limited access to original works. In sum, however, *The World in the Twentieth Century* is definitely worthy of consideration as a global history text.

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The first edition [1983] of this practical book of international relations evolved from the authors' course on contemporary problems of foreign policy at Stanford University. Case studies by students, some of whom later taught history at the U.S. Military Academy, contribute to the book's intended purpose of presenting working hypotheses about problems of American foreign policy in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The current edition, like the original into three parts, provides updated material on the United Nations, the Soviet Union, and the dramatic, recent events in European affairs. Each author's expertise, one in diplomatic history and the other in political science, contributes to a thoughtful exercise in comparative analysis and contemporary strategic assessment. The authors certainly realized that conditions in Europe and the Middle East were volatile as they crafted this revision; if they erred at all it was in judging the pace of change just underway as the book was published.

Part I, consisting of eleven chapters, describes the development of the international system from the seventeenth century to the present. Part II, seven chapters, deals with the processes of foreign relations, such as negotiation, crisis management, and war termination. Part III, two chapters, deals with the complications arising from moral and ethical convictions that emerge in the affairs of states. Each chapter is concluded by a short, updated bibliography.

This book is a useful classroom aid for the teacher who deals with the complexities of international politics. There is an abundance of well-chosen examples and analytical approaches to permit application to recent international situations. For example, the chapters dealing with problems of coalition management, deterrence, and negotiation all have relevance to the Persian Gulf crisis of 1990-91. The chapters on coercive diplomacy and crisis management are equally instructive. "The strategy of coercive diplomacy... employs threats or limited force to persuade an opponent to call off or undo an encroachment—for example, to halt an invasion or give up territory that has been occupied." The emphasis is on diplomacy with the judicious use of force to persuade the attacker of the resolve of his adversary. The authors illustrate this strategy with the Egyptian crisis of 1938-41, U.S.-Japanese relations from 1938-41, and Arab oil diplomacy of 1973-74. The similarities of those examples with the Persian Gulf crisis of 1990-91 are numerous and pertinent. Coercive diplomacy "deals not with absolute power but with relative power under specific circumstances," and is "difficult to employ when one is faced by a recalcitrant opponent."

In a crisis, diplomatic and military moves must be carefully coordinated because timing often dictates the way intentions are perceived on the other side of the brink. Communication of objectives, both to allies and to each participant's citizenry, is crucial to a successfully negotiated outcome. Leaving an opponent, particularly a parvenu, with "a way out of the crisis compatible with his fundamental interests," but at the same time not surrendering your own vital interests, is most difficult. We might hope that the next edition of this excellent book will include the resolution of the Persian Gulf crisis of 1990-91 in the chapter on coercive diplomacy, rather than in the one titled "war termination."

The First Division Museum at Cantigny

John F. Votaw


Current Issues in Women's History, a collection of papers delivered at the International Conference on Women's History at Amsterdam in March 1986, and Bonnie G. Smith's textbook, *Changing Lives: Women in European History Since 1700*, provide abundant evidence of the richness of women's roles and concerns in European history.