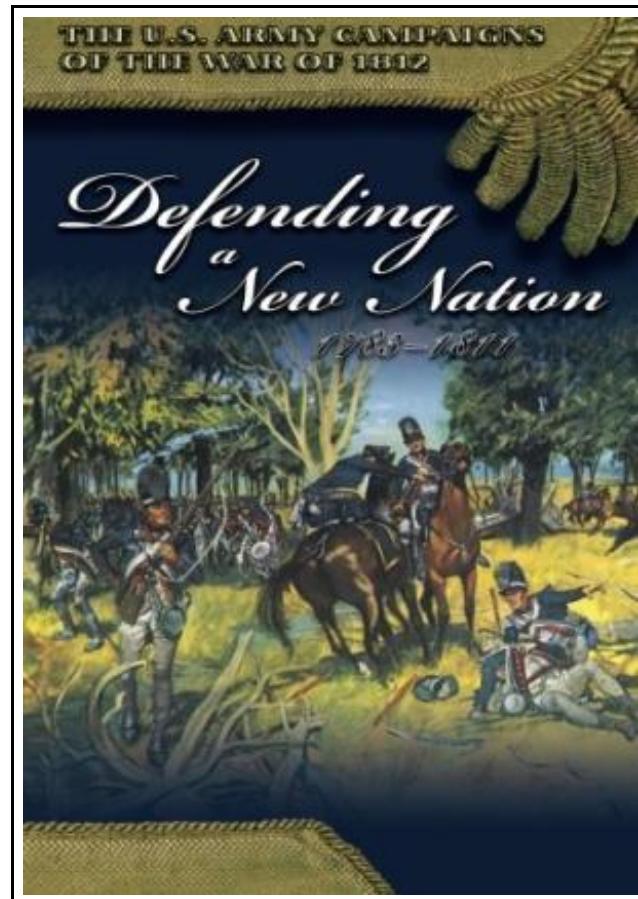


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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 254 x 178 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The War of 1812 is perhaps the United States least known conflict. Other than Andrew Jackson s 1815 victory at New Orleans and Francis Scott Key s poem The Star-Spangled Banner written in 1814 during the British attack on Baltimore, most Americans know little about the country s second major war. Its causes are still debated by historians today. Great Britain s impressment of American sailors, its seizure of American ships on the high seas, and suspected British encouragement of Indian opposition to further American settlement on the western frontier all contributed to America s decision to declare war against Great Britain in June 1812. None of these factors, however, adequately explain why President James Madison called for a war the country was ill-prepared to wage. Moreover, the war was quite unpopular from the start. Many Federalists-chiefly in the New England states-opposed an armed conflict with Great Britain, continued to trade with the British, and even met in convention to propose secession from the Union. Some members of the president s own Republican Party objected to the war s inevitable costs and questionable objectives, such as the conquest of Canada. To declare war was one thing, but to prosecute it successfully was a different matter. Much of the story of the War of 1812 is about the unpreparedness of America s Army and Navy at the conflict s outset, and the enormous difficulties the new nation faced in raising troops, finding competent officers, and supplying its forces. Most of America s military leaders were inexperienced and performed poorly, particularly in the first two years of war. Only gradually did better leaders rise to the top to command the...



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