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## Recent Books

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## Recent Books

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Mets, David R. *A Master of Airpower: General Carl A. Spaatz*. Novato, Calif: Presidio Press, 1988. 430pp. \$22.95

General Carl Spaatz is perhaps the only significant general officer of the Second World War who did not write his own history of the event. Not until now has he had a biographer. Spaatz learned to fly in 1916 at the army's flying school in San Diego—where the casualty rate was eighteen percent. After service with Pershing in Mexico, he met Mitchell, Arnold, Knerr, and LeMay, and appears to have been exposed to the debates of the 1920s. As to Spaatz's role in the European Theater during the Second World War, Mets gives us a detailed account of all the significant command, strategic and logistic factors. Command of the American air forces during Operation Torch, the Allied invasion of North Africa in late 1942, formed Spaatz's views on the ground forces. To historians of air power, the most interesting facet of this time is the debate about targeting and the proper use of strategic air power. Mets gives a good account of these command decisions. Spaatz is an interesting study, for he had a brilliant career, worked with all the key people in the development of the doctrine and practice of air power, both strategic and tactical, and yet left curiously little visible mark on the recorded history of the period.

Builder, Carl H. *The Masks of War: American Styles in Strategy and Analysis*. Baltimore, Md.: The Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, 1989. 240pp.

This fascinating and frustrating book contends that each of the three major military services have distinct and enduring personalities that have more impact upon military strategy and force structure than does the "threat," and that this character of the military services must be understood if their past behavior is to be explained fully and their future behavior predicted with confidence. The author sketches five faces for each service: altars of worship; the ways in which they measure themselves; the degree of preoccupation with equipment skill; intraservice distinctions; and insecurities. Builder then examines how service personality impacts service and national strategy, and concludes that present forces are probably not best suited to American's future military needs, but rather to the institutional self-interest of the services.

Glatthaar, Joseph T. *Forged in Battle: The Civil War Alliance of Black Soldiers and White Officers*. New York: The Free Press, 1989. 370pp. \$24.95

It is a sad thing for the military and for history that the black regiments of the Union Army were for so long forgotten. Joseph Glatthaar, Associate Professor of History at the University of Houston, does these men and their officers justice.

He has an ear for a phrase and uses the writings of both officers and enlisted to give their history an edge. One hundred eighty thousand black Americans—former slaves *and* free men—joined the Union Army, and were led by 7,000 white officers drawn from battle-experienced regiments. How these two groups came to build a military legacy for the Union is Glatthaar's story. The officers served as a result of various motives: Many had abolitionist roots, one of whom was Colonel Robert Gould Shaw who commanded the 54th Massachusetts (Colored) Infantry (now remembered by the motion picture *Glory*.) The first black unit of the federal government was the famed 1st South Carolina Infantry. Wrote their commander, "Instead of leaving their homes and families to fight they are fighting for their homes and families, and they show the resolution and the sagacity which a personal purpose gives." The soldiers knew for what they fought, but their government was slow to recognize them. The troops were poorly paid, received poor medical care, were subjected to disproportionate detail and punishment and frequently suffered physical assault and deprivation at the hands of white regiments. Yet they kept the faith, and extraordinary bonds were forged between these soldiers and their officers in battle. In the words of Colonel Higginson of the 1st South Carolina, "We all felt that we fought with ropes around our necks."

Hughes, Wayne P., Jr. *Military Modelling*. Virginia: Military Operations Research Society, Inc., 1989. 327pp. \$20

This book is intended to examine the employment of models in support of military operations research topics. It consists of an overview and fifteen essays by expert model users in particular fields. *Military Modelling* is a fine introduction to the field and contains much of the accumulated wisdom of a half-century of practice. The "Overview," by Wayne Hughes, is simply superb. It is an eclectic tour of the horizon in which the reader discovers what models are, what they are used for, and what should not be attempted. The "Twenty Questions" essay by Stephen W. Leibholz is excellent. It provides a reasonable guide to what constitutes quality analysis. The other chapters are carried over from the first edition and are dated in content if not in principle. A chapter on design of analytical experiments is sorely needed. Notwithstanding, *Military Modelling* makes a sophisticated and sometimes elegant primer.

## NAVAL WAR COLLEGE HISTORICAL MONOGRAPH SERIES

A program for publication of naval warfare historical monographs was established in 1975. These works deal with some aspect of the history of naval warfare, are based at least in part on source materials in the Naval War College's Naval Historical Collection, have been recommended by the Monograph Series Board, and are selected for publication by the President, Naval War College.

- #1 Hayes, John D. and Hattendorf, John B. *The Writings of Stephen B. Luce*, 1975. [Currently out of print.]
- #2 Symonds, Craig, ed. *Charleston Blockade: The Journals of John B. Marchand, U.S. Navy 1861-1862*, 1976. [\$7.50]
- #3 Spector, Ronald. *Professors of War: The Naval War College and the Development of the Naval Profession*, 1977. [Currently out of print.]
- #4 Vlahos, Michael. *The Blue Sword: The Naval War College and the American Mission, 1919-1941*, 1981. [\$6.00; also available through the Government Printing Office.]
- #5 John B. Hattendorf, ed. *On His Majesty's Service: Observations of the British Home Fleet from the Diaries, Reports, and Letters of Joseph H. Wellings, Assistant U.S. Naval Attaché, London, 1940-1941*, 1983. [\$6.00]
- #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., eds. *A Bibliography of the Works of Alfred Thayer Mahan*, 1986. [\$5.00]
- #8 Sokolsky, Joel. *The Fraternity of the Blue Uniform: Admiral Richard G. Colbert, U.S. Navy and Allied Naval Cooperation*. [Forthcoming in 1991.]

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