

Vehicles Of The Long Range Desert Group 1940-45 New Vanguard 291



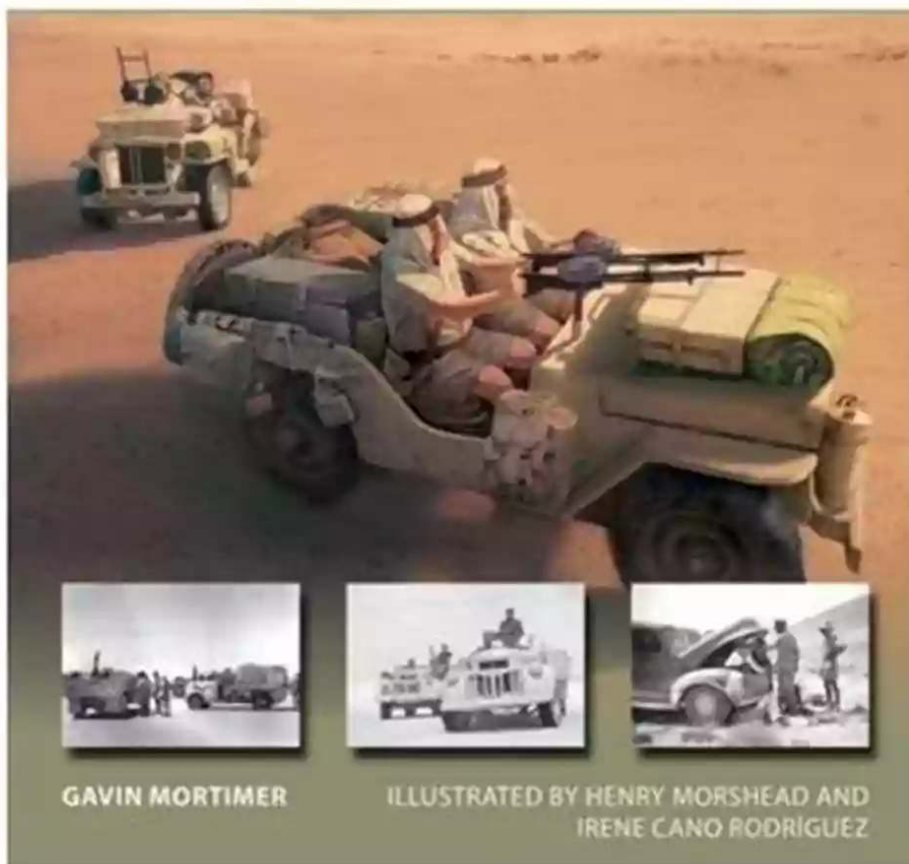
The Long Range Desert Group (LRDG) was a British reconnaissance and special forces unit during World War II. Operating in the North African desert, the LRDG played a crucial role in gathering intelligence and conducting long-range patrols behind enemy lines. One of the key aspects of their success was their array of

carefully selected and modified vehicles, which enabled them to traverse the harsh desert terrain with ease. In this article, we will explore the vehicles used by the LRDG during the years 1940-45, as documented in the esteemed New Vanguard 291 series.

The Jeep - The Backbone of the LRDG



VEHICLES OF THE LONG RANGE DESERT GROUP 1940-45





Vehicles of the Long Range Desert Group 1940–45 (New Vanguard Book 291) by Gavin Mortimer (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

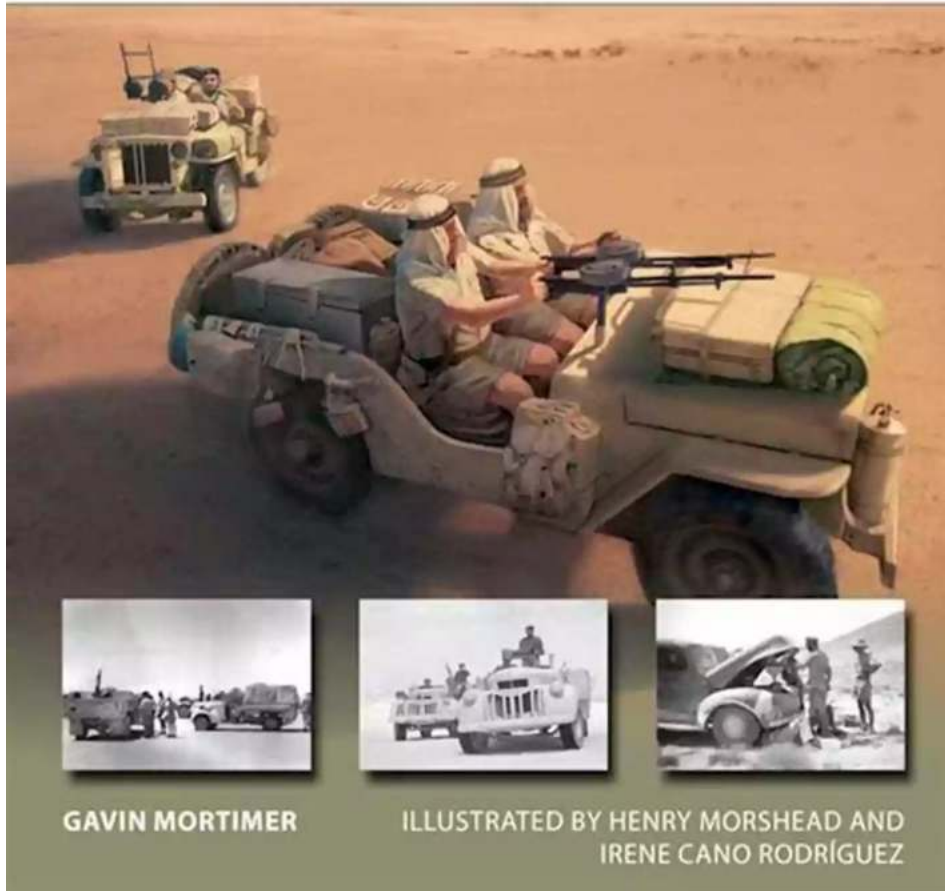
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Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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Print length : 81 pages



The iconic Jeep became the backbone of the LRDG due to its exceptional off-road capabilities. These vehicles were originally designed for the American armed forces, but the LRDG recognized their suitability for desert operations and quickly acquired a fleet of Jeeps. Equipped with larger fuel tanks and additional jerry cans, these modified Jeeps allowed the LRDG patrols to travel long distances without refueling. The New Vanguard 291 provides detailed insights into the modifications made to these vehicles, including improved cooling systems and enhanced suspension.

Bedford Trucks - Carrying the LRDG into Battle

VEHICLES OF THE LONG RANGE DESERT GROUP 1940-45



GAVIN MORTIMER

ILLUSTRATED BY HENRY MORSHEAD AND
IRENE CANO RODRÍGUEZ

Alongside the Jeeps, Bedford trucks were essential to the LRDG's operations. These robust and versatile vehicles were used to transport troops, supplies, and heavy weaponry across the desert. With a range of modifications, such as reinforced chassis and sand tires, the Bedford trucks became invaluable assets to the LRDG. The New Vanguard 291 delves into the specific configurations and adaptations that were made to these trucks, ensuring their functionality and reliability in the challenging desert environment.

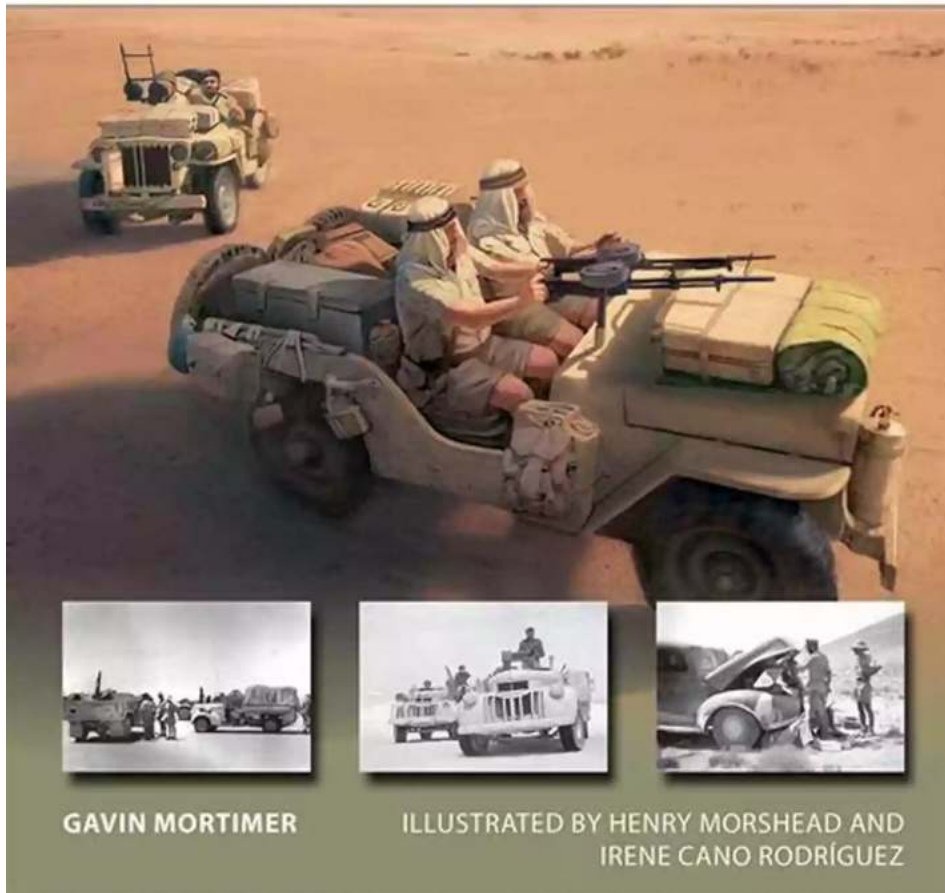
Bren Gun Carriers - Supporting Firepower



The LRDG also utilized Bren Gun Carriers, which were light armored vehicles armed with machine guns. These versatile carriers provided essential firepower during engagements with enemy forces. The New Vanguard 291 sheds light on the strategic placement of the machine guns on these carriers, allowing the LRDG to effectively suppress enemy positions while maintaining mobility in the desert. The modifications made to improve the vehicle's protection and navigational capabilities further demonstrate the LRDG's commitment to maximizing the effectiveness of their resources.

The Frugal Yet Powerful Motorcycle

VEHICLES OF THE LONG RANGE DESERT GROUP 1940-45



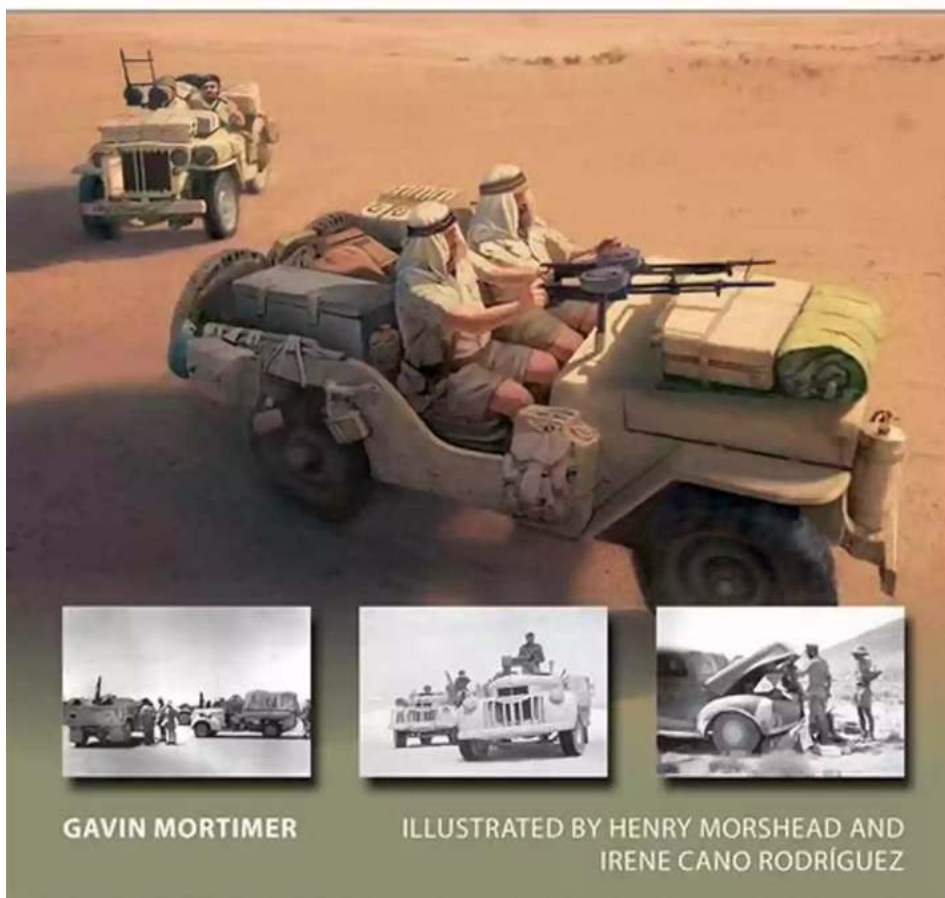
GAVIN MORTIMER

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In addition to the larger vehicles, the LRDG relied on motorcycles for their swift reconnaissance missions. Lightweight and maneuverable, motorcycles played a crucial role in gathering intelligence and scouting enemy positions. The New Vanguard 291 highlights the modifications made to these motorcycles, including the addition of extra fuel tanks and protective shields. These enhancements allowed the LRDG riders to cover vast distances swiftly and undetected, ultimately contributing to the unit's overall success.

The Legacy of the Long Range Desert Group

VEHICLES OF THE LONG RANGE DESERT GROUP 1940-45

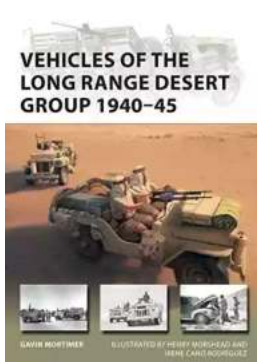


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The vehicles used by the Long Range Desert Group during the years 1940-45 were not only symbols of remarkable engineering but also integral to the success of the LRDG's missions. The modifications made to these vehicles were a testament to the resourcefulness and adaptability of the unit. The New Vanguard 291 captures the essence of the LRDG's vehicle fleet, providing enthusiasts and historians with an in-depth exploration of their capabilities and innovations.

The lasting legacy of the Long Range Desert Group and their vehicles continues to inspire military strategists and historians alike. The New Vanguard 291 serves as a valuable resource for anyone intrigued by the fascinating history of the LRDG. Through its meticulous research and detailed descriptions, this publication immortalizes the remarkable achievements of the LRDG and their vehicles, ensuring that their story will be preserved for future generations.



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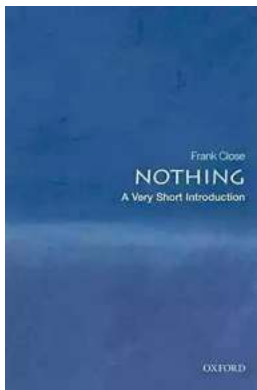
A fascinating study of the specialized vehicles, kit and techniques of the Long-Range Desert Group who pioneered long-range desert warfare in World War II and worked closely with the embryonic SAS.

The Long Range Desert Group was one of the most famous special units of World War II, operating heavily modified vehicles deep behind enemy lines to gather intelligence and support the raids of David Stirling's new Special Air Service.

When war broke out, a pre-war explorer and army officer, Ralph Bagnold, convinced Middle East Command of the need for a reconnaissance force to

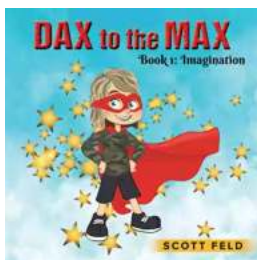
penetrate into Italian-held desert. Bagnold tested four types of vehicles over rocks and through soft sand to find the best one for his new unit. He selected the Chevrolet WB (30 CWT) as the signature vehicle of the Long Range Desert Group because it is 'fast, simple and easy to handle'. With left-hand steering, horizontal grill and round fenders on the rear wheels, these trucks proved themselves popular and effective. The durability of the Chevrolets was demonstrated in January 1941 with an audacious raid on the Italian fort/air strip at Murzuk, hundreds of miles behind enemy lines.

This book explains the detail of all the vehicles of the LRDG, as well as their modifications, driving techniques and special kit for surviving behind enemy lines in one of the most hostile environments on earth.



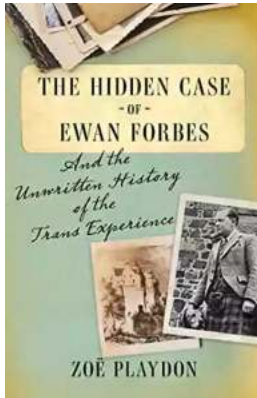
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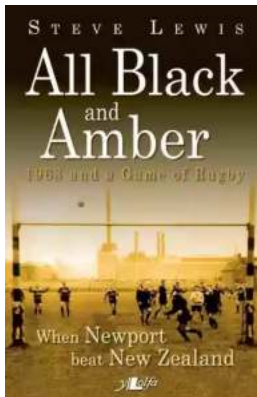
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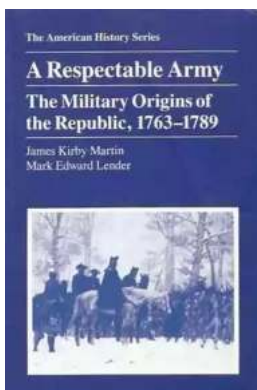
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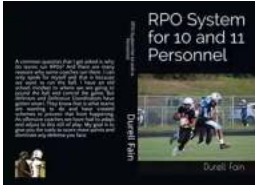
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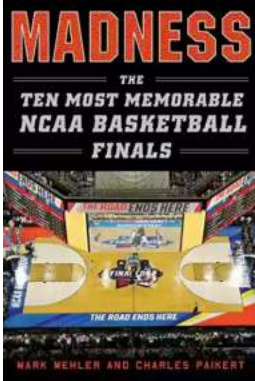
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