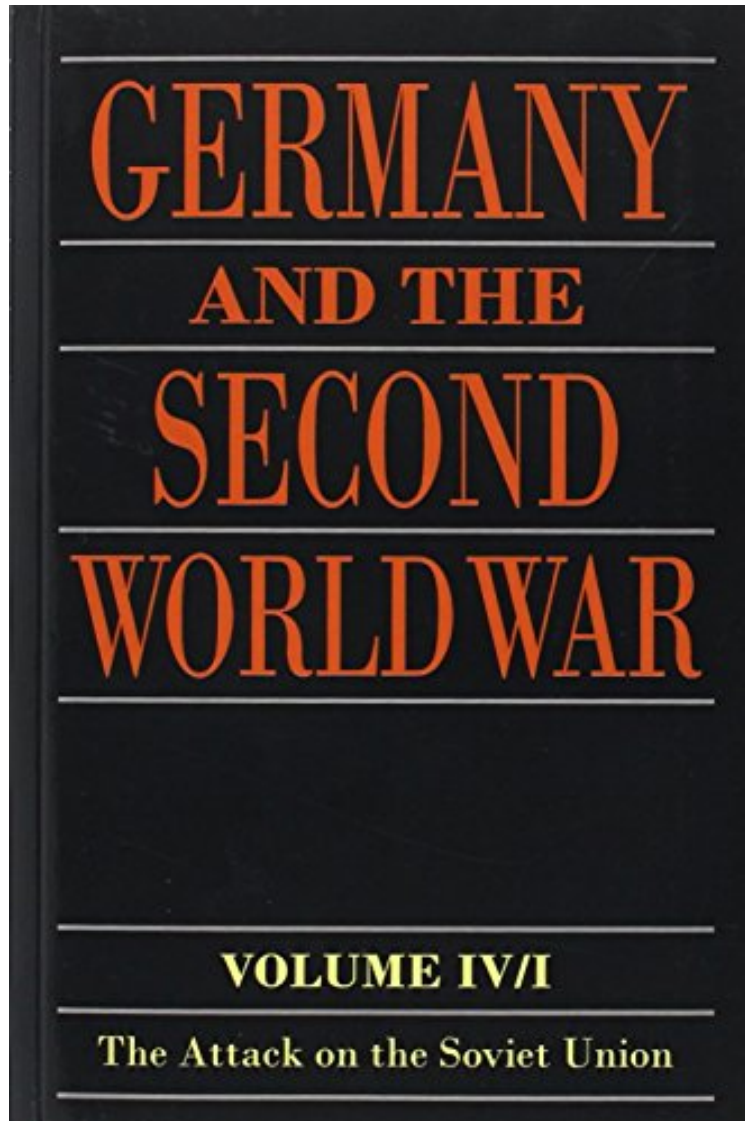


## Germany and the Second World War: Volume IV: The Attack on the Soviet Union

*Horst Boog, Jurgen Forster, Joachim Hoffman, Ernst Klink, Rolf-Dieter Muller, Gerd R. Ueberschar*  
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**Horst Boog, Jurgen Forster, Joachim Hoffman, Ernst Klink, Rolf-Dieter Muller, Gerd R. Ueberschar :**  
**Germany and the Second World War: Volume IV: The Attack on the Soviet Union** before purchasing it in order  
to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Germany and the Second World War: Volume IV:  
The Attack on the Soviet Union:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Extensive Discussion of Germany's Preparations for and execution

of Operation BarbarossaBy 10th LegionHard to summarize nearly 1400 pages of text, but basically, German political concerns, racial biases, Nazi ideological beliefs, and a sense of military superiority led the Third Reich to attack a country which objectively it had little chance of defeating.Exceptional strategic analysis of the German campaign in the USSR 1940-1941. This is a softcover edition of the original hard bound series published by the Oxford Press and is a bargain, relatively speaking, since the hard cover volumes were in the hundreds of dollars each. As packaged, you receive a two volume set with volume 1 running 531 pages and volume 2 at 833 pages including a bibliography and index for both volumes. First of all, this 2-volume set is not a purely military analysis of the German invasion of the USSR. If that is what you want, look elsewhere. This work is divided up into two parts (volumes) with supporting topics;Part 1 German Policy and the Soviet Union 1940-41 which has 7 topics each with a specific author.I. Hitler's Decision in Favour of War Against the Soviet UnionII. The Soviet Union up to the Eve of the German AttackIII. From Economic Alliance to a War of Colonial ExploitationIV. The Military Concept of the War Against the Soviet UnionV. German's Acquisition of Allies in South-East EuropeVI. The Involvement of Scandinavia in the Plans for BarbarossaVII. Operation Barbarossa as a War of Conquest and AnnihilationPart II The War against the Soviet Union until the Turn of 1941/1942I. The Conduct of OperationsII. The Conduct of the War through Soviet EyesIII. Strategy and Policy in North EuropeIV. The Decisions of the Tripartite Pack StatesV. Volunteers for the European Crusade against BolshevismVI. The Failure of the Economic BlitzkriegVII. Securing Living-SpaceOperation Barbarossa in Historical PerspectiveGiven the breadth of topics covered in this extensive work, I will limit my comments to just a few points.The authors do a good job of presenting the views of the principal leaders, Hitler, Goering, Halder, etc. the intellectual climate and predispositions of the services, Wehrmacht/Heer, Luftwaffe, and Kriegsmarine.Translation errors are minor and do not detract from the narrative.Each topic can be read separately, so there is no obligation to go from front to back. Pick what topic interests you most and start there.The military actions are discussed at army and army group level. Again, don't buy this for a detailed, tactical and operational level military history of Operation Barbarossa from the German point of view. Maps and graphs are few and far between (that's why I gave 4 of 5 stars rating). What is included is both interesting and informative, just scarce. Who should buy this work? I recommend this to historians and those interested in the German strategic planning and preparations for Operation Barbarossa who have done extensive background reading before tackling this work. The authors assume a considerable comprehension by the reader of the German military structure, senior political and military leaders and the events leading up to June 1941. Otherwise it is excellent reading. Just expect to take your time digesting each topic and don't expect to read about the exploits of Guderian or Hoth.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An excellent book on World War II from a German point ...By cowboyFast service. An excellent book on World War II from a German point of view.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Dan KoskoVery Well written. Lots of detail. Wish they had included the maps in the English version.

Nine months after the beginning of the Second World War, German dominance over much of Europe seemed assured. Hitler not only stood on the pinnacle of his popularity in Germany but more than ever his ideological fixations and political calculations determined German war policy. This volume, the fourth in the acclaimed Germany and the Second World War series, examines the thinking behind the decision to go to war with the Soviet Union which was to prove the undoing of the German war effort. The authors examine in revealing detail the military and political policies behind the attack on the Soviet Union and the strategic conduct of the war. They explore not only the command principles and practices, but also the expenditure and attrition of the forces, and show that by the end of 1941 it was clear that it was in the eastern theatre that the Second World War would be decided and the map of Europe redrawn.

"An indispensable new dimension is added to our understanding of the conflict...describes events in ruthless detail from the view point of the Third Reich" --Evening Standard"I assure you all that it is worth every penny! This one volume seems to be destined to become THE definitive study on the German planning and invasion of the Soviet Union for decades to come. The wealth of detail and information included in this work is simply staggering ... I wholeheartedly recommend this book." --Axis EuropaAbout the AuthorHorst Boog, Militargeschichtliches Forschungsamt (Research Institute for Military History)Jurgen Forster, Militargeschichtliches Forschungsamt (Research Institute for Military History)Joachim Hoffman, Militargeschichtliches Forschungsamt (Research Institute for Military History)Ernst Klink, Militargeschichtliches Forschungsamt (Research Institute for Military History)Rolf-Dieter Muller, Militargeschichtliches Forschungsamt (Research Institute for Military History)Gerd R. Ueberschar, Militargeschichtliches Forschungsamt (Research Institute for Military History)Project co-ordinated by the Militargeschichtliches Forschungsamt (Research Institute for Military History), Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany