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Featured Review

Thomas P. M. Barnett's
*The Pentagon's New Map: War and Peace
in the Twenty-First Century*

In an article in *Esquire* early in 2003, Tom Barnett, a professor at the Naval War College, outlined a proposed "grand strategy" for the twenty-first century, based on the concept of "The Functioning Core and the Non-Integrating Gap." "The Core" refers to those nations with relatively stable governments having some regard for human rights (or at least world opinion) and a willingness to cooperate in a more or less peaceful world community. These include the United States, Japan, most of Europe (though not the Balkans), and Russia, plus a few nations in other areas, such as India, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Australia, New Zealand, and the Asian "Little Tigers," as well as China, essentially the "globalized" community, roughly two-thirds of humanity. In contrast, "The Gap" is the region of instability and poverty that has largely failed to integrate into the global community, including large swathes of the Americas, the Balkans, most of Africa (save South Africa), the Middle East, and Central and South East Asia. This latter area, encompassing about a third of humanity, he observed, has been the scene of most of the military clashes, internal upheaval, poverty, and brutal oppression, in recent decades, while being a focus of international terrorism, which it exports to the rest of the world. In essence, Barnett proposed that the "Core" nations – led by the United States, acting as much as possible in cooperation with other "Core" states and under the umbrella of the United Nations – undertake to stabilize the "Gap" and help bring it in to the globalized community.

In *The Pentagon's New Map*, Barnett elaborates upon this grand strategy, a formula for the next few decades that can be likened to George Kennan's famous 1946 "X" article, "The Sources of Soviet Conduct," which outlined the "Containment" strategy that ultimately won the Cold War. Essentially, the book has two themes.

First, Barnett notes that the events of 9/11 "saved" the Pentagon from its fixation on the Cold War. A decade after the collapse of the Soviet Union, despite the total absence of any power capable of threatening the U.S. conventionally, the Department of Defense was still focused on "The Big One," and was wholly

unprepared for what have come to be known as "asymmetrical threats." The events of September 2001 forced a reluctant military establishment to find ways to cope with a new kind of warfare, one in which the nation's massive conventional – and even nuclear – capabilities was of little use, in a transformation that is still in progress.

Barnett goes on to say that Bush Administration "has the right strategic vision" and has taken many of the steps needed to get a long-term strategy rolling." He faults the administration, however, in failing to explain this strategy to the American people and to the global community. The essence of the "Core/Gap" strategy is that while there is an established and generally smoothly-running international security system in the "Core", different rules are necessary when dealing with the "Gap." In short, the policy of "pre-emption" applies to the "Gap", not to the "Core", where there are numerous alternative approaches to resolving problems, and a generally mutual-willingness to do so. The result of this failure to effectively articulate the strategy has been an enormous amount of ill-will and acrimony both domestically and internationally, which came very near to destroying NATO.

Barnett wraps up his discussion by outlining some of the dangers of a forward policy towards the Gap, such as becoming embroiled in internal and regional quarrels. And he concludes by stressing the need to maintain the integration of the "Core" nations, lest they lose a sense of commonality, leading to fragmentation into regional power-blocs, with the result that the Core will not only fail to grow, but will leave the problems of the Gap un-addressed and result in a more unstable world.

An important contribution to the debate on the nature of conflict in the twenty-first century.

The Pentagon's New Map: War and Peace in the Twenty-First Century, by Thomas P. M. Barnett. New York: G. P. Putnam's, 2004. Pp. xx, 427+. Maps, notes, index. \$24.95. ISBN: 0-399-15175-3.

--A. A. Nofi, CNO, SSG

~~~~~ Reviews

Airpower in Small Wars: Fighting Insurgents and Terrorists, by James S. Corum and Wary R. Johnson. Lawrence, Ks: University Press of Kansas, 2003. Pp.

509. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$24.95 paper. ISBN: 0-7006-1240-8.

This book is a shared effort, Wray Johnson wrote chapters 1, 3, 5, and 6, while James Corum did 2, 4, 7, 8, and 9. The object is to provide a comprehensive history of airpower in small wars from the early twentieth century to the present. The authors describe the nature of the conflicts and the strategies employed by the insurgents and counterinsurgents.

Armies and Navies early took notice of the growing potential of the airplane. Great strides were taken during the First World War; technology and tactics grew by leaps and bounds. The postwar era saw the employment of aircraft by France, Spain, Italy, and Britain in the suppression of a number of rebellions in the Rif in Morocco, Libya, the Jebel Druze, Iraq and the Northwest frontier of India. Aircraft could strike at insurgent formations, supply centers, and towns with deadly effect. The United States Marine Corps used airplanes with a spirit of innovation. The struggle against the *Sandinistas* in Nicaragua saw Marine aircraft used in close support of field forces, bombing towns and centers, evacuation of casualties and reconnaissance.

The general staffs of the independent air forces of France, Italy, and the R.A.F., along with the U.S. Army Air Corps, were generally not interested in applying the lessons of small wars. The Trenchard-Douhet school had other plans: strategic bombing. This school dominated the air arms during World War II.

The post-war era brought changes in insurgency warfare. Many of the postwar political movements were communist. Powerful and effective communist rebellions arose in Greece, Indochina, Malaya, and the Philippines. In these insurgencies airpower was effectively employed by the civil authority in Greece, Malaya, and the Philippines. The air arms of the army, navy and national police were used in coordination with the ground forces. The object was to contain the rebel movements, interdict supplies and strike insurgent strongholds.

The authors have documented the evolution of tactics and equipment. The French used airpower extensively in Indochina and Algeria although their considerable efforts were not rewarded with victory. After long campaigns in Greece, Malaya and the Philippines, the insurgents were defeated or neutralized.

Airpower can be a useful tool in counterinsurgency warfare. The tactics and equipment have become sophisticated. Corum and Wray demonstrate with logic that this might not be enough to defeat insurgents. Angola, Mozambique and Rhodesia demonstrate this point. This is a fine study of the evolution of airpower in what has become known as 'small wars.'
--Daniel David, NYMAS

The Franco-Prussian War: The German Conquest of France in 1870-1871, by Geoffrey Wawro. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003. Pp. 327. Figs., maps, index, bibliog. \$35.00. ISBN: 0-521-5843-61.

The Franco-Prussian War (1870-71) was a turning point in European History. The Balance of Power changed, as a united Germany under Prussian leadership became the premier military and economic power on the continent. The author traces the origins of this war and its architect, Otto von Bismarck, who united Germany, isolated France and pushed Austria out of any future German state.

Technology was an important factor in this conflict. Both armies relied on railways for mobilization and concentration. The Germans (Prussians) had the advantage in the efficiency and density of their railway network. The Prussian army used the breech loading Dreyse Needlegun, the wonder weapon of the Danish War of 1864 and the Austro-Prussian War of 1866. A company of Prussian infantry could outshoot and stop an attack of an Austrian battalion using muzzle-loading rifles. Breech-loading rifles dictated a change in tactics, dispersed formations, and individual fire. The French Army used a newer and superior rifle, the Chassepot, that outranged the Prussian weapon, 1000 meters vs. 500 meters. The French had also adopted a rapid fire gun, the *mitrailleuse*, a weapon resembling the Gatling Gun. During the first battles of the war, French fire decimated Prussian infantry units. The Prussians, however, enjoyed a great advantage in that their new cast steel, breech loading field artillery could out-shoot and out-range that of the French. Prussian artillery soon destroyed the French in their defensive positions.

Wawro reminds the modern reader that these armies were wholly dependent on animal transport when they left their railheads. A divisional supply train could stretch ten or twelve miles behind the advancing infantry and artillery. Defeat meant the loss of the supply train, meaning food and ammunition. Reliance on horse transport would still dominate armies up to 1914-1915.

The French were outnumbered and out maneuvered. Poor coordination between the French field armies resulted in their being pinned in the fortress of Metz and Napoleon III and McMahon pinned in at Sedan and the border of Belgium. Louis Napoleon lost the war and the monarchy at the same time. Ending the war would prove more difficult. The newly created French Third Republic was determined to resist the Prussians. Paris fell under siege, but the new government raised new armies, poorly equipped and almost untrained. They eventually fell apart. Moltke insisted on a purely military solution while Bismarck

wanted a victory with a stable political solution. He won the argument.

The author has given us a study of success. This was also a contributing factor in the undoing of Imperial Germany. Prussia was a military state. This factor combined with their natural tendency toward conservatism left Europe uneasy and suspicious of their ultimate goals. Without Bismarck this state became a rudderless ship. Wawro had given a balanced account of politics, strategy and military history.

--Daniel David, NYMAS

Jarhead: A Marine's Chronicle of the Gulf War and Other Battles, by Anthony Swofford. New York: Scribners, 2003. Pp. 260. Illus, notes, index. \$24.00 ISBN: 0-7432-3535-5.

In uncompromisingly graphic detail this book forces readers to see, hear, smell, and feel everything that is thrown at a young enlisted marine in the early 1990s. We progress through his experiences as though carried in his pocket, attached to his dogtags, or tucked in his skivvies. Like termites we are lodged deep in his mind, and those of his comrades, looking on from the inside at all the insanity outside. This can be an unnerving trip for those of us who were never young men, and perhaps even for some who once were, but not in the military.

Conversations are waves of profanity only occasionally interrupted by a profound word or thought. From boot camp to overseas training in West-Pac – Okinawa, the Philippines and Korea – the young men's lives focus on the acquisition and consumption of mind-numbing quantities of alcohol. They are awash in the crudest of real and fantasy sex. Training seems almost incidental to the business of drinking and whoring, although at the same time, they become hard, strong and proficient in the art of killing. They clean and care for their weapons like sweethearts, especially those who, like Swofford, are selected for STA, the special scout/sniper outfit.

While flashbacks gradually build up a picture of Swofford's family, his air force childhood, and his reasons for joining the Corps, the heart of this book is about war. In August 1990 Swofford, who now teaches at a small college in Oakland, California, was sent to Saudi Arabia with the Surveillance and Target Acquisition Platoon, scout/snipers, of the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines. A larger picture of what we now call the first Gulf War emerges, but as with everything else in this book it is refracted through the lens of the young marines on the ground. During Operation Desert Shield, Swofford and his outfit swelter in the boredom of hydration tents, struggle with the insanity of the ten pounds of MOPP (Mission Oriented Protective Posture) gear which is supposed to protect them during a chemical attack, and endure weeks of "sand and

water and sweat and piss." (p.11) Finally, in February, they move up to the berm marking the Kuwaiti-Saudi border where they take their first shelling, have their first experience of friendly fire, and go on their first combat patrol. With Operation Desert Storm they advance into Kuwait.

Swofford is hardly an average grunt. Both at home and while deployed overseas he carries with him and reads books like *The Myth of Sisyphus*, *The Anabasis*, *The Portable Nietzsche* and *Hamlet*. And yet his sensibilities are entirely interwoven with those of his comrades. Each man reacts differently to the terrors of war but they all feel it, and through Swofford the reader feels it too—the chaffing of sand in clothes, the smell and taste of petrol rain falling from the oil fires, the gut-wrenching confusion of night action, and the shattering sound of a round passing close overhead. The brilliance of the book is that its ugliness, its immediacy, and its depth of feeling are relieved by a pervasive ironic humor and a strong compassion. By engaging all the senses, Swofford's brutal honesty has left an unforgettable picture of young men caught up in war.

-- Kathleen Broome Williams, NYMAS

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Of Special Interest

City Walls: The Urban Enciente in Global Perspective, edited by James D. Tracy. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2000. Pp. xix, 697. Illus., maps, plans, notes, biblio., index. \$90.00. ISBN: 0-521-65221-9.

A useful series of essays addressing urban fornication that ranges in time from pre-history through the seventeenth century and in geography quite literally across numerous cultures, continents, and environments. The 19 chapters are by such notable specialists as Bernard S. Bachrach and Geoffrey Parker. They are grouped under three broad categories, "To Wall or Not to Wall", addressing different approaches to the question of fortification, "Walls of War", dealing with the military functions of urban defenses, and "Signifying Walls", a broad category that ranges from the ritual of siege and defense to portrayals of sieges to the decoration of walls. An interesting exercise in "comparative history," the book will be of particular value to students of fortification, and portions of it to those interested in the military experience of particular cultures (*e.g.*, chapters on Classical Greece, Medieval Islam, China, *etc.*), though students of Roman and Byzantine fortification practice will be disappointed.

Zulu Victory: The Epic of Isandlwana and the Cover-Up, by Ron Lock and Peter Quantrill. London: Greenhill/Mechanicsburg, Pa.: Stackpole, 2002. Pp. 336. Illus., maps, append., notes, biblio., index. \$39.95. ISBN: 1-85367-505-9.

Perhaps the most complete treatment of the Battle of Isandlwana in 1879, as can be seen from its title, *Zulu Victory* is a more even-handed account than the most older works on the subject. Primarily a military treatment, *Zulu Victory* provides background information on the armies and their distinct ways of war, sets the stage, and goes on to discuss the battle. It then goes on to take a look at Lord Chelmsford's largely successful effort to shift responsibility for the British defeat, before discussing the results of the battle. A valuable read.

The Road to Kabul: The Second Afghan War, 1878-1881, by Brian Robson. Stapelhurst, Kent: Spellmount/Haverton, Pa.: Casemate, 2003. Pp. 312. Illus., maps, append., notes, biblio., index. \$45.00. ISBN: 1-86227-196-8.

A detailed political and military account of Britain's second failed attempt to conquer Afghanistan, less well known than the first perhaps because it did end in the total destruction of the expeditionary forces. Although of necessity relying rather heavily on British accounts and documents, *The Road to Kabul* provides a fairly even-handed treatment of the war.

Enrico Dandolo and the Rise of Venice, by Thomas F. Madden. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins, 2003. Pp. xix, 298. Illus., maps, append., notes, biblio., index. \$49.95. ISBN: 0-8018-7317-7

A more balanced work than most on the subject, which tend to focus on the "wickedness" of the Crusader capture of Constantinople in 1204, *Enrico Dandolo and the Rise of Venice* is essentially a biography of Dandolo wrapped around a political, social, and diplomatic history of Venice in the twelfth century. The book work examines the intricate family dynamics, commercial enterprise, and internal politics that led to the ascent of Enrico Dandolo to supremacy in Venice despite advanced age (c. 90) and severe handicap (blindness), and at his influence on the rise of Venice to great power status in the Mediterranean world.

Weapons and Warfare in Renaissance Europe: Gunpowder, Technology, and Tactics, by Bert S. Hall. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997. Pp. xvi, 300. Illus., maps, tables, notes, biblio., index. \$19.95 paper. ISBN: 0-8018-6994-3.

Covering roughly the period from the Hundred Years' War through the Thirty Years' War, *Weapons and Warfare in Renaissance Europe* is yet another contribution to the acrimonious debate as to whether

there was – or was not – a "military revolution" in early modern Europe. By focusing on the interplay of technologies, including not only gunpowder, but also siegecraft and fortification, and bringing in examples and ideas from cultures as far afield as China, Hall throws some unusual light on some of the ways in which the conduct of war changed during this period. Although, as a result, the work tends to neglect the political and social contributions to those changes, it is nevertheless as valuable read for anyone interested in the period.

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### The Great War

*Magnificent But Not War: The Second Battle of Ypres, 1915*, by John Dixon. Havertown, Pa.: Casemate/London: Pen & Sword, 2003. Pp. xiii, 370. Illus., maps, tables, append., notes, biblio., index. \$36.95. ISBN: 1-84415-002-X.

Based on both original documents as well as many published regimental histories, personal accounts, and standard histories, *Magnificent But Not War* provides a account of the bloody fighting around Ypres in April and May of 1915, when the Germans blunted but failed to break the British lines, despite the introduction of poison gas. Presenting a distinctly British perspective – there are actually more direct references to units of the Indian Army than to those of the Germany Army – the treatment is often quite detailed. Useful reading for anyone with an interest in the Western Front.

*Kitchener's Army*, by Ray Westlake. Havertown, Pa.: Casemate/Staplehurst, Kent: Spellmount, 2003. Pp. 176. Illus., tables, append., biblio., index. \$24.95 paper. ISBN: 1-86227-212-3.

Following a series of short chapters that deal with the formation, training, and service of the volunteer army that Lord Kitchener called to the colors in 1914-1915, *Kitchener's Army* provides an account, in some detail, of each of the 30 divisions. Each entry provides information on the organization of the division, its formation sign and identification symbols, unit composition, and casualties, plus a thumbnail sketch of its service. Two appendices provide an divisional order of battle of the entire British Army during the war, and some details on divisional tables of organization at various periods. Profuouly illustrated, *Kitchener's Army* will be of value to students of the Western Front.

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World War II: General

Franklin and Winston: An Intimate Portrait of an Epic Friendship, by Jon Mecham. New York: Random House, 2003. Pp. xx, 490. Illus., append., notes, biblio., index. \$29.95. ISBN: 0-375-50500-8.

The subtitle to *Franklin and Winston* is an appropriate summary of its contents. This is a book about one of the most fateful friendships in history, the almost improbable relationship between Roosevelt and Churchill, which the author likens to a romance. It was a romance prompted on both men's part by political necessity and the exigencies of war, and one in which Churchill was the very definitely not only the suitor but also, ultimately, the junior partner. Mechem provides a good look both the similarities and the differences between the two men, who had a surprisingly great deal in common and yet were vastly different in character and personality. A valuable read for anyone interested in policy and strategy as they affected World War II.

Hitler's Jewish Soldiers: The Untold Story of Nazi Racial Laws and Men of Jewish Descent in the German Army, by Brian Mark Rigg. Lawrence, Ks.: University Press of Kansas, 2002. Pp. 433. Illus., tables, notes, biblio., index. \$29.95. ISBN: 0-7006-1178-9

An account of the surprisingly large number of men of Jewish descent who served in the German armed forces in the Hitler era, some of them in remarkably high positions, including marshals, generals, and admirals. Although most of these men were fully assimilated, and usually of only partial Jewish descent – “half-Jews” or “quarter-Jews” – some were legally fully Jewish under the complex Nazi racial laws. The author provides a comprehensive survey of the intricacies of Nazi racial legislation, and explores the service of many of the men in question, who often served with the full knowledge of their superiors, having obtained special “dispensations” from high-ranking Nazi leaders, including Hitler himself. This is a complex, difficult, and delicate story, told with sensitivity and tact.

Secret Allies in the Pacific: Covert Intelligence and Code-Breaking Prior to the Attack on Pearl Harbor, by Roland H. Worth, Jr. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland & Co., 2001. Pp. viii, 214. Notes, biblio., index. \$35 paper. ISBN: 0-7864-1136-8.

A business-like treatment of Allied intelligence and cryptological efforts against the Japanese in the late 1930s and early 1940s. The book makes a particularly valuable contribution to the literature of the Pacific War by focusing on the covert cooperation – and frequent lack of same – among the various countries involved, including not only the U.S. and Britain, but also Australia, China, and the Netherlands. There are some surprising revelations, such as the fact that Douglas MacArthur actually spilled the beans about the existence of Ultra in testimony to Congress more than 20 years before the British announced that they had been reading Germany's 'mail' for most of the war,

and also that post-war, both the U.S. and Britain sold old German Enigma machines to minor powers, and then read the results. A useful book.

Omaha Beach, D-Day, June 6, 1944, by Joseph Balkoski. Mechanicsburg, Pa.: Stackpole Books, 2004. Pp. xviii, 404+. Illus., maps, append., references, biblio., index. \$26.95. ISBN: 0-8117-0079-8

The story of the Normandy invasion told through largely through primary sources, including the recollections of the men who were there, diary and log entries from units and ships, on-the-spot observations and interviews by the Army Historical Division, and journalists' notes. Although the excerpts – often lengthy – are primarily by Americans, there are some from British and even German personnel. Unlike some other works that have attempted to mine such first-hand materials, Balkoski, author of several previous works on the invasion, deftly links them into a clear, readable, narrative that never bogs down.

Panzer Operations: The Eastern Front Memoir of General Raus, 1941-1945, by Erhard Raus, compiled and translated by Steven H. Newton. New York: Da Capo, 2003. Pp. xv, 368. Maps, tables, append., index. \$35.00. ISBN: 0-306-81247-9.

Erhard Raus took part in Operation Barbarossa as an untested colonel in command of a panzer brigade, and ended the war as a colonel general in command of a panzer army, having taken part in many of the most notable operations on the Eastern Front. In American captivity after the war, he prepared a memoir. Portions of this were published in heavily edited for in the U.S. Army's "German Report Series." Panzer Operations includes the entire original memoir, lightly edited by the translator, a professor of history at Delaware State University. The work throws new light on many operations and aspects of the war, making it a valuable read for anyone with an interest in the Russo-German conflict and mechanized operations.

~~~~~ World War II: Naval

Sunburst: The Rise of Japanese Naval Air Power, 1909-1941, by Mark R. Peatty. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 2001. Pp. xxi, 364. Illus., diagr., maps, tables, append., notes, biblio., index.

By the co-author of the monumental *Kaigun: Strategy, Tactics, and Technology in the Imperial Japanese Navy, 1887-1941*, *Sunburst* provides a comprehensive account of the development of Japanese naval aviation through to the onset of the Pacific War. The book deals systematically with the development of the aircraft and the aircraft industry, the introduction and evolution of carriers, the forging of a doctrine, and the importance of the protracted

“China Incident,” during which Japanese naval aviation gained invaluable operational experience. Profuouly illustrated, the book is very readable and has extensive appendices that provide additional detail on such matters as naval officers prominent in aviation, aircraft engines, and so forth.

U-Boat War Patrol: The Hidden Photographic Diary of U-564, by Lawrence Paterson. London: Greenhill/Mechanicsburg, Pa.: Stackpole, 2004. Pp.: 206. Illus., map, tables, append., notes, biblio., index. \$34.95. ISBN: 1-85367-575-X.

Based on a long-lost cache of photographs and an obscure memoir by the *U-564*'s skipper, Reinhard Suhren, *U-Boat War* tells the story of a single war cruise by a German submarine during the height of the Battle of the Atlantic, in mid-1942. Profuouly illustrated, the book is full of details about the daily routine of submarine operations, life aboard a u-boat, and the character and personalities of the crew, as well as detailed treatments of combat. While naturally focused on the *U-564* (which was lost in mid-1943), *U-Boat Patrol* provides a great deal of valuable information about Germany's conduct of the Battle of the Atlantic.

Voices from the Pacific War: Bluejackets Remember, by Bruce M. Petty. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 2004. Pp. xxvi, 253. Illus., chron., glossary, index. \$29.95. ISBN: 1-59114-6631

Voices from the Pacific War includes accounts by over 20 ordinary naval personnel. The selections cover men, and some women, from all branches of the Navy. Included are career naval personnel and wartime volunteers and draftees, a number of black men and one very underage volunteer, personnel who served in rear-areas, and who served under fire, some who survived the loss of their ships, and more. A very valuable read for anyone interested in the life and experiences of the men and women who served the fleet.

The Black Prince and the Sea Devils: The Story of Prince Valerio Borghese and the Elite Units of the Decimas MAS, by Jack Greene and Alessandro Massignani. New York: Da Capo, 2004. Pp. xx, 327. Illus., maps, tables, notes, biblio., index. \$27.50. ISBN: 0-306-81311-4.

A biography of the famous Italian World War II naval special operations commander. *The Black Prince and the Sea Devils* covers the development of Italian naval special operations doctrine and technology and operations during the war, with an emphasis on Borghese's role. Unlike some earlier works – including the Prince's own *Sea Devils* – the authors carry the story over into his post-armistice support of the Fascist “Salo Republic” and Borghese's role in post-war political machinations in Italy,

including the abortive *coup d'etat* of 1970. Valuable reading for anyone interested in the war in the Mediterranean or in special operations.

Reminder

Annual dues – \$35.00 – are past-due.

General Naval History

Medicine Under Sail, by Zachary B. Friedenber. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 2002. Pp. ix, 172. Illus., notes, biblio., index. \$28.95. ISBN: 1-5570-297-8.

A history of maritime medicine from the earliest ages into the nineteenth century. The focus, of course, is on the great age of sail, from the Renaissance onwards. In addition to dealing with the problems of health at sea, with a notably good account of the long struggle against scurvy, a battle marred by much ignorance and bureaucratic obstruction, *Medicine Under Sail* addresses the medical aspects of the slave trade, the draconian punishments of the age, and even shipwrecks. Although the essentially British in orientation, there is some coverage of the experience of other seafaring nations, particularly the United States. The work is readable, and not cluttered by medicalese, but suffers from some odd mistakes, such as “The HMS *Victory*.” (“HMS” does *not* take the article) and the “Pseudo-War with France” (*i.e.*, the “Quasi-War”). Valuable for anyone interested in maritime history.

Liberty on the Waterfront: American Maritime Culture in the Age of Revolution, by Paul A. Gilje. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2003. Pp. xiv, 344. Illus., notes, biblio., index. \$29.95. ISBN: 0-8122-3756-0

As much as a social, economic, and political as a cultural study, *Liberty on the Waterfront* examines the life, work, and milieu of the American merchant mariner and, to a lesser extent, others who depended upon the sea for their livelihood in the period roughly from the mid-eighteenth through the early-nineteenth centuries. The book is rich in detail, and casts a broad net, so it not only looks at the physical conditions under which mariners lived and worked, but also their recreation, both ashore and afloat, their motivations for going to sea, the experience of being a prisoner of war, battle, social, family, and religious life, the arts and literature produced by sailors, and more. *Liberty on the Waterfront* makes a good case that sailors and other maritime workers were a major force in the increasing democratization of America.

USS Los Angeles: The Navy's Venerable Airship and Aviation Technology, by William F. Althoff. Dulles: Brassey's, 2004. Pp. xviii, 289. Illus., plans, tables.,

append., notes, biblio., index. \$45.00. ISBN: 1-57488-620-7.

A profusely illustrated, very readable account of the most famous of the U.S. Navy's five inter-war "flying cruisers". The book provides a good look not only at the Los Angeles but also at the Navy's airship program as a whole, with some attention to non-American developments as well. Though the loss of four of the five Navy airships to accidents would suggest otherwise, Althoff argues that the Navy's "vested interests" did not allow them a fair trial.

Soldiers Lost at Sea: A Chronicle of Troopship Disasters, by James E. Wise, Jr., and Scott Baron. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 2004. Pp. xii, 280. Illus., append., notes, biblio., index. \$29.95. ISBN: 1-53114-966-5

Soldiers Lost at Sea is a history of troop ships and the disasters that overtook some of them. Following an introductory chapter on the development of troop ships, there are chapters on the nineteenth century and World War I, two on World War II, and one on the post-war period, through the 1982 Falklands War. The major troop ship disasters are treated more or less as case studies. All of the more famous disasters involving major power are here – the *Birkenhead*, the *Dorchester*, and so forth – as well as many less well-known ones, including Allied sinkings of Japanese prisoner-of-war ships, which led to heavy loss of life.

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**Short Rounds**

*Luftwaffe X-Planes: German Experimental and Prototype Planes of World War II*, by Manfred Griehl. London: Greenhill/Mechanicsburg: Stackpole, 2004. Pp. 80. Illus., tables, append. \$29.95. ISBN: 1-85367-577-6.

A handy pictorial guide to some of the more unusual aircraft designs produced by German aeronautical engineers in the era of the Third Reich. Likely to be of particular value for anyone with a special interest in aviation history.

*The Dynastic State and the Army under Louis XIV: Royal Service and Private Interest, 1661-1701*, by Guy Rowlands. Cambridge & New York: Cambridge University Press, 2002. Pp. xxiv, 404. Illus., maps, stemma, tables, notes, biblio., index. \$70.00. ISBN: 0-521-64124-1.

A detailed look at the complex interplay of royal prerogative, "absolute monarchy", state organization, and family connections that shaped the French Army in the age of Louis XIV. The focus of this work is primarily on the administrative and organizational aspects of the army, including the recruitment and training of officers, but there is some treatment of operations.

*War Under Heaven: Pontiac, the Indian Nations, and the British Empire*, by Gregory Evans Dowd. Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2002. Pp. xviii, 360. \$32.00. ISBN: 0-8-0187-079-8.

An account of the "Pontiac Conspiracy" of 1763 which focuses on its principal figure, Pontiac himself, who is put center stage. Although this naturally means that the book has a great deal of biographical material about Pontiac, it nevertheless provides a very deep look not only at the man, but the war, Native American politics and strategy, and British Indian policy.

*The Valley Forge Winter: Civilians and Soldiers in War*, by Wayne K. Bodle and Wayne Bodle. University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2002. Pp. xiv, 335. \$35.00. ISBN: 0-2-710-2230-2.

A look at the Continental Army during the winter and spring of 1777–1778 that reaches beyond the events at Valley Forge (which, the author demonstrates, have been rather mythologized), to fit the experience within the context of a campaign that began with the British invasion of Pennsylvania in the fall of 1777, extended through the American defeats at Brandywine and Germantown, and then took the army in its winter quarters. The book looks at the impact of the campaign and the hard winter not only on the army, but also on American policy and strategy, the local communities, and the British.

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Books Received

A Question of Honor: The Kosciuszko Squadron, Forgotten Heroes of World War II, by Lynne Olson and Stanley Cloud. New York: Knopf, 2003. Pp. xiii, 495. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$27.95. ISBN: 0-375-41197-6.

Although focused on a very detailed account of the activities of the RAF's "Kosciuszko Squadron" during and after the Battle of Britain, this work also provides a surprisingly good account of the Polish experience in the war.

Livia: First Lady of Imperial Rome, by Anthony A. Barrett. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2002. Pp. 424. Illus., map, append., notes, biblio., index. \$35.00. ISBN: 0-300-09196-6.

A more generous – and probably more accurate – look at the life and times of Livia than is found in popular fiction, with useful comments on the history of the early Roman Empire and the military reputations of some members of the Julio-Claudian line (Tiberius, Germanicus, etc., who have been praised or maligned by Robert Graves in his popular novel, *I. Claudius*).

The D-Day Companion, edited by Jane Penrose. New York: Osprey, 2004. Pp. 288. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$29.95. ISBN: 1-84176-779-4.

A valuable over-view of the Normandy operations in the form of a baker's dozen of essays by notable military historians such as Dennis Showalter, Carlo d'Este, Allan Millett, Williamson Murray, and more, that provide in-depth reviews of everything from planning and preparations through execution and on to its commemoration in the post-war period.

Almanac of World War I, by David F. Burg and L. Edward Purcell. Lawrence, Ks.: University Press of Kansas, 2004. Pp. xiv, 320. Illus., maps, tables, biog. append., biblio., index. \$22.00 paper. ISBN: 0-8131-9087-8.

A handy, though heavily Anglo- and Western Front-centric, reference guide to the Great War. A number of concise side-bars provide valuable looks at sometimes neglected aspects of the war.

NYMAS Spring 2004 Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic & Speaker</u>
Apr 2	– “The Sino-Japanese and Russo-Japanese Wars in Meiji Grand Strategy and Its Consequences,” Sally Paine, Naval War College
Apr 9	– “On Winfield Scott,” Sam Watson, USMA
Apr 16	– “The Battle of the Bulge: Leonard Gerow, V Corps, & the Initial Defense of Elsenborn Ridge,” Hal Winton, Air Command and Staff College
Apr 17	– Spring Conference: “The Makers of Non-Western Strategy -- Abd-al-Qadir, Abd-el-Krim, and Chinese Strategic Thought”
Apr 23	– “Airpower in Small Wars,” Wray Johnson, USMC Command and Staff College
Apr 30	– “Gebhard Leberecht von Blücher: An Old Fashioned Warrior in a Newfangled Fight,” Chuck Steele, USMA
May 7	– Women in the American Revolution,” Carol Berkin, CUNY
May 14	– “Staff Rides: Four Hooves and a Tale,” Don Bittner, USMC Command and Staff College
May 21	– “Medical Care & Innovations in the Vietnam War, 1967-69,” Lt. Col. Mariana Fodor, US Army (Ret.)

May 28 – “Post-War Iraq,” Gordon Rudd, USMC Command and Staff College

Jun 4 – TBA

Jun 11 – “The Battle of the Boyne,” Roger Kennedy, NY Public Library/Independent Scholar

Jun 18 – “Arms and Armor in the Maciejowski Bible,” Richard Gradkowski, NYMAS

Jun 25 – “The Influence of Sea Power on Ancient History,” Jim Bloom, Author

NYMAS talks are free and open to the public. They are normally held on Friday evenings at the City University of New York Graduate Center, at 365 Fifth Avenue between 34th and 35th Streets from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Friday lectures are usually held on the 6th floor in Room 6-495, but confirmation of the room number should be obtained from the guard at the street-level entrance.

Talks are sponsored by the New York Military Affairs Symposium in conjunction with CUNY's Conference on History and Politics, Dr. George D. Schwab, Director. NYMAS is associated with the Society for Military History, Region 2.

Speakers and topics may be subject to change without notice. A current schedule is available at the NYMAS website at <http://nymas.org>.

The New York Military Affairs Symposium c/o Prof. K. B. Williams 20 Alden Pl. Bronxville, N.Y., 10708

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