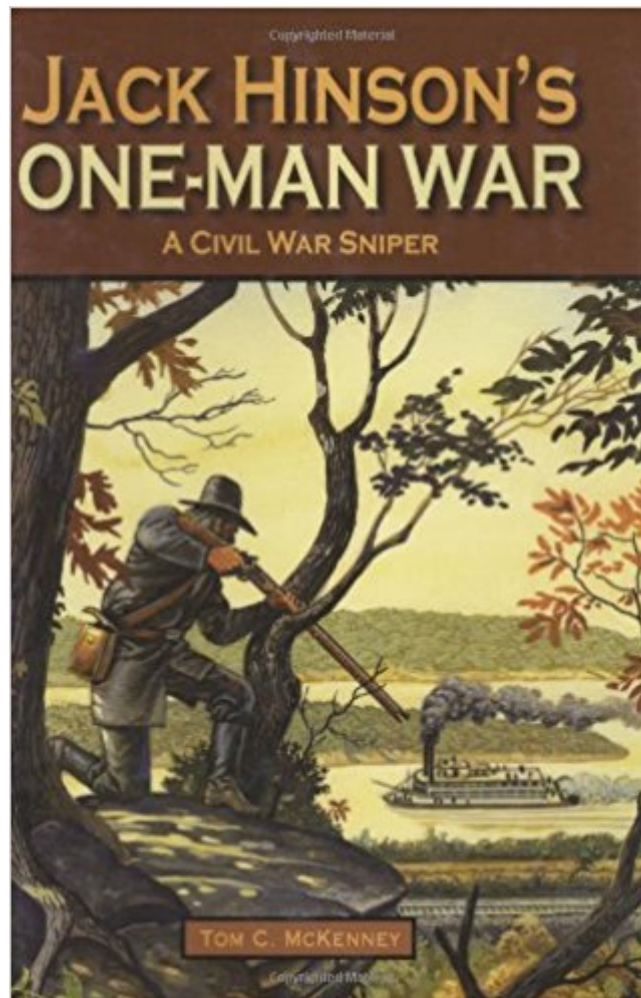




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Jack Hinson's One-Man War, A Civil War Sniper



Synopsis

The true story of one man's reluctant but relentless war against the invaders of his country. A quiet, wealthy plantation owner, Jack Hinson watched the start of the Civil War with disinterest. Opposed to secession and a friend to Union and Confederate commanders alike, he did not want a war. After Union soldiers seized and murdered his sons, placing their decapitated heads on the gateposts of his estate, Hinson could remain indifferent no longer. He commissioned a special rifle for long-range accuracy, he took to the woods, and he set out for revenge. This remarkable biography presents the story of Jack Hinson, a lone Confederate sniper who, at the age of 57, waged a personal war on Grant's army and navy. The result of 15 years of scholarship, this meticulously researched and beautifully written work is the only account of Hinson's life ever recorded and involves an unbelievable cast of characters, including the Earp brothers, Jesse James, and Nathan Bedford Forrest.

Book Information

Hardcover: 400 pages

Publisher: Pelican Publishing; 1st Edition edition (February 15, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1589806409

ISBN-13: 978-1589806405

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 1.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 330 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #53,570 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in [Books > History >](#)

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Customer Reviews

"McKenney's study is an absolute 'must' for students of the Civil War in Tennessee." ---B. F.

Cooling, author of Forts Henry and Donelson --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

A quiet, unassuming, and wealthy plantation owner, Jack Hinson was focused on his family life and seasonal plantings when the Civil War started to permeate the isolated valleys of the Kentucky-Tennessee border area where he lived. He was uniquely neutral--friend to both

Confederate and Union generals--and his family exemplified the genteel, educated, gracious, and hardworking qualities highly valued in their society. By the winter of 1862, the Hinsons' happy way of life would change forever. Jack Hinson's neutrality was shattered the day Union patrols moved in on his land, captured two of his sons, accused them of being bushwhackers, and executed them on the roadside. The soldiers furthered the abuse by decapitating the Hinson boys and placing their heads on the gateposts of the family estate. The Civil War, now literally on Hinson's doorstep, had become painfully personal, and he could remain dispassionate no longer. He commissioned a special rifle, a heavy-barreled .50-caliber weapon designed for long-range accuracy. He said goodbye to his family, and he took to the wilderness seeking revenge. Hinson, nearly sixty years of age, alone, and without formal military training, soon became a deadly threat to the Union. A Confederate sniper, he made history after single-handedly bringing down an armed Union transport and serving as a scout for Nathan Bedford Forrest. A tenacious and elusive figure, Hinson likely killed more than one hundred Union soldiers, recording the confirmed deaths on the barrel of his rifle with precision. Despite the numbers of men sent to kill him, Hinson evaded all capture, and like his footsteps through the Kentucky and Tennessee underbrush, his story has been shrouded in silence--until now. The result of fifteen years of research, this remarkable biography presents the never-before-told history of Jack Hinson, his savage war on his country, and the brutal cost of vengeance and war.

This is definitely a book (truthful history) that should be in everyone's library these days. This book will expose a lot of myths concerning the reasons for the war, as well as a lot of facts that today's historians leave out. The chapters are well choreographed, and the facts are documented. I was particularly impressed with the authors' clarity in projecting Mr. Hinson's various surroundings and terrain, seasons as well as probable scenarios, regarding the era he was living in, and the turbulent times that he, his family, and his workers endured....at the hands of many narcissistic invaders from the Northern states. I can well understand what Mr. Hinson must have felt inside himself. He was not a soldier. If the war would not have occurred, he realized early on, that the Southern states would have eliminated the very problems we see today. The Northern aggressors were not about to let that happen, so they sped things up and the result is that we are all now 'slaves' under a Babylonian type bondage system.

Very good book, about a great man who like so many in the South at the time faced many hardships sadness and unmanageable atrocities on his family and others. Jack Hinson was neutral at the start

of the war. But when Yankee Calvary captured. Executed without trial, dragged bodies through town and cut off and hung heads on gate post in front of family and children. All Hell broke loose with Jack Hinson, a true hero.

Compliments to the author for bringing history to life! He paints such a vivid picture with words of life back in the day & describes each experience Captain Jack encountered as if you were a ghost at Jack's side. As you read you will smell the essence of the woods he moved through & feel personally the pain himself, family, & friends went through in this time line of events. Amazing a man at the age he was "by God's grace" accomplished what he personally set out to do after the loss of his 2 sons & not be captured during or after the war! Jack is a true legend that does not need to be forgotten. He ranks just as high up there with other legends from this time period. Truly amazing the black powder rifle he used is still around to this day. His life story will bring you happiness, excitement, edge of your seat action & tears strongly held back as you read about this unique man's life in time of civil war.

The conflict between Federal government and the Confederacy from 1861-1865 has many large and small stories. The big ones we often hear about and usually the big one in the East. The war in the West abounds with small stories like Jack Hinson. The author has done excellent research to bring us a history about which little was written. I recently read a comment from a civil war author that said that the war in the East was a gentleman's war whereas the war in the West was a street fight. If you want to know about the war in the West, this is a must!!!!!!

Jack Hinson was a real life character from an era in America's history that speaks to people from both sides. It details how the horrors of war can change a family man into a warrior, due to circumstances beyond his control. This book tells what it really means to "protect one's homeland". The civil war came, not only to Jack Hinson's back yard, but affected his family in inhumane ways that few could endure. He fought back in the only way left to him and suffered the consequences of that decision forever. A tale well told and well researched. A story that came alive by placing the reader back to that time and particular place. A story of courage, horror, hardship and uncertainty. A story of one man's endurance in the face of overwhelming odds in a war he did not want. A tale of undaunted courage and resourcefulness and details events about this era in America's history. Five Stars***** ncm

It's a truly interesting story about a very interesting man. However, the author spends the first 150 pages of the book really setting up the story about Jack Hinson. However, if you're a history buff, particularly interested in The War Between the States, this is a good read. The author does use his literary license liberally at times, but he's sort of forced to, as Mr. Hinson didn't keep a journal, and the story must be "built" from historical records and family stories. For instance, I'm sure that Mr. Hinson missed a few shots as well, but none of those are mentioned. Worth the read.

The headline says it all. This book was such an eye opener for me. It was about more than Jack Hinson, it was an education on the real horrors of the Civil War. I highly recommend this book to anyone.

Great read. Super interesting story, makes me want my very own rifle gun! It artfully paints a romantic picture of rural TN before the Civil War and makes you appreciate the terrible loss of war and how life can change in an instant. It also, is beautifully researched and gives you a correct narrative of how life was for a southern businessman and the relationships between slave and owners. Don't misunderstand me, I think that it's an indefensible position, but the relationships weren't how we're led to believe by the leftist social engineers who paint all whites of that time as cruel brutal evil people. The author does a great job of making the reader attached to Hinson and gets you in his head... Or does as good of a job as he can because it's historical based fiction, but thoughtfully researched and the author doesn't sensationalize the holes in the historical records.

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