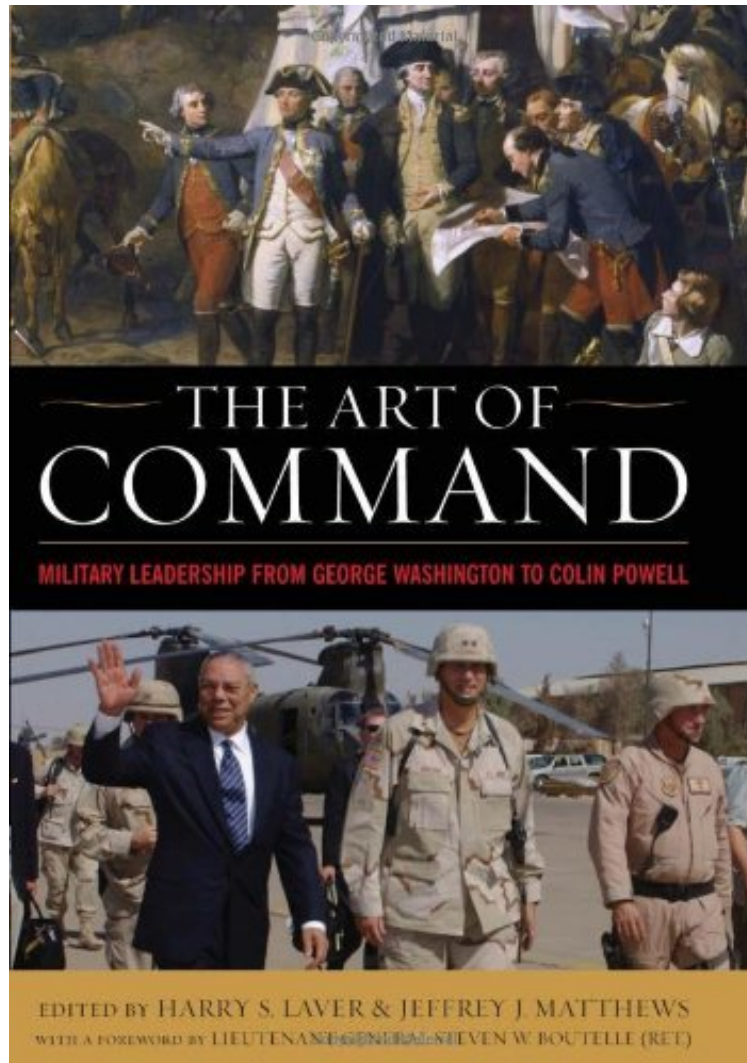


[Get free] The Art of Command: Military Leadership from George Washington to Colin Powell

The Art of Command: Military Leadership from George Washington to Colin Powell

Harry S. Laver, Jeffrey J. Matthews
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Harry S. Laver, Jeffrey J. Matthews : The Art of Command: Military Leadership from George Washington to Colin Powell before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Art of Command: Military Leadership from George Washington to Colin Powell:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good bio sketches; poor leadership studies
By P. J. SNYDER
The book is a good book to help military officers study successful leaders, and possibly motivate these officers to grow, but that's about the extent of its utility. The book is based on the trait theory of leadership, and each chapter illustrates a trait through the story of a general. Two problems; one, most in behavioral science have moved past the trait theory of leadership (about 70 years ago), and two, the bios sometimes feel shoe-horned to fit the trait being described. Not a bad

book, but not great either. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Walkerdc Perfect price, quality, addition! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Easy to read By mgc I bought this book for a graduate class in leadership, and I have enjoyed reading it. As opposed to other 'texts', it is simply written, so it is easy and pleasant to sit through. The only negative is it does go into a lot of detail about the middle years of each person's careers, which became somewhat monotonous. If the author had summarized these years a bit more, it would have kept my interest better. That being said, learning of each military leader's early years and development was interesting and worth reading.

What essential leadership lessons do we learn by distilling the actions and ideas of great military commanders such as George Washington, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Colin Powell? That is the fundamental question underlying *The Art of Command: Military Leadership from George Washington to Colin Powell*. The book illustrates that great leaders become great through conscious effort—a commitment not only to develop vital skills but also to surmount personal shortcomings. Harry S. Laver, Jeffrey J. Matthews, and the other contributing authors identify nine core characteristics of highly effective leadership, such as integrity, determination, vision, and charisma, and nine significant figures in American military history whose careers embody those qualities. *The Art of Command* examines each figure's strengths and weaknesses and how those attributes affected their leadership abilities, offering a unique perspective of military leadership in American history. Laver and Matthews have assembled a list of contributors from military, academic, and professional circles, which allows the book to encompass diverse approaches to the study of leadership.

"Truly insightful. . . . An indispensable guide on leadership at both the tactical and operational levels." *On Point* "The editors have garnered essays on a carefully selected group of distinguished military leaders that hone in on a specific characteristic of the individual's command style. . . . Together these essays form a pattern of leadership descriptions that represent the best of the art of command." *Journal of America's Military Past* "Interesting, insightful, inspirational. Should be a must-read for aspiring leaders." Admiral Hank Chiles, USN (ret.), former professor of leadership, US Naval Academy
About the Author Harry S. Laver, professor of military history at the US Army Command and General Staff College, is the author or editor of numerous books, including *A General Who Will Fight: The Leadership of Ulysses S. Grant*. Jeffrey J. Matthews is George F. Jewett Distinguished Professor in the School of Business Leadership at the University of Puget Sound. He is the author of *Alanson B. Houghton: Ambassador of the New Era* and *Blacksheep Leadership: A Story About a Leadership Challenge and the Nature of Transformational Leadership*.