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## Managing Defense: Japan's Dilemma

Edward Olsen

Harrison M. Holland

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bureaucratic device of a separate planning staff is not adopted. This is a book full of ideas and will be of interest to anyone interested in the realities of the national security decision-making process.

RODNEY B. MC DANIEL  
Former Executive Secretary,  
National Security Council

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Holland, Harrison M. *Managing Defense: Japan's Dilemma*. Lanham, Md.: Univ. Press of America, 1988. 154pp. \$26

This is a valuable but highly specialized book. Unlike most books or articles on Japanese security, it is much less concerned with grand strategy and broad policy options than it is with the bureaucratic nuts and bolts. Its chapter headings reflect this focus: defense organization, defense operations, the defense program outline (*taiko*) and planning estimate (*chugyo*), the budget process, and a case study of the FY 1985 defense budget. These, plus equally useful appendices that provide a small cross-section of basic documents, make the book worth reading.

The problem is that its audience is probably quite limited. Those scholars and officials who specialize in Japanese defense affairs should be familiar with its fundamental information and positions. Those who are anxious for a primer on Japanese security will almost certainly find this book too advanced and specialized. That audience might wish the

book had a subtitle warning them: "More than you ever wanted to know about the inner workings, procedures, and regulations of the Japanese defense community." Perhaps the most appropriate readers are non-Japan specialist defense-oriented scholars, officials and military officers who want to broaden their horizons and develop a "Japan expert's" expertise. It is recommended for that audience as background reading.

It could be recommended less equivocally, were it more timely. Based on research, interviews, and a conference conducted in 1984-85, it was not published until 1988. Although there is a two-page "epilogue" bringing it up-to-date through mid-1987, the book is somewhat dated.

This type of study should be done on a regular basis so that experts on U.S., Soviet, and European security can familiarize themselves with how the Japanese bureaucracy responds to the changing security situation in and around Japan. Perhaps the most valuable contribution this book makes is to break new ground which others can follow.

EDWARD A. OLSEN  
Naval Postgraduate School  
Monterey, California

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Perry, Mark. *Four Stars: The Inside Story of the Forty-Year Battle*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1989. 402pp. \$24.95