

1951

Current Reading List

The U.S. Naval War College

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RESTRICTED**CURRENT READING LIST**

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

BOOKS

- Title:** *The Forrestal Diaries*. 563 p.
- Author:** Forrestal, James. N. Y., The Viking Press, 1951
- Evaluation:** A unique collection of notes, letters, reports and recorded conversations of Mr. Forrestal covering his tenancy as Secretary of the Navy and Secretary of Defense, 1944-1949. The collection is reported to have been censored and edited only as essential for current national security purposes, and to remove repetitive material or detail not needed in the book. Readability is enhanced by editorial narrative linking sections of the diary. A few editorial errors were noted in giving the rank of flag officers and the word "thousands" instead of "millions" in table on page 352. The book serves to emphasize the well-known statesmanlike character, administrative acumen, and insight of Mr. Forrestal, and his deep patriotism. The intimate revelations of background strife, partisan politics, and complexity of considerations affecting numerous critical and far-reaching decisions of this period of world history are highly educational. Recommended reading for all hands.
- Title:** *American Diplomacy*. 146 p.
- Author:** Kennan, George. Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1951.
- Evaluation:** This is a masterly diagnosis of the ills that plague United States' policies and foreign relations by one of the best political minds in our land. Mr. Kennan makes a vivid, plain-spoken appraisal of our foreign relations over the past vital half-century; and arrives at some conclusions that are revealing, though apt to be somewhat shocking to our self-esteem. He shows, in brief, how our national preoccupation with the moral and legal principles of in-

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Title: *American Diplomacy. (continued)*

ternational relations, and our concurrent neglect of realistic factors of international power politics have been largely instrumental in bringing us to our present position in an uneasy world. He then indicates, with evidence to support his thesis, that our policies should be based on a careful appraisal of POWER FACTORS in the world of today—on the creation and maintenance of a state of maximum stability the world over. Included in the volume, as appendices, and as well-placed accents on the central theme, are reprints of his two most renowned former articles—THE SOURCES OF SOVIET CONDUCT, and AMERICA AND THE RUSSIAN FUTURE. Recommended reading for all officers attached to the Naval War College and for all who are interested in the foreign policies of our country.

Title: *Chinese Communism and the Rise of Mao.*

Author: Schwartz, B. I. Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1951.

Evaluation: This book is both a factual analysis of an important phase in history and the development of a controversial theme. It traces the rise of Communism in China, and develops the thesis that under the tutelage of Mao Tse-tung, Chinese Communism has successfully shifted the basis of its revolution from the urban proletariat of Marx-Leninism to the peasantry of China's countryside. It is a scholarly treatment of a most complex and difficult subject, and is recommended to those readers interested in the background of the events, and of the leaders of China today, and of Communism in the Far East as a whole. Because it is the history of a highly complex movement this book is not easy reading. However, both the student familiar with Chinese Communism, and the seeker for a "one-package" study of the subject will find Mr. Schwartz' work worth their while. Particularly valuable are the notes and references used by the author, for they are a valuable guide to further research. The last two chapters of the book, Chapter XII—"Triumph of Mao Tse-tung" and XIII—"Essential Features of Maoist Strategy" are recommended reading for all officers, while the rest of the book is recommended for reference only.

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- Title:** *American Military Government in Korea*
- Author:** Meade, E. Grant. N. Y., Columbia University, 1951.
- Evaluation:** In his latest book on military government, Dr. Meade has presented a detailed, thoughtful, and perspective analysis of the circumstances by which Korea became a vital factor in American foreign policy. "American Military Government in Korea" is an important addition to our diplomatic history in a field too little understood by too many people. An acute observer, Dr. Meade tells his story from the point of view of one who was an observer and a participant in the military government in South Korea during the early months of the occupation, when our responsibility first began to take definite form. The book is carefully documented and not only illuminates a portion of the past but serves as a partial guide for the future. Dr. Meade believes that Korea cannot remain half slave and half free and that United States' support must be continued to the fullest until it is certain that Korea can stand alone as an independent nation of free men. This book should be read by all who are interested in or who may be faced with military government problems, either as a commander or as a subordinate.

- Title:** *Minutes to Midnight.* 128 p.
- Author:** Chicago, Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, 1950.
- Evaluation:** A well-edited collection of excerpts and statements from the important documents and personages connected with the problem of International Control of Atomic Energy. It is made a readable and interesting book by the chronology and commentary contributed by E. Rabinowitch, editor of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists and a leading chemist in the Manhattan Engineering District. There is no question of the authenticity of the quoted material which comprises about two-thirds of the book. The author is frank to admit his personal responsibility for the connecting remarks and asides. Sobering reading in today's climate of exuberance over big and little atomic weapons for all military needs.

- Title:** *The Eagle and the Bear.* 183 p.
- Author:** Haile, Pennington. N. Y., Ives Washburn, Inc., . 1950.
- Evaluation:** Pennington Haile explains why we have our form of gov-

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- Title:** *The Eagle and the Bear. (continued)*
- ernment and why the Soviets have theirs. He explains the political philosophy which is the basis for the two forms of government in a clear, lucid style that any one can understand. The book is a valuable aid to those who wish to learn why the two nations act as they do. It also explains simply the basic philosophies expounded by Locke, Hegel, Kant and Marx
- Title:** *Red Banners Over Asia. 212 p.*
- Author:** Trullinger, O. O. Boston, Beacon Press, 1951.
- Evaluation:** The author gives the story of Communism in the countries of Southeast Asia, points out why Communism is making headway in those countries and what the Western nations must do to combat its advance. He also gives a brief background sketch of the central Communist figures in each country and in the area as a whole. While the sentence structure at times makes the book hard to follow the information included in it is valuable, particularly as background for news articles emanating from that part of the world which would otherwise have little meaning.
- Title:** *Collision of East and West. 340 p.*
- Author:** Maurer, Herrymon. Chicago, Henry Regnery Co., 1951.
- Evaluation:** Advances the thesis that the underlying cause of the war, violence, and unrest prevailing in the Far East today is a collision of cultures between East and West—a collision which “Finally blew up (a quarter of the world) so violently that it set the West itself on fire, overwhelmed four-thousand-year-old China, and involved East, West, and Russia perhaps fatally with each other.” The cultures, and the mistakes that brought these cultures into collision, are reviewed. The author is a Quaker and a philosopher. He sets forth no panaceas, but contends that other people, whether they be of one culture or another, must be treated as ends in themselves, not as means to some other end. An amalgam of cultures can only occur by chance; it cannot be forced or produced by schemes of war and economics. The book is recommended

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- Title:** *Collision of East and West (continued)*
reading to help understand what is going on in the East today and to project thinking to imminent collisions that are shaping up in other parts of the world.
- Title:** *Unite or Perish. 214 p.*
Author: Reynaud, Paul. N. Y., Simon & Schuster, 1951.
Evaluation: Paul Reynaud thoroughly understands Western Europe: the forces which threaten it, present weaknesses, and latent strengths. He takes as his thesis the proposition that a United Europe could provide within itself the necessary resources, manpower, and markets for the nourishment of a healthy, economic giant, and military forces capable (with some American help) of resisting aggression from the east. In developing this thesis he recognizes the forces which oppose unity, principally the refusal of socialist governments to accept responsibility for those local hardships which would be the first apparent result of economic union. Having developed the practicability of union, and the perils of disunity, he ends with the words, "Let us unite rather than perish."

PERIODICALS

- Title:** *Spain as an Investment.*
Author: Adams, Mildred
Publication: FORTUNE, Nov., 1951, p. 98-101, 130-134, 139.
Evaluation: A comprehensive survey of the Spanish economy and of its ability to aid U. S. military purposes which concludes that Spain can be converted into a dependable military base only by the expenditure of great sums of money.
- Title:** *Mutual Security in the Near East.*
Author: McGhee, George C.
Publication: THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE BULLETIN,
October 22, 1951, p. 643-646.
Evaluation: Explains the technical, economic and military assistance available to Middle Eastern countries under the Mutual Security Program.

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- Title:** *What the French Elections Showed*
Author: Schreiber, Jean-Jacques Servan
Evaluation: THE REPORTER, November 13, 1951, p. 25-27.
Publication: Interprets the political situation in France in the light of recent elections which showed a swing to the right and warns that Communist strategists can still succeed unless the present majority saves the franc, solves the German problem and rearms the nation.
- Title:** *The Economic War Potential of Asia.*
Author: Reday, Joseph Z., Lt. Cdr., U. S. N. R.
Publication: U. S. NAVAL INSTITUTE PROCEEDINGS, November, 1951, p. 1137-1147.
Evaluation: Examines the ability of Asia to provide for an all-out war, the men, supplies, fighting equipment, and facilities for getting men and equipment to battle, and concludes that Asia is too primitive economically to be able to do more than exist except by contact with the Pacific and the West.
- Title:** *The Admiral Who Lost His Fleet.*
Author: Wilds, Thomas
Publication: U. S. NAVAL INSTITUTE PROCEEDINGS, November, 1951, p. 1175-1181.
Evaluation: Describes Admiral Koga's efforts to keep the Japanese fleet intact in order to win out in a major action with the American fleet and tells why he failed.
- Title:** *What's Wrong With U. S. Propaganda?*
Author: Doob, Leonard W.
Publication: UNITED NATIONS WORLD, November, 1951, p. 29-31.
Evaluation: Asserts that though we are gradually building the machinery to publicize ourselves, U. S. psychological warfare is handicapped by policies that are vague or unstated and by the democratic feature that requires executives to report to legislators and to the people.

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Title: *The Naval Establishment: Its Growth and Necessity for Expansion 1930-1950.*
(Office of the Comptroller of the Navy, Department of the Navy).

Evaluation: A detailed description of the U. S. Navy, which summarizes its role in world events from Revolutionary days to the present time and presents statistical tables of expenditures and costs of comparative types of vessels throughout the years. This monumental (225 p.) but surprisingly readable publication prepared by the Office of the Comptroller of the Navy is designed to offer to the public at large a brief summary of all aspects of the history, the organization, and methods of functioning of their Navy. It does a surprisingly good job, and is recommended as reference reading for all officers who desire to become acquainted with any part of the Navy that has heretofore puzzled them.

Title: *Death on the Wing.*
Author: Fliegiers, Serge and Pearson, Leon
Publication: AMERICAN MERCURY, November, 1951, p. 55-62.

Evaluation: Discusses the war potential of germs and gives detailed information on Soviet biological warfare projects as reported by two German micro-biologists who were forced to work on the projects.

Title: *The Concept of the Balance of Power in Soviet Policy-Making.*
Author: Garthoff, Raymond L.
Publication: WORLD POLITICS, October, 1951, p. 85-111.

Evaluation: A detailed analysis of the Soviet view on the balance of power.

Title: *How New Are Our Problems?*
Author: Kennan, George F.
Publication: FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL, October, 1951, p. 20-21, 51-52.

Evaluation: Suggests that the newness of our age lies in: (1) over-

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- Title:** *How New Are Our Problems? (continued)*
population; (2) the weapons and tools which man has in his hands for good and evil; (3) the changing relationship between man and man. (Under the second heading the author discusses land power versus sea power).
- Title:** *The Oil Problem in the Middle East.*
Author: McGhee, George C.
Publication: THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE BULLETIN, October 15, 1951, p. 612-615.
Evaluation: Explains why the Middle East is of strategic importance to us and outlines the principles guiding our national policy in appraising the constantly shifting oil situation in the Middle East.
- Title:** *What the Kremlin Fears Most.*
Author: Fuller, J. F. C.
Publication: SATURDAY EVENING POST, October 27, 1951, p. 25, 115-117.
Evaluation: Contains U. S. S. R. fears war because it leads to internal disruption, criticizes our present policy of containment because it leaves the initiative in Russia's hands and proposes that the key to curbing Russia's age-old urge to expand, lies in the dissolution of the Russian empire and the liberation of the subjugated nations.
- Title:** *Looking Inside Russia*
Author: Kirk, Alan G., Ambassador
Publication: U. S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, October 26, 1951, p. 47-50.
Evaluation: Personal story of the author's two years in Russia, taken from an address delivered in New York on October 18.
- Title:** *Air-Sea Power on the Asian Perimeter*
Author: Hessler, William
Publication: U. S. NAVAL INSTITUTE PROCEEDINGS, October, 1951, p. 1019-1027.
Evaluation: Reviews the factors influencing the breakup of Great Britain's hegemony over Asia and discusses whether air-sea

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- Title:** *Air-Sea Power on the Asian Perimeter*
(continued)
- power as it now serves the U. S. can be utilized as efficaciously as surface sea power was employed by Britain in the 19th century for containment of Russian power in Asia.
- Title:** *There Is Hope for Germany.*
- Author:** Kohn, Hans
- Publication:** THE NEW LEADER, October 22, 1951, p. 8-11.
- Evaluation:** Discusses the forces at work in post-war Germany and points out that her future depends upon a sincere reconsideration of the path of German nationalism over the past century.
- Title:** *Is It Wise to Rearm the Germans?*
- Author:** Eliot, George Fielding and Padover, Saul K.
- Publication:** FOREIGN POLICY BULLETIN, November 15, 1951, p. 4-6.
- Evaluation:** Foreign Policy Forum presents pro and con arguments on the question of German rearmament.
- Title:** *Naval Aviation's Roles and Goals.*
- Author:** Duncan, Donald Bradley, Vice Adm., U. S. N.
- Publication:** FLYING, December, 1951, p. 14-15, 45-47, 53-55.
- Evaluation:** An exclusive interview with the Vice Chief of Naval Operations and the Navy's top air admiral, in which he restates the objectives of naval aviation.
- Title:** *The Responsibilities of Atomic World Leadership.*
- Author:** Dean, Gordon
- Publication:** WORLD AFFAIRS INTERPRETER, Autumn, 1951, p. 237-251.
- Evaluation:** An address of the Chairman, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission on the obligations incumbent upon us as world leaders in the atomic age.

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- Title: *The Strategic Importance of Scandinavia
in Case of War.*
- Author: Sandler, Ake
- Publication: WORLD AFFAIRS INTERPRETER, Autumn,
1951, p. 320-327.
- Evaluation: Discusses military value of Scandinavia to Russia and to
the West, evaluates the strength of each Scandinavian
power and concludes that the strategic importance of this
area centers in Sweden, which insists on remaining neutral.
- Title: *Let's Draw the Line Now.*
- Author: Wedemeyer, Albert C., Lt. Gen., U. S. A.
- Publication: COLLIER'S, November 17, 1951, p. 15, 38-41.
- Evaluation: Asserts that it is imperative that the U. S. and her allies
wrest the global initiative from Russia and outlines a
program for doing so.