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The Army of the Potomac: Birth of Command, November 1860-September 1861

By Beatie, Russell H.

Da Capo Press, New York, New York, U.S.A., 2002. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. 0306811413 Brand New! Dust jacket condition: New. Here is the first detailed and comprehensive study of the Army of the Potomac, the Union's largest and most important army in the field throughout the Civil War. It is the first volume in a multipart work that will be the Union counterpart to Douglas Southall Freeman's award-winning epic, Lee's Lieutenants: A Study in Command. Like Freeman, Russel H. Beatie meticulously examines the relationships and performance of the high-ranking officers of one army-the Army of the Potomac-as well those who served in the satellite forces that also operated in the Eastern Theater. He draws almost entirely on manuscript sources, many previously unexamined, and thus reaches conclusions about the actions of the Union's prominent generals that differ-often significantly-from traditional historical thinking. The book begins as the bells of war toll across the country and the Union builds its army. It looks at the organization of the Union officer corps and probes how politics determined officer selection and crafted strategy. The volume ends with First Battle of Bull Run and the assumption of command in the East by...

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