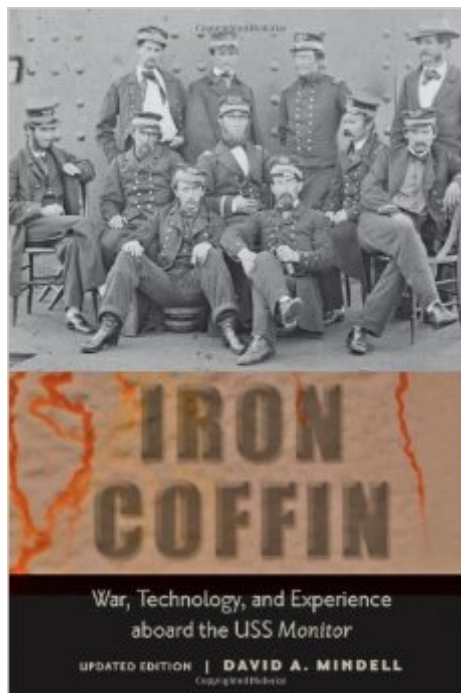


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# Iron Coffin: War, Technology, And Experience Aboard The USS Monitor (Johns Hopkins Introductory Studies In The History Of Technology)



## Synopsis

The USS Monitor famously battled the CSS Virginia (the armored and refitted USS Merrimack) at Hampton Roads in March 1862. This updated edition of David A. Mindell's classic account of the ironclad warships and the human dimension of modern warfare commemorates the 150th anniversary of this historic encounter. Mindell explores how mariners "fighting "blindly," below the waterline" lived in and coped with the metal monster they called the "iron coffin." He investigates how the ironclad technology, new to war in the nineteenth century, changed not only the tools but also the experience of combat and anticipated today's world of mechanized, pushbutton warfare. The writings of William Frederick Keeler, the ship's paymaster, inform much of this book, as do the experiences of everyman sailor George Geer, who held Keeler in some contempt. Mindell uses their compelling stories, and those of other shipmates, to recreate the thrills and dangers of living and fighting aboard this superweapon. Recently, pieces of the Monitor wreck have been raised from their watery grave, and with them, information about the ship continues to be discovered. A new epilogue describes the recovery of the Monitor turret and its display at the USS Monitor Museum in Newport News, Virginia. This sensitive and enthralling history of the USS Monitor ensures that this fateful ship, and the men who served on it, will be remembered for generations to come.

## Book Information

Series: Johns Hopkins Introductory Studies in the History of Technology

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Johns Hopkins University Press; updated edition edition (January 17, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1421405202

ISBN-13: 978-1421405209

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,001,495 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #71 in [Books > History >](#)

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## Customer Reviews

Great book. I liked every thing about it except the last chapter about Melville. The ship and it's crew

fascinated me, I wasn't bored at all, at least until they started talking about Melville and his poems about the Monitor. I hope one day I will go to the Monitor museum.

A good revue of the technical aspects of the monitor, but missing aspects of the single-cylinder two-piston steam engine .

Informative.

This book was amazing! Never knew that ironclads were used during the Civil War, this is a must read, highly recommend it!

You can smell the gunpowder and coal smoke, feel the cramped and heated space and the Monitor comes alive. Come aboard!

Holy crap thesis paper! It's great that there's a story about the Monitors but there is a lot of technical wordsmithing that does not lead to good reading.

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