Naval War College Review

Volume 32 Number 2 *February*

Article 17

1979

Journal of International Affairs

Augustus R. Norton

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

Recommended Citation

Norton, Augustus R. (1979) "Journal of International Affairs," Naval War College Review: Vol. 32: No. 2, Article 17. Available at: https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review/vol32/iss2/17

This Book Review 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.

104 NAVAL WAR COLLEGE REVIEW

marily a summary of progress which occurred during the war. Perhaps this reviewer's main criticism is the location of the discussion of the Double V. which is the last chapter before the conclusion. To understand fully the essence of black feelings and protest during the war, one must comprehend the concept of the Double V-victory over fascism abroad and racism at home. Blacks understood this idea much better than whites and used it effectively. Thus, any study of blacks during World War II should follow an early analysis of the Double V. (The Pittsburgh Courier was the main force behind the Double V but Buchanan does not mention this fact, another indication of the overuse of NAACP papers.)

The three chapters on blacks in the military are good summaries, although the account of World War I is somewhat muddled and there is an overuse of Ulysses Lee's The Employment of Negro Troops. Blacks participated in the war effort but had to face difficulties that whites never did. Progress in the services owed much to pressure by the black community and a perseverance by black members of the armed forces. Real progress was slow indeed, but the result by the end of the war was a more receptive military establishment ready to move toward integration.

In spite of many weaknesses and a high price (\$14.95), this study is a basic introduction to and summary of the changes which occurred in the black community during World War II. It offers a good concise history for the general reader.

ALAN M. OSUR Major, U.S. Air Force

Buckley, Alan D., ed. "International Terrorism," Journal of International Affairs. Spring/Summer 1978. 163pp.

It is somewhat unusual for a journal attenumber to be the subject of a book review, but when a journal treats one a "s topic at book-length, it offers the reader Published by U.S. Naval War College Digital Commons, 1979

the equivalent of an edited book and it probably should be treated as such. "International Terrorism" is a solid, well-edited collection of articles that treats the problem of terrorism from a number of interesting perspectives.

Richard Shultz offers a useful, if not definitive, typology of political terrorism that distinguishes three basic types of the phenomenon-revolutionary, subrevolutionary and establishment-and then proposes that these three types be examined by variation according to cause. environment, goals, strategy, means, organization and the nature of participants. The value of the proposal is that it offers some basis for hope that the study of terrorism can move somewhat beyond the descriptive and journalistic treatments that are currently in voque.

Bard O'Neill of the National Defense University applies the Schultz typology (with refinements) in a competent and provocative essay treating the Palestinian Resistance Movement. After providing a straightforward reconstruction of the development of Palestinian-Arab nationalism, O'Neill attempts to explain the emergence of fedayeen terrorism. He finds that Palestinian terror has been resultant of long-term causes-ideology and relative deprivation-and a shortterm factor that he calls "capacity reduction." Capacity reduction is said to be the product of bad fedayeen strategy, poor physical and human conditions for insurgency, poor organization, effective counterinsurgency, and limited assets. Capacity reduction in turn helps explain terrorism.

There are a few problems with O'Neill's argument that really demand attention. If the article were insignificant, we could ignore these criticisms, but it is a good contribution to the literature and accordingly demands our attention.

First, Schultz offers a typology (i.e., a "systematic ordering and classification of empirical data"). To the extent that

PROFESSIONAL READING 105

Schultz is successful, his typology will contribute to a coherent comparison between terrorist groups, thus Schultz has offered a static schema. However, O'Neill has taken Schultz' descriptive tools and employed them as if they explained-rather than describedterrorism. Second, and more importantly, O'Neill's "capability reduction" is not a static condition but rather a process in which the terrorism phenomenon is a result. What this argument ignores is the fact that the fedaveen have always had minimal capabilities vis-a-vis Israel, and indeed it may be argued that fedayeen activism through terrorism has resulted in capability enhancement (especially if one takes a broad view of capability).

Thirdly, terrorism has frequently been the harbinger of political struggle. or at least symptomatic of the first stages of revolution, especially in circumstances in which there is a gross disparity in relative strengths. Terrorism is the weapon of the weak, and we might say the weapon of those who have suffered "capability reductions" at some point, but that would be tautological. As the reader can guess, O'Neill's article deserves attention. warts and all, for it attempts to address terrorism systematically, a not unimportant example for others specializing in the study of terrorism.

Richard Lebow follows with an interesting article tracing the "origins of sectarian assassination" in Belfast. Lebow's piece is nice as far as it goes, which is to say not earlier than this decade; but in a conflict with deep and aged roots such as that in Belfast, one would hope that Lebow continues his interest in this variant of terrorism and delves rather more deeply than the contemporary period.

The most important contribution in "International Terrorism" is provided by Robert K. Mullen, whose article "Mass Destruction and Terrorism" is no lished to date on the macroterror problem (i.e., nuclear, biological and chemical). Mullen offers an informed—and thus rare—discussion of chemical and biological agents with mass destructive capabilities and proceeds to identify the production and (not inconsiderable) delivery considerations that will confront the prospective macroterrorist. His presentation supports his conclusion that mass destruction threats from terrorists are "vanishingly remote."

Contributions by Paul A. Tharp and Yonah Alexander deserve the reader's attention, and those familiar with Brian Jenkins' important work on terrorism will not be disappointed by his concluding "Trends and Potentialities" article.

In summary, the Journal of International Affairs has produced a worthwhile and inexpensive "book" that deserves the attention of those concerned with the malady of terrorism.

> AUGUSTUS R. NORTON Major, U.S. Army

Carrillo, Santiago. Eurocommunism and the State, translated by Nan Green and A.M. Elliot. Westport, Conn.: Lawrence Hill, 1978. 172pp.

Eurocommunism and the State is a translation from the Spanish of Eurocommunismo y Estado by the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Spain. It forms a significant primary source, in English, of the political philosophy of Santiago Carrillo, the Spanish Communist Party, and Eurocommunism.

The author outlines in the book his reasons for claiming that Eurocommunism is neither traditional communism nor Social Democracy. His most essential thesis is that the world today is fundamentally different from the times of Marx, Engels, and Lenin and therefore a new political concept is needed.

Among the examples Carrillo uses to document the crucial changes in the

doubt one of the best analyses pubhttps://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review/vol32/iss2/17