

BOOK REVIEWS



Good books in large numbers continue to come our way, and we wish to thank all of the publishing houses here and abroad who send us review copies of their publications. Among the books we have received in the past few months that we want our readers to know about are these:

• **MODERN SMALL ARMS**, by Ian V. Hogg (Presidio Press, 1983. 224 Pages. \$20.00). The author probably knows as much about small arms and artillery pieces as anyone now living. A former Master Gunner in the British Army, Hogg writes extensively on military weapons, and this book — although “prettier” than most of the ones he has been associated with — shows his professional approach and his extensive knowledge of weaponry. More than 170 pistols, rifles, machineguns, submachineguns, and shotguns are pictured and detailed. The book has an excellent introduction written by Hogg, and separate sections on “the great American pistol test,” ammunition developments, the assault rifle, and combat shotguns. Hogg believes that within the next 10 years the assault rifle “will have taken over the role held by the ‘standard’ military rifle in practically every armed force of any consequence and will, itself, have become the standard infantry weapon.” This is a fine reference work and Hogg, as usual, throws in a lot of his own ideas on what is, what should have been, and what might be.

• **ATLAS OF MEDIEVAL EUROPE**, By Donald Matthew (Facts on File, 1983. 240 Pages. \$35.00). Donald Matthew, a professor of history at the University of Reading, has written previously on medieval Europe. In this book, he combines his narrative with dozens of four-color maps and hundreds of illustrations to present an excellent survey of European culture and socie-

ty from the decline of the Roman empire to the discovery of America in the late 15th century. This is another fine reference work, and should appeal to the student of history as well as to the history buff. It is a book that can also be quite useful to the military professional in setting the stage for the many important European wars during those 10 centuries.

• **ATLAS OF THE THIRD WORLD**, by George Kurian (Facts on File, 1983. 381 Pages. \$85.00). The author once served as executive director of the Indo-British Historical Society, and five years ago published a three-volume **ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE THIRD WORLD**. In this atlas, he compresses from that encyclopedia a large amount of data about 80 Third World countries and presents it in the form of 600 maps and 2,000 charts and graphs. There is only a limited amount of narrative, and that takes the form of a brief introductory comment for each country. This book does provide an instant overview of the political, economic, military, and social conditions throughout the region.

• **CHEVRONS: ILLUSTRATED HISTORY AND CATALOG OF U.S. ARMY INSIGNIA**, by Lieutenant Colonel William K. Emerson (Smithsonian Institution Press, 1983. 298 Pages. \$49.50). The publisher refers to this as being a “landmark book.” We agree, for we have not seen another quite like it. The author is a serving U.S. Army officer and has had a lifelong interest in the Army’s chevrons and service stripes. His book, which contains pictures of 637 chevrons and service stripes, describes each one, catalogs all of them in a system he developed, and provides an identification guide to the various chevrons and stripes worn by the Army’s officers and enlisted soldiers from the Revolution to the

present. We cannot praise this book and the author’s efforts too highly.

• **THE MILITARY BALANCE, 1983-1984**, by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (London, 1983. 152 Pages. \$14.00, Paperback). This authoritative reference book, with data current as of 1 July 1983, pays particular attention to the economics of defense, to demographic trends, and to the aging NATO and Warsaw Pact fleets. The Institute’s staff does not believe that there is a widespread arms race going on in the world today. Rather, it sees qualitative improvement in military armament rather than larger inventories. The Institute’s staff also questions whether there is enough money in the United States operations and maintenance budgets to keep pace with the rapid rise in the amount of new equipment being acquired. As usual, this annual survey contains a large amount of comparative data on the world’s armed forces and on regional defense pacts. For the first time in some years it does not include a comparison of the theater nuclear forces in Europe.

• **ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE AND BRASSEY’S DEFENCE YEARBOOK, 1983** (Pergamon Press, 1983. 399 Pages. \$20.00, Softbound). This is the 93d edition of a well-known and authoritative yearbook. It is, as usual, divided into three parts — a strategic review section, a weapon developments section, and a general section. Ian Hogg, whom we mentioned earlier, prepared two articles on weapon developments for ground forces during 1982. Each of the 22 separate articles in the book was written by an authority on the particular subject. This is another of those books that Infantrymen should be familiar with.

RING OF FIRE: AUSTRALIAN GUERRILLA OPERATIONS AGAINST THE JAPANESE IN WORLD WAR II. By Dick Horton (David and Charles, 1983. 164 Pages. \$18.95). Reviewed by Captain F.R. Hayse, United States Army.

The early successes of small raiding operations against German occupied territories by British commando forces led to a suggestion to the Australian government in 1940 that it could benefit from the British experiences.

The Australian government accepted the suggestion and set up a special training center in 1941 at Cairns, and established the Services Reconnaissance Department. Its job was to conduct special operations activities against the Japanese military services, which were still expanding their holdings in the Pacific.

This is the story of the little known activities conducted by the Department and its offshoots between 1943 and the end of the war. It shows how effective well-controlled economy of force operations could be in destroying and disrupting Japanese operations and in cutting Japanese lines of communication. For example, in carrying out 81 operations behind Japanese lines, Department operators raised and equipped more than 6,000 guerrillas, forced the diversion of more than 30,000 Japanese troops to rear area security missions, and inflicted 1,700 known casualties on the Japanese at a cost of approximately 112 people.

The book is written in the matter-of-fact style that characterizes a number of similar books on special operations during World War II, but those interested in current concepts and in the use of special operations forces will find it a good source of information on the types of problems that those who conduct such operations must face.

Although it is written for a selective audience, the book is well organized and provides a good historical study for military professionals and historians who are interested in the use of these kinds of units.

THE TERRORISTS: THEIR WEAPONS, LEADERS AND TACTICS, by Christopher Dobson and Ronald Payne (Facts on File, 1982. 262 Pages. \$14.95). Reviewed by Colonel James B. Motley, Senior Fellow, The Atlantic Council of the United States.

This is an updated and revised edition of an earlier work by journalists Christopher Dobson and Ronald Payne, both of whom have written extensively on the horrors of terrorism.

Their purpose is "to show how the development of military technology, producing ever-smaller and more deadly weapons, has affected the skills of terror and altered its tactics." Accordingly, they present detailed discussions on the weapons of terror — guns and bombs.

According to the authors, all terrorists share a common heritage: they all have come under the influence of political thinkers who advocate violence. Thus, the authors suggest that modern terrorist tactics were perfected in Latin America by Carlos Marighella.

Dobson and Payne also present an excellent discussion of some of the more notorious terrorist organizations, personalities, and incidents of the 1970s. They feel that because of the increased awareness in the United States of the dangers of terrorism and possible Soviet involvement in certain terrorist organizations, it is easy for some people to believe that there is a master terrorist plan that is controlled by the Kremlin. But Dobson and Payne do not think this is so. They argue that terrorists are exploited rather than controlled by the Soviet Union.

This is a well-written, informative book, and it serves as an instant reference guide for both the specialist and the general reader. It is quite evident that the authors did a good deal of detailed research in preparing to write their book. Footnotes and a more extensive bibliography, though, would have been helpful for those individuals who might want to do more reading on this subject.

WOLVES FOR THE BLUE SOLDIERS: INDIAN SCOUTS AND AUXILIARIES WITH THE UNITED STATES ARMY, 1860-1890, by Thomas W. Dunlay (University of Nebraska Press, 1982. 304 Pages. \$21.95). Reviewed by Professor Benjamin F. Gilbert, San Jose State University.

This study, originally a doctoral thesis completed at the University of Nebraska, is a comprehensive and scholarly study of the use of Indian Scouts by the United States Army in the trans-Mississippi West during the Civil War and its aftermath.

In subduing the hostile western Indians, the Army adopted a practice first implemented by European armies in the conquest of North America — the British, for example, turned the Iroquois into faithful allies in their wars against the French. The Spaniards along the northern borderlands of Mexico relied upon Pueblo auxiliaries. Thus, Juan Bautista de Anza, when serving as governor of New Mexico from 1778 to 1787, defeated the Comanches with Pueblo allies and then persuaded the Comanches to campaign against the Navajos; eventually, he used a Navajo contingent in combating the Western Apaches.

From 1848 to 1861, the Army's highest authorized strength was 18,000, and it was expected to keep peace with an Indian population that numbered over 400,000. In California the influx of miners during the gold rush virtually annihilated weaker tribes and the Army even tried to protect the Indians from the whites.

The Civil War intensified the Indian-white conflict throughout the Far West as new mining rushes occurred, and five new territories and the state of Nevada came into existence. Indians became an increasingly important part of the Army's combat forces. By the late 1870s, particularly during the Apache campaigns, Indian scouts often were the only troops engaged in battle. In fact, the year 1882 marked the high point of scout service when seven of ten engagements involved Indian scouts.

In the opinion of some Army leaders, the use of scouts shattered the morale of hostile Indians and encouraged them to surrender. Colonel George Crook reasoned that the use of scouts from the same tribe would break tribal cohesion and the authority of hostile leaders. The reconnaissance and trailing functions of the Indian scouts was necessary in any effective military action against hostile Indians.

Although more Indians perished as a result of intertribal warfare than in wars with the whites, scouting seemed to facilitate the assimilation of the Indians into white society, which was an avowed aim of official military policy in the post-Civil War era.

This book has appropriate maps and illustrations as well as detailed notes and a concise bibliographical essay. It offers the reader a different and stimulating approach to the military history of the Far West in the latter part of the 19th century.

DELTA FORCE. By Colonel Charlie A. Beckwith and Donald Knox (Harcourt, Brace and Jovanovich, 1983. 300 Pages. \$14.95). Reviewed by Captain Bryan Evans III, Fort Myer, Virginia.

Early in the morning of 25 April 1980, a group of elite American military men landed at a desolate spot code-named "Desert One" in the Iranian desert. Four hours later, eight of those men were dead and seven aircraft — one C130 airplane and six HH53 helicopters — lay either destroyed or abandoned at the site.

Just four days later, on 29 April, a relatively unknown Army colonel, Charlie Beckwith, stood in the Pentagon briefing room telling reporters the details of the aborted mission. Still later, he, along with other members of the Department of Defense, testified before Congress in secret meetings concerning the operation. But the general public received nothing beyond the basic facts of the rescue mission known as "Operation Eagle Claw."

This book provides a good deal

more information about the operation and about Delta Force, a special operations group within the U.S. military services that Beckwith had fought for and literally fathered.

Colonel Beckwith's book is supposed to be an autobiography and a critique of "Operation Eagle Claw." It is neither, but it is easy to read and does provide some interesting information that is not generally known outside the Special Forces community.

The book is divided roughly into four parts: Beckwith's one-year tour with the British Special Air Service (SAS), a unit which Beckwith was very much taken with and which gave him the idea of forming a similar unit in the United States; Beckwith's experiences as a commander of Detachment B-52 (Project Delta) of the 5th Special Forces Group in Vietnam; the creation of the 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment — Delta (SFOD-D), probably the most interesting part of the book; and, finally, the planning, preparation, execution, and aftermath of the Iranian hostage rescue mission.

What needs to be said is that this is one man's story of events as he experienced them and remembers them. The book itself will probably attract a great deal of interest from the general military community. But in the special operations community, it is bound to receive mixed reviews. Colonel Beckwith is an especially controversial figure, and his recollections of the Delta/Blue Light dispute will be sure to raise some hackles.

Overall — because the book represents one man's point of view primarily about a unit whose organization, equipment, and techniques are classified — Colonel Beckwith's remarks should be taken with a grain of salt. His book certainly should not be considered a definitive work.

THE EVOLUTION OF UNITED STATES ARMY NUCLEAR DOCTRINE, 1945-1980, by John P. Rose (Westview Press, 1981. 252 Pages. \$23.50). Reviewed by Colonel Robert

G. Clarke, Headquarters CINCPAC.

The primary thesis of this short work is that the United States Army currently has no nuclear battlefield doctrine with which to train soldiers to fight and win in a nuclear environment. A sub-thesis is that the development of the Army's tactical doctrine, both nuclear and conventional, has been responsive "more to political preferences of our national authorities than to the real nature of the threat and the rigors of the nuclear battlefield."

With those evident statements as a given, the author recounts the development of the Army's tactical nuclear doctrine to determine how much it has changed since 1945. Although military doctrine usually is thought of as a set of principles by which the Army guides itself in the application of its forces to support the national objectives, Rose proposes that "the Army requires no preceding set of conditions with which doctrine must conform." While he may be correct in theory, he goes on to describe in his book just the opposite — how political decisions and considerations have determined nuclear doctrine since 1945.

The author apparently assumes that his readers have little or no working knowledge of nuclear weapons or of the Army itself. Therefore, he makes a number of generalized statements that detract from the overall effect he is trying to create. Further, he argues that so many technological advances have been made in nuclear weapons that it is now possible for a commander to use tactical nuclear weapons almost as easily as he would any of his other weapons. He also states that the use of tactical nuclear weapons will not lead to an escalation of their use.

Rose then outlines his proposed nuclear doctrine. It has three items that differ significantly from the Army's current doctrine — the immediate use of tactical nuclear weapons once the national command authority has approved their use; the use of tactical nuclear weapons in a counterforce role only; and the

authority to use tactical nuclear weapons delegated to levels as far down the chain of command as the battalion commander. All of this is outlined in rather summary fashion and pleads for more definition.

Perhaps the most interesting part of this short work, though, is its presentation of a historical development of our present tactical nuclear doctrine.

MODERN AUTHORITARIANISM: A COMPARATIVE INSTITUTIONAL ANALYSIS, by Amos Perlmutter (Yale University Press, 1981. 194 Pages. \$17.50). Reviewed by Lieutenant Colonel John C. Spence III, United States Army Reserve.

A current issue of some importance is whether the United States should selectively favor one form of foreign dictatorship over another.

Amos Perlmutter, a professor of political science at American University, in this book clarifies contemporary attitudes about "our" dictators versus "their" (the Soviet Union's) dictators. He departs from the totalitarian analysis of dictatorship that was previously espoused by such writers as Hannah Arendt. He focuses, rather, on the structural aspects that serve as the basis for authoritarian regimes. What is important to Perlmutter is the relationship between the ruling political party, bureaucratic elites, military groups, and trade unions.

One of his major points is that ideological analysis alone cannot explain the sustenance, survival, or decay of an authoritarian political system. The important question to him is determining a regime's political organization and structural basis. In other words, Perlmutter emphasizes instruments of political and social control, rather than ideology.

The author's analysis is broad and extensive. He discusses, in a comparative sense, the Soviet and Nazi regimes, Italian fascism, Latin American governments, as well as current Middle East and African dictatorships.

Perlmutter's book is a valuable contribution to the field of contemporary political science. His outstanding academic credentials and his background in military affairs are reflected in this extremely well written and scholarly work.

THE WARSAW PACT: POLITICAL PURPOSE AND MILITARY MEANS, edited by Robert W. Clawson and Lawrence S. Kaplan (Scholarly Resources, 1982. 297 Pages. \$19.95). Reviewed by Captain Don Rightmyer, United States Air Force.

A vast amount of attention in both books and periodicals currently is being devoted to the Soviet Union. That emphasis is justly deserved, but the result is that the other Warsaw Pact nations are frequently ignored or overlooked. This book remedies that defect to a considerable degree.

It is, in actuality, a collection of papers that were presented in 1981 at the Center for NATO Studies. The contributors include such noted authorities as John Erickson, Edgar O'Ballance, Steven Kime, and Bill Sweetman.

The essays are divided into five sections: the political relationships within the Pact; the Pact countries and NATO; the military forces of each Pact nation; the weapons the Pact nations are currently deploying; and the military doctrine and capabilities of the Soviet bloc countries. Each essay is concise and nicely covers its particular topic. Footnotes to each have been added for this volume. Each is well written.

This book meets a current need and provides an excellent introduction for those who are not familiar with Warsaw Pact affairs. It is also a worthwhile compendium of current information for those who are knowledgeable about the Warsaw Pact.

CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONS: REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES, by Morris Janowitz (Sage Publications, 1981. 288 Pages. \$22.50). Reviewed by Doctor Joe P. Dunn, Converse College.

The seven articles in this volume were presented at the 20th anniversary conference of the prestigious Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society in October 1980. The unifying theme for the volume is a regional approach to civil-military relations around the globe in an attempt to draw larger conclusions from the individual empirical studies.

Morris Janowitz, the editor, founding chairman of the IUS, and the world's most renowned military sociologist, opens with an essay that traces the methodological history of the study of civil-military relations and previews the other essays. C.I. Eugene Kim surveys the Asian military regimes. Ann Gregory and DeWitt C. Ellinwood focus on ethnic problems in South and Southeast Asia. Harlan W. Jencks addresses China's civil-military relations. Fuad I. Khuri looks at the Middle East, and Ivan Volgyes, the Warsaw Pact countries. Gwynn Harries-Jenkins discusses the implications of Western European welfare state policies on NATO military services, and David Laitin and Drew Harker analyze the secessionist movements in Nigeria and Ethiopia.

As with most collections of conference papers, this is not a smooth, coherent book. The quality of the fare varies greatly. Written for specialists and, particularly, for social scientists, the book has limited appeal to the more general reader.

RECENT AND RECOMMENDED

TAKTISCHE UBUNGEN FUR KOMPANIE UND ZUG. 2. Auflage. A Truppendienst Taschenbuch. By Oberst dG Engelbert Lagler. Vienna: Verlag Carl Ueberreuter, 1983. 208 Pages. S 80.

THE MIDDLE EAST MILITARY BALANCE, 1983. Edited by Mark Heller. Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, Tel Aviv University, 1983. 385 Pages. \$20.00, Softbound.

AMMUNITION, INCLUDING GRENADES AND MINES. By K.J.W. Goad and D.H.J. Halsey. Brassey's Battlefield Weapons Systems and Technology. Volume III. Pergamon Press, 1982. 289 Pages. \$17.50, Softbound.

LOST VICTORIES. By Field Marshal Erich von Manstein. A Reprint. Presidio Press, 1982. 574 Pages. \$18.95.