## Bomber Harris Gamble To End The War Air Campaign



In the midst of World War II, when Nazi Germany posed a significant threat to Europe and beyond, an ambitious plan was devised by Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris, the head of the British Royal Air Force's Bomber Command. This audacious strategy, known as the Bomber Harris Gamble, aimed to bring an end

to the war campaign through a relentless bombardment of Germany, targeting its industrial and civilian infrastructure.

#### The Birth of the Bomber Harris Gamble

Sir Arthur Harris, a highly decorated officer with extensive experience in aerial warfare, was appointed as the Commander-in-Chief of the Bomber Command in 1942. He believed that by utilizing the formidable firepower of the RAF's bombers, a decisive blow could be inflicted upon Germany, crippling its war machine and undermining civilian morale.



## BATTLE OF BERLIN 1943-44 Bomber Harris' gamble to end the war

### Battle of Berlin 1943–44: Bomber Harris' gamble to end the war (Air Campaign)

by Richard Worrall (Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 4.6 out of 5
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Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 165 pages



The Bomber Harris Gamble was born out of this conviction, as Harris proposed a strategic shift in focus from precision bombing to area bombing. This approach aimed to devastate German cities and industrial centers, creating chaos, disrupting production, and sapping the morale of both military and civilian populations.

#### The Controversial Nature of the Strategy

The Bomber Harris Gamble quickly became the center of heated debate, both within the military circles and among the public. Many questioned the morality and effectiveness of intentionally targeting civilians, arguing that it contradicted the principles of just warfare.

Supporters of the strategy, however, pointed to the potential benefits. They argued that by saturating German cities with bombs, the country's industrial capacity would be severely diminished, leading to a collapse of its war effort and the eventual surrender of Nazi Germany.

Despite the controversy, Sir Arthur Harris remained steadfast in his belief in the Bomber Harris Gamble. He argued that the widespread destruction caused by the RAF's bombings would ultimately save lives by shortening the duration of the war.

#### The Implementation and Impact

Bomber Command quickly went to work, executing the Bomber Harris Gamble with relentless determination. Massive bombing raids were carried out, targeting major German cities such as Berlin, Hamburg, and Dresden. The destructive power unleashed upon these cities was immense, with entire neighborhoods reduced to rubble.

The raids took a heavy toll on the RAF as well, with many bomber crews losing their lives during each mission. However, the bombing campaign inflicted significant damage upon German industries, railways, and infrastructure. It disrupted production, hindered military operations, and caused widespread disruption among the German population.

By the later stages of the war, Germany's ability to sustain a consistent war effort had been drastically compromised. The Bomber Harris Gamble had disrupted supply lines, weakened morale, and left German cities in ruins.

#### The Legacy of the Bomber Harris Gamble

The Bomber Harris Gamble remains controversial to this day. Critics argue that the strategy resulted in the unnecessary loss of civilian lives and only prolonged the war. They claim that alternative methods, such as precision targeting of specific military installations, could have achieved similar results without the catastrophic collateral damage.

However, proponents of the Bomber Harris Gamble point to the strategic disruption and demoralization inflicted upon Germany as decisive factors in hastening the end of the war. They credit the relentless bombing campaign with forcing Germany's surrender and preventing further loss of life.

Whether one sees the Bomber Harris Gamble as a necessary evil or an immoral tactic, its impact on World War II cannot be denied. Sir Arthur Harris took a bold gamble, one that history continues to debate as both a tactical and moral choice.

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The Bomber Harris Gamble was an audacious strategy designed to cripple Nazi Germany's war effort. Despite its controversial nature and ethical debates surrounding intentional civilian targeting, the strategy left an indelible mark on World War II. Its impact on the course of history and the lives of millions cannot be ignored.



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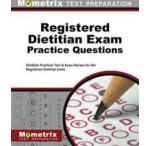
Throughout late-1943 into early-1944, an epic struggle raged over the skies of Germany between RAF Bomber Command and the Luftwaffe. This campaign had been undertaken by the Commander-in-Chief Bomber Command, Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Harris, and was baptized 'The Battle of Berlin'.

The Berlin campaign was a hard, desperate slog. Struggling against dreadful and bitter winter weather, Bomber Command 'went' to Berlin a total of sixteen times, suffering increasingly severe losses throughout the winter of 1943/44 in the face of a revitalized German air-defence. The campaign remains controversial and the jury, even today, is ultimately undecided as to what it realistically achieved. Illustrated throughout with full-colour artwork depicting the enormous scale of the campaign, this is the story of the RAF's much debated attempt to win the war through bombing alone.



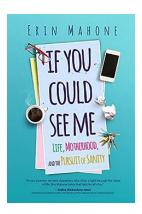
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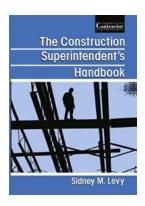
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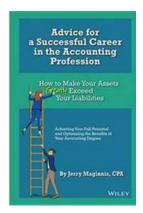
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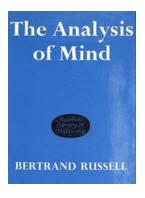
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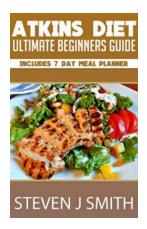
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