and presumably insane, ordered a charge to capture the American artillery. The first charge failed, however, believing a single suicidal charge would be insufficient in securing his place in the annals of history, Handcock led a second charge after being reinforced with around men, which captured the artillery briefly before being forced to retreat. Gate Pa, built on the doorstep of the main camp of the British, was a Maori fortress which came under attack by the British commander, Duncan Cameron, 1, soldiers and 17 artillery pieces on April Around Maori warriors occupied the fortress, under the command of Rawiri Puhirake. On the 28th and 29th of April, artillery rained down on the fort, with kilograms lbs of explosives falling on the fort for every member of the garrison. With Cameron thinking the defenders were dead or dying, a British storming party was sent into the fortress and allowed to occupy it for a few minutes. Hiding in bunkers, trenches and under floorboards, the defenders suddenly opened fire on the now relaxed British soldiers. The invisible enemy forced the British storming party to retreat, along with a second storming party. Around British soldiers were killed in the mayhem, though the defenders took minimal casualties. After being forced from Texas the previous year, General William B. Franklin, of the Union, led an amphibious force, aiming to retake Sabine Pass, an entrance point into Texas by water. Four gunboats, 18 transports and 4, troops set sail. This small force was all that stood between the Union and a successful amphibious invasion of Texas. When they saw the Union ships, they opened fire, disabling the Sachem and the Clifton while under fire themselves. Eventually, they had damaged or destroyed so many Union ships that they blocked the river, forcing the Union to retreat, and those grounded to skirmish with the Confederate force until they surrendered. The Confederates lost no men while 28 Union soldiers were killed, 75 were wounded, and were captured in one of the most humiliating defeats of the Union. During the Hussite Wars in Bohemia , in which the Holy Roman Empire called a crusade against the Hussites , a small group of Hussite peasants held off a massive Crusading army. In February , an army of , Crusaders marched on the city of Prague and laid siege. Jan Zizka, a Hussite commander, had been able to get his numerically inferior peasant army, who had defeated the Crusaders in previous skirmishes, into the city before it was besieged. On July 12, , the Crusaders, thinking that the city would be taken easily, attacked carelessly. On July 14, after two days of fighting, the peasant army, fighting with only sharpened tools, had repelled every attack by the Crusaders, allowing a relief force to route the enemy and piss off the Pope to no end. In , Roger was occupying Cerami, a small settlement in Sicily, with knights when a far larger Muslim army met them on the battlefield. The small force survived an initial charge, fighting in a vicious battle that lasted throughout the day before the Muslim army fled under

cover of night. Sources from the time that suggest 15, Saracens were slain and that St. George appeared at the battle and smote the enemy with nothing but his pinky finger are likely exaggerated and arguably impossible. However, the Normans likely killed many times their own number, as the Muslim force included troops from both Sicily and Africa. Mark is an award-winning 10 meter swimmer and not-so-award-winning shoe wearer and air breather. You can find him on Twitter right here.

Chapter 6 : 10 Amazing Military Victories Against The Odds - Listverse

The Battle of Kadesh is the oldest ever recorded military battle in history in which the details of formations and tactics are known. The battle took place in present day Syria between the Egyptians (Ramses II) and Hittite Empire (Muwatalli II).

Blenheim has gone down in history as one of the turning points of the War of the Spanish Succession. The overwhelming Allied victory ensured the safety of Vienna from the Franco-Bavarian army, thus preventing the collapse of the Grand Alliance. Allied casualties were 4, killed and 7, wounded, whereas the enemy suffered losses of 38, killed, wounded or taken prisoner. It destroyed the myth of French invincibility. The battle ended any hope of the Stuarts regaining the throne, safeguarding the succession of the Protestant House of Hanover. This battle ultimately led to the establishment of British rule in India. It is one of the greatest victories of the Seven Years War and marked the beginning of the end of French power in North America. This momentous event has taken on an almost mythical quality in the American consciousness. The episode was not a large affair, but was politically disastrous for the British. The violence turned a colonial revolt against British economic policy into a fight for political independence. The British won a victory which is sometimes regarded as the turning point of the First Anglo-Sikh War. The Charge of the Light Brigade led by Lord Cardigan against Russian forces during the Battle of Balaclava was the result of a miscommunication which saw the Light Brigade charge, unsupported by infantry, into the mouths of massed Russian cannon. The attempt failed, with heavy casualties on both sides. The campaign was considered one of the greatest victories of the Turks and was reflected on as a major failure by the Allies. The Battle of the Somme was one of the largest battles of the war and one of the bloodiest military operations ever recorded with over 1 million casualties. The Allies quickly advanced, taking Damascus and Aleppo, before the Turks sued for peace in October. Battle involved skilful series of manoeuvres and use of aeroplanes, artillery, infantry and cavalry. About 4, troops of the British 29th Brigade, including about from 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, faced more than 27, men of the Chinese 63rd Army. Around "Glorious Glosters" fought a last stand on Hill later renamed Gloster Hill against 10, Chinese troops for three nights, allowing time for UN forces to regroup and block the Chinese advance on the capital Seoul. A small garrison of British Pathfinders and Danish troops withstood a Taleban siege for over 50 days. Reinforcements including men of the Royal Irish Regiment and 3 Para endured further weeks of intense combat in this remote outpost.

Chapter 7 : The Art of Battle

The Battle of the Somme was one of the largest battles of the war and one of the bloodiest military operations ever recorded with over 1 million casualties. Megiddo (World War One) 19 September.

Chapter 8 : 9 best Famous Military Battles images on Pinterest | Military history, Soldiers and World war tw

The famous battle of the Revolutionary War that saw the British attempt to break through colonial embankments near Boston. Although the British won, this battle gave them the most casualties of the war, proving that the colonials were capable of holding their own.

Chapter 9 : The 20 greatest battles in British history - Telegraph

However, there are also rare cases when military victories were achieved against overwhelming odds without the implication of grand strategies or stately drills. In essence, many of such singular battles were won due to tactical brilliance of the commander, or deft use of topography, or just sheer courage and determination of the troops involved.