

Short Reviews of Recent Books

A Nuclear-Weapon-Free World : Desirable? Feasible? Edited by Joseph Rotblat and Others, *Calorado, Westview 1993, p. 228, \$ 49.95, ISBN 0-8133-8718-3.*

This book is about nuclear disarmament, a subject very dear to us, the panel of contributors includes two Indians. Being weapons of mass destruction they could be banned. Their elimination would lead to economic benefits. Non Nuclear world would be able to conserve resources, spent by them on aquisition of nuclear technology.

Biological and Chemical weapons disarmament having been agreed to, next effort must be made in this field. There are technical problems of disposing of the nuclear materials, Weapon grade Uranium 235, could be mixed, and used for power plants; tritium has limited life of 12.3 years, but presently there is no answer to disposal of plutonium-the danger from it's aerosol (PuO₂), which can result from a single point detonation is grave.

In case of a treaty, the main problem would be in enforcement by verification. This is becasue a 90-95 per cent effectiveness is meaningless, the weapon has enormous destructive power. Societal verification, where each citizen has a duty to inform and scientists and technicians act as whistle blowers is suggested. The informers to be given large cash prizes and asylum!

A time frame of 15 years is suggested.

— Maj Gen Partap Narain (Retd)
M.A (Cantab)

Brassey's Defence Yearbook, 1994. Ed by the Centre for Defence Studies, London, *London, Brassey's (UK), 1994, p. 360, ISBN 1-85753-033-0.*

This Annual publication, edited by the Centre for Defence Studies, an organisation established in 1990, contains 23 top class papers, by knowledgeable persons — including one by the Secretary of State for Defence. Written from their perspectives, all are thought provoking, some - mentioned below have a relevance to our problems.

Air Power - Applications of technology. With lesser problems of manning, the quantity trade off option, muti role aircraft, lower risk technologies, and military and scientific staffs working in concert - are worth following.

South Africa. India's role in training their officers, and the thrust of exports by "Armscor" - their production organisation will be of interest.

The proliferation of small arms trade, which is excluded from SIPRI reporting system, and the last two articles on the population displacements and a U.N. military force are of general interest.

An excellent book which should be possessed by all defence libraries.

— Maj Gen Partap Narain (Retd)
M.A. (Cantab)

The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook, Vol 18. By Centre for Disarmament Affairs, *United Nations, New York, 1994, p. 419, ISBN 92-1-142204-3.*

An excellent reference book, with information on various aspects of disarmament, with extensive details in appendices. The following should be of interest to a general reader :-

Register of Arms-transfers instituted by the U.N. in 1991, covers only tanks, APC's, large artillery, aircraft, helicopters, warships, missiles & launchers. Twenty nations responded in 1992, including India, there is a proposal for including information on military holdings and production.

Nuclear. S Africa reported having destroyed it's six bombs, and facilities. Indonesia on behalf of NAM-sponsored a resolution against dumping of Atomic wastes. Bangladesh, Pakistan sponsored nuclear free zone in S.Asia, voting was 125 for, and three against--Bhutan, India and Mauritius, 12 abstentions. Our view was that this was a global issue, there was no proper geographical extent of the area.

Maintenance of International Security. Pakistan supported, India abstained? Pakistan also submitted it's traditional draft on regional disarmament--by conventional arms control.

MTCR has been extended to include all missiles, capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction. The technical agreement is between 27 states with seven others who agree.

A book worth keeping in defence related libraries.

— Maj Gen Partap Narain (Retd)
M.A. (Cantab)

Men, Women and War. Ed by T.G. Fraser and Keith Jeffery, *Ireland, Lilliput Press, 1993, p. 242, £ 25.00, ISBN 0 946640 96 3.*

This book scrutinizes and interprets the military conflicts over the ages - from the Middle Ages in Ireland to Vietnam. The study of women in war makes interesting reading. Armies have been traditionally masculine; some commanders like Frederick the Great were openly misogynist. In many armies, women were no more than "Feldhure" ie camp followers. But the women's role in the fighting front is fast changing as was seen in the Gulf War. This compilation of papers by fourteen eminent scholars, is a valuable contribution to the history of warfare.

— Lt Col. Daljit Singh (Retd)

Islam and Democracy : Fear of the Modern World. By Fatima Mernissi, *London, Virago Press, 1993, p. 195, £ 7.99, ISBN 1-85381-700-7.*

This book discusses the tussle in the Arab World between obscurantism and democracy. Author explains the two schools of thought- 'din' (religion); *i'tiqad* (belief); and *ta'a* (obedience) on one side and *'ra'y* (personal opinion); *ihadath* (modernization); and *ibda* (creation) on the other. In the Arab World, push towards democracy, generally, is viewed as negative and blasphemous because, as the author, emphasises that some Muslim regimes find their interest better protected on cultural and symbolic grounds rather than on democratic principles. Author, a woman herself, has written that the Arab population increasing at the rate of 3.9 percent annually, has brought forward women as a force to reckon with. The Arab world in trying to use '*hijab*' (veil) as a weapon to push the women back to the kitchen.

This book is bold not because it writes for or against but *about* Islam.

— Lt Col. Daljit Singh (Retd)

The Cold War : A History By Martin Walker, *New York, Henry Holt and Co, 1993, p. 392, \$ 30.00, ISBN 0-8050-3190-1.*

The history of the Cold War is a contemporary history of the world since almost end of World War II / the great Patriotic war which is extremely nicely and analytically presented by the globe trotting, award winning political commentator Martin Walker. The Cold War like the endemic European wars emerges from the ashes of the previous one (WW II), which was actually contemplated to checkmate its recurrence. Commencing with the Soviet expansionism into Eastern Europe in the forties, technological ascendency in the fifties, American reverses in Vietnam in the Sixties and economic crisis in the seventies, the cold war culminated with the complete rout of totalitarian forces vis-a-vis free market economies - a victory of consumerism over militarism.

While making a useful addition to the already burgeoning literature on the subject like a lighthouse the author has climaxed the entire political commentary into the Montesquieu gospel, that Republics end with the luxury and monarchies with poverty. The book is recommended to all the students of politics and current affairs: policy makers and supporters.

-- Air Cmde S.K. Bhardwaj (Retd)

Arms Control without Negotiation : From the Cold War to the New World Order. Ed by Bennett Ramberg, *Colorado, Lynne Rienner, 1993, p. 281, \$ 42.00, ISBN 1-55587-376-6.*

This collection of studies is from the ULCA Centre for International and Strategic Affairs, since renamed the Centre for International Relations. It offers a general view of the total material, summaries for each group of detailed studies, and finally conclusions; the book is easy to read selectively for reference, offering facts, analysis,

and comments, based on the series of workshops which led to the book itself. The implications of these studies are that arms control during the Cold War and after it is much more complex than negotiated agreements; the need is unilateral actions, covering not just numbers and limits, but all aspects from research, development, procurement, to deployment. The aims of reducing the probability of war, overall defence costs, damage limitation, with confidence building in parallel, all have been better served by nations acting unilaterally in their own interest, than by series of agreements negotiated and subsequently undermined. Arms control and defence planning are not conflicting objectives; self denial and denial to others are economical and effective: domestic politics, feminism, cooperative security structures and processes, combined political and military considerations, and confidence building, are all discussed. The conclusion offered is that arms control is not bargaining, but "just something to be done". A book worth reading, with much that applies to the presently changing world environment including the NPT.

-- Tindi

Verification Report 1991 : Yearbook on Arms Control and Environmental Agreements. Ed By JB Poole, *London, Vertic, 1991*, p. 276, £ 20, ISBN 0-9517458-0-5.

Verification Report 1992 : Yearbook on Arms Control and Environmental Agreements. Ed By JB Poole and R. Guthrie, *London, Vertic, 1992*, p. 372, ISBN 0-9517485-1-3.

Verification Report 1993 : Peacekeeping, Arms Control and the Environment. By JB Poole and R. Guthrie, *London, Brassey's (UK), 1993*, p. 340, ISBN 1-85753-083-7

Verification 1994 : Arms Control, Peacekeeping and the Environment. Ed by JB Poole and R Guthrie, *London, Brassey's (UK), 1994*, p. 340, £ 35.00, ISBN 1-85753-110-8.

VERTIC (Verification Technology Information Centre) is a non-profit making organisation of scientists, which publishes year books as well as regular updates and research papers on these vital subjects of our post Cold War world. The yearbooks sandwich skilled and expert papers on a wide range of matters concerning the three main subjects, placing them between a brief summary and a reference section. The quality of information analysis, and comment is of a distinctly high order, very professional and without noticeable bias. The ongoing concept of presentation, linking past present and future, makes these yearbooks an excellent source of compact information; they are a "must" for libraries and institutions concerned with Defence and Strategic Studies, and most useful additions for those dealing with Arms Control, Peace Keeping and Environment.

-- Tindi

The Practice of Diplomacy : Its Evolution, Theory and Administration. By Keith Hamilton and Richard Langhorne, *London, Routledge, 1995, p. 279, £ 32.99, ISBN 0-415-10475-0.*

The book is a historical narration of the practice of diplomacy from the early seventeenth century to the modern era. The peaceful conduct of international relations through dialogue, persuasion and accommodation for gaining advantage and expansion of territory and influence has been transformed from transactions within a small group of nation states to international diplomacy due to emergence of new states after decolonization and balkanization of larger states, say the authors.

Tracing the historical evolution of diplomacy, the book recounts the diplomatic systems of ancient Greece, the Roman and Byzantine empires, canon law and transformation from nuncio to consul, resident ambassadors, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary and the formation of foreign ministries or departments to control and exercise authority on representatives abroad. It was a game of high stakes to satiate the appetites of princes for daily politics of other states, to divide the enemies, gain time, extract information, even resorting to bribery and engaging in matrimonial alliances. Richelieu further refined diplomatic activity and stressed, in his 'Testament Politique', that both the quality of ambassadors and the control exercised over them by the ministry was of profound importance. Negotiators should, he said, be 'persons who can weigh the meaning of words exactly and who are natural drafters'. Thus evolved the professionalization of diplomacy with its further refinement by Bismarck who set standards of a three year university training, passing of examinations of the civil service and eighteen months experience in state civil service.

With the improvement in communications and increase in trade, economic diplomacy came to the fore which, in turn, required safeguarding a country's trade routes and commercial activities leading to the incorporation of military attaches with embassies.

Modern diplomacy further expanded its scope with the incorporation of technical experts, specialists, secret services, use of subversion and propaganda, assisting in revolutions and resorting to conference diplomacy to resolve international conflicts. World War II ushered in a high point of diplomatic activity where heads of states got together in summits to untangle difficult issues. The United Nations became the centre-stage of diplomatic activity with permanent representatives and delegations negotiating across the table bilaterally, in small groups or among members of specific regions concerned with a particular issue. The diplomatic corps was further divided into area specialists who had detailed knowledge of the language, historical background, political, economic and social climate of the country to which they were accredited to.

An exhaustive account of the evolution of theory and administration of diplomacy. However, the authors could have done better if they had incorporated some teachings, practices and maxims of ancient Asian thinkers and practitioners like Kautilya and Sun Tzu.

— Col. Valmiki Katju (Retd.)

The Structure of International Society : An Introduction to the Study of International Relations. By Geoffrey Stern, *London, Painter, 1995, p. 314, £ 11.99, ISBN 1 85567 266 6.*

The book is an introduction to the evolution of societies, states and nations, and their interaction in the field of international relations. The author traces the role of societies from ancient times categorizing them theoretically to realism (Thucydides, Kautilya, Machiavelli), rationalism (Locke, Montesquieu, Mill) and revolutionism (Kant, Marx, Lenin), the latter believing in the maxim "end justifies the means", and a permanent state of hostility with those having different ideals. Stern describes the structure of ancient societies of near and Middle East, Chinese, Indian, Greek, Roman, Islamic and that of Medieval Europe and defines the sovereign state - one which was legally free from outside interferences, having legal rights and duties including self defence and duty bound to honour their treaties and obligations. There are, however, constraints to sovereignty due to geographical location, social and ethnic homogeneity, political orientation and economy.

Chapter 7 elucidates the concept of nationalism based on language, religion and ethnicity and subsequent formulation of a foreign policy dependent on national interest. This foreign policy was further projected as "balance of power" by powerful nations to preserve the international system, maintain order, deter war and lastly, to retain ascendancy and influence for their personal economic dominance. As regards diplomacy, the author spells out the basic functions of representation, communication, negotiation, integration and extraction of information. As the societies evolved, conflicts also took new dimensions. Wars ranged from the localized civil war for liberation, limited, by proxy to what we now classify as total and nuclear. To prevent such a catastrophe, regional and inter-national organizations like League of Nations, United Nations, Non-Aligned Movement and their subsidiaries came into existence. Attention was also focused on under-developed nations but, ironically, aid was provided with strings attached.

In the concluding chapters the author narrates the various threats to international society due to industrialization, capitalism, nuclear proliferation, environmental degradation and pollution, depletion of resources and overpopulation, although the prescription for remedial action needs detailed analysis.

An invaluable text-book for students of international relations.

— Col. Valmiki Katju (Retd)

NDC Papers : 3/95 : United Nations - Peacekeeping and Diplomacy, New Delhi. National Defence College, 1995, p. 123, Rs. 70/-

A useful book of information on three vital issues 1. The UN peacekeeping efforts, the inherent problems of the operation, the possible solutions to resolve the same; 2. The human rights situation especially in India, the organisations dealing with it, the use of human rights as a mode of coercive diplomacy; 3. an overall assessment of peacekeeping efforts with India's role in the same in the future, and the role of NGOs in these peacekeeping efforts.

The book provides valuable data on peacekeeping operations of the UN and India's contribution to it. It would be of great interest if human rights could be dealt as a separate issue in a future NDC paper.

— Dr Sudha Raman

An Intelligent Person's Guide to History. By John Vincent, *London, Gerald Duckworth, 1995, p. 122, £ 11.95, ISBN 0-7156-2682-5.*

A controversial and provocative study of history by John Vincent of the University of Bristol.

The book gives an original and out of the ordinary view of history that is, in effect, because of the range of vision, and analysis of the elements of history are so refreshingly different. Professor Vincent provides a comprehensive examination of the philosophy and evolution of history, and the effect that power, physical force, war, wealth, social order, organisation, and religion have had on human activity through the ages.

The documentation of history, the factors that constitute evidence, the effect that modernisation has had on the written word, the inescapability of conflict, and the cyclical nature of history are some of the meaningful aspects that he has analysed, and as he pertinently says, "history is about winners - not losers. In broad terms, this is because it is the winners who write history".

A penetrating, incisive, and thought provoking book, that would be of stimulating interest to the historian, and the scholar.

— Maj Gen I.A.J. Cardozo, AVSM, SM (Retd.)

A Round Table with Sharp Corners : The Diplomatic Path to German Unity. By Frank Elbe/ Richard Kiessler, *Baden-baden, NOMOS Verlags Gesellschaft, 1996, p. 256, DM 36, ISBN 3-7890-4211-0*

The historic reunification of Germany has produced many excellent books; most of them are based on official briefs or investigative journalism. But this book has more merit as it is written by an insider, Frank Elbe - the Chief of Staff to the Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Gensher (and presently the German Ambassador to India) and Richard Kiessler, then an editorial director of the *Der Speigel*, who covered the two-plus-four talks. Consequently, this mixture produces an insiders account fortified by a newspaperman's acute observations.

The book's title is based on an apt remark made by the then Soviet Foreign Minister, Edward Shevardnadze describing the tortuous negotiations that took place to bring about the unification. It describes how the Soviet objections about the reunited Germany remaining in the NATO were overcome. How the British reservations were removed and the French fears allayed.

Probably the most difficult question was the guarantee of the Polish German border demarcated after the end of the Second World War. Without that being guaranteed, the unification would not have been possible. The book also sheds light on the secret negotiations which took place between the German, US and Soviet representatives outside the scope of the two-plus-four negotiations, which ultimately resulted in Germany regaining its full suzerainty and becoming one nation once again.

The foreword for the book has been written by the man most responsible for the negotiations, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, in which he remarks that the book "...describes how the two-plus-four negotiations were firmly rooted in world political and especially European developments." A truly fascinating book which is highly recommended to those interested in current history.

— Cdr S. Varma, SC, IN (Retd)

The Review of Dictionary of Military Abbreviations. By Norman Polmar, *Mark Warren & Eric Wertheim*, *Annapolis Naval Institute Press, 1995, p. 344, ISBN 1-55750-680-9.*

The authors have compiled a lexicon of current military abbreviations / acronyms pertaining to a decade of services and agencies - US Armed Forces, NATO, NASA, JCS, DOD and DIA - pursuant to the Goldwater - Nicholas Defense Reorganisation Act passed by the US Congress in 1986. The book has been divided into six chapters; Military abbreviations, Aircraft Designations, Aviation Unit Designations, Military Ranks, Missile & Rocket Designations and Ship Designations.

The book is especially useful to Military staff Officers on a joint/unified staff, Defence & Foreign Ministry's officials and all defence students and planners.

— Air Cmde S.K. Bhardwaj (Retd)

Operations Analysis in the U.S. Army Eighth Air Force in World War II : History of Mathematics (Vol IV). By Charles W. McArthur, USA, *The American Mathematical Society, 1990, p. 347, \$ 36.00, ISBN 0-8218-0158-9.*

An interesting study on the advent of Operational Research in the U.S. Air Force, with particular reference to bombing of enemy targets. Published as a series under the History of Mathematics, it is a very fair analysis; it quotes the opinion of Dr Alexander who left the organisation, saying that "he was convinced that he would not be required to employ his specialised knowledge in higher Mathematics. 'The teams included Lawyers, who wrote clear reports for the operations staff.

The selection of targets was at the highest level, there was a controversy, regarding priority between synthetic oil plants and railway marshalling yards — Zuckerman's British plan to attack transportation. Final directions came from the heads of states. Amongst industrial targets, ball bearings, and abrasives factories are of interest, ball bearings had become a major bottleneck in German defence production.

The defence against V-1, meant attacking launching sites - it was important from P.R. point. Experiments in Florida, proved the effectiveness of P-47's. These fighter bombers achieved Cat-A damage which would take months to repair. Eventual respite was when the allies overran the launching sites in France.

V-2 sites had five meters RCC protection; these were dealt with by 4,500 pound, rocket assisted bombs, two of which could be delivered by a B-17.

Details of bombing aids - Gee -H, Oboe, H2S - and electronic counter measures - Carpet, Windows and Chaff - are mentioned. There is a brief description of the German jet fighter M.E 262, which came into service at the end of 1943. The performance of the short range M.E. 163 has not been mentioned.

A useful and informative book.

— Maj Gen Partap Narain (Retd)
M.A. (Cantab)

Modern American Diplomacy (Revised and Enlarged Edition). Ed By John M. Carroll and George C. Herring, *Wilmington, Sr Books, 1988, p. 293, \$ 17.95, ISBN 0-8420-2555-3.*

The book is a compilation of thirteen essays by eminent academics spanning a century of American diplomacy. In the late nineteenth century American leaders resorted to a form of aggressive imperialism based on questions of superiority, civilizing the uncivilized, domination of the weak for economic advantage and following European colonialism. Territories were annexed and made protectorates and in their quest for an orderly and stable world the U.S. became harbingers of chaos, disorder and misrule.

At the time of World War I Wilson declared neutrality but his foreign policy tilted towards the British by permitting credits and loans, continuing arms trade to belligerents (the Germans suffered due to blockade by the Royal Navy) and turning a blind eye to an economic stranglehold of Germany in the North Sea. Later, making German submarine warfare an excuse, Wilson convinced his people that "honour and security of the civilized world was at stake". From his earlier axiom of democratizing the world, he changed his stance of not only democratizing but Americanizing it. Kissinger rightly comments that after the Treaty of Versailles "Germany came to be surrounded by weaker states of uncertain strength, none of whom were capable of resisting Germany".

As Hitler rose to power the American administration under Roosevelt refused to shoulder any legal or moral responsibility in Europe, keeping out of any involvement in World War II with a policy of assessing what was "undesirable" and what was "intolerable" till they were shaken by Pearl Harbour. As regards the Soviets, the author points out that seeds of suspicion and animosity in Stalin's mind were sown by inaction of the allies to provide a second front to help the U.S.S.R. To Stalin the real enemy was pre-war Europe and his insistence of having only friendly governments on Russia's borders led to super power rivalry and the Cold War. On the other hand,

America followed a policy of containment of communist expansion leading to the Domino Theory and involvement in North Korea and Vietnam. To help free people threatened by totalitarian regimes, rejuvenate war-ravaged economies and contain Soviet expansion, the U.S. resorted to economic diplomacy which was ushered in by the Marshall Plan.

In his Afterword, Herring writes that for Americans "the world was less threatening but more confusing with new players, alignments and issues but as yet no new rules". New conflicts in the form of ethnic rivalries, nationalism, religious differences, secessionism, and North-South antagonism have come to the fore. America has to decide whether to take the path of isolation, intervention or pragmatism. A middle path of "selective intervention" may be the answer.

— Col. Valmiki Katju (Retd)

Zhirinovsky : The Paradoxes of Russian Fascism. By Vladimir Solouyou and Elena Klepikova, *London, Viking, 1995, p. 256, £ 18.00, ISBN 0-670-85961-3.*

Zhirinovsky sprang on the Russian political scene as suddenly as a genie from a bottle, in 1990, when he organised an alternate party, the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), thus becoming a pioneer in establishing a multiparty system in Russia.

In recent years, he has been ridiculed and taunted, not that Zhirinovsky has been affected by it. He has been called an eccentric, a political jester, buffoon, an upstart, a loudmouth, a fascist, a Russian Hitler and many more names. But the world was shocked, when he won 24 percent of the votes in 1993 elections.

Now as the appointed dictator of the LDP, he is pursuing the 1996 elections, with tremendous determination and skill. He holds very radical views and wants Russia to rise and become 'Great' again and he wants to achieve this by ruling the country, with an iron fist. He wants to establish a new world order, give a push to the South and regain the old status and glory that Russia enjoyed earlier.

The Western countries are watching the rise of Zhirinovsky, with concern and misgivings. Gorbachev has already become a historical figure. Will Yeltsin who has been supported by the West, follow suit? And will Zhirinovsky assume absolute power by popular vote?

The authors, a husband and wife team, now live in New York. They have used their deep knowledge of Russian politics and culture, to explore the life and views of Russia's dangerous, eccentric and popular rising political star, who may assume power in Russia in the near future.

The book makes very absorbing and interesting reading and deals with a very important topical subject.

— Maj Gen Ram Nath, SM (Retd)

Lenin's Final Fight : Speeches and Writings, 1922-23. By V I Lenin, *New York, Pathfinder, 1995, p. 320, \$ 19.95, ISBN 0-87348-807-5.*

The book covers in detail the last 400 days of Lenin's fight in establishing the 'new order' of Russian Union & Peasants power since the advent of October 1917 revolution. The contents revive the memories of 1950 when the publicity material of Russian origin started flooding the Indian book stalls. However, this 'condensed' version of tumultuous occurrences is very well chronicled and authenticated; the cross references provide the desired background for important events leading upto this last year of Lenin's activism in post Czarist period and emergence of the erstwhile U.S.S.R.

The events described generate greater interest for the Indian reader as the events in India also followed more or less the same pattern barely 25 years later e.g. the voluntary merger of princely states into the Indian Republic and the subsequent economic developmental models/socialistic pattern of society, role of national leaders, the struggle and hardships of the masses, the rural and urban divide, disparities between the elite and the poor, the hunger (near famine) conditions to food surplus, etc.

The harsh realities of leadership struggle among the hierarchy and self proclaimed rival successors have been brought out in sharp focus and without any bias or concealment. The interpretations of various statements have been logically deduced and the English translation is free from any ambiguities; infact where-ever there is a possibility of such an ambiguity either due to Lenin's physical disability or the quirks of English grammar, explanatory notes provide the required classifications. The appendices and the introductory notes act as the gap fillers to complete the history of 1917 revolution, internal conflicts and their resolution. Some of the facts which were clandestinely concealed for a long time, more so pertaining to the 'murderous regime' of Stalin and the clever bureaucracy, have been brought out for the first time in any language.

— Air Vice Marshal S.S. Malhotra AVSM, VM (Retd)

An Emerging China in a World of Interdependence : A Report to the Trilateral Commission. By Yoichi Funabashi and Others, *New York, The Trilateral Commission, 1994, p. 84, \$ 9.00, ISBN 0-930503-71-6.*

This is a concise report that seeks to improve public understanding of issues that concern China.

The authors, who are experts from Japan, Western Europe and North America have worked under a common umbrella provided by the Trilateral Commission not only to identify areas of concern that affect China and the Western world, but also to suggest solutions to handle them jointly.

The study has carried out a detailed analysis of China's quest for Great Power status as a "comprehensive power". It emphasises China's prodigious potential in the military and economic spheres and also highlights her weakness with regard to social justice, governance and lack of compatible financial institutions. Speaking on behalf

of Western interests and the Trilateral nations, the authors attempt to suggest what China ought to do to achieve 'balance' in her pursuit of comprehensive great power status. The tragedy is that the West fails, as usual, to fathom the Eastern ethos. The inscrutable Chinese mien, Chinese emphasis on 'face' and China's desire to lead and not merely to follow. Whereas they do harp on China's sensitivities and the need not to 'talk down' to her, the overall impression regrettably is that they succeed in doing just that.

A must for scholars on China and for all those interested in balance of power situations in the international arena.

— Maj Gen I.A.J. Cardozo, AVSM, SM (Retd.)

The Japanese Economy. By Takatoshi Ito, *London, The MIT Press, 1992, p. 455, \$ 39.95, ISBN 0-262-09029-5.*

Takatoshi Ito is professor of Economics at Hitotsubashi University's Institute of Economic Research in Tokyo and at the University of Minnesota. He is also a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research.

This book is based on lecture notes to American economic students and is, therefore, an economic text-book, but it does explore, with great clarity, the Japanese economy from 1603 onto more detailed modern times and issues, comparing it constantly with the American economy. The book has been highly praised by professional peers and highly recommended to economic students. Hence, its accuracy and authenticity are beyond doubt. What is exceptional about this book is that it is written with such lucidity and clarity that even a reader with a non-economic background can learn a lot; afterall, it's just short of five hundred pages. Chapters 11 to 14 are recommended reading for students and commentators of current affairs as they deal, with candour and supporting data, with international finance, US-Japan economic conflicts, the distribution system and asset prices : for example, it's interesting to learn of the control portfolio managers have on short term exchange rates.

A superb explanation of the Japanese economy for students of economic and a good reference book for those interested in related subjects.

— Air Marshal S D Tully
PVSM, AVSM (Retd)

Children of the Atomic Bomb : An American Physician's Memoir of Nagasaki, Hiroshima, and the Marshall Islands. By James N. Yamazaki with Louis B. Fleming, *Durham, Duke Univ Press, 1995, p 182, \$ 16.95, ISBN 0-8223-1658-7.*

'Children of the Atomic Bomb' is Dr James N Yamazaki's uncommon memoir described in personal and moving terms, of the human toll of nuclear warfare, an account of dropping of atomic bomb on Japan in 1945. The book is an account of a life long effort of the author to understand and document the impact of nuclear explosion on children, particularly the children conceived but not yet born at the time of explosion.

The author very vividly brings out the discoveries that helped the dangers of nuclear radiation and presents powerful observations of medical and social effects of the nuclear bomb. The book offers an indelible picture of human tragedy, a tale of unimaginable suffering of those mentally retarded children and a dedication to their healing, that is ultimately an unwavering impassioned plea for peace.

Today, over half century later, Hiroshima and Nagasaki are barely remembered outside of Japan as the target of the 'other' bomb. In the United States there has emerged an almost pathological aversion to confronting what actually took place beneath the mushroom clouds. Infact most people think that the atomic bombs helped to bring World War II to a merciful end. However, the indiscriminate use of lethal weapons against entire populations that World War II unleashed is appalling. The question to ponder is: have we learnt any lessons from this incidence and is there a remote chance that such incidences will not be repeated again in future to end yet another war, whenever and wherever it occurs?

— Col R P S Malkan

Search and Rescue in Southeast Asia. By Earl H. Tilford, Jr. *Washington, Centre for Air Force History, 1992, p. 212.*

Search and Rescue is a very noble cause which flourished during World War II. Almost all the countries have their own Search and Rescue organisation both during peace and war.

Though rescue from the water dominated search and rescue activities in World War II, rescue from land areas increased as the war progressed.

Earl H. Tilford in his book describes in a simple language the development of search and rescue during World War II and upto 1960, the operations in South East Asia, the period when the operations were escalated during 1964-70.

In the Forward Richard P. Hallion has stated that the USAF continues to place top priority on Search and Rescue seeking better ways to perform their functions through better use of advanced equipment, ships and aircraft. This is equally applicable to the other countries as their missions are very important both afloat and ashore.

An interesting and informative book of particular interest to the Indian Coast Guard officers.

— Cmde R.P. Khanna, AVSM
Indian Navy (Retd)

The Japanese Wartime Empire, 1931-1945, By Peter Duus and Others, *New York, Princeton University, 1995, p. 376, \$ 49.50, ISBN 0-691-04382-5.*

This book is the third volume in the series on modern Japanese colonialism and imperialism, during 1895-1945. This volume contains 12 essays and a lengthy

introduction by 13 eminent scholars, ably edited by a team of editors cum contributors. The introduction highlights the problems and issues of Japan's wartime Empire which generates interest and prepares the reader for easy grasp and absorption of more complex problems related to the wartime industrialisation, Socio-economic, geo-political issues, and integration, consolidation and management of the newly acquired territories and ever expanding empire.

International relations and intended territorial occupation have been dealt with in depth. Co-operation, submission, resistance and revolts of 'indigenous elites' within and outside the empire as well as the strategic considerations have been researched in detail and information presented in clear and precise language. Even the darker sides of wartime conduct of imperialism have been resolved with utmost transparency, based on proper documentary evidence as well as logical deductions. The data provided is very informative and relevant. Even though the topics discussed are complex and complicated, yet the narration is simple and absorbing.

— Air Vice Marshal S.S. Malhotra, AVSM, VM
(Retd)

Allied War Diplomacy and Strategy 1940-45. By C. Kondapi, *Madras, Woodside Books, 1994, p. 556, Rs. 495/-, ISBN 81-86357-00-9.*

The history of the World War II projects a baffling exercise of power-gaming by some towering personalities of the era like Churchill, Roosevelt, DeGaulle, Stalin and not the least, Hitler. On the one Hand, the theatres of war spread out over land and across high seas and sucked in new regions and nations, and on the other, new alignments of warring nations kept emerging. Evolution of opposing strategies, therefore, followed an uneven and spasmodic pattern.

In this latest addition to the vast repertoire of historical literature, on the Second World War, C Kondapi has vividly collated and reviewed the complex exercise of path-finding by the leaders of the three great power conglomerate, albeit with divergent political philosophies, strategic objectives and domestic pressures. He, first, gives a broad over-view of the salient events/developments during 1940-1945, and the crucial meetings and conferences. In the process, he has successfully portrayed the personalities of a large band of political leaders who influenced the evolution of the Allied grand strategy at respective stages.

Overall, the book offers a useful insight into the decision-making and divergent national perceptions which guided the diplomatic and strategic thrusts during the Second World War.

— Maj Gen S K Talwar (Retd)

The Rise of the Nazis. By Conan Fischer, *Manchester, Manchester Univ Press, 1995, p. 194, £ 8.99, ISBN 0-7190-3503-1.*

Over sixty-two years ago, Hitler and his Nazi cohorts came to power in Germany bringing with them, after Stalin's, probably the most brutal government in the history

of mankind. This book by Conan Fischer examines the reasons for the advent of the Nazis and how they consolidated their power to hoodwink the hapless Germans. Starting with a history of Germany in which Nazism grew after the Great War, the author goes on to examine the set up of the party and how Hitler successfully converted the party into accepting the Führer Prinzipship.

Thereafter, the author explains the reasons of how an obscure Corporal could flummox a nation into following him! As he states, "If Hitler's contribution to the intellectual history of post-Enlightenment Europe was, to put it kindly, dubious, his record as a propagandist and communicator was outstanding." Here lay the secret of his success in bringing three distinct classes of people, the elite, the working-class and the middle-class into the Nazi fold. Here also lay the reason why Hitler was able to form and fund his party in a very short time. He has also examined the anatomy of Nazism, its organization, its motivational forces and its inherent brutal character which it imbibed from fascism.

This book is a part of a new series to keep up with the expansion of history syllabi which provide up to the minute new researches in the field. It is an extremely useful book for all those interested in modern European history and the effect of Nazism on it. It is all the more useful for researchers as it carries an excellent documentary appendix.

— Cdr. S. Varma, SC, IN (Retd)

Remembering Pearl Harbor : Eyewitness Accounts by U.S. Military Men and Women. Ed by Robert S. La Forte and Ronald E. Marcello, *Wilmington, Scholarly Resources, 1991, p. 303, \$ 24.95, ISBN 0-8420-2371-2.*

This book is a story narrated by enlisted personnel and junior officers who were present on that fateful "day of ignominy" for US i.e., December 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor. It is not a tale of strategy or airborne landings or well planned and expertly, executed manoeuvres by armoured columns sweeping countries after countries but how the individuals reacted to war, their depth of emotions, anguish, despondencies, hopes and despairs.

This book is a result of over 350 interviews conducted with the survivors of Pearl Harbor and took 15 years. The recollections of 40 interviewees is given in the book along with their bio-data bringing out all the facets of the Japanese precision attack, the Americans unpreparedness and casualness, destruction of equipment and sufferings of human beings; some mentally paralysed after the sudden and surprise attack, some gathered their wits and took charge; and inevitable looting on abandoned ships from all sectors of Pearl Harbor. The wealth of knowledge as given out by other interviewees is available at the University of North Texas Oral History program for further research.

An interesting and absorbing book bringing out human reactions under adverse circumstances which should be taught to green soldiers, sailors and airmen.

— Maj Gen J N Goel (Retd)

Cold War Casualty : The Court-Martial of Major General Robert W. Grow. By George F. Hofmann, *Kent, The Kent State Univ Press, 1993, p. 251, \$ 26.00, ISBN 0-87338-462-8.*

A Russian agent had photo-copied the personal memoires and views recorded through the years by Major General Grow in his personal diary. The General was US military attache in Moscow. These were exploited by the Russian propaganda machinery to denounce America as a war-mongering imperialist society. The home and foreign media also sensationalised the incident.

As a consequence General Grow was tried by a General Court-Martial and convicted in mid-1952.

After a rational and clinical review of the relevant course of the Grow episode, his career profile, the post war hard-line stance of President Truman's government vis-a-vis Russia, and the military command, the author critically examines the conduct of the investigation and trial. Even though the State Department and the Central Intelligence Agency had recommended counter-propaganda to refute Russian charges, the Army brass General Taylor and Boling, went ahead with the trial. Submissions of the General and his Defence Counsel regarding non-jurisdiction of the Court and the non-validity of the alleged breach of information went unheeded.

The review of the trial proceedings by the author develops into a Case Study of the military judicial system, its intransigence and susceptibility to command prejudices and bureaucratic pressures.

Overall the book makes very interesting and thought provoking study.

— Maj Gen S K Talwar (Retd)

Not Mentioned in Despatches : The History and Mythology of the Battle of Goose Green. By Spencer Fitz - Gibbon. *Cambridge, The Lutterworth Press, 1995, p. 208, £ 17.99, ISBN 07188-29336*

The Falkland war between Britain and Argentina in 1982 was fought and won by the former even with the longest ever logistics line and a tiny garrison mainly because the aim was crystal clear. War to obtain political mileage even to the extent of killing the Goose Green civilians they wanted to liberate and last but not the least the delegation of decision making by the Bde Cdr to the Bn Cdr. The Second-in-Command (after the killing of the OC Col Jones) went onto issue the ultimatum to the Argentine Task Force Commander and eventually succeeded in persuading the adversaries to the latter's mistaken impression that they were out-numbered and could not possibly win. The Argentinians chose honourable defeat rather than renewed fighting. The Argentinians on two occasions missed golden opportunities to counter attack and unhinge the British offensive due to doctrinal blocks - Schwerpunkt and training tactics. Notwithstanding the 2 Para's superior performance, the Mercedes Forces' defeat was due to Argentinian military doctrine (extreme form of positional warfare) than to the quality of the British Command and tactics. The book gives a deep insight into the

military versions of the despatches - a special case in point is the citation for the posthumous award of Victoria Cross to the Bn. Cdr - which does not at all times truly reflect the ground realities, and hence the title of the book as "Not mentioned in Despatches".

Appendices, bibliography, index, maps and sketches have all enhanced the usefulness and comprehension of the book. It is recommended to all interested in military affairs.

— Air Cmde S.K. Bhardwaj (Retd)

Beech Aircraft and Their Predecessors. By AJ Pelletier, *London, Putnam Aeronautical Books, 1995, p 223, £ 35.00, ISBN 0-85177-863-1.*

This is a book in the series - Putnam Aeronautical Books. It deals with the history of the Beech Aircraft Company of the U.S.A. and its predecessors.

The book gives complete details of the various types of aircraft that the company has built from the time it was called Travel Aircraft Manufacturing Company till the present day.

During the Second World War it manufactured small but fast transport and training aircraft for the US Army Air Corps and the US Navy. Additionally, almost 90 per cent of bombardiers and navigators were trained on its Model 18 aircraft. Multi-engine pilot training was also imparted to a majority of US and Allied pilots during the Second World War on Beech aircraft. It is interesting to note that a company which is famous for manufacturing small civilian aircraft (who in India has not heard of the Beechcraft Bonanza?) has manufactured air to air refueling equipment and drone aircraft as well.

This well produced book, full of splendid photographs, should be of great interest to those who are interested in the history of Beech aircraft.

— Cdr S. Varma, SC, IN (Retd)

Have a Nice Day : From the Balkan War to the American Dream. By Dubravka Ugresic, *London, Jonathan Cape, 1994, p. 241, £ 9.99, ISBN 0-224-03885-0.*

"Respect the madness of a madhouse as normal behaviour", writes the author, presenting a deceptively simple childlike narrative of contrasting experiences through the break up of Yugoslavia, through Europe, and the USA. The outcome is a devastatingly understated indictment of modern civilization, where human values crumble under conflict, where unwillingness to face the truth resorts to comfortable rationalisation and evasion, where hallowed causes conceal struggles for personal power, and where the highest public regard for humanity casually and thoughtlessly acts with inhumanity. This gentle and brief collection probably loses some of its impact in translation from the original croat, but the thought, philosophy and experience are the universal worms eye view of what underlies heroic conflicts to advance noble causes by vio-

lence. Many victims and observers world wide will understand when she writes, "I no longer know who I am nor where I am nor whose I am reality no longer exists".

This is not a book for everyone, "It is for those few who survived and still can think".

-- Tindi

The Battle of Britain : New Perspectives : Behind the Scenes of the Great Air War. By John Ray, *London, Arms and Armour, 1994, p. 222, £ 16.99, ISBN 1-85409-229-4.*

A number of books have been written on the Battle of Britain but this is different in that it brings out in detail the part played by Air Chief Marshal Lord Hugh Dowding when resources of the British Navy, Army and Air Force were stretched to the limit.

Inspite of the differences with the Air Ministry and his uncooperative attitude towards his own colleagues, Dowding pressed his plans and delivered the goods and saved the country from defeat. However, he was held in high respect by his pilots whom he called "Chicks".

A number of those who had worked with Dowding had found him to be intransigent and unimaginative. But Dowding never hesitated to speak his mind, a quality not universally admired.

All the above and tactics followed by Dowding including the Night Air Defence have been examined in detail.

A well researched book of much interest to the air force officers. A good addition to all the libraries.

-- Cmde R.P. Khanna, AVSM
Indian Navy (Retd)

Change in South Africa. Ed by J.E. Spence, *London, Pinter Pub, 1994, p. 114, £ 9.95, ISBN 1-85567-1-35-2.*

The end of apartheid and lifting of the international sanctions imposed on South Africa led to the first ever general elections in April 1994 and the formation of the new Government of National Unity headed by President Mandela. The essays presented in this volume by eminent scholars, bring into sharp focus the immense task of social and economic reconstruction of the racially fragmented country, facing the government.

The issues analysed are, the framework of a democratic constitution, defence and internal security, the economy, education and health. These are lucidly and concisely put for an understanding of the problems that apartheid and the consequent sanctions imposed by the international community caused in South Africa, what led to

the end of apartheid and how the challenges now facing the new democratic government may be tackled.

With the developing economic, cultural and other ties between India and South Africa, it is of considerable interest to us to watch the transformation under way in that country and to see whether democracy will take root and succeed in solving the multitude of problems. These issues are dealt with very perceptively in this book.

— Maj Gen N M Sobi (Retd)

Gulf Logistics : Blackadder's War. Ed by Major General MS White, CBE, *London, Brassey (UK), 1995, p 262, £ 30.00, ISBN 1-85753-089-6.*

Gulf Logistics subtitled as the Blackadder's War is a lucid and absorbing narration of the provisioning of the right material at the right place, at the right time, in the right quantities for the effective prosecution of the military operation by the British Forces, especially No 1 (UK) Armoured Division during the Gulf War 1990-91, codenamed Operation Gravity, Sand Storm, Desert Shield and Desert Sabre. The deft handling of men and material involving 146 cargo ships and some 12,000 air sorties into the Forward Force Maintenance Area (FFMA) dwarfed even the Berlin Airlift effort, further compounded by an intervening distance of four thousand miles and from there up the supply line i.e. the FFMA to Divisional Maintenance Area (DMA) right upto the Distribution Points (DPs) in a smooth and predicted manner, albeit under no opposition from the enemy on the ground or in the air. The creation of a Blackadder's Formation was the need of the hour, which handled the most complex deployment and support operations since World War II.

Abbreviations, figures and photographs, military symbols and chapter-wise notes have greatly increased the intelligibility and the usefulness of the treatise. The book is recommended to all officers of the Armed Forces and policy makers alike.

— Air Cmde S K Bhardwaj (Retd)

First Light : Modern Bahrain and its Heritage. By Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, *London, Kegan Paul International, 1994, p. 152, £ 35.00, ISBN 0-7103-0494-3.*

Bahrain is a small country, lying strategically in the Arab Gulf and is made up of an archipelago, consisting of 33 islands. It has an area of 687 square kilometers, with a population of only about 550,000.

This work presents the past history, present conditions and future prospects of this country from military and strategic points of view. Historically, the book goes back to the advent of Islam, to the Portuguese invasion in the sixteenth century, the British rule in the Gulf, till the achievement of independence in 1971.

The country now is a member of the Gulf Co-operation Council and maintains close relations with the wider Arab World. Seeing the importance of Arab Gulf and Bahrain's location, the country has a significant role to play in the region.

The country has been ruled by the Al Khalifa family for the last two centuries. The author is the Crown Prince of the state of Bahrain. He is also the founder and C-in-C of Bahrain Defence Forces. He did his schooling as well as his military training as a cadet in England.

For Gulf watchers, this book is another source of information and contains interesting observations on the region.

— Maj Gen Ram Nath, SM (Retd)

The Arab League and Peacekeeping in the Lebanon. By Istvan Pogany, *Aldershot, Avebury, 1987, p. 214, £ 25.00, ISBN 0-566-00758-4.*

This book covers almost everything about Lebanon - right from ancient times till the date of publication. The main subject dealt in detail is of course the Arab League, the composition of its security force, with special emphasis on its functions, control, organisation, finance and performance in Lebanon.

Lebanon occupies a unique place in the region by virtue of its geo-political importance, being a buffer as well as the focal point of various civilisations. Therefore, it became imperative to provide it collective security to prevent the 'hawks' from exploiting it. Hence the formation of the Arab League Peace Keeping Security Force for Lebanon.

The details given in the book can easily serve as a ready reckoner for a scholar and a wealth of information for a student. The drafts and adoptions of resolutions & judgements among the participants in the process of war and peace, as well as of UNO & international court of justice, will provide useful inputs to scholars interested in Lebanon.

— Air Vice Marshal S.S. Melhotra, AVSM, VM (Retd)

Dynamics of Regional Politics : Four Systems on the Indian Ocean Rim. By. W Howard Wriggins and Others, *New York, Columbia University Press, 1992, p. 338, \$ 40.00, ISBN 0-231-07860-9.*

The book explores the pattern of international conflict and cooperation in four geographical sub-systems :

- a) Horn of Africa,
- b) Persian/Arabian Gulf,
- c) The South Asian Sub-continent, and
- d) Southeast Asia

All these were theaters of Cold War rivalry, and had to cope with numerous regional conflicts determining the future international order on each of these sub-systems. The end of Cold War had an effect on each of these sub-systems and the author had made a very comprehensive study of the importance of their individual

dynamics. The book was published in September, 1992 and has been structured to test hypotheses about international alignments and conflicts across a number of Third World Countries. It also highlights the strength and weaknesses of some of the realities of the Third World - arbitrary colonial borders, weak state structures, civil conflict, ethnic/seciarian/tribal ties across frontiers - which are different from the European and American scenarios.

This book is very useful for students of International Relations to understand the geo-political and economic compulsions of the region, which will continue to draw the attention of Western powers for economic gains, particularly the role of the USA in the post Cold War scenario.

-- Brig S K Issar, VSM, MA IA (Retd)

South Asian Drama : Travails of Misgovernance. By Sundeep Waslekar, *New Delhi, Konark Publishers, 1996, p. 372, Rs. 395/-, ISBN 81-220-0416-4.*

Inspite of nearly 50 years since independence, South Asian region, remains one of the poorest in the world, with dismal record in education, health, corruption and sectarian strife. Some feel that the region is heading for chaos.

Is the present state of affairs due to misgovernance? Or is it the mindset of the people who need to change the concept of good and evil, smart and stupid, tolerable and intolerable and should consider poverty as a fraud and not as fate, corruption as distortion of social structures and not as an act of smartness? Or is it both misgovernance and mindset.

Sundeep Waslekar in his book, South Asian Drama, has tried to answer these questions and has handled some of the burning social, economic and security problems facing the region, with insight and scholarship. His conclusions and opinions are well researched and convincing.

The author, a former scholar at Oxford, currently heads the International Centre for Peace Initiative, Bombay. He has written a number of articles for periodicals all over the world. Indian Express described him as a man with a Vision for Peace.

A well written, topical book which the reader will find most interesting.

-- Maj Gen Ram Nath, SM (Retd)

Anatomy of a Flawed Inheritance : Indo Pak Relations 1970-94. By J N Dixit, *Delhi, Konark Pub, 1995, p. 339, Rs 395, ISBN 81-220-0404-0.*

Since independence, Indo-Pak relations, have been turbulent and strained. A few wars have been fought and tension exists, till date. An arms race continues, diverting scarce resources from development. In the world at large, Cold War is over, the Berlin Wall has come down and there are attempts by countries to 'mend their fences', but India and Pakistan continue to be at loggerheads, thus affecting the lives of millions of people of the sub-continent.

Do the contradictions in Indo-Pak relations go beyond the issues of politics, security, territorial integrity and Kashmir or is it a question of failure to overcome the trauma of partition and the complexes and prejudices inherited from it?

The author has attempted to answer these questions in this book. It covers the period 1970-94. Having had the privilege to see the drama first hand, and as to what actually transpired behind the scenes, the author puts the whole problem in the correct perspective.

The author, a former Foreign Secretary of India and Ambassador to Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, dealt directly with Pakistan four times. He is thus, an authority on the question of Indo-Pak relations.

The layout of the book is well conceived, the subject matter put across in a lucid, easy style and with wit. I, for one, found the book fascinating. A 'must' for any library.

— Major General Ram Nath, SM (Retd)

The Military in British India : The Development of British Land Forces in South Asia 1600 - 1947. By TA Heathcote, *Manchester, Manchester University 1995*, p. 288, £ 40.00.

The book under review is part of the nine-volume Manchester History of the British Army edited by FW Becket. This volume authored by TA Heathcote is a study of the conflicts which established British rule in South Asia and the contribution of the military in the constitution of British India. The book outlines the causes and the courses of the various campaigns fought by the British and Indian rulers and the European rivals who also came on the scene.

A well researched and highly readable book which makes a clear break from the Eurocentric approach of writers of British Imperial History.

— Lt Gen P E Menon, PVSM (Retd)

Moved by Love : The Memoirs of Vinoba Bhave. Tr By Marjorie Sykes. *Wardha, Paramdham Prakashan, 1994*, p. 303, Rs 30.

Vinoba Bhave said "I am a seeker along one path only. The whole business of my life has been a search for non violence." How true it is of a man who dedicated himself by getting land from the rich farmers and distributing it to the poor for them to live a decent life.

The author has described the life of Vinoba Bhave in great detail including the long march of 100,000 miles going the length and breadth of India preaching the path of non violence and true life as advocated by the father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi.

An interesting book which should be read by all and in particular, the younger generation, to know the values of life and the aim to live for the benefit of the poor people.

-- Cmde R.P. Khanna, AVSM
Indian Navy (Retd)

Refugees and Regional Security in South Asia. Ed By SD Muni and Lok Raj Baral, *New Delhi, Konark Publishers, 1996, p. 245, Rs. 275, ISBN 81-220-0420-2.*

The phenomenon of refugees, is as old as the emergence of nation-states. The refugee generating factors are many and there are serious ramifications, both for the refugee promoting states, as well as the receiving states, from social, economic and security angles.

Regional relations in South Asia have always been afflicted by movements of people across the boundaries of other states. During the last couple of decades, the growing dimensions of refugee flows, has affected the security and stability of states of South Asia.

The Regional Centre for Strategic Studies (RCSS), Colombo, for its first seminar project, selected the theme, "Refugees and Regional Security in South Asia." Eminent Scholars from countries of South Asia read their papers in the seminar, on important case studies. eg Tibetan refugees, Afgan refugees in Pakistan, Chakmas to India, Bhutanese refugees in Nepal and Sri Lankan Tamils in India. The editors have provided a comparative frame work, to put the whole issue in a perspective.

The book has been edited by Dr S.D. Muni, Professor of South Asian Studies JNU, who has authored and edited twelve other books. The second editor is Dr L.R. Baral, professor of Political Science, at Tribhuwan University, Kathmandu. He has edited various other volumes and is author of five other books.

A book, highly recommended, for understanding, the growing security problem due to refugees in South Asia.

— Maj Gen Ram Nath, SM (Retd)

Bajirao I : An Outstanding Cavalry General. By Colonel RD Palsokar, MC, *New Delhi, Reliance Publishing House, 1995, p. 248, Rs. 295/-, ISBN 81-85972-94-X.*

In the galaxy of Indian generals Bajirao I stands very high and has hardly any equals. A Brahmin trained to be a minister (Peshwa) he had learnt the art of statesmanship as a close observer at the Maratha court under his father. Assuming the mantle of authority as a Peshwa at the young age of 20, Bajirao practised the art of diplomacy and war to perfection for the next 20 years until his death at the early age of 40. He was able to make up for the deficiency of his forces by the judicious use of his mobile arm - the horse cavalry, eye for ground, avoidance of confrontation, if need be, and striking at the weakest spots of the enemy. He had perfected Shivaji's

methods and made ample use of this aggressive and mobile form of fighting and took to its zenith.

He very well knew how to get a headstart of his adversary and forestall him. He did this most successfully more than once particularly against the Nizam, the biggest adversary of the Marathas in the south. The Nizam was a veteran of many a battle and had not faced defeat but lost to this young paradox of battlefield mobility. Bajirao's quick manoeuvres against the Nizam at Palkhed forced his adversary to his knees and the negotiating table. Bajirao obtained the most favourable terms while at the same time being magnanimous in victory. He did this again at Bhopal.

Long after the death of Bajirao when deterioration had set in, experienced British generals had to eat dust at the hands of the Marathas. This was so as he had left his legacy in safe hands and an expanded and stronger confederacy from far south deep into north India right up to the Moghul emperor's citadel and court in Delhi. Even though Bajirao had experienced commanders and much older to him they all had great respect for his judgement and gave him full support. Like all good generals he was intensely human and a good judge of character. Himself highly talented, he recognised talent and gave ample opportunities to his subordinates, irrespective of caste or creed.

Colonel Palsokar, a doyen among military historians has rendered valuable service to the study of our very recent history. A well produced work.

-- Lt Col Gautam Sharma (Retd)

Expert Witness : A Defence Correspondent's Gulf War 199-91. By Christopher Bellamy, *London, Brassey's 1993, p. 252, Rs 994.00, ISBN 0 08 041792 2*

We have a rare combination of a Defence Correspondent who also has a PhD in military studies looking into the future Bellamy's personal record of the build up, the execution, and the aftermath of the war against Iraq will be a classic for study by military students assigned this campaign in future years. He combines the journalist's eye for interesting detail, the analytical penetration of the scholar, the background knowledge of the historian, and the communication skills of a professional, to present a racy account attractive to all readers; with this come excellent maps, diagrams, photographs, reference notes, orders of battle, personal accounts and an index, making it a book for serious reference and study.

Written after January 1993, the author has the advantage of hindsight in analysis; events after the war, time to strip the "hype" and glamour off immediate action, more reliable facts to replace estimates, lead to better based conclusions. Iraqi fatalities were nearer 5000 than the estimated 50,000; the govt. recovered fast enough to deal with the Shiited in the South and Kurds in the North; what was the aim the USA had in mind, and what was achieved? We have a fascinating "insider" record of the future information war" of

modern technology applied to ancient conflict. We have strength and weaknesses highlighted, with "human intelligence" and "language" marked as "shortages"; we learn how commanders were "fighting" equipment rather than "equipping" men; how fire power and even guns were ahead of manoeuvre brigades; how the use of GPS, automatic coding on communications, precise control on target selection and fire, all allowed rapidly shifting boundaries of responsibility and manoeuvre, never before achieved in such complex and intense warfare. The predominant success of a devastating air war created a situation where individuals could survive but not an Army, which led to the Iraqi debacle on the ground.

This vision of future war highlights some telling points, somewhat different to past practice. In a democracy, if the military are to be effective they must "Advertise". The aim is not to exterminate the enemy, but to limit his power. Mistakes will take place at all levels and scales - enquire, learn, and correct, but they can never be covered up. The intellectual war can deal with rogue regimes, but is not so certain with terrorism and protection of ethnic minorities. Altogether a worthwhile book.

-- Tindi

The Craft of Research. By Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams, *The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1995, p. 294, £ 19.95 or \$ 25.00, ISBN 0-226-06583-9.*

A very useful guide to the methodology and mechanics of scientific research whether "pure" or "applied", as a part of a creative process. The three distinguished professors have together used their vast academic experience in the field of research to highlight the essential features of good research, from the initial planning of a project to organising and finding primary and secondary sources, taking notes, and finally drafting and revising the project. The craft of research is simply explained giving useful examples of correct and incorrect usage at every stage making the book valuable to research students as well as experienced researchers.

-- N B S

Additions to the USI Library for the Quarter - Ending June 1996

(The books reviewed in January-March 1996 issue have been added to the Library during this quarter but not shown in this list)

Ser No.	Author's Name	Title	Year
Air Power			
1.	Vallance, Andrew GB	The Air Weapons : Doctrines of Air Power Strategy and Operational Art	1996
Bangladesh			
2.	Zaheer, Hasan	The Separation of East Pakistan : The Rise and Realization of Bengali Muslim Nationalism	1995
3.	Islam, Rafiqul BU	A Tale of Millions : Bangladesh Liberation War - 1971	1995
Biography			
4.	Prasad, Ishwari (Dr)	The Life and Times of Maharaja Juddha Shumsher Jung Bahadur Rana of Nepal	1996
5.	Powell, Collin L with Persico, JE	My American Journey	1995
6.	Ralhan, OP	Subhas Chandra Bose : His Struggle for Independence	1996
7.	N K Singh	The Plain Truth : Memoirs of a CBI Officer	1996
Defence - Production			
8.	Chatterji, Manas, (ed)	Arms Spending : Development and Security	1996
9.	Hussain, Nazir	Defence Production in the Muslim World : Limitations and Prospects	1989
India			
10.	Kataria, de ve (Col)	Facts in Fact : A Bitter Truth of India of Yore and Today	1996
11.	Ghatate, NM Dr (ed)	Four Decades in Parliament : Atal Bihari Vajpayee, 3 Vols	1996

12. India, Finance Commission Report of the Finance Commission 1995-2000 1994

13. Lewis, John P. India's Political Economy : Governance and Reform 1995

14. Omissi, David Indian - Army
The Sepoy and the Raj : The Indian Army 1860-1940 1994

15. Qureshi, IH India - History
The Administration of the Mughal Empire, Rep. 1966

16. Burke, SM and Quaishi, Salim-Al-Din The British Raj in India : An Historical Review 1995

17. Amin, Shahid Event, Metaphor Memory : Chauri - Chaura 1922-1992 1995

18. Ikram, SM Modern Muslim India and Birth of Pakistan, 6th ed. 1995

19. Noorani, AG India - Russia Relations
The Trial of Bhagat Singh : Politics of Justice 1996

20. Marvin, Charles Islam - History
The Russian Advance Towards India 1984

21. Whead-Uz-Zaman and Akhtar, MS (ed.) Islam in South Asia 1993

22. Ahmad, Sayed Riaz (Dr) Maulana Maududi and the Islamic State 1976
Kashmir

23. Hussain, Mirza Shafique History of Kashmir : A Study in Documents 1916 - 1939 1992

24. Pushp, PN and Warikoo, K (eds) Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh : Linguistic Predicament 1996

25. Hari, Jai Singh Kashmir : A Tale of Shame 1994

26. Aggarwal, JC and Aggarwal, SP Modern History of Jammu & Kashmir 1995

27. Forty, George Military - Technology
Tank Commanders : Knight of the Modern Age 1993

Missile

28. Gunston, Bill
The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Aircraft
Armament : A Major Directory of
Guns, Rockets, Missiles, Bombs,
Torpedoes and Mines 1987

29. Berman, Robert &
Gunsten, Bill
Rockets & Missiles of World War II 1983

North-East India

30. Gurudev, S.
Anatomy of Revolt in the
North-East India 1996

Pakistan

31. Sayed, GM
The Case of Sindh : GM Sayed's
Deposition for the Courts 1995

32. Chitkara, MG
Nuclear Pakistan 1996

33. Karachi. Pakistan Study
Centre, University of
Karachi
Research Series - Vol. 1 1985

Reference Books

34. Bulter, David et.al.
India Decides : Elections 1952-1995 1995

35. Jain, MK
Library Manual : A Political Approach
to Management 1996

36. Foss, CF
Jane's AFV Recognition Handbook 1987

37. Wood, Derek
Jane's World Aircraft Recognition
Handbook 1993

Regimental History

38. Shakespear, LW (Col)
A History of Poona and its
Battlefields 1912
1978

Religion

39. Syed, GM
Religion and Reality 1986

Violence

40. Kakar, Sudhir
The Colours of Violence 1995

Warfare

41. Darman, Peter
Surprise Attack : Lightning Strikes
of the World's Elite Forces 1993

JOIN
USI Correspondence Courses
And
Plan Your Career

Courses Run by the USI

Courses	Dates		Tuition Fees*	
	Course commencement	Examination	All subjects (Rs.)	Each subject (Rs.)
1. DSSC Entrance Examination (Army)	Nov	Sep	900	200
2. DSSC Entrance Examination (Navy)	Jan	Jul	—	275
3. DSSC Entrance Examination (Air)	Jan	Jul	450	250
4. TSC Entrance Examination	Nov	Sep	500	200
5. Promotion Examination Part D	Jun	Jan	700	150
6. Promotion Examination Part B	Sep	Apr	450	125

*Membership of the USI is compulsory for all Courses. The fees given above do not include membership fees which are as follows :-

Membership Fees

	<i>Life</i> (Rs.)	<i>Ordinary</i> (Rs.)
Entrance	150	150
Subscription	1500	150(annual - 1 Apr to 31 Mar)

Bank Drafts/Postal Orders and Local Cheques ONLY will be accepted.

(These may be made out in the name of Director USI)

For further details write to the Chief Instructor,

UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION OF INDIA

Rao Tula Ram Marg, (opposite Signals Enclave)
Post Bag No 8, Vasant Vihar PO, New Delhi-110057

USI

(Estd. 1870)

OUR ACTIVITIES

Library Service

One of the oldest and finest military libraries in India, today it has over 50,000 books, and journals on its shelves, including books published in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, on an astonishing variety of subjects. While the principal emphasis is on strategy and defence, there are a large number of works on different facets of Indian life, as well as on other countries. It is a store house of rare books and manuscripts for scholars and research workers devoted to political and military study.

Correspondence Courses

The introduction of Correspondence Courses for promotion and Defence Service Staff College examinations some years ago found ready response and today the Institution has 1,500 members who participate in the Training Courses annually. Material is despatched to them regularly wherever they may be.

The students have undoubtedly profited by these courses, as evidenced by the success achieved by them in these Examinations. Popularity apart, the courses contribute substantially to the revenue of the USI.

USI Journal

Oldest Defence Journal in India, it contains proceedings of lectures and discussions, prize essays, original articles, book reviews, etc.

It is published quarterly in April, July, October and January each year (the first issue being Jan-Mar each year). The Journal is supplied free to members. It provides a forum for the most junior officer to express his opinions relating to his profession.

Gold Medal Essay Competitions

The gold medal essay competition is held every year. The subject for essay is announced during the month of March each year. On the occasion of the Centenary, an additional Gold Medal Essay Competition has been instituted for Junior Officers of not more than ten year's service.

Lectures and Discussions

A series of lectures by outstanding experts on service, international affairs and topics of general interest to the Services are organised for the benefit of Local Members in Delhi.

Mac Gregor Medal

This medal is awarded every year to officers for any valuable reconnaissance they may have undertaken.

Rules of Membership

1. All officers of the Defence Services and all Central Services Gazetted officers Class I (including Retired), Cadets from NDA, other Services' Academies and Midshipmen shall be entitled to become members on payment of the entrance fee and subscription.
2. Life Members of the Institution shall be admitted on payment of Rs. 1650/- which sum includes entrance fee.
3. Ordinary Members of the Institution shall be admitted on payment of an entrance fee of Rs. 150/- on joining and an annual subscription of Rs. 150/- to be paid in advance.
4. The period of subscription commences on 1 April each year and shall be operative till 31 March of the following year.

For further particulars, please write to Director, USI of India, Rao Tula Ram Marg, (opposite Signals Enclave) Post Bag No 8, Vasant Vihar PO, New Delhi-110057