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The Whole Internet: User's Guide and Catalogue

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152 Naval War College Review

to use ethical and moral reasoning. For example, the author spends considerable effort exploring why subordinates frequently protect alcoholic commanders. Many officers may see leadership as a matter of common sense, and it is, but no one (I say again, no one, including the overall Total Quality Leadership program) has expressed it quite as well as Oliver. If plebes (and all officer candidates) are not receiving this volume in their initial outfit seabag, we are making a mistake. This is the career-molding introduction that will make all those leadership statistics they will soon be subjected to seem truly relevant. For the rest of us, my advice is, don't go to sea without it.

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Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy

Krol, Ed. *The Whole Internet: User's Guide and Catalogue*. Sebastopol, Calif.: O'Reilly, 1992. 376pp. \$24.95

Internet is the world's largest computer network. It is the result of nearly twenty years of development, much of which was sponsored by the Defense Advance Research Projects Agency. The purpose was initially to develop communications and computer networks. This effort was in parallel with the explosive advances in electronics and computer hardware that have led to affordable and widespread personal computers. Collectively, all of these developments are embodied in what is called information technology.

Ed Krol set out to provide a guide for the "garden variety" computer user,

the individual who simply has a job to do. He has succeeded admirably. He has also succeeded in minimizing jargon and "computerese." This book helps to bring the world of information technology within the grasp of those who are not computer science professionals. With this book at hand, those of us who are minimally computer literate can enter into discourse on a variety of subjects and on a worldwide basis.

With a personal computer or a lap-top, a modem (a device that connects the computer with the telephone network), and an affiliation with Internet, one can enjoy electronic mail (e-mail), electronic bulletin boards, and access to university libraries and to individuals who share hobbies or intellectual interests. But there is more in this for professional national security specialists, be they military or civilian.

Information technology, specifically large-scale computer nets, has brought operational and acquisition elements of the military departments to the threshold of revolutionary change. Modeling and simulation will be used by the operational forces and commands to evaluate, train, plan operations, and rehearse for them; the defense systems acquisition community has been enabled to revolutionize and shorten the acquisition process and reduce the costs associated with it. The promise of information technology has been recognized at the level of the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the service secretaries and chiefs. This reviewer urges readers who have access to the Defense Modeling and Simulation Office to become familiar with its

activities—particularly with the Advanced Technology Demonstration Projects of Advanced Distributed Simulation. Familiarity with this book (even better, using its recipes for becoming an e-mail and electronic bulletin-board user) will create better understanding and appreciation of such programs and of how trainers “embedded” aboard ship, in aviation squadrons, in operational control centers, and at Navy colleges and schools can be netted to exercise naval, Navy-Marine, and joint force operational concepts.

Krol makes the point in Appendix A that many individuals have access to Internet through their schools, companies, or government agencies *and don't know it*. The “how to” nature

of this book starts with important information on how to gain access, including how to find the commercial “service providers” such as Prodigy and Compuserve.

There is a full description of how to use e-mail—a confidence-building chapter. As one tries things, one gains familiarity, understanding, and appreciation. One of the chapters of the book describes how to find an individual who is thought to have an e-mail address. Another shows how to locate generalized resources.

This reviewer invites responses to this review or comments on any subject via e-mail. Please address amb2m@virginia.edu.

ALBERT M. BOTTOMS
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Of making many books there is no end, and
much study wearies the body.

Ecclesiastes 12:12b (NIV)