

Victims: True Story Civil War

Phillip Shaw Paludan

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"Phillip Paludan has combined the findings of the social sciences with an exercise in la petite histoire to create an intriguing study. From his base point, the massacre of thirteen Unionist mountaineers at Shelton Laurel, North Carolina, the author expands the investigation to embrace larger issues, such as the impact of the Civil War on small communities, the causation and characteristics of guerrilla warfare, and the focus underlying human perversity." -Civil War History"... the definitive history of the Shelton Laurel Massacre, but more important it is a pathbreaking study of a principal theater of the guerrilla aspect of the Civil War. Paludan has succeeded admirably in rooting a historically neglected topic in the lives of ordinary people." -Frank L. Byrne, American Historical Review"The questions Paludan asks about Shelton Laurel in 1863 are appropriate to My Lai in 1968 and Auschwitz in 1944. Victims is not only a good book; it is also an important book. And it is a profoundly disturbing book."-Emory M. Thomas, Georgia Historical Quarterly"Outwardly a superb analysis of the impact of war and war-time atrocity on the life of a remote mountain community, this slim volume harbors far-reaching implications for the study of class conflict and the modernization process in the Appalachian region." -Ron Eller, Appalachian JournalPhillip S. Paludan is a professor of history at the University of Illinois at Springfield. His previous books include War and Home: The Civil War Encounter, A People's Contest: The Union and the Civil War, and The Presidency of Abraham Lincoln.

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