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Soviet Military Doctrine: Continuity, Formulation, and Dissemination

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Recognizing this, Martin and Walcott argue that the law may be the best weapon in the war against terrorism. In their words, "The law treats terrorists as criminals and helps strip the veneer of martyrdom and heroism from their crimes." If, indeed, justice is the key, the conviction of Fawaz Yunis in a U.S. Federal Court for the 1985 hijacking of a Jordan Air airliner may be the first, albeit small, step in turning the corner in this war.

Buy the book. It's excellent.

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Scott, Harriet Fast and Scott, William F. *Soviet Military Doctrine: Continuity, Formulation, and Dissemination*. Boulder, Col.: Westview Press, 1988. 315pp. \$45

Harriet and William Scott's latest book on the Soviet military traces the development and impact of the doctrine of the armed forces of the U.S.S.R. since 1917. In doing so, it clearly distinguishes doctrine in Soviet terms from what has been commonly discussed in the West. Soviet doctrine is divided into two parts—political and military technical. The Scotts demonstrate that the offensive has been a central feature of Soviet military doctrine from its very beginning, following the revolution in 1917. Consequently, their analysis suggests that the Soviet military at least is wedded to a scientific/dialectical approach to the

study of doctrine, and they are skeptical of current pronouncements by the leaders of the U.S.S.R. that their doctrine is now purely defensive. Although the Soviet analysis of war changed dramatically following the advent of nuclear weapons, the primary motivation was to insure that the overall correlation of forces (composed of economics, science/technical, moral, and military) remain in their favor.

In political terms the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) plays a leading role in the formulation of doctrine. As such, the party demands that the following key questions be continuously reexamined in the context of the Laws of War in developing military doctrine and corresponding military forces. What will be the nature of future war? What kind of armed forces will be needed? How should the nation prepare? What methods will be best in prosecuting future conflict? The Scotts also review the various organs of the government and party that play key roles in answering these questions and formulating doctrine. This includes a useful discussion of the Council of Defense which is little known in the West. Political change such as *glasnost* and *perestroika*, therefore, are interpreted by the authors merely as an effort to keep the Laws of War and, therefore, correlation of forces of the U.S.S.R.

As with their previous contributions on the armed forces of the U.S.S.R., this book clearly expands our understanding of Soviet military thought and organization. It is,

however, a book for the serious student of the Soviet military, with a significant background in this field of study. It is a useful authoritative reference tool of doctrinal analysis, from primarily Soviet sources, that discusses the various methods by which Soviet doctrine is disseminated, and includes useful tables of information such as the military officers on the Central Committee, members of the Politburo, military holidays, official military books, officer's library, Frunze Prize winners, etc.

It is unfortunate that this book was released prior to President Gorbachev's initiatives in the military field; these pronouncements, coupled with unilateral reductions and the restructuring of Soviet forces, are not analyzed. Still, with "new thinking" and "reasonable sufficiency" in fashion, it is valuable for us all to understand the basis from which the doctrinal changes suggested by Gorbachev will be taken, as well as the framework in which doctrine is developed in the Soviet Union.

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Archer, Clive, ed. *The Soviet Union and Northern Waters*. London: Routledge, 1988. 261pp. \$35

In 1979 the Northern Waters Study Group was organized by the Scottish branch of the Royal Institute of International Affairs. As a result

of its 1980 International Colloquium on Northern Waters at the University of Aberdeen, editors Clive Archer and David Scrivener produced *Northern Waters: Security and Resource Issues*, 1986. A second colloquium was convened in 1985 to examine the obvious Soviet interest and expanded activity in the Arctic, as well as the response by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization members, individually and collectively. *The Soviet Union and Northern Waters* originated from that meeting. For this discussion, "northern waters" comprise the area between 80°N and 60°N latitude and from longitude 90°W to 40°E.

The ten contributors to this 261-page volume are from the United Kingdom, Norway, The Federal Republic of Germany, and the United States. Although the topic is the Soviet presence in northern waters, no Soviet authors are included. There are, however, frequent references to Soviet official statements, negotiating the record on boundaries and resources, and naval doctrine in text and footnote locations throughout the book.

This very useful collection has something in it for nearly everyone: questions of jurisdictional boundaries, resource access and management, maritime policies and interpretations, and possible conflict scenarios. Most of the chapters continue through 1987, but there is an unevenness found in a compilation of this kind. For example, Douglas Norton, in "Responding to the Soviet Presence in Northern