

1986

Recent Books

Robert M. Laske

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review>

Recommended Citation

Laske, Robert M. (1986) "Recent Books," *Naval War College Review*: Vol. 39 : No. 4 , Article 37.
Available at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review/vol39/iss4/37>

This Additional Writing is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at U.S. Naval War College Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Naval War College Review by an authorized editor of U.S. Naval War College Digital Commons. For more information, please contact repository.inquiries@usnwc.edu.

RECENT BOOKS

Selected Accessions of the Naval War College Library

Annotated by

Christine Babcock, Lynda Bronaugh, and George Scheck

Andriole, Stephen J., ed. *Applications in Artificial Intelligence*. Princeton, N.J.: Petrocelli, 1985. 528pp. \$49.95

Andriole regards this collection of essays as a vehicle for introducing professionals to the world of applied AI. The articles describe the nature, prospects, and techniques of artificial intelligence. Also included are discussions of expert systems, intelligent robots, and natural language processes. The last section of the book contains three essays on the role of artificial intelligence in national defense. The editor sees AI systems as cost-effective, widely distributed, and commonplace by the end of the decade. He concludes that despite some problems the future of applied AI is very bright.

Barnett, A. Doak and Clough, Ralph N., eds. *Modernizing China: Post-Mao Reform and Development*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, 1986. 136pp. \$23.85 paper \$12.85

Since the death of Mao, China has entered a new period in its development. Turning away from the all-encompassing emphasis on revolutionary struggle and ideological transformation that characterized the last years of the Maoist era, China's leaders under Deng Xiaoping have initiated dramatic new reform and development politics. The contributors, all senior specialists on contemporary China, analyze the reasons for the new policies, the nature and impact of the changes now occurring, and the prospects for a continuation of these policies in the future. Specifically, they examine the Chinese polity as a "consultative authoritarian" system, the far-reaching changes in China's agriculture, important shifts in foreign economic relations, and gradual modernization policy pursued by its military leaders, the relaxation of controls on cultural life, and the possibility that current social policies may well increase equality rather than inequality in Chinese society.

Beede, Benjamin R. *Intervention and Counterinsurgency: an Annotated Bibliography of the Small Wars of the United States, 1898-1984*. New York: Garland, 1985. 321pp. \$55

This bibliography by a Rutgers University librarian is especially valuable because it collects in one volume a myriad of information sources on American intervention or counterinsurgency operations worldwide during this period. Beede includes published sources such as government documents, scholarly monographs, personal

narratives, and periodical articles as well as some unpublished dissertations. The arrangement is by subject, beginning with a brief general section on bibliographic sources, American theories and policies of intervention, and doctrine and studies on small wars and counterinsurgency. The remainder of the book is organized by incident chronologically beginning with the Boxer Rebellion and concluding with Grenada. An author and subject index is provided for ease of access.

Buss, Claude A. *National Security Interests in the Pacific Basin*. Stanford, Calif.: Hoover Institution Press, 1985. 317pp. \$19.95

This is a report of the proceedings of a Hoover Institution conference concerned with the security interests of the Pacific region. Participants considered various aspects of American-Soviet relationships, the United States and its Pacific allies, and China policy alternatives. The report is arranged in five sections dealing with East-West confrontation, China, and specific areas of the Pacific. Each section begins with an introduction by the editor and several conclude with additional comments by the conferees.

Dekmejian, R. Hrair. *Islam in Revolution*. Syracuse, N.Y.: Syracuse University Press, 1985. 249pp. \$26

Religious fundamentalist movements tend to wax in periods of spiritual, social or political crisis and Islamic fundamentalism is no exception to this pattern. Traditionally the Muslim community has returned to fundamental precepts in its cultural response to stress. This study draws on Muslim, Western, and other views of Islamic fundamentalism and seeks to offer a balanced perspective on its influence in the Arab world. The work is based on a broad framework of theological, political, historical, and socioeconomic factors that affect Islamic fundamentalism in both its militant and passive forms.

Dudley, William S., ed. *The Naval War of 1812: a Documentary History: Vol. 1, 1812*. Washington: Department of the Navy, Naval Historical Center, 1985. 714pp. \$34 (GPO)

This is the first of a three-volume documentary history on the naval and maritime aspects of the War of 1812. The purpose of the series is to publish rare, inaccessible and deteriorating documents and thus make them available to the general public. This book begins with a summary of events from 1783 to 1805 influencing the development of the U.S. Navy. The body of the work utilizes actual documents, letters, ships' logs, etc. dating from 1805 to 1812 to explain the causes of the war and how it was fought in the early stages. The arrangement is chronological by topic or theater of operations and a comprehensive index is provided.

Dunn, Peter M. *The First Vietnam War*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1985. 392pp. \$29.95

The "first" Vietnam War took place in 1945 immediately following the end of World War II. According to Peter Dunn, British forces under the direction of Gen. Douglas Gracey undertook the task of maintaining civil order in Saigon and opposing communist infiltration. The story of this little-known aspect of contemporary history

156 Naval War College Review

is told in a fluid and yet detailed manner supported by extensive research based on archival documentation and interviews. The roles played by the Americans, French, Japanese, and Viet Minh are examined at length. In addition, the effects of the "first" Vietnam War are projected onto subsequent political developments in Indochina. Dunn maintains a strong bias in favor of General Gracey's decisions and actions during this critical period of transition.

Elad, Shlomi and Merari, Ariel. *The Soviet Bloc and World Terrorism*. Tel Aviv, Israel: Tel Aviv University, Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, 1984. 81pp. \$8

To what degree is the Soviet bloc involved in world terrorism and for what reasons? This brief study examines these questions utilizing a number of diverse sources such as authentic documents gathered by security forces, interrogation reports of captured terrorists, public statements by Western officials, and selected media reports. The authors are well aware of the limitations of this type of information in terms of reliability. Still they contend that as researchers their focus deals less with specific events and more with the overall picture reflected by the composite of events. Elad and Merari conclude that the Soviet bloc does indeed systematically support world terrorism as a matter of strategic policy. However, despite the extensive logistic assistance provided by the Soviets, they do not engage in the creation of terrorist groups nor do they actively direct most terrorist activities. Instead the major Soviet objective is simply to ensure the existence of world terrorism so that they may capitalize on its destabilizing effects.

English, J.A. et al., eds. *The Mechanized Battlefield: A Tactical Analysis*. Washington, D.C.: Pergamon-Brassey's, 1985. 188pp. \$30

In March 1983 The Canadian Army Combat Training Centre sponsored a three-day Officer Development Study Session. *The Mechanized Battlefield* is a compilation of the presentations at the session. Participants included prominent military theorists and historians, active service veterans of the British Army, U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps, as well as Canadian Army officers. The book covers a variety of ground combat issues ranging from the Warsaw Pact threat and Soviet ground tactics to U.S. small unit combat, the Falkland Islands operation, and many aspects of the mechanized battlefield. It should be of great interest to ground combat unit commanders and those who must plan for future combat.

Johnson, Lock K. *A Season of Inquiry: the Senate Intelligence Investigation*. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1985. 317pp. \$31

A trained political scientist who served as a staff assistant during the Senate intelligence investigation, Lock Johnson provides an insider's view of the ongoing efforts of this oversight committee. The book begins with a brief history of federal intelligence agencies and their relationship with Congress from the "era of trust" (1947-74) to the "era of skepticism" (1974-76) to the "era of uneasy partnership" (1976-). The author then presents an engrossing account of the proceedings of the investigation told in the first person. Colorful and poignant quotations from all the major participants highlight the narrative which was extensively researched through documentation, interviews, and personal recollections. Johnson appears to view the

Senate intelligence investigation as a prime example of the concept of checks and balances at work in American government. He presents this process as one fraught with struggle but one which ultimately does work.

Katz, Mark N. *Russia & Arabia: Soviet Foreign Policy Toward the Arabian Peninsula*. Baltimore, Md.: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1986. 279pp. \$30

The author examines the U.S.S.R.'s foreign policy since 1970 in the eight countries of the Arabian Peninsula: North Yemen, South Yemen, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Qatar. He identifies three possible strategies that the Soviet Union might pursue—invasion, fostering revolutionary movements and courting existing governments—and judges the first to be highly unlikely. *Russia & Arabia* has major implications for Western policy, and Katz suggests that Western policymakers should pay more attention to eliminating possible causes of internal revolts and neutralizing Soviet efforts to win favor in the region.

MacKenzie, Charles H.D. *Liner Shipping Conferences: an Annotated Bibliography*. Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Books, 1985. 149pp. \$23

This is a concise yet thorough bibliography of resources concerning contemporary international shipping. It focuses on maritime law, international law and relations, economics, shipping, and commercial practice. The interdisciplinary approach is a key factor in the utility of this reference tool for scholars, businessmen, policymakers, and shipping executives alike. The 450 well-written and informative annotations of monographs and journal articles are arranged in five sections: major works, history and development, economic and operational issues, national regulation, and international regulation. Personal and corporate author indexes are provided, but not a title/series index.

National Research Council (U.S.). Marine Board. Committee on Effective Manning. *Effective Manning of the U.S. Merchant Fleet*. Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press, 1984. 128pp. n.p.

A National Research Council study conducted at the request of the U.S. Maritime Administration is the basis of this report. The project objective focused on effective manning of the U.S. merchant fleet in light of management, labor, and government influences. Foreign ship operating companies which have successfully implemented innovative manning practices were examined by the study committee. New concepts in crew organization, applications of advanced technology, and communication were evaluated in terms of their utility to the American merchant fleet. The report concludes with an elaborate list of recommendations which the committee maintains will simultaneously improve job satisfaction for mariners and increase productivity for the shipping industry.

Ra'anan, Uri et al. *Third World Marxist-Leninist Regimes: Strengths, Vulnerabilities, and U.S. Policy*. Elmsford, N.Y.: Pergamon Press, 1985. 130pp. \$9.95

In the mid-1960s, only three Third World regimes openly identified themselves as Marxist-Leninist: Cuba, North Vietnam, and North Korea. Twenty years later, however, these three regimes have not only survived (and in the case of Vietnam

158 Naval War College Review

substantially expanded), but have been joined as well by six others that claim allegiance to communism: Afghanistan, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY), Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia, and Nicaragua. What accounts for this proliferation in Third World Marxist-Leninist regimes? How do they consolidate their power? What are the political consequences, both for these countries and for their immediate neighbors? Will these regimes still be in power twenty years from now, and if not, what combination of forces—internal and external—is likely to explain their demise? How do Third World Marxist-Leninist states behave on the world political stage? More specifically, what role do they play in Soviet global strategy? These and other important questions are addressed in the five papers presented in this Special Report.

Smith, Myron J. *Battleships and Battle-cruisers, 1884-1984: a Bibliography and Chronology*. New York: Garland, 1985. 691pp. \$150

Although this bibliography provides 5,500 citations to works on battleships, Myron Smith notes that it is far from a definitive guide to the subject. Still, as a reference tool, it is probably more than sufficient for even the most scholarly users. The scope of this work extends not only to sources on battleships, but also to related political, economic, technical, and operational works as well. Although focused primarily on readily available English-language materials published between 1884 and 1984, some foreign language items are included. The citations are divided into four major groups: reference works, general and technical studies, individual vessels, and institutional operational history. Within each group the arrangement is topical. Additional features of this useful bibliographical resource include a chronology of the technical development and military role of the battleship, informative introductions to each topic, and detailed indexing.

Staudenmaier, William O. *Microstates, Pawns in the Global Strategic Balance*. Carlisle Barracks, Pa.: U.S. Army War College, 1982. 27pp. \$3.25 est.

Almost one-third of the nations of the world are microstates, which in this study are defined as independent states with populations of fewer than 2.5 million people. Using this criteria, there are 57 nations that meet the definition of microstate such as Bahrain, Iceland, and Panama. Many of these microstates emerged from former European colonial empires and, while militarily and economically weak, they are in locations of strategic importance. The author concludes that microstates are destined to play the role of pawns in the strategic power struggle.

Summers, Harry G., Jr. *Vietnam War Almanac*. New York: Facts on File Publications, 1985. 414pp. \$24.95

Summers, current Senior Military Analyst at *U.S. News & World Report*, has collected and organized an impressive amount of information on American involvement in Vietnam in this book. It is divided into three parts: a history of the country to 1959 and a geography, a detailed chronology of U.S. and Vietnamese events pertaining to the war from 1959 to the fall of Saigon in 1975, and a series of essays on various personalities, battles, combat units, operations, etc. arranged in alphabetical order. Most of these essays are cross-referenced to related material and include suggestions for further reading. There is also a bibliography and a comprehensive index.

Suvorov, Victor. *Inside Soviet Military Intelligence*. New York: Macmillan, 1984. 193pp. \$15.95

The author of *Inside the Soviet Army* describes the *Glavnoye Razvedyvatolnoye Upravleniye* or GRU, the Soviet military intelligence agency, in this, his third book. Suvorov, a 15-year veteran of the organization, considers it second in ability only to the KGB, its strongest rival in the power structure. He describes the history and evolution of the GRU, detailing its relationship to the Party, the Red army, and the rival KGB. The author deplores the fact so little is known about the GRU and provides examples of its operations in the West.

Taylor, Robert. *The Sino-Japanese Axis: a New Force in Asia?* New York: St. Martin's Press, 1985. 132pp. \$27.50

Since 1972, when diplomatic relations were established between Japan and the People's Republic of China, these two Asian powers have strengthened their economic and cultural ties. Trade and economic relations are the foundation of this mutually beneficial association, with China supplying raw materials from its rich natural resources and Japan providing technological expertise. From these economic ties, a political alliance is forming that may someday create a new balance of power in Asia, a Sino-Japanese Axis. An index and suggestions for further reading increase the scholarly value of the book.

Van Creveld, Martin. *Command in War*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1985. 339pp. \$20.00

Van Creveld, a military historian teaching at Hebrew University of Jerusalem, traces the evolution of command in land warfare from the ancient Greeks to the Vietnam era. "Command" as Van Creveld uses the word includes all the functions of C³ (Command, Control, Communication). The chapters are arranged chronologically and demonstrate how greater sophistication in C³ allowed coordination of larger and more complex units. He also analyzes the pros and cons of centralization versus decentralization of command as means of dissipating the "fog of war." Campaign maps are included to illustrate particular points of interest.

Vizulis, I. Joseph. *Nations under Duress; the Baltic States*. Port Washington, N.Y.: Associated Faculty Press, 1985. 209pp. \$15.95

Vizulis relates the political and cultural development of the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania including historical background and present status. The occupation of these states by the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany is described as well as the effect that the attitude of the Allies had on their postwar independence. The author contends that many illegal and doubtful diplomatic acts undermined the freedom of the Baltic states and their continued subjugation is a result of the failure of Western diplomacy.

Wells, Tim. *444 Days; the Hostages Remember*. San Diego: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1985. 469pp. \$19.95

The ordeal of the Americans taken hostage during the 1979 takeover of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, Iran has been covered extensively in the media. This book,

160 Naval War College Review

however, is composed of excerpts from interviews with 27 of the 53 individuals captured, grouped chronologically so that the reader is essentially reading a firsthand account by these people. There is a wealth of detail not available elsewhere and the author's narrative style contributes to make this an engrossing oral history.

Woodward, David R. and Maddox, Robert F. *America and World War I: a Selected Annotated Bibliography of English-Language Sources*. New York: Garland, 1985. 368pp. \$47

America's entry into World War I marked a radical change in her foreign policy because traditionally the United States had been an isolationist power. This bibliography, compiled by two noted historians, consists of published source materials in English on the period between 1914 and 1919. Both military and diplomatic aspects are included as well as a substantial section on the effects of the war on the home front. The annotations themselves are thoughtful and provide critical evaluations of the selections. As a further aid to the researcher; a chronology of events, a list of abbreviations, and an author and subject index are provided.



AWARD-WINNING ARTICLES CHOSEN FROM THE NAVAL WAR COLLEGE REVIEW

Three prize awards of \$500, \$300, and \$200 honoring authors whose works appeared in the *Review* during 1985 were announced at the college's recent graduation exercises. These awards for exceptional articles based on content, clarity and professionalism are given in the memory of the late Captain Hugh G. Nott, U.S. Navy (Ret.) who, over a period of ten years, made major contributions to the academic and research vitality of the Naval War College.

First prize, for "Strategy and the First Strategic Defense Initiative" went to Dr. Benson D. Adams who most recently served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense and is Adjunct Professor of the National Security Program at Georgetown University.

Second prize, for "What Wargaming is and is Not," went to coauthors Dr. Peter P. Perla from the Center for Naval Analyses and Lieutenant Commander Raymond T. Barrett, U.S. Navy.

Third prize, for "Elements for Conventional War—Land, Sea, Air and Space," went to Commander Brent L. Gravatt, U.S. Navy.