Naval War College Review

Volume 64	Article 15
Number 2 Spring	

2011

The Making of Peace: Rulers, States, and the Aftermath of War

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Recommended Citation

Cronin, Audrey Kurth; Murray, Williamson; and Lacey, Jim (2011) "The Making of Peace: Rulers, States, and the Aftermath of War," *Naval War College Review*: Vol. 64 : No. 2, Article 15. Available at: https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review/vol64/iss2/15

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Murray, Williamson, and Jim Lacey, eds. *The Making of Peace: Rulers, States, and the Aftermath of War.* New York: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2009. 408pp. \$93

There are countless books written on war but fewer on the problems of postwar or even intrawar peacemaking. This work thus offers top-quality case studies on a subject of enormous relevance. It will be of value to policy makers, academics, and general readers alike.

The Making of Peace is a collection of essays written by eminent historians known mainly for their writings on war. Sir Michael Howard's preface sets the bar high, observing that the usual war/peace dichotomy is artificial, since the historical default is perpetual conflicts "that need not necessarily be resolved by force, and it is the business of statesmen to ensure that they are not."

The book's central argument is that effective peacemaking requires in-depth knowledge of the past; a healthy awareness of the political, historical, and cultural context within which a war has taken place; and a full appreciation of the characteristics of the "other." As Murray writes in the introduction, "Without guideposts from the past to suggest paths to the future, then any road, no matter how irrelevant and inappropriate, will do. And such roads will inevitably lead to future conflicts." However, that is not to imply that there are easy solutions. At the core of this book are eleven rich case studies of postwar peacemaking in the Western world, including chapters by, of course, Williamson Murray, as well as Paul Rahe, Derek Croxton and Geoffrey Parker, Fred Anderson, Richard Hart Sinnreich, James McPherson, Marcus

Jones, John Gooch, Colin Gray, Jim Lacey, and Fred Kagan. Sinnreich offers a thoughtful conclusion, "History and the Making of Peace," which ties together the major themes and offers three interesting "theories" of peace, all the while echoing B. H. Liddell Hart's dictum that the best way to formulate effective grand strategy is to look beyond a war to the nature of the peace.

Curiously, the editors stress the importance of knowing your adversary in peacemaking, but the volume suffers from scant attention to non-Western case studies. Although they anticipate this criticism, their ethnocentrism detracts from an otherwise sterling collection of cases, especially when the United States and its Western allies actively chase peace with non-Western adversaries. A more minor flaw is the absence of a bibliography of key sources on peacemaking, or even just those used in this book. Nonetheless, this is an impressive collection for students of strategy and history, as all serious policy makers, practitioners, and informed citizens ought to be.

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Iguchi, Takeo. *Demystifying Pearl Harbor: A New Perspective from Japan.* Translated by David Noble. Tokyo: I-House, 2010. 343pp. \$60

This carefully researched book painstakingly corrects the diplomatic history surrounding Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. The author is a retired Japanese ambassador who was the young son of the Japanese counselor in Washington, D.C., on 7 December 1941. Unlike too many Japanese writers, Iguchi