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The Earth Beneath the Sea

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of giving aid and comfort to the enemy. Medina won this case, but in so doing, had exposed himself to the ire and bitter criticism of many patriotic Americans. Even so, the judge contends, "The reality is that any lawyer worth his salt is devoting the greater part, if not the whole, of his time to the helping of people in dire distress of mind or body. He is not supposed to shun the cases which involve emotional disturbances and often have a disagreeable and nasty factual background . . . The true fact is that the dynamic forces in our lives are spiritual." The ringing theme of freedom predominates throughout this exceedingly interesting book. Judge Medina's straightforward approach to the pitfalls faced in everyday life is invigorating and thought-provoking.

Shepard, Francis P. *The Earth Beneath the Sea*. Baltimore, Johns Hopkins Press, 1959. 275 p.

The Earth Beneath the Sea is an up-to-date survey of marine geology for the general reader. The level of the book is well matched to the needs of the naval officer who wants to acquaint himself with this important subdivision of oceanography. The author is well qualified. He has worked in his field for over 35 years. Of these, the last seventeen were spent at the Scripps institution of Oceanography in La Jolla, California. The first few chapters show how waves and currents shape the sea floor and how the sea floor, in turn, originates and modifies waves and currents. The description of the interactions between the ocean and the bottom along the shores should be useful in amphibious problems. The explanations of the seismic origin and of the effects of tsunamis are interesting. More than half of the book is devoted to a description of the topography of the two thirds of the earth that is covered by salt water. Bottom topography is becoming increasingly important for naval operations, regardless of ocean depth. The book covers the whole spectrum from the beaches to the abyssal depths. Submarine canyons have now been surveyed in the continental shelves in many parts of the world. A few are undoubtedly

sunken river valleys; others are believed to be the result of underwater erosion, caused by deep ocean currents. Some of the continental slopes are among the most spectacular escarpments on earth and the floors of the deep ocean basins are far from monotonous. Recent echo sounding surveys have shown that midocean mountain systems are far more extensive than hitherto suspected, the mid-Atlantic ridge being a case in point, while isolated sea mounts of volcanic origin abound in the Pacific. Steep-sided trenches are often thousands of miles long. A number of charts and profiles demonstrate to the reader that the ocean floors exhibit at least as much contrast as the surfaces of the continents. Several chapters, mostly near the end of the book, cover the exploration of the rock structures underlying the ocean floors by direct coring and sophisticated geophysical techniques. The latter include acoustic probing, seismography and gravity surveys. The implications of the findings for the evolution of the ocean basins are discussed. A short bibliography references related books of a somewhat more technical nature. Some of the naval implications of much of the material in this fine book cannot be discussed in proper perspective in an unclassified review.

May, Henry F. *The End of American Innocence*. New York, Knopf, 1959. 412 p.

With enterprise and imagination the author of this sprightly volume searches for the origins of the cultural revolution which became manifest in America during the 1920's. His theme is that all the major elements of that revolution in thought, literature, manners and morals, often considered as growing out of the postwar reaction, actually were well at work before World War I. Concerned principally with the period 1912-1917, he divides his observations into four parts: "The Nineteenth Century Intact (1912)," "Older Insurgents and Invaders (1890-1917)," "The Innocent Rebellion (1912-1917)," and "The End of American Innocence (1914-1917)." Following in the tradition of *Goldman's Rendezvous with Destiny*, and serving