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## A Guide to National Defense

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Patrick W. Powers

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of essays which have previously appeared in *Problems of Communism*, *Encounter*, *The China Quarterly*, and various German magazines and journals. It is the general thesis of the author that world communism has disintegrated greatly in recent years. Commencing his discussion with the unsuccessful Soviet attempt to return Tito to the communist fold and ending with an epilogue on the events in the summer of 1963 on the Sino-Soviet split, Lowenthal takes the reader through a fascinating chain of events plaguing the communist bloc. The author analyzes the significant XX Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union of February 1956, which might be regarded as the beginning of the split in the bloc under Khrushchev. By admitting separate roads to 'socialism,' the Soviet leader took the lid off of Pandora's box. The Soviet bloc has not been a monolith since then. Khrushchev had hoped that this new freer discussion would usher in an ideological rebirth of Soviet and international communism. It did the opposite. Chaos, insubordination, and ideological warfare have followed. The book is especially good on the 1959, 1960, and 1961 period of the breakup of world communism.

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Powers, Patrick W. *A Guide to National Defense*. New York: Praeger, 1964. 286 p.

Lieutenant Colonel Patrick W. Powers, U.S. Army, has compiled a detailed and comprehensive book on every aspect of our increasingly complicated United States national defense structure. The book fills a very practical need. It easily combines the qualities of a superb textbook for the uninitiated with all the virtues of a detailed reference handbook for the DOD professional. Any individual, military or newly appointed civilian, reporting to Joint, high staff, or government duty would profit by reading the book and then maintaining it near his desk for reference. Colonel Powers has achieved the purpose of his book, which is to place defense in its proper perspective and to provide a comprehensive coverage of the defense program as an aid to a more complete understanding of the broad and complex scope of national defense. The bulk of the text is centered upon the end product of the United States military establishment—the combatant forces—and how they are directed, employed, provided, and supported. The discussion concentrates on the fighting forces and their capability to react to national

threats. Details are given on the strategic and tactical forces, the various services, supporting programs of logistics and research and development, and the manner in which this impressive military potential is geared to fighting wars from the guerrilla level to a general nuclear conflict. The author has placed United States military strength in context with national policy and other forms of national power, and has assessed the interdependence of economic and technological factors as well. The section on national purpose, interests, principles, objectives, policies, and commitments will be particularly valuable to students. The book is decidedly a valuable one to grace the library of every professional, civilian, or military individual, working for, close to, or with, the Department of Defense. With Colonel Powers' book, any interested citizen can learn to appreciate our massive defense effort and understand where one-half of the national budget goes. Further, the book will make a fine addition to the junior and senior ROTC libraries at educational institutions. An interesting feature of this book is that it was written by a student in the Naval War College, Class of 1965. Although he wrote the book prior to his assignment at the College, it was published during his student tenure.

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Barker, A.J. *The March on Delhi*. London: Faber and Faber, 1963. 302 p.

Britain had been at war five years, the United States three. In 1944, the Allied success of the Normandy landings held the attention of the world. But what of operations in other theaters? Lieutenant Colonel Barker, in his very credible book, has recreated the agonies, successes, and failures in one—the India-Burma-China Theater. In 1944, the Japanese envisioned Burma to be the eastern passage to India, and the Plains of Imphal to be the gateway to Delhi. The rigor and stench of jungle warfare at its worst and the incredible problems of movement, logistics, and survival in the monsoon-soaked forests are vividly described as the action unfolds. The names of Stilwell, Mountbatten, Scoones, Chennault, Wingate, Cochran, Mutaguchi, Sato, Yamauchi, and others, figure prominently in the strategy and tactics centering upon the Imphal Plains in northern Burma. Imphal is counted by the author as being one of the decisive battles of World War II. The war in the Far East might have