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U.S.S.R. Facts and Figures Annual

W. R. Pettyjohn
U.S. Navy

John L. Scherer

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for those interested in strategic studies to avoid.

ROGER A. BEAUMONT
Texas A&M University

Scherer, John L., ed. *U.S.S.R. Facts and Figures Annual*. Gulf Breeze, Fla.: Academic International Press, 1979. v. 3. 308pp.

A review in these pages of the 1977 volume of this series commented on the accuracy and completeness of the information in that volume and noted that if "appropriate information can be presented in tabular or statistical format, it probably can be found in UFFA." Those comments remain valid.

This, the 1979 volume, continues to fulfill the promise of its editor to provide "recent, basic data in fifteen major areas of Soviet life." The organization of the series remains generally fixed; that is, there are chapters on Government, Party, Demography, Armed Forces, the Economy, Agriculture, etc., but information is not repeated from year to year. Rather, each volume of UFFA is planned as a continuation of earlier volumes. This will obviously keep the cost of each volume at a reasonable level but will require that its users have access to the entire series. In this regard it is suggested that the editor reprint the table of contents of preceding volumes in the current *Annual* or provide some other sort of index to material previously published. Scholars and reference librarians will appreciate the added convenience (as they must already appreciate the convenience of one excellent source for such a wide range of information).

Institutional libraries and individuals whose research requirements include broad Soviet data will come to depend on UFFA (and they may wish to enter a standing subscription with the publisher) but even the casual browser will benefit (list of new Soviet movies, information on crime and crime rates, instant

history in the year in review, major events from 1917 to the present, lists of artists and scientists, the complete constitution of the U.S.S.R., rental rates, the price of a television set, particle beam weapons assessment, biographic sketches, etc.). *U.S.S.R. Facts and Figures Annual* is the *World Almanac* of specifically Soviet information.

W.R. PETTYJOHN
Commander, U.S. Navy

Scott, Harriet Fast and Scott, William F. *The Armed Forces of the USSR*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, 1979. 439pp.

In the delicate strategic balance between the United States and the Soviet Union, the precise assessment of such quantitative power factors as orders of battle, force levels and technological developments represent only part of the matrix for determining the current posture of Soviet military power. Just as important, even if less tangible, are such qualitative areas as doctrine, strategy and organizational dynamics that add a meaningful thrust to the overall scope of the burgeoning Soviet military buildup as it has progressed over the past decade and a half. Despite the wealth of Soviet military source materials that has appeared during the post-1960 "Revolution in Military Affairs" period, there continues a distinct Western analytical tendency to "mirror image" or otherwise equate Soviet views on these qualitative factors with those more prevalent outside the U.S.S.R./Warsaw Pact region. In contrast, the work at hand allows the reader to view the Soviet Military Establishment as it perceives its own missions and roles in line with the above trio of qualitative factors and thereby helps clarify many of the misperceptions still apparent among the Western analytical community.

Both authors are highly qualified observers of the contemporary Soviet military scene. A former Air Force