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Above and Beyond 1941-1945

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Readers may have some difficulty with Perry's concept of the "Cape Route"—the cape in question is the Cape of Good Hope. Yet, in asserting the importance of his subject, Perry tells us that in 1980 the Western allies and Japan drew over 63 percent of their overall oil imports from Persian Gulf and West African sources. Clearly not all that oil would have been used what most people would mean by the Cape route. Sometimes Perry does use "Cape Route" to mean the sea route, but most of the time he is writing about the "Cape Route region" encompassing the Persian Gulf, and Southern Central, and West Africa. Apart from the confusing ambiguity, it is not at all clear that the "Cape Route region" is a coherent geographical entity. It does, however, include a wide range of potential trouble spots, including Angola, South Africa, and Zaire, as well as Arab and Nigerian oil producers.

In the case of Africa south of the River Congo, Perry's concern is not primarily oil supplies (apart possibly from hints of an ill-defined danger of "harassment" of oil tankers, which would call for "logistical facilities" for Western forces "along the Indian Ocean littoral"). Central and Southern Africa's importance lies rather in the almost total dependence of the West and Japan upon imports from African sources for current supplies of chrome, cobalt, manganese, and other strategic minerals. Zaire, in particular, is seen as ripe for destabilization from neighboring Angola.

Stockpiles of chrome, cobalt, and manganese do exist in the United States, but Perry rightly warns against complacency.

More contentiously, he seems to doubt the power of the West to earn the supplies it needs through trade, if there should be changes in political regimes in Central and Southern Africa. Such arguments can be two-edged swords: if it appears that the West, and, in particular the United States, is prepared to support unpopular regimes for the sake of economic advantage we should not be too surprised if the opponents of these regimes call in support from the Soviet Union, and adopt a hostile attitude to trade with the West.

In general, however, this pamphlet contains much useful information, and gives some useful warnings. The author predicts an increasing reliance by the Soviet Union upon imports of oil and non-fuel minerals, a development which might encourage the Soviet Union to establish hegemony over producers. The main message is that the West must take steps to ensure stability in areas where there are vital strategic supplies, pending the development of substitutes, including new technology allowing more efficient use of minerals.

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Morrison, Wilbur H. *Above and Beyond 1941-1945*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1983. 314pp. \$16.95

The latest in a continuing succession of overviews of the Navy's air war in the Pacific, Wilbur H.

Morrison's *Above and Beyond* is a good one for the casual reader unfamiliar with other similar, and more scholarly, works. (The title incidentally, is relatively meaningless.) From Pearl Harbor to V-J Day, he briskly balances strategic decision-making with battle vignettes in a breezy style akin to that of Walter Lord (*Day of Infamy, Incredible Victory*) and manages to cover most of the key events, though some only briefly (such as the first Truk strike). Personalities enliven the story, though most of the material, including the photographs, is gleaned from familiar secondary sources—only a few of which are listed in the thin bibliography. The only really original information is from interviews with selected veterans of that war, notably James S. Russell and J.D. Ramage. And the contributions of these gentlemen are very good indeed.

Morrison supplies no particular interpretations, for he is a writer of narrative, although he goes to some lengths to develop Admiral John H. Towers—ComAirPac and Deputy CinCPac 1942-45—as the unsung hero of the Pacific war. For Towers, he seems to have relied heavily upon this reviewer's *The Fast Carriers* and Admiral Russell's recollections. But he is in error to say Towers had a glass eye. According to Towers' family, the admiral suffered from cataracts developed from an electrical explosion he suffered while serving as a junior officer in the battleship *Kentucky*.

Above and Beyond is recommended reading for the officer who wishes to

be introduced to the Navy's air war in the Pacific and be entertained in the process.

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Janowitz, Morris, ed. *Civil-Military Relations: Regional Perspectives*. Beverly Hills, Calif.: Sage, 1981. 290pp. \$22.50

As with most collections of conference papers, this one, consisting of seven articles, is not a smooth, coherent book. The quality of the fare varies greatly. Written for specialists, particularly social scientists, the book has little appeal to other readers. Moreover, by this point, most of the material is seriously dated. Although the volume is not without value, I would not recommend it very highly.

The seven articles were first presented at the 20th anniversary conference of the prestigious Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society, in October 1980. The unifying theme for the volume is a regional approach to civil-military relations around the globe for the purpose of drawing larger conclusions from the individual empirical studies.

The editor, Morris Janowitz, the world's most renowned military sociologist, opens with an essay of his own in which he traces the methodological history of the study of civil-military relations and previews the other essays. C.I. Eugene Kim surveys Asian military regimes. Ann Gregory and De Witt C. Ellinwood focus upon