

rejuvenated. I wanted to run away with them, but I realized at the same moment that Nita [a fellow nursing student] could go no farther . . . It took me less than a moment to swing my legs back into the cattle car . . . Inexplicably, I could not go. I could not break my promise.

A Personal Reflection is the story of a young woman's strength, though she faced separation from family and loved ones and endured the horrors of Nazi concentration camp. During the entire ordeal, Deli continued to help others. The climax of the narrative occurs when, at the very moment Deli and Nita were to enter the gas chamber, they were freed by American soldiers.

Deli and Nita returned to destroyed Vienna to search for Deli's family. She found them, but reunion was not enough for her. Instead of dwelling on her own troubles and terrible experiences, the author sensed that she must continue to give her life to serving others and helping them through bad times. She stayed for a few years in Vienna working in a hospital as well as with the organization "Bring Them Home," which tried to return children to their families.

Eventually she came to the United States, where she continued to dedicate her life to alleviating others' pain. In New York, she worked at the Brooklyn Jewish Hospital in antibiotic research, at Sloan Kettering in blood research, and at Sinai hospital in Baltimore in hormone research. Now retired, Deli continues to volunteer as an Eyewitness at the Capital Children's Museum in Washington, D.C., and as a Grief Recovery Group Facilitator.

Deli Strummer's autobiography is well-suited for middle school and high school readers, yet for college students also the book is an excellent point of departure for discussion of human rights. Adults, too, will find that this beautifully written, seemingly simple book is decidedly moving and powerful. It carries the message of the horror of the Holocaust while at the same time illustrating the human courage and caring that one needed to survive.

Anne Arundel County Schools
Annapolis, Maryland

Diane Johnson

Wayne C. McWilliams and Harry Piotrowski. *The World Since 1945: A History of International Relations*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1990. Second edition. Pp. xi, 492. Paper, \$18.95.

Cascades of news reports should have convinced us during the past few years that every educated person needs a systematic orientation into the global environment of public affairs. McWilliams and Piotrowski address this need with an excellent textbook for a history course on international relations since 1945. The book is written for instructors and students. It has nineteen chapters of more or less equal length grouped into five parts. Each part has a boxed introduction that forecasts what students will encounter in each chapter. The paragraphs are firmly drawn and the sentences structured for clarity without "talking down" to readers. Each chapter has an up-to-date annotated list of recommended readings in English and endnotes referring to sophisticated sources. The index is extensive and accurate; photos are clear; fourteen maps show political boundaries.

The text is proportioned to avoid "Western-centered approaches" and Europe and the United States are discussed when necessary to explain their participation in main themes. The themes are Origins of the Cold War, Nationalism and the End of Colonialism, the Shifting Sands of Global Power (referring to the 1960s), the Third World, and the End of the Postwar Era (referring to the 1980s). The text does not adhere to an overall chronology but subthemes clarify the order of events. Especially useful subthemes include the Sino-Soviet rift and its distress to the Eastern bloc, the Vietnam War and its impact on the Western bloc, the travails of postindependence in Asia and Africa, the evolution of Arab-Israeli confrontation, the economic triumph of Japan, and the nuclear arms race and negotiations to contain it. With more refined concepts of nationalism, secularism, and modernization, the discussions of militant Islam and the Iranian revolution and relationships between rich and poor nations, could be strengthened.

It is risky to write a history book that ends with the present time because that present constantly changes. McWilliams and Piotrowski know this well, as radical new developments in world affairs during the late 1980s forced them to undertake a thorough revision of their book long before they had contemplated doing so. Then even more drastic changes in Germany, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and the United Nations occurred after the revision went to press. How can instructors best deal with books that are dated before they reach the classroom? They should not give up on textbooks or try to base their reading assignments solely on non-academic sources. A subject as volatile as recent world history needs a firm topical, chronological, and geographical framework. A good textbook should be long enough to address complicated matters and short enough to allow teachers and students to supplement and update it with outside reading, viewing, and writing assignments. This book meets these requirements for college course work admirably. It should also be useful for special assignments for advanced high school students. In future editions, the authors would do well to advise instructors and students how to follow specific topics after they have finished the course and future events have superseded those in the textbook.

Georgia State University

Gerald H. Davis

A REQUEST FOR HELP

Teaching History has received a request for materials relating to the teaching of history from Professor Mihai Manea, history professor and headmaster of Bucharest College, Roumania. A colleague who specializes in Roumanian history tells me that this institution is equivalent to our secondary schools.

Professor Manea lacks foreign currency because of present conditions and makes a desperate plea for materials he can share with his colleagues and students. I plan to send him back issues of our journal and a complimentary subscription. *We urge our readers to also send such materials as they can spare.* As future requests come from Eastern Europe or elsewhere, we will share them with you.

His address is: Professor Mihai Manea
112 Calea Călărașilor, Apt. 1
74101 -- București -- Sector III
Oficiul PTTR Nr. 20
ROMANIA