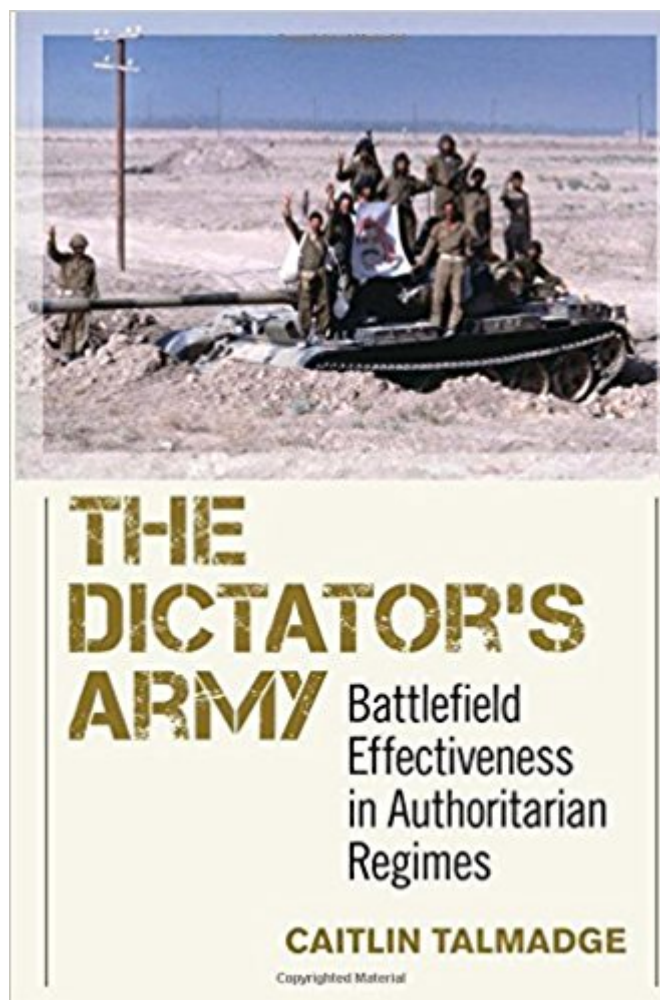




Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

The Dictator's Army: Battlefield Effectiveness In Authoritarian Regimes (Cornell Studies In Security Affairs)



Synopsis

In *The Dictator's Army*, Caitlin Talmadge presents a compelling new argument to help us understand why authoritarian militaries sometimes fight very well and sometimes very poorly. Talmadge's framework for understanding battlefield effectiveness focuses on four key sets of military organizational practices: promotion patterns, training regimens, command arrangements, and information management. Different regimes face different domestic and international threat environments, leading their militaries to adopt different policies in these key areas of organizational behavior. Authoritarian regimes facing significant coup threats are likely to adopt practices that squander the state's military power, while regimes lacking such threats and possessing ambitious foreign policy goals are likely to adopt the effective practices often associated with democracies. Talmadge shows the importance of threat conditions and military organizational practices for battlefield performance in two paired comparisons of states at war: North and South Vietnam (1963–1975) and Iran and Iraq (1980–1988). Drawing on extensive documentary sources, her analysis demonstrates that threats and practices can vary not only between authoritarian regimes but also within them, either over time or across different military units. The result is a persuasive explanation of otherwise puzzling behavior by authoritarian militaries. *The Dictator's Army* offers a vital practical tool for those seeking to assess the likely course, costs, and outcomes of future conflicts involving nondemocratic adversaries, allies, or coalition partners.

Book Information

Series: Cornell Studies in Security Affairs

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Cornell University Press; 1 edition (September 1, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1501700294

ISBN-13: 978-1501700293

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.8 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #253,019 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #119 in [Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Military Sciences](#) #167 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Ideologies & Doctrines > Fascism](#) #427 in [Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Political Science > Political Ideologies](#)

Customer Reviews

"The Dictator's Army is a landmark book that greatly deepens our understanding of how dictators fight wars. Students, scholars, and policymakers will all benefit from reading this important work." — Dan Reiter, Samuel Candler Dobbs Chair of Political Science, Emory University

"Through superb case comparisons Caitlin Talmadge shows carefully how military effectiveness varies, why it depends on far more than the technical factors normally considered, and especially the differences due to political and social characteristics of regimes. She takes analysis of the subject to a new level." — Richard K. Betts, Director, Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies, Columbia University

"Why are some nondemocracies more effective than others on the battlefield? This question is really important for U.S. policy. In this highly original book, Caitlin Talmadge shows how the measures taken by authoritarian regimes to protect against coups makes their militaries less able to fight conventional wars." — Theo Farrell, Head of the Department of War Studies, King's College London

"Understanding the military behavior of autocracies is an important topic for both policymakers and political scientists. Combining new theory with in-depth research, The Dictator's Army persuasively demonstrates how fear of domestic turmoil influences both the military organizational choices of autocrats and the success of their militaries on the battlefield. This book is a fascinating read, one that makes a significant contribution to our scholarship on military effectiveness and security studies more generally." — Michael C. Horowitz, University of Pennsylvania

Caitlin Talmadge is Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at The George Washington University. She is coauthor of *US Defense Politics: The Origins of Security Policy*.

Writing for the Cornell Studies in Security Affairs author Caitlin Talmadge, a professor at George Washington University, comes hard at the subject with a rigorous academic style. She sets up a postulate and then investigates a series of battle to discover if the postulate has validity, or not. This is a volume written by and written for those with a serious, studious intent. And even for the general reader like me this hold a wealth of fascinating information. She takes the armed forces of South Vietnam and the armed forces of Iraq under Saddam's rule as her examples. The parallels are striking. I can still remember how shocked I was when the army of South Vietnam simply fell apart. Talmadge's model strongly suggests that we should have been able to predict that exact outcome. I won't spoil your fun in discovering her assessment for your self. I will say that the techniques used by dictators to use their military to keep themselves in power cross national and cultural boundaries

and hold true over many decades. 'Arabs at War', Pollack's massive opus, describes how Arab armies come up short. Talmadge explains why that comeupance is inevitable.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Dictator's Army: Battlefield Effectiveness in Authoritarian Regimes (Cornell Studies in Security Affairs) Corporate Warriors: The Rise of the Privatized Military Industry, Updated Edition (Cornell Studies in Security Affairs) Why Intelligence Fails: Lessons from the Iranian Revolution and the Iraq War (Cornell Studies in Security Affairs Series) Causes of War: Power and the Roots of Conflict (Cornell Studies in Security Affairs) Nuclear Statecraft: History and Strategy in America's Atomic Age (Cornell Studies in Security Affairs) Sorry States: Apologies in International Politics (Cornell Studies in Security Affairs) Insider Threats (Cornell Studies in Security Affairs) Bombing to Win: Air Power and Coercion in War (Cornell Studies in Security Affairs) Social Security & Medicare Facts 2016: Social Security Coverage, Maximization Strategies for Social Security Benefits, Medicare/Medicaid, Social Security Taxes, Retirement & Disability, Ser ARMY BRATS: LOVE IN THE HOUSE OF WAR - THE HAWKINS: ARMY OF ONE - MILLENNIAL GIRL (ARMY BRAT 3-BOOK SET 1) Victory for Hire: Private Security Companies's Impact on Military Effectiveness Antietam National Battlefield (Civil War battlefield series) Normandy: Battlefield Guide (Major and Mrs Holt's Battlefield Guides) Major and Mrs Holt's Pocket Battlefield Guide To Normandy (Major and Mrs Holt's Battlefield Guides) D-Day, Normandy Landing Beaches: Battlefield Guide (Major and Mrs Holt's Battlefield Guides) Online Activism in the Middle East: Political Power and Authoritarian Governments from Egypt to Kuwait (Library of Modern Middle East Studies) The Politics of Authoritarian Rule (Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics) Human Systems Integration to Enhance Maritime Domain Awareness for Port/Harbour Security: Volume 28 NATO Science for Peace and Security Series - D: ... D: Information and Communication Security) Security Camera For Home: Learn Everything About Wireless Security Camera System, Security Camera Installation and More Nuclear Safeguards, Security and Nonproliferation: Achieving Security with Technology and Policy (Butterworth-Heinemann Homeland Security)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)