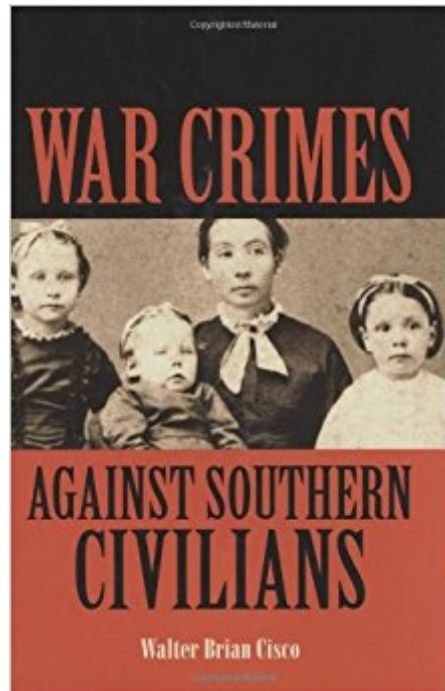




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War Crimes Against Southern Civilians



Synopsis

This is the untold story of the Union's "hard war" against the people of the Confederacy. Styled the "Black Flag" campaign, it was agreed to by Lincoln in a council with his generals in 1864. Cisco reveals the shelling and burning of cities, systematic destruction of entire districts, mass arrests, forced expulsions, wholesale plundering of personal property, and even murder of civilians. Carefully researched largely from primary sources, this examination also gives full attention to the suffering of Black victims of Federal brutality.

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Customer Reviews

"...blows the lid off the conspiracy of silence about the violent, mass-murdering origins of the American Leviathan state..." -- -Thomas J. DiLorenzo, www.LewRockwell.com

"Of all the enormities committed by Americans in the nineteenth century--including slavery and the Indian wars--the worst was the invasion of the South, which destroyed some twenty billion dollars of private and public property and resulted in the deaths of some two million people, most of whom were civilians--both white and black." --David Aiken, editor of *A City Laid Waste: The Capture, Sack, and Destruction of the City of Columbia* Finally, here is the first book-length survey of the Union's "hard war" against the people of the Confederacy--one that included the shelling and burning of cities, systematic destruction of entire districts, mass arrests, forced expulsions, wholesale plundering, and murder. In a series of compelling chapters, Cisco chronicles the St. Louis massacre,

where Federal authorities proceeded to impose a reign of terror and dictatorship in Missouri. He tells of the events leading to, and the suffering caused by, the Federal decree that forced twenty thousand Missouri civilians into exile. The arrests of civilians, the suppression of civil liberties, theft, and murder to "restore the union" in Tennessee are also examined. Women and children were robbed, brutalized, and left homeless in Sherman's infamous raid through Georgia. In South Carolina, homes, farms, churches, and whole towns disappeared in flames. Civilians received no mercy at the hands of the Union invaders. Thoroughly researched from sources including letters, diaries, and newspaper accounts of the time, Walter Brian Cisco's exhaustive book notably pays careful attention to the suffering of African-American victims of Federal brutality, revealing that wherever Federal troops encountered Southern blacks, whether free or slave, they were robbed, brutalized, belittled, kidnapped, threatened, tortured, and sometimes raped or killed by their blue-clad "liberators." Apologists for Lincoln's hard war continue to downplay the suffering endured and the damage done, blame the victims, or call some of the above incidents "accidents" or "mistakes." Many also cling to the Lincolnian myth that only by the most horrendous of wars could the slaves be freed, ignoring the fact that the rest of the Western world managed to bring an end to the institution without bloodshed. This book serves to set the record straight and to show that the war on Southern civilians was not justified, despite the convictions by many that such a war was necessary to save the union. Walter Brian Cisco's first book, *States Rights Gist: A South Carolina General of the Civil War*, a biography of the little-known general, was a 1992 selection of the History Book Club. He is also the author of *Taking a Stand: Portraits from the Southern Secession Movement*, *Henry Timrod: A Biography*, and *Wade Hampton: Confederate Warrior, Conservative Statesman*, considered the definitive biography of Hampton and the 2006 winner of the Douglas Southall Freeman History Award. He lives in Orangeburg, South Carolina.

Good to know the real truth about the war of northern aggression. The Victor writes the history books. The real truth is from Lincoln down to the lowest soldier were a bunch of crooks and barbarians

Well worth the time to read. Loved every page. If you are interested in American history and especially the War Between the States this is a must read.

Difficult information on our past however needs to be available for our study

Great Book!! Very important and easy to read book. Great for any historian!!

The history of the theft, rapes, murders and mayhem done by the invading federal armies conveniently left out of the histories taught in American schools and popular culture.

Watch your blood pressure.

My own ancestors were in the path of the Union devastation of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia in 1864. The place was so wrecked that a bunch of them just packed up what little they had left at war's end and went west to start a new life. So the premise of Walter Cisco's book, *War Crimes Against Southern Civilians*, did not strike me as more fantasized Lost Cause mythology. Plus I had already read about the horrors inflicted on Missouri, as well as Sherman's March to the Sea, and a few other incidents. My question was.....just how accurate were Cisco's sources? No bibliography. But copious footnotes. Personal anecdotes can be and often are dramatized, even romanticized. Or even intentionally deceptive. Some of the anecdotes quoted by Cisco smacked of such revisionism. Yet there was such a plenitude of them, and so many dovetailed with what I had already read, I had to conclude the main flow, with the occasional aberrant trickle, is historically accurate, if somewhat southern-slanted. Another factor in my conclusion is that Cisco's earlier two books were acknowledged as well written and researched historical pieces that were important contributions to the literature of the Civil War/War Between The States. Not likely the man would be some kind of diehard southern muckraker on book number three. Give the man a five star on this one, too.

Hard read, but well worth it to learn the sad facts of Lincoln's war on the South via total war against women, children and old men. You have no reason to be ashamed of your ancestors. Get a little truth in your life, but read it slowly and over a period of time.

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