Battlefield Rations: The Food Given to the British Soldier for Marching and Fighting 1900 - 2011 (Paperback)

By Anthony Clayton, Lord Dannatt

Helion Company, United Kingdom, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 230 x 154 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. An army marches on its stomach, observed Napoleon. One hundred and fifty years later General Rommel remarked that the British should always be attacked before soldiers had had an early morning cup of tea. This book, written to raise money for the Army Benevolent Fund and with a Foreword by General Lord Dannatt, sets out the human story of the food and brew-ups of the front-line soldier from the Boer War to Helmand. Throughout, the importance of the provision of food, or even a simple mug of tea, for morale and unit fellowship, as well as for the need of the calories required for battle is highlighted with many examples over the century. For many, until 1942, the basis of food was bully beef and hard biscuit, supplemented by whatever could be found locally, all adequate but monotonous. Sometimes supply failed, on occasions water also. The extremes of hardship being when regiments were besieged, as in Ladysmith in the Boer War and Kut el-Amara in Iraq in the 1914-18 war. At Kut soldiers had, at best, hedgehogs or birds fried in...

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