

Naval War College Review

Volume 38
Number 3 *Summer*

Article 24

1985

The Passionate War The Narrative History of the Spanish Civil

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Recommended Citation

Ross, Steven T. (1985) "The Passionate War The Narrative History of the Spanish Civil," *Naval War College Review*: Vol. 38 : No. 3 , Article 24.

Available at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review/vol38/iss3/24>

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make any such attack extremely costly. No one can expect to occupy Switzerland like the Nazis in 1938-39 in Czechoslovakia, or the Soviets in the same country thirty years later. This book explains quite well why not.

FREDERICK H. HARTMANN
Naval War College

Wyden, Peter. *The Passionate War: The Narrative History of the Spanish Civil War*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1983. 574pp. \$19.95

Peter Wyden, a former correspondent for *Newsweek* and magazine editor, has written an anecdotal history of the Spanish Civil War. He provides detailed profiles of both Rebel and Republican leaders as well as some of the rank and file. He supplies reams of data on members of the International Brigades, and devotes much space to the careers and activities of reporters who covered the conflict. A reader interested in knowing what Ernest Hemingway, George Orwell or James Lardner among others did during the war will find it all in Wyden's book. Finally, the author makes it very clear just how vicious and brutal the war was and offers vivid descriptions of atrocities committed by both sides.

What is absent from *The Passionate War* is any sustained description or analysis of strategy or tactics. There are no orders of battle or discussions of major battles. The role of naval power is not even mentioned. Furthermore, aside from a few generalizations there is no analysis of the war's role in European diplomacy,

and the author makes no effort to discuss the impact of the conflict on European and American public opinion.

Despite these shortcomings Wyden's book is still interesting and useful. It is well written and gives a good flavor of the times. A reader familiar with the work of Hugh Thomas, Gabriel Jackson and Stanley Payne will find Wyden's book an exciting and useful supplement.

STEVEN T. ROSS
Naval War College

McRae, Ronald. *Mind Wars*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1984. 183pp. \$12.95

This interesting book's subtitle describes its contents, to wit, "the true story of government research into the military potential of psychic weapons." However, for those who know something about military applications of "psi" (extra sensory perceptions, of several kinds) this book may prove something of a disappointment because it does not penetrate the subject. This is surprising in a book introduced by Jack Anderson and written by one of his former "associates."

Ronald McRae describes himself as having served five years in the US Navy, and describes the US Navy as one of two leading US Government sponsors and consumers of psychic warfare research during the heyday of military psi research, i.e., from 1972 through 1982, mostly from 1973 to 1978.

Sifting through this book, readers