

Wars of the Americas: A Chronology of Armed Conflict in the New World, 1492 to the Present

By David F. Marley

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Wars and military conflicts in North America, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean from the days of early European exploration to the present form the subject matter of this fascinating volume.

• Organized chronologically according to conflict

• Maps illuminate place names and political boundaries, and historical maps and illustrations help place battles and events in geographical and historical perspective

• Includes chapter bibliographies, a master bibliography by subject, and a detailed general subject index

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- Sales Rank: #1734074 in Books
- Brand: Brand: ABC-CLIO
- Published on: 1998-08-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 1.88" h x 8.93" w x 11.36" l,
- Binding: Library Binding
- 722 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal
Grade 9 Up?Beginning with "Initial Contacts" in 1492 and ending in March 1998, with the retirement of Chilean General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, this annotated chronology covers every major military conflict, and probably almost every minor one, since the arrival of Columbus. The writing is clear and the facts are related in a lively, readable fashion. The black-and-white maps, paintings, drawings, engravings, and photographs are well chosen and evocative. However, the list for further reading, though lengthy, is admittedly incomplete due to space considerations. Handy for reports, the book has one flaw?the index. Though it is relatively thorough, there are a few gaping holes. For instance, neither the Sandinista revolt nor the Battle of Gettysburg is listed. Users would need to know approximately when these events occurred in order to find them in the text. Despite this shortcoming, this is a very thorough chronology.?Herman Sutter, St. Pius X High School, Houston, TX
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From Booklist
Wars of the Americas is the most recent entry in the crowded field of chronologies. Seeking to fill a gap, Canadian writer-historian Marley has created a work that fleshes out a military chronology of the Americas. He warns at the outset, "inevitably, any attempt to compress 500 years of warfare into a single volume must entail certain compromises." These compromises turn out to be what the author considers underreported or ignored minor confrontations, and they do seem to be minor, indeed.

The volume is divided into eight sections, each of which takes on 50 to 100 years of history and is subdivided into important military themes. For example, the beginning section, "Discovery and Conquest (1492^-1572)," is divided into smaller chronologies such as "Initial Contacts (1492^-1498)"; "Conquest of Mexico (1517^-1521)"; and "Conquest of Peru (1524^-1539)." Each subsection is introduced by a brief overview. Each of the events in the chronology that follows includes a paragraph or two of narrative explaining its historical significance. The last section, "Pax Americana (1898^-Present)" , ends with such recent events as the occupation of the Japanese embassy in Lima by Tupac Amaru guerrillas and the retirement of Chile's General Augusto Pinochet in March 1998.

The volume includes many illustrations from famous works of art or historical photographs--many from the author's own private collection--as well as line drawings of military maps. A 12-page, topically arranged bibliography lists a selection of the works that were consulted by the author. An index provides access by major event or personal name, enhancing the usefulness of the resource.

With so many chronologies available, reference librarians must choose carefully. The well-reviewed *Harper's Encyclopedia of Military History: From 3500 B.C. to the Present* [RBB N 1 93], also arranged chronologically, may satisfy many smaller libraries' needs in this area. But if more comprehensive American coverage is needed, one could not go wrong with the purchase of *Wars of the Americas*. Recommended for academic, public, and high-school libraries.

Review
"Beginning with 'Initial Contacts' in 1492 ending in March 1998, with the retirement of Chilean General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, this annotated chronology covers every major military conflict, and probably almost every minor one, since the arrival of Columbus. The writing is clear and the facts are related in a

lively, readable fashion … this is a very thorough chronology." - **School Library Journal**

"Highly recommended for academic, public, and high school libraries." - **School Library Journal**

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Emily Ferrell:

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