

BOOK REVIEWS



The Army's Center of Military History in Washington, D.C. has brought out THE ARMY HISTORIAN, a periodical that is dedicated to the proposition that an appreciation of military history is a valuable addition to an officer's intellectual background. It has been designed, therefore, to further the study and application of military history in the Army. Its managing editor is Bruce D. Hardcastle; his telephone numbers are AUTOVON 285-1278, or commercial 202/272-1278. His mailing address is U.S. Army Center of Military History, Pulaski Building, 20 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20314.

Mr. Hardcastle is seeking articles of from 300 to 1,500 words for publication in his future issues. He would particularly like to see articles on Army historical activities, current research, the uses of military history and its position in the Army, past commanders' use of history, military historiography, programs promoting historical awareness, and professional reading.

Thus far, Hardcastle has turned out two fine issues. It is a quarterly publication and subscriptions to it are free for the asking by either military or civilian personnel. All one has to do is to request a subscription from Mr. Hardcastle.

In addition to THE ARMY HISTORIAN, the Center of Military History has prepared more than 200 titles of historical works and has listed them in a brochure entitled "Publications of the U.S. Army Center of Military History," which is also available free of charge from the Center. Most of the Center's publications can be procured through Army publication channels, and these are listed in the current DA Pamphlet 310-1, which is updated periodically

in microfiche.

Too, nearly all of the Center's publications are sold by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. To help an individual order the right publication, that office has prepared a select bibliography entitled "Military History," which is free upon request.

All orders to the Superintendent of Documents should be accompanied by payment in the form of a check or money order payable to the Superintendent of Documents. Payment may also be made by a Superintendent of Documents deposit account number, or a VISA or MasterCard account number, furnishing the expiration date. All international orders (\$4.00 minimum per order) must include payment in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. or Canadian bank located in the United States or Canada, and payment must include an additional 25 percent of the total order for international handling. UNESCO Coupons and international postal money orders are also acceptable remittances from foreign countries.

With the exception of free promotional literature — catalogs, lists of publications, and the like — no free books are distributed by the Government Printing Office. The free services that are available should be requested in writing from the Publication Order Branch, Stop SSOP, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

We urge our readers to take advantage of the tremendous offerings from both the Center of Military His-

tory and the Government Printing Office.

Here are a number of books we think you will find both interesting and useful:

• **PRELUDE TO PEARL HARBOR: WAR IN CHINA, 1937-1941.** By Roy M. Stanley II (Scribner's, 1982. 213 Pages. \$24.95). Although we briefly mentioned this book in an earlier issue, we would again like to call it to your attention.

The author is a long-serving intelligence officer in the United States Air Force. A trained photo interpreter, he brings his knowledge of and experience in that field to his book, which tells the story — in words and more than 250 photographs — of the little known China War, that vast and bitter struggle that provided Japan with a training ground for World War II.

Stanley feels strongly that if the Western powers had had professional intelligence establishments in the 1930s "the battles of early 1942 would probably have had a different outcome." He feels, too, that "the magnitude of the licking taken by the West early in World War II can be traced to a decade of lost intelligence opportunities on the Asian mainland." He says, "All the answers were there, but nobody was really paying attention. The West had to learn everything about the Japanese war machine for itself — the hard way."

This is a fine piece of work about a war that most United States military men know little about; it deserves far more of their attention today, given the importance of the Far East to all of us.

• **THE HISTORY OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF IN WORLD WAR II: THE WAR AGAINST JAPAN.** By Grace Person Hayes (Naval Institute Press, 1982.

NOTE TO READERS: All of the books mentioned in this review section may be purchased directly from the publisher or from your nearest book dealer. We will furnish a publisher's address on request.

964 Pages). This is an excellent follow-on volume to the Stanley book mentioned above, for it begins where that book leaves off and carries the story of World War II in the Pacific — although from a high level, and then only on one side — to the end of the war with Japan in 1945.

The author wrote the manuscript for this book between 1946 and 1953 while she was serving with the Historical Section of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. It was classified at the time it was finished and was not cleared for publication until 1971. In a preface to this 1982 publication, Hayes describes the nature of her rather massive undertaking and tells what the book is and what it is not. The only significant difference between this and the original version is the addition of a detailed bibliographic note prepared by Dean C. Allard from the U.S. Naval Historical Center.

Hayes points out that her manuscript "is a history of the involvement of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the war against Japan," but that "it is not a history of that war." Because it is what it is, her book has to be regarded as a most valuable reference tool, not only for the student of the U.S. high command during World War II but also for the student of the Far East aspects of that war. It is, overall, an excellent historical presentation.

• **WITH SHIELD AND SWORD: AMERICAN MILITARY AFFAIRS, COLONIAL TIMES TO THE PRESENT.** By Warren W. Hassler, Jr. (Iowa State University Press, 1982. 462 Pages. \$29.50). Statistics and personalities dominate this book, which apparently was written to be a text book for military history courses. The difficulty with the author's approach is that the statistics mean little by themselves and the "pictures" drawn of the leading participants are far too sketchy to give the reader a real understanding of the leading actors.

Still, the author does pull together under one set of covers information about all of our wars, so his book could be used as a general reference work. But it is no more than that.

• **ADVICE AND SUPPORT: THE EARLY YEARS, 1941-1960.** By Ronald H. Spector (U.S. Army Center of Military History, 1983. 391 Pages. \$11.00, Softbound). The closest project to its World War II Green Book series that the Center of Military History has going at present is its planned 18-volume series on the Vietnam War.

Ronald Spector's book — published simultaneously in both hardcover and paperback — is the first book in the new series. Spector has been with the Center since 1971 and served as a field historian with the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam during 1968 and 1969.

He has divided his book into three major parts: the events in Vietnam during and immediately after World War II; the U.S. support of the French in their long war against the Viet Minh; and, finally, the early U.S. advisory efforts in South Vietnam and the origins of the Second Indochina War. In his last chapter, Spector offers an assessment of those early U.S. advisory efforts.

The author has done a difficult task very well indeed and has gotten the new series off to a fine start.

• **THE IMAGE OF WAR, 1861-1865: VOLUME V, THE SOUTH BESIEGED.** Edited by William C. Davis (Doubleday, 1983. 461 Pages. \$39.95). The war was going badly for the South; how badly is told in this fifth of a planned six-volume photographic history of the Civil War. With the end in sight, the South was besieged on all sides.

In this volume, seven essayists cover the fighting for Tennessee; the Northern naval blockade that was becoming more and more efficient and, therefore, more effective; the Wilderness campaign; the fall of Atlanta; the war in the West; and Sheridan's Shenandoah campaign.

Magnificent photographs once again dominate, particularly those of Atlanta, the siege of Charleston, the bloody Wilderness, and the forgotten war in the West.

• **TANK BATTALIONS OF THE U.S. ARMY.** By James A. Sawicki

(Wyvern Publications, 1983. 427 Pages. \$25.00). Three years ago, the author of this book published a similar volume of the Army's Infantry regiments. Then he brought out a two-volume set on the field artillery battalions of the United States Army. Now, in this book, he completes his combat arms trilogy, and it is, as he says, "the most comprehensive publication of its kind to appear in print."

In his book, Sawicki documents the history, heraldry, and honors of the 417 tank battalions that have existed since World War I. Much of the information he offers has never before appeared in print. His 38-page history of the tank battalion is also particularly interesting and informative. And adding to the book's reference value are three appendixes — one on coats of arms and distinctive insignia, one on campaign streamers, and the third a glossary of lineage terms — plus tables showing the tank battalions of World War I and the divisional assignments of the World War II tank battalions, and a good index. Sawicki has done another fine job.

VIETNAM: A HISTORY, by Stanley Karnow (Viking Press, 1983. 750 Pages. \$20.00). Reviewed by Doctor Joe P. Dunn, Converse College.

This has been a significant year — 1983 — for reflection and retrospect on the Vietnam War. A number of conferences early in the year concentrated on the war. Most important was "Vietnam Reconsidered," a huge and emotional gathering in Los Angeles. Fox Butterfield's "The New Vietnam Scholarship" in the *New York Times Magazine* demonstrated the resurgence of the academic study of the war on the college campus.

But the most significant indication of the revived interest in the war was the 13-part Public Broadcasting System saga, "Vietnam: A Television History." Anyone who watched one of the segments is aware that the volume reviewed here is the companion text to that series.

The volume is the best text now available. Karnow is a journalist

author of several books on China with extensive experience in Asia and long service in Vietnam. The book is well written in a style that will appeal to both the novice and the specialist. Karnow's research is solid, and his interpretations, for the most part, are balanced and sound. The auxiliary features, such as 150 captioned photographs, a glossary of important individuals, and an extensive chronology, are excellent. The coverage is far broader than any of the present popular texts such as George C. Herrington's *America's Longest War* (1979) or Michael Maclear's *The Ten Thousand Day War* (1981).

I have not been happy with every aspect of the PBS television series; neither do I support every interpretation in Karnow's text. But both the series and the book are major pieces of work that serve a valuable role in reviving interest in the history of this important American experience. I expect to use both in my classroom for some time.

ARMIES OF THE VIETNAM WAR (2), by Lee E. Russell (London: Osprey Publishing Ltd., 1983. 40 Pages). Reviewed by Captain F.R. Hayse, United States Army.

Because of the length of the Vietnam War and the numbers of and variations in the armies involved, the task of writing a book that deals only with the basic uniforms and items of personal equipment is a most difficult one. In writing this book, Lee Russell, a former Marine and a Vietnam veteran, reduced this task to more manageable proportions by covering only the armies of South Vietnam, North Vietnam, and the United States and by using selected photographs and color illustrations to complement his text.

Russell's text is clearly written in the sparse style found in all of these men-at-arms books, but he does give both a thorough and a progressive account of the development of uniforms and equipment during the Vietnam era.

There are some technical errors in the book, particularly in the captions

that accompany some of the illustrations concerning special operations units. But these are not overly important and do not detract from the book's total worth.

I recommend this book to anyone who has an interest in the Vietnam conflict. I also recommend it to those military professionals who believe that history repeats itself and who look on such books as this one as valuable reference tools. It contains many lessons learned that should not be forgotten.

A PERSONAL NAME INDEX TO ORTON'S "RECORDS OF CALIFORNIA MEN IN THE WAR OF THE REBELLION, 1861-1867," compiled by J. Carlyle Parker (Gale Research Company, 1978. 153 Pages. \$22.00). Reviewed by Professor Benjamin F. Gilbert, San Jose State University.

This index is a welcome supplement to the register of California volunteers that was compiled in 1890 by Brigadier General Richard H. Orton and published by the California State Printing Office. The original register is now available in a reprinted edition from Gale at a cost of \$45.00.

Although the military role of the California Volunteers in the Civil War was primarily confined to service in their home state and in other Western states and territories, more than 16,000 men were in infantry and cavalry units that occupied Army posts from Puget Sound to San Elizario, Texas. These troops guarded the overland trails, drove out Confederate invaders from Arizona and New Mexico, forestalled the threat of Confederate privateers on the Pacific Coast, and took part in hundreds of engagements with Indians throughout the Far West. Moreover, 500 cavalrymen serving in the California "Hundred" and the California "Battalion" under the flag of Massachusetts fought in several major battles.

The Orton book is an essential source for anyone researching the Civil War in the West. Parker's index adds to its importance, for it enables

researchers and geneologists to locate information on any of the volunteers who are listed in Orton's compilation, which lacked an index.

SMALL UNIT LEADERSHIP: A COMMONSENSE APPROACH. By Colonel Dandrige M. Malone, United States Army, Retired (Presidio Press, 1983. 170 Pages). Reviewed by Captain Michael Bollinger, United States Army.

The author is well qualified to write about small unit leadership, one of the Army's most important subjects. In his nearly 30 years of distinguished service as a soldier, Colonel Malone spent most of his time either studying, writing about, and teaching leadership, or serving in various positions as a leader of soldiers. His grassroots knowledge and experience are quite apparent in this book.

In fact, it can be said that Malone has succeeded in writing a no-nonsense "how to" leadership book that all company-level leaders, regardless of branch affiliation, should find immensely informative and instructive. There is no lengthy discussion about the leadership theories of Maslow or MacGregor, or about leadership versus management. And there are no reproductions of various leadership models. Malone focuses instead on the sergeant, lieutenant, and captain, with the singleminded purpose of building better small unit leaders.

The reader of this book should not be fooled by the author's commonsense approach to leadership. He will find that it takes time, study, and much inner reflection to absorb the full meaning of Malone's major theses.

If the book can be faulted in any one area, it would be with its many checklists — 63 all told. These are fine for establishing order in one's thinking-and-doing process, but checklists make tedious reading.

Leadership has been called one of the most observed and least understood phenomena on earth. From a careful reading of Malone's book, the

reader is guaranteed not only a better understanding of leadership at the small unit level but a better knowledge of himself as well.

OMAHA BEACHHEAD (6 JUNE-13 JUNE 1944). American Forces in Action Series. War Department Historical Division, 1945. (Reprinted by The Battery Press, 1984. 212 Pages. \$26.50).

UTAH BEACH TO CHERBOURG. American Forces in Action Series. War Department Historical Division, 1945. (Reprinted by The Battery Press, 1984. 213 Pages. \$26.50).

ST. LO. American Forces in Action Series. War Department Historical Division, 1945. (Reprinted by The Battery Press, 1984. 128 Pages. \$25.00).

With much of the world's attention focused on France's Normandy beaches for the 40th Anniversary of the Western Allies' landings there on 6 June 1944, these three reprinted volumes could not have appeared at a more opportune time. They have long been out of print, which is most unfortunate. They detail as no other publication does the preparations for and the execution of what was possibly the largest amphibious operation in the world's history, as well as the subsequent fighting by U.S. forces in the difficult Norman hedgerow country.

The maps in these reprinted versions are not fold-outs, and they are printed in black-and-white only. But they are still most useful and a necessary adjunct to the volumes. All of the photographs appear to have been left intact — and all three volumes are filled with photographs.

Because we have published our own anniversary article earlier in this issue, and because we have depended on the original versions of these books so much in getting our anniversary piece together, we heartily recommend them to all of our readers.

AFTERMATH. By Frederick

Downs, Jr. (Norton, 1984. 222 Pages. \$12.95). Reviewed by Lieutenant Colonel Jack Mudie, United States Air Force, Retired.

In his earlier book, *The Killing Zone*, Fred Downs described his four-month combat career as a platoon leader with the 4th Infantry Division in South Vietnam and his literally being blown apart by an antipersonnel mine in January 1968.

In his new book, Downs takes the reader through the pain-wracked ordeal of his recovery and return to "the world," where he currently serves as the director of the Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service for the Veterans Administration in Washington, D.C.

While Downs cannot be labeled a typical Vietnam veteran — whatever that is — he is certainly an extraordinary example of the will power that human beings can muster to overcome seemingly overwhelming difficulties. Both of his books are vivid testimonials that war, and its aftermath, is indeed *hell*. At the same time, though, he confirms the irony that war also brings out the very best in man as shown by man's willingness to serve others through sacrifice and sharing.

In *Aftermath* Downs describes the Army's medical evacuation system, from his initial dust-off flight through his eventual rehabilitation at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver. Along the way he leaves few emotions untouched — anger, pride, hatred, love, revenge, humor, fear, and forgiveness are all there. A rightfully proud and undaunted infantryman, Downs wonders if his country will ever "welcome all of us back in body and in spirit."

His excellent book should take us a long way toward that goal. It is an apolitical labor of love for the Army and the country, but more so for the men of the platoon he led in combat.

All of today's junior leaders can learn much from Downs' experiences. For that matter, they can also serve as a refresher course for the not-so-junior leader.

RECENT AND RECOMMENDED

USAFE: A PRIMER OF MODERN AIR COMBAT IN EUROPE. By Michael Skinner. Presidio Press, 1983. 144 Pages. \$9.95.

PRELUDE TO BATTLE. By Gordon Moore. Hippocrene Books, 1983. 154 Pages. \$16.95.

WHO SANK THE SYDNEY? By Michael Montgomery. Hippocrene Books, 1983. 242 Pages. \$16.95.

ARMS CONTROL, EAST-WEST RELATIONS, AND THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE: CLOSING THE GAPS. The Atlantic Council of the United States Policy Papers, Security Series, 1983. 70 Pages. \$5.00. Softbound.

SWORD OF THE RAJ: THE BRITISH ARMY IN INDIA, 1747-1947. By Roger Beaumont. Bobbs Merrill, 1977. 237 Pages. \$15.00.

KHYBER: BRITISH INDIA'S NORTH-WEST FRONTIER. By Charles Miller. Macmillan, 1977. 393 Pages. \$12.95.

LIFE IN CUSTER'S CAVALRY: DIARIES AND LETTERS OF ALBERT AND JENNIE BARNITZ, 1867-1868. Edited by Robert M. Utley. Yale University Press, 1977. 302 Pages.

WAR IN THE MODERN GREAT POWER SYSTEM, 1495-1975. By Jack S. Levy. The University Press of Kentucky, 1983. 215 Pages. \$24.00.

THE YANKS ARE COMING. By Edwin R.W. Hale and John Frayn Turner. Hippocrene Books, 1983. 256 Pages. \$17.95.

THE CHALLENGE OF SOVIET SHIPPING. Edited by Curtis Cate. National Strategy Information Center, 1983. 46 Pages. \$3.95. Softbound.

WORLD MILITARY EXPENDITURES AND ARMS TRANSFERS, 1971-1980. U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, ACDA Publication 118, 1983. 129 Pages. Softbound.

MONARCHS, RULERS, DYNASTIES, AND KINGDOMS OF THE WORLD: AN ENCYCLOPAEDIC GUIDE TO MORE THAN 13,000 RULERS AND 1,000 DYNASTIES FROM 3,000 B.C. TO THE 20th CENTURY. Compiled by R.F. Tapsell. Facts on File, 1983. 511 Pages. \$35.00.

STRATEGIC WEAPONS: AN INTRODUCTION. By Norman Polmar. Revised Edition. National Strategy Information Center, 1982. 126 Pages. \$8.95. Softbound.

