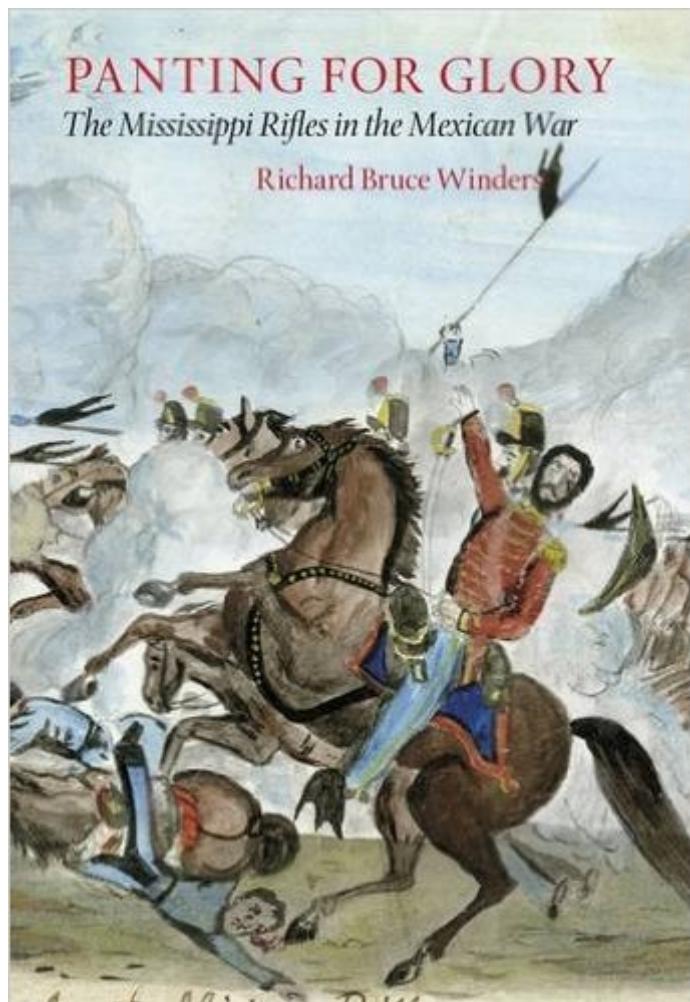


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Panting For Glory: The Mississippi Rifles In The Mexican War (Williams-Ford Texas A&M University Military History Series)



Synopsis

Armed with percussion rifles when most other US soldiers still carried flintlock muskets, the Mississippi Rifles served in the war against Mexico that followed the annexation of Texas in 1845. In *Panting for Glory: The Mississippi Rifles in the Mexican War*, Richard Bruce Winders skillfully uncovers the contrasting wartime experiences of two regiments, the 1st and 2nd Mississippi Rifles. The 1st Mississippi Rifles were lauded for their service and remain a familiar part of the history of the Mexican War. Under the leadership of Col. Jefferson Davis "later the President of the Confederate States of America" the 1st enjoyed significant victories at the Battle of Buena Vista and the Battle of Monterey. The 2nd Mississippi Rifles, by contrast, saw little action and returned home overlooked and largely forgotten. Panting for Glory compares these regiments to show that the contours of history were sometimes arbitrary and that military historians, in their analysis of failure, should take into account a wide range of factors that influence outcomes, not merely records of wins and losses. As Winders concludes, "the 1st and 2nd Mississippi Rifles . . . offer the perfect opportunity to examine two sides of war: glory gained and glory denied."

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Customer Reviews

Dr. Winders, already the author of one of the finest books on the US Army during the Mexican War ("Mr. Polk's Army") has made an important contribution to the history of the Mexican War with "Panting for Glory." Perhaps the best known volunteer regiment during that conflict, the story of the

Mississippi Rifles has really seldom been told. This story is crucial to anyone studying the American soldier during the Mexican War or anyone writing about its commanding officer, Colonel Jefferson Davis, who just fifteen years later would become President of the Confederate States of America.

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