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The Secret World

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Spanier, John W. *The Truman-MacArthur Controversy and the Korean War*. Cambridge, Mass., Harvard University Press, 1959. 311 p.

President Truman, in April 1951, relieved General Douglas MacArthur of all his commands in the Far East for publicly opposing the policies of the United States Government. This, at a time when the country faced one of its gravest and most emotional constitutional crises. The issue involved civilian supremacy in the conduct of both military and governmental functions, since General MacArthur's actions and public statements, both in the military and political spheres, represented a threat and a challenge to the President's authority as commander-in-chief and chief diplomat to determine the nation's foreign policy. This book deals with that crisis and that issue. The author covers in detail the progress of the Korean War from the North Korean aggression of June 1950 to the end of the MacArthur hearings before a committee of Congress in July 1951. He traces the relations between the political aims of the war and military strategy, domestic politics and allied differences, and he analyzes the military, political and diplomatic factors which resulted in the controversy. Fundamentally, the aim of the author is to explore the question of whether the principle of civilian control over the military is compatible with the waging of limited war in today's world. The author presents evidence to show that the very functioning of our normal democratic processes, plus the American penchant for ideological crusades, exerts tremendous pressures to change a controlled conflict with limited aims into a total effort for complete victory. He suggests that history might easily repeat itself in case of another limited conflict. A very well written and interesting book.

Deriabin, Peter and Gibney, Frank. *The Secret World*. Garden City, N. Y., Doubleday, 1959. 334 p.

The Secret World is a biography of a former Soviet secret police official who, at 33, fled to the West. Written in the third

person by *Life* writer Frank Gibney, the book is also a synthesis of thoughts and observations on the life and times of Peter Deriabin, a Kremlin Guard officer until he fled in 1954. This volume contains no startling statements or philosophies, but is a very readable factual account of the everyday workings of the branches of the State Security. A central thought which threads throughout concerns an evaluation of the "changes" which have taken place since Khrushchev's rise to power. In the words of the author, ". . . the beast has changed his spots slightly, but he has not gone away. The advertised softening of the State Security has been only a prelude to its consolidation as an agent of the new dictator . . . the State Security remains the necessary tool of the dictator and the Party through which he rules." The appendices contain an example of the evolution of a formal case against a suspect, examples of incidents used for provocation in building up a case, a discussion of the 1958 revision of the USSR criminal code, and organization charts of the organs of the State Security of the USSR.

Greenspan, Morris. *The Modern Law of Land Warfare*. Los Angeles, University of California Press, 1959. 724 p.

By its title, this book sets the tone for its tremendously important contribution in that area of international law to which it is addressed. In this work, Greenspan has happily blended a most lucid presentation with a thoroughly researched and well-documented exposition of the laws of land warfare as they now exist. He writes not as a wishful thinker, but as a realist in the modern world. Personal opinions, when given, are clearly labeled. The author opens with an introduction as to the place of law in war. He then proceeds to trace international legal implications and principles throughout the course of war — from its commencement and its participants, through modern-day methods and instruments, to its termination. Greenspan also includes a short section on armed conflicts not of international character (civil war). Although the whole book