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The Limits of Power

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ority. *Peace and the Strategy Conflict* is a valuable contribution to the rapidly growing amount of material available on modern strategy. It is rewarding reading and is recommended to those who are interested in broadening their understanding of strategic considerations.

S.L. RITCHIE

Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy

McCarthy, Eugene J. *The Limits of Power*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1967. 246 p.

Senator McCarthy's thesis is largely indicated in his title: the United States, though the greatest power in the world, is not omnipotent; hence, the idea of being "responsible" for almost everything that goes on in the world is a dangerous illusion. This summary statement reveals that Senator McCarthy stands, with Senator Fulbright and others, as a critic of the "abuse of power" by recent U.S. Administrations, but especially that of President Johnson. McCarthy both analyzes what he believes to be specific forms of "abuse" and briefly prescribes alternative uses of American power. The book contains 10 chapters. Chapters I-IV include a summary of the need to reappraise our responsibilities; a critique of the sense of power held by Acheson, Dulles, and Rusk; and a caustic dissection of the U.S. military assistance program and the operational aspect of the Central Intelligence Agency. Chapters V-X contain analyses of the main problems in, and suggestions for American policy toward, major parts of the world: Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. McCarthy's book is of curiously mixed quality. Some portions of it read like a primer on U.S. foreign policy and are of no interest whatever to anyone who has some acquaintance with the subject. Also, there is a curious disproportion of treatment: there is a whole chapter on the United States trust territory of Micronesia, equal in length to the chap-

ter on Europe! On the other hand, the chapters on the Military Assistance Program and on the Central Intelligence Agency reveal careful work and are well worth reading. Finally, as a document to reveal the thoughts of a "maybe" contender for the Presidency, the book is of modest interest.

R.H. COX

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps

Perkins, Dexter *The Diplomacy of a New Age*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1967. 190 p.

The subtitle of this very readable little book is *Major Issues in the U.S. Policy since 1945*, and it seems more descriptive of the author's work than the main title, at least to this reviewer. Professor Perkins begins his study with an analysis of the gradual deterioration of United States postwar relations with the Soviet Union, describing the principal events that contributed to the end of the wartime unity. But the root causes, the author suggests, were the divergence of views in the ideological sphere between Washington and Moscow, the fact that what Russia held she intended to keep, and Russia's hopes for the collapse of Europe. From this foundation, Dr. Perkins deals with the major responses of the United States to Russia and the threat of communism in successive chapters devoted to the Marshall Plan, (self-interest, but *enlightened* self-interest); the North Atlantic Pact ("NATO is one of the many auguries of a more integrated Western society"); United States policy in the Far East (it "rests to a substantial degree on emotional grounds"); United States policy in Latin America ("we must take account of the forces that divide as well as the forces that unite, and that make the threat of subversion something to reckon with"). In his concluding chapter, "Today," the author asks how American power has been used. He rejects the charge of "arrogance." The dignity of