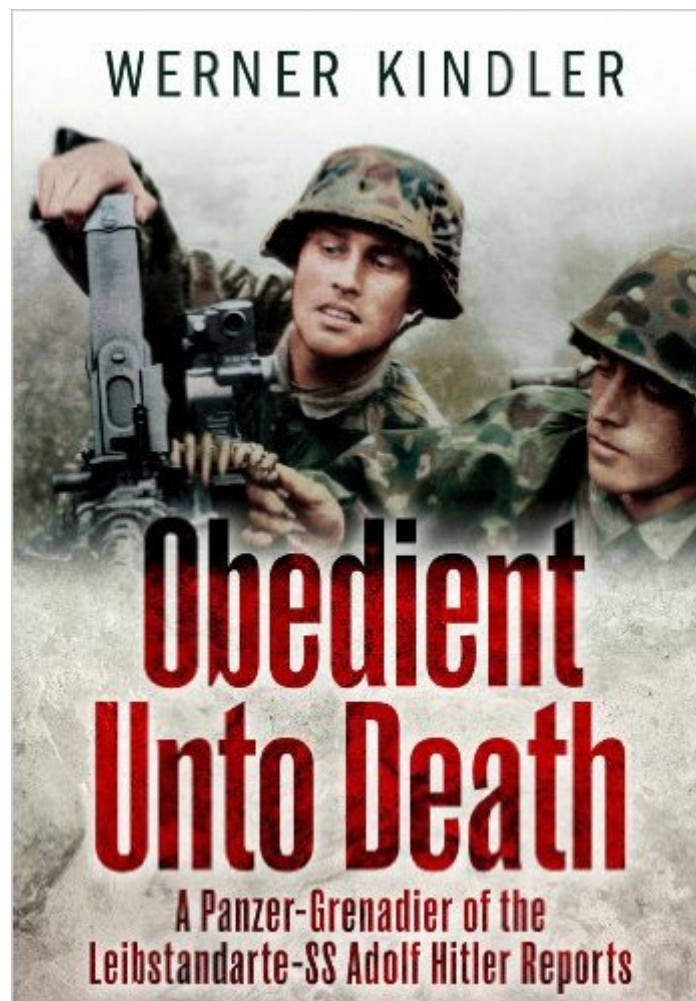


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Obedient Unto Death: A Panzer-Grenadier Of The Leibstandarte-SS Adolf Hitler Reports



Synopsis

Between 1941 and 1944 Waffen-SS Oberscharführer (Sergeant) Werner Kindler took part in 84 days of close combat, qualifying him for the Close Combat Clasp in Gold, the Third Reich's highest decoration for a frontline soldier. He was also awarded the German Cross in Gold, the Iron Cross First and Second Class and the Wound Badge in Gold. Drafted into the SS-Totenkopf in 1939, he served with a motorized unit in Poland, and in May 1941 was selected for the Leibstandarte-SS Adolf Hitler, with which he fought in the invasion of the Soviet Union. His unit converted to a Panzer Grenadier formation in 1942, and Kindler went on to fight at Kharkov and Kursk on the Eastern Front, and later in Belgium and France in 1944, where he was present at the infamous Malmedy massacre. At the end of the war, he was the last man of the Leibstandarte-SS to surrender to the Americans. This is one of the most dramatic first-hand accounts to come out of the Second World War.

Book Information

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: Frontline Books; 2nd edition (June 19, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 184832734X

ISBN-13: 978-1848327344

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 1 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (19 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #262,258 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #93 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Military > World War I](#) #254 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Europe > Germany](#) #264 in [Books > History > Military > United States > Veterans](#)

Customer Reviews

Close Combat Clasp in Gold and German Cross in Gold winner. Member of the LAH. A memoir.....well it goes downhill from there. Only about 15% percent of this book is on the author's experiences and much of it is only in noting for example "during the attack on X I was credited my 21st close combat day". A good portion of the book is devoted to his early battalion commander Piper and various platoon and company commanders. Would have loved to have had a first person memoir from this author. A lot of the book is more justly a battalion war diary extract. As this is such

a famous unit alot of this info is available from numerous other sources. I would buy this book again, just with much less enthusiasm.

Wow the preview made this book sound great but I guess "Reports" in the title says it all. Reads like a boring after action report by a robot. Got fooled on this one, won't get fooled again. Save your money.

This book is not about Werner Kindler's experiences. It more of a history of the operations of the Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler (LAH). It reports Division and Corp information Kindler could not have know at the time. Half the book is reports from what other people saw and observed based on their own reports and memories. The other half is the unit history. In the fact that Kindler was there during this time it does give some small insight into what he must have observed. However, at best, it is simply his counted up days for the close combat clasp. For example, the text repeats over and over, "on this day we went here and did that and for this day I was awarded my Xth close combat day". Wow. If I had wanted an operational history of the LAH I would have bought a book to that effect. Guess I don't have to now since I have one. If that was why I had ordered the book, I would give it a 4 or 5. But it wasn't. If you are buying the book to learn of Kindler's experiences, don't because you won't. Now, having said all this, it wasn't a bad read and I did actually enjoy it.

I have to agree with what everyone has posted thus far. The book contains virtually no "first hand account" by Kindler. The book contains writings from Peiper, these accounts are basically about troops movements. The book in my opinion the book was misleadingly advertised. I say this because we are all complaining about the same thing: The book is not nearly a first hand account. The book does have some good unit history concerning LSSAH.

The book basically is a travel guide recounting the locations where the author served. There is very little about what the author experienced. I can think of nothing to recommend this book.

I have to agree with the other two posters here. Very little in the way of a personal account from the author.

This book is a remarkable record of one of the most courageous, determined, committed, & brave Waffen SS German Servicemen during WW2. The detailed record by Werner Kindler is outstanding,

& the description of his Leibstandarte's Units' feats of arms, & the number of times he was wounded, leaves one shaking one's head in comprehending what occurred. German Servicemen who received the the Close-Combat Clasp in Gold & the Wound Badge in Gold, indicates their individual courage, endurance, mental fortitude & tenacity, together with an issue of luck. One often reads about the war heroes on the winning side, but rarely on the losing side. Werner Kindler's documentary effort seeks to redeem this issue. Upon reading the documented, outstanding records of service & achievements of these brave 1st. SS Panzer Division - Leibstandarte personnel, a reader could ponder upon their own achievements in life, & probably feel diminished, as a result of the comparison. Thank you Werner, for your diligent efforts in documenting your service for posterity.

Excellent book. It is a book that is based on fact. Sometime it lacks the action but lays the foundation for said action. I prefer action on the Eastern front from start to finish. All in all, a very good book and would recommend it to anyone who has a serious interest in Eastern front action between German and Russian troops

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