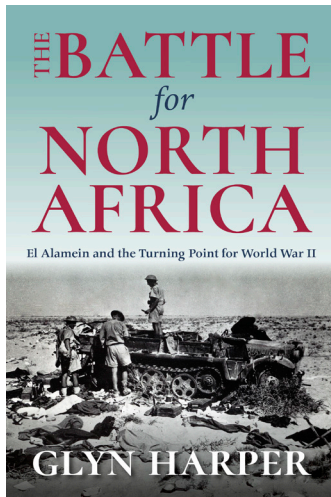




# The Battle for North Africa

## *El Alamein and the Turning Point for World War II*

GLYN HARPER



\$45

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### THE DESPERATE WEEKS OF DESERT WARFARE THAT GAVE THE ALLIES HOPE THAT THEY COULD PUT NAZI GERMANY ON THE RUN

In the early years of World War II, Germany shocked the world with a devastating blitzkrieg, rapidly conquered most of Europe, and pushed into North Africa. As the Allies scrambled to counter the Axis armies, the British Eighth Army confronted the experienced Afrika Corps, led by German field marshal Erwin Rommel, in three battles at El Alamein. In the first battle, the Eighth Army narrowly halted the advance of the Germans during the summer of 1942. However, the stalemate left Nazi troops within striking distance of the Suez Canal, which would provide a critical tactical advantage to the controlling force.

War historian Glyn Harper dives into the story, vividly narrating the events, strategies, and personalities surrounding the battles and paying particular attention to the Second Battle of El Alamein, a crucial turning point in the war that would be described by Winston Churchill as “the end of the beginning.” Moving beyond a simple narrative of the conflict, *The Battle for North Africa* tackles critical themes, such as the problems of coalition warfare, the use of military intelligence, the role of celebrity generals, and the importance of an all-arms approach to modern warfare.

*“A well-researched and highly readable account of one of World War II’s most important ‘turning point’ battles ... Harper provides a ‘fresh look’ from an unbiased perspective at this decisive battle just in time for its 75th anniversary.”* — Jerry D. Morelock, Senior Editor at HistoryNet.com

*“Harper is excellent at destroying long-held myths”* — Nicholas Reid, Listener

*“The author has delved deeply to deliver up impressively detailed analysis of this decisive battle’s ebb and flow”* — Clark Isaacs, Otago Daily Times

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Glyn Harper** is Professor of War Studies at Massey University in New Zealand, and Massey Project Manager of the New Zealand and the First World War Centenary History Project. He is author of many books, including *Johnny Enzed*, *Images of War*, *Acts of Valour* (with Colin Richardson) and *Letters from the Battlefield*.

### SALES POINTS

- Published to mark the 75th anniversary of the victory at El Alamein
- The author has a great track record as a military historian and best sellers to his credit
- Taps into abiding interest in the battles in North Africa in which New Zealand and Australian troops were very active.
- A fresh look at this decisive moment in World War II
- Widespread media coverage planned