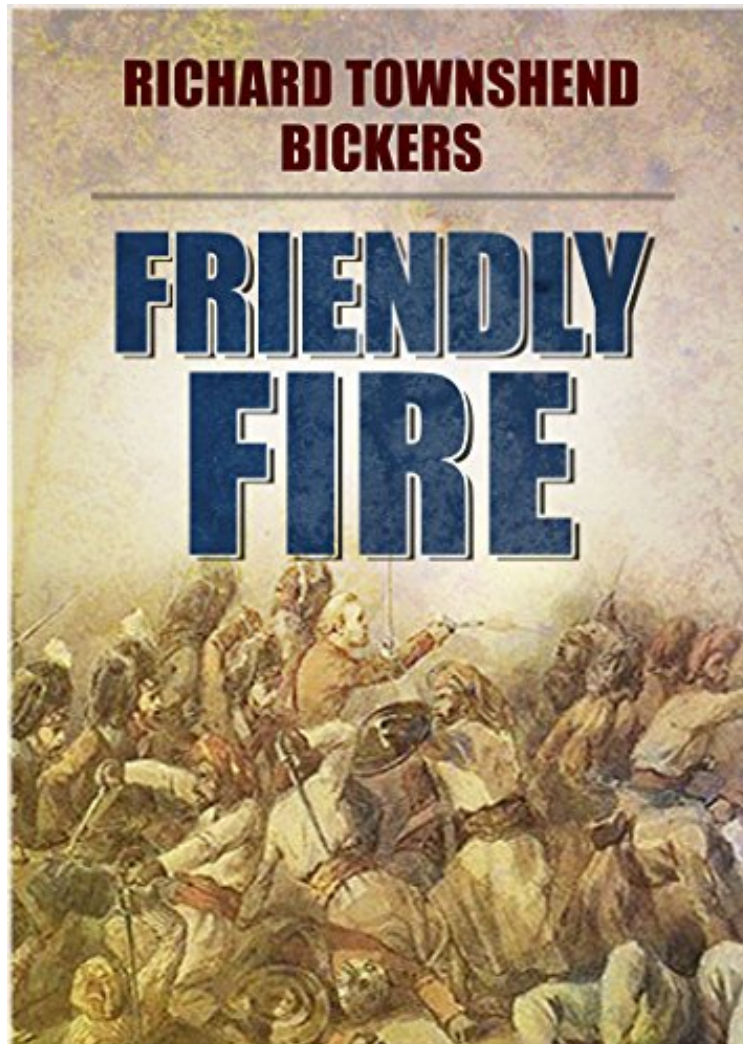


[Mobile book] Friendly Fire (English Edition)

Friendly Fire (English Edition)

Von Richard Townshend Bickers
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Von Richard Townshend Bickers : Friendly Fire (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Friendly Fire (English Edition):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Moderate Success Von Ein Kunde Those looking for a serious analysis of the history and reasons fratricide occurs will be disappointed with this work, which fails to live up to its ambitious sub-title: 'Accidents in Battle from Ancient Greece to the Gulf War'. That is, the breadth simply is not there. In addition, Bickers very often substitutes 'ad hominem' for more substantive reasons fratricide incidents occur. No doubt, stupidity and other human frailties and foolishness are at fault in many cases, but Bickers does not offer those who fired the ill-fated shots of fratricide the possibility for rejoinder. Hence, one of his main problems is historiographical. In addition, Bickers digresses too much

to stories which, although interesting, would be well-suited in books of another topic. Such a digression to peripheral commentary adds little, if anything, to the discussion of fratricide and why it occurs. This factor impairs the usefulness of the work, which proves to be a book out of focus. Despite these overall impairments, the book does have something to commend it. Bickers highlights many cases of fratricide which occurred in World War Two, which many readers are probably unaware of. At the end of the book he includes a list of why fratricide incidents are likely to occur in the future. As it turns out, these reasons correlate well with current professional literature on the subject. Hence, I would recommend the book to be included in a study of the subject of fratricide, but it is certainly not the definitive source.

KurzbeschreibungThe somewhat illogical term Friendly Fire is used to describe the accidental shooting of servicemen by their own side. This type of, often fatal, accident leapt into public knowledge during the Gulf War as if it were an entirely new phenomenon yet another example of the problems created, and still far from understood, by the presence of reporters in or near the front line of a battle with the technical equipment to transmit televised coverage of the fighting as it happens. Of course, as Richard Bickers points out in this historical survey of some of the most dramatic incidents of what he more correctly calls accidental amicide, it is an occurrence as old as warfare itself. It is inevitable that in the heat of battle men become confused and disoriented and such accidents are bound to happen. Sometimes, as the author shows, the blame can be attributed to the incompetence or stupidity of a commander who leads or sends his men into the line of fire of his own guns. More often, however, it is simply the result of a breakdown in communications, stress or a change in the weather. In this absorbing book, Richard Bickers puts Friendly Fire in its true perspective, using his own experience as an airman in and after the Second World War to show how hard it is for a pilot to distinguish friend from foe. Praise for Richard Townsend Bickers: A valuable history of the air war that began it all by an ex-flyer of the Second World War who has a genuine feeling for the feats of his predecessors - **THE BIRMINGHAM POST** His sympathy with the fighting man (and woman) shines out of every page - **LIVERPOOL DAILY POST** Endeavour Press is the UK's leading independent publisher of digital books. **Kurzbeschreibung**The somewhat illogical term Friendly Fire is used to describe the accidental shooting of servicemen by their own side. This type of, often fatal, accident leapt into public knowledge during the Gulf War as if it were an entirely new phenomenon yet another example of the problems created, and still far from understood, by the presence of reporters in or near the front line of a battle with the technical equipment to transmit televised coverage of the fighting as it happens. Of course, as Richard Bickers points out in this historical survey of some of the most dramatic incidents of what he more correctly calls accidental amicide, it is an occurrence as old as warfare itself. It is inevitable that in the heat of battle men become confused and disoriented and such accidents are bound to happen. Sometimes, as the author shows, the blame can be attributed to the incompetence or stupidity of a commander who leads or sends his men into the line of fire of his own guns. More often, however, it is simply the result of a breakdown in communications, stress or a change in the weather. In this absorbing book, Richard Bickers puts Friendly Fire in its true perspective, using his own experience as an airman in and after the Second World War to show how hard it is for a pilot to distinguish friend from foe. Praise for Richard Townsend Bickers: A valuable history of the air war that began it all by an ex-flyer of the Second World War who has a genuine feeling for the feats of his predecessors - **THE BIRMINGHAM POST** His sympathy with the fighting man (and woman) shines out of every page - **LIVERPOOL DAILY POST** Endeavour Press is the UK's leading independent publisher of digital books. **Synopsis** The term "friendly fire", referring to the unintentional killing or wounding of friend or ally, is an emotive one which provokes hostility and indignation; it suggests the incompetence, carelessness or stupidity of those who commit it, and excites pity for its victims. But such errors are often unavoidable or the fault of the injured party. Although familiar to the armed forces for centuries, friendly fire came into prominence during and after the Gulf War, a four-month campaign with only 100 hours' ground-fighting, on which the attention of the world was focused and where a host of news reporters were present. There were four incidents in which nine British soldiers were killed and 16 wounded, and 28 others in which 35 American troops died and 72 were wounded. Despite hundreds of similar events which went unreported in both World Wars and in Korea, those in the Gulf War were publicized as though they were the most outrageous calamities in the history of warfare. This book explores "friendly fire" from Ancient Greece to the present, and sets out to put it into military and historical perspective.