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Fortune Favors Boldness: The Story of Naval Valor during Operation Iraqi Freedom

Sean Henseler

Barry M. Costello

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that enables global trade by connecting markets in the east and west. He examines the interests and actions of regional states and intergovernmental organizations, including a subregional relative power and influence assessment for the Arabian Gulf and northern Arabian Sea. This evaluation suggests the absence of an influential regional state power with the requisite will to exert regional leadership and power at sea. Further, the region also lacks a powerful intergovernmental organization of states capable of expanding a regional dialogue on maritime security. As complications of any organic movement among regional states for increased maritime cooperation, Cordner identifies governance issues affected by dynamic domestic political systems, developing economies, contentious intranational demographic relationships, and limited military capabilities and capacities.

In his assessment, Cordner crafts an analytical framework that defines security in this context, evaluates risks within the region, and identifies the ensuing vulnerabilities in the security environment. His framework's conceptual foundation is built on theories of decision-making and risk analysis. This approach includes a detailed progression of scholarly references and conceptual themes related to security, risk, and vulnerability—all while examining the relationships and linkages among these three concepts. This book would interest a decision-making and risk-analysis scholar in search of a practical application of risk-management theory in an international maritime context, or a regional expert seeking an assessment of the Indian Ocean from a maritime perspective.

The author makes the argument that through a comprehensive, fact-based

risk assessment of the Indian Ocean maritime environment, identification of common risks and shared vulnerabilities will inspire states in the region to create a more effective, mutually beneficial, collaborative maritime security environment. Employing risk criteria on the basis of a likelihood-versus-consequence construct produces a prioritized list of nineteen specific risks in the Indian Ocean region. Such a risk-based approach in national decision-making considers the possibility that states may be willing to accept certain risks—or seek to mitigate potential consequences—rather than dedicate resources to eliminate the risk outright. Of course, the possibility of a “free rider” course of action poses another kind of risk, yet it remains attractive to Indian Ocean states with limited resources, capabilities, and popular support for shared maritime-security activities. Even the prospect of cost sharing can be problematic. While Cordner understands these vexing challenges, he nevertheless remains undaunted as he considers the prospects for achieving greater regional cooperation. In the course of doing so he makes a stimulating argument, and recommendations, for increased regional dialogue and further study on maritime security.

SEAN SULLIVAN



Fortune Favors Boldness: The Story of Naval Valor during Operation Iraqi Freedom, by Barry M. Costello [Vice Adm., USN (Ret.)]. Jacksonville, FL: Adducent, 2018. 372 pages. \$31.95.

Fortune Favors Boldness: The Story of Naval Valor during Operation Iraqi Freedom, by Vice Admiral Barry M. Costello, USN (Ret.), is a compilation of historical anecdotes, entertaining

sea stories, leadership lessons, and inspirational passages that cumulatively shine a light on the heroic deeds of the sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who helped topple the Saddam Hussein regime in 2003. This concise, yet detailed, historical narrative that focuses on wartime naval operations in the Arabian Gulf is a must-read for all naval personnel who desire to learn from those who sailed into harm's way to fulfill the national security imperatives of political leadership.

This graphically depicted slice of U.S. naval history is also an excellent read for all Americans. Too often the real-world exploits of sailors and Marines, and their contribution to national security, go unnoticed by a citizenry whose only knowledge of the naval service stems from having watched *Top Gun*, *NCIS*, and *A Few Good Men*. Costello's uncanny ability to simplify and relate complex military operations through the eyes of the actual senior leaders, surface warriors, aviators, submariners, minehunters, flight-deck hands, and engine-room operators makes this collection of stories a gripping yet educational read for the general populace.

As a professor at the Naval War College, I have observed that far too many officers lack a factual grasp of post-World War II naval history. Therefore I agree wholeheartedly with Vice Admiral Costello's motivation for authoring his memoir, which stemmed from a recognition that there is a "dearth of writings from Navy leaders over the last several decades from which current and future generations can benefit" (p. 6). Indeed, Costello explains that junior naval personnel made it clear "that they want to know what happened and why certain decisions were made." *Fortune Favors Boldness* delivers on this yearning.

As the commander of Cruiser Destroyer Group 1 (CCDG-1), embarked in USS *Constellation* (CV 64) (commissioned in 1961, the ship was on its final deployment), Vice Admiral Costello had a unique vantage point from which to relate the story of naval operations during Operation IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF). This is evident as he not only shares his own recollections but also includes several personal accounts from members of the strike group. These include the aviators who flew "downtown" into the teeth of enemy air defenses on the first strikes of the war, the embedded press corps who had surprisingly free and open access to all the strike group's planning and operations, the surface and subsurface officers who launched hundreds of Tomahawk land-attack missiles, the mine-hunting forces that cleared critical waterways in the northern Arabian Gulf, and the forces that secured critical oil platforms just before Saddam Hussein's forces could destroy them.

The book's title, derived from the motto of Vice Admiral Costello's CRUDEVGRU, "Fortune Favors Boldness," is fitting as the reader is made privy to the messages, phone calls, e-mails, and private conversations between and among a cadre of leaders who understood clearly that the naval service's contribution to the "shock and awe" campaign of General Tommy Franks, USA, would be decisive in the early stages of the war. The discourse among senior military leaders from the United States and partner nations provides a treasure trove of leadership lessons for future officers that the author brilliantly highlights to make it easy for the reader to absorb.

Vice Admiral Costello notes at the outset that his goal was to write a great adventure story for the sailors, Marines,

and Coast Guardsmen who served in the Arabian Gulf during OIF, for veterans of all times and services, and for the American people so that they could appreciate the sacrifices of the young heroes who stood the watch to protect their security. Furthermore, he clearly states that his mission was to pen a “leadership book with an emphasis on lessons to help” future naval leaders (p. 9). Vice Admiral Costello accomplished his mission, as did the naval forces he was proud to lead into battle during Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

SEAN P. HENSELER



The Invasion of the Dutch East Indies, compiled by the War History Office of the National Defense College of Japan, trans. Willem Remmelink. Leiden, Neth.: Leiden Univ. Press, 2016. 672 pages. \$87.50.

Of the major military services of the twentieth century, the Imperial Japanese Army (IJA) and the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN) are two of the least understood outside their national homes. As a result, Willem Remmelink’s work in translating into English the official Japanese history of the invasion of the Dutch East Indies in 1942 is a major contribution to the study of World War II.

This book is volume 3 of 102 in the War History series (*Senshi Sōsho*) that the Japanese National Defense College—now called the National Institute for Defense Studies—produced between 1966 and 1980. It is the first of three that Remmelink plans to translate on the Dutch-Japanese war in 1942. The series is joint in that it examines the activities of both the IJA and IJN. With that said, this volume focuses primarily, but

not exclusively, on ground operations. The other two planned translations will focus on sea and air operations in and around modern-day Indonesia.

Remmelink’s translation work is impressive. This English-language volume is full and unabridged. The book includes seventy maps and probably as many photos. The quality of the maps is high, but that of the photos leaves a little to be desired; they seem to be scans of the photos printed in the Japanese originals. Extras include the Japanese order of battle, useful glossaries of military and naval terms, and indexes of personal and place-names in both English and Japanese.

The book starts off slowly, with the early chapters containing a collection of documents with a single sentence connecting one staff memo to the next; there is very little historical analysis or narrative. But if one pulls back a bit, these early chapters offer a fascinating look at a military staff at work planning real combat operations.

The Japanese enjoyed enormous and rapid success in the seizure of the Dutch East Indies. Why? The central argument of history is that the Japanese isolated the battlefield with air and naval assets. The IJA and IJN worked well together in joint operations. While the IJA had material shortages even in 1942, it overcame these problems with bold, innovative leadership. For example, the IJA conducted its first airborne operation during the invasion. The Japanese also had the support of the local population, which wanted to rid itself of the Dutch.

This history raises some interesting new questions. Many of the strengths the Japanese brought to the fight against the Dutch were the exact opposite of things they did in their war against the