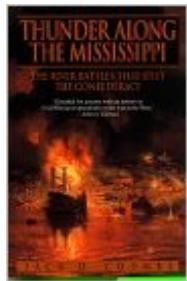


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Thunder Along The Mississippi: The River Battles That Split The Confederacy



Synopsis

A new kind of warIn 1861 the Confederacy was protected on its flank by the Mississippi River. And the Mississippi was protected by a devil's gauntlet of Rebel fortresses and shore batteries, preventing the Union from sending troops and supplies up and down the river. With Grant determined to strike a land blow through Vicksburg, the Mississippi had to be won. To achieve its goal, the Union forces unleashed a deadly new breed of fighting ships, and a desperate Confederacy answered back. For a year and a half the Mississippi and its tributaries and bayous ran with blood, as ironclads and wooden-hulled vessels clashed in a maelstrom shot through with cannon, mortar, and gunfire from the shore. A meeting of raw human courage with advancing naval technology, the battles of the Mississippi, from the Gulf of Mexico to Vicksburg, were some of the fiercest--and least known--in American naval history, yet some of the most crucial of the Civil War. Now Jack D. Coombe tells the thrilling story of the men, the vessels, and the battles that would help decide the fate of a nation.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Bantam; Reprint edition (July 1, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0553379674

ISBN-13: 978-0553379679

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.5 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.9 ounces

Average Customer Review: 2.8 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #584,293 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 inÂ Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Naval Operations #295 inÂ Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Confederacy #1189 inÂ Books > History > Military > Naval

Customer Reviews

Several mistakes, inconsistencies, and typographical errors belie its otherwise scholarly attempt to document an important event which determined many courses of action during the Civil War: the capitulation of the Mississippi River Valley and its major tributaries. Examples: 1) page 62 - Fort Donelson is actually on the West side of the Cumberland River, not the East as the book states. 2) p. 96 - At the Battle of Shiloh, Sherman held the Federal right flank during the first day of battle, not the left flank as stated in this book. That honor fell to Hurlbut's forces. This is an error too basic to

be made by anyone with any knowledge of the Civil War. This error tells me that the author is incompetent (or incomplete) in his research and/or the editor failed to catch the mistake. Either reason renders the book significantly less credible as a source of correct information regarding the Civil War. 3) p. 95 - the last sentence of the first paragraph contains a dangling preposition. There are, unfortunately, many instances of this type of error throughout the book which further lends to the notion that this is nothing but an amateurish, hastily constructed book. 4) p. 146 - the second paragraph on the page (which starts "After the battle was over...") is a run-on sentence. Unfortunately, there are more than just this one instance in the book. 5) p. 165 - "When the Union vessels hove into sight, Essex in the van, the fight was about to begin." This is an inane statement to make and insults the intelligence of the reader. What else would they be about to do? 6) p. 168 - I believe that the gentlemen's name is DAVID Dixon Porter, not DAVIS Dixon Porter. 7) p.

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