

THE SERVICE OF SECURITY AND INFORMATION

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The service of security and information by Arthur L. Wagner

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ARTHUR L. WAGNER

**THE SERVICE OF
SECURITY AND
INFORMATION**

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OF
Security and Information

BY
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Formerly Instructor in the Art of War at the U. S.
Infantry and Cavalry School; Gold Medalist
of the Military Service Institution of the
United States; Author of "Organ-
ization and Tactics," "The
Campaign of Königgrätz,"
etc.

FIFTEENTH EDITION,

Revised in the Light of Recent American Campaigns.

Officially Adopted by the War Department as a
Manual of Instruction.

FRANKLIN HUDSON PUBLISHING CO.,
22nd and Gillham Road,
Kansas City, Mo.

PREFACE TO THE NINTH EDITION.

Since this work was first presented to military readers, eleven years ago, it has gone through various editions, and has received the official approval of the War Department, having been adopted as a text-book at West Point and the several officers' schools, and as a standard in the examination of officers for promotion. The author is encouraged to hope that this revised edition of *THE SERVICE OF SECURITY AND INFORMATION* may receive the same welcome from the officers of the Army that was so cordially given to previous editions, and that the additional matter contained herein may meet with their approval. Since the book was first issued from the press, the armies of the United States have been engaged in active campaigns in Cuba, Porto Rico, the Philippine Islands, and China, and the principles herein set forth have had practical application in war. It is believed that they have satisfactorily stood the test.

While the recent campaigns of our armies in the West Indies and the Orient have evolved nothing radically new on the subject herein treated, they have afforded some valuable illustrations of the application of old principles to new conditions, and have lent additional emphasis to many of the matters set forth in former editions of this work. It has been the good fortune of the author to participate in campaigns in Cuba, Porto Rico, and Luzon, and he has endeavored to verify and reinforce his own observations by consulting many officers who served in those theaters and in China. Among the officers who have favored him with their views he would especially mention General J. Franklin Bell, U. S. A., and Major C. J. Crane, Assistant Adjutant-General, formerly Lieutenant-Colonel, 38th Infantry U. S. V.

Headquarters, Department of the Lakes,
Chicago, Illinois, May 8, 1903.

PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION.

The gratifying reception accorded to the first and second editions of *THE SERVICE OF SECURITY AND INFORMATION* encourages the author to hope that the revised edition of the book now presented may not be unwelcome to the officers of the Regular Army and the National Guard.

Profiting by the kind criticism of his brother officers, and by his own experience in using the work for more than two years as a text-book at the U. S. Infantry and Cavalry School, the author has made a few changes in the text, which, it is believed, will meet with approval; but these changes are neither so many nor so great as to effect any radical alteration in the work.

The author desires here to express his thanks to Captain Eben Swift, Fifth Cavalry, First Lieutenant A. L. Mills, First Cavalry, and First Lieutenant J. T. Dickman, Third Cavalry, assistant instructors in the Art of War at the U. S. Infantry and Cavalry School, for valued suggestions in the revision of the book.

U. S. Infantry and Cavalry School,
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas
February 1, 1896.

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

This book lays claim to no other merit than that of being an earnest attempt to meet the demand, often expressed, for an American text-book on the subject herein discussed. Many of the features of the service of security and information are common to both hemispheres and to all armed forces, whether savage hordes or highly organized armies. Other details of the same science vary with the topography, the organization of the army, national characteristics, and the nature of the enemy encountered. It follows, therefore, that a text-book on this subject might be admirably adapted to the requirements of European officers and at the same time be in some respects quite unsuited to our needs.

English, French, and German military writers have written so voluminously on all tactical subjects, that the author has found a wealth of valuable books at hand for consultation; and he has discovered, on most of the important points, a gratifying unanimity of opinion on the part of writers of different nations. The aim of the author has been to select the best established theories of European tactical authorities, to illustrate them by a reference to events in our own military history, and to apply to them the touchstone of American practice in war. To this end he has submitted his manuscript to several officers of high rank and distinguished ability, who have criticised it in the light of their own extensive military study and great experience in actual warfare.

The author is at a loss for an adequate expression of thanks to Brigadier-General Thomas H. Ruger and Brigadier-General Wesley Merritt, U. S. A., for the valuable criticism, comments, and notes with which they have favored him, and by means of which he has been enabled to place upon his work the best stamp, as it were, of American experience in war. He desires also to express his obligations to Lieutenant-Colonel H. S. Hawkins, 23d Infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel Gay V. Henry, 7th Cavalry, Major H. C. Hasbrouck, 4th Artillery, Major C. C. Carr, 8th Cavalry, and Major J. B. Babcock, A. A. G., for valuable information and comments. To Lieutenant-Colonel Henry, Captain E. S. Godfrey, 7th Cavalry, and First Lieutenant Thomas Cruse, 6th Cavalry, the author is indebted for most of the information on which the chapter on "Indian Scouting" is based. To Colonel E. F. Townsend, 12th Infantry, Commandant of the U. S. Infantry and Cavalry School, in compliance with

whose order this work has been written, and whose steady and consistent encouragement has accompanied it from its inception to its appearance in these pages, the author's thanks are especially due and gratefully tendered.

A word in regard to the form in which this book makes its appearance may not be out of place. There is a fashion in books, as in all other human products; and the shape in which some of our most valuable military manuals have appeared would seem to indicate a tendency to sacrifice everything to the fancied benefits of portability; military books being printed in small type to reduce them to a proper compass to fit the pocket—in which, by the bye, they are never carried. It is not clear that this fashion has anything to recommend it; while anyone who has noticed the impaired eyesight of many of the graduates of our officers' schools must find much to condemn in a typographical style which seems designed mainly for the benefit of the oculist. It is hoped, therefore, that the typographical dress of this volume will prove a welcome innovation.

The plates with which this work is illustrated are, with a single exception, from drawings made by Lieutenant C. B. Hagadorn, 23d Infantry, whose skill and accuracy in such work are well known, and to whom the author desires to express his obligations.

A list of books consulted in the preparation of this work is given below. Where the author has felt under special obligations to any particular work, acknowledgment has been made in the text or in a foot-note. In many cases, however, the words of several authorities on the same subject are so similar that it seemed impossible to render tribute to any particular one. The author accordingly takes pleasure in expressing his obligations generally to all the works mentioned in the following list; more especially to De Brack, Rüstow, Von Mirus, Clery, Shaw, Wolseley, and the "Guide Manuel du Chef de Patrouille."

Cumberland, Md., March 1, 1893.

LIST OF BOOKS CONSULTED IN THE PREPARATION
OF THIS WORK.

- Aperçus sur Quelques Détails de la Guerre, Bugeaud.
 Artillery Drill Regulations (U. S.).
 Art of War, Jomini.
 Avant Postes de Cavalerie Légère, De Brack.
 Battles and Leaders of the Civil War.
 Campaigns of Stuart's Cavalry, H. B. McClellan.
 Catechism of Military Training, Marryatt.
 Cavalry Field Duty, Von Mirus (tr. by Russell).
 Cavalry Drill Regulations (U. S.).
 Cavalry, Regulations for the Movements and Instruction of (British)
 Cavalry in Modern War, Trench.
 Conduct of a Contact Squadron, De Biensan (tr. by Bowdler-Bell).
 Duties of the General Staff, Bronsart von Schellendorf.
 Dienstunterricht des Infanteristen, Von Walderssee.
 Elements of Modern Tactics, Shaw.
 Esprit des Institutions Militaires, Marmont.
 Extracts from an Infantry Captain's Journal, Von Arnim (tr. by East).
 Guide Manuel du Chef de Patrouille.
 History of the Crimean War, Hamley.
 History of the Peninsula War, Napier.
 History of the War with Mexico, Ripley.
 Infantry Drill Regulations (U. S.)
 Infantry Fire Tactics, Mayne.
 Instruction for Cavalry, Von Schmidt.
 Johnston's Narrative.
 Journal of the Military Service Institution of the U. S., various volumes.
 La Petite Guerre, Rüstow (tr. by Savin de Larclause).
 Letters on Cavalry, Prince Kraft zu Hohenlohe Ingelfingen.
 Life of Andrew Jackson, Parton.
 Méthodes de Guerre Actuelles, Pierron.
 Minor Tactics, Clerly.
 Maximes de Guerre, Napoleon.
 Memoirs of U. S. Grant.
 Memoirs of W. T. Sherman.

- Memoirs of P. H. Sheridan.
Napoleon's Expedition to Russia, Ségur.
Official Records of the War of the Rebellion.
Operations of War, Hamley.
Précis of Modern Tactics, Home.
Règlement sur le Service des Armées en Campagne, De Savoye.
Service d'Exploration et de Surêté, Bonie.
Soldiers' Pocket Book, Wolsley.
Strategic Service of Cavalry, Bowdler-Bell.
Strategischer Kavalleriedienst, Von Widdern.
Strategy and Grand Tactics, Dufour.
Studies in Troop Leading, Verdy du Vernois.
Tactical Deductions from the War of 1870-71, Boguslawski.
Tactique de Périzonius.
Tactique des Renseignements, Lewal.
The Army in the Civil War ("Scribner Series").
The Franco-German War, Borstacdt (tr. by Dwyer).
The Franco-German War, Von Moltke (tr. by Bell and Fischer).
The Nation in Arms, Von der Goltz.
War, Clausewitz.
War, Maurice.