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Encyclopedia of the Veteran in America [2 volumes]

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From ABC-CLIO : Encyclopedia of the Veteran in America [2 volumes] before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Encyclopedia of the Veteran in America [2 volumes]:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Awesome and Humbling. By Christine M Encyclopedia of the Veteran in America left me feeling more grateful than ever for what US soldiers do for us everyday -- risk and sometimes give their lives -- for so little in return. William Pencak and his contributors do a thorough job of informing the reader of so many fascinating facts. Readers will not be disappointed.

A comprehensive encyclopedia that describes the experiences of American veterans from the Revolutionary War to

the present. Presents essays from 30 contributing scholars from a variety of disciplines, many who are themselves veterans Contains 35 primary documents, including poems by and about and tributes to veterans, recent Congressional testimony by veterans about their problems, and descriptions of their activities Offers a timeline of relevant events, including founding dates of major veterans organizations and dates of major veterans legislation Provides illustrations of veterans engaging in political or ceremonial activity and illustrations of monuments and memorials Includes a bibliography of both general items and those relevant for each war/conflict

From BooklistEncyclopedias covering American wars are usually filled with tales of battles and the larger-than-life generals who conduct them. What is left out is the toil of veterans to obtain the recognition and respect they deserve. In this timely set, editor Pencak, professor of history at Penn State University, has produced a remarkable reference for anyone seeking to understand the struggle of veterans both historically and in the present day. The work begins with a list of entries as well as a categorized guide to related topics (repeated in both volumes), followed by a brief introduction and time line. Part 1, the core of the work, comprises more than 100 AZ signed entries covering various subjects such as Afghan War veterans; Agent Orange; Daughters of the American Revolution; Hispanic American veterans; Stone, Oliver; and Veterans hospitals. Entries include see also references as well as resources for further reading. Part 2 consists of 39 primary documents ranging from poems to personal accounts. Each document is prefaced with a succinct introduction and is followed by a source note for printed texts and a URL to the online document, where available. Two appendixesone for monuments, memorials, and museums in each state and another that lists contact information for active veterans organizations in the U.S. including the American Legion, Fleet Reserve Association, and Vietnam Veterans of Americaand a categorically arranged bibliography round out the set. Although only a handful of black-and-white photos are scattered throughout the clear, bold text, excellent organization, broad coverage, and even scholarship make this a first-rate work. These volumes serve as a great reference for veterans and those looking for more information on the topic and are recommended for larger public and academic libraries. Also available as an e-book. --Brian Odom ". . . this is a model reference work and a worthwhile purchase." - ARBAonline"Comprehensive, well presented, and grounded throughout in deep research, this work would make a solid contribution to research libraries. The two appendixes, on the other hand, would be best used in public libraries." - Library Journal"In this timely set, editor Pencak, professor of history at Penn State University, has produced a remarkable reference for anyone seeking to understand the struggle of veterans both historically and in the present day. . . . bold text, excellent organization, broad coverage, and even scholarship make this a first-rate work. These volumes serve as a great reference for veterans and those looking for more information on the topic and are recommended for larger public and academic libraries." - Booklist"Editor Pencak (history, Penn State U.) and 30 contributors have compiled a comprehensive two-volume encyclopedia on America's veterans. It contains entries on all major conflicts in U.S. history, a timeline of relevant events, images of veterans in political or ceremonial activities, key historic figures, veterans organizations, and numerous primary source documents such as poems by and tributes to veterans. It also includes specific coverage of POWs, MIAs, and their families, as well as African American, women, and Native American soldiers." - Reference Research Book News"The wealth of information in the 100 entries will help anyone researching any of the wars in which the US has been involved, from what are considered the just and supported wars, like the Revolutionary War, to the unpopular and condemned wars in Vietnam and the Middle East. . . . Recommended. Lower-level undergraduates and above; general readers." - Choice"This unique examination of an important part of American culture is highly recommended for both academic and public libraries." - Lawrence Looks at Books"an ambitious work of great value to students of American military history, and to the study of U.S. history generally. Pencak has a remarkably expansive view of America's veterans, their experiences, and their impact on the nation. The essays incorporate the recent scholarship on veterans well. It is a rich and valuable reference work essential for any academic or public library." - The Journal of Military HistoryAbout the AuthorWilliam Pencak is professor of History and Jewish Studies at Penn State University.