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# Hide and Seek: The Untold Story of Cold War Naval Espionage

Jerome J. Burke

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Huchthausen, Peter A., and Alexandre Sheldon-Duplaix. *Hide and Seek: The Untold Story of Cold War Naval Espionage*. New York: Wiley, 2009. 414pp. \$30

Contrary to the popular notions of spying as conveyed in novels and films, espionage is a difficult and frequently dangerous business. Although everyone does it, some nations are just better at it. In this work, Peter A. Huchthausen and Alexandre Sheldon-Duplaix offer a series of accounts of naval espionage after World War II.

While this reviewer cannot attest to the bona fides of Sheldon-Duplaix, I do know that Huchthausen was the consummate insider in naval intelligence, having had a diverse career during which he always seemed to be in the middle of the action. His specialty was in human-source intelligence, with a primary focus on the Soviet Union and its navy. Sadly, Peter died in July 2008, before the formal release of this book, so it seems somewhat unfair to critique his work.

To be of value to other than casual readers, a book on Cold War naval espionage should first describe the national security context to explain why these intelligence activities were undertaken in the first place and what bits of knowledge were so important that they required such great risk. Second, it should ask, what did naval espionage do to obtain the information, and what contributions did naval intelligence offer to the problem? What did naval intelligence add to the body of knowledge? Against this paradigm, *Hide and Seek* falls short of the mark.

The early chapters provide an interesting account of the competition between the United States and the Soviet Union to obtain German technology immediately after World War II. The authors go on to discuss the early stages of the Cold War, culminating with the Cuban missile crisis of 1962. Although there are numerous references to archival historical material, books, and personal correspondence, Huchthausen and Sheldon-Duplaix largely rely on anecdotes (we call them “sea stories” in the Navy), loosely strung together, and offer few conclusions. For example, one is left wondering why the Royal Navy would risk the life of the World War II hero, frogman, and MI6 diver Lionel Crabb in a seemingly failed effort to conduct underhull reconnaissance of an aging Soviet warship.

While some insights are provided into naval intelligence activities during the Cold War, especially the Cuban missile crisis, no description is offered of the enormous contributions of naval intelligence and its operations to the redefinition of the U.S. Navy’s maritime strategy in the 1980s, which focused on holding at risk the Soviet ballistic-missile submarine force.

Extensively covered is Project JENNIFER, the joint CIA-Navy venture to recover the lost Soviet Golf II ballistic-missile submarine from the depths of the northern Pacific Ocean in 1974. The authors’ unique contribution is a lengthy description of the efforts taken by the United States to provide the lost Soviet submariners dignified burials at sea when the submarine was recovered—an event that was videotaped and years later handed over to the Russians.

Huchthausen and Sheldon-Duplaix also examine a number of counterintelligence issues, such as the 1961 Christine Keeler affair in Britain and, more important, the treason of John Walker, who spied for the Soviets from 1967 to the mid-1980s and whom the authors describe as “one of the greatest espionage successes in history.”

Two concluding chapters introduce orthogonal themes, such as the 1980s Soviet operations that culminated in the “Whiskey on the Rocks” (a euphemism for the grounding of a Soviet submarine in Swedish territorial waters) and a bizarre account of how UFOs might have altered the strategic balance during the Cold War.

Huchthausen and Sheldon-Duplaix offer an interesting and entertaining read, one that shows that U.S. naval attachés at times work in difficult and dangerous circumstances. However, because of its excessive use of anecdotes, this book does not add much to the body of knowledge about naval espionage—neither that of the United States, of the Soviets, or of anyone else.

JEROME J. BURKE  
*Captain, U.S. Navy (Retired)*  
 Washington, D.C.



Rhys-Jones, Graham. *Churchill and the Norway Campaign*. South Yorkshire, U.K.: Pen and Sword, 2008. 223pp. \$33

“The principle of aiming everything at the enemy’s center of gravity admits of only one exception—that is, when secondary operations look exceptionally rewarding.” This classic dictum, given to us by the great military theorist Carl von Clausewitz, provides the impetus

behind this book. Originally conceived as a case study for inclusion in the Strategy and Policy curriculum at the U.S. Naval War College, this historical work covers the operations in Norway during the spring of 1940, one of the most overlooked campaigns of the Second World War. The reader is presented with a complete account, in a fast-moving and easy format, of the strategic decision making that eventually led both Great Britain and France, on the one side, and Germany, on the other, to conclude that opening a new theater in Norway could in fact be “exceptionally rewarding.”

While Churchill figures prominently in the book’s title, the reader will find examined not only his policy decisions and strategic ideas discussed at length but also the actions and decisions of numerous other participants in the governments of the major belligerents. Most studies concerning the war in the West in 1940 focus on the French military’s epic defeat, but Rhys-Jones offers an account of French participation in the war as Great Britain’s strategic partner. The strategic partnership between the Neville Chamberlain and Édouard Daladier governments in the spring of 1940 is a subject that usually does not get much attention, but an interesting account of that short-lived alliance can be found in this book.

Rhys-Jones, a former member of the Naval War College faculty, presents his analysis in a manner that both students and faculty at the college will find familiar. He begins at the policy level, focusing on the benefits and drawbacks that each major participant concludes are relevant to undertaking operations in what was considered a secondary theater. He then outlines each belligerent’s