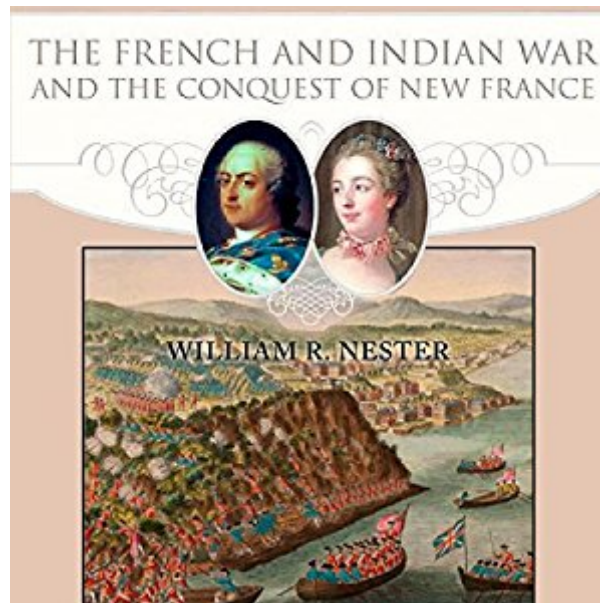




The book was found

The French And Indian War And The Conquest Of New France



Synopsis

The French and Indian War was the world's first truly global conflict. When the French lost to the British in 1763, they lost their North American empire along with most of their colonies in the Caribbean, India, and West Africa. In *The French and Indian War and the Conquest of New France*, the only comprehensive account from the French perspective, William R. Nester explains how and why the French were defeated. He explores the fascinating personalities and epic events that shaped French diplomacy, strategy, and tactics and determined North America's destiny. What began in 1754 with a French victory - the defeat at Fort Necessity of young Lieutenant Colonel George Washington - quickly became a disaster for France. The cost in soldiers, ships, munitions, provisions, and treasure was staggering. France was deeply in debt when the war began, and that debt grew with each year. Nester describes missed diplomatic and military opportunities as well as military defeats late in the conflict. Nester masterfully weaves his narrative of this complicated war with thorough accounts of the military, economic, technological, social, and cultural forces that affected its outcome. Listeners learn not only how and why the French lost, but how the problems leading up to that loss in 1763 foreshadowed the French Revolution almost 25 years later. One of the problems at Versailles was the king's mistress, the powerful Madame de Pompadour, who encouraged Louis XV to become his own prime minister. The bewildering labyrinth of French bureaucracy combined with court intrigue and financial challenges only made it even more difficult for the French to succeed. Ultimately, France lost the war because Versailles failed to provide enough troops and supplies to fend off the English enemy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Excellent experience to learn so much about the way the French mismanaged their military and diplomatic efforts. I grew up on the accounts written from the English side and this helps round out the scope of the Seven Year's War, which we generally think of as a purely Colonial issue between the French, Indians, and British for which we here in the US resented being taxed for. Although it is a solid prelude to the colonies finally wresting control from Great Britain, there is always more to the story.

Nester did an excellent job on this book, especially being written from the French perspective. There are very small typographical errors, and in some places too much information. But overall, it is an excellent learning tool and keeps the attention of the reader.

An interesting view from the perspective of the French.

A revealing insight into the times, customs, and mores of the period. An abundance of detail paints a vivid picture. I bought the audio version and was impressed with the crisp and engaging narration of Philip Benoit. I am also an audiobook narrator, and in fact did another Nester book, and know that it's a real challenge to keep the listener involved in a major historical narrative. Benoit is a natural storyteller and exhibited just the right touch in making the material lively, accessible, and vibrant as it plays out in what audio people sometimes call "the theater of the mind."

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