

Napoleon and the Struggle for Germany

VOLUME II

The first comprehensive history of the decisive Fall Campaign of 1813, which determined control of Central Europe following Napoleon's catastrophic defeat in Russia the previous year. Using German, French, British, Russian, Austrian, and Swedish sources, Michael V. Leggiere provides a panoramic history that covers the full sweep of the struggle in Germany. He shows how Prussia, the weakest of the great powers, led the struggle against Napoleon and his empire. By reconstructing the principal campaigns and operations in Germany, the book reveals how the defeat of Napoleon in Germany was made possible by Prussian victories. In particular, it features detailed analysis of the strategy, military operations, and battles in Germany that culminated with the epic four-day Battle of Nations at Leipzig and Napoleon's retreat to France. This study not only highlights the breakdown of Napoleon's strategy in 1813, but also constitutes a fascinating study in coalition warfare, international relations, and civil-military relations.

Michael V. Leggiere is Professor of History and Deputy Director of the Military History Center at the University of North Texas.

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Napoleon and the Struggle for Germany: The Franco-Prussian War of 1813

Volume II

The Defeat of Napoleon

MICHAEL V. LEGGIERE

University of North Texas



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For my little man,
Nicholas Thomas Leggiere

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Preface

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In the text, I employ native, modern spellings of villages, towns, smaller cities, and geographic features as much as possible. Larger cities, capitals, and rivers are Anglicized. I also provide at first mention the modern Polish, Russian, Lithuanian, and Czech names of population centers and geographic features in regions that once belonged to Prussia or Austria. Names of persons are likewise native, except for monarchs, whose names are Anglicized. To avoid confusion, all general officers are referred to simply as "general." Lastly, I use "imperials" to refer to the French and their allies after 1804.