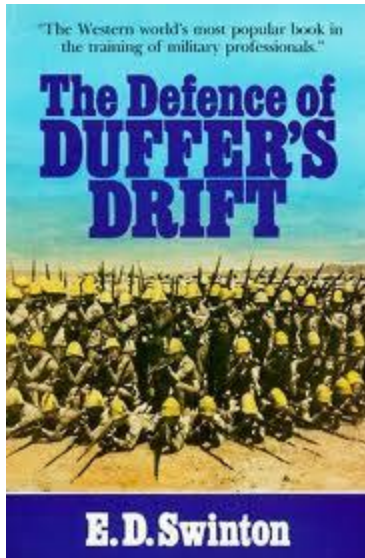


The Defense of Duffer's Drift

Reviewed by Mike Crane

This short book was written in 1904 immediately after the Second Boer War and before World War I by Captain (later Major General Sir) Ernest Dunlop Swinton, a noted British soldier, author and professor who is credited with developing the tank during WWI. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernest_Dunlop_Swinton



The book involves a hypothetical Lt. Backsight Forethought, who is charged with guarding a South African river crossing with a platoon of 50 men. The lieutenant is unexpectedly confronted with a large force of Boers who are armed with Mauser rifles, pom-pom machine guns and field guns. His tactical dilemmas are finally resolved during the course of seven consecutive dreams.

This book was so useful in teaching modern tactics that it has been republished by many sources over the last century. The following address will bring up the online publication of the US Army Command and General Staff College at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. Check it out.

<http://www.angelfire.com/oh5/duffersdrift/>

