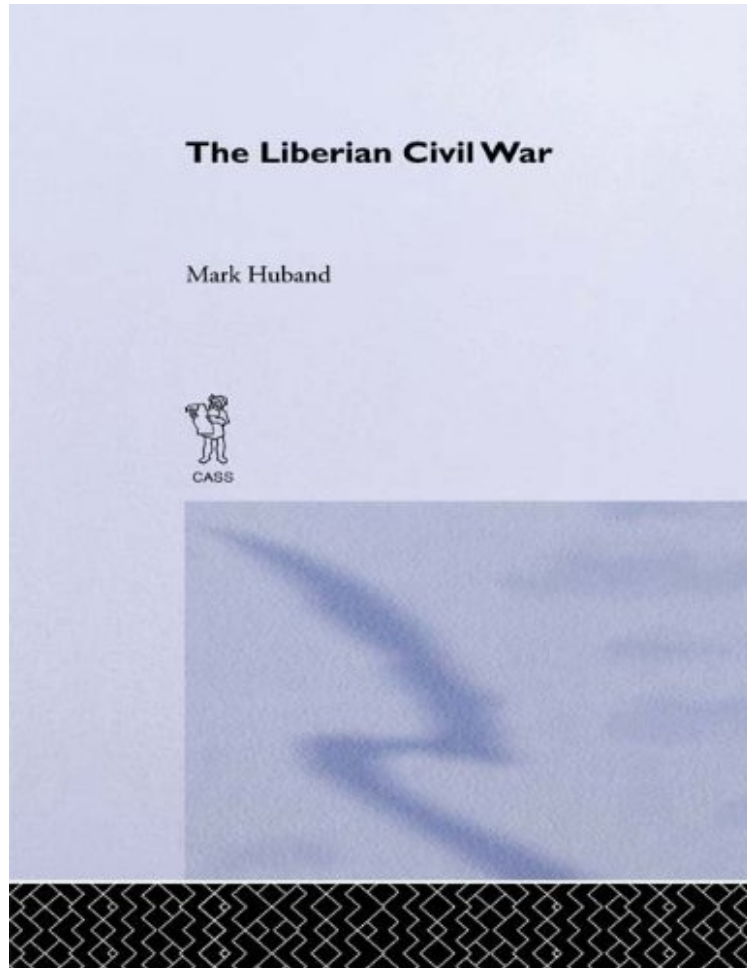


[Download ebook] The Liberian Civil War

The Liberian Civil War

Von Mark Huband

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Produktinformation Verffentlicht am: 2013-06-17Erscheinungsdatum: 2013-06-17File Name:
B00DL1UA1Y | File size: 20.Mb

Von Mark Huband : The Liberian Civil War before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Liberian Civil War:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A vivid, eyewitness account of the early days of the war.Von Ein KundeDespite its plain, rather academic title, Mark Huband's book is not a comprehensive history of the war in Liberia. Rather it is highly personal, drawn from his own experience of being caught up in the early part of the war -- a series of vivid, highly detailed snapshots of particular times and places, linked together with just enough basic history to knit them into a narrative. But it is also one of the first serious attempts in print to try to make sense of what happened in Liberia in the early nineties. As such it will be compelling reading for anyone who was in Liberia, or closely followed events there at that time.It was the essence of the conflict that it was dispersed and chaotic, and people caught up in it were isolated and ignorant of the whole. Once the fighting started, Liberia was a country without post or telephones, without newspapers, radio or television.

Individuals knew only what was happening to them where they were trapped, but had no idea what was going on five miles up the road. So Liberians are still trying to piece together the patchwork, fill in the gaps, and understand what happened. Mark Huband, who was then a young British journalist working in the region, had a grandstand view of some of the most dramatic events -- after being kidnapped in an ambush on a train, he was the first outsider to visit rebel territory and meet Charles Taylor -- so can fill a lot of gaps. He has also spent the years since nagging at some of the central mysteries of the war, such as those surrounding the death of the former President Samuel Doe. Was it pre-planned, and if so who by? Was Doe betrayed, and who was the traitor? I was there when the President was taken away to his death, but I still don't know the answers to those questions. This book helps bring us a little closer. I can't pretend to review this book from the point of view of readers who don't know Liberia. They may find it an absorbing and painfully vivid account of what happens to quite ordinary people when all civilisation falls apart, and their country descends into anarchy around them. Or they may simply be confused. If so their confusion will be greatly increased by the false economy of the publishers who have not included any half-way decent map. So here's a good idea; why doesn't get some good maps and street plans of Monrovia, and sell them as a boxed set? It would make this book accessible to a far wider audience.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A bold though flawed attempt

Von Ein Kunde Huband's book is essentially three very different ones on the same subject put together in one jacket. And it ultimately fails to win top marks due to this. Part one, based on his experiences is interesting and gives good eyewitness accounts of events behind rebel lines in 1990. However for those who followed newspaper reports closely at the time [and who like me have files full of Huband's articles] there's little new. Part two, his dogged investigation of the events leading to the war is excellent and I just wonder why the whole book wasn't written in this analytical style. The final part fails to inspire as it is based on the author's attempt to discuss the later events of civil war in the six years that followed the events he witnessed in 1990. A bold, though flawed attempt to explain the 1989-1996 civil war in Liberia. Huband's book should more realistically have been titled "Liberia: 1990, the start of an African war".

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A story that needs to be told

Von Ralph Haynes (hmedia@fidnet.com) I just finished reading Mark Huband's real-life horror story, *The Liberian Civil War*, and there were moments on the airplane this afternoon when I simply had to put the book down. The tragedy of Liberia is not just that these terrible things happened, but that so little was done to avert them. For those of us who knew the Liberia that used to be, and have walked among ashes that are Liberia today, this book will fill in many of the details that survivors prefer not to recount. I salute Mark Huband--along all journalists who bear witness at great personal risk -- and who, when the smoke clears, take the time to tell us their story in the intensely personal way that Mr. Hubbard has done. Comment to the publishers: thank you for taking the risk on a book with such limited appeal. If there's a second printing, take Ms. Blunt's advice and add detailed maps of West Africa, Liberia and Monrovia, along with lots more photos.

Kurzbeschreibung The civil war in 1989 promised freedom from ten years of vicious dictatorship; instead the seeds of Liberia's devastation were sown. Mark Huband's account of the conflict is a portrayal of the war as it unfolded, drawing on the author's experience of living amongst the fighters.

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Synopsis Just before Christmas 1989, a small group of armed fighters crossed a narrow river marking the frontier with Sierra Leone, and entered the West African state of Liberia. The civil war which followed plunged the African continent's oldest republic into a long and agonising nightmare, during which the country was torn apart and its people brutalised by terror, violence and bloodshed. The war promised to liberate Liberians after almost ten years of vicious dictatorship under President Samuel Doe; instead, as the first shots were fired, the seeds of Liberia's devastation were sown. Mark Huband's account of the conflict, which begins a few days after the original incursion, is a moving and dramatic portrayal of the war as it unfolded. His extensive research and access to key figures in the conflict, together with a wealth of poignant and disturbing eye-witness detail, provide a fascinating portrait of Doe, his US-backed rule, and the enemies he made. Vivid and often harrowing, the book draws upon the author's experience of living among the fighters, the leaders and the terrorised population as they witnessed the growing horror of the conflict in which they had become trapped