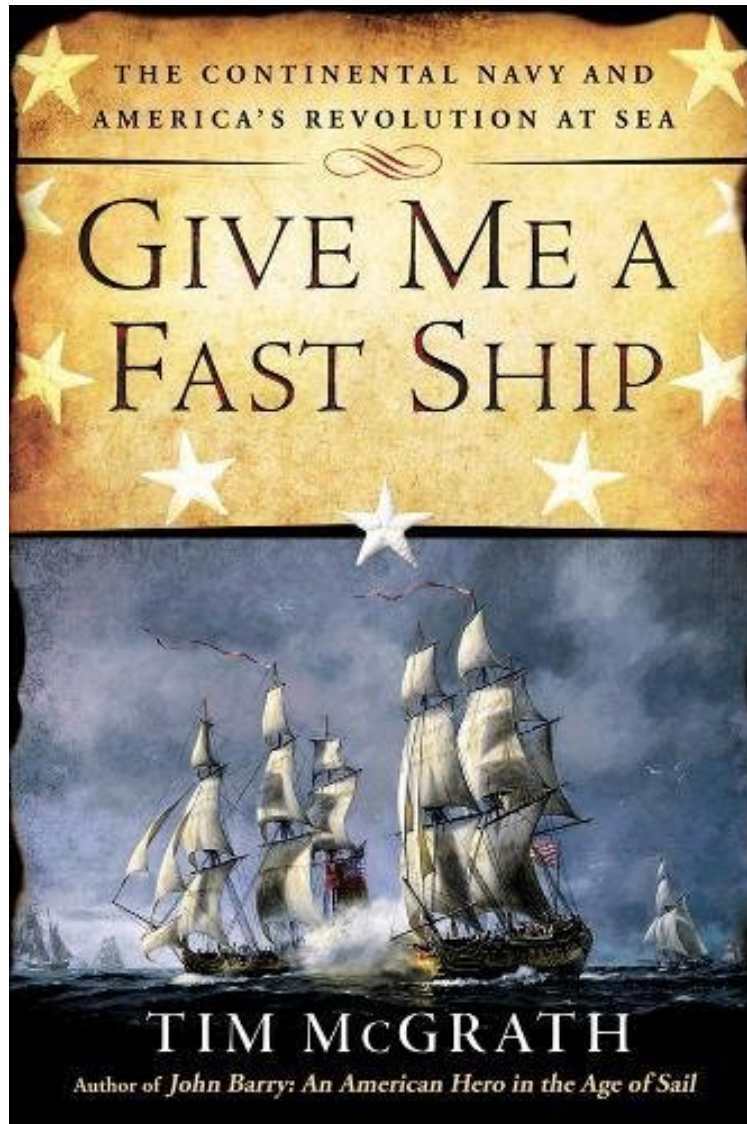


(Online library) Give Me a Fast Ship: The Continental Navy and America's Revolution at Sea

Give Me a Fast Ship: The Continental Navy and America's Revolution at Sea

Tim McGrath

**Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#684687 in Books 2015-07-07 2015-07-07 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x 1.20 x 6.001, 1.23 #File Name: 0451416112560 pages | File size: 24.Mb

Tim McGrath : Give Me a Fast Ship: The Continental Navy and America's Revolution at Sea before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Give Me a Fast Ship: The Continental Navy and America's Revolution at Sea:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Give Me A Full AccountBy PaulI enjoyed McGrath's book very much. It is full of details of ships, their captains, engagements and many details about the Continental navy. I will say

that there are a lot of naval terms in the book, some of which I was familiar with from other readings, but several that required the help of Google to determine exactly what was being written, so if you have a limited background in this segment of history, the book will not be an easy venture. but I gave it five stars for the thoroughness of the history, and the vast amount of information. A few major points from the book: I am introduced to Gustavus Conyngham, the "Dunkirk Pirate" who caused such consternation among the British when he sailed around Ireland, causing a paralysis in shipping and explosion of rates on maritime insurance, and the personage of John Barry. The author has written a great biography of Barry and I fully intend to buy it. Also, while the British had the greatest fleet on the seas, and the Howe brothers had 260 plus ships that came to take Philadelphia, we sometimes think too much that our cause was the great underdog against such might, and to some degree it was, but as you read the book and discover the frigates that were built, you become impressed with our early navy, but more impressed in the numbers of merchant ships that were converted to privateers in order to capture enemy cargoes and take their reward in the spoils of these captures. In a great sense, it was the greed of the Americans to make money that helped facilitate an American presence on the high seas, that was often very successful and profitable. You could even come to the conclusion that the revolution was about not only freedom, but money as well. This is a good work of naval history of the time of wooden ships and the birth of America. 15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Very informative and entertaining. By F. McCarthy This is a very informative and entertaining book. Few authors of history books combine these two attributes as well as Tim McGrath has. It is a remarkable story about a handful of dedicated heroes who risked their lives to overcome the obstacles posed by both the imposing and ruthlessly efficient British navy and the embarrassingly inept and corrupt American politicians. I was delighted to learn of the extraordinary exploits of Gustavus Conyngham, a relative unknown who deserves a better publicist and recognition as one of the greatest heroes of the Revolution. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An Amazing book By Kyle Wok well I haven't read too many books and wanted a good book to read. I personally find historical content interesting especially regarding the revolution. I like to read text book type material and this book is just splendid. it is more readable than a text book and not as boring but still delivers the same message with a ton more information. this book covers the navy from the beginning and goes into early 1800s. this book takes you back and you can see the patriotism and the battles play in your head. one of the best books I've read and full of information I never would have learned. the book focuses on John Paul Jones as well as many other captains. has maps and illustrations through the book, not many. in all a great read if history fascinates you or you want to learn about the navy and the revolution.

WINNER OF THE SAMUEL ELIOT MORISON AWARD FOR NAVAL LITERATURE A meticulous, adrenaline-filled account of the earliest days of the Continental Navy. New York Times Bestselling Author Laurence Bergreen America in 1775 was on the verge of revolution or, more likely, disastrous defeat. After the bloodshed at Lexington and Concord, England's King George sent hundreds of ships westward to bottle up American harbors and prey on American shipping. Colonists had no force to defend their coastline and waterways until John Adams of Massachusetts proposed a bold solution: The Continental Congress should raise a navy. The idea was mad. The Royal Navy was the mightiest floating arsenal in history, with a seemingly endless supply of vessels. More than a hundred of these were massive ships of the line, bristling with up to a hundred high-powered cannon that could level a city. The British were confident that His Majesty's warships would quickly bring the rebellious colonials to their knees. They were wrong. Beginning with five converted merchantmen, America's sailors became formidable warriors, matching their wits, skills, and courage against the best of the British fleet. Victories off American shores gave the patriots hope; victories led by captains such as John Barry, the fiery Irish-born giant; fearless Nicholas Biddle, who stared down an armed mutineer; and James Nicholson, the underachiever who finally redeemed himself with an inspiring display of coolness and bravery. Meanwhile, along the British coastline, daring raids by handsome, cocksure John Paul Jones and the Dunkirk Pirate, Gustavus Conyngham who was captured and sentenced to hang but tunneled under his cell and escaped to fight against fear throughout England. The adventures of these men and others on both sides of the struggle rival anything from Horatio Hornblower or Lucky Jack Aubrey. In the end, these rebel sailors, from the quarterdeck to the forecabin, contributed greatly to American independence. Meticulously researched and masterfully told, Give Me a Fast Ship is a rousing, epic tale of war on the high seas and the definitive history of the American Navy during the Revolutionary War.

In Tim McGrath's Give Me a Fast Ship, early American naval literature has found a proud new flagship. It is rare for a one-volume work to fill the sails of personalities and battles separated from the modern reader by nearly two centuries, but Give Me a Fast Ship pulls it off beautifully. His descriptions are vivid, his commanders three-dimensional, and he evinces a genuine love of the world of white sails and black powder. When Give Me a Fast Ship drops anchor, the reader returns from an adventure cruise with respect for the men who fought the Revolution at sea. The Wall Street Journal Give Me a Fast Ship is less a history of the birth of the U.S. Navy at the outbreak of the Revolution than it is a rousing collection of tales describing battles against the British, the Continental Congress and among rival captains. Tim McGrath is a storyteller writ large McGrath explains the details of 18th century navies with a deft pen and a

decidedly nautical viewpoint. This is a delight to read. The Kansas City Star [McGrath's] gripping descriptions of pursuit and combat at sea are the equal of any fiction, with the added virtue of being entirely true. Solidly researched history presented with verve and gusto. Kirkus, starred review McGrath enhances his position among American Revolution naval war historians with this comprehensive, fast-paced account of the collection of armed merchantmen (non-naval vessel) manned by amateurs that took on the world's greatest naval power. Publishers Weekly In telling this fascinating and sprawling tale, Tim McGrath never loses sight of the human dimension of his subject. He has mined archival sources largely neglected in previous histories, and the result is an exhaustively researched and fluently rendered account of the first incarnation of the American navy. Give Me a Fast Ship is a thoroughly readable history of an integral aspect of the campaign for American independence. Ian W. Toll, author of Six Frigates: The Epic History of the Founding of the U.S. Navy In Give Me a Fast Ship, naval historian Tim McGrath has given us a meticulous, adrenalin-filled account of the earliest days of the Continental Navy, and a John Paul Jones for our times and for the ages. Laurence Bergreen, New York Times bestselling author of Over the Edge of the World: Magellan's Terrifying Circumnavigation of the Globe and Columbus: The Four Voyages I've seldom enjoyed a work of historical nonfiction as much as Give Me A Fast Ship. Here, Tim McGrath helps readers learn about a vital, if little-known aspect of the American Revolution and feel royally entertained at the same time. That's a rare combination, and Give Me a Fast Ship is a special book. After reading it, McGrath will be one of your favorite historians, as he now is of mine. Jeff Guinn, New York Times bestselling author of Manson: The Life and Times of Charles Manson About the Author Tim McGrath is the author of the critically-acclaimed biography John Barry: An American Hero in the Age of Sail and the award-winning Give Me a Fast Ship. An avid sailor, McGrath has published articles in Naval History magazine. He lives outside Philadelphia.