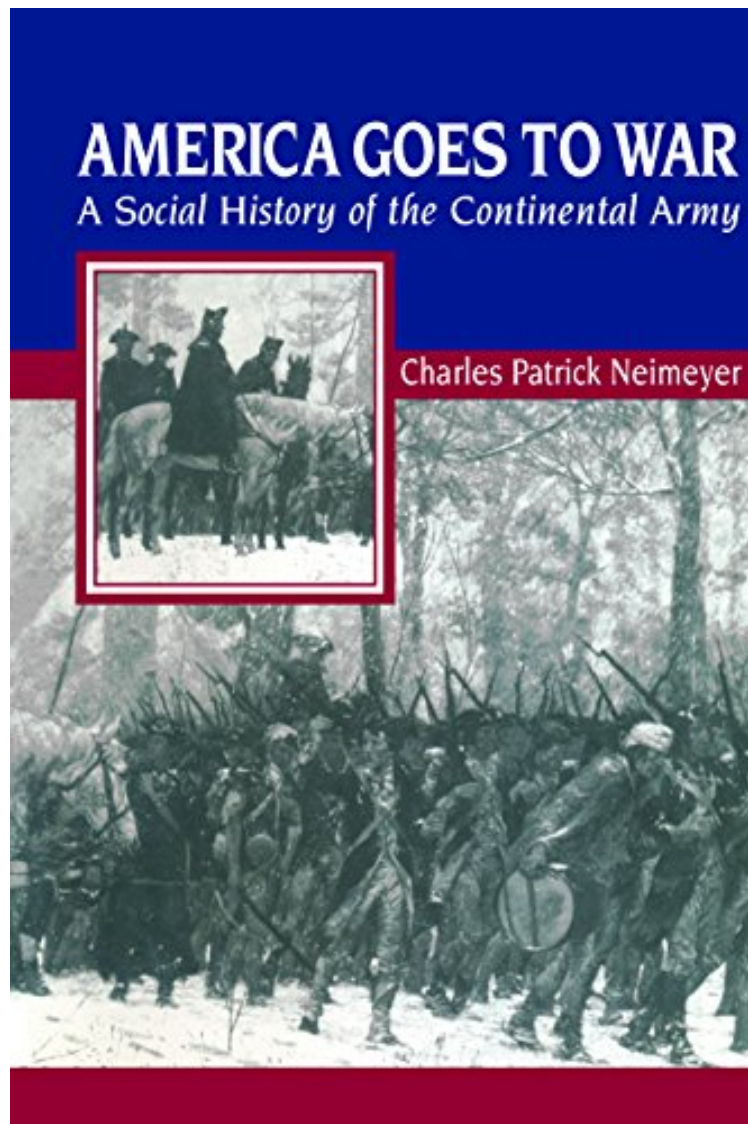


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America Goes to War: A Social History of the Continental Army (The American Social Experience)

Von Charles Patrick Neimeyer

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Von Charles Patrick Neimeyer : America Goes to War: A Social History of the Continental Army (The American Social Experience) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised America Goes to War: A Social History of the Continental Army (The American Social Experience):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Maggie's

Drawers Von Kevin F. Kiley I picked up this book expecting a history of the effectiveness of the Continental Army, especially as compared to the British and German forces which it had to fight. Before the advent of Baron von Steuben, the Continentals were at a distinct disadvantage, especially as regards to drill, discipline, and the ability to maneuver in the open and slug it out toe to toe with the European professionals. What I found was something totally different. What the author is attempting to demonstrate is some type of soldier-worker who would bargain for his wages and not fight for the ideology of the Revolution. OK, so what? Immigrants, blacks, boys, deserters, and shiftless natives with no roots in the community were taken into the Continental Army and finally led with skill and bravery to defeat the veteran opponents led with equal skill. Very few armies in history generally fight for an ideology—they fight to win and they fight for their own survival. What the author has given us is a social history more akin to 20th century left-wing denigration of the armed forces than a true social history of the Continental Army which would have been valuable. In short, this small volume doesn't cut it, is much less valuable than the works of Robert Wright, Charles Royster, and Harold Peterson. The bottom line is not what the man in the ranks came from, but that he endured and he won sometimes against overwhelming odds. No other army in American history underwent the hardships the Continentals did, or the length of service in wartime. In this, the author completely misses the mark and has given us an ideological diatribe which is an excuse, not good history. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Outstanding social history of the Continental Army. Von RKCEK1@aol.com One of the least covered areas of American History in our schools is the American Revolution. Most texts gloss over the war and primarily concentrate on the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the various other aspects of how we became a country. Very little, if any, space is devoted to the men and women who actually won our independence through their valor and sacrifice and we constantly harbor the impression that an intense patriotism belied their motivation. Dr. Neimeyer breaks through the myths of our revolutionary forefathers and gives us a superb social history of who our revolutionary forefathers were and what their motivation for serving was. This was our first army and the last time our military services were integrated until 1950. Dr. Neimeyer goes into depth concerning the various ethnic groups who made up the army and shatters many of the myths we grew up with. A superb text to add to any American History curriculum or for anyone who would like a more in-depth study of our ancestors.

Kurzbeschreibung One of the images Americans hold most dear is that of the drum-beating, fire-eating Yankee Doodle Dandy rebel, overpowering his British adversaries through sheer grit and determination. The myth of the classless, independence-minded farmer or hard-working artisan-turned-soldier is deeply ingrained in the national psyche. Charles Neimeyer here separates fact from fiction, revealing for the first time who really served in the army during the Revolution and why. His conclusions are startling. Because the army relied primarily on those not connected to the new American aristocracy, the African Americans, Irish, Germans, Native Americans, laborers-for-hire, and "free white men on the move" who served in the army were only rarely altruistic patriots driven by a vision of liberty and national unity. Bringing to light the true composition of the enlisted ranks, the relationships of African-Americans and of Native Americans to the army, and numerous acts of mutiny, desertion, and resistance against officers and government, Charles Patrick Neimeyer here provides the first comprehensive and historically accurate portrait of the Continental soldier. Pressestimmen "Fascinating." ("Neimeyer demythologizes the Continental army and very effectively demonstrates that it was an organization that evolved from its original relatively homogeneous make-up into a volatile, multicultural force that included many recent immigrants, African Americans, and Native Americans. . . . A testament to the propertyless, inarticulate, marginal individuals who actually secured liberty for later generations.") - (Dr. David J. Fowler), (The David Library of the American Revolution) ("Fascinating.") - ("Historical Journal of Massachusetts"), () ("Thoroughly compelling. Neimeyer's research is superb, and his social history perspective has told us more than anyone about the origins of the Continental Army and the meanings soldiers attached to their service. This is a genuinely important book.") - (Mark Edward Ledner), (co-author of "A Respectable Army: The Military Origins of the Republic") ("Neimeyer pushes to the next plateau the recent work of historians who have investigated the contributions of the Continental Army to the American Revolution. Because of his research and his synthesis of recent scholarship, the previously inarticulate common soldiers of the rank and file find their voices.") - (James M. Johnson), (author of "Militiamen, Rangers, and Redcoats: The Military in Georgia, 1754-1776") "Fascinating." - "Historical Journal of Massachusetts", "Neimeyer demythologizes the Continental army and very effectively demonstrates that it was an organization that evolved from its original relatively homogeneous make-up into a volatile, multicultural force that included many recent immigrants, African Americans, and Native Americans. . . . A testament to the propertyless, inarticulate, marginal individuals who actually secured liberty for later generations." - Dr. David J. Fowler, The David Library of the American Revolution "Neimeyer pushes to the next plateau the recent work of historians who have investigated the contributions of the Continental Army to the American Revolution. Because of his research and his synthesis of recent scholarship, the previously inarticulate common soldiers of the rank and file find their voices." - James M. Johnson, author of "Militiamen, Rangers, and Redcoats: The

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Kurzbeschreibung

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