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The Wars in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos 1945-1982

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largely confined to documentary sources and books.

The literature on the *Luftwaffe* has been so massive that one could not hope to treat the periodical writings in the same comprehensive way that the book literature is considered and still remain within one volume. The essays are particularly valuable to a researcher at the beginning of any given study in the field for Homze's complete grasp of his subject gives quick and understandable surveys of the various interpretations that have been placed on the history of the episodes of the German air arm—it makes it possible for the new student to organize his thinking on the subject with far greater ease. At the end of each of the chapters there is a comprehensive listing of the books relevant to that period.

The production work on *German Military Aviation* was carefully done and the mistakes are few and far between. The index is far superior to those usually found in works of this kind and that greatly enhances the value of the book as a research tool. Of course, as Homze himself points out, there is something new published on the *Luftwaffe* every day. Thus, any bibliography would quickly become dated. But *German Military Aviation* is a definitive work that will long hold its value as a research tool. Meanwhile, periodic updates will suffice to enable its owners to work their research gardens with dispatch and confidence.

The purchase of the book is imperative for any library with pretensions in the field of military history; its

acquisition for the personal collections of airpower historians is highly recommended.

DAVID R. METS

Lieutenant Colonel, US Air Force

Burns, Richard Dean and Leitenberg, Milton. *The Wars in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos 1945-1982: A Bibliographic Guide*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO Press, 1984. 290pp. \$58.50

This new, comprehensive bibliographic guide will be of value to both the specialist and the beginner interested in the Vietnam war or—to use the more accurate phrase of the authors—the wars in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. A number of other bibliographies and guides have previously appeared but most resemble library catalogues rather than bibliographies. The Burns and Leitenberg's guide is well organized, divided into logical subject chapters (with each chapter arranged into topical subheadings), well indexed, and easy to use. Also included are a number of graphs and tables on subjects ranging from "U.S. Expenditure of Munitions in Indochina" to "A Statistical Portrait of the Vietnam Veteran."

Each chapter contains a general introduction by the authors presenting what they view as the essential issues and problems of the period or subject discussed, together with brief descriptions of what they consider the most important books and articles bearing on those issues. For the most part, the authors' observations are judicious and balanced, although

there are occasional inaccuracies and lapses as when the one-dimensional and long outdated books by Alexander Kendrick and Thomas Power on "the war at home" are described as "solid surveys."

The authors also include a graph which purports to illustrate "the technological substitution of firepower for manpower: decline in ratio of casualties to manpower deployed." What the graph actually shows is a decline in the rate of battle deaths per thousand since World War II. That such figures are practically meaningless for determining the combat intensity of a war like Vietnam seems not to have occurred to the authors. Their idea that increased use of firepower is directly connected to lower casualty rates is as simplistic as charges by writers like John Helmer that US tactics in Vietnam produced unnecessarily high casualties.

Vietnam specialists will doubtless find other things to quarrel with in this guide; but despite any such shortcomings, it is nonetheless a valuable contribution to Vietnam studies and one certain to be extensively utilized.

RONALD SPECTOR
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Shultz, Richard H., and Godson, Roy. *Dezinformatsia Active Measures in Soviet Strategy*. New York: Pergamon Press, 1984. 210pp. \$19.95

The Soviet active measures program involves the use of overt and covert techniques for influencing the actions of foreign countries. Active measures may entail influencing the

policies of another government, undermining confidence in the leaders and institutions of the target state, disrupting relations among rival nations and discrediting and weakening both governmental and nongovernmental enemies. Active measures may be conducted overtly through officially sponsored foreign propaganda channels, diplomatic relations and cultural diplomacy. Covert techniques include the use of covert propaganda, disinformation, agents of influence and international front organizations. Active measures programs are coordinated at the highest levels of the Soviet regime and are executed by important elements of the state and party bureaucracy including the KGB.

Professor Richard Shultz and Professor Roy Godson have written a detailed accurate study of Soviet disinformation. They describe the organizational structure for active measures and offer a detailed discussion of Soviet overt propaganda themes from 1960 to 1980. They go on to provide examples of Soviet techniques including the use of international front organizations, agents of influence and forgeries. They provide interviews with former Soviet bloc intelligence officers which reveal many of the techniques used by the KGB. They conclude that active measures do indeed form an important element in the Kremlin's approach to foreign policy.

Although based exclusively on unclassified published sources Shultz and Godson have written a clear informative and detailed