

BOOK REVIEWS



Jane's Information Group has sent us three of its most recently published reference volumes. You will want to become familiar with these:

• **JANE'S ARMOUR AND ARTILLERY**, 1989-90. 10th Edition. Edited by Christopher F. Foss (1989. 788 Pages. \$145.00). After surveying the latest armor and artillery developments throughout the world, the editor employs his usual format to tell us about the actual equipment now in service. He uses a total of nine sections for this purpose, sections that run the gamut from tanks to coast artillery guns to missiles. Addenda update the information to 1 July 1989. He feels that many of the weapons and items of equipment the Soviet Union has introduced in recent years "are much superior to their western counterparts" and warns that "although the Soviet Union is being much more open than in the past, there are still many major items of equipment that have never appeared in any Moscow military parades."

• **JANE'S ARMoured FIGHTING VEHICLE SYSTEMS**, 1989-90. Second Edition. Edited by Tony Cullen and Christopher F. Foss (1989. 599 Pages. \$145.00). This volume restricts its coverage to selected weapons and items of equipment found on such armored fighting vehicles as tanks and personnel carriers. Thus, it offers detailed information on weapons (both main guns and others), ammunition, protection, fire control systems, optics, engines, transmissions, and powerpacks. Its addenda update the information in the main sections to 1 August 1989.

• **JANE'S MILITARY TRAINING SYSTEMS**, 1989-90. Second Edition. Edited by Terry J. Gander (1989. 385 Pages. \$135.00, Softbound). This volume gives detailed information on land-based, naval, and aviation/avionics training systems. Separate sections are used to discuss computer-generated image and visual display systems and aerial target drones and targets. The editor feels, as many do, that in the future "the employment of training hardware will have even more importance than it has at present" and that "the simulator and training aid will have to be used far more than they are now." The reason? He believes that "many modern weapons and weapon systems... are now so expensive that

it is far too costly to use them for any form of training."

Another interesting weapon book is **GUNS OF THE REICH: FIREARMS OF THE GERMAN FORCES, 1939-1945**. By George Markham (Sterling, 1990. 175 Pages. \$24.95). The author provides a complete compilation of German pistols, rifles, machine-guns, and support weapons used during World War II, and includes chapters on ammunition and how to fire certain of the weapons. The book also has numerous photographs, line drawings, and diagrams; a glossary of terms; a list of manufacturers' codes; and a bibliography.

A somewhat different type of book is **THE WORLD ATLAS OF WARFARE: MILITARY INNOVATIONS THAT CHANGED THE COURSE OF HISTORY**. Edited by Richard Holmes (A Viking Studio Book. Viking Penguin, 1988. 304 Pages. \$40.00). This is a profusely illustrated chronology of the art and science of warfare from the earliest times to the present day. While it focuses on the major turning points in the evolution of warfare, it also provides new insights into the human factor in war and the various roles wars have played in man's social, economic, and cultural development. The editor and the eight contributors are all well-known British military historians.

In talking about the human face of war, we call your attention to a book that was published several years ago: **ACTS OF WAR: THE BEHAVIOR OF MEN IN BATTLE**. By Richard Holmes (The Free Press, 1986. 436 Pages. \$24.95). The author, who is noted in the preceding review, has produced an outstanding volume about men at war—why they fight, what motivates them and keeps them going, the influence of religion on them, and their attitudes toward fear and death. A few minor errors in fact may jar a U.S. reader—for example, the U.S. 1st Armored Division was in Italy during 1944, not the U.S. 2d Armored Division—but they are truly minor and do not affect the overall quality of the book's findings. All infantrymen should make it a point to read this one.

We have also continued to receive books about World War II. We think you will find these to be of considerable interest:

• **THE EXPERIENCE OF WORLD WAR II**. Edited by John Campbell (Oxford University Press, 1989. 256 Pages. \$29.95). This book is an oversized, five-part publication filled with photographs, charts, tables, diagrams, and other graphic devices. Its main themes include the political and military motivation behind the war, the social and economic changes brought about by the war, and the effects of the war on the individual.

• **THE CHRONOLOGICAL ATLAS OF WORLD WAR II**. By Charles Messenger (Macmillan, 1989. 225 Pages. \$32.50). This is a fine reference book put together by a well-known British military writer. It is divided into 13 major sections, each devoted to a particular time period. Within the sections, each two-page spread describes and maps a particular phase in the war. Other graphic devices and a detailed index are most useful to the reader.

• **DUNKIRK: THE COMPLETE STORY OF THE FIRST STEP IN THE DEFEAT OF HITLER**. By Norman Gelb (William Morrow, 1989. 352 Pages. \$22.95). Although this is in no way the complete story of Dunkirk, it is a nicely done narrative history of one of the great events of the early World War II years and its effects on the countries then, or soon to be, at war.

• **STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL: THE HISTORY OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR**. By R.A.C. Parker (Oxford University Press, 1990. 328 Pages. \$22.95). This is a relatively short one-volume history of the war; it is also one of the best of its kind we have read in recent years. The author, a British historian, has not tried to do too much. His writing is straightforward and objective, and is concentrated on the key events as he sees them—those events that changed the course of the war and determined its outcome. If you have little knowledge of the war but want to know more, this is the place to start your reading.

• **THE SECOND WORLD WAR**. By John Keegan (Viking Penguin, 1990. 607 Pages. \$29.95). Another fine history of World War II from one of the better known British military historians. His narrative flows smoothly, and his use of major themes to highlight certain aspects of the war adds to

the book's overall value.

• **REEVALUATING MAJOR NAVAL COMBATANTS OF WORLD WAR II.** Edited by James J. Sadkovich (Contributions in Military Studies, Number 92. Greenwood Press, 1989. 225 Pages. \$42.95). Each of the eight essays in this book deals with a navy that played a major role during World War II. In his introduction, the editor outlines the essayists' major conclusions, which, he points out, "if not always orthodox, are based on a thorough knowledge of their subject material."

Here are a number of our longer reviews:

BROTHER ENEMY: THE WAR AFTER THE WAR. By Nayan Chanda (Originally published in hard cover in 1986. Macmillan, 1988. 479 Pages. \$12.95, Softbound). Reviewed by Doctor Joe P. Dunn, Converse College.

While most Western reporters turned their attention from Indochina after 1975, Nayan Chanda, Indochina correspondent for the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, continued to follow the events unfolding in the area. With access to all of the countries and leaders in the region, he is generally considered the most knowledgeable journalist writing about it.

His saga of the Third Indochina War—the confused, murky, and byzantine relations between China, Vietnam, and Cambodia as the former communist allies turned against each other—is a remarkable piece of work. Throughout his compelling, well written narrative, he provides a series of mini-chapter vignettes that trace the story of the wily survivor Prince Sihanouk, who provided the author "dozens of hours" of interviews.

In his conclusion, Chanda argues that the United States has a unique opportunity—and responsibility—in Southeast Asia as the guarantor of a new balance of power in the region. He asserts that the U.S., by playing a more active and imaginative role, can regain its lost prestige and influence, and through a rightful use of diplomacy and economic power, help in the revival of Cambodia.

As many reviewers correctly stated when the original hardcover edition was published, this balanced, comprehensive, insightful volume is the best source on the subject that we are likely to see for a long time.

MORAL ISSUES IN MILITARY DECISIONMAKING. By Anthony E. Hartle (University Press of Kansas, 1989. 180 Pages. \$9.95). Reviewed by Colonel John C. Spence III, United States Army Reserve.

The author, a professor of philosophy at the United States Military Academy, has written

a straightforward and informative book on the environment in which professional military officers must make critical decisions.

The book is written in a style that will enlighten both the layperson and the career soldier on the decision-making processes. The author stresses the fact that the central goal of the military profession is the security of the state. Therefore, the military professional has a legitimate right to engage in acts of violence, possess destructive weapons, and impose discipline on others. Such rights and duties are generally denied to nonmilitary members of society. Thus, for these reasons and others, the military services make up a unique institution and profession, with its own set of values and ethics.

At the same time, the professional military ethic limits the use of the military professional's coercive power in important ways. The author gives us an excellent discussion and analysis of the law of war as set forth in the Hague and Geneva Conventions and points out that the rules contained in those agreements are binding on the U.S. armed forces and are an important part of the ethical norms individual officers are expected to follow.

A series of illustrative case studies adds immensely to the value of the book: As the studies demonstrate, a military officer has a duty to be candid and tell the truth, whether he is on a battlefield counting casualties or testifying before a Congressional committee.

The author concludes by stating that whether formally codified and published or not, the professional military ethic will always require judgment, education, training, and experience.

THE OSS IN ITALY, 1942-1945: A PERSONAL MEMOIR. By Max Corvo (Praeger, 1990. 324 Pages. \$29.95). Reviewed by Captain Rick Ugino, United States Army National Guard.

In recent years, we have seen numerous written works on the operations conducted by the U.S. Office of Strategic Services (OSS) during World War II. This book is one of the better offerings because of the author's personal involvement in the operations he writes about.

He provides an excellent overview of the Italian area, one that was often poorly supplied with men and materiel during the war, and one that was practically ignored after the war.

From early 1942, when the Italian section was founded and staged in Africa, Corvo takes a reader on an up-close and personal examination of the section's operations as they were

planned and executed. By using both first-generation Italian-Americans and Italian exiles, the OSS built the Italian section into a first-rate intelligence gathering tool for the Allied field commanders in Italy. The author also talks about his relations with the British special operations units, with which he worked closely throughout the war period.

The only criticism I can offer is that the author does not include a final chapter to tie together the lessons that his section learned. Still, his is a fair examination of the efforts and activities of an important U.S. military intelligence organization, one of the first of its kind.

U.S. ARMY SPECIAL FORCES A-TEAM VIETNAM COMBAT MANUAL. By Shelby N. Stanton (Paladin Press, 1988. \$18.00, Softbound). Reviewed by Captain F.R. Hayse, United States Army.

As seems the case with all wars, popular or not when they are fought, the farther a nation distances itself from the conflict the more popular it becomes. Such is the case with the Vietnam War, in film, television, literature, drama, and memorabilia. And I believe this book fits nicely in the latter category.

Contrary to its somewhat misleading title, it is little more than a reprint of the 5th Special Forces Group's A-Detachment Handbook prepared in the late 1960s with some additional illustrations, maps, and comments by the author. It is, therefore, more a combined field and garrison SOP for A-Detachments than a combat manual containing specific battle drills, lessons learned, and techniques.

The book does give a more serious historian an honest view of what life was like as an A-Detachment member in the more remote regions of Vietnam in the late 1960s, but it may be of little interest to a lay reader.

MASTER OF AIRPOWER: GENERAL CARL A. SPAATZ. By David R. Mets (Presidio Press, 1988. 430 Pages. \$22.50).

HOYT S. VANDENBURG: THE LIFE OF A GENERAL. By Phillip S. Meilinger (Indiana University Press, 1989. 279 Pages. \$27.50). Both books reviewed by Lieutenant Colonel Jack Mudie, United States Air Force Retired.

Both authors of these biographies of the first two Chiefs of Staff of the independent United States Air Force are career Air Force officers and professional historians. As military pilots themselves, they brought to their tasks an intimate personal understanding of their subject matter and did an exceptional job of chroni-

cling the lives of two great aviation leaders.

Spaatz graduated from West Point in 1914, while Vandenberg followed in the class of 1923, the first to have the option of selecting the Air Service upon graduation. Although both officers were initially well known as **outstanding fighter pilots throughout the small Army aviation world**, it seems ironic that their greatest eventual contribution to national security was in the area of bombers—Spaatz as a pioneer for daylight precision bombing in World War II, Vandenberg for his role in establishing the Strategic Air Command as the country's primary nuclear deterrent force following that war.

While most of the Spaatz book covers World War II, the Vandenberg book is primarily about the Korean War and the preceding two-year period. As such, it is also a story of the sometimes vicious inter-service rivalry over roles and missions, such as the B-36 versus supercarrier funding battle.

In addition to being interesting and well-written histories of air operations in World War II and Korea, both biographies include **many anecdotes of the generals' family lives**, revealing both men as thoughtful, caring fathers as well as **outstanding military leaders**.

Probably the most significant parts of the books insofar as today's military services are concerned are the budgetary decisions and their effect on manpower and operations. In that respect, even those professional soldiers with only a limited interest in aviation will find both books of great value.

GETTYSBURG: CRISIS OF COMMAND. By Harry Albright (Hippocrene Books, 1989. 297 Pages. \$16.95). Reviewed by Major Don Rightmyer, United States Air Force.

The title of this book is doubly misleading. First, the book is far more than just a study of the Gettysburg campaign. Second, it is not an in-depth examination of the failures or successes of leadership at Gettysburg as the title suggests.

It is, though, a good introductory look at this pivotal Civil War battle, and the author does provide an exceptionally readable and easily understood narrative for any reader who may be looking for a first book on the subject.

In keeping with the book's general nature, there are no footnotes and the maps provide little specific information concerning unit positions or movements. If you are not familiar with the battle and the events leading up to it, this is a good place to start your reading. If you want more, there are better ones available.

THE WAR OF INVENTION: SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENTS, 1914-1918. By Guy Hartcup (Brassey's, 1988. 226 Pages. \$43.00). Reviewed by Major Harold E. Raugh, Jr., United States Army.

The opening encounters of World War I were fought by horse-mounted units armed with lances and rifles. Four years later, having harnessed the tremendous power of science and technology, the opponents were able to break the lethal stalemate of trench warfare by using such new developments as the tank, military aircraft, chemical warfare, wireless communications, underwater acoustics, and more effective artillery.

The author, who wrote several books before this one, has thoroughly researched a number of archives to chronicle scientific developments in the era immediately preceding the war and then during the war itself. Although he concentrates on the British experience in organizing and mobilizing their scientists and their subsequent contributions to the war effort, he also tells about scientific developments in Germany, France, Italy, Russia, and the United States. He also includes a chapter on the British efforts to improve their soldiers' health and sanitation, having learned their lesson the hard way during the Boer War.

Although the book is interesting and informative, it is also quite expensive. For that reason, I cannot unreservedly recommend it to the general reader.

LATIN AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARIES: GROUPS, GOALS, METHODS. By Michael Radu and Vladimir Tismaneanu (Brassey's (US), 1990. 386 Pages. \$55.00). Reviewed by Colonel James B. Motley, United States Army Retired.

This handbook, divided into 21 chapters, provides an overview of the major insurgent or terrorist movements in mainland Latin America since the Cuban Revolution. The authors, resident scholars at the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Philadelphia, have published extensively in scholarly journals.

Organizationally, the handbook consists of two major parts. The first part, the shorter of the two by far, discusses such subjects as terminology, definitions, the evolution of political warfare, and new trends and patterns.

The second part presents essential data that serves as a foundation for more serious research. The data is arranged alphabetically by country, with each insurgent or terrorist group identified and discussed under the same subheadings—location, origins, front organization, membership, leadership, ideology, propaganda, views on violence, external sup-

port, and the like. A five-page select bibliography has been included to assist those who want to pursue the subject.

The book will definitely appeal to the specialist rather than to the general reader. Its cost, unfortunately, may well limit its readership.

NUCLEAR ENDINGS: STOPPING WAR ON TIME. By Stephen J. Cimbala (Praeger, 1989. 295 Pages. \$47.95). Reviewed by Captain Stephen A. Johnson, United States Army.

The author's study of nuclear strategy and conflict termination throughout the 1980s resulted in a number of publications. This book appears to represent the maturation of his work.

The author believes conflict termination is a "study not only of interstate relations during conflict and war, but also of intrastate organizational behavior that might contribute to, or detract from, efforts to bring war to a conclusion." He notes that the primary reasons for the study of conflict termination are to improve strategic war planning and to stop a war, should one occur, with as little damage as possible. He also believes the study of conflict termination may have some deterrent value and may acquaint leaders with the problems they may face if deterrence should fail.

This is an important subject, even during the present period when peace seems to be breaking out all over. The book is recommended to students of national policy and strategic studies as well as to their professional counterparts.

THE DEFEAT OF IMPERIAL GERMANY, 1917-1918. By Rod Paschall (Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 1989. 240 Pages. \$22.95). Reviewed by Colonel David A. Rolston, United States Army.

In recent years, the vogue in World War I literary efforts has been to recount the events of the war through the words of the common soldier. Letters, postcards, and interviews with veterans have been used effectively by authors such as Lyn Macdonald to transport a reader back through time to relive life at the front.

But while books of this kind have been effective in achieving their aim, for the most part they have avoided analysis or explanation of anything that happened above regimental level. Unfortunately, this approach lends support to the commonly held view that the leaders of the time willingly accepted the inevitability of a war of attrition, and that, by

choice or ineptitude, generals marched tens of thousands of soldiers to their slaughter without trying to find a better strategy.

In this excellent book, we are offered a fresh analysis of why the so-called Great War was fought as it was. The author shows convincingly that leaders on both sides used imagination and creativity to develop new tactics in their efforts to break the stalemate. In fact, a case could be made that to some degree the war of attrition was a reflection of each side's ability to react quickly to the initiatives undertaken by the opposing side.

The author details numerous ways in which leaders on one side or the other used fresh ideas, new tactics, or superior planning skills in trying to swing the advantage to themselves. Each met with some degree of success, at least initially, but none were so effective as to establish a clear and lasting superiority. As a result, the conflict remained bogged down to a costly war of attrition.

This is the first volume in a new series published under the editorial guidance of John S.D. Eisenhower. If this is an example of what the series holds in store, we should be quite pleased with it. Rod Paschall's clear and thoughtful analysis adds to our understanding of the way World War I was fought

THESE GOOD MEN. By Michael Norman (Crown, 1989. 310 Pages. \$19.95). Reviewed by Brigadier General James E. Shelton, United States Army Retired.

This is a special story about infantrymen—in this case, Marines—who suffered through some excruciating combat together some 20 years ago in Vietnam.

At the time, the author was a young Marine corporal. He became an accomplished journalist for the *New York Times*, but subsequently left that work to concentrate on discovering how his surviving ex-comrades had fared.

There is great truth in this book. The author captures the essence of the deep feeling for each other that the experience of combat imprints in those who have been there. It is haunting and profound, yet not necessarily bad. It certainly includes an abiding caring and respect for each other despite the passage of time and geographical separation.

This is a book about emotions and experiences, but it also has its teaching points. The first is that if human beings survive adversity together they will normally be more cohesive and effective together. It therefore supports the theory that dangerous, rigorous, and demanding unit training is a force multiplier. Second, it is about people and how they be-

have, which is the most important subject that would-be leaders can study.

CHAINING THE HUDSON: THE FIGHT FOR THE RIVER IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. By Lincoln Diamond (Lyle Stuart, 1989. 320 Pages. \$21.95). Reviewed by Captain David K. Taggart, United States Army.

During the American Revolution, the British soon realized that the strategic key to the 13 colonies was control of the Hudson River valley, because control of that river would separate the New England colonies from the rest. This would cause all of the colonies serious economic hardships, and they would face possible piecemeal defeat.

George Washington, of course, was intent on denying the British control of the river, and he and his advisors sought a variety of solutions, which included the first military use of the submarine and the torpedo. Their eventual solution was a gigantic iron chain that was stretched across the river to stop British ships under the guns of the fort at West Point.

The author has made excellent use of original letters and diaries in preparing this volume. He includes current site photographs, which also help to make this an excellent guidebook for the amateur historian who wishes to walk the ground.

RECENT AND RECOMMENDED

TANKS, FIGHTERS AND SHIPS: U.S. CONVENTIONAL FORCE PLANNING SINCE WORLD WAR II. By Maurice A. Mallin. Brassey's (US), 1990. 275 Pages. \$27.00.

THE MILITARY: MORE THAN JUST A JOB? Edited by Charles C. Moskos and Frank R. Wood. Pergamon-Brassey's, 1988. 305 Pages. \$30.00.

THE STARS AND STRIPES: WORLD WAR II AND THE EARLY YEARS. By Ken Zumwalt. Eakin Press (P.O. Box 90159, Austin, TX 78709-0159), 1989. 295 Pages. \$16.95.

CHINA: A COUNTRY STUDY. Edited by Robert L. Worden, et al. Federal Research Division, Library of Congress. USGPO S/N 008-020-01159-2. Fourth Edition, First Printing, 1988. 732 Pages. \$27.00.

THE 9TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION VERSUS THE AFRICA CORPS: AN INFANTRY DIVISION AGAINST TANKS, Tobruk, Libya, 1941. By Colonel Ward A. Miller. Combat Studies Institute, USACGSC, 1986. 70 Pages, Softbound.

BUSTING THE BOCAGE: AMERICAN COMBINED ARMS OPERATIONS IN FRANCE, 6 June - 31 July 1944. By Captain Michael D. Doubler. Combat Studies Institute,

USACGSC, 1988. 75 Pages, Softbound.

THE ROLE OF AIRPOWER IN THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR. By Major Donald E. Bergquist. Air University Press, 1988. USGPO S/N 008-070-00618-9. 94 Pages. \$3.75, Softbound.

MILITARY PERSONNEL MEASUREMENT: TESTING, ASSIGNMENT, EVALUATION. Edited by Martin F. Wiskoff and Glenn M. Rampton. Praeger, 1989. 211 Pages. \$45.95.

LEADERSHIP SECRETS OF ATTLA THE HUN. By Wess Roberts. Warner Books, 1989. 128 Pages. \$16.95.

HITLER: THE PATH TO POWER. By Charles Bracelen Flood. Houghton Mifflin, 1989. 686 Pages. \$24.95.

THE VETERAN'S GUIDE TO BENEFITS. By Ralph Roberts. New American Library, 1989. 418 Pages. \$4.95, Softbound.

HITLER'S UNDERCOVER WAR: THE NAZI ESPIONAGE INVASION OF THE U.S.A. By William Breuer. St. Martin's Press, 1989. 358 Pages. \$19.95, Softbound.

UNGUIDED MISSILES: HOW AMERICA BUYS ITS WEAPONS. By Fen Osler Hampson. W.W. Norton, 1989. 348 Pages. \$19.95.

CIVIL WAR MANUSCRIPTS: A GUIDE TO COLLECTIONS IN THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS. USGPO 030-000-00159-1. 409 Pages. \$20.00.

THE PRICE OF ADMIRALTY: THE EVOLUTION OF NAVAL WARFARE. By John Keegan. Viking, 1989. 292 Pages. \$21.95.

CIVILIAN INDOCTRINATION OF THE MILITARY: WORLD WAR I AND FUTURE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX. By Penn Borden. Military Studies No. 80. Greenwood Press, 1989. 177 Pages. \$37.95.

HITLER: THE VICTORY THAT NEARLY WAS. By Bruce Quarrie. Sterling, 1988. 208 Pages. \$19.95.

A CANADIAN'S ROAD TO RUSSIA: LETTERS FROM THE GREAT WAR DECADE. Edited by Doris H. Pieroth. University of Alberta Press (Edmonton T6G 2E8 Canada), 1989. 466 Pages. \$30.00.

EYE-DEEP IN HELL: A MEMOIR OF THE LIBERATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, 1944-45. By William A. Owens. Southern Methodist University Press, 1989. 245 Pages. \$24.95.

MASK OF TREACHERY. By John Costello. Morrow, 1988. 765 Pages. \$22.95.

BRITISH ARMY ON CAMPAIGN, 1816-1902 (4): 1882-1902. Text by Michael Barthorp. Color Plates by Pierre Turner. Men-at-Arms Series 201. Osprey, 1988. 48 Pages. Softbound.

