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Prelude to Pearl Harbor

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Wheeler, Gerald E. *Prelude to Pearl Harbor*. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1963. 212 p.

Prelude to Pearl Harbor is a detailed and painstakingly documented study of naval-political relations during the period 1921-1931. With reference points at the Washington, Geneva and London Naval Conferences, Professor Wheeler contrasts the rationale of naval thought with other national and international forces. The inconsistencies of the 'Open Door' policy and defense of the Philippines, and the inadequate naval support of these policies, are examined in detail. Extensive footnotes detract from the readability of the book; however, the serious student will find a wealth of material in this searching study and its extensive bibliography. Of particular interest is the author's discussion of the considerations of arms limitation. The pitfalls of mathematical formulae (i.e., 5-5-3) among nations which have totally different strategic naval requirements are well demonstrated. The domestic impact of arms limitation agreements is shown to have inadvertently produced nationally imposed limitations exceeding those so carefully guarded in the international arena.

Morris, James. *The Road to Huddersfield*. New York: Pantheon Books, 1963. 235 p.

This is a 'biography' of the World Bank. It accomplishes the objective of presenting operations of the World Bank within the community of nations, and at the same time adds the bonus of a lucid picture of some of the needy nations. The policies and attitudes of the World Bank toward these countries are refreshing and encouraging to anyone who has an interest in the progress and needs of the ever-increasing number of new nations needing help. The fundamental theme of the bank is 'We want our money back, and we want it properly used.' The bank has been getting its money back. It readily gives out loans where sound financial principles can be fully met. By the confidence it inspires, it has opened the way to much private investment in backward countries. In some cases it was necessary only to point the way and let private capital take over on its own. The bank now finds itself in the position of having too much money to lend and not enough applicants who can qualify. This book is a valuable source of material for those who are interested in the progress of underdeveloped nations.