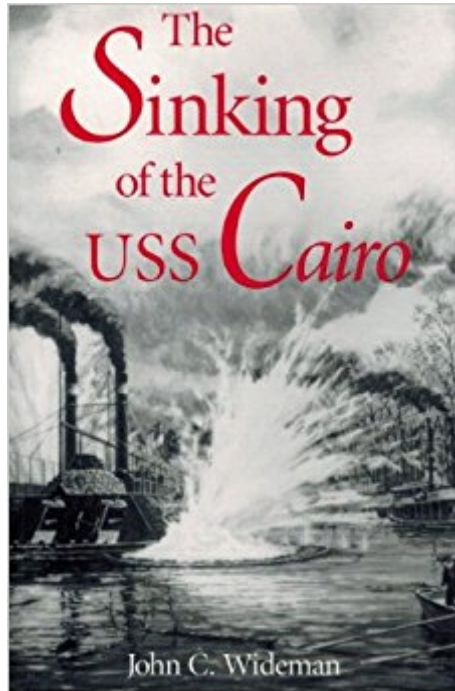




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The Sinking Of The USS Cairo



Synopsis

In 1862 a Confederate team torpedoed the Union's showpiece gunboat, the USS Cairo. It sank into the Yazoo River in minutes and rested there for 102 years, until it was salvaged in 1964 to become a premier exhibit at the Vicksburg National Military Park. This is the story of the USS Cairo. Using family oral history and newly examined documents found in the US National Archives, this text aims to disprove some previous theories and to correct factual errors found in earlier reports, including details of the weapon, identification of the torpedo crew, and illustrations of the five gunboats that engaged in the Yazoo battles.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The mystery surrounding the sinking of the USS Cairo in 1862 by an underwater mine is convincingly solved by Wideman, a criminal and civil investigator. His narrative of the Confederate Secret Service's clandestine war on the Union army and navy makes absorbing reading. The exploits of Capt. Zere McDaniel and his fellow secret service agents have been recounted before, most notably in Milton Perry's *Infernal Machines* (1965) and Philip Van Doren Stern's *Secret Missions of the Civil War* (1959), but it is Wideman's description of their "MacGyver-like" ability to fashion unconventional weapons from the materials at hand that brings them so vividly to life. A testimony to Wideman's investigative skills and a fine contribution to Civil War research, this is recommended for academic libraries.- Lawrence E. Ellis, Newberry Coll. Lib., S.C. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Previously untold, the true story of the Union ironclad, the first man-of-war sunk in combat by a naval torpedo --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Being from Vicksburg this book held some details I did not know.

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