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Geography and Politics in a World Divided

Saul B. Cohen

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Cohen, Saul B. *Geography and Politics in a World Divided*. New York: Random House, 1963. 347 p.

In this book, Professor Cohen has set forth the salient politico-geographical characteristics of the major power cores of today's world—the United States, the U.S.S.R. and maritime Europe—and has discussed them in a global strategic framework within which the major power cores must function and interact. This work is written in three parts. Part I reviews the earth's geopolitical foundations and provides a contemporary view of the global geographic scene. The essence of this part of the book is the division of the globe into geostrategic regions and, further, into subareas called geopolitical regions. Part II of the book deals with major power cores, with emphasis on the three strongest mentioned above. The author's framework focuses on location, population distribution, resources and the dynamics of change and movement. Part III treats the 'Shatterbelts' of the Middle East and Southeast Asia and also the African, South American and offshore Asian portions of the maritime world. *Geography and Politics in a World Divided* provides a fundamental and authoritative treatment of today's geopolitical world, and basic reference material for the study of world strategy by military officers.

Horne, Alistair. *The Price of Glory; Verdun 1916*. New York: St. Martin, 1963. 371 p.

With the magic of Alistair Horne's pen, history is made to live in this highly readable account of one of its most momentous battles—World War I's Verdun. In telling this story of the 'worst' battle in history, the author recreates in vivid detail the horror that for ten months was compressed into three and a half square miles of France. Into an inferno which eventually amassed 700,000 casualties, and which soon became a psychological symbol far outweighing any possible military significance the battle might have, both the French and the German nations poured the cream of their manhood. Almost too realistically author Horne catches the battle's nightmarish quality—the incessant shelling, the stench of putrescent flesh, the filth of the trenches and the senselessness with which thousands were sent to their deaths. The author has masterfully interwoven into the tale side trips that catch the grand sweep of the 1914-1918 European stage and the catastrophe that was World War I. In these travels to Paris, Berlin, Vienna or the General Headquarters, the times are recreated, the aspirations of the people are laid out, and the leaders of both sides are brought to life. Understanding becomes possible; excusing the slaughter is not. And it is here that Verdun presents its greatest challenge for today. The casualty lists, so monstrous by World War II or Korean standards, resulted from combining musket-age tactics with man's first weapons of mass