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United States Naval Power in a Changing World

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with meanings to meet their divergent needs, both "Hawks" and "Doves" evinced a concern for caution, limits, a proper sense of context, and an awareness of inseparability of means and ends.

Some of the company grade officers who served in Vietnam are now arriving at the highest levels of command and the lessons that they have learned in Southeast Asia will be institutionalized in the structure and doctrine of our armed services. In this sense Vietnam will continue to exert an influence, perhaps unrecognized, on the future generations of military leaders.

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Hooper Edwin Bickford. *United States Naval Power in a Changing World*. New York: Praeger, 1988. 294pp. \$47.95

Few writers of the history of the U.S. Navy have attempted to cover this subject in one volume. One who has, in a most capable fashion, is the late Vice Admiral Edwin B. Hooper, U.S. Navy. His book begins in the year 1775 when Rhode Island's sloop *Katy* sailed from our Narragansett Bay to become the *Providence* in the first squadron of the new Continental Navy forming at Philadelphia. It ends in the year 1986 when the keel of Aegis cruiser *Normandy* (CG-60) was laid down at Bath, Maine. This most sophisticated of cruisers was

commissioned in Newport, Rhode Island in December 1989.

Admiral Hooper, a distinguished surface warfare officer, whose 45 years of active service concluded with six years as Director of Naval History (1970-1976), has produced a scholarly and readable work that emphasizes the importance of the Navy in the birth and growth of the United States. His background at sea included assignments in all types of surface combatants; four of these were command tours. Ashore he earned a master's degree in engineering from M.I.T. and attended the National War College. He was the first head of the Long Range Studies project at the Naval War College. As vice admiral he commanded the Pacific Fleet's Service Force and later was Senior Navy Member of the Joint Logistics Review Board in the Pentagon. Director of History for the Navy, he was able to review in-depth the role of the Navy in U.S. history.

In his book he concludes that in recent years there has often been an imbalance between consideration of technological improvements in forces afloat and lessons of the past regarding U.S. actions that involved the use of sea power. Unfortunately, the author died suddenly in September 1986, just after his first draft had been accepted for publication. Further editing and footnoting was then undertaken and done, most capably, by his sons, William and Edwin, Jr., along with Dr. Dean Allard, Senior Historian of the Naval Historical Center.

Chronologically the book is divided into five parts: early years through the Barbary Wars; the transitional period from the War of 1812 through the Civil War, on into the obsolescence of the 1870s; the period of a "New Navy" from 1884 until the beginning of World War I; the rise to the most powerful navy during the period of the two World Wars, concluding with the nuclear age from 1945 to the present. Each section contains a discussion that compares naval capabilities with the improvements in weaponry and propulsion, also showing how the Navy was used, often in support of the major land campaigns. Organizational charts are included to show the chain of command in the Navy Department, demonstrating clearly that with improved technology comes an evermore complicated and bureaucratic organization. Period-piece drawings and photographs remind the reader of ships and personalities of years gone by. A final chapter, entitled "The Past is Prologue" summarizes the book and the author's emphasis that despite many predictions after the first atomic bomb, there is need for a navy. The traditional role of the Navy remains vital in national defense, and the basic principals of the use of naval power in the past remain valid in the world of today.

United States Naval Power in a Changing World logically and systematically expands on its title. It should serve college-level and graduate students an excellent introduction to the role of our Navy in national and

world history. Recent emphasis in the Department of Defense on "Joint" planning and operations make this a most readable textbook for officers of the other services as they study today's Navy. The bibliography and footnotes provide a greater depth of information.

Written by a historian who worked in and with the Navy for the last half-century, Edwin Hooper's book is a lasting contribution to our history and requirements for the future.

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Coletta, Paolo E. *The American Naval Heritage*. 3rd ed. Lanham, Md.: Univ. Press of America, 1987. \$29

It would be an understatement to say that the third edition of Professor Coletta's brief overview of American naval history suffers from a severe lack of proofreading. Quite frankly, the book as printed is not worthy of its author. This is particularly unfortunate since it was obviously intended to be a one-semester introductory undergraduate text about a subject rarely taught at civilian universities. The third edition will not inspire deans to authorize the course.

During his long term as professor of history at the U.S. Naval Academy, Dr. Coletta never would have accepted a paper containing such typographical and editorial errors: words are hyphenated for no apparent reason, underlines extend