

Bernard Montgomery



[Life of Montgomery](#)

Bernard Montgomery was born in London on 17th November 1887. He was educated at St Paul School and Sandhurst Military Academy. He later recalled "in 1907 entrance to the Royal Military College, Sandhurst was by competitive examination.

[Military life of Montgomery](#)



Montgomery served in India before was sent to France at the beginning of the First World War.

At 1926 became an instructor at Camberley. Then promoted to be Major General so he was sent to Palestine in October 1938.

At Second World War he was sent to France with the British forces. So he led 2nd corps, but was forced to retreat to Dunkirk with German forces and arrived back to England at 1 June on 1940. Montgomery led 5th corps (July 1940- April 1941) -12th corps (April 1941-december 1941) and south eastern army (December 1941-august 1942).

In July 1942 Rommel was 117 miles from Alexandria. So Churchill made a change at the structure so he placed Montgomery as a commander of 8th army.

On 30th august 1942, Rommel attacked at Alam el Halfa but was faced by 8th army. Montgomery ordered his troops to dominate on this attack through Qattara Depression. By this he avoided any attack from Rommel in Egypt.

On 23 October Montgomery made a great attack against German forces but at this time the leader of German forces was George Stumme who died with heart attack instead of Rommel because Rommel was sick in Australia so Hitler asked Rommel to return.

After return of Rommel, made attack against Montgomery and achieve some success over Montgomery, Churchill was disappointed because of lack of success from 8th army, so Churchill accused Montgomery with fighting a half hearted battle but Montgomery ignored this.

Montgomery defeat Rommel

On 1st November 1942, Montgomery made an attack against German forces and forced Rommel to withdraw because, he had not enough resources. At the next day Montgomery ordered his troops to break line defense of German, because of domination of Montgomery and little forces with Rommel, Rommel forced to retreat.

"Before Al Alamein we never had a victory, after Alamein we never had a defeat."

On 8 November Rommel learned of allied invasion to Tobruk in 12 November 1942 during the Alamein campaign, about 100,000 from his army was killed, he also lost over 450 tanks and 1000 guns and the British under the command of Montgomery lost 500 of their tanks. [Winston Churchill](#) was notified that the battle of El Alamein marked the turning point in the war and ordered the ringing of church bells all over Britain. As he said later: "Before Alamein we never had a victory, after Alamein we never had a defeat."

[After the battle of Alamein at Egypt](#)

In December 1943, Montgomery was appointed head of the 2nd Army and commander of all ground forces in the proposed invasion of Europe. Montgomery believed he was better qualified than General [Dwight Eisenhower](#) to have been given overall control of [Operation Overlord](#). However, as the [United States](#) provided most of the men, material and logistical support, [Winston Churchill](#) was unable to get the decision changed. Montgomery was allowed to remain in Europe and the end of the war was appointed Commander in Chief of the British Army of Occupation.

[After the end of Second World War](#)

In 1946 Montgomery was granted a peerage and he took the title Viscount Montgomery of Alamein. He also served under General [Dwight Eisenhower](#) at the supreme commander of the Allied forces in Europe.

[Writes of Montgomery](#)

Montgomery wrote several books on his war experiences like:

[The Memoirs of Field Marshal Montgomery](#) (1958)

[An Approach to Sanity](#) (1959)

[The Path to Leadership](#) (1961)

[Normandy to the Baltic](#) (1968)

[A Concise History of Warfare](#) (1972)

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