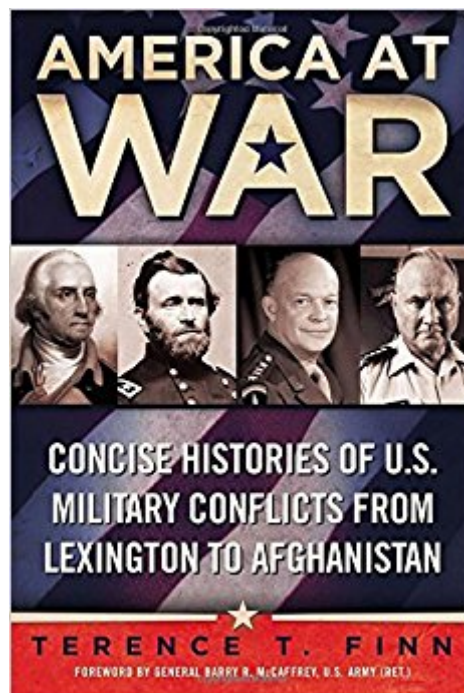




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# America At War: Concise Histories Of U.S. Military Conflicts From Lexington To Afghanistan



## Synopsis

War—organized violence against an enemy of the state—seems part and parcel of the American journey. Indeed, the United States was established by means of violence as ordinary citizens from New Hampshire to Georgia answered George Washington's call to arms. Since then, war has become a staple of American history. Counting the War for Independence, the United States has fought the armed forces of other nations at least twelve times, averaging a major conflict every twenty years. In so doing, the objectives have been simple: advance the cause of freedom, protect U.S. interests, and impose America's will upon a troubled world. More often than not, the results have been successful as America's military has accounted itself well. Yet the cost has been high, in both blood and treasure. Americans have fought and died around the globe—on land, at sea, and in the air. Without doubt, their actions have shaped the world in which we live. In this comprehensive collection, Terence T. Finn provides a set of narratives—each concise and readable—on the twelve major wars America has fought. He explains what happened, and why such places as Saratoga and Antietam, Manila Bay and Midway are important to an understanding of America's past. Readers will easily be able to brush up on their history and acquaint themselves with those individuals and events that have helped define the United States of America.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Gr 8 Up—Twelve of the wars in which the United States fought are discussed here in a manner that is thorough yet concise. Finn—When Europe Went Mad (Pentland,

2009) – discusses the events, the reasons why the war was fought, and how the outcome was important to the United States. In order for a war to be included, it had to meet the following criteria: it was large in scale, the enemy was a sovereign state, and the outcome had to influence the future of the U.S. significantly. Though the Cold War, French and Indian War, and the Panama Incursion are not included, each of the following has a chapter dedicated to it: the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mexican/American War, War Between the States, Spanish/American War, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf, Iraq, and Afghanistan. While the technology and participants have changed throughout the years, it is clear that war is still a conflict of organized violence, the necessity of which many will disagree. A victory depends greatly on who is in charge and the available resources. Even though the trade title reads like a textbook, the pacing of Sean Pratt's narration makes it easy to understand and tolerable. Best for students looking for an in-depth picture of wars in the history of the U.S. or for those who are teaching the subject. The audio is easy to take notes from with major points emphasized throughout. – Karen Alexander, Library Media Specialist, Lake Fenton High School, Linden, Michigan --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Educated at Williams College and the University of Sussex, Terence T. Finn holds a PhD from Georgetown University. His career encompasses the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as well as staff positions on Capitol Hill. Finn is the author of two novels, *The Best of Times* and *To Begin Again*, as well as *When Europe Went Mad*, an account of the First World War.

The knowledge summarized in this helpful little book will give you a fundamental understanding of America's 12 wars. It will, as it were, level the playing field among all 12. I found that I knew much more about the Civil War, the Revolution, World War II and the Vietnam War, that I did about the other eight. I was very happy to have a source that gave me a solid base on all of them. Robert C Ross  
February 2014

Terence Finn's "America at War - Concise History" is a very readable, informative work filling in big gaps in my knowledge of at least six of the wars discussed. My initial response to the book was that it is one that every young student of history should read. In particular, it helped me better understand how America responded to its last four wars. The chapter on the Second World War was of particular interest for I was reminded of the significant numbers of people who gave their lives while defending democracy. Well worth reading. Craig Schelter

The chapters on WW II , Korea and Vietnam were particularly well written , giving me new insights on these conflicts .Also , the author describes these wars with clarity and precision with no political agenda . Met and then exceeded TitleDescription .I intend to buy a copy of this book for each of my 3 adult children .Well done , Dr. Finn !Joe Bodell

As a student of history I truly enjoyed this book. It was concise, but Mr. Finn was able to put a lot of these wars in presepective. Obviously he just touched the surface, but a good way to get into these issues and find the area you wish to find out more about, and read it in great detail. Some of General's really rose up the occasion. Further I agree with how we handled the Iraq war ( number one) Swartzkopf was really a great tactician, and we were lucky to have him. The Second war was a disaster for many reasons, wrong people running same and no clear objective. All in all an very enjoyable book

A splendid little volume explaining twelve American wars, the whys, wheres, and whos. One major complaint is the total disregard and thus no mention of the U. S. Coast Guard. The Coast Guard has participated in every war American has fought - even back to the Quasi War with France! The Coast Guard is one of the five Armed Forces of the United States. While I enjoyed and will keep the book the omission of the Coast Guard makes me wonder what else was omitted.

This books gives the reader summaries of America's battles with commentary as to if they were successful or not, and helpful critiques of how they unfolded. The major military leaders of these battles are evaluated as to their leadership skills and the results or failures inherent in from how they battles were carried out. Additional comments are made as to the significance/effect of the battles to U.S. history.

Excellent, exactly what I was looking for, a concise account of the Wars Americans have fought. How soon we forget, I was mostly amazed at the number of soldiers from all countries killed in WWI 8,000,000. It seems that war and sacrificing it all is part of the human make up, and sometimes for the most trivial reasons.

America at War is a very digestible synopsis of each of America's military conflicts. It provides a great perspective for someone interested in the fundamental outline of the wars, but not all the

historical or military details.

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