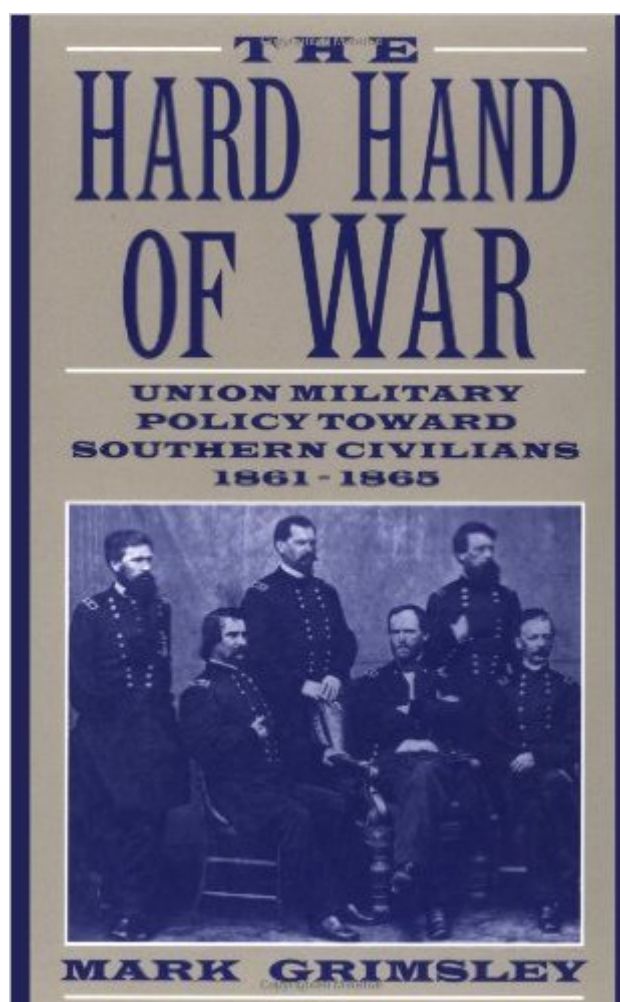


The book was found

The Hard Hand Of War



Synopsis

The Hard Hand of War explores the Union army's policy of destructive attacks upon Southern property and civilian morale--how it evolved, what it was like in practice. From an initial policy of deliberate restraint, extending even to the active protection of Southerners' property and constitutional rights, Union armies gradually adopted measures that were expressly intended to demoralize Southern civilians and to ruin the Confederate economy. Yet the ultimate "hard war" policy was far from the indiscriminate fury of legend. Union policy makers promoted a program of directed severity, and Professor Grimsley demonstrates how and why it worked. This volume fits into an emerging interpretation of the Civil War that questions its status as a "total war" and instead emphasizes the survival of political logic and control even in the midst of a sweeping struggle for the nation's future: the primary goal of the Federal government remained the restoration of the Union, not the devastation of the South. Intertwined with a political logic, and sometimes indistinguishable from it, was also a deep sense of moral justice--a belief that, whatever the claims of military necessity, the innocent deserved some pity, and that even the guilty should suffer in rough proportion to the extent of their sins. Through comparisons with earlier European wars and through the testimony of Union soldiers and Southern civilians alike, Grimsley shows that Union soldiers exercised restraint even as they made war against the Confederate civilian population.

Book Information

Paperback: 260 pages

Publisher: Cambridge University Press (February 28, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0521599415

ISBN-13: 978-0521599412

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #547,519 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #283 in [Books > History >](#)

[Americas > United States > Civil War > Confederacy](#) #1392 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Military](#) #3600 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > United States](#)

Customer Reviews

This is an expansion of Grimsley's doctoral dissertation and, as such, is written with academics in mind. That does not mean that Civil War or history buffs cannot pick it up and read it, but this book

does require some slogging. I managed to read it in a week for a graduate school class, but it wasn't the easiest read in the world. At any rate, I digress...the book itself is very interesting and one of the few books I've seen that tries to figure out when the Union armies turned to a "hard war" policy and why. The answers are surely not the final word on the subject as one reviewer pointed out some records that Grimsley missed or overlooked. However, Grimsley does have some useful information of the formation of Union military policy toward Southern civilians and how it evolved. Grimsley is smart to point out that there are always exceptions to the rule, but one gets a sense that much of his thesis is proven as to how and why the policy evolved. In short, at the beginning of the war the Union policy was one of conciliation toward Southern civilians, the thinking being that secession was not favored by a majority of the people and if Union armies occupied Southern areas, the people would rise up and want to rejoin the Union, especially if the Union armies treated them civilly. This policy began to shift in 1863 as Grant attempted to take Vicksburg and began to live off the land. Grant, and Sherman, still attempted to keep their men from outright looting, but were more than happy to confiscate supplies, while still leaving enough for the families they took from to eat themselves.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Vietnam War: The Vietnam War in 50 Events: From the First Indochina War to the Fall of Saigon (War Books, Vietnam War Books, War History) (History in 50 Events Series Book 6) World War 2 History's 10 Most Incredible Women: World War II True Accounts Of Remarkable Women Heroes (WWII history, WW2, War books, world war 2 books, war history, World war 2 women) The Hard Hand of War World War 1: World War I in 50 Events: From the Very Beginning to the Fall of the Central Powers (War Books, World War 1 Books, War History) (History in 50 Events Series) World War 1: Soldier Stories: The Untold Soldier Stories on the Battlefields of WWI (World War I, WWI, World War One, Great War, First World War, Soldier Stories) World War 2: World War II in 50 Events: From the Very Beginning to the Fall of the Axis Powers (War Books, World War 2 Books, War History) (History in 50 Events Series Book 4) Caillou: No More Diapers (Hand in Hand) Hand-in-Hand: Ceramics, Mosaics, Tapestries, and Wood Carvings by the California Mid-Century Designers Evelyn and Jerome Ackerman Knife Fighting, Knife Throwing for Combat (Special Forces/Ranger-Udt/Seal Hand-To-Hand Combat/Special W) The games of drawing room hockey, tether ball, hand tennis, garden hockey, volley ball, basket goal, lawn hockey, wicket polo, hand polo, golf croquet, clock golf, laws of badminton Learn Python the Hard Way: A Very Simple Introduction to the Terrifyingly Beautiful World of Computers and Code (3rd Edition) (Zed Shaw's Hard Way Series) The Everything Hard Cider Book: All you need to know about making hard cider

at home Learn C the Hard Way: Practical Exercises on the Computational Subjects You Keep Avoiding (Like C) (Zed Shaw's Hard Way Series) Learn Python the Hard Way: A Very Simple Introduction to the Terrifyingly Beautiful World of Computers and Code (Zed Shaw's Hard Way Series) Working Hard, Drinking Hard: On Violence and Survival in Honduras The Dead Hand: The Untold Story of the Cold War Arms Race and Its Dangerous Legacy Champagne: How the World's Most Glamorous Wine Triumphed Over War and Hard Times World War 2: German Tank Crew Stories: Eyewitness Accounts (German War, WW2, World War II, Soldier Stories, Waffen SS, Last Panther, DDay, Panzer, Hitler Book 1) America's Captives: Treatment of POWs from the Revolutionary War to the War on Terror (Modern War Studies (Hardcover)) The Vietnam War: Soldier Stories: Untold Tales of Soldiers on the Battlefields of the Vietnam War (Vietnam war, soldier stories, Gunship Pilot, Marine Corp, Vietnam History, Vietnam memoirs)

[Dmca](#)