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War in Modern Society

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Bosworth, Allen R. *America's Concentration Camps*. New York: Norton, 1967. 283 p.

Captain Bosworth, a former San Francisco journalist, served with Naval Intelligence at the time of the Japanese evacuation from the west coast. In a clear, factual style, he describes the events that led up to the racial hysteria which resulted in the internment of Japanese Americans in the early days of World War II. He reviews the actions of special interest groups, hate groups, and so-called "military necessities" that led up to the evacuation of some 100,000 Japanese from their homes and businesses and their tragic internment in desert barracks. The sadness and stupidity of this abuse of Government power are made more vivid by the personal accounts contained in this documentation.

In contrast, the author cites the combat achievements of those same Japanese Americans of the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The 442nd Regimental Combat Team became the most highly decorated unit of the U.S. Army in all its history. The hardships and misery of life in the internment camps are delineated in the accounts by those who endured the conditions facing the internees. The personal and pecuniary losses of these citizens caused by the War Relocation Act are stunning to the reader. The political and financial exploitation by others, at the expense of American citizens, is likened to the white man's exploitation of the Indian — a national shame.

The ironical view of most Japanese Americans that "the evacuation" was a good thing in that it was "a helpful catastrophe" evolves as the final consensus of those good citizens who bore the brunt of internment in physical discomfort, humiliation, and great personal loss. The book is well written

and appropriate reading in this time of racial tension.

J. E. SULLIVAN

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Buchan, Alastair. *War in Modern Society*. London: Watts, 1966. 207 p.

Although this is not a history, according to the author's own words, *War in Modern Society* is based on the history of ideas about war and its control, of technological developments, and of the growth of international association to prevent war. In the preface of this thought-provoking book, Mr. Buchan expresses its objective by stating: "I hope that it may make some of today's controversies, both among the experts and between nations, more comprehensible: it will have served its purpose if it convinces those who read it that war is a phenomenon worthy of extended study before one can form any valid judgments about the conditions of peace."

In "Perspectives on Modern War," the first chapter of the book, Mr. Buchan presents a scholarly historical review of, and an excellent discussion on, the causes and control of war. He then devotes the next two chapters to the transitions in the nature of war and forms of strategy that have taken place in the last 20 years. In effect, he develops an understandable picture for the reader of war and its control in the contemporary world — at the start of the last third of the 20th century. He emphasizes three areas that are rapidly changing that picture: the concept of deterrence and its expansion beyond the original threat of nuclear retaliation; collective security and the growing problems within existing alliances, created in part by resurgent nationalism, the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and the Sino-Soviet schism; and the continuing spread of violence throughout the world, sparked by the nationalism and aspirations of the un-

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derdeveloped nations. The last half of the book looks beyond the present day to the "remaining years of the 20th century, with the dangers and opportunities which the heritage of the past century have presented to us." Starting with a review of the major armed camps and potential conflict areas of the world, Mr. Buchan examines the forces that lead to war in light of the pressures and restraints of modern society. In particular, he discusses the part played by the United Nations, by United States/U.S.S.R. desires to avoid direct confrontation, and by the concept of apparent "convergence" in which Communist and capitalist countries are becoming more alike in their ambitions and responses. Discouraging on the dangers of war, both real and apparent, he dwells at length on three threats of growing concern: third power instigation, technological innovations such as the ABM with its possibilities of a renewed arms race, and nuclear proliferation. Finally, he treats the possibilities of controlling war, either through the control of armaments or through the control of national aggressive tendencies that lead to war.

Mr. Buchan has done an excellent job of analyzing the events of the past and the realities of the present, together with their implications. He succeeds not only in affording an understanding of the war in modern society, but he also pinpoints the problems and trends which presage the changes that might be expected before the end of the century.

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Davis, Vincent. *The Politics of Innovation: Patterns and Navy Cases*. Denver: University of Denver, 1967. 69 p.

In this brief monograph Mr. Davis

reviews the methods which certain Navy officers have used to encourage the adoption of new weapons systems within the Navy. His case studies are excellent although, as he states, by no means complete.

The author examines the Navy's initial struggles to achieve a nuclear strike capability from aircraft carriers, the development of a nuclear propulsion system, and the fight for the fleet ballistic missile. In each example Mr. Davis implies that any successful venture requires vertical (top echelon) support as well as horizontal encouragement within the service. In this regard the reader is instructed to analyze the climate for innovation carefully before dashing forward with uncontained enthusiasm. The advice is plain, but caution cannot really be the hallmark of progress; in each of these cases, even prudence was abandoned on occasion.

Although never stated specifically, Mr. Davis also cautions against the loss of military effectiveness which can result from parochial thinking at the highest levels. It seems that the desire to maintain one-service control over the development of weapons systems might result in a time lag simply because such absolute control encourages a degree of restraint which is absent in a competitive environment.

This monograph covers cases which were really decided a decade or more ago. A sequel to this fine study, which would analyze specific programs since 1960, might be a most valuable research topic for enterprising Naval War College students. Mr. Davis has provided a well-organized format for future investigators in the field of military behavioral science — and it would be enlightening (and encouraging) to find that his premises were still valid.

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