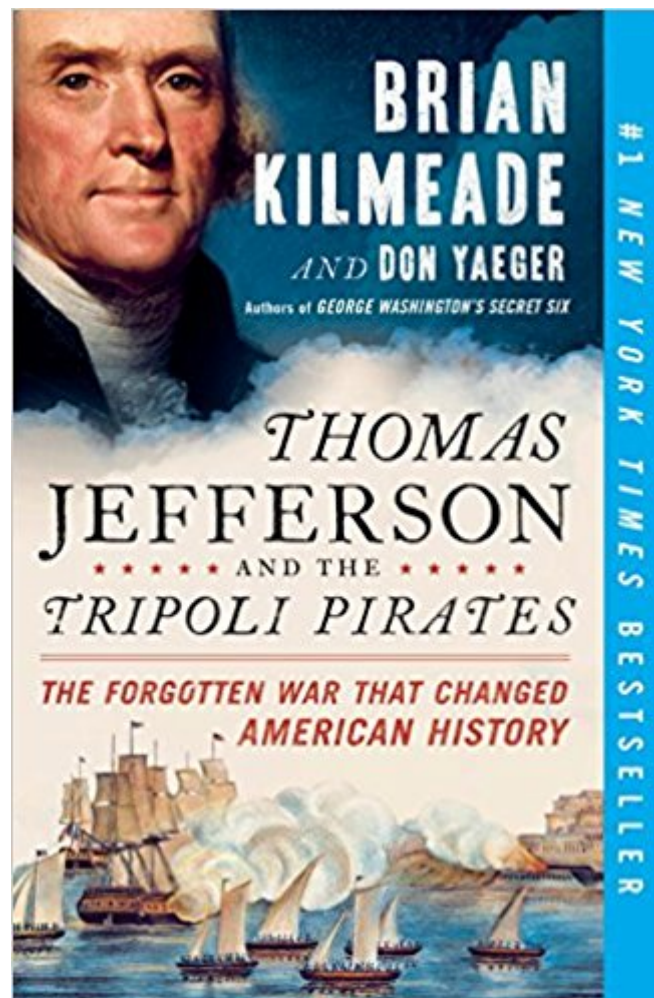




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# Thomas Jefferson And The Tripoli Pirates: The Forgotten War That Changed American History



## Synopsis

When Thomas Jefferson became president in 1801, America was deeply in debt, with its economy and dignity under attack. Pirates from North Africa's Barbary Coast routinely captured American merchant ships and held the sailors as slaves, demanding ransom and tribute payments far beyond what the new country could afford. For fifteen years, America had tried to work with the four Muslim powers (Tripoli, Tunis, Algiers, and Morocco) driving the piracy, but negotiation proved impossible. Realizing it was time to stand up to the intimidation, Jefferson decided to move beyond diplomacy. He sent the U.S. Navy and Marines to blockade Tripoli, launching the Barbary Wars and beginning America's journey toward future superpower status. Few today remember these men and other heroes who inspired the Marine Corps hymn: "From the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli, we fight our country's battles in the air, on land and sea." Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates recaptures this forgotten war that changed American history with a real-life drama of intrigue, bravery, and battle on the high seas.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Thomas Jefferson. Pirates. And national security. This is how you make history exciting. I dare you to put this book down." —BRAD MELTZER, bestselling author of The President's Shadow  
"Reads like a fast-paced thriller but is actually a thoughtful account of America's first foray into what has become a complex part of the world." —GENERAL STANLEY MCCHRYSTAL (Ret.), author of Team of Teams  
"This is a well-told tale, and there are lessons aplenty about both diplomacy and warfare with useful

application to the challenges the United States faces in our own time. •

• PROFESSOR LARRY J. SABATO, director of the University of Virginia Center for Politics; author of *The Kennedy Half-Century* “A fascinating story of extraordinary courage and resolve, and a brilliant reminder of an early chapter of our country’s remarkable history.” • DONALD RUMSFELD

BRIAN KILMEADE and DON YAEGER are the coauthors of *George Washington’s Secret Six*, a New York Times bestseller for more than five months. Kilmeade cohosts Fox News Channel’s morning show *Fox & Friends* and hosts the daily national radio show *The Brian Kilmeade Show*. He lives on Long Island. This is his fourth book. Yaeger has written or cowritten twenty-four books and lives in Florida.

This book provided an insight into the beginnings of the US impact on the international stage. We see both the use of military power and diplomacy to influence an outcome. Also, we see how "experts" away from the action can undermine :-achievements on the battlefield. Worthwhile look at the first coordinated use of Navy and land forces away from America’s shore

Brian does such a good job of building the plot without overcomplicating the story with less helpful asides. You are fully entrenched in the war and excited about its climax and then politics break in. This is where the disappointment comes in. You know the book is about over and you don’t want it to be. I almost wish he had written an alternate ending. It is books like this that make you love to read history.

An amazing book about the Barbary Wars. As a pirate historian and American History buff I haven’t got intimate knowledge of this conflict, and this book provides a great account. It’s extremely in depth, giving a background and history that allows a reader with limited knowledge on the subject get a great understanding. I was amazed at the story of the conflict and how the young United States handled it.

While I’m no historian, I found this book to be very well written and kept my attention. I’m sure there are books that may go in to greater detail, but if I wanted to just read a dry history book, I would go back to school. This book was enjoyable to read, and read more like a novel than a non-fictional book on our nation’s history. If only text books could be this interesting, we would actually have our

youth still learning history, but sadly, most people under thirty today cannot even tell what countries the US fought in WWII.

Brian Kilmeade has written a vivid account of this period which I knew nothing about (I am Australian) What incredible bravery and tenacity those men had. And the plight of the prisoners was even worse than it is today Thomas Jefferson was a great President. . I would love to see this story made into a movie.

Incomplete work, I was surprised at ending, it left me wondering if the author ran out of time and the publisher drug the last page out from under his pencil. I would have thought the author should have at least given a readers digest version of how the history ultimately played out.

When then President Thomas Jefferson decided to go to war against the Barbary states to force them to stop supporting pirates, it was the first time the then young United States faced the forces of militant Islam. While his contemporary John Adams thought peace should be bought, Jefferson correctly did not. This book, about this forgotten war needs to be read, in fact it should be on the reading list of everyone in Washington. It's that good.

I got this as part of a Deal of the Day offering. I had just finished six frigates and was looking for further reading on the Barbary Pirates and this fit the bill, or so I thought. It covered a lot of the same ground without the historical depth or character development.If you are interested in the Barbary pirates I would recommend Six Frigates to start. While it's not specifically about that period it covers the wars and key figures in much greater depth.This read fast and gives an overview but left me wanting more.

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