



# SMALL WARS

---

## JOURNAL

## The Generals... Readable but Flawed?

By ***Peter J. Munson***

SWJ Blog Post | Nov 30 2012 - 5:19pm

Gian Gentile provides an **intelligent dissection of Tom Ricks' *The Generals: American Military Command from World War II to Today at the New York Journal of Books***, deeming it "highly readable but flawed."

Tom Ricks's new book *The Generals* regresses from Keegan and takes us back to a less complicated form of military storytelling in which wars' outcomes were determined solely by the performance of army commanders.

The main argument to the book is simple: Relieve American army generals in war for poor performance and victory will be more attainable.

Read it [here](#).

### About the Author



#### **Peter J. Munson**

**Peter J. Munson** is a Marine officer, author, and Middle East specialist. He is the author of *War, Welfare, and Democracy: Rethinking America's Quest for the End of History* (Potomac, 2013) and *Iraq in Transition: The Legacy of Dictatorship and the Prospects for Democracy* (Potomac, 2009) and . A frequent contributor to multiple journals and blogs, including [his own](#), he was also the Editor of the Small Wars Journal from January 2012 to June 2013. You can follow his Twitter feed [@peterjmunson](#) and find his LinkedIn profile [here](#). He is leaving the Marine Corps in summer 2013.

Available online at : <http://smallwarsjournal.com/blog/the-generals-readable-but-flawed>

#### Links:

- {1} <http://smallwarsjournal.com/author/peter-j-munson>
- {2} <http://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/review/generals-american-military-command-world-war-ii-today>
- {3} <http://smallwarsjournal.com/blog/a-failure-in-generalship>
- {4} <http://smallwarsjournal.com/blog/a-few-questions-for-colonel-paul-yingling-on-failures-in-generalship>
- {5} <http://www.linkedin.com/in/peterjmunson>

{6} <http://www.amazon.com/War-Welfare-Democracy-Rethinking-Americas/dp/1612345395>  
{7} [http://www.amazon.com/Iraq-Transition-Dictatorship-Prospects-Democracy/dp/1597973009/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&camp=s=books&qid=1274467323&sr=8-1](http://www.amazon.com/Iraq-Transition-Dictatorship-Prospects-Democracy/dp/1597973009/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&camp=s=books&qid=1274467323&sr=8-1)  
{8} <http://peterjmunson.blogspot.com>  
{9} <https://twitter.com/#!/peterjmunson>

Copyright © 2017, Small Wars Foundation.



Select uses allowed by Creative Commons BY-NC-SA 3.0 license per our [Terms of Use](#).  
Please help us support the [Small Wars Community](#).