

1968

Mao Tse-tung

H. Venezia
U.S. Navy

Stuart Schram

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

Recommended Citation

Venezia, H. and Schram, Stuart (1968) "Mao Tse-tung," *Naval War College Review*: Vol. 21 : No. 4 , Article 28.
Available at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review/vol21/iss4/28>

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.

Schram, Stuart. *Mao Tse-tung*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1967. 351 p.

The author provides us with an exceptionally well documented biographic study on the life and thoughts of Mao Tse-tung. Mao's lifetime performance as an intellectual theorist and military-political activist is well developed both by direct reference to his works and by accounts of personal contact in their original form where available and by consulting the works of recognized scholars, chroniclers, and "official" biographers when the primary sources were not obtainable. The author's presentation varies between a character analysis of Mao and a scenario, with actor Mao featured, of the more important historical chronology of the Chinese Communist movement. "Aside" references to the part played by the U.S.S.R. in the Chinese Communist movement, both during and after the Stalin period, are interesting as well as enlightening. They contribute to understanding the paths that Mao took in bringing the movement to its successful conclusion and how he formed his present national and international policies. It is unfortunate, however, that the author appears to join the swollen ranks of today's "China watchers" in his treatment of the post-1949 Mao. The restrictive manner in which facts and newsworthy items are "processed" in today's Red China tends to force the author to read in depth between the propaganda lines that are available. In general, Mr. Schram is to be complimented on this historical treatise on the Chinese Communist rise to power as well as on his thorough biographical effort on the guiding force of his movement, Mao Tse-tung.

II. VENEZIA

Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy

Spinelli, Altiero. *The Eurocrats*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1966. 229 p.

Altiero Spinelli has conducted an erudite study of the progress of the European Communities, i.e., the Coal and Steel Community, Common Market, and Euratom, since their inauguration. In enumerating the attempts at unification, he has indicated that united Europe is only the precarious ensemble of various European action centers committed to the construction of its unity. Among and between these centers there is indecision and conflict, with some on the ascendancy, others on the decline, and continual oscillation between success and failure. The Eurocrats are those representatives of the European states who provide the thought, initiative, and prime movement for the action centers.

Mr. Spinelli discusses the federalist, functionalist, and confederalist approaches which have influenced political thinking, connecting the actual developmental trends of unity to these approaches and explaining the interrelationships which exist. He indicates that regardless of the approach, the broadly accepted and basic principle is that European unification must be achieved. Therefore, any special requirements of a particular country must be safeguarded only insofar as they fit the community process and are not independent of it. Currently, the three European Communities should not be considered as political communities in the strict meaning of the term, but rather as European administrations which depend politically on the representative states and, consequently, structurally separate from the national administrations, though functionally autonomous. This, someday, could bring real unity of European political power.

This book should not be considered as a basic informational source for study of European unity and its Communities, as fundamental knowledge of the Rome and Paris Treaties is certainly desirably fully to appreciate its contents. It is, however, an invaluable and concise resource for deeper study into the prog-