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# World War I in the Air: A Bibliography and Chronology

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## 112 NAVAL WAR COLLEGE REVIEW

economics, even psychology, should enter into the planning process, together with some assessment of the intentions as well as the capabilities of potential adversaries; the result was a very different view of the world indeed. It is sobering, nonetheless, to realize that the American military was one of the last elements in the American foreign policy/national security establishment to become aware of the threat Soviet power posed to stability in Europe, and of the stake the United States had in preserving that stability.

This is not, then, a book to bolster one's faith in the ability of planners to anticipate future contingencies. Precisely for this reason, though, it is one all planners should read, if for no other reason than to "raise consciousness" regarding those habits of intellect and bureaucracies which cause military organizations to tend to plan, as well as fight, the last war.

JOHN LEWIS GADDIS  
Naval War College

Smith, Myron J., Jr. *World War I in the Air: A Bibliography and Chronology*. Metuchen, N.J.: The Scarecrow Press, 1977. 271pp.

Smith's little book is a gem and will save librarians, students, and buffs from more unnecessary work than any book like it. That much said, reviewers of bibliographies must offer three paragraphs—one each of description, strengths, and weaknesses (the last often reflecting the views of the reviewer rather than the compiler!).

Description: Don't miss the foreword by Stephen W. Thomson (the first man in U.S. uniform to shoot down an enemy aeroplane) or the preface by Arch Whitehouse (gunner on the aeroplane that was Manfred von Richtofen's 42nd victim, who survived to become one of America's foremost aviation writers). Smith's introduction then sets down the ground rules of selection, the

single most important of which is that this is an English language bibliography. (No reference here to Fritz Baur's *Wir flieger!* or René Martel's *L'aviation française de bombardement*.) Once that point is clear, the searcher can revel in the 2,035 entries, especially those identifying hard to find scholarly papers, articles, government documents, and both M.A. and Ph.D. theses. Not included are fiction, book reviews, poetry, and general newspaper articles. Then come: a 43-page chronology of the major aviation events in World War I (How many readers of this journal know that the USN Office of Aeronautics was established 17 days before the Aviation Section of the USA Signal Corps?); a list of World War I aces from 11 nations; and a subject index. Hard work, well done.

Strengths: Articles from obscure sources, scholarly monographs not previously listed, and—for all the more important entries—concise descriptions of their contents and author's standpoint. The 2,000 plus entries represent a monument to interest, effort, and scholarship.

Weaknesses (none of which outweighs the pluses): Henry Farré becomes Ferré; G.E. Turnure becomes Turner, and Sholto Douglas becomes Douglas Sholte. A few odd omissions; e.g., Bradshaw's *Flying Memories*, Carisella's *Black Swallow of Death*, and Killen's *History of Marine Aviation, 1911-68*. But these, and at least one garbled title (item #1976), bear far less weight than the strengths mentioned above.

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Stratton, Roy. *The Army-Navy Game*. Falmouth, Mass.: Volta Company, 1977. 258pp.

This is a book about a unique World War II naval officer in whom I have