

and the afterlife and many other aspects of the pre-Christian world are integrated along with those topics not commonly found in texts until recently, such as pederasty, buggery, and prostitution. This section would stand alone as an excellent social history text for a class in Roman history.

Peter Brown is the author of the next section in volume I on private lives among Jews and early Christians. The attraction and terror of sexuality in the East and the West, in adolescence, in the desert, and in marriage, are among the many topics covered in a little over a hundred pages in what is the most impressive section of the work. This volume concludes with excellent sections on domestic architecture in Roman Africa by Yvon Thébert, private life in the West to the age of Charlemagne by Michel Rouche, and life in the Byzantine World in the tenth and eleventh centuries by Evelyne Patlagean.

Volume II, *Revelations of the Medieval World*, does not waste precious space on the fringes of medieval civilization—the Celts, the Germans, the English, or the Spaniards. Feudal France during the High Middle Ages, and Tuscan Italy on the eve of the Renaissance fill the first half of the work. The last half of the work, in three sections, is focused on France, Italy, and nearby areas. Danielle Régner-Bohler discusses how the literature of northern France from the eleventh to the fifteenth century can be used to gain insight into the private lives; since many find the literature of courtly love incomprehensible, this is a most useful and enlightening essay. There are other sections which discuss the houses of the peasants and townspeople, and the palaces of the ruling classes.

There is, along with many other fascinating topics, an extensive passage on the fourteenth-century papal palace at Avignon. The private lives of the nuns and monks, and of the rising banking and merchant class are dissected in ways not easily found elsewhere. One of the last topics, for example, is bathing at Baden, near Zurich, and in wealthier private homes. Yes, medieval people did sometimes bathe, sometimes even publicly and nude.

Most publishers would charge considerably more (have you noticed that since conglomerates have absorbed most major commercial publishers, the less expensive texts and monographs are more commonly being published by university presses? Before the recent mergers and buyouts, it was the opposite).

These two volumes are handsomely printed and provide dimensions of social history, including family history and women's history, not easily available in traditional texts. While the time periods covered in each may not exactly fit most courses, the low cost makes it easier to use one or the other of them. Those teaching classes on Modern Europe may also wish to look at the later volumes in the series.

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Edwin P. Hoyt. *The Last Kamikaze: The Story of Admiral Matome Ugaki*. Praeger: Westport, CT and London, 1993. Pp. xvi, 235. Cloth, \$22.95.

Vice-admiral Matome Ugaki of the Japanese navy kept a diary of his experiences during World War II down to his own fruitless suicide run after peace had been declared. It is this diary that forms the basis of Hoyt's book. Ugaki held a series of commands during the war, concluding with the depressing position of being in charge of kamikaze pilots and sending so many eager and promising young men to their deaths. Unlike his superior, Admiral Yamamoto, Ugaki was in favor of the war. While Yamamoto feared the clearly superior reserve resources of the U.S. would win in the long run, Ugaki hoped that the early crippling of the U.S. at Pearl Harbor would eliminate the possibility that reserves would ever be tapped. The U.S. oil

embargo was the precipitating issue and a special concern for the navy which could not function without the fuel. In April 1943 Yamamoto and Ugaki, travelling together in separate planes as Yamamoto insisted, were both shot down. Yamamoto was killed but Ugaki survived, although he was injured and out of action for a time.

As the war drew to a close Ugaki became more and more despairing, yet he felt he had saved enough air power to make an American invasion of Japan so costly that the Americans would not try. Upon hearing of the atomic bombs his reaction was to try to devise a plan to meet them. Although fully aware of Japan's weakness Ugaki was deeply distressed at the Emperor's message of defeat. Ugaki's motivation throughout the war was an unswerving loyalty to Japan and the emperor, yet his final act was in defiance of the emperor's announced wishes. The vice-admiral had long ago decided he would not live through the war. Considering the defeat in part his personal failure, he might have committed ritual seppuku. He was determined, however, to die as the many young men he had sent out on Kamikaze missions, like "Cherry blossoms into the sea." He planned that his last effort would do some damage to the enemy so he aimed his last flight toward the American ships at Okinawa. Despite their victory, the Americans had not fully let down their guard, so Ugaki and his companions were attacked and plunged gloriously (?) into the sea, inflicting no damage.

Ugaki's story should be interesting because it brings a different perspective than most often seen in the U.S. Using a personal diary as a source should give us a multi-dimensional view but Ugaki's story does not. His family is rarely mentioned and when it is the same information is present: his wife was dead and his children grown. As he contemplates his approaching death his thoughts turn to nature but the reader doesn't really feel those thoughts or the emotion behind them. Ugaki had many acquaintances in the military but apparently not any friends. The life presented is of a military machine with an occasional thought or feeling tacked on. Those thoughts and feelings, even the growing despair, do not convey a developed human personality. Ugaki's story is of a career, not a person. The accounts of rivalry and lack of communication among the Japanese military leaders and branches make one wonder why the Japanese were as strong as they were. Loyalty would appear to compensate for lack of coordination and communication.

The primary source for this book is the diary, supplemented largely by Hoyt's other works, an extensive body of research on World War II in the Pacific. The book will be of great interest to war buffs with an interest in the Pacific. For those without previous knowledge of the Pacific portion of the war, the events will be hard to follow. A map of the action and sketches of ships and airplanes discussed would make the work more accessible. Pictures of Ugaki about to die are interesting but more visual help is needed. An instructor will find this useful to add perspective to a lecture. Students will find it perhaps an interesting supplement.

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Christine Bolt. *The Women's Movements in the United States and Britain from the 1790s to the 1920s.* Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1993. Pp. x, 390. Cloth, \$45.00; paper, \$15.95.

In tracing the history of the women's movements in Britain and the United States from the late eighteenth century through the 1920s, detailing both differences and similarities, Christine Bolt has provided the reader with a fine example of comparative history. In a unique way, Professor Bolt consistently provides the reader with a chronological sense of the issues that