

1963

Showing the Flag

Augustus Agar

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Agar, Augustus. *Showing the Flag*. London: Evans, 1962. 304 p.

Prior to reading this work, one would expect it to be an analysis of the role that the Royal Navy played in British diplomacy between World War I and World War II. In reality, it is an autobiography and deals with the trials and tribulations of a naval officer during an era when the Royal Navy did not have the full support of Parliament. The reader may find it pleasant to cruise with Captain Agar in the South Pacific from New Zealand to the Polynesian Islands, or among the islands of the Caribbean, to Newfoundland and Labrador, or to parts of the Mediterranean, at the same time learning of the many problems with which an officer of the Royal Navy had to concern himself. Captain Agar had a very interesting and versatile career, serving with many of the Royal Navy great and near-great. The side excursions on which he takes the reader are often most interesting and sometimes entertaining. *Showing the Flag* provides the reader with a revealing insight into the views of at least one current professional naval officer of the Royal Navy.

Claude, Inis L. *Power and International Relations*. New York: Random House, 1962. 310 p.

Proceeding from the premise that although he does not consider it inevitable, 'mankind stands in grave danger of irreparable self-mutilation or substantial self-destruction,' the author proposes that the highest priority must be given to developing the maximum safeguard against such tragedy. After cautioning the reader on the dangers of 'the peace at any price' approach to the problem, he concludes that the elimination of the power to kill is unobtainable, and that any solution to the danger lies in the development of a means of management of power. From this introduction, the author evolves a very scholarly analysis and discussion of the theoretical approaches to the management of power in the search for world order. Successively he analyzes the semantics and practical aspects of balance of power, collective security and world government, and skillfully weaves throughout his work the thoughts of eminent writers and statesmen as well as historical facts. This book would be of particular value as a reference for those engaged in writing a research paper on the subject of management of power in international relations.