

Table of Contents

A Message from the Translator	8
Significant Dates and Events in the Alpenkorps' History	10
Glossary of Important Alpine Corps Terminology	13
Introduction	17
The Situation on the Eve of the Italian "Intervention"	22
The Negotiations between Austria-Hungary and Italy Up to the Declaration of War	22
Italy's Preparations for War and Her Wartime Goals	28
Austria-Hungary's Reactions to Negotiations with Italy	31
Theater of Operations in the High Mountains	34
Peculiarities and Challenges of the Mountain War	34
The Route of the Front	43
The Formation of the Alpine Corps	47
The German Alpenkorps Comes into Existence	47
Units of the Alpenkorps	59
Konrad Krafft von Dellmensingen, "Leader of the Alpenkorps"	68
The First Mission in Tyrol	74
The Central Powers' Military Situation after the Intervento	75
Arrival in South Tyrol, Disagreement about the Use of the Alpine Corps, and the First Combat Operations	82
The Relationship Between the German Soldiers and the South Tyrolean Civilian Population, with the Italians, and the Personal Perceptions of the Men during the Mission in Tyrol	93

Excursus: “Edelweiss” (Lion’s Foot Flower)	105
Difficulties and Problems in the Mountains	110
Excursus: “The German-Austrian Brothers-In-Arms”	117
Departure from South Tyrol October, 1915	127
Relieving the Alpenkorps in South Tyrol	127
Remembrance in Literature and Film	132
The Image of the Alpenkorps in Remembrance Literature	133
The Image of the Alpenkorps in the Film	
“Standeschütze Bruggler”	163
Final Thoughts: “What If?”	168
Endnotes	176
Appendix	178
Abbreviations	180
Source Lists, Bibliography,	
Photographic Documentation, Footnotes	181
Photographic Documentation	187
Acknowledgements	187