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Quai d'Orsay

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BOOKS

Bonnet, Georges. *Quai d'Orsay*. Isle of Man, Eng.: Times Press and Gibbs & Phillips, 1965. 492 p.

The student of international affairs will immediately recognize the Quai d'Orsay as the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He will also recall that Georges Bonnet headed this Ministry during very troubled times (10 April 1938 to 15 September 1939), after having served France as its delegate to the League of Nations, its Minister of Finance (1933, and again in 1937), and its Ambassador to the United States (1936). M. Bonnet's frank and intimate account of the Quai d'Orsay during the "complicated happenings" of the period 1919-1964, with an introductory examination of French foreign affairs from 1871 to 1918, is both informative and revealing. It provides an authoritative survey of French politics and political thought during the past century, with a final appreciation of the current situation. Such acknowledgments as Paul Cambon's opinion of the Treaty of Versailles as "an ammunition dump that will explode across the whole world one of these days" manifest an accuracy in French political appraisal. Unfortunately, the recounting of French political maneuvering since that appraisal discloses an inherent difficulty in obtaining agreement of solution and unity of effort. Here are discussed the military aspects as well as the political implications of the events caused and affected by this lack of understanding and cooperation, international as well as internal. The total effect is a historical review from the Treaty of Versailles to the present as seen by an enthusiastic but often frustrated and disillusioned French diplomat.

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Cowburn, Philip. *The Warship in History*. New York: Macmillan, 1965. 364 p.

The author in this book has traced the evolution of the warship from ancient times to the present. He covers quite extensively the progress in warship propulsion from oar to sail, to steam, to nuclear power; in ship construction from wood to "ironclad"; and in naval weapons from the early ram to ballistic-missile submarines and aircraft carriers with their versatile air arms. Mr. Cowburn doesn't concern himself with all naval innovations in all fields, but he does examine quite thoroughly the change