

1969

NATO Without France

B. M. Truitt
U.S. Navy

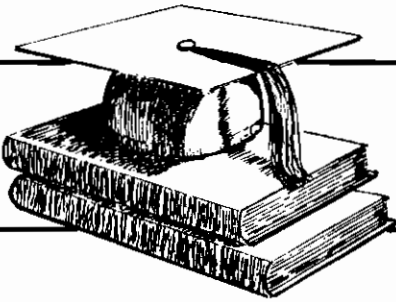
Carl H. Amme Jr.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review>

Recommended Citation

Truitt, B. M. and Amme, Carl H. Jr. (1969) "NATO Without France," *Naval War College Review*: Vol. 22 : No. 2 , Article 13.
Available at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review/vol22/iss2/13>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at U.S. Naval War College Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Naval War College Review by an authorized editor of U.S. Naval War College Digital Commons. For more information, please contact repository.inquiries@usnwc.edu.



PROFESSIONAL READING

The evaluations of recent books listed in this section have been prepared for the use of resident students. Officers in the fleet and elsewhere may find these books of interest in their professional reading.

The inclusion of a book in this section does not necessarily constitute an endorsement by the Naval War College of the facts, opinions or concepts contained therein.

Many of these publications may be found in ship and station libraries. Certain of the books on the list which are not available from the sources may be available from one of the Navy's Auxiliary Library Service Collections. These collections of books are obtainable on loan. Requests from individual officers to borrow books from an Auxiliary Library Service Collection should be addressed to the nearest of the following special loan collections.

Chief of Naval Personnel (C-463)
Department of the Navy
Washington, D.C. 20370

Commanding Officer
U.S. Naval Station (Guam)
Library (ALSC), Box 174
San Francisco, Calif. 96630

Commanding Officer
U.S. Naval Station (Pearl Harbor)
Library (ALSC), Box 20
San Francisco, Calif. 96610

Commanding Officer
U.S. Naval Station
Library (ALSC), Bldg. C-9
Norfolk, Virginia 23511

Commanding Officer
U.S. Naval Station
Library (ALSC)
San Diego, Calif. 92136

Amme, Carl H., Jr. *NATO without France*. Stanford, Calif.: Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace, 1967. 195p.

"The U.S. and Europe still have a common task and that task now needs redefinition," says Mr. Amme as he views the North Atlantic Treaty Organization today. Anyone undertaking such a project or seeking a broader understanding of NATO would do well to consult this scholarly reference, not only because of the author's broad knowledge of his subject, but because of his well-documented research. Although the title might imply a rather limited view of the organization, the author has made a detailed examination of the alliance from the standpoint of its operation in the past, its present status, and its prospects for the future. His broad topics include the strategic concepts of the NATO and Warsaw Pact nations, the military confrontation between the two groups, and the control of nuclear weapons. In regard to France, the author discusses the reasons for her defection and the implications of her withdrawal from NATO. Her new posture involves such problems as the necessity for a reexamination of the U.S. strategic concept for limited war—especially as it relates to the defense of West Germany; the denial to the allies of lines of logistics and dispersal airfields on French territory; the effects on the U.S. balance of payments; De Gaulle's refusal to be bound by any automatic commitment to assist France's allies if one or more are at-

114 NAVAL WAR COLLEGE REVIEW

tacked in Europe or North America, as required by article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty; French dissociation from military participation in joint planning and preparation; the continued reduction of the French armed forces; the disposition of France's nuclear capabilities; and the cooperation that NATO can expect of France in the overflight of military aircraft and in the air defense network which provides radar warning, computes intercept data, and communicates battle orders to the air defense forces.

Mr. Amme's more provocative proposals include the development of a workable, convincing plan or doctrine of constraints for use of nuclear weapons that could possibly prevent the disastrous consequences of general war; a variation to the American concept of flexible response, whereby additional firebreaks or distinguishable "thresholds of violence" would be established between the first use of nuclear weapons and general war, thereby strengthening deterrence; the establishment of a force posture that has stronger defense capabilities at somewhat of a sacrifice to offensive capabilities; and the basing of local force postures on estimates of enemy intentions and the likelihood of possible conflicts rather than on worst case military preparedness to take care of lesser forms of conflict. It is through such reforming and refashioning that the author believes NATO can become a strong cooperative partnership leading the way toward a stable and relatively peaceful world order.

B.M. TRUITT
Captain, U.S. Navy

Bader, William B. *The United States and the Spread of Nuclear Weapons*. New York: Pegasus, 1968. 176p.

The author traces the history of the United States changing attitudes and policies toward nuclear proliferation. He contrasts these attitudes toward the spread of nuclear weapons with the

national circumstances of some of the important nonnuclear states. The author's object is to test the proposition that international or universal solutions, such as a nonproliferation treaty, are actually responsive to the problem of the spread of nuclear weapons. The author contends that a nonproliferation treaty will leave our friends with no means to defend themselves, and therefore we must be prepared to defend them where they want to be defended—in Europe, or in Asia. One way is for the United States to be prepared to assign her nuclear weapons to areas where, as a result of the nonproliferation treaty, she has increased obligations to see to the security of nonnuclear signatories. Friendly countries may request positioning of U.S. nuclear weapons forces and assignment of a nuclear mission similar to the arrangements now in effect with America's NATO allies. Such requests will be very difficult to turn down.

Mr. Bader believes that the United States should seriously consider modifying her position on nuclear explosive devices for peaceful uses, perhaps by going back to the provisions of the 1961 Anglo-American draft treaty which permitted the civilian use of nuclear devices under strict safeguards. In order to preserve the integrity of the partial test ban, this modification could be limited to fully contained nuclear explosives, such as those designed for oil and gas recovery. In time, as the technology of "clean" explosives improves, the modification could be extended to excavation projects. With the nonproliferation treaty now a reality, with 82 signatories, it remains to be seen if Bader's analysis will prove correct. This book is recommended only to those seriously interested in the problems associated with the spread of nuclear weapons and the attempts to stem their proliferation.

H. NEMER
Commander, U.S. Navy