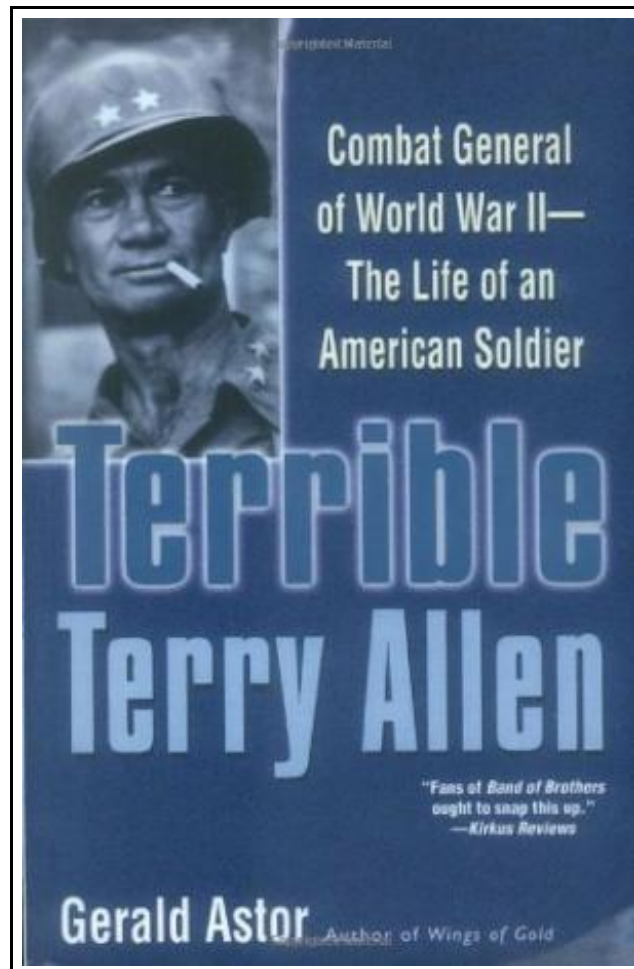


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Presidio Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Terrible Terry Allen (New edition), Gerald Astor, Terry de la Mesa Allen's mother was the daughter of a Spanish officer, and his father was a career US Army officer. Despite this impressive martial heritage, success in the military seemed unlikely for Allen as he failed West Point - twice - ultimately gaining his commission through Catholic University's ROTC programme. In World War I, the young officer commanded an infantry battalion and distinguished himself as a fearless combat leader, personally leading patrols into no-man's-land. In 1940, with another world war looming, newly appointed army chief of staff General George C. Marshall reached down through the ranks and, ahead of almost a thousand more senior colonels, promoted Patton, Eisenhower, Allen, and other younger officers to brigadier general. For Operation Torch, the invasion of North Africa, Allen, now a two-star general, commanded the 'Big Red One', the 1st Infantry Division, spearheading the American attack against the Nazis. But despite a stellar combat record, Major-General Allen and his troops had earned a reputation for lack of discipline off the battlefield. When 7th Army commander George Patton was pressed by his deputy Omar Bradley to replace 'Terrible Terry' before the invasion of Sicily, he demurred, favouring Allen's success in combat. At the end of the Sicily campaign, with Allen's protector Patton out of the way (relieved for slapping a soldier), Omar Bradley fired Allen and sent him packing back to the States, seemingly in terminal disgrace. Once again, however, George Marshall reached down, and in October 1944 Terrible Terry was given command of another infantry division, the 104th Timberwolves, and took it into heavy combat in Belgium. Hard fighting continued as Allen's division spearheaded the US 1st Army's advance across Germany. On 26 April 1945, Terrible Terry...

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