

tion, the actual excerpts are not included. Without the excerpts, the appendix is unnecessary, as the information could have been included in a detailed endnote or cited as needed. The “Afterthoughts” chapter is a particularly well-done conclusion, as the author ties the entire work together neatly. Unfortunately, due to the organization of the work, as a whole, it is not until the conclusion that some of the author’s context is fully comprehensible.

A restructuring of the chapters, namely adding a dedicated introduction would enhance the general reader’s comprehension. If an introduction were to be added, some information from the “Afterthoughts” chapter could clarify. For example, moving sections from “Afterthoughts,” to an earlier part of the work, could provide less well-versed readers with context relevant to the Kimber trial. Some of the information examined in the “Afterthoughts” that could benefit the reader if introduced earlier includes detailed background about previous trials and their resulting legal implications.

Whereas the work does not really benefit from the appendix, an introduction would have improved readers’ general understanding. Though the work does include a preface, due to the work depth and wealth of knowledge, having a general outline in an introduction would have guided the development and readers gauge of the work, similar to the way the “Afterthoughts” chapter tied together the lingering aspects of this microhistory.

The author consistently presents a logical sequence of events that enables the reader to understand the foundations of slavery in a dock town such as Bristol, at the same time showing the reoccurring implications of slavery and the correlating horrors, relayed as witnessed by the crew. By presenting a social micro-history, the author dis-

plays not only why most crew members refused to be involved publicly with the trials, or even recorded regular mistreatment they witnessed, at the same time revealing why some strategic crew, ultimately key trial participants, eventually chose to take the risk and be openly involved. The presentation of this microhistory exceeds its time-frame as Rogers references well-known slave events and people such as the two princes of Calabar, thereby placing this microhistory into a larger perspective of the Atlantic Slave Trade.

Chapter Six, “Afterthoughts,” opens with the quote: “Micro-histories zoom into the historical canvas. They focus intensely on particular events or places in order to capture the texture and social dynamic of human relationships and assess, as neatly as possible, the creative agency of ordinary people” (149). Rogers has, without a doubt, accomplished this goal. This microhistory allows readers a deeper understanding of not only the horrors of the transatlantic slave trade, but further of how a ship’s crew was held to ship’s standards even within the perimeter of a port city. By doing so, Rogers demonstrates a glimpse into the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries.

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Harry Spiller. *Pearl Harbor Survivors. An Oral History of 24 Servicemen.* Jefferson, NC: McFarland Publishing, [www.mcfarlandpub.com](http://www.mcfarlandpub.com), 2020. viii+216 pp., illustrations, appendices, index. US \$19.99, paper; ISBN 978-0-7864-i179-5. (E-book available.)

Harry Spiller’s *Pearl Harbor Survivors* serves as a primary source reader featuring the accounts of men who survived the attack on the US naval base at Pearl Harbor on the island of Oahu, Hawai’i,

on 7 December 1941. This book aims to honour the reflections of the servicemen and provide a humanistic approach to Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and the surrounding area. The book is organized by location, such as ship or base. Spiller provides some supplementary information about the attack and the history of different ships before each reflection; however, the servicemen's words make up the bulk of the story.

Spiller combines interviews from Pearl Harbor survivors with their personal documents, military records from the National Archives, and the US Department of the Navy to illustrate the experiences of those who suffered through and withstood the attack. By means of these diverse sources, *Pearl Harbor Survivors* achieves its goal of adding a human aspect to a military event, interspersing non-naval perspectives, like those from the Army, Marines, Army Air Force, and Coast Guard. Each reflection ranges in content to provide a well-rounded perspective. Additionally, some men describe the same event quite differently, which allows the reader to analyze the attack on Pearl Harbor through different eyes and memories, to understand the full extent of what occurred on that day. The book also contributes to a 'bottom-up' perspective, as it does not solely focus on high ranking officers. *Pearl Harbor Survivors* features essays from the highest ranks, to some of the lowest, across all branches of service.

This anthology showcases the stories of 24 servicemen and dives deeply into the gruesome sights of war. This book is not for the faint of heart, as it describes the retrieval of scattered human remains, swimming in burning oil, and the intense pressure of escaping a sinking ship. Over 2,400 military personnel died on 7 December, and these stories represent 24 reminders of the

immensity of war. There are, however, some moments of lightness, such as recollections of playful conversations or explanations of day-to-day life in the armed services. These accounts invoke the readers' sensations as well. For example, many men remembered the breakfast they were eating, as the attack occurred right before 8 AM. Others spoke of the smells of burning flesh, the sounds of alarms blaring, and the looks of their perishing companions. Besides the five senses, these accounts show meaningful coping methods through poetry, songs, and prayers.

Spiller does not reveal his interview methods, leaving the reader to wonder who recorded the interviews, when they took place, and how they occurred. The book strays from traditional oral histories because there is no question and answer format, just reflections. Knowing when an interview occurred, and the context of the interview drastically changes its sentiment. An interview that took place a year after the attack is reflected upon differently than one that took place fifty years after the event. Knowing when these accounts were collected could help the reader understand the servicemen's reflection better based on the freshness of the memory. Also, some sentences appear to be a bit out of place and make the reader question if the author introduced some dramatic one-liners for added effect. For example: "I knew for sure that this was 'no drill'. The day of infamy had arrived" (42). The final sentence of this quotation looks as though it came straight from a fiction novel or movie. If the methods of the process were more apparent to the reader, there would be no doubt of legitimacy. The ambiguity of collecting and pasting different records together does not strengthen the book's contribution to the greater historical narrative.

Nonetheless, *Pearl Harbor Survivors* is an excellent resource for studying the Second World War or military history. Beyond the 24 accounts is an appendix that consists of the ships present during the attack, names of those who died, military rankings, and President Roosevelt's speech after the attack. The accumulation of sources in this book is why it should be added to any researcher's arsenal. The book's conciseness makes it an easier read, as it does not bore the reader with lengthy analysis or disorganization. Besides historians, this book would be an excellent read for the general public interested in the Second World War or Pearl Harbor.

Overall, Harry Spiller's *Pearl Harbor Survivors: An Oral History of 24 Servicemen* is a fresh take on a heavily written subject. Adding a human dimension to a highly technical event allows the reader to comprehend what the men experienced on the morning of 7 December 1941. It is inclusive of all branches present, not just the Navy, and recounts the experiences of those ranked both high and low. While that day will continue to live in infamy, we now have the opportunity to explore new, first-hand accounts of how the survivors themselves experienced Pearl Harbor.

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Corbin Williamson. *The U.S. Navy and its Cold War Alliances, 1945-1953*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, [www.kansaspress.ku.edu](http://www.kansaspress.ku.edu), 2020. xiv+354 pp., illustrations, tables, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. US \$50.00, cloth; ISBN 978-0-7006-2978-7. (E-book available)

It has long been believed that close ties between the United States and its wartime allies were severed at the end of

the Second World War, cutting wartime connections between the anglophone navies. These naval links were then rebuilt during the Korean War as the Cold War threatened to become hot. In this excellent book, Corbin Williamson demonstrates that this assessment may be accurate as far as intergovernmental links were concerned, where the Combined Chiefs of Staff Committee was sacrificed to a war-weary American populace, and the time-honoured American aversion to 'binding alliances', but it was not the case for navy-to-navy links, exercises, intelligence sharing, doctrine development and weapons procurement. The highly effective operations of anglophone navies off Korea from 1950 to 1953 reflected post-1945 links, joint exercises, information sharing and access to US Navy practices that equipped British, Canadian and Australian forces to work seamlessly with the Americans. All three navies used standard American procedures during this conflict, because they were fitting into American-led forces. The reverse was true when the British were the larger force. Curiously the American decision to deny the British access to the US Naval War College was driven by a desire to avoid any connection with France, which was viewed as unreliable, a security risk and potentially communist.

The book is based on a rich and thorough range of sources, including public and private archives in Australia, Britain, Canada and the United States, and several recent PhD theses and related publications that track key elements of the relationship, with Malcom Llewellyn-Jones' work on the dawn of modern anti-submarine warfare an obvious highlight.

Whatever American politicians might have hoped, and their public expected, the end of the Second World War did not lead to a return to pre-war norms at sea.