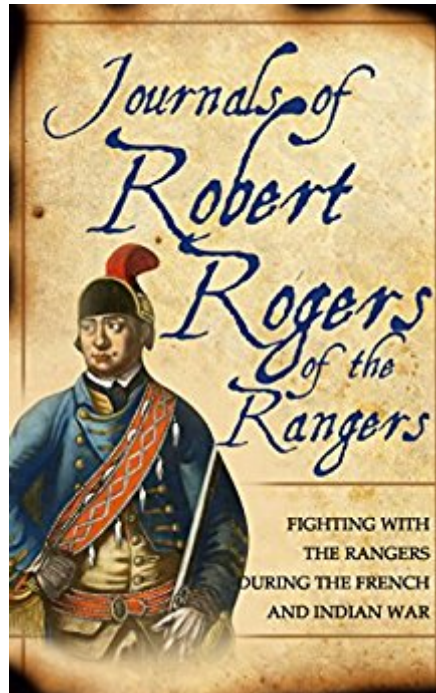




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Journals Of Robert Rogers Of The Rangers



Synopsis

My orders were to raise this company as quick as possible, to enlist none but such as were used to travelling and hunting, and in whose courage and fidelity I could confide: they were, moreover, to be subject to military discipline and the articles of war. From 1755 to 1760, Major Robert Rogers fought in the French and Indian War for the British. He and his troops were given a mandate to use my best endeavours to distress the French and their allies, by sacking, burning; and destroying their houses, barns, barracks, canoes, bateaux, &c., and by killing their cattle of every kind; and at all times to endeavour to waylay, attack, and destroy their convoys of provisions by land and water, in any part of the country where I could find them." This is Rogers's fascinating year by year account of that time. Covering the battles on snowshoes and numerous raids against the French camps it provides an insight into the ruthless guerrilla warfare of Rogers's Rangers. Rogers's strategy throughout the war was innovative and he explains in detail the techniques that he and his Rangers used and how he trained his men. Included in his journal is his now famous military twenty-eight point guide, the "Rules of Ranging", which still form the basis of the "Standing Orders" taught to U.S. Army Rangers today. As well as material drawn from Rogers's journals, the inclusion of letters provide further details on the Rangers's role in the wider war. The Journals of Robert Rogers of the Rangers are a unique history of eighteenth century warfare that was developed during the French and Indian War. After this conflict Rogers was involved in combating Pontiac's Rebellion and then became a royal governor. Suspected of having British sympathies he was never given command of in the Continental Army and even assisted in the capture of Nathan Hale. After struggling with money problems and alcoholism he died in debt and obscurity in London in 1795. His journals were published in England in 1765.

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Customer Reviews

Sometimes the history of America appears to comprise of little of note from the arrival of the Pilgrim Fathers from an intolerant England to the justifiable expulsion of the British after the War of Independence. However, in the intervening period a world wide war was fought between the British and the French which would decide which European power would dominate the globe militarily, in trade, influence and language. When that conflict came to the English speaking colonies populated by folks with names like Rogers and Washington the matter of 'sides' was simple. The principally red coated troops that opposed the French and their Indian allies was the army of Americans at the time. American regiments and militia whose lineage has continued to this day fought by their side, but this was a British army commanded by British generals so it is unsurprising that the line of the Royal Americans can today be found among the ranks of The Rifles in today's British Army. There was no more significant military man of this period than American born Robert Rogers and his spirit remains alive within the Rangers of the United States Army, though he was forever a soldier of the Crown. Rogers was probably not alone among his peers in his understanding of what was necessary to wage war in the terrain, climate and against the Indians of North Eastern America. But this remarkable military man of the 18th century innovated an entirely new type of military unit- not so long after the organisation of the British Army by numbered regiments- which not only was a highly effective force for his own war but which in principle has been adopted by every army of modern times.

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