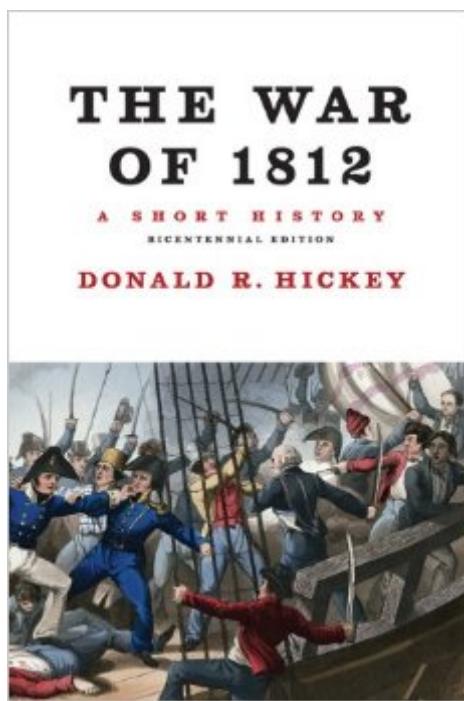


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The War Of 1812, A Short History



Synopsis

Â This abridged edition of Donald R. Hickey's comprehensive and authoritative *The War of 1812: A Forgotten Conflict* has been thoroughly revised for the 200th anniversary of the historic conflict. A myth-shattering study that will inform and entertain students and general readers alike, *The War of 1812: A Short History* explores the military, diplomatic, and domestic history of our second war with Great Britain, bringing the study up to date with recent scholarship on all aspects of the war, from the Gulf of Mexico to Canada.Â With new information on military operations, logistics, and the use and capabilities of weaponry, *The War of 1812: A Short History* explains how the war promoted American nationalism, reinforced the notion of manifest destiny, stimulated peacetime defense spending, and enhanced America's reputation abroad. Hickey also concludes that the war sparked bloody conflicts between pro-war Republican and anti-war Federalist neighbors, dealt a crippling blow to the independence and treaty rights of American Indians, and solidified the United States' antipathy toward the British. Ideal for students and history buffs, this special edition includes selected illustrations, maps, a chronology of major events during the war, and a list of suggested further reading.

Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: University of Illinois Press; 1st Edition, Bicentennial Edition edition (November 13, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0252078772

ISBN-13: 978-0252078774

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.6 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #897,200 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #140 inÂ Books > History > Military > War of 1812 #6088 inÂ Books > History > Europe > Great Britain #9249 inÂ Books > History > Military > United States

Customer Reviews

excellent summary. easy to read. fact based. contains info on how the war started, during the war, how the war ended, and legacies of the war. does a great job giving an overview with the pertinent info.

This author seems to have turned the War of 1812 into his own personal cottage industry. A couple of decades ago he wrote a solid history of the War of 1812--a good book whose primary virtue was that there was little else competing with it. Since then, he has written the same book in various forms. This is the condensed version. I was really hoping for something genuinely new here. As a whole, Hickey's view of the War of 1812 is militaristic and entirely centered on the U.S. Cultural and social history don't figure significantly into his accounts, nor do the British, Canadians, American Indians, women or slaves. Hickey has worked hard to protect his patch, attacking new interpretations in his reviews and re-re-reprints of his books, but such narrowness has made Hickey's interpretation irrelevant, especially now that a number of better quality, more complete histories of the conflict have emerged: Civil War of 1812, Weight of Vengeance, Paul Gilje's Free Trade, and Borneman's 1812, to name just a few.

Easy to read, but the chronology of events is a bit distorted. All in all, I would recommend that all Americans read this in order to humble ourselves just a little bit.

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