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Deterrent or Defense

Basil H. Liddell-Hart

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BOOKS

Daniels, Robert V. *A Documentary History of Communism*. New York: Random House, 1960. 714 p.

This work is a compilation of important documents—reports and speeches—by Communist Party leaders from Lenin to Khrushchev. Edited with introductory notes and new translations by Professor Daniels, the material covered includes such items of significance as Khrushchev's Political Report to the Twenty-First Party Congress (January, 1959), China's "five principles" of coexistence, Chou En-lai's Bandung Conference speech and Lu Ting-yi's speech of May, 1956, "Let All Flowers Bloom Together, Let Diverse Schools of Thought Contend."

Calvert, James. *Surface at the Pole*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1960. 220 p.

Surface at the Pole by Captain (then Commander) James F. Calvert, USN, is the Commander's personal narrative of the two voyages to the Pole by the USS SKATE. It is a frank, honest and humorous account of the problems faced in penetrating this vast unknown.

Liddell Hart, Basil H. *Deterrent or Defense*. New York: Praeger, 1960. 257 p.

Captain Liddell Hart has been one of Britain's most prolific writers on military strategy for forty years. His reputation in this field is secure. His *Deterrent or Defense* is a re-examination of the Western military posture, which has been made necessary by the possession on both sides of the weapons for mutual annihilation. Nuclear parity has produced a condition of nuclear nullity where dropping of bombs by either side means mutual suicide. Lesser means—

conventional means—then of necessity become vital. Captain Liddell Hart believes strongly in the continuing value of sea power and amphibious forces, the latter modeled after the U.S. Marines. In both land and sea warfare, he sees the need for tactical innovation mainly toward greater dispersion and mobility. Proposing to defeat the Soviets mainly by political-psychological weapons, he would give up all H-bombs and all allies on United Kingdom soil who plan to use them. Since the H-bomb is a deterrent only to attacks of its own kind and not to all risk of armed conflict, he would get the United Kingdom out of the nuclear race, and follow a policy of neutrality. Disengagement is proposed in a trans-Eurasian safety belt from Spitzbergen to the Himalayas, and perhaps extending even to Japan and Korea. Within this vast *interspace* a "fire curtain" or "safety belt" of comfortable width would be set up all along the Iron Curtain. Lastly, an international force would be set up for permanent service within the United Nations framework.

Nehru, Jawaharlal. *Nehru on World History*. New York: John Day, 1960. 304 p.

Nehru of India is recognized as one of the great political and social leaders of our time. As such, his views on certain important events or periods in world history are of natural interest to any student of this subject. His opinions on historical happenings of great moment also give the reader some insight into the kind of thinking that motivates the present-day leader of India. This book is really a collection of the most significant "Glimpses of World History," originally written by Nehru, and selected by the publishers and presented in chronological form. Included are essays or passages dealing with such matters as (to name a few) nature and man,