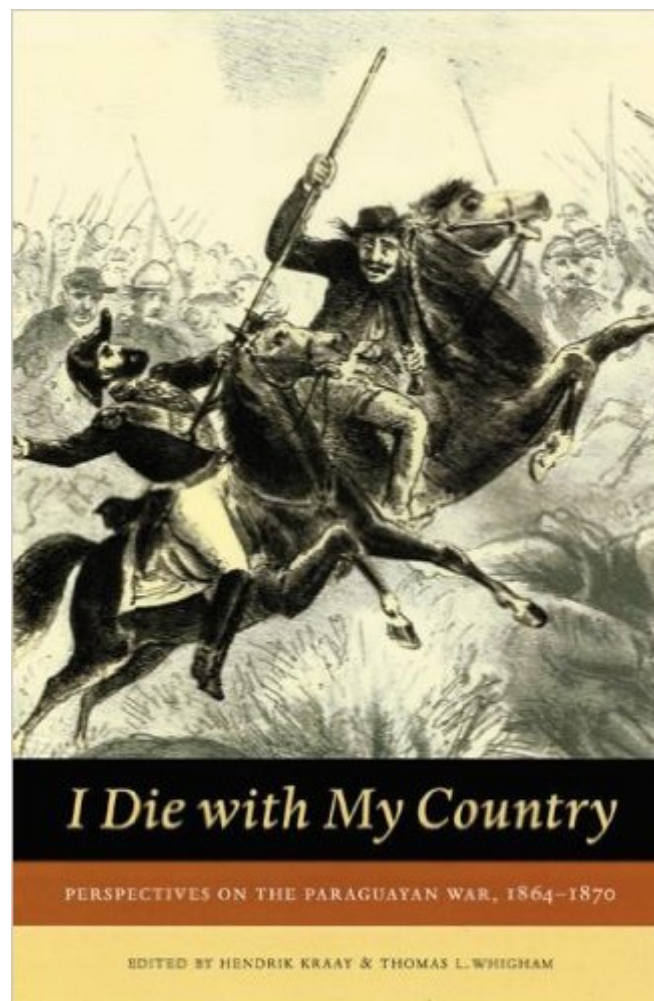


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I Die With My Country: Perspectives On The Paraguayan War, 1864-1870 (Studies In War, Society, And The Military)



Synopsis

The Paraguayan War (1864–70) was the most extensive and profound interstate war ever fought in South America. It directly involved the four countries of Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay and took the lives of hundreds of thousands, combatants and noncombatants alike. While the war still stirs emotions on the southern continent, until today few scholars from outside the region have taken on the daunting task of analyzing the conflict. In this compilation of ten essays, historians from Canada, the United States, Germany, Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay address its many tragic complexities. Each scholar examines a particular facet of the war, including military mobilization, home-front activities, the war's effects on political culture, war photography, draft resistance, race issues, state formation, and the role of women in the war. The editors' introduction provides a balance to the many perspectives collected here while simultaneously integrating them into a comprehensible whole, thus making the book a compelling read for social historians and military buffs alike.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Paraguayan War, or War of the Triple Alliance, is little known in the US, although it was as much a transforming experience in Southern South America as the Civil War was for the United States (and comparatively much bloodier). Whigham and Kraay have added immeasurably to the body of literature in English by assembling and editing a series of papers on a wide variety of topics related to the war, ranging from the role of women in Paraguay to free blacks in the Brazilian army to letters

home from a junior Brazilian officer. The latter proves the universality of the military experience as his complaints about everything from the foolishness of the high command to his living accommodations would be familiar to any soldier from the Hadrian's Wall to Da Nang. As in any compendium written by multiple academics, the perspectives vary significantly in style and accessibility. However in general this book is free of professional jargon. This is not a book for someone discovering the Paraguayan War for the first time, for that one should read "To the Bitter End", by Chris Leuchars or "The Paraguayan War" by Thomas Whigham. If one is reasonably conversant with the War, then this is a perfect companion piece to any general history.

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