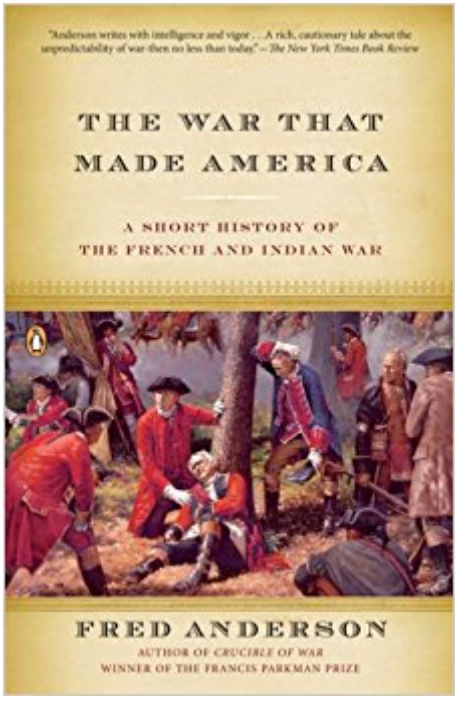
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The War That Made America: A Short History Of The French And Indian War



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Synopsis

The globe’s first true world war comes vividly to life in this "rich, cautionary tale" (The New York Times Book Review) The French and Indian War -the North American phase of a far larger conflagration, the Seven Years’ War-remains one of the most important, and yet misunderstood, episodes in American history. Fred Anderson takes readers on a remarkable journey through the vast conflict that, between 1755 and 1763, destroyed the French Empire in North America, overturned the balance of power on two continents, undermined the ability of Indian nations to determine their destinies, and lit the "long fuse" of the American Revolution. Beautifully illustrated and recounted by an expert storyteller, The War That Made America is required reading for anyone interested in the ways in which war has shaped the history of America and its peoples.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The author of the award-winning, scholarly account of the French and Indian War Crucible of War (2000) offers a scaled-down, popular version of that history in this companion volume to the January 2006 PBS documentary. It is an excellent introduction to a conflict that most Americans know little about, and that Winston Churchill called the first worldwide war. Anderson focuses on the North American theater, the outcome of which he claims "transformed the colonists’ world forever" and, in effect, "made America." He shows how the conflict encouraged colonials "to conceive of themselves as equal partners in the [British] empire," a concept that Britain did not share and that led inexorably to postwar strife and revolution. In a departure from earlier accounts, Anderson gives unprecedented coverage to the role of Native Americans in the struggle and demonstrates how the

war paved the way for the American government’s eventual "destruction or subjugation of native societies." Like the best popular historians, Anderson combines exhaustive research and an accessible prose style in a volume that should help rescue the French and Indian War from historical obscurity. (Dec.) Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Audible Audio Edition edition.

By the 1763 British victory in the Seven Years War (referred to as the French and Indian War in North America), Britain reigned supreme over the eastern half of North America. Yet, a mere 13 years later, a group of lawyers, merchants, and planters would demand, and eventually win, independence for a huge slice of that American empire. Anderson presents a concise, engrossing narrative of this seminal conflict, convincingly illustrating how it led directly to tensions and eventually warfare between the British government and her subjects along the Atlantic coast. Anderson’s explanations of the origins of the struggle are particularly insightful; he also provides a great service by restoring the role of various Native American groups to an essential place in the war. This is an outstanding account of a frequently misunderstood war that will be especially appealing to general readers with an interest in American history. It is a companion book to the four-part PBS documentary scheduled to air in January 2006. Jay FreemanCopyright Ã Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to the Audible Audio Edition edition.

This book is a substantially condensed version of the author’s earlier "Crucible of War," yet manages to cover all sorts of matters pertinent to the French and Indian War actually beginning in 1753 to its conclusion in 1763: the situation in the West and developments that led to the War; the important and changing role of various Indian groups throughout the lengthy engagement; the wide-ranging battles and campaigns waged all across the northern tier of the colonies including Fort Duquesne on the Ohio River, the Lake Ontario forts, numerous forts up and down Lake Champlain, and extending to Louisbourg on Cape Breton Island; the increased and focused British War efforts after initial stumbles; innumerable French and British leaders - some inept, others quite capable; and some commentary on what it all meant, such as the future of the Indian tribes and the prospects and mindsets of the American colonists as they shared in the victory of the British empire.There is a sense that the book is a bit too tightly packed with explanations sacrificed for the need to include details. However, the untold difficulties, the mistakes, the shortages of supplies, the harsh conditions, the extreme loss of life combined with cruel savagery, the lack of communication, the

role of fortune, and the like in waging a war over a vast territory in the mid-eighteenth century that permeate this work are scarcely possible to comprehend 250 years later. Such a book is a challenge to read; it’s rather easy to lose track in the complicated narratives of the numerous, simultaneous campaigns. Scattered maps help some. Many of the illustrations in the book of various documents are fairly useless - much too small to be read.Is it the war that made America? That question is secondary to the author’s purposes. Perhaps one can point to the confluence of several destabilizing developments surrounding the War that when combined led to the formation of America: the territorial ambitions of the French that alarmed the British; the interest of both speculators and settlers in PA and VA in Indian-occupied lands; the sense that the colonists had of sacrifice and initiative equal to that of the British in the conduct of the War; the enormous debt incurred by the British in waging the War; and the subsequent high-handed policies of British ministers in attempting to recoup those costs from the colonists. The book is certainly informative, but one suspects that for those with the time, the longer version would far more substantially cover the period and the War.

This book put the F&IW into a first rate perspective that I could easily understand, appreciate and as such helped me map its causes as well as its global effects. In addition the book gave me a much better appreciation of the Native Americans relative to their political acumen than I had ever had before. I now have a much better and deeper understanding of the brutalities that both sides visited on the other and to the many lives lost as well.

I am interested in american history from about 1500 - 1800. This book goes into the kind of detail I enjoy.Nice if it had come with a map. Next time I listen, I’ll have a map.As an aside, listening to this made me re-read Last of the Mohicans.

With 30 reviews before mine - I will be brief and only add a bit to what has been already said.The book is an amazing source of information on this long, complicated and brutal war. Professor Anderson is masterful in weaving the diplomacy, cultures (Indian, Anglo, Colonist, French) personalities and military plans together in a coherent way that illuminates the consequences of this war. It is described as an overview, or synopsis form of the war - which it may be. Nonetheless, for anyone wanting to begin, or resume from a traditionally sketchy education of this period - this is certainly the book. Even at that, the book is still very rich in detail and the author’s skill with the written word is apparent.-----kindle edition-----The kindle version has a thoroughly non-working and

useless index (no page numbers) which is particularly disappointing because, when working, the hyper-link format makes the ideal index. The author's first-rate scholarship, research & writing deserves 5-stars. e-Book publication quality,
ÃƒÂ¢Ã ËœÃ â |ÃƒÂ¢Ã ËœÃ â |ÃƒÂ¢Ã ËœÃ â ÃƒÂ¢Ã ËœÃ â ÃƒÂ¢Ã ËœÃ â disappointing.

Arrived promptly in the condition stated. A good intro into the subject, although a little dense in areas. Overall though a good read on a largely ignored event.

After getting enchanted with the French & Indian War thru several books I read about Rogers' Rangers, I found this "Short History" of the F&I War to be very appealing and quite informative. So much so, that I'll be buying Mr. Anderson's prize-winning and much more detailed book about the war, entitled:"Crucible of War: The Seven Years' War and the Fate of Empire in British North America, 1754-1766"

I've read many books about the American Revolution, and they generally concentrate on events after about 1770. This book gives you a good history of what America and Canada were like between 1720 and 1770. I've picked up more history about the role of the American Indian tribes with respect to interaction with the French, British and colonies than any other book I've ever read. The book is very well written, and moves right along. The author takes you through the alliances with various Indian tribes and the French, British and Colonists. Who knew that Pennsylvania basically hired the Iroquois to act as enforcer and protector against other tribes. The author also takes you through the massacre at Fort William Henry, which was the backdrop to Last of the Mohicans. Reading this book makes me want to see the movie again. Lots more to like in this book including the rise and influence of William Pitt and the impact of events in Europe on the conflicts in North America. Enjoy.

I got this book for a book review I had to do for my collage history class. A relatively easy read, and not very long. The author also wrote the longest book over the French and Indian War (The Crucible War) which got great reviews and was 700+ pages, so this guy clearly knows what he is talking about.

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