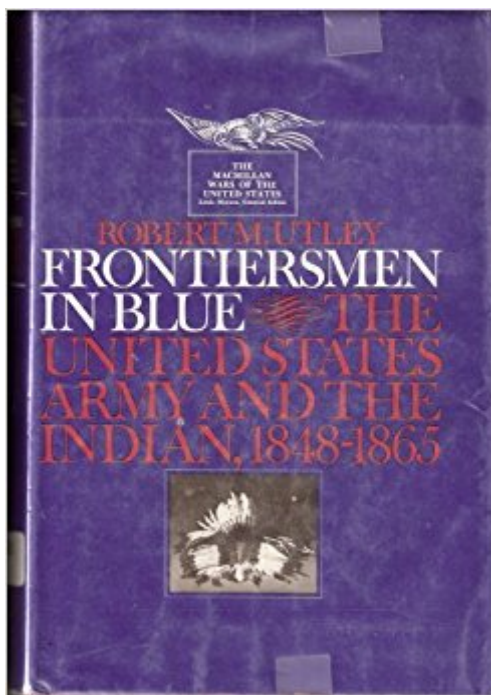


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Frontiersmen In Blue: The United States Army And The Indian, 1848-1865



Synopsis

Frontiersmen in Blue is a comprehensive history of the achievements and failures of the United States Regular and Volunteer Armies that confronted the Indian tribes of the West in the two decades between the Mexican War and the close of the Civil War. Between 1848 and 1865 the men in blue fought nearly all of the western tribes. Robert Utley describes many of these skirmishes in consummate detail, including descriptions of garrison life that was sometimes agonizingly isolated, sometimes caught in the lightning moments of desperate battle. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Along with his analysis of the general situation, Utley writes an excellent description of the frontier soldier and the army. . . . His style is unobtrusive, entertaining, and objective to an extent rarely encountered today. It is refreshing to find a history of the frontier, the army, and particularly the Indian without the present-day mawkish sentimentalism." [Journal of American History](#) (Journal of American History)"One of [the book's] several impressive features is the author's talent for drawing from the indispensable detail of campaigns those significant trends in frontier military policy. Certainly Utley has applied creative management to a great mass of military minutiae and given it a meaningful, readable format." [Arrell M. Gibson, American Historical Review](#) (Arrell M. Gibson American Historical Review) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Robert M. Utley is recognized as one of the leading historians of the American West. He is the author of the much-acclaimed *Billy the Kid: A Short and Violent Life*, published by the University of Nebraska Press in 1989, and of the award-winning books *Cavalier in Buckskin: George Armstrong Custer and the Western Military Frontier* (1988) and *High Noon in Lincoln: Violence on the Western Frontier* (1987), as well as the authoritative *Frontier Regulars: The United States Army and the Indian, 1866-1891* (also a Bison Book). --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Admittedly this is a work for a somewhat limited audience. However, if you have an interest in the topic, you would be hard pressed to find a better book on the subject. I first encountered Mr. Utley as one of the commentators on a series about the West on the History Channel. I found his narrative style much to my liking so I read his "Frontier Regulars" which covers the post Civil War period on the frontier. Reading that, I found that it was actually part 2 of a two book history with "Frontiersmen in Blue" being volume one. I highly recommend both volumes, and while I wish I had read "Frontiersmen in Blue" first, it's not really necessary. Mr. Utley does a wonderful job of personalizing the protagonists (on both sides) and his work seems to benefit from a wealth of research which he distills into a very readable account. He's also very even-handed in his praise and criticisms, although the works still seem to cant slightly to the Army/Government perspective. I feel that this speaks more to the relative scarcity of source material from Indian sources than to any bias on Mr. Utley's part. Overall, just a great, readable account of the struggles played out on the frontier between the end of the Mexican-American War and the American Civil War.

I read the sequel to this book, *Frontier Regulars: The United States Army and the Indian, 1866-1891* also by Utley, during a graduate level discussion course. I like it so much that I purchased *Frontiersmen in Blue* as a used book thru . I was not disappointed and read the book in a couple of days. The author does a good job of setting up the book and explaining his thesis in the opening chapter. He then spends the next few chapters covering soldiers, equipment and supply, and organization. The remainder of the book covers each area of the west from the end of the Mexican War to the Civil war, and then covers each area during the Civil war. There are good maps in the book that are necessary in following the many regions Utley divides the book into. If you enjoy reading and learning about the American west from the perspective of US army versus the Indians then this two book series is a great starting point for the aspiring historian. You will want to add other books dealing with the Indian perspective and for more detail on other aspects of frontier life.

Like its post Civil War era companion book by Robert Utley, "Frontier Regulars," "Frontiersmen in Blue" is provides an outstanding, detailed account of the U.S. Army and its supporting state units facing the Native nations on the Western frontier between the Mexican War and the end of the Civil War. It's a must, basic read for understanding the military actions and the related conflicts on the Frontier.

BOOK WAS JUST AS LISTED AND WAS A GREAT DEAL. BOOK WAS A SOLID HISTORY ABOUT THE US ARMY AND THE WESTERN INDIAN WARS. OVERALL AN A+++++ TRANSACTION.

the book is the 1st. volume of a two volume collection about the u.s army and the american indian. a great bargain.

A classic of course! Utley's books serve as a fine basis to begin your studies. A must have in your western library.

Good history of the army in the west Pre-civil war, this is an overview with a good bibliography. Robert Utley provides a concise easy to read and follow history of the US army in the west.

First read about 40 years ago. Still a very good and well written book.

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