

ARMS FOR THE THIRD WORLD: SOVIET MILITARY AND DIPLOMACY. By *Wynfred Joshua* and *Stephen P. Gibert*. Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1969. x, 169 pp. \$6.95.

This work exemplifies the two main characteristics of the "nonbook" in the scholarly field. First, its data has been collected in an unsystematic manner. Consequently it is unreliable even as a check list of sources screened, including the readily available *New York Times*. Moreover, the data apparently was not subjected to any standard critical tests of evidence. Hence it is a hodgepodge of unevaluated errors, unresolved inconsistencies, and major omissions. Second, the analysis is primitive. Indeed, even the major and better generalizations and conclusions flow not so much from the authors' own data as from the works of already published authorities, particularly Herbert Dinerstein. Any claim to originality fails the authors' own test (p. 4), that "the Soviet military assistance program can only be understood as an integral part of contemporary Soviet global foreign policy."

The book is a reprint of the authors' contract research paper, "Soviet Military Aid as a Reflection of Soviet Objectives, 1955-1967." That 294-page multilithed paper was submitted in October 1968 to the U.S. Air Force by the Atlantic Research Corporation as part of the Georgetown Research Project. Unclassified, it received more than adequate circulation at that time among those of us doing related research on arms trade and control. The hard-cover version differs only in minor details—typographical and editorial changes to conform with the publisher's style manual, the addition of an index, and a slightly rewritten preface that misleadingly implies that "further research and analysis" of a substantial nature went into the printed version. In fact, even the typographical errors have been preserved, such as the repeated "Laquer" for Walter Laqueur.

I can sympathize with the authors' problem of trying to produce scholarship within the constraints of a contract program that sets deadlines and often assigns inadequately qualified staff. When applied to research requiring highly specialized understanding of Soviet foreign and military policy, recipient military needs, and detailed collection of data on arms negotiations and transfers, such deadline and staffing policies invite quick-and-dirty results, and even four years (1964-68) was not long enough for the two authors and one research analyst to master either the data or the analysis for their client. That is no excuse, however, for passing on such preliminary unrevised research to a wider public in a university press book. Both the general reader and the researcher can save time and avoid error by reading instead the superb new book by Uri Ra'anani, *The USSR Arms the Third World: Case Studies in Soviet Foreign Policy* (Cambridge, Mass.: The M.I.T. Press, 1969).

BARTON WHALEY

The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy

SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY IN PERSPECTIVE. By *Robert G. Wesson*. Homewood, Ill.: Dorsey Press. Georgetown, Ont.: Irwin-Dorsey Ltd., 1969. viii, 472 pp. \$9.50.

One of the major paradoxes of Soviet policy-making throughout virtually the entire period of Communist rule has been the verbal adherence of policy-makers to a universalistic ideology which only in a limited degree provided the real framework for the formation of foreign policy. Throughout more than fifty years of dealing with the outside world, the Soviet leadership has manifested considerable realism