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The Rand Corporation

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author's emphasis is on more effective policy formulation and direction through the machinery of his proposed Latin-American Strategy Board. At the end of the book, Mr. Reidy clearly outlines his concepts of specific United States actions required to implement his "Strategy for the Americas." This is preceded by a broad survey of the problems that the Strategy Board would encounter, including an excellent chapter describing the Communist threat in the Western Hemisphere. The reader is treated to a work which is logically organized and not burdened with excessive footnotes, permitting the author's thesis to remain in sharp focus. An ample bibliography is available to assist in the operational planning necessary to realize the new "Strategy for the Americas."

I.E.M. DONOVAN
Lieutenant Commander,
U.S. Navy

Smith, Bruce L.R. *The Rand Corporation*.
Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1966.
332p.

Mr. Bruce Smith has collected copious data on nonprofit research and advisory corporations and has presented them in a rather readable form. As the title indicates, the principal emphasis is on the Rand Corporation. The author traces the evolution of Rand from its beginning in 1946 to the present day. He notes the unique relationship existing between Rand, the United States Air Force, and the Department of Defense, and stresses the autonomy retained by Rand in its research and advisory efforts. He discusses the contributions of Rand in the areas of policy research, systems analysis, and program budgeting. Reference is also made to selected Army and Navy dealings with private research corporations. While this is a scholarly offering, it is not a particularly interesting book. It provides informative reading for those who are not familiar with the military,

PROFESSIONAL READING

nonprofit research firm associations, but it is not recommended reading for those who are acquainted with such relationships.

W.D. CLARK

Colonel, U.S. Air Force

Stillman, Edmund and Pfaff, William. *Power and Impotence*. New York: Random House, 1966. 244p.

The authors of this book on United States foreign policy since World War II have put together a volume that should be immensely popular with the same type of individual who preached bringing all of the American troops home immediately after V-J Day. Although somewhat oversimplified, basic tenets of the authors' theses are the apparent beliefs that Russia or China comprise little threat to free world security, that the United States has no great strategic interests external to her borders, and that internal disorder cannot be "stimulated" by a foreign power. The book, is in part objective, biased, penetrating, and naive. The volume is often without hope ("we are fools to expect very much of the future"), and lacks belief in the United States' ability to take correct action in the diplomatic field. Stillman and Pfaff use the debater's techniques of selected facts, self-formulated assumptions, and self-created "straw men" for the purpose of lending credence to their arguments. Possibly the book's most exciting aspect is its title. The authors classify American foreign policy as a kind of "modern global interventionism--a belief in the special goodness of America, projected outward into the world." They portray the United States as having an ingenuous faith in law, in organizing the world in a way that will outlaw conflict, in reason, and in steady progress; and as fearing politics. "This country needs to acknowledge that it is, simply, a troubled human society like all the others," Stillman and Pfaff