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RECENT BOOKS

Selected Accessions of the Naval War College Library

Annotated by

George Scheck, Mary Ann Varoutsos, and Jane Viti

Berghahn, Volker R. *Modern Germany; Society, Economy and Politics in the Twentieth Century*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1982. 314pp. \$34.50

Rather than taking a bird's eye view of the modern German state, this account scrutinizes four central aspects of the country's recent history: domestic politics, economy, society, and diplomacy. The early chapters describe the rapid industrialization that occurred prior to 1914 and examine its social and political consequences. The central portion of the work treats the impact of the First World War, the effect of the Great Inflation of 1923, German foreign policy in the Weimar Republic, and the relationship between diplomacy and domestic policy during this period. Finally, a look is taken at the emergence and development of the two Germanies after 1945. Nearly 50 statistical tables and a comprehensive bibliography complete the book.

Berry, Henry. *Semper Fi, Mac: Living Memories of the U.S. Marines in World War II*. New York: Arbor House, 1982. 375pp. \$15.95

During the three or four years after the attack on Pearl Harbor, over half a million Americans joined an organization most of them knew little about—the US Marine Corps. This book is about those Marines who fought in World War II—the tough, battle-trained troops that stormed the beaches of Bougainville, Tarawa, Saipan, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa. Their personal experiences are recreated through informal interviews with the author. What is portrayed is a microcosm of what it was like and what it meant to be a Marine during some of the bloodiest battles in the Pacific Theater.

Betts, Richard K. *Surprise Attack*. Washington: Brookings Institute, 1982. 318pp. \$24.95

This book is primarily concerned with current defense planning in relation to sudden attacks that commence hostilities. While strong military forces are vital for deterrence and defense, if deterrence fails, impressive forces may still prove to be an insufficient defense since a successful surprise can neutralize much of their capability. This study does not extensively cover surprise attacks that occur in war already in progress, although examples are drawn from World War II and post-World War II conflicts to illustrate the success of surprise attacks over the past 40 years. Betts refines the problem of deterrence, considers options when it fails, and brings political realism and planning into closer alignment. He contends that surprise itself is not as important as the extent to which it invalidates the victim's response by falling outside the range of contingencies envisioned.

Bidwell, Shelford and Graham, Dominick. *Fire-Power: British Army Weapons and Theories of War 1904-1945*. Boston: Allen & Unwin, 1982. 327pp. \$27.50

"Sans doctrine les textes ne sont rien" aptly describes the British army on the eve of World War I. Partly, this was the result of a long history of little wars in remote territories and Britain's position as primarily a sea power. Another reason for this state of affairs was what the authors refer to as the peacetime habits that create peacetime tactics. While a smaller version of the army that went to the continent in 1914 fought in the Second World War, it, at least, understood the principles learned in the previous war. Still, the authors view the British army as it was then and is now, an unbalanced coalition of arms and services lacking both a rigorous analysis of its past experience and a consistent doctrine.

Borgin, Karl and Corbett, Kathleen. *The Destruction of a Continent: Africa and International Trade*. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1982. 195pp. \$14.95

Africa is a nation of 500 million people with diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds, numerous religions, and widely different political systems. Billions of dollars in international aid flow into Africa every year in an effort to promote development and economic stability. In spite of this fact, Africa is in a disastrous state. Agricultural production is declining and the population is rapidly increasing. In this study of the complex problems of modern Africa, the authors criticize the present form of international aid and advocate the development of a unique political philosophy designed specifically to meet the needs of the African peoples.

Buckingham, William A., Jr. *Operation Ranch Hand: the Air Force and Herbicides in Southeast Asia, 1961-1971*. Washington: US Air Force. Office of Air Force History, 1982. 253pp. paper \$8.50*

The use of herbicide spraying during the Vietnamese conflict was employed in order to deny cover and concealment to the enemy and to destroy his food supply. Operation Ranch Hand, the designation for this program, began in January 1962 and was subsequently called to a halt in April 1975. Beginning with an overview of the development of a military herbicide capability, this examination goes on to evaluate initial defoliation operations and their apparent success. The controversy concerning the military, political, and ecological effects of its use is also related. This study is one of a series of books detailing the Air Force's involvement in the war in Southeast Asia.

*For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, US Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

Caro, Robert A. *The Years of Lyndon Johnson: the Path to Power*. New York: Knopf, 882pp. \$19.95

This first of a three-volume work, covers the early years of the 36th president of the United States, Lyndon Baines Johnson. Raised in rural Texas during the depression of the 1930s, Johnson developed an overpowering need to succeed, a need that drove him throughout his adult life. The book ends in 1941 and covers Johnson's college and early political years. Included are discussions of his relationships with such

contemporary figures as Franklin D. Roosevelt, Sam Rayburn, and Jack Garner. Author Caro depicts a man who spent his life not only obscuring his rise to power, but his use of that power as well.

Chaliand, Gerard. *The Struggle for Africa: Conflict of the Great Powers*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1982. 121pp. \$16.95

Of the 50 poorest states in the world, 30 are in Africa. In terms of raw material and strategy, Africa is important to industrial powers both East and West. African states, whatever their claimed forms of government, are almost everywhere autocratic dictatorships. Since they lack the productivity to sustain meaningful economic growth and are plagued by corruption in one form or another, it is doubtful that these governments can long continue. The Soviets, who have long operated on the principle that they can move in where any power vacuum exists, are exploiting conditions in Africa which the United States has mostly ignored. The author feels the Western powers can win this struggle, but much depends upon their perception and reaction to the threat.

Devlin, John F. *Syria: Modern State in an Ancient Land*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, 1983. 140pp. \$16.50

The present state of Syria is a product of the twentieth century with roots that extend far back into antiquity. Gaining independence in 1946 on terms established by outsiders, Syria has since been in the process of adjusting or overturning those terms of her existence. In the 1980s, Syria is still a state in transition with forces in contention for and against further modernization. The question of who should rule the state and the role of Islam in government have led to violence among the various factions contending for power. The future of both the republic and the area from which it was carved remains clouded.

Ford, Daniel et al. *Beyond the Freeze: the Road to Nuclear Sanity*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1982. 132pp. paper \$4.95

The authors feel that exploding nuclear bombs will not solve problems, but that their use could lead to consequences far worse than any problem we might hope to solve. Is there a path to nuclear sanity that will halt the nuclear arms race? Three technical experts, all members of the Union of Concerned Scientists, have developed a program which they believe will diminish the threat of nuclear war and at the same time maintain national security. In this, "the first step-by-step primer on how to curb the arms race," they outline a possible solution to one of the major issues facing the world today.

Forty, George. *At War in Korea*. London: Ian Allan, 1982. 160pp. \$25.00

Called upon to defend southern Korea from its aggressive neighbors to the north, 17 countries banded together to form the United Nations Command. All together, 49 nations sent food, supplies, and equipment to help support the UN's first military action. The seventh book in the "At War" series, this one uses as many personal accounts as possible to chronicle the various operations of the Korean War. Action is usually described at the unit or subunit level rather than in terms of overall strategy,

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making the narrative easily understandable to the general reader. The book is lavishly illustrated with black and white photographs showing all types of international forces at war in Korea.

Gelman, Harry. *The Soviet Far East Buildup and Soviet Risk-Taking against China.*

R-2943-AF. Santa Monica, Calif.: Rand, 1982. 138pp. paper \$15.00

In the 1950s the Soviets failed in their attempt to secure China as a strategic platform for the deployment of military power against the United States. Since that time, the Soviets have maintained large military forces in Siberia, Central Asia, Mongolia, and the Far East. This study analyzes the initial Soviet motives for the buildup and reconstructs those factors that have since contributed to its continued large-scale maintenance.

Geyer, Alan. *The Idea of Disarmament!* Elgin, Il.: Brethern Press, 1982. 256pp. \$11.95

This book opens with a brief history of nuclear weapons and US foreign policy. The concepts of deterrence and counterforce, the bilateral arms race, the global nuclear club, and the attempts at international arms control treaties are also included. Geyer believes that the federal bureaucracy is greatly swayed by various policy-study organizations. These think tanks, many of which are funded by special interest groups, are having a profound influence on US foreign policy. Geyer, himself the director of a think tank, warns that well-financed and strongly committed ideologues can bend politics to their will. It is not the concept of think tanks he opposes, but rather the misuse of them.

Grayson, Benson L. *Saudi-American Relations.* Washington: University Press of America, 1982. 163pp. \$19.75

This volume reviews the complicated diplomacy by which the United States attempts to maintain a balance between its need for Middle East oil and its interest in the state of Israel. Since 1943 when Admiral Leahy warned of America's need for foreign crude oil, the Middle East was no longer viewed as a British preserve. American need for foreign crude oil was matched by the Saudi desire for a market and fear of Soviet influence in the region. Meanwhile, continued support for Israel has strained American-Saudi relations and the poor American performance in Iran has led the Saudis to doubt American will and ability in the region.

Green, Jerrold D. *Revolution in Iran; the Politics of Countermobilization.* New York: Praeger, 1982. 199pp. \$21.95

Under the rule of Mohammed Reza Shah Pahlavi, Iran evolved as a "modernizing monarchy" in which rapid social and economic change was actively pursued. At the same time, individual freedom of expression was neither allowed to develop nor encouraged. Manifestations of these contradictions were everywhere. Thus, color television was introduced into a country over 50 percent illiterate and Tehran could boast of having discotheques while lacking sewerage and proper transportation systems. Many of the changes were perceived as a threat to traditional values by a population alienated from the government and politicized by various groups. Green, who was in Iran at the time, examines the nature of participation in the revolution using political science concepts.

Jordon, Hamilton. *Crisis: the Last Year of the Carter Presidency*. New York: Putnam, 1982. 431pp. \$16.95

Utilizing official documents, interviews, and his own records, Hamilton Jordon recalls President Carter's last year in office. A difficult election year for Carter, he had to face the invasion of Afghanistan and the recession, the Kennedy challenge and Ronald Reagan, and the American hostages in Iran. Mainly, it was the hostage crisis that was to haunt every effort of the administration to focus attention on other issues. Jordon's inside view of the administration's attempts to free the hostages and run an election campaign is both candid and entertaining.

Kapur, Harish. *The Awakening Giant: China's Ascension in World Politics*. Rockville, Md.: Sijthoff & Noordhoff, 1981. 314pp. \$59.50

Within the last 30 years China has acquired a crucial place within the central strategic balance of international relations. This study analyzes the operational aspects of China's diplomatic effort and traces the development of China's foreign policy since 1949. It begins with a brief introductory analysis of changing Chinese perceptions of the outside world. Successive chapters are devoted to a systematic and careful examination of China's relations with the Soviet Union, the United States, Japan, Europe, and the Third World.

Kutler, Stanley I. *The American Inquisition: Justice and Injustice in the Cold War*. New York: Hill and Wang, 1982. 285pp. \$16.50

Loyalty and security demands of the post-World War II period dictated political repression on an unprecedented scale, intensity, and duration. Repression and subversion of the law in the name of anti-Communist ideology was rampant. Social demands and official government policy dictated severe penalties. Unfortunately, some of those in power subverted the law and manipulated it to their own ends. In this collection of case studies, the author seeks to illustrate "... the whole process of legal repression—a process that involves the interaction between law and politics, public and private power alike, and the covert, as well as the overt, operations of power."

Laffin, John. *Damn the Dardanelles! The Story of Gallipoli*. London: Osprey, 1980. 224pp. \$13.50

This book is a condemnation of the Gallipoli campaign, an Allied expedition conducted in 1915 which hoped to capture command of the Dardanelles waterway, a strategically significant area that links the Black Sea with the Mediterranean. The author professes a thorough understanding of the campaign and the conditions under which it was fought. In his retelling of the disaster of the Dardanelles, Osprey attempts to explain in detail why the campaign was such a dismal failure. Included is a "charge sheet" which lists officers and politicians upon whom the blame should be laid. Several photographs, many published for the first time, accompany the text.

Lewin, Ronald. *The Other Ultra*. London: Hutchinson, 1982. 332pp. \$14.95

The Other Ultra is the story of the efforts by American intelligence groups to decipher Japanese signals during the Second World War. Actually, this involved two major

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sources: Magic, the Japanese diplomatic code, and Ultra, which was derived from Japanese naval and military codes. Magic and Ultra began and ended in controversy from the initial question about how much was known about Japan's intent to attack Pearl Harbor to the final division over the use of the atomic bomb. These questions aside, there is no doubt as to the success with which American commanders utilized their knowledge of Japanese moves gained through reading these codes. Midway, Coral Sea, and the American submarine campaign were all strongly influenced by this intelligence.

Livingstone, Neil C. *The War against Terrorism*. Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Books, 1982. 291pp. \$29.95

Designed to be a practical counterterrorist manual for the United States and other liberal democracies, this book presents step-by-step recommendations for resisting terrorism. It defines and explains the origins, evolution, and operational tactics of the terrorist movement, and it presents a survey of the many strategies that can be used to control or suppress terrorist activities. The author, who advocates taking a hard line policy, emphasizes quick, efficient, and sometimes brutal responses to terrorist incidents. President of the Institute for Subnational Conflict and director for Terrorism and Low-Level Warfare at the American Security Council, he is also vice president of Gray and Company, a public relations firm which specializes in national security matters.

Needler, Martin C. *Mexican Politics; the Containment of Conflict*. New York: Praeger, 1982. 157pp. \$23.95; paper \$12.95

In recent years, Mexico has been the focus of much attention in the United States, both because it is a major petroleum producer and because it has been the source of uncontrolled immigration to the southern states. However, its political system, subject to many conflicting interpretations, has been little understood. Two facts stand out: Mexico has been able to sustain very high rates of economic growth over a long period of time; and the government has been relatively stable for over 50 years, despite severe economic, social, and diplomatic constraints. This analysis examines the phenomenon of Mexican politics with regard to the country's historical background, geographic context, social system, and political infrastructure.

Niblock, Tim, ed. *Iraq: the Contemporary State*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1982. 283pp. \$27.50

Political conflicts within Iraq itself as well as those within the Arab world continue to hinder the development of a country which has considerable potential for growth. A country of agricultural wealth and rich mineral resources, run by a government committed to economic growth, Iraq continues to be plagued by political upheaval. The historical development of Iraq and a survey of the current state of the Iraqi economy, society, and politics are included in this study. The essays, which comprise this collection, were originally presented as papers at a symposium at the University of Exeter in July 1981.

Nixon, Richard M. *Leaders*. New York: Warner Books, 1982. 371pp. \$17.50

Early in his book, former President Nixon mentions three elements required to place a leader among the great; these are: "a great man, a great country, and a great issue." *Leaders* is about men such as Winston Churchill, Nikita Khrushchev and Charles de Gaulle—men who rose to the top in politics and thus were able to exert an influence on the course of history. During his years in politics, Nixon had occasion to meet all of the leaders discussed in the book. Seven of the book's nine chapters deal with the various leaders; the remainder of the book is taken up with Nixon's philosophy of political leadership.

Nyman, Keith O. *Re-entry: Turning Military Experience into Civilian Success*. Harrisburg, Pa.: Stackpole Books, 1981. 164pp. paper \$9.95

Expressly written for separating or retiring military personnel who wish to enter the civilian job market, this book provides a methodical approach to conducting a job search. The author discusses sources of occupational information, the necessity for pre-separation planning, writing a resumé, and starting your own business. In addition, he deals with ways of coping with the stresses a job hunter experiences and includes step-by-step timetables to help the reader organize a search. Nyman, whose 25 years in the navy included both enlisted and officer duty, is now a professional recruiter who owns his own agency.

Pimlott, John, ed. *Vietnam, the History and the Tactics*. New York: Crescent Books, 1982. 128pp. \$19.95

The Indochina Peninsula has had a long history of conflict. Laos, Kampuchea, and Vietnam have been the scene of warfare on a nearly continuous basis over the last 40 years. The authors describe first the French and then the American involvement in Vietnam in terms of political as well as military strategy. Included is a chapter on tactics and weapons. The final section of the book describes the post-Vietnam War conflicts in Laos and Kampuchea as well as the Vietnamese clashes with China.

Pollock, David. *The Politics of Pressure: American Arms and Israeli Policy since the Six Day War*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1982. 328pp. \$35.00

US policy toward Israel was viewed in a different context after the Six Day War of June 1967. The American objective became a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict in the interest of containing or reversing the process of Soviet expansion in the eastern Mediterranean. This case study of the use of arms transfers for the purposes of political influence analyzes American-Israeli diplomacy, discusses the role of arms sales in that diplomacy, and assesses that role in its wider internal and external contexts. The author, David Pollock, is a consultant to government and industry on international affairs.

Pruessen, Ronald W. *John Foster Dulles: the Road to Power*. New York: Free Press, 1982. 575pp. \$19.95

First in a projected two-part intellectual biography of John Foster Dulles, this volume covers the years leading up to his appointment as secretary of state in 1953. By focusing on his family background, religious training, education, and legal career,

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it attempts to illuminate the influences that shaped his foreign policy making. These include his experiences at the Paris Peace Conference in 1919, his political associations, and his diplomatic role in the Truman administration. Writing from the perspective of the New Left, the author draws heavily upon Dulles' private papers to reveal the layers of experience which contributed to the development of this complex figure.

Quigg, Philip W. *A Pole Apart; the Emerging Issue of Antarctica*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1983. 299pp. \$19.95

With the Antarctic Treaty due for revision and review in 1991, the next decade promises to be critical for the future of the continent. Therefore, the Twentieth Century Fund sponsored this study to explore the future of the treaty and the options available for resolving the territorial and resource issues threatening it. Quigg, former editor of *Foreign Affairs*, delves into the scientific, economic, political, and environmental issues which concern the signatory and nonsignatory nations. A major issue is uncertainty over whether the treaty will be able to continue to mediate the Antarctic's transformation from a science laboratory to an arena with potential for significant riches and expanded contention.

Robertson, Ken G. *Public Secrets: a Study in the Development of Government Secrecy*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1982. 216pp. \$25.00

Dr. Robertson, a member of the British Justice Committee on Freedom of Information, compares the control of the release of government information in Sweden, Britain, and the United States. He challenges the view that government secrecy is evidence of an undemocratic conspiracy, seeing no country as possessing complete freedom of information. Instead, he considers the balance between secrecy and disclosure to be the result of the particular structure of authority and the nature of the boundary between elected and nonelected officials. The analysis scrutinizes the historical development of official secrecy in each nation and examines the reasons each country has such differing attitudes toward and legislation on government information.

Scheina, Robert L. *U.S. Coast Guard Cutters & Craft of World War II*. Annapolis, Md.: Naval Institute Press, 1982. 331pp. \$35.95

The Coast Guard was established in 1790 as the Revenue Marine by Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton. Since that time, it has evolved and grown continually larger, encompassing new tasks and responsibilities. During World War II, the Coast Guard was called upon to participate in a wide variety of missions. In *U.S. Coast Guard Cutters and Craft of World War II*, those vessels that carried out vital tasks are documented and described in detail. In addition to ship histories, the book provides key dates, design and building information, characteristics, electronic equipment, armament, and a summary of operations. More than two hundred photographs and line drawings are included.

Smith, Woodruff D. *European Imperialism in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*. Chicago: Nelson-Hall, 1982. 273pp. \$20.95

Mainly directed toward nonspecialists, this small volume provides an overview of

modern European imperialism, outlining some of the major concerns of modern historians. It examines the nature and extent of Europe's relations with the rest of the world from the establishment of Britain's ascendancy as a major power in 1815 to the decline of Western Europe in world affairs in the twentieth century. Of particular concern are the economic factors which influenced the development of European imperialism; the effects of the European penetration on non-European societies; the changes in economic relationships that have occurred in this century; and the process of decolonization that is occurring now. In addition, an assessment is made of the significance of imperialism within the context of world history.

Starr, Chester G. *The Roman Empire, 27 B. C.-A. D. 476; a Study in Survival*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1982. 206pp. \$17.95

Starr seeks to discover the reasons the Roman Empire was able to provide centuries of stability and order to many diverse peoples despite the political, geographic, psychological, and economic incongruities it encompassed. He explores many interwoven aspects of the political, military, and economic history of the empire, beginning with the emperors themselves. He then moves outward to the classes and organizations of the imperial administration, to life in the cities, and finally to the armed forces and life on the frontiers. Primarily a study of structure, and only secondarily of events, it provides a succinct, analytic survey of half a millenium of imperial history.

Taylor, William J., Jr. *The Future of Conflict: U.S. Interests*. New York: Praeger, 1983. 95pp. paper \$6.95

Long-range analysis and planning is a complex and demanding task, but necessary for sound decision making. Forecasting is helpful in assisting the decision-making process by identifying future dangers and opportunities and by suggesting a variety of possible approaches to solving problems. In this paper, the author is concerned with possible conflict environments confronting the United States for the remainder of the 1980s. Questions raised include: What exactly are the United States vital interests for the remainder of the decade? What will be the most likely threats to those interests? What military forces at what costs will be required to meet these threats?

Watson, Adam. *Diplomacy: the Dialogue between States*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1983. 239pp. \$19.95

According to Watson, diplomacy is the management of international relations by negotiation. In the dynamic world of global politics, circumstances are constantly changing, and continual adjustment is necessary. Under such circumstances ". . . the central task of diplomacy is not just the management of order, but the management of change, and the maintenance by continual persuasion of order in the midst of change." In this survey, the author analyzes the mechanics of diplomacy as an instrument of governments, explaining how the diplomatic dialogue works and what it can and cannot achieve. Watson was a British ambassador in West Africa and in Cuba.

Weimer, David L. *The Strategic Petroleum Reserve; Planning, Implementation, and Analysis*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1982. 229pp. \$29.95

In the last decade, the US economy has twice suffered from disruptions that have taken place in the world oil market. Both the Ford and Carter administrations attempted to create a 500 million barrel crude oil stockpile to limit US dependence on foreign oil. However, as of December 1980, only 100 million barrels were in storage and the expected completion date had been advanced three years. Weimer considers the reasons why the strategic petroleum reserve goals have not been met through an analysis of the history of the program's implementation. He also evaluates the assumptions, conclusions, and organizational pressures that have influenced the formulation of strategic petroleum reserve policies. In the final chapter, he makes a number of recommendations based on his analysis of the program itself, the development of US energy policy, and the federal bureaucracy.

Welchman, Gordon. *The Hut Six Story; Breaking the Enigma Code*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1982. 326pp. \$12.95

In September 1939, Welchman, a young Cambridge mathematician, was assigned to work for England's communications headquarters at Blechley Park. There, he played a key role in breaking the German Enigma code. This memoir describes his experiences in some detail, explaining the mechanics of the code-breaking procedures and equipment used there. He also shows how errors the Germans made in policy and procedures enabled the cryptographers to unravel the ciphers. Turning to today's tactical communications, Welchman warns of glaring weaknesses in our battlefield communications systems. He draws upon his wartime career as well as his work for the Mitre Corporation in the United States over the last 19 years to outline some of the problems he sees facing US and Western European armies.

Winton, John. *Below the Belt: Novelty, Subterfuge and Surprise in Naval Warfare*. London: Conway Maritime Press, 1981. 192pp. \$17.00

To confuse and confound the enemy with some new weapon or tactic, to make some move which is unexpected, unusual or even unfair, these are the objectives of unconventional warfare. The navies of the ancient, medieval, and modern worlds have all employed the tactics of surprise, intimidation, and misinformation in an effort to gain the advantage over the opponent. This account covers the historical development of unconventional warfare at sea from the time of the Greek fire-ships to the human torpedoes of the Second World War in detail. It provides a useful addition to the literature on naval warfare.



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On His Majesty's Service

by

Rear Admiral Joseph H. Wellings, US Navy (Ret.)

edited by

John B. Hattendorf

This is the story of a US naval officer who, on orders, went to war a year before the rest of his countrymen did.

In the summer of 1940 Lieutenant Commander Joseph H. Wellings, en route to command of a destroyer based at Pearl Harbor, abruptly found his orders cancelled. Instead, he was sent to Britain to find out how that country's navy carried out its desperate struggle against the forces of Hitler and Mussolini. Mainly, he did this by going to sea in Britain's fighting ships. One of these was the world's largest warship, the battle cruiser *Hood*.

When his tour was over Wellings embarked in the battleship *Rodney*, which was headed for repairs in Boston. While Wellings was at sea in the *Rodney* the German battleship *Bismarck* came through the Denmark Strait, destroyed the *Hood* in a brief encounter, and shortly escaped the shadowing British cruisers. The *Rodney* was pressed into the chase. Eventually the *Bismarck* was found and crippled. The *Rodney* was one of two British battleships which pounded the *Bismarck* into a flaming mass of torn and twisted steel, which eventually was sunk by torpedoes from a cruiser.

This is Wellings's account of these events, written at the times they occurred.

Later Wellings fought in desperate battles under the US flag in both the Solomons and the Philippines.

★ ★

Dr. John B. Hattendorf, a former US naval officer, recently returned from the University of Singapore and is now on the faculty of the Naval War College. His writings have appeared in the *Naval War College Review* and elsewhere.

★ ★

On His Majesty's Service can be obtained from the Naval War College Press, Newport, R.I., 02841. No charge.