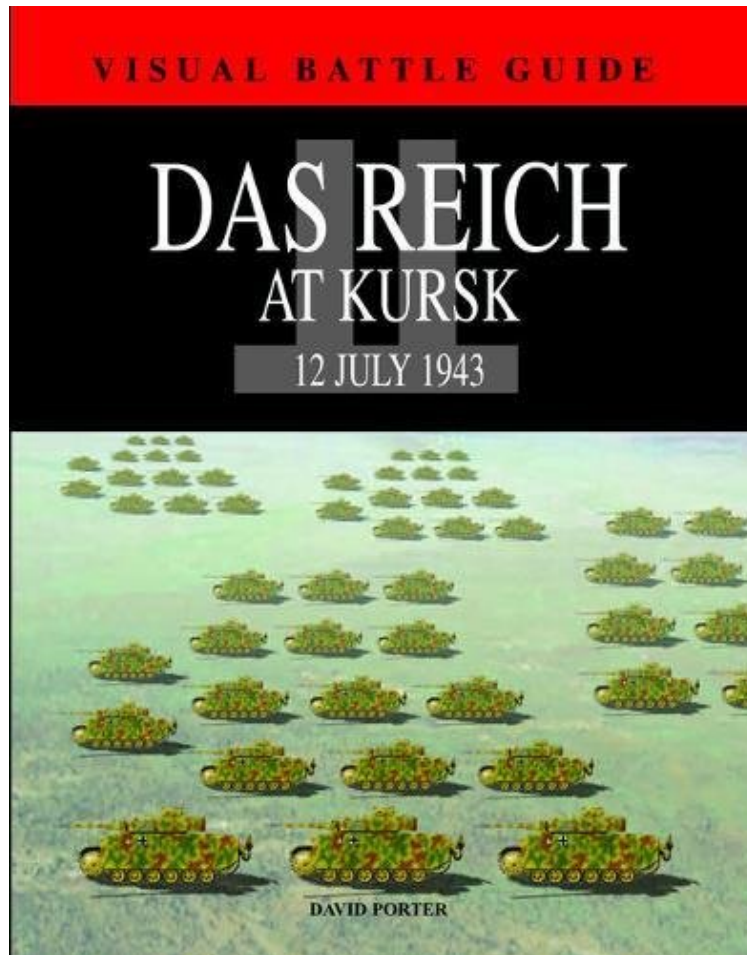


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David Porter

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Das Reich Division at Kursk: 12 July 1943 (Visual Battle Guide)

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1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This review also covers FIFTH GUARDS TANK ARMY AT KURSK by the same author By Michael Reese These two book complement each other. As with the 7th Armoured and 1st SS Panzer Korps at Villars Bocoge books there is some repetition in the latter part of the books where the actual battle is covered. However, on the other hand the books have a lot more information and coverage on Das Reich and on Fifth Guards Army then the title implies. Das Reich's history up to this battle and a fairly detailed illustrated order of battle is covered. The same with Fifth Guards Army. In addition both books cover the advantages and weaknesses of both armies and use the latest sources on the battle which have come out only in the last year (2012). See DEMOLISHING the MYTH for the Russian side and BLOOD, STEEL, AND MYTH for IISS Panzer Korps side of

the battle of Kursk, July 1943 for the full story. These two Visual Battle Guides are both good summaries of the longer and more detailed books. Recommend all four.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Awesome informational and graphic representation in a clear and concise ...By Tiborious MaximusAwesome informational and graphic representation in a clear and concise package ! These books are an excellent series! I recommend them all.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Love this bookBy hurricane2Excellent look at Kursk from an SS perspective, invaluable for model making. It would be brilliant if a book was done on the 1st SS

In the early summer of 1943, following the German defeat at Stalingrad, Hitler sought a decisive battle that would turn the struggle on the Eastern Front in the Germans favor. On the 5th July 1943, the Wehrmacht launched Operation Citadel. Attacking with a force of 3000 tanks and assault guns, the Germans faced a well dug-in force of more than 3900 Soviet tanks, with another 1500 tanks in reserve. The tanks advanced with as many as 50 vehicles packed together per kilometer of line. What followed was the largest tank battle the world has ever seen, with both sides suffering heavy casualties. On the 11th July, three SS divisions Totenkopf, Das Reich and Leibstandarte attempted to break through the Soviet lines at the village of Prokhorovka, and so force the flank of the Soviet defensive position.

Facing them were the newly deployed Fifth Guards Tanks Army. It was the Germans last chance for a potential breakthrough on the Eastern Front. The battle raged all day, with German attack followed by Soviet counterattack. By nightfall the Germans had lost more than 300 tanks and the Fifth Guards Tanks Army 50 percent of their strength. Despite their heavy losses, the Soviet defenders had achieved their aim: the German attack had been halted and all hope of their regaining the initiative lost. Das Reich at Prokhorovka has an eight-page gatefold depicting one of the brigades from the Das Reich Division in an innovative and fresh manner. This brigade is shown in battle deployment, with reconnaissance units, advance companies, the main body, the brigade command section, plus all the supporting engineers, signalers, artillery etc to provide a visual guide to exactly how many tanks and other armored vehicles were advancing on the 11th July. The book itself is broken down by these sections, looking at each component part of the brigade in turn, their structure, equipment and what they did on 11th July. Maps will be used where appropriate to show the location of each element on the battlefield. The description of each part includes action reports, organization, equipment, unit commanders and much more. Thanks to its new and accessible approach, the book will appeal to both the enthusiast and the general reader interested in World War II. REVIEWS written in an interesting, involving style that is easy to follow. O cannot think of a more interesting book on the Kursk assault, nor one that captures the reader so well. highly recommended. :Scale Plastic and Rail