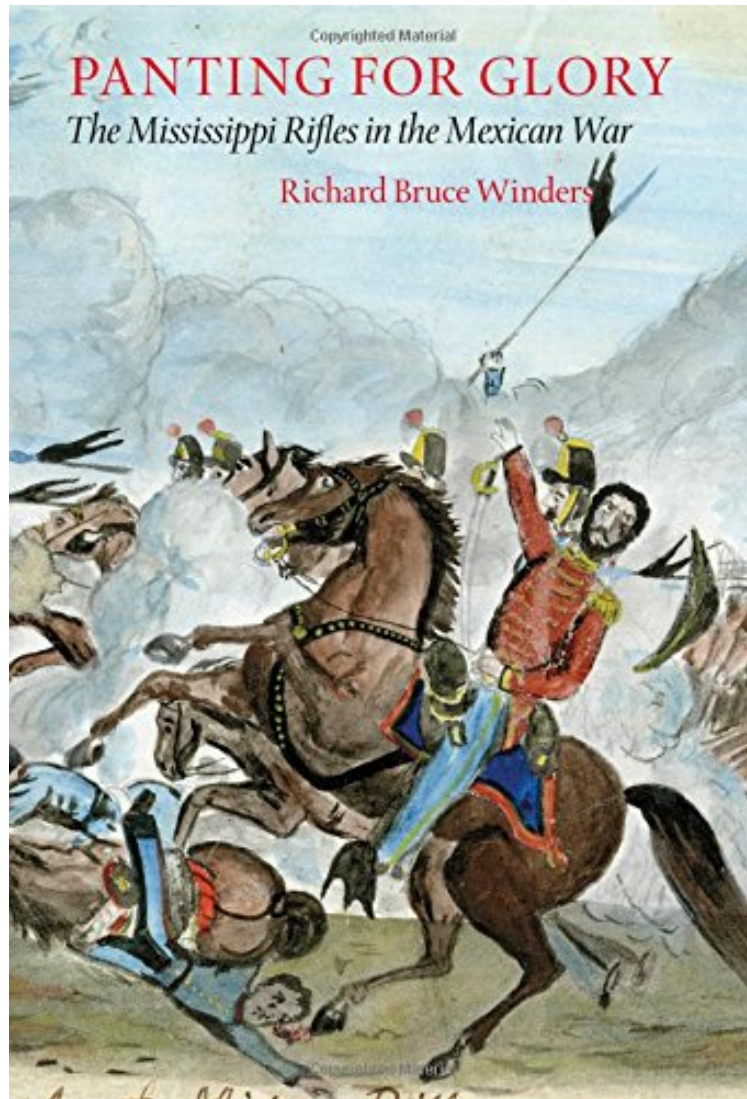


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Panting For Glory: The Mississippi Rifles in the Mexican War (Williams-Ford Texas AM University Military History Series)

Richard Bruce Winders

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Richard Bruce Winders : Panting For Glory: The Mississippi Rifles in the Mexican War (Williams-Ford Texas AM University Military History Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Panting For Glory: The Mississippi Rifles in the Mexican War (Williams-Ford Texas AM University Military History Series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Mississippians in the War with MexicoBy Albert A. NofiA summary

of the review on StrategyPage.Com'Winders, author of the excellent "Mr. Polk's Army" and several other works, takes a look at the service of Mississippi's two volunteer mounted rifles regiments in the war with Mexico. One, the 1st Mississippi Mounted Rifles, gained fame campaigning under Jefferson Davis, most notably at Buena Vista, where it may well have saved Zachary Taylor's little army from destruction. The other, the 2nd Mississippi Mounted Rifles, although it arguably had a more arduous war, and certainly suffered far greater losses, is virtually unremembered, because it served largely on security duties and most of its losses were due to disease. Winders examines the formation of each regiment, with an analysis of the regional origins of the men, and discusses their organization, equipping (with new "untried" percussion rifles), training, and service. As he does so, he throws a good deal of light on the role of volunteers in the war, and on the war itself. An excellent book, and a good read, this is, however, more suited to the seasoned student of the war than to someone lacking familiarity with the subject.'For the full review, see StrategyPage.Com0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. already the author of one of the finest books on the US Army during the Mexican War ...By Albert RushDr. 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.

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."

"Bruce Winders's *Panting for Glory: The Mississippi Rifles in the Mexican War* sheds new light on the role of the Mississippi volunteers in the Mexican War....a smooth-running narrative from beginning to end..."—Christopher D. Dishman, author of *A Perfect Gibraltar: The Battle for Monterrey, Mexico, 1846*