

The Second Boer War and the Battle of Paardeberg: Canadians at War

The Second Boer War was a conflict between the British Empire and the two Boer republics of the Orange Free State and the Transvaal Republic. The war was fought from 1899 to 1902, and it resulted in the British victory and the annexation of the Boer republics.



Doing Canada Proud: The Second Boer War and the Battle of Paardeberg (Canadians at War Book 8)

by Bernd Horn

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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Word Wise : Enabled
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The Boers were a Dutch-speaking people who had settled in South Africa in the 17th century. They were fiercely independent, and they resented British attempts to control their land and their way of life.

The war began in 1899 when the Boers invaded British-controlled Natal and the Cape Colony. The British were initially caught off guard, but they soon rallied and began to push the Boers back. However, the Boers were a

skilled and determined enemy, and they were able to inflict several defeats on the British.

One of the most significant battles of the war was the Battle of Paardeberg, which took place in February 1900. The British had surrounded a Boer army led by General Piet Cronjé, and they were determined to capture or destroy him. The battle lasted for several days, and it was fought in extremely hot and dusty conditions. The British suffered heavy casualties, but they eventually forced Cronjé to surrender.

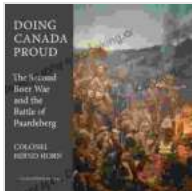
Canadians played a significant role in the Second Boer War. The first Canadian contingent arrived in South Africa in October 1899, and they were soon followed by additional contingents. In total, more than 7,000 Canadians served in the war, and they fought with distinction in several major battles, including Paardeberg.

The Battle of Paardeberg was a turning point in the war. After the British victory, the Boer resistance began to collapse. The war ended in 1902 with the signing of the Treaty of Vereeniging. The treaty gave the British control of the Boer republics, but it also granted the Boers self-government.

The Second Boer War was a significant event in Canadian history. It was the first time that Canadian troops had fought overseas, and it helped to shape Canada's identity as a nation. The war also had a profound impact on South Africa. The British victory led to the creation of the Union of South Africa in 1910, and it laid the groundwork for the country's eventual independence.

Further Reading

- The Canadian War Museum: Canada and the Boer War
- The Canadian Encyclopedia: Boer War
- The Canadian War Museum: The Battle of Paardeberg



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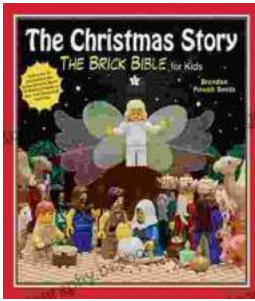
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