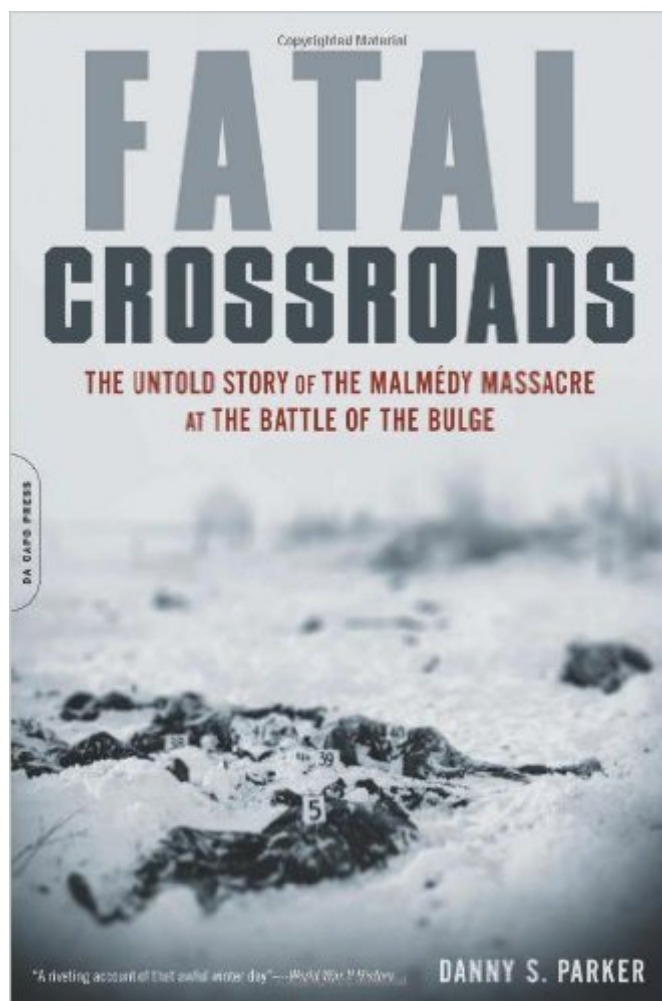


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# Fatal Crossroads: The Untold Story Of The Malmédy Massacre At The Battle Of The Bulge



## Synopsis

On December 17, 1944, during the Battle of the Bulge, more than eighty unarmed American soldiers were shot down after having surrendered to an SS tank column near the small crossroads town of Malmédy, Belgium. In vivid prose with revealing details, Fatal Crossroads reconstructs the previously untold story of the largest single atrocity committed against American POWs on the Western front in World War II.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

On December 17, 1944, a convoy of unarmored trucks carrying Battery B of the US Army's 285th Field Artillery Observation Battalion left Schevenhütte, Germany, near the dark and foreboding Hürtgen Forest that had been the focal point of such vicious combat, for Luxembourg and what was hoped would be some easier duty. Most of them would never arrive. In the Ardennes, just south of Malmédy, Belgium, at a crossroads called Baugnez, the column fell foul of the spearhead of the German offensive that would become known as the Battle of the Bulge. By the end of the day, some eighty US soldiers would be dead, having surrendered to the improvised German task force known as Kampfgruppe Peiper, and, unarmed and herded into a field, subsequently murdered by troops of the Waffen SS. It was at least the second such massacre of Western Allied troops by the Waffen SS, the first being the murder of some 80 British POWs near Dunkerque (Dunkirk), France, in 1940. This was also the only such large-scale massacre of American troops by the Germans in World War II. The Malmédy Massacre, as this incident has become known, is the subject of a new book by Danny S. Parker called Fatal Crossroads: The Untold Story of the Malmédy Massacre at the

Battle of the Bulge. The reason for the massacre, as well as the responsibility, has never been fully understood. That is the point of Parker's work in *Fatal Crossroads*. He seeks to determine whether this was a "battlefield incident," which affects all armies including the US Army, or a "deliberate slaughter."

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