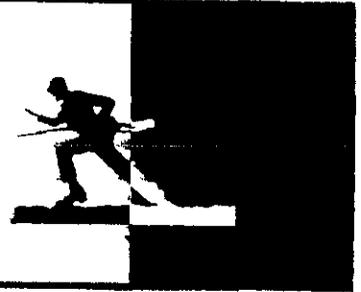


BOOK REVIEWS



In our last issue we brought to your attention several recently published books about World War II. Here are a number of other books about that war we want you to know about:

- **WWII: TIME-LIFE BOOKS HISTORY OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR.** By the Editors of Time-Life Books (Prentice Hall, 1989. 496 Pages. \$39.95). This is an outstanding publication in all respects. Although it is based on the previously published 39-volume Time-Life Books history of the war and contains some material from those volumes, this book does have an all-new text written especially for it. The book itself is divided into five major sections and has hundreds of photographs, numerous maps and charts, a special endpaper chronology, and a useful index.

- **THE TIMES ATLAS OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR.** Edited by John Keegan (Harper and Row, 1989. 254 Pages. \$50.00). This is another outstanding publication, different in make-up and presentation from the one mentioned above, because it is primarily an atlas. The graphics—maps, charts, illustrations—are superb, and the relatively small number of photographs bring to life the events being described. The various war-time theaters of operation are given equal time although the coverage is not exclusively military in nature. For example, the important political and economic factors are touched on, as are the war's human and materiel costs. It, too, has a chronology and an index, plus a glossary and an explanation of the military symbols that are used on the maps.

- **WORLD WAR II: A 50th ANNIVERSARY HISTORY.** By the Writers and Photographers of the Associated Press (Edited by Nate Polowitzky. A Donald Hutter Book. Henry Holt, 1989. 320 Pages). Here is a history of the war as told through the words written and the

photographs taken by the nearly 200 Associated Press correspondents who covered the war at home and abroad. It contains hundreds of black-and-white photographs, but only a few maps and other illustrations. The narrative reads easily, while the numerous boxed inserts add not only interest but also information not found elsewhere.

- **ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR.** By Ian Hogg and Bryan Perrett (Presidio Press, 1989. 450 Pages. \$40.00). The authors of this book, both well-known military historians as well as retired military officers, include some 5,000 items in this well-done reference work. An interesting aspect is the attention they pay to the materiel of war—weapons, vehicles, aircraft, and ships.

- **THE ANGELS: A HISTORY OF THE 11th AIRBORNE DIVISION.** By E.M. Flanagan, Jr. (Presidio Press, 1989. 480 Pages. \$24.95). This is the author's second history of the division he served in as a young field artilleryman in World War II. It is different from his earlier history, which was published in 1946, in that it is much more personalized and is really a combination of history and nostalgia. In addition, in the early chapters of this book, the author gives a good if brief description of the development of the U.S. Army's airborne forces and of the individuals who played such an important role in that effort.

There are several other recently published books we also want you to know about:

- **URGENT FURY: THE BATTLE FOR GRENADA.** By Mark Adkin (Lexington Books. D.C. Heath, 1989. 432 Pages. \$24.95). The author of this book, a retired British Army infantry officer, was serving as the Barbados Defence Force Caribbean operations staff officer at the time the United States invaded Grenada in October 1983. He was therefore closely involved in the operation's

planning and execution and observed most of the events he records. Although he admits the operation "was an overall success politically and militarily," he believes that it "came within a hairsbreadth of being a military disaster" and that its success "was due primarily to incredibly good fortune." If you don't want to read the entire book—and you really should—read at least the last chapter, which is titled "Epilogue." If this doesn't make an infantryman sit up and think, nothing will.

- **THE TWILIGHT OF THE U.S. CAVALRY: LIFE IN THE OLD ARMY, 1917-1942.** By Lucian K. Truscott, Jr. (University Press of Kansas; 1989. 198 Pages. \$22.50). A nostalgic look back through rose-colored glasses at the "brown shoe" Army of the 1920s and 1930s, to the days when the horse cavalymen still considered themselves the Army's elite. But the horse was slowly losing out to armored vehicles even then, and the author could see the end coming. As it turned out, he became one of the Army's outstanding infantry commanders during World War II and eventually earned promotion to full general before retiring.

- **THE DICTIONARY OF WAR QUOTATIONS.** Compiled and edited by Justin Wintle (The Free Press, 1989. 506 Pages. \$29.95). Divided into three sections for easy accessibility, this book has more than 4,000 quotations that run the gamut of emotions. It also has two indexes—an index to the authors who are quoted and a main index to all the items in the book's three sections.

- **U.S. ARMY UNIFORMS OF THE VIETNAM WAR.** By Shelby Stanton (Stackpole Books, 1989. 288 Pages. \$24.95). The author is well known throughout military circles for his outstanding order-of-battle books and for his three other books dealing with the Army and the Vietnam War. This, his latest

book, is divided into 11 chapters and contains more than 400 photographs and illustrations. In these chapters the author shows and describes all types of clothing and individual equipment used by U.S. soldiers throughout the war. He touches only lightly on insignia, feeling that that subject deserves a book of its own. He has also included a map of Vietnam, showing the Army uniforms worn in each area, an original chart that describes uniform compositions used in Vietnam, and a glossary of terms. He has done another outstanding job of pulling together a mass of disparate material into a useful reference book.

• **COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT GUIDE.** First Edition. By John E. Edwards (Stackpole Books, 1989. 288 Pages. \$14.95, Softbound). The author, a serving U.S. Army officer, has prepared an excellent guide to the fundamental aspects of combat service support (CSS) in today's Army. In 12 chapters he explains CSS concepts, the classes of supply and services on the battlefield, brigade support area selection and defense, staff actions and special purpose forms (although the DF is no longer with us), staff duties and responsibilities, and other related subjects. The book serves nicely as a complement to the publisher's *Combat Leader's Field Guide*.

• **THE NCO GUIDE.** Third Edition. By Dan Cragg and Dennis D. Perez (Stackpole Books, 1989. 333 Pages. \$16.95, Softbound). A revised and updated version of what has become a standard and a need-to-have publication, this edition includes the new NCO evaluation system and the usual sections on such subjects as pay and allowances, professional development, and Army protocol. For the first time, this edition includes the 16-page color section of decorations, service medals, and badges that was used in the publisher's 44th Edition of *The Army Officer's Guide*.

Here are a number of our longer reviews:

EL SALVADOR AT WAR: AN ORAL HISTORY OF CONFLICT FROM THE 1979 INSURRECTION TO THE PRESENT. Edited by Max G. Manwaring and Court Prisk (National Defense University Press, 1988.

USGPO S/N 008-020-01145-2. 560 Pages. \$16.00, Softbound). Reviewed by Doctor Joe P. Dunn, Converse College.

This volume draws on more than 2,000 pages of interviews conducted by the BDM Corporation under contract with the Army's Southern Command's Small Wars Operational Research Division (SWORD). The editors attempt to tell the story of U.S. involvement in El Salvador since 1979 and suggest lessons learned through these interviews with U.S. and Salvadorian government and military personnel.

The orientation is quite clear. Ambassador Edwin G. Corr sums it up in the preface when he says: "I am confident that you will concur that the United States is doing the job right in El Salvador . . . In this region we are on the right track, and we must learn further from this experience in order to live securely and successfully in a world that most likely will be plagued by low-intensity conflicts for some years to come."

For a novice on Central America such as myself, the chronology, the editors' notes that precede each section of the book, and the brief identifications of each of the interviewees are most helpful features. Although recognizing the advocacy nature of the volume, I found it most informative and fascinating.

IF IT TAKES ALL SUMMER: THE BATTLE OF SPOTSYLVANIA. By William D. Matter (University of North Carolina Press, 1988. 455 Pages. \$29.95). Reviewed by Major Don Rightmyer, United States Air Force.

It is amazing that a comprehensive account of the two weeks of combat around Spotsylvania Courthouse, Virginia, during May 1864 has not been written until now. The battles there followed closely after the first clash between Grant and Lee in the Wilderness. The Spotsylvania battlefield is the location of the infamous Bloody Angle, which both sides initially called "The Mule Shoe" and the fighting at which cost both sides heavily.

The author spent 10 years researching this work and that effort is reflected by

his detailed coverage of the tactical operations and his thorough bibliography. He not only has done an outstanding job of providing a clear and easily understood narrative, his inclusion of a number of well-drawn maps is most helpful to the reader.

The fighting near Spotsylvania raged from 8-21 May 1864, but at the end of it Grant had not delivered a fatal blow to Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. The fighting between the two armies would continue as Grant again slipped around the Confederate Army on his move toward Richmond. The next major action between the two armies would take place at the North Anna River.

The Spotsylvania campaign has been much neglected until now, but it can never be described that way again.

GREEN BERETS: UNCONVENTIONAL WARRIORS. By Hans Halberstadt (Presidio Press, 1988. 134 Pages. \$12.95). Reviewed by Captain F.R. Hayse, United States Army.

This is the third and latest book by this author in the publisher's Power Series, a series that is designed to give its readers a graphic profile of all aspects of the modern military services.

It is extremely difficult for an outsider to tell the story of a unit like the Army's Special Forces. There are many reasons why this is so—security, myth, suspicion, philosophy, and the like. It is to the author's credit that he has been able to overcome most of these problem areas and produce what is, overall, a good book.

The book, divided into seven chapters, is well written and organized. It gives the reader an intimate and candid insight into the "core" philosophy of the Special Forces, something that is lacking in most of the other books about this organization.

It does have one flaw that should be recognized—the numerous photographs tend more to detract from the book's fine text than to support it. It gave me the impression that the publisher felt that only a liberal use of photographs would appeal to the target audience. Many of them could have been omitted without harming the book in any way and would have

made it—at least to me—more visually palatable than it is.

As a Special Forces advocate, I recommend this book to anyone who wants to understand what Special Forces truly means to its practitioners.

GORDON OF KHARTOUM: THE SAGA OF A VICTORIAN HERO. By John H. Waller (Atheneum, 1988. 504 Pages. \$29.95). reviewed by Major Harold E. Raugh, Jr., United States Army.

The recent centennial of the 1885 death of Charles George Gordon revived great popular interest in the life and “martyrdom” of this Victorian hero.

Gordon’s life epitomized the virtues and patriotism that were prevalent at the apex of the Victorian Empire. Born in 1833, he was commissioned in the British Army in 1852. He distinguished himself in the Crimean War, and in the 1860s was in China as commander of the “Ever Victorious Army” during the Taiping Rebellion. It was here that he earned the sobriquet “Chinese” Gordon.

A religious zealot, Gordon was recklessly courageous and fatalistic, believing he would die only if God had foreordained it. After a number of years of service in such diverse places as Africa, Ireland, Mauritius, and the Holy Land, Gordon was persuaded to become Governor-General of the Sudan, which was then dominated by the fanatic Moslem hordes of the Mahdi. Eventually, Gordon was surrounded in Khartoum; the city fell and he was killed in January 1885.

The author has scrupulously researched Gordon’s life and times. As a result, his subject emerges as a human being rather than a two-dimensional object. He has used a number of hitherto unexplored primary sources, including Gordon’s newly discovered childhood journal. His excellent text is nicely complemented by 16 pages of photographs, 6 maps, 29 pages of notes and references, and 10 pages of bibliography.

This book would make a welcome addition to any Infantryman’s bookshelf, and it may, in time, be called the authori-

tative biography of this enigmatic soldier of the Queen.

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION AND NAPOLEON: AN EYEWITNESS HISTORY. By Joe H. Kirchner (Facts on File, 1989. 375 Pages. \$35.00). Reviewed by Colonel John C. Spence III, United States Army Reserve.

There has been a vast outpouring of literature on this subject during the past year, the bicentennial of the French Revolution. Both the lay student and the serious scholar may be overwhelmed by such a mass of writing.

Yet this book, although voluminous in detail, is an excellent starting point for anyone studying the period from 1789 to 1815. It is primarily a reference work that provides the reader a comprehensive view of one of the most tumultuous periods in history. Europe would never be the same again.

Each chapter begins with a survey of the historical context of the period under discussion. Then there is a detailed chronicle of events, which consists primarily of quotations from eyewitness accounts. The appendix is also a valuable reference source, for it contains reprints of all of the important documents of the revolutionary period. It is interesting to note the advances and retreats the revolutionary regime made with respect to the development of fundamental human rights and civil liberties.

This is a comprehensive resource work that cannot easily be digested in a few short readings. It is valuable to use in understanding one of the great eras of modern history.

PREVENTING WORLD WAR III: A REALISTIC GRAND STRATEGY. By David M. Abshire (Harper and Row, 1988. 331 Pages. \$19.95). Reviewed by Captain Stephen A. Johnson, United States Army.

The author, a former U.S. ambassador to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), is the founder and president of Washington’s Center for Strategic and International Studies. In this book, he

offers a coordinated, far-reaching, and strategic approach to the future conduct of our country’s foreign affairs.

He strongly advocates continued U.S. support of its alliances, particularly NATO. He believes the greatest threat to world peace is a World War I type miscalculation. To accomplish the goals of his grand strategy, he proposes eight integrated strategies—political, public, deterrence, negotiation, resources, technology, Third World, and economic. He believes the development of these strategies will send the “right” signal and avoid another such miscalculation.

Although the author’s NATO experiences are readily apparent, they do not detract from his recommendations. His book is informative and interesting and is highly recommended to students of national security and foreign policy.

THE EXPERIENCE OF WORLD WAR I. By J.M. Winter (Oxford University Press, 1989. 256 Pages. \$29.95). Reviewed by Colonel David A. Rolston, United States Army.

This exceptionally well done history of the Great War contains a surprising amount of information in a book of modest size. It is uniquely and sensibly organized into six sections, four of which treat the same subject but from different viewpoints. These four are titled the Politician’s War, the General’s War, the Soldier’s War, and the Civilian’s War. The final two sections deal with global power and political effects in the war’s aftermath, and with the treatment of the war in literature, film, and art.

Numerous special features are spread throughout the book. They address a variety of subjects that range from weapons to casualty figures. A generous number of photographs, maps, charts, and illustrations are spread throughout.

There are several good reasons to add this book to your personal collection. First, it is an excellent history of the war, concisely written and covering a wide range of subjects. I can think of no other book that provides such a solid foundation of World War I knowledge. Second, this is a fine reference book. It is well organized and indexed and contains much

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information that is not easily found elsewhere.

I enthusiastically recommend this fine work to all readers.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN LEADERSHIP. Second Edition. Edited by William E. Rosenbach and Robert L. Taylor (Westview Press, 1989. 248 Pages. \$49.00). Reviewed by Colonel George G. Eddy, United States Army Retired.

The publisher claims that this edition is a lively anthology of leadership, trenchant and provocative. It is not. Divided into four parts, each with four to six essays, the book struggles fruitlessly in its attempts to meet these claims.

Reasonably knowledgeable readers will be much disappointed, and should be distressed, to see contentions that emphasize "collective" leadership, the blatant assertion that "Should women have to choose between motherhood and career?" is the wrong question, and the claims that we should embrace Hagel and accept post haste that we have created a better-educated and more sophisticated populace. The relatively uninformed reader will be greatly confused by a book that lacks a consistent, recognizable central theme.

To those who are filled with anxiety that we have created a country without enduring values, except for personal aggrandizement at the expense of others—where drug and alcohol abuse abound and where the family has all but disintegrated—a more useful and pertinent book on the kind of effective leadership needed today clearly is in order.

WARS OF THE THIRD KIND: CONFLICT IN UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES. By Edward E. Rice (University of California Press, 1988. 186 Pages. \$18.95). Reviewed by Captain Rick Ugino, United States Army National Guard.

The author, a retired U.S. Foreign Service officer, served many years in the Far East as well as in various other areas of the world during his career.

In this book, he presents a short and lively but scholarly approach to the prob-

lems inherent in facing up to and countering so-called "national liberation/guerrilla wars."

Although he covers ground that has been covered before, he does add interesting items on conflicts that have not been significantly addressed before. Specifically, he looks at the circumstances surrounding the Huk insurrection in the Philippines, the Algerian officer "OAS" revolt of the early 1960s, and, most important, the interplay of U.S. politics with United Fruit Company activities in Nicaragua.

He concludes his narrative by offering his recommendations for future courses of action that our political leaders might consider and by analyzing the strategic principles of these conflicts. He does not believe our political leaders have really learned the lessons of the past. His book is a good overview of an important topic and is recommended as an excellent primer on the subject.

RECENT AND RECOMMENDED

FEATHERSTONE'S COMPLETE WARGAMING. By Donald Featherstone. Sterling, 1989. 208 Pages. \$29.95.

THE DARK SUMMER: AN INTIMATE HISTORY OF THE EVENTS THAT LED TO WORLD WAR II. By Gene Smith. A Reprint of the 1987 Edition. A Collier Book. Macmillan, 1989. 314 Pages. \$9.95, Softbound.

"PECOS BILL": A MILITARY BIOGRAPHY OF WILLIAM R. SHAFTER. By Paul H. Carlson. Texas A&M University Press, 1989. 225 Pages. \$34.95.

TEN COMMANDO: 1942-1945. By Ian Dear. St. Martin's, 1989. 208 Pages. \$17.95.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE KOREAN WAR. By James L. Stokesbury. A Reprint of the 1988 Edition. A Quill Book. William Morrow, 1990. 276 Pages. \$8.95, Softbound.

ROOSEVELT AND MARSHALL: PARTNERS IN POLITICS AND WAR. By Thomas Parrish. William Morrow, 1989. 608 Pages. \$25.00.

EUROPEAN ARMS CONTROL: PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS. Edited by Ronald L. Hatchett. Texas A&M University Press, 1990. 224 Pages. \$29.50.

SOMME. By Lyn Macdonald. Originally published in 1983. Atheneum, 1989. 366 Pages. \$14.95, Softbound.

THEY CALLED IT PASSCHENDAELE. By Lyn Macdonald. Originally published in 1978. Atheneum, 1989. 253 Pages. \$12.95, Softbound.

THE ROSES OF NO MAN'S LAND. By Lyn Macdonald. Originally published in 1980. Atheneum, 1989. 318 Pages. \$13.95.

ULTRA AT SEA: HOW BREAKING THE

NAZI CODE AFFECTED ALLIED NAVAL STRATEGY DURING WORLD WAR II. By John Winton. William Morrow, 1989. 207 Pages. \$18.95.

THE MEXICAN-AMERICAN WAR, 1846-1848. By Philip R.N. Katcher. Color plates by G.A. Embleton. Men-at-Arms Series 56. Originally published in 1976. Osprey, 1989. 40 Pages, Softbound.

THE SAMURAI. By Anthony J. Bryant. Color plates by Angus McBride. Elite Series 23. Osprey, 1989. 64 Pages, Softbound.

THE BRITISH ARMY IN NORTH AMERICA, 1775-1783. By Robin May. Color plates by G.A. Embleton. Men-at-Arms Series 39. Originally published in 1974. Osprey, 1989. 40 Pages, Softbound.

THE OLD CONTEMPTIBLES. By Michael Barthorp. Color plates by Pierre Turner. Elite Series 24. Osprey, 1989. 64 Pages, Softbound.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S ENEMIES (I): SOUTHERN AFRICA. By Ian Knight. Color plates by Richard Scollins. Men-at-Arms Series 212. Osprey, 1989. 48 Pages, Softbound.

NAPOLEON'S OVERSEAS ARMY. By Rene Chartrand. Color Plates by Francis Back. Men-at-Arms Series 211. Osprey, 1989. 48 Pages, Softbound.

BROTHERS BEYOND BLOOD: A BATTALION SURGEON IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC. By George Sharpe. Diamond Books, 1989. 274 Pages. \$19.95.

USAREUR: THE UNITED STATES ARMY IN EUROPE. By Michael Skinner. Landpower Series Number 3003. Presidio Press, 1989. 130 Pages. \$12.95, Softbound.

THE OTHER SIDE OF TIME: A COMBAT SURGEON IN WORLD WAR II. By Brendan Pihbs. Pocket Books, 1989. 341 Pages. \$4.50, Softbound.

INSIDE THE LRRPS: RANGERS IN VIETNAM. By Michael Lee Lanning. Pocket Books, 1988. 246 Pages. \$3.95, Softbound.

THE MAKING OF A QUAGMIRE. By David Halberstam. Originally published in 1965. Pocket Books, 1989. 340 Pages. \$4.95, Softbound.

DECIDING WHAT HAS TO BE DONE: GENERAL WILLIAM E. DEPUY AND THE 1976 EDITION OF FIELD MANUAL 100-5, OPERATIONS. By Paul H. Herbert. Leavenworth Papers Number 16, Combat Studies Institute, USACGSC, 1988. USGPO S/N 008-020-01150-9. 131 Pages. \$6.00, Softbound.

CURRENT MILITARY AND POLITICAL LITERATURE. J.I.H. Owen, Editor. Oxford, England: The Military Press, 1989. 152 Pages, Softbound.

BANNERS IN THE AIR: THE EIGHTH OHIO VOLUNTEERS AND THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR. By Curtis V. Hard. Edited by Robert H. Ferrell. The Kent State University Press, 1988. 147 Pages. \$22.00.

NTC: A PRIMER OF MODERN LAND COMBAT. By Hans Halberstadt. Landpower Series Number 3004. Presidio Press, 1989. 134 Pages. \$12.95, Softbound.

