

preoccupations and presumptions; examining Mill *in situ* provides Stafford with the ammunition for the claim that Mill's relevance should be sustained.

The book is mainly taken up with chapters that look at Mill's philosophy (and his other writings) in chunks, beginning with his *Autobiography*, then progressing to analyses of *The Logic*, *The Principles of Political Economy*, *Utilitarianism*, and *On Liberty*. He then finishes with a chapter on Mill's more overtly political works and on his time as a member of Parliament. Every chapter is extremely well informed about Mill's work and the commentaries on it and presents a clear and compelling analysis of Mill's thinking. In a word, this is an excellent short study of Mill and his work.

The difficulty for history teachers is how to fit this volume (and Mill in general) into their reading lists. It would fit well in an upper-division course on the history of ideas, one where it can be assumed that students know some of the basic philosophical terms used here without definition. It could also find a home in a course on modern British history, but even here it might be too focused to prove very useful in class or popular with students. Below the level of these courses, however, there would be little chance of finding much value in this book. Writing for a mainly British audience, Stafford is able to assume that readers will understand his references to events in nineteenth-century British history. This probably would not be the case for North American students taking survey courses. There are simply too many important allusions to parliamentary reform, political economy, Benthamism, Saint-Simonism, and others that will leave first- and second-year undergraduates confused. Trying to introduce these concepts to students before the book is read (or while they are reading it) would almost certainly take so much time that two weeks of a Western Civilization class would have to be devoted to Mill. Therefore, this study, while excellent, should mainly be confined to advanced courses in specific subjects and should probably not be risked in introductory or survey courses.

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**Jeremy Black, ed. *European Warfare: 1815-2000*. New York: Palgrave, 2002. Pp. vii, 247. Paper, \$22.95; ISBN 0-333-78668-8.**

Expect this work to change the thinking of anyone who regards military intelligence as an oxymoron. The purpose of this book is to expand military history from a survey-level cocoon of strategy and tactics to a broader range of more sophisticated political and technological considerations. It is about "the ideas and practices of the military and of military force over modern times, understood as the past two centuries."

Politically, military warfare transpired from nation fighting nation at the beginning of the past two centuries to a new globalization in the postmodern age when it is more reasonable to advance national welfare by increasing productivity than by expanding the extent of territory controlled. Productivity is multilateral, multinational, and interconnected. National wars are not. Nations now, therefore, fight small wars rather than disrupt the global economy.

Although five of the eight contributors teach in the United States, two at Virginia Military Institute (VMI), the editing by Jeremy Black reflects the fact that Palgrave is the new global academic imprint of London-based St. Martin's Press. Some of the writing exhibits a convoluted British style, awkward for United States readers.

The various authors successfully relate military history to political, economic, and social events. To illustrate, Warren Chin in "The Transformation of War in Europe: 1945-2000" has an outstanding section on the media in which he describes "the CNN effect." The media, he argues, lets the world know what is happening, although why the world then cares remains unexplored.

Five of the chapters are chronological: "1815-1864" by Dennis Showalter of Colorado College, "1864-1913" by Black of Exeter University, "1917-1939" by Francisco J. Romero Salvadó of London Guildhall University, "1939-1945" by S.P. Mackenzie of the University of South Carolina, and "1945-2000" by Chin at the British Joint Services Command and Staff College. Three are topical: "The First World War" by Spencer Tucker of VMI, "Colonial Wars" by Bruce Vandervort, also of VMI, and "Naval Power and Warfare" by Lawrence Sondhaus of the University of Indianapolis. In "The First World War" Tucker concludes, "The First World War was quite simply the most important single event of the twentieth century." Insofar as England is concerned, that might be true. This might not be true, however, for the rest of the globe. If World War I is a singular, transforming "event," so are the advent of radio and television, the automobile and the airplane, health-care, privacy, and computers. These too, it must be argued, are in contention for "the most important single event of the twentieth century."

The nine articles, including the introduction, contain many relevant but little known facts in support of various arguments about the unifying theme of expanding technical aspects of military history into the mainstream of other professional historical considerations. Documentation is reasonable. A four-page index is thin but helpful. This text is recommended for integrating the tactics and strategies of European warfare into general surveys by elevating the technical minutia of military history from a too-long isolated specialty into the mainstream of historical discourse.

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**John Springhall.** *Decolonization Since 1945: The Collapse of European Overseas Empires.* New York: Palgrave, 2001. Pp. xxiii, 240. Cloth, \$65.00; ISBN 0-333-74599-X.

John Springhall is Reader in History, University of Ulster at Coleraine, Northern Ireland. In this introductory survey, Springhall offers both a theoretical framework and concise description useful to understand the processes and dynamics of postwar decolonization. Though brief, the book satisfactorily recounts and analyzes the