

1966

## The Bombing Offensive against Germany

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Noble Frankland

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from sail to steam, the emergence of "iron ships," and the growth of the naval gun and the dreadnought. His recounting of the development of the submarine from its earliest use to its current capabilities is most interesting. He touches very lightly on naval battles of any consequence, but forewarns the reader that his book is not a discourse on tactics, or a history of naval battles, but a treatise on the evolution of the warship from various revolutionary inventions which caused a change in naval warfare and naval construction. The impact that divers naval leaders throughout the years had on warship construction is mentioned; the most noteworthy, according to Mr. Cowburn, is Lord Fisher's impact on the British Navy. The author, who is Senior Lecturer at the Royal Naval College in Greenwich, England, is of course rightfully oriented toward the British Navy and its contribution to the development of the warship, but he does not slight other contributors. He has drawn heavily on museum prints of ancient vessels and on other pictorial sources which enhance the documentation of his book. For anyone who is interested in tracing the evolution of the warship in history and in a superficial investigation of its influence on history, this volume would be an excellent one-point source.

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Frankland, Noble. *The Bombing Offensive against Germany*.  
London: Faber and Faber, 1965. 128 p.

Had Mahan wished for backing in his "command of the sea" concepts, he would have found it in this study on the strategic bombing of Germany in World War II. Dr. Frankland, a British historian, describes how "command of the air" became essential, and acknowledges that the advent of the Mustang long-range fighter in early 1944 ultimately saved the day. One conclusion reached was that the war might have been considerably shortened had the Bomber Command concentrated first on disposing of the enemy air force, thereby permitting earlier and more complete destruction of cities, oil refineries, and the like. In this regard, the book reveals that the selection of generally acceptable bombing targets then was as controversial a topic as it is today. Dr. Frankland develops the theory that subjugation of Germany by mass area destruction was a logical military tactic in history, and finds little difference between the effects of strategic bombing on a populace and those produced by early naval blockades. He justifies the massive bombing of central Germany from both

economic and moral viewpoints, finding it a factor vital to the ultimate rupture of Germany's borders by Allied military and naval forces. The author's subject is historical in nature, but the conclusions reached are pertinent now. Therefore, this short, interesting, easy-to-read work is recommended to all students of warfare.

K.C. HOLM  
Commander, U.S. Navy

Lyons, Gene M. and Morton, Louis. *Schools for Strategy*.  
New York: Praeger, 1965. 356 p.

This book is primarily a compilation of empirical data on schools conducting studies in national security affairs. The authors examine the programs of private universities, state universities, military war colleges, State Department schools, and private and government-operated research organizations, with a brief look at the London Institute for Strategic Studies. The approach taken by Princeton, Harvard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Duke, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Ohio State, the National War College, the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Rand, Operations Evaluation Group, Weapons Systems Evaluation Group, Institute for Defense Analysis, and the Council on Foreign Relations in their treatment of national security studies is covered in some detail. Most of the effort is devoted to strictly background information which has been developed since early in the 1940's. This includes, *inter alia*, the organizers of the national security programs, the existing experts—both military and civilian—now participating, and the numerous disciplines within which the subject is entwined. These are almost exclusively the humanities, economics, public administration, and military studies. Selected information is provided on undergraduate, graduate, and advanced research programs.

The need for formal training in national security affairs for government officials who may occupy policy-making positions is discussed. Mention is made of the world events which brought about this need, such as post-World War II realignment, the Soviet A-bomb explosion in 1949, and the initial Soviet sputnik. The difficulties experienced in the recruitment of highly qualified scholars to fill government positions is pointed out. The main theme of the book centers on the piecemeal approach to formal schooling in national security affairs, with a recommendation that the entire program should be given a new sense of direction.