Saaif Ahmed

Patrick Malone, The Skulking Way of War: Technology and Tactics among the New England Indians (Madison Books, 2000), chapter 3.

Response Analysis

This passage was very interesting on a personal level because it deals with war technology throughout the 17th century in the American colonies. American history, especially early American history is my favorite time period to study. As the title would imply, this section covered the relationship between guns and Native Americans during the 1600s. There was a lot to be covered in this journal, and the author’s detail showed that.

There are three main categories to this journal excluding the introduction and conclusion. The first being why Native Americans utilized gunpowder and how they obtained it, second being the English attempt to restrict guns from Native Americans, and lastly how the English ironically did not restrict guns from Native Americans. The first fact that was new to me was the concept that Native Americans utilized gunpowder weapons well before the 1700s. As a result of the English heavily restricting the rights of Native Americans, I was under the impression that it took a long time before gun warfare become commonplace for them. I was also unaware of how certain colonies were a bit ironical or even hypocritical when it came to the English law of restricting guns. I did not know so may colonies attempted to arm Natives themselves.

The evidence presented in this journal was decently standard compared to other readings. One different thing that this journal provide was photographic evidence and diagrams. All were properly utilized and served as a great way to remind the reader visually of what he author was arguing about in the journal. Besides that, the author maintained a consistent use of evidence of specific historical examples to prove his argument.