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Hans-Dieter Otto

**Astonishing Victories**

The Greatest Surprise Coups in Military History

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Thorbecke

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with maps

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**Sold: Czech, Swedish**

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- Military history written by an expert
- Based on deep historical knowledge
- Well-known and successful author

There have been military conflicts with astonishing results, battles won against all odds by the “underdogs”, from the centuries before the Christian era into the twentieth century. Just as in antiquity the Persians, led by their kings Xerxes and Darius, were not able to conquer the Greeks in spite of their enormous advantages in numbers, materials and military might, neither the French in 1954 nor the Americans in the 1960s were able to steer the course of the Vietnam War in their favor. How can we understand this? What reasons explain why again and again, throughout 2,500 years of military history, the supposedly weaker side, far outnumbered, has been able to overcome much stronger opponents? In this book, Hans-Dieter Otto explores these questions in light of some of the most significant surprise victories in human history.

*» (...) Twelve examples of astonishing victories the author selected, and with an engrossing reporting style brings to life the greatest surprise coups in military history. He by no means limits himself to a mere detailed outline of the chain of events during the battles (most with a sketch of the battlefield), but instead embeds the military conflict in the history of the era in which it took place. A bibliography at the end provides valuable resources for learning more on the subject. (...) A very readable book, and a must for readers interested in military history.«*

www.buchinformationen.de, June 2010

**About the author**

Hans-Dieter Otto, born in 1937 in Berlin, is an attorney and non-fiction author. His »Dictionary of Legal Errors«,

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published in 2003, became a bestseller and received media attention on television and radio. But the author's great passion was and remains history, and Thorbecke has already published several historical non-fiction titles of his. Hans-Dieter Ottos books have also been translated into foreign languages.

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