

1967

## The Secret Battle for Israel

E. H. Arkland  
*U.S. Marine Corps*

Benjamin Kagan

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an excellent source of current material for those interested in more detailed investigations.

J.G. TILLSON  
Commander, U.S. Navy

Kagan, Benjamin. *The Secret Battle for Israel*.  
Cleveland: World, 1966. 299 p. (DS 126.5  
.K323)

This is the story of the Israeli Air Force from its inception in 1946 to the Sinai Campaign in 1956. Running throughout the book is the secondary theme of an infant Israel adrift in the bulrushes of international politics. The book is divided into four parts, the first two of which deal mainly with the means by which the Israeli Air Force equipped itself with World War II "surplus" aircraft. It is these two parts that a military reader will find most interesting. The primary source of supply during this early period was the United States, and the primary machinery was the establishment of dummy aircraft and airline companies through which aircraft were bought, rebuilt, and exfiltrated. Various cloak-and-dagger ploys were used to evade U.S. restrictions on arms export. Money spoke with authority during those postwar days, and some strange bedfellows developed. Italy, Yugoslavia, and Czechoslovakia cooperated in staging and modifying the smuggled aircraft. The latter two parts of the book are concerned with the later Israeli difficulties in securing modern aircraft by purchase from the United States, England, France, and Sweden. There is bitterness expressed about the foreign policy of the United States during this time, particularly in respect to American attempts to prevent an arms race in the Middle East. The author sees in all these policies unwarranted Anglo-American interest in the reestablishment of their presence in the oil-rich Middle East, with the inference that Arab demands outweighed Israeli survival to the planners of American foreign policy. The United States is also criticized for her actions during the abortive Anglo-French intervention in Egypt and the resulting Suez crisis. The United States' action was contrary to her previous agreements and encouragement, the author alleges, and was due to internal American politics in an election year. The author seems to be somewhat less frank in discussing Israel's participation in these arrangements. All in

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all, Mr. Kagan presents a fascinating account of gun-running and surplus dealing on a grand scale.

E.H. ARKLAND  
Lieutenant Colonel,  
U.S. Marine Corps

De Chant, John A. *The Modern United States Marine Corps*. Princeton, N.J.: Van Nostrand, 1966. 230 p.

Here is a brief history of the U.S. Marine Corps, covering it from its founding in 1775 to the present and, in addition, affording a look at its concepts for the future. As an addendum, a considerable amount of data is given regarding posts and stations of the Corps, occupational specialities, training facilities and formal schools, and location and organization of Reserve units.

The book provides the reader with easy, light reading, touching on 190 years of combat and service of the U.S. Marines. A few heroes are named but, as the author explains, most are nameless. Action on land, sea, and in the air is recounted, with unintentional emphasis on individual accomplishments in the air. A vast amount of material has been condensed into something over 200 pages, with only a few mistakes and omissions evident. The pride and love of the author for the Corps in which he served actively for 24 years are apparent.

Colonel De Chant has provided the public with a book that makes good general reading for anyone who wishes to know something about the U.S. Marine Corps. It is particularly recommended for the young man who is considering entering the armed forces or for the parents of a young Marine.

G.R. HERSHEY  
Lieutenant Colonel,  
U.S. Marine Corps

Lall, Arthur. *Modern International Negotiation*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1966. 404 p. (JX 4473 .L3)

This book by Professor Arthur Lall, a native of India, describes the extremely complex situations and disputes that are involved in modern international