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Submarines of the U.S. Navy

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ago, the navalists and antinavalists responsible for shaping American policy had little history to review. Policy makers in the fast approaching twenty-first century will have no such excuse, thanks to the efforts of such historians as Frank Uhlig.

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Terzibaschitsch, Stefan. *Submarines of the U.S. Navy*. New York: Sterling, 1993. 216pp. \$45

What can I say! I have somehow established a reputation for being an "objective zealot," as my friend, shipmate, and mentor Jerry Holland calls me, regarding U.S. tradeoffs between "expensive" nukes and "cheap" diesel-electrics. The publisher's "blurb" implies that this book held the answer to my downsizing the Navy and the dilemma about what to build or keep. My initial reaction was that this was going to be just another "diesel boats forever" diatribe that many like my sometimes misinformed friend Norman Polmar might find entrancing. I was mistaken. Although I rate the publisher's "flyer" at 0.1 on a scale of 10, I must admit this book does have value: it contains a totally objective compilation of the specifications and characteristics of *all* nonnuclear U.S. submarines.

It was serendipitous that the book arrived in the mail just as I was struggling to obtain credible reference material regarding post-World War II U.S. exploitation of German V-1 "buzz bomb" cruise missile technology

through such programs as the Loon and the subsequent Regulus. What would surely have resulted in many days of dull and dreary research became a twenty-minute affair in the comfort of my office, as I easily tracked the progress of the V-1 through Loon, *Cusk*, *Barbero*, *Carbonero*, *Tunny*, and Regulus I and II, *Growler*, and *Grayback*. If these names mean little to you, yet you allege to understand the U.S. Submarine Force, then you need this book on your reference shelf. The photographs and silhouettes are superb, and although I can remember seeing most of the material elsewhere, what is a unique characteristic of the work is the facility with which one can trace all of the mostly postwar alterations and modifications to individual units.

The credibility of a favorable report is enhanced by finding something wrong with the product. I found a couple of things, neither the fault of the author. Across the front and back of the jacket is a series of four copies of Bu-Ships-like blueprints (plan and longitudinal views) of *Tang*-class submarines that are still marked CONFIDENTIAL but recently declassified. These drawings are like those that I and others used to study for submarine qualification. The last of them, at least in my copy of the book, "section through platform deck," has a "holiday," a blank or white smudge, through Main Ballast Tanks 4A and 4B and the forward end of the engine room. Also, on page 188, the silhouette of "*Flying Fish* as an AGSS, with sonar equipment around the conning tower," has been double-printed and is out of registration by about an eighth of an inch.

This work deals with the essential facts of the sea stories about diesel boats that I listened to as a nuclear submarine junior officer in the early 1960s from seniors who had been in both types. I never thought that I would forget those lessons "under the olive trees," but I have, and although this was not a book I would once have bought, I would now do so—if I did not already have my reviewer's copy.

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Lin Zhiling and Robinson, Thomas W., eds. *The Chinese and Their Future: Beijing, Taipei, and Hong Kong*. Washington, D.C.: The AEI Press, 1994. 554pp. \$39.75

The Chinese and Their Future is based on a conference organized by the American Enterprise Institute in January 1991, when the world, still in the after-shock of the 1989 Tiananmen Massacre, was anxious about developments in that part of the world. Fifteen of the seventeen excellent papers presented are contained in this work. They analyze the political, economic, social, and security dimensions of China (the remaining communist power after the Cold War), Taiwan (known as the "other China," but with a democratic system), and Hong Kong (the last symbol of the British empire).

The essays examine how these societies interact with one another, as well as the factors that might affect their trilateral relationship. It also discusses the relevant trends and forces in the

Asia-Pacific and global arenas which the Chinese are to deal with in the near future.

Every aspect of post-Tiananmen China is scrutinized rationally and intelligently. Readers may find several essays of special interest. "Playing the Provinces: Deng Xiaoping's Political Strategy of Economic Reform," by Susan Shirk, offers an in-depth account of the changing relationship between China's central government and the localities, and of the problems that Beijing authorities must cope with in the future. Chi-ming Hou's "Toward Taiwan's Full Participation in the Global System" correctly points out Taiwan's strengths and weaknesses in the internationalization of its economy. "The Evolution of a Divided China," by Byron Weng, presents a detailed analysis of the theories and formulas that could affect the possibility of unification between Beijing and Taipei. Thomas Robinson puts mainland China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong into regional context in his essay, "Post-Cold War Security in the Asia-Pacific Region." He observes the evolution of regional balance of power through a wide-angle lens, and in the concluding chapter he identifies several domestic and international scenarios and discusses their impact upon the future of these three countries.

One of the editors' most important contributions is their attempt to explore the validity of a "greater China" linking all three countries geographically and economically but remaining politically divided. They point out that Beijing considers that there is only one China and that Taiwan and Hong Kong should rejoin the motherland under the