

in illustrating "identity groups" within or transcending nation states (the DGSE versus Greenpeace) and showing how a facilitator — the UN Secretary-General — could help resolve a minor conflict between New Zealand and France.

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Canadians with arms

by Dan Spry

***The Mechanized Battlefield: A Tactical Analysis* edited by J.A. English, J. Addicott and P.J. Kramers. Toronto: Pergamon-Brassey's, 1985, 192 pages, US\$30.00.**

The Mechanized Battlefield: A Tactical Analysis must surely be required reading for all combat arms officers. This book will, I hope, cause many hot discussions, indeed arguments, lasting late into the night. As one of the decreasing numbers of World War II survivors, I read and enjoyed this very useful publication by the Combat Arms Training Centre, Gagetown, New Brunswick. Great credit is due to the speakers and participants who made the Officers' Development Study Session so very pertinent to the training of the Canadian Forces for a war every sane person hopes will never be fought.

It is regrettable that the air element was not included in the study. However, the professional officer will gain much from this book and its resulting discussions and will, one hopes, bring into the verbal battles the very great influence the air effort brings to the battlefield.

I was interested in the confirmation of Canadian Army experience in World War II that the infantry platoons and sections need increased automatic firepower, particularly when fighting dismounted. This weakness was, at that time, further aggravated by

the shortage of properly trained reinforcements, resulting in companies fighting with 3-man sections and 16-man platoons. Through sleight-of-hand, and some skulduggery, most platoons "found" extra light machine guns, but often found themselves with too few men to carry the ammunition.

I was glad to see mention of digging by the infantry. Experience taught us not to get separated from a shovel. The portable, breakable entrenching tool was far less effective. The experienced infantryman developed an ability to make a slit trench quickly into a home-away-from-home.

The tremendous influence of modern vehicles, weapons and instruments brings to the modern infantry many advantages, and the resulting complexity will require the most carefully selected and trained manpower. Maintenance and replacement of men and machines must surely present extremely difficult problems.

In this brief review space does not permit comments on all of the many fascinating subjects covered at the Officers' Development Study, as reported in *The Mechanized Battlefield*. However, readers should not forget that in any battle all the gadgetry in the world can be wasted if the users do not have proper training and the will to win.

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A Canadian book on Poland

by Stefania Szlek Miller

***Sisyphus and Poland: Reflections on Martial Law* edited by J.L. Black and J.W. Strong (Carleton Series in Soviet and East European Studies, Volume 9). Kingston, Ronald P. Frye & Co., 1986, 191 pages, \$16.95.**

As the editors acknowledge, most of the eleven chapters in this volume were prepared "during the martial law

period and reflect feelings and analyses which were then current." This study, therefore, does not examine the entire 1981-83 martial law period. There are also major thematic omissions in the three areas that are covered: Poland's domestic situation; the impact of martial law on East Central Europe; and the West's reaction to Polish events.

The most serious omission is the lack of analysis of Canada's position. L.T. Voore's informative account of her duties as an officer in the Canadian Embassy in Warsaw from 1979 to August 1981, and subsequently as the Polish Desk Officer in the Department of External Affairs, does not include an analysis of the substantive issues and decisions involved in Canada's reaction to martial law or to US initiatives to impose sanctions against Poland and the Soviet Union. This is unfortunate in that the other three contributors to the section, "Western Perception," present arguments that are relevant to Canadian foreign policy. Richard Pipes argues that the US position "demonstrated, at considerable commercial and other cost to itself, that moral principles and politics are not incompatible." Richard T. Davies disagrees with this assessment and harshly condemns US allies for weakening NATO's response to Soviet and Polish violations of human rights. Paul Marantz concurs with Davies, but argues that "punitive economic sanctions" are ineffective in influencing Soviet policies. Marantz, however, fails to support his conclusion that "positive inducements" as practised by the West during the 1970s were more effective.

The five papers which deal with Poland's domestic situation focus on the historical, social and religious dimensions. The authors on the whole are very sympathetic to the aspirations of the Polish reform movement, and V.C. Chrypinski provides a good account of the role of the Roman Catholic Church following the declaration of martial law. What is missing, however, is a dispassionate analysis of the Polish government's justification of martial law, its reactions to domestic and external pressures, and the type of policies that were instituted to address Poland's serious economic and political problems.

The two articles which deal with the broader implications of the Polish case on East Central Europe are bal-