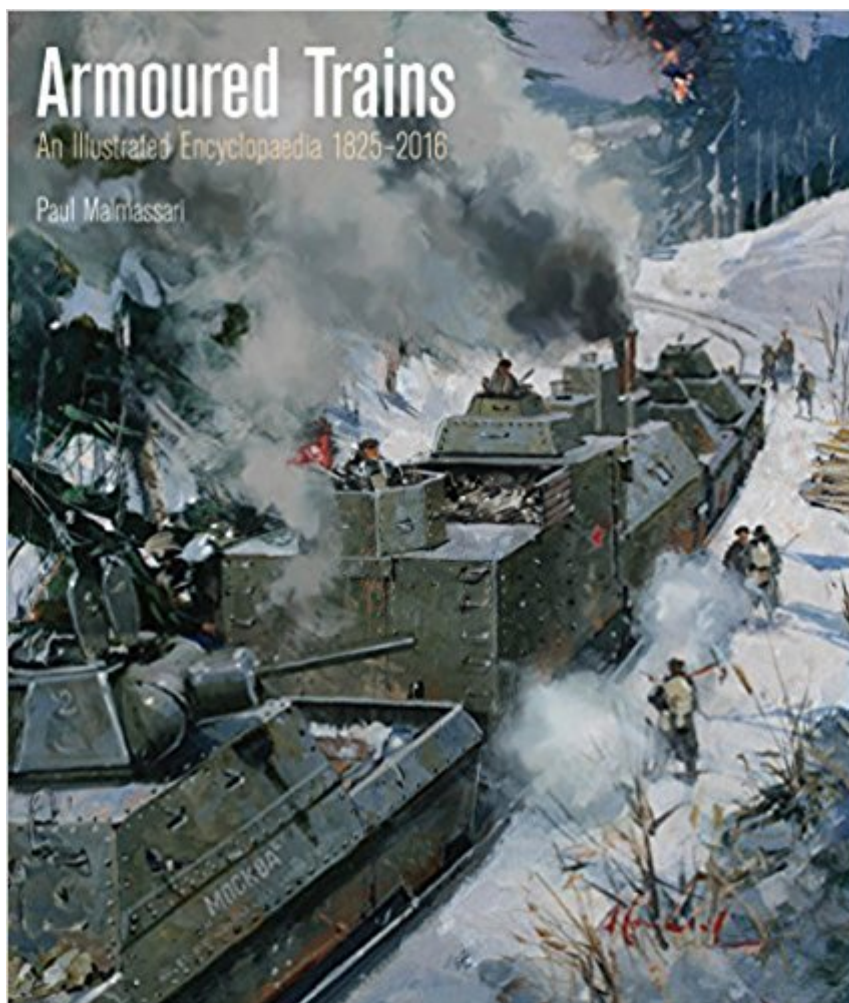


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Armoured Trains: An Illustrated Encyclopedia 1825-2016



Synopsis

Completely revised and expanded since its French publication, *Armoured Trains: An Illustrated Encyclopedia 1825–2016* is the first English-language edition of the authoritative work on the subject. Military forces around the world were quick to see the advantages of railways in warfare, whether for the rapid deployment of men or the movement of heavy equipment like artillery. From this realization, it was a short step to making the train a potent weapon in its own right – a mobile fort or a battleship on rails. Armed and armored, they became the first practical self-propelled war machines. As demonstrated in the American Civil War, these trains were able to make a significant contribution to battlefield success. Thereafter, almost every belligerent nation with a railway system made some use of armored rolling stock, ranging from low-intensity colonial policing to the massive employment of armored trains during the Russian Civil War. Although they were somewhat eclipsed as frontline weapons by the development of the tank and other armored fighting vehicles, armored trains retained a role as late as the civil wars in the former republic of Yugoslavia. This truly encyclopedic book covers, country by country, the range of fighting equipment that rode the rails over nearly two centuries. While this book outlines the place of armored trains in the evolution of warfare, it concentrates on details of their design through a vast array of photographs and the author's meticulous drawings.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lieutenant-Colonel Paul Malmassari served with distinction in the French army, eventually

commanding a tank regiment. He has written extensively about the history of tanks and mechanized warfare, but Armoured Trains is considered his master work.

Must have! Hoping for encyclopedia of rail mounted navel guns. Waiting for Vol. 2?

A complete examination of the subject.

Yes it's a massive book - BUT a LOT of the photos are too dark with low contrast or soft focus to be of any real use and are just page after page of filler material. The space should have been used to enlarge the better quality shots which are far too small to be useful. The sections on the Japanese and Mexican equipment are its only redeeming feature. The author made some very strange choices on what to publish. It's not the definitive work on the subject.

Outstanding book - beautifully illustrated, comprehensive, printed on glossy paper with a quality binding. Very happy to add this to my library.

Tough reading but a great reference

Very good.

comprehensive

I don't read French, that being said I have owned and used Malmassari's first edition happily for over a decade. The illustrations alone are worth the cost of that book. NOW I get it all in a language I can read! Plus the new edition is updated. It has the trains from the recent wars in the Balkans. It has an expanded section on the Japanese Imperial trains. OK I'm not going to list everything it has. It is a lot easier to mention what it doesn't have. That would be nothing. I'm sure there is some really obscure train or rail trolley that isn't here. I have no idea what it is. Because ever train I've ever heard of IS here, plus a lot that I've never seen anywhere else. If you want to buy a book on armored trains buy this. Don't wait, don't hesitate. Buy this book!

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