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Don't Cry For Us

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sweeper *Caine*, when he fell apart and was relieved by his XO during such a storm.

This fine text should be perused at leisure by the officer coming newly to command. Before passing the sea buoy he should tab those pages he may need when "operational commitments" to a hard-changing admiral practicing at war or facing the enemy ashore may leave him with no option but to sail, as the sea shanty says, "in the teeth of the boomin' gale!"

DAVID G. CLARK
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Sinke, Ralph E.G., Jr. *Don't Cry For Us*. Dale City, Va.: REGS Enterprises, 1984. 140pp. \$12.95

Don't Cry For Us is a book of poetry and vignettes written by a Marine Corps major who first fought in Vietnam as a private first class in 1966. The simplicity of the verse in this book is effective in establishing the theme of lost innocence and accelerated maturation in the laboratory of life—Vietnam. Many of the pieces in part I were written by Sinke as he recovered from battle wounds. The poem of the title is an unapologetic account of the Vietnam veterans' contributions to their nation. Like many of the poems in the book, it captures the pulse of a nation and a generation. It is angry, bitter, tired and sad—most of all, it is proud. The pride of the Vietnam veterans and the recent and long overdue acceptance of their gallant efforts provide Major Sinke with the material for his work.

From the lost youth, realities and sacrifices addressed in the initial poems, Major Sinke moves to the tragic homecoming of American fighting men in part II. The poems are sad because they tell of how the veterans became the object of the American people's confusion, frustration and hatred. The transference of their wrath to the veterans increased the guilt of the warriors and inflicted psychological wounds that complement their physical wounds.

Part III, "The Reconciliation," was written by Sinke the day after the dedication of the Vietnam War Memorial. It ties together loose ends, and is a reflection of pain and sacrifices which have lately been recognized because of our nation's collective guilt; it signals the end of an era and the ushering in of a new era of legitimacy and acceptance of our Vietnam veterans. "The Reconciliation" is a definitive explanation of the catharsis of the Vietnam War and its warriors. It makes as eloquent a statement about the meaning of the war as the Memorial Wall itself.

The title of the book, *Don't Cry For Us* is ironic because many of Sinke's pieces will bring the reader to tears. "Just Three Days" and "We Called Him 'Abe'" are emotional, gut-wrenching, soul-searching, beautiful and profound instances of Sinke's unabashed intensity and heart. Although Ralph Sinke is a United States Marine, his work transcends service. It is a book for men who fought in Vietnam and for Americans who only now, a decade after the war in Vietnam ended, have begun to

believe that the sacrifices of Vietnam veterans were equal to the sacrifices of other veterans in past wars. It is a book about the human spirit and

heart in the crucible of war.

W.T. DeCAMP
Captain, US Marine Corps

RECENT BOOKS

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Annotated by

George Scheck and Mary Ann Varoutsos

Alnasrawi, Abbas. *OPEC in a Changing World Economy*. Baltimore, Md.: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1985. 188pp. \$22.50

In this study, Alnasrawi, an economics professor at the University of Vermont, surveys developments in the oil industry since the creation of OPEC in 1960. Following a brief overview of OPEC's performance and its impact on the world economy, the author examines oil-price determination using both historical and analytical approaches. He also presents a history of the organization's various unsuccessful attempts to regulate output during the 1960s and 1970s. Turning to OPEC's world role, he describes its relations with the industrialized countries (increased dependence) and with the Third World (increased interdependence). The concluding chapter treats OPEC in the 1980s and suggests some future trends.

Bethlen, Steven and Volgyes, Ivan, eds. *Europe and the Superpowers*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, 1985. 164pp. \$18.50

Based upon papers presented at a 1984 Munich conference by European and American scholars, these essays offer their perceptions on relations between the superpowers and the nations of Eastern and Western Europe. The topics include the political, economic, and military aspect of Europe's international relationships; the role of Nato and the Warsaw Pact; and Europe's goals, objectives and future. Also considered is the impact of Soviet and East European internal developments on present and future East-West relations.

Bullock, John. *The Gulf*. London: Century, 1984. 218pp. \$21

This book offers a portrait of the Persian Gulf states of Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates. Along with vignettes of the people, the discussion includes historical backgrounds and the economic, social, and political development of each of