

# BOOK REVIEWS



The Battery Press of Nashville, Tennessee, again has sent us a number of its reprints, each of which has been done in the Press's usual fine manner. Each is worth your attention. The latest reprint offerings are: **OUT OF THE BLUE: U.S. ARMY AIRBORNE OPERATIONS IN WORLD WAR II**, by James A. Huston (Originally published in 1972. 1981. 327 Pages. \$19.95); **THE FIRST SPECIAL SERVICE FORCE: A WAR HISTORY OF THE NORTH AMERICANS, 1942-1944**, by Robert D. Burhans (Originally published in 1947. 1981. 376 Pages. \$22.00); **THE 27th INFANTRY DIVISION IN WORLD WAR II**, by Edmund G. Love (Originally published in 1949. 1981. 677 Pages); and **THE DEADEYES: THE STORY OF THE 96th INFANTRY DIVISION**, by Orlando R. Davidson, *et. al.* (Originally published in 1947. 1981. 310 Pages).

The Press has also issued the third volume in its elite unit series: **PROVIDENCE THEIR GUIDE: A PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF THE LONG RANGE DESERT GROUP, 1940-45**, by D. L. Lloyd Owen (1981. 238 Pages. \$19.50), an interesting account of a particular kind of unit doing particular kinds of jobs in North Africa from June 1940 to April 1943 and on the European mainland from May 1943 to May 1945.

Here are a number of other useful and interesting books:

**MECHANIZED INFANTRY**, by Richard Simpkin (Pergamon Press, 1980. 134 Pages. \$26.00), and **A PERSPECTIVE ON INFANTRY**, by John A. English (Praeger, 1981. 346 Pages. \$29.95). Is there a need for infantry in a modern military establishment? Has the infantryman become obsolete? If there is a need for infantry, what form should modern infantry

units take and what kinds of individuals should be in those units?

These are but a few of the questions addressed by the two authors mentioned above, one (Simpkin) a retired British Army Brigadier and a long-serving tank officer, the other (English) a serving member of the Canadian Defense Forces and an infantry officer in Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry.

Simpkin's book is the more difficult to read and understand, but it seems safe to say he believes there will be little use for the infantryman on the modern battlefield unless that worthy is mounted in a vehicle that closely resembles the main battle tank; in fact, he thinks the primary infantry vehicle should be based on the main battle tank and should afford the infantryman the same kind of protection. He also argues that the infantryman should be a member of the armor community. In many respects, his words echo those of J.F.C. Fuller who, in the 1920s and 1930s, argued for an "all-tank" force.

English, on the other hand, does not doubt that there will always be an infantry and that it will remain "the basic fighting arm in the combat zone." He feels, too, that the "current tactical emphasis on energy-consuming mobile armored warfare in Europe may be as misplaced as the attention focused on mobile cavalry operations prior to the Great War."

English calls for more and better individual small-unit training for the infantry, for placing more emphasis on maneuver, for teaching infantrymen "how to think rather than what to think," for developing "lean and hard-marching" soldiers, and for "the critical reading of the lessons of past wars."

These are two books that everyone

in today's infantry community should get hold of, read, and study carefully.

**VIETNAM ORDER OF BATTLE**, by Shelby L. Stanton (U.S. News Books, 1981. 396 Pages. \$49.95). This is truly an outstanding reference book, one of the finest yet produced on the war in Vietnam, and one that is going to have to be used by anyone studying the activities of the U.S. Army and Allied ground forces in Vietnam between 1961 and 1973.

Stanton put in six years in Vietnam as an infantry officer in a variety of assignments. In this book, which is organized as a true order of battle, he explains the general Army command structure in Vietnam, unit deployments and stations, their weapons and equipment, their insignia, a chronology of their combat operations, and their functions and missions.

The book is filled with photographs, line drawings, tables, and maps, and contains several appendices, one of which lists U.S. casualties by various categories. This is one of those publications we cannot recommend too highly.

**SO PROUDLY WE HAIL: THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES FLAG**, by William Rea Furlong and Byron McCandless, with the editorial assistance of Harold D. Langley (Smithsonian Institution Press Book, 1981. 260 Pages. \$22.50). Everything you wanted to know about our country's flag — its development over the years, its various designs and colorations, and its predecessors — is in this book. Filled with illustrations of various kinds and color reproductions, it is the best we have seen on the subject. Here is another of those reference books that is far more important than its title indicates.

**FOLLOW ME: THE HUMAN**

**ELEMENTS IN LEADERSHIP**, by Major General Aubrey S. Newman, US Army, Retired (Presidio Press, 1981. 323 Pages. \$14.95). This collection of leadership vignettes includes some of the author's "Forward Edge" columns from ARMY Magazine. Its appearance is well-timed because it comes in an era when management techniques seem to have replaced basic leadership terms and human motivators.

General Newman takes the reader through his colorful Army career, which spanned 40 years from his graduation from the Military Academy in 1921 until his retirement as Chief of Staff of the Continental Army Command (CONARC) in the pre-Vietnam period.

All his tales provide practical lessons that are timeless. He deals in a candid and common sense manner with such real issues as alcoholism, integrity, peer pressure, and bootlicking. He offers no "school solution" to the current infantry leader's problems, but merely relates what was successful for him. But he presents the lessons learned so simply and directly that they are at once convincing and applicable in similar situations.

For the infantry buff, General Newman's book should bring added interest as he spins each yarn into a khaki fabric that is warm, human, and even funny in parts. He has succeeded in writing a "how to lead" manual that is an excellent leadership primer for today's infantryman, who must wrestle at times with other "how to" publications.

**EISENHOWER'S LIEUTENANTS: THE CAMPAIGN FOR FRANCE AND GERMANY, 1944-1945**, by Russell F. Weigley (Indiana University Press, 1981. \$22.50). Reviewed by Major Thomas J. Waraska, Headquarters TRADOC.

This is an excellent one-volume history of the American Army's campaign in Europe. The generals' and the Army's preparations for the amphibious assault into and the movement across western Europe are analyzed in a fast-paced and readable

commentary. General Eisenhower is the hub of this book in which his subordinate generals and their actions are critically evaluated.

Such generals as George S. Patton, Jr., Omar Bradley, Courtney Hodges, Jacob Devers, and the British Army leader, Bernard Montgomery, emerge from this book in a different light than usual. They are pictured as overly conservative, methodical, and predictable. U.S. infantry units are often criticized for their poor performance, especially in closing with the enemy. The author, a professor of history at Temple University and well known throughout the military history profession, also believes that some of the subordinate American generals — Ridgway, Gavin, Gerow, Middleton, and J. Lawton Collins — were more capable and aggressive than their seniors.

The campaigns from Normandy to the Elbe River are covered in appropriate detail, and Weigley selectively highlights a number of excellent small-unit actions. Although the details may be considered excessive for some of the actions, they do serve to emphasize the role of individual soldiers in the subsequent victories.

Weigley does feel that the American units performed reasonably well, but he also feels that their pace of advance across Europe was not fast enough and that a daring thrust might have ended the war more quickly. Although the British Army escapes his harshest criticism, it is cited for its failure to open the Antwerp estuaries, thereby creating for the northern group of armies some serious supply problems.

This is a solid book. Weigley's analysis is informative, well documented, and thought provoking. Anyone who enjoys good military history should add this book to his library.

**WILLIAM ORLANDO DARBY: A MILITARY BIOGRAPHY**, By Michael J. King (Shoe String Press, 1981. 219 Pages). Reviewed by Captain Harold E. Raugh, Jr., Fort Benning, Georgia.

Commissioned from West Point in 1933, William O. Darby served in routine field artillery assignments until the United States entered World War II. His subsequent meteoric rise in rank paralleled the evolution of the Ranger battalions, units formed early in 1942 and patterned after the British Commandos.

Darby was among the first American soldiers to go overseas and he served initially as aide to the commanding general of the Army's Northern Ireland Force. From this position, Darby secured command of the embryonic 1st Ranger Battalion and was promoted from captain to lieutenant-colonel in less than ten weeks. He led the battalion in the invasions of North Africa, Sicily, and Anzio, and in all of the conventional fighting in between. He earned two Distinguished Service Crosses, a Silver Star, and two Purple Hearts.

A dynamic and courageous leader, Darby twice refused promotion to colonel because he would have had to leave his beloved Rangers. Eventually, the battalion was expanded into a regiment-sized Ranger Force, which consisted of the 1st, 3d, and 4th Ranger Battalions, but it was not authorized a force headquarters until much later.

In trying to break out of the Anzio beachhead in 1944, the 3d and 4th Ranger Battalions were decimated by the Germans at Cisterna, and only 6 out of 767 Rangers returned to friendly lines; the others were either killed or captured.

Shortly thereafter, Darby took command of the battered 179th Infantry Regiment of the 45th Infantry Division and led it for two months before being called to Washington. He returned to Europe in early 1945 and talked his way into the assistant division commander's position in the 10th Mountain Division in Italy. He was mortally wounded on 30 April 1945, just one week before the war ended in that country. On that same day, Darby's name appeared on a list of nominees for promotion to brigadier general. Shortly afterward, he was promoted posthumously, the on

ly Army officer promoted in that manner to flag rank during the war.

Michael King, author, has served in Ranger units and also as visiting associate professor of military history at the Army's Command and General Staff College. His research for this volume has been quite extensive, and the actions of the Ranger battalions and related units are chronicled in accurate detail. King does make one obvious mistake, though, when he refers to Terry Allen as a lieutenant general; Allen was a major general.

This book is highly recommended to the student of elite units and to those who favor biographies of combat commanders.

**THE MILITARY-NAVAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RUSSIA AND THE SOVIET UNION: VOLUME 3**, edited by David R. Jones (Academic International Press, 1981. 247 Pages. \$31.00). Reviewed by Alexander S. Birkos, Mount Shasta, California.

In this volume the reader will find 63 entries, practically all devoted to naval subjects. He will also find the errata to Volume 2.

David Jones continues his notable attention to clear writing and great detail in each article. There is not only anecdotal material but also an exhaustive treatment of the historical development of Russian shipbuilding on the Baltic. This volume clearly points up the fact that the Russians long have had a strong urge to build a large and modern sea-going fleet. Thus, the current Soviet naval build-up, which has been a source of concern to the West, is not really a startling development but a continuation of policies that were pursued long before 1917.

Professional officers who want to undertake research on Russia's armed forces or defense policies will find this encyclopedia an indispensable reference tool. Aside from the abundance of information in each article, the bibliographies at the end of each entry are in themselves invaluable time-saving guides to sources for further study.

**BRINGING UP THE REAR**, by S.L.A. Marshall (Presidio Press,

1979. 310 Pages. \$12.95). Reviewed by Colonel Robert G. Clarke, Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

S.L.A. Marshall's association with the United States Army covered almost half a century and included World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Mid-East crises, and Vietnam. He was a true citizen-soldier who answered his country's call to duty time and time again.

This is a delightful memoir in which Marshall, who died before the book was completed, gives his readers a behind-the-scenes look at some of the major political and military events of his times. It is well structured and reads easily in the true Marshall style. Modesty was never one of Marshall's strong traits, but this only insures that the reader will be told some stimulating tales of how Marshall fought his battles and won more than he lost.

Marshall was our most prolific military writer and his efforts through the years helped shape and influence the Army. Especially strong was his influence on the infantry.

The Army lost a true friend when S.L.A. Marshall died, but his writings will continue to pay tribute to him so long as soldiers fight and armies march.

**DIE SCHLACHT UM MOSKAU**, by Janusz Piekalkiewicz (Luebbe Verlag, 1981. 288 Pages. DM 48.) Reviewed by Colonel Wolfgang Gerhardt, German Army.

In July 1941, Hitler attacked the Soviet Union. By December, the Germans were in the suburbs of Moscow. This book describes that famous battle in its day-by-day events and shows what it looked like to soldiers on both sides of the lines. The author's narrative is supported by photographs, many of which have never before been published.

The author, of Polish descent but now living in West Germany, has written a number of other works on World War II operations. This book is filled with individual battle scenes, with stories of suspense, and with tales of tragic events. His story is dramatic, yet realistic. The German

offensive literally froze stiff and came to a dead stop in the Russian winter.

The book also contains organizational charts, maps, weapon diagrams, individual action reports, and a well-rounded bibliographic note. It is highly recommended not only to military historians but to young officers and noncommissioned officers as well. It is hoped that the author will find an English-language publishing house so that the dramatic events he narrates can become known to a non-German reading audience.

**SECOND FRONT NOW, 1943**, by Walter Scott Dunn, Jr. (University of Alabama Press, 1980. 318 Pages. \$21.50), and **1943: THE VICTORY THAT NEVER WAS**, by John Grigg (Hill and Wang, 1980. 254 Pages. \$12.50).

Both writers, one American (Dunn), the other British (Grigg) advance the same thesis: The military forces of the United States and Great Britain could have landed successfully in northwest Europe in 1943, a year before they did. Dunn, in fact, feels that an Allied invasion in 1943 would have met far less German resistance. Like Grigg, he feels the final decision was a political one.

Dunn stays mainly with the military aspects of the whole business while Grigg concentrates his attention on the political and grand strategy aspects as well as on the campaigns that were conducted in 1943. Both do admit that the war in the Pacific had some effect on the American effort.

Was an Allied cross-Channel attack in 1943 possible? These authors say yes, *if* certain things had been done differently. So the reader must make up his own mind. As he reads the books, though, he must remember the assumptions.

**MALIGNED GENERAL: A BIOGRAPHY OF THOMAS S. JESUP**, by Chester L. Kieffer (Presidio Press, 1979. 376 Pages. \$16.95). Reviewed by Captain Michael E. Long, Fort Benning, Georgia.

The United States Army suffered a number of growing pains during its early years, particularly in the period

between the end of the War of 1812 and the outbreak of the Civil War. As the author puts it: "Not only did the service lack proper organization, training and discipline, but it displayed other serious deficiencies. Political consideration rather than merit was often the basis for the appointment and promotion of officers. The contract system of supplying troops was inefficient and haphazard primarily because contractors were not subject to military control. The Quartermaster Department, the principal supply agency of the Army, was also in a state of confusion and disorganization."

This crisis-managed environment set the stage for the arrival of General Thomas Sydney Jesup, whose biography has been carefully documented by Chester Kieffer, a retired Army historian. Kieffer describes Jesup's military career in meticulous detail, and describes him as "one who was loyal to his many friends with his personal life beyond reproach."

Although many historians consider Jesup a secondary figure in American military history, he was the soldier Secretary of War John C. Calhoun called on to reorganize the Quartermaster Department and to put it on a businesslike basis. The system Jesup set up made each individual accountable for his own acts and made it mandatory for those who received money or property to account for it properly.

Jesup also served as a field commander during the Seminole War in the 1830s and was accused of violating the white flag of surrender when his troops captured the Seminole leader, Osceola.

Kieffer has made extensive use of

the Jesup family papers to bring out the good qualities of a military man he thinks has been badly maligned. It is a worthy addition to the military historian's bookshelf.

**THE POLITICAL INFLUENCE OF THE MILITARY: A COMPARATIVE READER**, edited by Amos Perlmutter and Valerie Plave Bennett (Yale University Press, 1980. 508 Pages. \$10.95, Paperbound) Reviewed by Doctor Joe P. Dunn, Converse College.

Amos Perlmutter's *The Military and Politics in Modern Times* (1977) is one of the more significant texts in civilian-military relations. Written primarily to support the above text, the compendium under review is the first comprehensive reader in this field.

The 59 selections are grouped under three headings consistent with the three major models analyzed in the text: the professional soldier, the praetorian army and the praetorian state, and the revolutionary professional soldier. Each section has an excellent introduction that develops themes and historiography. The excerpts, which include works by the classic scholars in the field, are well chosen both in quality and balance. Unfortunately, as is typical of such readers, the selections are so truncated that the individual articles lose much of their effectiveness.

This book will probably be well received in advanced courses in military sociology and civilian-military relations and, in some cases, international or developmental politics. But this is not a book for the general reader. Its effects will be felt within a small circle of academia but will not reach far beyond that.

#### RECENT AND RECOMMENDED

**WARPLANES OF THE WORLD, 1918-1939.** By Michael J.H. Taylor. Scribner's, 1981. \$17.95.

**B-57 CANBERRA AT WAR, 1964-1972** By Robert C. Mikesh. Scribner's, 1981. \$17.95.

**STUKA AT WAR.** By Peter C. Smith. Scribner's, 1981. \$19.95.

**NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY FOR THE 1980s.** Edited by Robert L. Pfaltzgraff, Jr. The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Volume 457, September 1981. Sage Publications, 1981. 237 Pages. \$7.00, Soft Cover.

**INTELLIGENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 1980s: COVERT ACTION.** Edited by Ray Godson. National Strategy Information Center, 1981. 243 Pages. \$7.50, Soft Cover.

**HOW TO BECOME A SUCCESSFUL FREELANCE WRITER: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO GETTING PUBLISHED.** By Jordan K. Young. Moonstone Press, PO Box 661, Anaheim, California 92805, 1981. 121 Pages. \$9.95, Soft Cover.

**WATCH-WORD!!! A GLOSSARY OF GOBBLEDYGOOK, CLICHES, AND SOLECISMS.** By Argus John Tresidder. Published by the Marine Corps Association, Quantico, Virginia, 1981. 110 Pages. \$2.50, Soft Cover.

**ESCORT TO BERLIN: THE 4th FIGHTER GROUP IN WORLD WAR II.** By Garry L. Fry and Jeffrey L. Ethell. Arco Publishing, 1980. 226 Pages. \$16.95.

**EAGLES OF MITSUBISHI: THE STORY OF THE ZERO FIGHTER.** By Jiro Horikoshi. Translated by Shojiro Shindo and Harold N. Wantiez. University of Washington Press, 1981. 160 Pages. \$18.95.

**SOVIET NAVAL DEVELOPMENTS.** Second Edition. Foreward by Norman Polmar. The Nautical and Aviation Publishing Company of America, 1981. 138 Pages. \$14.95.

**USAAF AT WAR IN THE PACIFIC.** By David Mondey and Lewis Nalls. Scribner's, 1981. \$22.50.

