

form is both incomplete and inaccurate, particularly in its core axiom that rational criteria govern policy evaluation and choice.

What gives this work such penetrating insight is the systematic application of theories of psychology to the analysis of a variety of historical conflict situations in which deterrence considerations figured prominently. The authors demonstrate how calculations of deterrence are much more inner-directed, in the sense of being influenced by decision-makers' psychological biases and beliefs and by domestic political constraints, rather than being exclusively determined by the assessment of the commitment and capability of one's adversary, as existing deterrence theory would have it.

The historical record of deterrence miscalculations is uncomfortably rich, although not all errors have necessarily led to an escalation of international conflict as they often reinforce the natural inclination of decision-makers toward caution. Stein offers a particularly thorough and fascinating analysis of deterrence outcomes in Egyptian-Israeli relations between 1969 and 1973. She finds that on at least two occasions the strategy failed even though all of the objective conditions of deterrence had been met by the defender. In 1969, this failure was largely attributable to insufficient weight being given to the interests of the opposing party, while in 1973 perceptions of the political costs of inaction came to dominate the challenger's legitimate fears of his military inferiority.

In contrast to the prevailing political view which regards deterrence as the 'only show in town,' the authors treat it as a useful strategy only when it is applied to buy time to address grievances and frustrations. The preferred approach, as they see it, would be a mixed strategy which supplements the punitive measures of deterrence with the more positive attributes of reassurance. Having done much to undermine confidence in deterrence theory as it has been developed, the authors might have wished to give some indication whether a reconstructed theory of deterrence is at all pos-

sible and what would be its format. Although some of the historical interpretations contained in the book might be challenged – Lebow's treatment of the Falklands war as a breakdown of deterrence may be questioned on the grounds that British negligence and excessive caution prevented the creation of an effective deterrence strategy by the defender – one cannot escape the persuasive and powerful impact of this study.

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Grenada: The Jewel Despoiled

Gordon K. Lewis

Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1987, 239 pages, US \$25.00 cloth

■ It is not yet possible for any West Indian to write dispassionately, or in a non-partisan fashion about the Grenada crisis of 1983. Gordon Lewis, British by birth, West Indian by passion and a democratic socialist by political persuasion has recently added his own contribution to the debate on the events in Grenada. As one of the grand old men of West Indian history, he brings a formidable artillery of intellectual skills and a profound knowledge of Caribbean society to bear on the subject; as a convinced socialist he has produced in this book one of the better argued left-wing critiques of the failure of the revolution and the intervention; and in the chapter entitled "Lessons for the Caribbean Left" he has drawn several unusually pragmatic conclusions about democracy in the Caribbean from the collapse of the Grenada experiment.

But running right through this book is also the rage of the Caribbean nationalist who saw in 1983 both an island jewel and a dream of independence despoiled. The fury he unleashes at the United States and the collaborating elites of the other OECS (Organization of Eastern Caribbean States) countries threatens to overwhelm with invective and rhetoric what is otherwise a masterful account of the tragedy of Grenada. For example, he calls the chapter on the American intervention "The Empire Strikes Back."

This book may therefore be read in two ways: first as a well documented and researched account of the Grenada issue from a socialist perspective; and second as an account of a tragedy from which the author is as yet unable to distance himself.

Not surprisingly the chapters that are most readable are those that are the most historical and the least rhetorical. The descriptions of the ideological debates and the ideological naivete of the Peoples Revolutionary Government (PRG), the political counterpoint between Prime Minister Bishop and his Finance Minister Bernard Courd and the relationship between the ultra-left faction and the military, place the events of 1983 within a convincing context. Lewis argues that the betrayal of the revolution was not "Victorian hero and villain melodrama, for all of the leading actors, starting with Bishop and Courd (were) . . . caught up in an awful current of events over which ultimately they (had) no control so that . . . the observer rather than allocating blame, can only perhaps feel pity and compassion."

But the sensitivity with which he describes the weakness of the revolution disappears almost completely when he describes the role of the OECS in facilitating the American intervention. There is no sympathy here for the panic that the events in Grenada created in the other countries of the Eastern Caribbean. He has no time for the concerns of the leaders of the OECS about the demonstration effects of a coup by Courd nor for the anger of their constituencies at what they saw as principally a question of murder of the Prime Minister and some of his cabinet. And in the attempt to argue that there were other options to intervention he gives far too much credence to "alternatives" proposed by Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana at the contentious Caribbean Community (CARICOM) summit held just before the intervention. Negotiations with a regime that had shot itself into power was as undesirable to many of the Caribbean countries as intervention by an external power. The difference was that intervention by

the US was likely to be quicker and more successful in bringing criminals to justice. That perspective is surely worthy of more subtle analysis than a dismissive polemic against culturally colonised elites.

And yet with all its flaws this book has described in the author's words both the dark and the bright side of the moon – "for any account of the Grenada Revolution must end by remembering it and its achievement in mobilizing a mass enthusiasm for revolution in the Caribbean that no country save Cuba has managed to do." He has paid the Grenada revolution the compliment of taking it seriously, and brought valuable perspective (admittedly marred by his personal disappointment) to the study of the events of 1983. – *Fauzya Moore*
Ms. Moore is a grants officer at the Institute.

BRIEFLY NOTED

Canada and Common Security: The Assertion of Sanity

George Ignatieff,
Leonard V. Johnson *et al*

Ottawa: The Group of 78, 1987, 88 pgs, \$10 paper

The Group of 78 is an energetic NGO which aims to influence the process of foreign policy-making in Canada. This slim volume is a collection of twenty-nine short essays about various aspects of international affairs and Canada's defence and foreign policies.

Ordering the Oceans: The Making of the Law of the Sea

Clyde Sanger

Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1987, 225 pgs., \$14.95 paper/\$30.00 cloth

The process of creating the Law of the Sea was a major exercise in what political scientists call 'international institution building'. *Ordering the Oceans* explores the myriad complex issues that confronted the negotiators through the fifteen years of meeting and bargaining which culminated in 1982 in the Law of the Sea Convention. □

Reviews of French language publications can be found in *Paix et Sécurité* 'Livres' section.