

1952

Recommended Reading

F. A. Nichols
U.S. Air Force

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review>

Recommended Citation

Nichols, F. A. (1952) "Recommended Reading," *Naval War College Review*: Vol. 5 : No. 1 , Article 4.
Available at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review/vol5/iss1/4>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at U.S. Naval War College Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Naval War College Review by an authorized editor of U.S. Naval War College Digital Commons. For more information, please contact repository.inquiries@usnwc.edu.

RESTRICTED
Security Information

RECOMMENDED READING

This section lists recent books and articles which may prove to be of interest to officers of all services.

Title: *What of the Night?* 265 p.
Author: Klein, Ernest L. N. Y., Farrar, Straus and Young, 1951
Evaluation: The author examines the nature of the Russian state and discusses the United Nations, Germany, Israel and other strategic factors in the world scene. He contends that the world has now reached the ultimate and conclusive opposition of the East and the West toward which history has been marching through all recorded centuries, i. e., one great power on each side. He further contends that the bitter hostility between the two surviving powers would be no less if Karl Marx had never written *DAS KAPITAL* or if Lenin had never been born. The book is both informative and thought-provoking.

Title: *Brain-Washing in Red China.* 311 p.
Author: Hunter, Edward. N. Y., The Vanguard Press, 1951
Evaluation: An expose-type book, reporting the findings from interviews and personal observations in the Far East and Southeast Asia during 1950 and 1951. The author offers impressive testimony to the successful psychological warfare waged by Communism in Red China, causing the populace to "lean to one side" ("big brother" Soviet Russia's side) and hate America. This is accomplished by brain-washing, pamphleteering, education, intimidation, and purging on an immense scale. Its early objective is the complete Communist indoctrination of very live Chinese in China and its rim lands including psychological preparation for war with the U. S. The Vanguard Press, publisher of this volume, was cited as a Communist enterprise by the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1944; nevertheless "Brain-Washing in Red China" is one of the strongest indictments of Communism yet encountered by this reviewer.

RESTRICTED

Title: *Master Plan, U. S. A.* 253 p.
Author: Fischer, John. N. Y., Harper & Bros. 1951
Evaluation: This work attempts to answer in terms comprehensible to any reader, a maze of questions and doubts about U. S. foreign policy in the years since the end of World War II. It is written by a man who has been analyzing the international scene for two decades, and who has a flair for presenting complex problems in understandable terms. It is a remarkably unbiased piece of reporting and writing that serves its purpose well. The gist of Mr. Fischer's message is that, despite appearances to the contrary, the United States DOES have a "Master Plan" to guide its conduct in the slippery field of international politics; that on the whole it is a sound and well-thought-out plan; and that the men who have built it and who run it are capable and thoroughly devoted to the welfare of the country.

Title: *The Saar: Battleground and Pawn.* 197 p.
Author: Russell, Frank M. Stanford, Stanford University Press, 1951
Evaluation: The Saar Basin has been continually the prize in the game of power politics that began in 1870. The author became involved in the solution of controversies over the Saar following World War I which very nearly brought the Peace Conference to the breaking point. Thus, the Saar offers an unparalleled case study of "an ambitious experiment in international cooperation" which is very capably presented by the author. He analyzes the political cleavages revealed at the Paris Peace Conference, evaluates the international regime that governed the Saar from 1920 to 1935, and discusses the plebiscite that placed control of the Saar under Nazi Germany in 1935. Finally he views the Saar of today—a political entity under French supervision—evaluating the present policy of efficiency, firmness, and benevolence. The political future of the inhabitants of the Saar will not be determined by themselves or any one nation. In the game of international politics the Saar will remain a place of strategic importance on the political map. An excellent study in international relations and the effects of multiple interests in an area of strategic (economic) importance. The reso-

RESTRICTED

lution of the problems surrounding the Ruhr and the Saar will have their impact on the final peace treaty with Germany when negotiations are undertaken for the formulation of that treaty.

Title: *George Washington—A Biography, Vols. III, IV*

Author: Freeman, Douglas Southall. N. Y., Charles Scribner & Son, 1951

Evaluation: With the publication of these two volumes Dr. Freeman's monumental biography of Washington reaches the half-way mark. The period covered is the twenty years between 1758 and 1778. The story begins with Washington's return to civilian life in late 1758 and his marriage to Martha Custis. Most of the remainder of Volume III is devoted to an account of the life of the young couple at Mount Vernon and of the events leading up to the outbreak of the American Revolution. Washington is depicted in the role of a great planter, a member of the House of Burgesses and as a delegate to the First Continental Congress. The remaining chapters of Volume III and Volume IV recount the story of the Revolutionary War years, ending with the early spring following the winter encampment at Valley Forge. The reader sees the character of Washington, the Commander-in-Chief of the new Continental Army, grow through victory and defeat as he stubbornly tussles with difficult and annoying problems of command. The new army always untrained, loosely organized, and poorly equipped periodically faded away with resignations and expiring enlistments. The battles and campaigns are brilliantly described. Throughout, Washington is a vivid, living character, and the author is scrupulously accurate in depicting him and the settings in which you see him. These volumes are truly great and should be read by every military man.

Title: *The Sea Around Us*. 220 p.

Author: Carson, Rachel. N. Y., Oxford University Press, 1951

Evaluation: This is a book every seaman should read, for it tells the story of our chosen element in language that is poetic, rich, and fascinating. At the same time it contains a wealth of information and facts relating to the sea and its role in

RESTRICTED

the life of our planet. Recommended for all to whom the sea holds any appeal or attraction.

Title: *Defense Economics*. 32 p.

Author: National Industrial Conference Board. N. Y.,
N. I. C. B., 1951

Evaluation: A concise and readable chart-survey with interspersed editorial comment covering defense spending, the nation's resource position, and the problem areas of inflation. This brochure is an excellent study of the country's progress in the first year of defense and the problems which lie ahead. It begins by making in pictorial form, a survey of the impact of defense spending on the nation's economy. Next the effect on the nation's material resources, the percent of industrial production devoted to defense activity, the position of the national stockpile and manpower supply are well illustrated. Finally the history of inflation, the credit-generating role of the Federal Reserve System, the effect of corporate profits, wages, productivity, taxes and deficits on the inflationary spiral are all clearly depicted. A visual explanation of the inflationary "gap" is especially noteworthy. The chart work is of a high order of technical excellence.

Title: *Out of Bondage*. 311 p.

Author: Bentley, Elizabeth. N. Y., The Devin-Adair
Company, 1951

Evaluation: An autobiography of Elizabeth Bentley commencing in 1935 through 1946 concerning her activities in the American Communist Party. Detailed facts are given as to: the methods used by the Communists in recruiting new members, the activities and meetings of Communist groups, how 'contacts' are made, activities of N. K. V. D. (Russian Secret Police) in the United States, and the use of Russian propaganda on the American Communists. Of particular interest is the account of her dealings with Earl Browder, Lud Ullman, Greg Silvermaster, and many others.

Title: *Communism Versus the Negro*. 253 p.

RESTRICTED

- Author:** Nolan, William A. Chicago, Henry Regnery Co., 1951
- Evaluation:** A penetrating and well-documented exposition of the propaganda techniques and methods Communists have been directing against the Negro minority in the U. S. from 1919 to 1951. It incorporates extensive information about the socio-economic problems of the Negroes, their hopes and aspirations as American citizens. It is of particular value to those interested in psychological warfare.
- Title:** *Life's Picture History of Western Man.* 306 p.
- Author:** The Editors of LIFE. N. Y., Time, Inc., 1951
- Evaluation:** Here is a magnificent record of Western man's heritage and spiritual development—from the setting of deep tap-roots in Grecian beauty and Roman law to the flowering of the age of "The Common Man" in the 19th century. It is a record gleaned from the fruits of Western man's spirit through the ages of his development, from his works of art as expressions of his faith and beliefs, in stone and paint and cloth. The pictures are accompanied by a simple and well-written commentary that briefs the history of the ages which the pictures illuminate.
- Title:** *The European World.* 618 p.
- Author:** Farmer, Paul. N. Y., Alfred A. Knopf, 1951
- Evaluation:** Treats of ancient and medieval history, the history of modern Europe, and the history of civilization in all parts of the world. Its principal theme is the evolution of Europe, and its expansion around the globe in the modern period. The book provides a broad view of the course of world history, in one volume and enables the student to understand the historical forces that shape the world in which he lives.
- Title:** *The Reds Take a City.* 206 p.
- Author:** Riley, John W. and Schramm, Wilbur. New Brunswick, Rutgers University Press, 1951
- Evaluation:** Confusion, despair, hope, grief, elation, hunger, and fear—these are the ingredients of THE REDS TAKE A CITY,

RESTRICTED

The three months of Communist control in Seoul in 1950 are covered in a graphic way by the authors, who were members of a team of experts assembled by the U. S. Air Force to assess Communist techniques imposed upon the Korean people. Detailed interviews with Korean officials who remained in the South Korean capitol during the Communist occupation, refugees, and representatives of all branches of community life, serve as the basis for the story which gives Westerners a peek behind the Iron Curtain. Written in a clear and concise manner, this volume gives a picture of the well-conceived and pre-planned pattern used by the Reds in gaining control. One is struck by the similarity between the method used in Korea and that used in the satellite countries of Europe.

Title: *Understanding History.* 290 p.
Author: Gottschalk, Louis. N. Y., Alfred A. Knopf, 1951
Evaluation: A description of how an historian works. It covers source and evaluation of material and discusses criteria, various theories of history and the objectives of historians. The book is carefully written and since the author explains technical terms, it is easily understood by the average reader. It sets a very high standard of scholarship.

Title: *Clear the Decks.* 242 p.
Author: Gallery, Daniel. N. Y., William Morrow & Company, 1951
Evaluation: Brief summary of the author's wartime experiences. Hidden between the lines of this collection of "sea stories" are expressions of the basic fundamentals of seapower and the factors that make the American Navy the fighting organization that it is. The book is a tale of the sea and seamen, told in a refreshing manner, that in no way detracts from the lessons in "command at sea" that it teaches. It should be required reading for all those who go to sea in ships and some day will succeed to command.

Title: *Soviet Attitudes Toward Authority.* 138 p.
Author: Mead, Margaret. N. Y., McGraw-Hill Co., 1951

RESTRICTED

Evaluation: This is an attempt to analyze the role of leadership and authority in Soviet Russia by what is known as the "inter-disciplinary" approach. Anthropologists, linguists, psychiatrists, historians and literary analysts have participated in the study. It would appear that the peculiar condition of Soviet leadership is built on a structure of anxiety, subtle terror, indoctrination and artificial enthusiasm. The masses, however, seem to accept this leadership without any substantial opposition. Quite obviously, then, the insecure leadership becomes a more proper target for disaffection and revolt than the masses. The implications for psychological warfare, to say nothing of the conduct of more orthodox military operations, is quite obvious.

Title: *The Art of Clear Thinking.* 204 p.

Author: Flesch, Rudolf. N. Y., Harper & Bros. 1951

Evaluation: Presents in plain, readable, idiomatic English, current concepts of what thinking is and how the art of thinking can be cultivated. An informative book skillfully and thoughtfully written, including intelligent observations on the little-known riddle of the physiology of thought. The author deflates the importance, attached by some, to formal logic; offers simple methods for spotting fallacies in arguments and propaganda, and defines the hallmarks of the good executive. In addition, the readability of the book is enhanced by excellent examples used to illustrate his major theses. It is of value to Naval officers in that it provides a practical guide for self-help in improving the art of thinking and in increasing the flow of ideas.

Title: *The Lonely Crowd.* 373 p.

Author: Riesman, David. New Haven, Yale University Press, 1950

Evaluation: An attempt to indicate a new sociological and psychological approach to the understanding of American society. This book has created a considerable stir in American academic circles. The author has used contemporary developments from all of the social sciences and combined them into a novel and intriguing interpretation of American society. Although some confusion is caused by the use of new and unique terms, the author

RESTRICTED

fastens his terms down with the skillful use of analogy and example. Essentially a study in sociology, it is written with such high literary skill and from so provocative a viewpoint that it is well worth reading.

Title: *The Yenan Way.* 307 p.

Author: Ravines, Eudocio. N. Y., Charles Scribner's Sons, 1951

Evaluation: The vivid personal narrative of a man who joined the Communist party because he believed that here lay the road to reform for Latin America. His disillusionment and final break with Communism are carefully documented. The reader will learn of the insidious "Yenan Way" as developed by Stalin and Mao Tse-tung in China and projected by the author and other agents of the Comintern into Latin America as the successful "Popular Front," and will meet such men as Clement Gottwald, George Dimitrov, Haya de la Torre and Wilhelm Pieck. He will see Republican Spain of the Civil War and visit and revisit the Moscow of the 1930's. This is a provocative and informative book.

Title: *Germany and American Neutrality.* 236 p.

Author: Trefousse, H. L. N. Y., Bookman Associates, 1951

Evaluation: A keen analysis of the major puzzles of Germany's wartime diplomacy toward the United States. The author traces behind-the-scenes development of Germany's policy toward the United States during the period 1939-41, using testimony given at war crimes trials, secret conference records, memoirs, diaries, and President Roosevelt's Hyde Park papers. Hitler's basic policy of "first things first" called for keeping the United States neutral while conquest of Europe was being completed. To this end Hitler prescribed an attitude of circumspection toward U. S. forces in the Atlantic, and attempted to create pressure in the East to divert U. S. attention away from Europe. This policy of neutralization, while not successful in isolating Britain from U. S. aid, did succeed in keeping the U. S. in a "non-belligerent" status. However, the "diversionary force" in the Far East caused the dramatic collapse of this policy when Japan, after

RESTRICTED

getting assurance of German assistance in the event of war with the U. S., launched the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor—an attack which apparently surprised the European end of the Axis as much as the U. S.

- Title: *U. S. Navy at Gate to Russia*
Author: Gardner, Mathias B., Vice Adm., U. S. N.
Publication: U. S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, December 21, 1951, p. 40-43.
Evaluation: Vice Admiral Gardner of the Sixth Fleet, U. S. N., Mediterranean explains the duties of the fleet, its combat strength and how it cooperates with our allies.

- Title: *Satellites in Arms*
Author: Stowe, Leland
Publication: LIFE, December 17, 1951, p. 98-108
Evaluation: Taken from the author's forthcoming book on Eastern Europe CONQUEST BY TERROR, this article reveals that Soviet Russia has organized the armed forces of its satellite countries into the largest, most thoroughly internationalized army ever created. (Harrison map indicating railroads and inland waterways, p. 98; charts showing fighting potential of satellites, p. 103, 104, 106).

- Title: *Limited War*
Author: Stanford, Peter Marsh
Publication: UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE PROCEEDINGS, December 1951, p. 1311-1317.
Evaluation: Reviews the important role the Navy has played in maintaining the security of the nation in the past and proposes the formation of a small, flexible naval force capable of dealing with the problem of limited attacks which threaten security at present.

- Title: *The North Atlantic Treaty Organization*
Author: Wright, Jerauld, Vice Adm., U. S. N.
Publication: UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE PROCEEDINGS, December, 1951, p. 1253-1265.

RESTRICTED

59

RESTRICTED

Evaluation: Outlines NATO's objectives, the organization of its controlling and coordinating agencies and the military command structures under which its European forces plan and operate. (Charts on p. 1262-1263 give organization and commanders on NATO Allied Command in Europe and staff organization and key personnel of SHAPE).

Title: *Our Magic Word: Disarmament*

Author: Schreiber, Jean-Jacques Servan

Publication: THE REPORTER, December 25, 1951, p. 15-16.

Evaluation: Emphasizes the importance of the American disarmament plan by which the West wrested from Russia the initiative in propaganda warfare.

Title: *Red Blueprint for Terror*

Author: Riley, John W., Jr., and Schram, Wilbur

Evaluation: LOOK, January 1, 1952, p. 10-14

Publication: An article condensed from the book THE REDS TAKE A CITY tells briefly the Communist plan of occupation as it was carried out in Seoul.

Title: *Challenge of the MIG—and the Answer*

Author: Baldwin, Hanson W.

Evaluation: NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE, December 9, 1951, p. 9, 54-56

Publication: Compares the MIG-15 with the U. S. sabrejet, considers its effect upon the concept of American airpower and asserts that the only possible answer is technical development upon which new strategy and tactics depend.

Title: *Why Europe Won't Fight*

Author: Dallin, David

Publication: AMERICAN MERCURY, December 1951, p. 31-39

Evaluation: Discusses factors which lead to the author's conclusion that the free nations of the continent will fight badly, if at all.

RESTRICTED

- Title:** *We're Really Fighting Russia Now*
- Author:** Vandenberg, Hoyt S., Gen., U. S. A. F.
- Publication:** U. S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, December 14, 1951, p. 19-21
- Evaluation:** An analysis of the war in Korea in its various phases with emphasis on the present challenge to U. N. air supremacy.
- Title:** *Thought Control in the Soviet Union*
- Author:** U. S. Department of State
- Publication:** SCIENCE AND SCHOLARSHIP, November 26, 1951, p. 844-851
- Evaluation:** Describes the ideological demands on Soviet scholars by the Communist Party and the limitations imposed upon them by the Government.
- Title:** *Report on Korean Air Losses*
- Author:** Winchester, James H.
- Publication:** AVIATION AGE, November, 1951, p. 38-39
- Evaluation:** Quotes figures from the official statistical records of the Far East Air Force in Tokyo giving cargo plane statistics, figures on sorties flown, tons of bombs dropped and enemy losses as of October 6.
- Title:** *The American Stake in Europe*
- Author:** Earle, Edward Mead
- Publication:** INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, October, 1951, p. 423-433
- Evaluation:** Traces developments leading to a reversal in U. S. policy of isolationism and explains motivating forces behind our present policy toward Europe.
- Title:** *The Changing Pattern of War*
- Author:** Aquila
- Publication:** ROYAL AIR FORCE QUARTERLY, October, 1951, p. 319-322

RESTRICTED**61**

RESTRICTED

Evaluation: Reviews the changes in the pattern of war brought about by two world wars, argues that air ascendancy is now necessary for the successful prosecution of war and must be secured by NATO countries.

Title: *The Mediterranean Basin and Soviet Air Power*

Author: Vickery, William M., Capt., U. S. A. F.

Publication: AIR UNIVERSITY QUARTERLY REVIEW,
Summer, 1951, p. 66-73

Evaluation: An analysis of the Russian threat in the Mediterranean and our ability to defend the area in view of Russian air superiority.

Title: *What We Have Learned from V-2 Firings*

Author: Porter, Richard W., Dr.

Publication: AVIATION WEEK, November 26, 1951,
p. 23-30, 35.

Evaluation: A summary of the positive and negative results of test firings of the German V-2 rocket, as reported by Dr. Porter at a recent meeting of the New York section of the American Rocket Society.

Title: *How Close Is War With Russia?*

Author: Bess, Demaree

Publication: SATURDAY EVENING POST, November 24,
1951, p. 25, 107-110

Evaluation: Draws a comparison between events of 1951 and 1941 when U. S. provided military aid to countries fighting Germany and Japan without imposing conditions which may have provided a more lasting peace and discusses three facts which emerge upon consideration of the Russian-American conflict.

Title: *Portrait of Soviet Russia by Russians*

Author: Inkeles, Alex and Bauer, Raymond A.

Publication: NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE, Novem-
ber 25, 1951, p. 9, 26-33

RESTRICTED

Evaluation: Presents a picture of Soviet life obtained by an extensive series of interviews with Russian refugees and states that these interviews do not bear out the current theory that the collapse of the Soviet regime is imminent.

Title: *The National Interest of the United States*

Author: Kennan, George F.

Publication: FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL, November, 1951, p. 16-17, 42-44

Evaluation: Explains the meaning of "national interest" by discussing the subject in terms of what it is not, advocates more modern concepts of national interest and forbearance and restraint in our dealings with other nations.

Title: *The Moral Challenge of Communism*

Author: Ward, Barbara

Publication: THE ATLANTIC, December, 1951, p. 37-41

Evaluation: Pleads that the long-range problem of moral revival be given the same recognition as the immediate necessity of military security in view of the fact that now, in the period of Western rearmament, the Soviets are making the moral issue the center of their campaign.

Title: *How They Work Together Under Eisenhower*

Author: Reynolds, Quentin

Publication: READER'S DIGEST, December, 1951, p. 9-17

Evaluation: A report on SHAPE, including brief information on the background and purpose of NATO Defense College.

Title: *Can We Defend the Middle East?*

Author: Liddell-Hart, Captain B. H.

Publication: MILITARY REVIEW, December, 1951, p. 30-36

Evaluation: Surveys conditions in the Middle East and our ability to defend it in case of Russian attack, finds that chances of direct defense are scanty and that at present, the best defense lies in the potential retort of strategic bombing of the U. S. S. R.'s most vital areas.

RESTRICTED**63**