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Guardians: Strategic Reconnaissance Satellites

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spies to justice, in which the authors describe the legal issues involved in investigating and prosecuting spies, is particularly useful. Also of value for those who would like to examine the espionage threat further is a list of source materials. Although footnotes are not used (making it impossible to determine the source and validity of many details in the book), the source section provides an excellent bibliography of material for the serious researcher.

The subject of espionage deserves further serious study. While a new government agency for dealing with spies probably would not be the panacea that the authors believe it would be, the fact is pretty much as they state it: most spies are not caught by U.S. counterintelligence efforts. We must develop a better awareness of the espionage threat among our personnel and a better, more professional means of conducting espionage investigations. This book contributes to public understanding of the issues in the world of spy-counterspy and should be required reading for security professionals.

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Peeples, Curtis. *Guardians: Strategic Reconnaissance Satellites*. Novato, Calif.: Presidio Press, 1987. 418pp. \$28.95

Many people in the military and intelligence communities have heard about *Deep Black* (reviewed in the

Autumn 1987 issue of this journal), while *Guardians*, the more complete book, is nearly unknown. Both tell how U.S. space reconnaissance began, tracing its development from its beginnings with balloons and aircraft. Both also show how it allowed the United States to face down Khrushchev in the Cuban Missile Crisis. Both discuss at length how politics and world affairs have been changed by space systems; however, each focuses on a different aspect of the space race. If you are interested in systems, what they do and how they do it, then *Guardians* is the book for you. It covers early warning, nuclear detection, ocean surveillance, military man in space, and ferrets (signals exploitation) in great detail. Both books say that it was President Kennedy who ordered U.S. space intelligence efforts to go "black" (compartmented intelligence) in order to avoid embarrassing the Soviets publicly, forcing them to develop the means to shoot them down. While the author of *Deep Black* believes the last six administrations have deliberately lied to the American public in order to spend more billions on space systems and retain control of the arms control process, *Guardians* has a much more balanced approach.

Its discussion of ferrets is especially good, although Mr. Peeples continually uses the term ELINT (radar exploitation intelligence), when the correct term is SIGINT (signals-radar, communications and telemetry-intelligence). Peeples also says this type of airborne reconnais-

sance began after World War II even though there are several histories that trace the start of those efforts to both the Air Force and Navy early in that war. Neither this book nor *Deep Black* mentions the Navy's efforts in this area, a curious omission in view of the writings of Captain Don East and others on the subject.

Guardians does discuss the U-2/ aircraft carrier feasibility studies. It also has excellent histories of the Manned Orbiting Laboratory and the Soviet *Salyut*. In fact, the coverage of all the Soviet systems is very good. The book also has very interesting discussions of the French and Chinese fledgling space programs.

The book ends with an excellent primer on "Orbital Mechanics Made Easy" and an enlightening appendix, "U.S. and Soviet Military Satellite Launches 1959-1985." It would be very interesting to see what Curtis Peeples believes is happening on board *Mir*, the first true space station, and to read his analysis of where both we and the Soviets are going in space now that *Mir* is a fact.

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Frankland, Mark. *The Sixth Continent: Mikhail Gorbachov & the Soviet Union*. New York: Harper & Row, 1987. \$22.95

Time magazine's 1987 Man of the Year, Mikhail Gorbachov, received top billing in the title of Mark

Frankland's book. However, the title is incomplete. A senior British journalist, fluent in Russian, Frankland concentrates on the political intrigue and domestic problems in the 1980s leading up to the current overhaul of Soviet society.

The author's message is that a new energy exists in the U.S.S.R., manifested by a leadership with a visible vitality, in contrast to the lazy, corrupt Brezhnev years, which were characterized by benign neglect. The government and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union drowned themselves in self-delusion by exaggerating the country's achievements and hiding its failures.

The author dispels the notion that Mikhail Gorbachov is a one-man show with his own unique vision of the U.S.S.R.'s destiny. The true restructuring began under Yuri Andropov. When Andropov ascended to the position of Party General Secretary following Brezhnev's death in November 1982, he was appalled at the sloth in Soviet society. Andropov wasted little time in implementing radical changes, such as firing high government and Party officials who had prospered under Brezhnev's inefficient bureaucracy.

Andropov aspired to revive Bolshevik traditions. He climbed the Party ladder under the harsh school of "he who is ready to punish himself wins the right to coerce others." Unlike the jovial, hard-drinking Brezhnev, Andropov was an ascetic who drew on Lenin for inspiration