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## Recent Books

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## Recent Books

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Watts, Anthony J. *Fast Attack Craft*. London: Arms and Armour Press, 1992. 72pp. (No price given)

This small paperback is largely a picture-book, and it makes a handy reference. In seventy-five photographs (some in color), a table, and a small collection of line drawings, it traces the post-World War II development of a type—known today as the “FAC”—that has become vital in the makeup of many world navies and in the thinking of many others. A brief introduction outlines: the post-war decline of such craft; technical reasons contributing to the type’s renaissance (not, as had been foreseen, gas turbine propulsion, but rather automated gunnery and fire control, light torpedoes, and especially surface-to-surface missiles); and the recent expansion of the roles, equipment, capabilities, and (to a remarkable degree) the size of these vessels, some of which carry helicopters. Captions provide not only technical details but useful items on design, export, and employment history.

McAuliffe, Mary S., ed. *CIA Documents on the Cuban Missile Crisis 1962*. Washington: Central Intelligence Agency, 1992. 376pp. (No price given)

This astounding volume is the product, according to its foreword, of a newly expanded, reorganized, and accelerated effort within “the Agency” to review, declassify, and release historical records previously unavailable to the public. Dr. McAuliffe, an authority on the life of former Director John A. McCone, is the Deputy Chief of the CIA’s History Staff, which is a major component of that program—another being the Historical Review Group, charged with the actual declassification. The bulk of this trade paperback comprises facsimile reproductions of the actual cables, messages, estimates, memoranda, briefing papers, and reports relating to the prelude, height, and aftermath of the Cuban missile crisis. The editor draws particular attention to the inclusion of “Mongoose” documents (relating to an effort to destabilize the Castro regime) and “Ironbark” material (provided by Oleg Penkovskiy). The texts are not all complete: some summary material has been excerpted, and numerous deletions remain, conspicuous as blacked-out passages and words. The publication reflects the state of declassification as of September 1992 (the month before issuance). The preface states that excisions largely represent irrelevant data but warns that some items “have been deleted for security reasons.” (Readers from the intelligence community will guess quickly what some of these reasons might have been.) Issued on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the crisis and soon after the CIA’s First Intelligence History Symposium upon it, this book (and doubtless its successors) will be an invaluable contribution to the public assessment of a “complex and deeply troubling event.”

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Puryear, Edgar F. Jr. *Nineteen Stars: A Study in Military Character and Leadership.*

Novato, Calif.: Presidio, 1992. 437pp. \$14.95

*Nineteen Stars* is a comparative study of the leadership of four of the Army's most celebrated generals of World War II. In this reprint of the original 1971 edition, Puryear focuses on two fundamental questions: whether leaders are born, not made, and whether or not there is a pattern in the qualities necessary to successful military leadership. In answering these questions, the author examines the careers of Eisenhower, Marshall, MacArthur, and Patton. Their profiles indicate that leaders are in fact made, not born. Puryear concludes that the success of these four was due primarily to their desire to be commanders and their willingness to work toward that goal. This excellent treatise of military leadership demonstrates clearly that dedication to one's career—a willingness to work, study, and prepare—is essential to success. What makes Puryear's study so timeless is that the pattern for success is available to all officers willing to dedicate themselves to the profession.

Razor, Eugene L. *The Spanish Armada of 1588: Historiography and Annotated Bibliography.* Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1992. 295pp. \$59.95

This volume is the tenth of the "Bibliographies of Battles and Leaders" from the Greenwood Press. Professor Razor, of Emory and Henry College, has produced several numbers of the series; his purpose in this one is to assemble a "comprehensive compilation of source materials, monographic and official publications, academic, literary, and popular works and media products" relating to the 1588 campaign for "reference use, research assistance, and evaluative analysis." The volume aims at all-inclusiveness, listing 1,114 titles in all European languages from the sixteenth century to the present. However, attention is drawn to the more useful sources. The larger of the book's two parts comprises historical and historiographical essays on the events and their background, the participants (individual and national), relevant topics (such as shipbuilding and privateering), and subsequent interpretations, with assessments of the sources bearing upon each. The second section is a numbered tabulation of all the sources mentioned (the two parts are cross-referenced). Brief chronology and index.

Shrader, Charles R. *U.S. Military Logistics, 1607–1991: A Research Guide.*

Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1992. 384pp. \$65

As a new companion series to its "Battles and Leaders" bibliographies (notices of several of which have appeared in this department), Greenwood Press produces "Research Guides in Military Studies." The present work is Number 4 thereof. Its compiler is a recently retired U.S. Army officer and the author or editor of a number of historiographical, military, and medievalist works. Despite its size, this volume's scope has been rigorously restricted, more narrowly than

the title implies: the book focuses "almost exclusively on Army (ground forces) logistics and concentrates on logistical theory and doctrine, the organization and management of logistical activities . . . from colonial times to the present," excluding medical and engineer services. It does embrace, however, air and sea lift as well as army-Marine operations. The bulk of the book comprises annotated bibliographic listings of works organized in subject-chapters, and chronologically within each. Find also: a historical assessment of logistics as a discipline; surveys of the types of government sources available and of the "Top Fifty Works"; appendices; and two indexes.

Shizuo, Fukui, compiler. *Japanese Naval Vessels at the End of World War II*. Annapolis, Md.: Naval Institute Press, 1992. 172pp. \$42.95

This book is a reproduction of the record of surviving ships of the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN), compiled under American direction by IJN constructor Shizuo Fukui. The compendium, essentially an illustrated card index, was intended to give the Occupation authorities some idea of what remained of the defeated IJN. It provides today a fascinating snapshot of Japanese naval construction and, while overtaken by recent works on the IJN and its ships, provides much important information about the products of naval policies and design philosophies, which often differed greatly from those of the West. Included is an addendum of photographs; taken mostly by the U.S. Navy between 1945 and 1972, they have been well and imaginatively chosen. Few have been published before, the bulk are of high quality, and they tell the reader much not only about the ships but the devastation which had been wreaked upon Japan. For the average naval historian this work is perhaps largely in the browsing class, but all those interested in the IJN and in warship design will find valuable material within its pages.

Spiller, Harry. *Death Angel: A Vietnam Memoir of a Bearer of Death Messages to Families*. New York: McFarland, 1992. 244pp. \$19.95

*Death Angel* is a well written and often gripping account of the experiences of an enlisted man who in addition to serving in Vietnam was also a recruiter from 1967 to May 1970. Currently an associate professor of criminal justice at the John A. Logan College in Carterville, Illinois, Spiller offers readers a new perspective of the war: the delivery of death notifications (or "casualty calls") to the families of the men killed in the war—some of whom Spiller himself had recruited. Written in the third person through the eyes of a young Marine, this unique and deeply emotional story is easy to read, but—unlike most stories of war that end on the battlefield—*Death Angel* gives combat a sense of completeness that is personal and reflects the reality of war.

## 156 Naval War College Review

Goldberg, Alfred. *The Pentagon: The First Fifty Years*. Washington: U.S. Gov't. Printing Office, 1992. 197pp. (No price given)

Not many "coffee-table" books receive notice in these pages, but many readers of the *Review* will want to own this one. Its subject is one close to their hearts (or seared into their souls). Further, it is a very attractive volume, built around a large number of illustrations, especially photographs but also drawings, sketches, maps, and reproduced documents. The text is more than "fluff"; it is the work of the Historian of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, whose experience with the Pentagon goes back to its earliest days, and who includes the bad (e.g., original provision for segregated facilities) with the good. The book will be an invaluable argument-resolver: What is the style of the exterior? "Stripped Classicism." Which Secretary of the Air Force was run down by a hallway jeepney? Eugene Zuckert. For how long was Richard Cheney lost in the basement on his first day? Ten minutes. How long is the walk between the two farthest-separated points in the building (ground floor and up)? 1,800 feet. Appendices and bibliography.



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## Naval War College Historical Monograph Series

The Historical Monograph program was established in 1975 for book-length monographs that are concerned with the history of naval warfare and are based wholly or in part on source materials in the Naval Historical Collection of the Naval War College.

- #1 Hayes, John D. and Hattendorf, John B., eds. *The Writings of Stephen B. Luce*, 1975. [**\$10**]
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- #5 Hattendorf, John B., ed. *On His Majesty's Service: Observations of the British Home Fleet from the Diary, Reports, and Letters of Joseph H. Wellings, Assistant U.S. Naval Attaché, London, 1940–1941*, 1983. [**\$6**]
- #6 Monsarrat, John. *Angel on the Yardarm: The Beginnings of Fleet Radar Defense and the Kamikaze Threat*, 1985. [**\$4.25**]
- #7 Hattendorf, John B. and Hattendorf, Lynn C., comps. *A Bibliography of the Works of Alfred Thayer Mahan*, 1986. [**\$5**]
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- #9 *The Influence of History on Mahan: The Proceedings of a Conference Marking the Centenary of Alfred Thayer Mahan's The Influence of Sea Power Upon History, 1660–1783*, 1991. [**\$8**]
- #10 Goldrick, James and Hattendorf, John B., eds. *Mahan Is Not Enough: The Proceedings of a Conference on the Works of Sir Julian Corbett and Admiral Herbert Richmond*, 1993. [**\$10**]

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