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## The Philippine Bases

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some use, if only as an introductory survey text. However, even that level of use is eliminated by the editor's inclusion of G. Bondarevsky's "Turning the Persian Gulf into a British Lake," which is riddled with factual errors. We are either looking at a stupendously unsuccessful mistranslation, or a work which takes absolutely no account of historical integrity, or a relatively crude attempt at polemical revisionism. The reader will have to judge which is the likeliest.

All these problems come under the category of editorial responsibility. The number of typographical errors, factual misconceptions, even the inoffensive dullness of some of the essays, leads to the belief that the editor has ignored the obligations of his position. It is impossible to determine which of the possibilities raised above have made the articles so opaque. But given the problems, the general reader is well advised to turn elsewhere for more reliable treatments of the same material.

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Greene, Fred, ed. *The Philippine Bases: Negotiating for the Future*. New York: Council on Foreign Relations, 1988. 158pp. \$9.95

This volume provides a useful, general guide to one of the most important foreign policy challenges facing the Bush administration. American military bases in the Philippines have long been a target

of nationalist attack and a major irritant in the U.S.-Philippine relationship. Even before the intervention of U.S. forces on behalf of Mrs. Aquino in 1989, the renegotiation promised to be arduous and contentious. At risk are the largest U.S. bases on foreign soil, that for decades have played a central role in U.S. global and regional defense strategy. For the Philippines there are major questions of economics and of principle.

In an overview paper, Fred Greene examines the specific issues likely to arise between the United States and the Philippines in the current round of negotiations, among them differences over compensation, operational control, nuclear weapons, and social problems. Greene points out that questions of sovereignty and national dignity permeate many of these issues and add to the difficulty of resolving them.

The book also contains short versions of earlier works by two other acknowledged experts on the Philippine bases issue, U.S. Air Force Colonel William E. Berry, Jr. and Captain Alva S. Bowen, USN (Ret.). Colonel Berry reviews the virtually unceasing base negotiations between the United States and the Philippines since 1947, and concludes that the issues that have shaped these negotiations have changed little over the years. Bowen, recognizing that the current round of base negotiations may not result in agreement, explores several fallback options for the bases: 1) relocation of other U.S.

facilities in the region, 2) an expanded base structure in Micronesia, and 3) relocation to new facilities in the South China Sea. Bowen believes that none of these options is satisfactory in itself, but a combination of locations could replicate the advantages we now enjoy in the Philippines.

Despite differing perspectives, all of the authors contribute to a sense that Philippine and U.S. positions are sharply at odds on a wide range of issues. Both sides have different threat perceptions, and consequently different approaches to regional and national security issues. Moreover, the political will to renegotiate the agreement may be eroding. On the Philippine side there is increasingly strident resentment of perceived U.S. involvement in the domestic political process; on the U.S. side there is growing concern about the erosion of Mrs. Aquino's support, the threat to the bases from insurgency, and major budgetary and operational limits in meeting Filipino negotiating demands. Sadly, unless a high degree of statesmanship is forthcoming from both sides, Bowen's paper on relocation options may prove to be the most useful part of this book.

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Stokesbury, James L. *A Short History of the Korean War*. New York: William Morrow, 1988. 276pp. \$8.95

Stanton, Shelby L. *America's Tenth Legion: X Corps In Korea, 1950*. Novato, Calif.: Presidio Press, 1989. 342pp. \$24.95

James L. Stokesbury's *A Short History of the Korean War* is a splendid introduction to the war. Only 276 pages long including a useful index, this smoothly written book manages to be both narrative and interpretive and gives a satisfying feeling of completeness. Stokesbury correctly divides the war into two parts which he calls the "War of Maneuver" and the "War of Posts."

Part I, "War of Maneuver," begins with an introductory chapter complete with background information that leads to the North Korean invasion and the United Nations retreat to the Pusan Perimeter. The stumbling performance of the U.S. Eighth Army is treated fairly. The corresponding performance of the Army of the Republic of South Korea looks better, in retrospect, than it did at the time.

The United Nations resurgence comes, of course, with the Inchon landing on 15 September 1950, with the U.S. Marines in the starring role, but not blatantly so. Following are chapters, with titles to suit, of the UN drive "To the Yalu"; "The Chinese Intervention," which turned UN victory into near-debacle; the furore surrounding "The Dismissal of MacArthur"; and, in "Approaching a Stalemate," Ridgway's masterful offensives of Spring 1951 which led to the armistice talks.