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The Yoshida Memoirs

Shigeru Yoshida

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of new and more complete information, and adds a final chapter to bring the story up to date. The book is a highly readable, fluent, and assertive account of Mao as the scholar, the one-time library assistant, the poet, the military strategist, and the mystic who now possesses more direct power over more people than any other person in history.

Kohn, Hans. *The Age of Nationalism*. New York: Harper, 1962. 172 p.

The Age of Nationalism is an excellent treatise on the forces involved and the implications of nationalism. The author is no theorist but a realist who has spent a great part of his life in Europe, Asia, and the Middle East, studying the subject. He reviews history and the role that nationalism has played in such a manner that the book reads more like a fascinating novel than the scholarly work that it is. Students of nationalism, neutralism or foreign policy will find this an interesting reference book.

Goodspeed, Donald J. *The Conspirators; a Study of the Coup d'État*. New York: Viking, 1961. 252 p.

Major Goodspeed, a historian on the staff of the Canadian Army Headquarters, has come to the opinion that of the three successful ways for deposing a government by force—revolution, civil war, or the coup d'état—only the latter has any chance of prospering in the world today. He has made a brilliant study of the history of the coup d'état and has written this book as 'an attempt to study the coup d'état empirically.' In spite of its storylike format, this is a well-documented and scholarly book. It boasts an impressive bibliography and the scholarship of the author is beyond question.

Yoshida, Shigeru. *The Yoshida Memoirs*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1962. 305 p.

The Yoshida Memoirs is an absorbing firsthand account of a real patriot's unsuccessful efforts to keep his country out of a war which he considered suicidal, of his attempts to bring that war to an early close to prevent unnecessary destruction, and of his monumental contributions toward rebuilding his devastated fatherland after the war. The long and brilliant career of the author lends unusual credibility to this record of Japan's history during the fateful years, from the 'unfolding tragedy' of the 1930's to the San Francisco Peace Treaty in 1951. This distinguished statesman, who served as Ambassador to Great Britain before World War II, and five times as Prime Minister after the war, identifies his country's interests as being intimately bound up with those of the West.