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Challenge in the Middle East: Communist Influence and American Policy

Harry B. Ellis

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BOOKS

Ellis, Harry B. *Challenge in the Middle East: Communist Influence and American Policy*. New York: Ronald, 1960. 238 p.

Harry B. Ellis, an experienced newspaper correspondent, has worked in the Middle East from 1952 until the present. His book is a current report of Communist penetration of this area and his conclusions about American policy. The author contends that "the national interests of the United States and those of the Middle Eastern peoples are compatible, whereas the national interests of the Soviet Bloc and the nations of the Middle East are not," and explains that "Arab leaders, notably President Nasser, are far more deeply concerned about the dangers of Communist influence than is realized by many in the West."

Baar, James and William E. Howard. *Polaris!* New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1960. 245 p.

The development of the most fabulous weapon system in the modern deterrent arsenal, the Polaris missile-armed nuclear submarine, is vividly and factually presented in this very entertaining book. The achievement of this near miraculous feat in the brief span of five years from conception to a fully operational system is dramatically recounted in minute detail. Although much publicity has been given to the Polaris program during the recent past, the authors have been most successful in compiling a very comprehensive and worth-while résumé of the actual operations of the Navy Special Projects Office, the unique organization responsible for the success of the project. The human element is effectively injected in the form of brief biographical sketches of the individuals through whose efforts success was obtained. A degree of excitement, normally found only in a novel, is ever present due to the never-ending race against time and the many setbacks and heartbreaks which