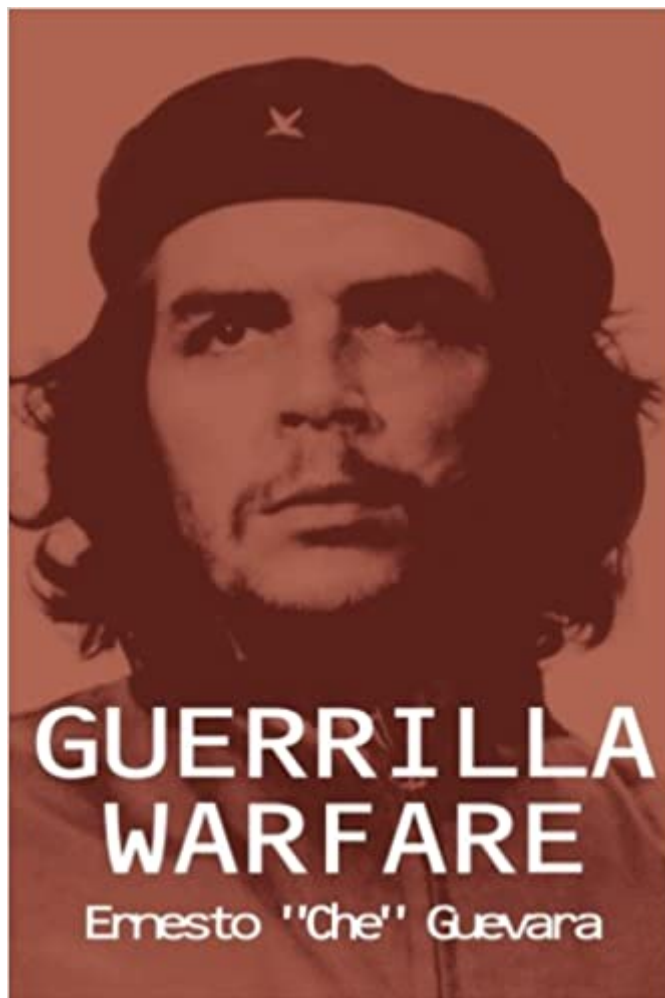


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Guerrilla Warfare



Synopsis

Guerrilla Warfare by the revolutionary Che Guevara has become the guidebook for thousands of guerrilla fighters in various countries around the world. Guevara intended it to be a manual on guerrilla warfare, as inspiration for revolutionary movements in Latin America, Africa and Asia, stressing the need for an underpinning political motivation to guerrilla methods, organisation and supply. Guevara emphasizes that guerrilla warfare is a favorable method against totalitarian regimes, where political opposition and legal civil struggle is impossible to conduct.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ches volume is the other side of the coin, as he details his style of hit-and-run tactics that were paramount to the overthrow of Cubas government and the establishment of the Castro regime that Didions Cubans fled from. Published in 1969, this sports three of Ches most famous essays on guerrilla combat tactics. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

"CHE GUEVARA'S CLASSIC TEXT IS NOT JUST A BOOK OF TACTICS, IT'S A CLOSELY REASONED, FINELY DETAILED AND IMPASSIONED ANALYSIS OF THIRD WORLD EXPLOITATION AND ITS EFFECTS ON THE EXPLOITED." --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

People often wear Che t-shirts simply because they see him as a symbol of revolution/change. In reality, Che was also the brains behind much of Cuba's operations, and a thinking man who had

gone through university-level education and become a doctor. A good read for understanding fundamentals of unorthodox small-unit tactics, as well as good insight to politics anywhere in the world, as Che details the requirements for revolution and by what means, where. A great example is a quote directly from Che, where he explained "In a democratic society with representation, diplomatic means are the only way to make a cause heard. Violent revolution will always fail in such a society, even if voting results of an election are fraudulent, since a group using warfare would be immensely unpopular with the people. Diplomatic means must be exhausted in such circumstances before anything drastic is attempted." Basically outlining that any movement like that in Cuba would be impossible in places like the US, UK, et cetera. A good read, whether or not you agree with any of his views, since understanding how historical leaders think can give great insight. This book doesn't glorify things, exaggerate or encourage as much as it just gives a brutally honest account of what guerrilla warfare really means.

Perhaps one of the downfalls of this book is that it presupposes a Latin American rural-centric situation; since Guevara never really goes past that, it never really blossoms into the handbook he intended it to be. Its core tenants show us a specific form of situation: the main source of tension is highly monopolistic farmland distribution, somewhat easy access to truly rugged terrain, and somewhat incompetent enemies with rather dated technology. Basically, Cuba. He has composed a textbook on overthrowing the government of Cuba. Before I go any further, I think it should be said that he intended this as a manual for LATIN AMERICAN revolution; he goes out of his way to dismiss cases such as anti-Soviet partisan movements in the Ukraine. However, when I noticed how specific it is, I attempted to picture Guevara operating in my surroundings, the woodland/prairie hybrid near Houston, TX. Since here in America, only 3% of the population are farmers, and most of that 3% doesn't fit his definition of "peasant", his assertion that most revolutions must be based on agrarian reform is not nearly as universal as he thought. Next, his concept of favorable terrain is hard for me to even locate on a map around here...short of a few national parks, there's hardly anywhere that would provide enough cover between a guerilla and an observer, let alone prevent them from pursuing him. I'd have to make at least a six hour drive to reach the type of mountainous badlands that clearly saved his friends' collective asses during the revolution. Finally, the American military is more than just competent. They are one of the best in the world. Batista's band of thugs would likely have lost to anyone in general. They lacked the aviation, reconnaissance, armored, operational, and special forces qualities the US possesses, as well as the discipline, the morale, the morality, and the efficiency. If Guevara had tried stunts like night marches through our national

parks, there would no doubt be a FLIR staring right at them from above; the biggest advances in the field of asymmetric warfare, in my opinion, would be those in the field of sight and sound. If Batista's army had the tools the US has now, or even the tools the Soviets had in Afghanistan, Guevara would be dead. Satellite imagery, low-light imagery, thermal imagery, acoustic and seismic monitoring, signal intercept technology, etc. etc...I'm certain that if one had a time machine and a copy of this book, and if one were to go back in time and hand it to Fidel Castro when he was making his first Molotov cocktail, then the Cuban revolution would have been much better off. However, if one tried such a thing during the Soviet-Afghan War, Operation Enduring Freedom, the Falklands conflict, or any other conflict that doesn't fit his framework, it would have failed to take root. I'm sure Guevara could figure something out for these if we could talk to him today; but the book he wrote is simply not broad enough to take these incidents into account.

Excellent read. Stripped of its ideology it would be a short read. But Ernesto understood it is not enough to be against something. You have to stand for something. Technology has rendered a lot of the advice on tactics obsolete but the architecture remains intact. If you want a quick read and don't mind a heavy dose of Marxist ideology along with practical tips on how to conduct an insurgent campaign, this is your book.

Do not purchase this book under pretty much any circumstances. This is not a review of Che or his political leanings, but of the physical book itself. Right off the bat, the production is wrought with so many issues its almost embarrassing. The actual typeface and lettering is abysmal, with incorrect spacing, little to no correct paragraph breaks, and many pages having actually clearly been printed incorrectly (such as missing sentences as if the top of the page is missing). The first few pages were cut incorrectly leaving me with about ten pages that are a completely different size than the rest. In addition there are no page numbers. I actually believe someone stole a PDF or otherwise plagiarized this book, loading into a book file with no proofing or editorial process. I truly feel cheated out of my money here.

None compare to Che when it comes to revolution building and guerrilla warfare. A must-read for any communist revolutionary. Che lives on in us! The new generation. Viva la Cuba!

Although outdated in many regards, it gives an interesting insight into the Cuban Revolution and how it was handled. The reader can sense the passion Che had for his movements, and that gives

this an additional element that lacks in some works of similar nature.

Awesome read.

It's a good read. Not the best but a book that satisfies the curiosity for a bit.

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