

COMPANION TO THE ROMAN ARMY (BLACKWELL COMPANIONS TO THE ANCIENT WORLD) pdf

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A Companion to the Roman Army (Blackwell Companions to the Ancient World Book) - Kindle edition by Paul Erdkamp. Download it once and read it on your Kindle device, PC, phones or tablets.

You can help by adding to it. September Main article: List of ancient tribes in Dacia The Dacians fought amongst each other [2] but were later united under Burebista. However, after his death [3] at 44 BC, the empire again descended into conflict culminating in a full-scale civil war. This section needs expansion. The first expedition was an unmitigated disaster, and the second achieved a peace, seen as unfavorable and shameful by many in Rome. These wars involved no less than 13 legions. Rome ruled it, including the entire Transylvanian basin for years, leading to the Latinization of the Dacian population. September Infantry and cavalry[edit] The Dacian tribes were part of the greater Thracian family of peoples. Dacia was conquered except for the Free Dacians and transformed into a Roman province in after a long, hard war. Dacian scale armour The most important weapon of the Dacian arsenal was the falx [citation needed]. This dreaded weapon, similar to a large sickle , came in two variants: The shorter falx was called sica sickle in the Dacian language. The two-handed falx was a polearm. It consisted of a three-foot long wooden shaft with a long curved iron blade of nearly-equal length attached to the end. The blade was sharpened only on the inside, and was reputed to be devastatingly effective. However, it left its user vulnerable because, using a two-handed weapon, the warrior could not also make use of a shield. Alternatively, it might be used as a hook, pulling away shields and cutting at vulnerable limbs. Using the falx, the Dacian warriors were able to counter the power of the compact, massed Roman formations. During the time of the Roman conquest of Dacia - , - , legionaries had reinforcing iron straps applied to their helmets. The Romans also introduced the use of leg and arm protectors greaves and manica [citation needed] as further protection against the falxes. Sica, a small version of the falx The Dacians were adept[citation needed] of surprise attacks and skilful, tactical withdrawals using the fortification system. During the wars with the Romans, fought by their last king Decebalus , the Dacians almost crushed the Roman garrisons south of the Danube in a surprise[citation needed] attack launched over the frozen river winter of Only the intervention of Emperor Trajan with the main army saved the Romans from a major defeat. But, by , the Dacians were surrounded in their capital Sarmizegetusa. Dacians decorated their bodies with tattoos like the Illyrians [7] and the Thracians. Marcus Annaeus Lucanus [10] 39 - 65 wrote of Dacian hordes; Have poured her captains, and the troops who guard the northern frontier from the Dacian hordes Dacians that could afford armor wore customised Phrygian type helmets with solid crests intricately decorated , domed helmets and Sarmatian helmets. Most used only shields as a form of defense. Most[citation needed] of the infantry would wield a falx and perhaps a sica and would wear no armor at all even shunning shields. September Mercenaries[edit] Dacian mercenaries were uncommon in contrast to the Thracians and the Illyrians but they could be found in the service of the Greek Diadochi [12] and of the Romans. Dacians had built fortresses all around Dacia with most of them being on the Danube. The fortifications were built on a system of circular belts. This allowed[citation needed] the defenders, after a stronghold was lost, to retreat to the next one using hidden escape gates.

2: A Companion to the Roman Army by Paul Erdkamp

This companion provides an extensive account of the Roman army, exploring its role in Roman politics and society as well as the reasons for its effectiveness as a fighting force. An extensive account of the Roman army, from its beginnings to its transformation in the later Roman Empire Examines the.

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5: Dacian warfare - Wikipedia

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