

War In The Modern Great Power System, 1495-1975

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ton University, under whose auspices Laursen wrote this book. The chapter notes and the selected bibliography together form a comprehensive and useful collection of published materials for further reference. The index is also useful.

Laursen begins with an overview of the problem in which he summarizes developments in both the Law of the Sea and U.S. policy in relation to it. Then he explains the analytical perspectives and hypotheses to be applied to the problem. The next five chapters are straightforward descriptions of the major components of U.S. ocean policy through the Carter administration—the politics of security, offshore petroleum rights, fishing, and deep seabed mining—and of the Draft Convention and the Reagan review of it. Chapter 8 applies the analytical tools described earlier to these various conflicting interests within the United States government and society, and the final, very brief, chapter contains concluding remarks.

Laursen did not have the kind of access to, and experience with, the inner workings of the United States government as did, for example, Ann Hollick, Robert E. Osgood, and John Norton Moore, who all have written extensively about U.S. ocean policy, but Laursen has used a wide range of published materials including, wisely, some of the materials produced by nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) represented at UNCLOS III. I am impressed with the accuracy of Laursen's descriptions of events and of American decision making, which undoubtedly results from his attendance at several sessions of the Conference and his association with NGOs, as well as his ability and diligent research.

This book is a superb case study of foreign policy decision making and as such would be a useful supplement to textbooks in a variety of foreign policy and international relations courses, but because of its specialized nature has limited value as a text itself. It is balanced, both ideologically and between fact and theory, but it is quite clear in its conclusion that the Reagan policy regarding the Law of the Sea is misguided and harmful to the long-term best interests of the United States. It ends with the hope that "maybe a future administration in Washington will give up confrontation and return to law and diplomacy" (p. 181).

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War in the Modern Great Power System, 1495-1975. By Jack S. Levy. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky. Pp. xiv + 215. \$24.00.)

This volume is the integration of Levy's work on war, beginning with his award winning dissertation and carried admirably forward in several important, widely cited journal articles (some material from which is reprinted in the volume). The first chapter posits that "great power" wars are different than wars in which lesser powers are the principal actors; as a consequence, he claims, they must be analyzed separately. Moreover, Levy argues the modern power system began neither in 1815 as many political scientists assume, nor following the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648 as many historians assert, but rather emerged at the end of the fifteenth century following the signing of the Treaty of Venice in 1495. A "Great Power" is defined to have a high level of relative military capabilities and a conception of their interests as global rather than local; to pursue their perceived interests more aggressively, often using military threats and force; to be recognized by other great powers; and to often possess certain prerequisites in international organizations (veto power, for one). Levy's actual list of great powers is catholic. What is especially important here is that Levy is not simply extending a set of analyses back in time. He is making a theoretical argument that great powers are different, and that analyses that fail to recognize that fact face potential validity problems. This assertion itself is not empirically examined in the book.

Levy has done yeoman work in generating a data set from historical materials, building consciously and conscientiously upon the work of others such as Pitirim Sorokin, Quincy Wright, David Singer, Melvin Small, and Frederick Woods and Alexander Baltzly. One hundred and nineteen wars involving great powers are identified in chapter 4. Chapter 5 details major variables: duration, extent, magnitude, severity, intensity, and concentration. It presents a clinical description of great power war as preparation for more analytical investigations presumably to follow. Chapter 6 is a summary of so-called "trends" in war. It presents scattergrams of some of the variables over time in order to provide some idea of the trends. Neither the graphics nor the description of them are particularly surprising. Using the date as a dependent variable, simple bivariate statistics are employed to examine a linear hypothesis of constant change in duration, extent, magnitude, severity, intensity, and concentration.

Although the inclusion of a considerable amount of quantitative material is commendable, most of it is what Edward Tufte would call "chart

John J. Mearsheimer, "War in the Modern Great Power System, Jack S. Levy," *The Journal of Modern History* 56, no. 4 (Dec.,): War in the Modern Great Power System [Jack S. Levy] on Amazon. com. *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. a great resource for history majors or .John A. Vasquez; jack s. levy. War in the Modern Great Power System, Lexington: University Press of Kentucky. Pp. xiv, War in the modern great power system, Front Cover. Jack S. Levy. University Press of Kentucky, - History - pages.Powers were tested using war data for the modern Great Power system, The analysis demonstrates the likelihood of initiation of a.War In The Modern Great Power System, has 2 ratings and 1 review. Seth said: A useful reference on war for the listed period. It's list of wars.War in the Modern Great Power System - by Levy, Jack S. and a great selection of similar Used, New and Collectible Books available now at.War in the Modern Great Power System, By Jack S. Levy. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky. Pp. xiv + \$) - Volume 79 Issue 1.easydetoxspa.com: War in the Modern Great Power System, () by Jack S. Levy and a great selection of similar New, Used and .Review: International Theory: War in the Modern Great Power System, Show all authors. Harald von Riekhoff Harald von Riekhoff. Carleton.Levy is Proessor of Political Science, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey . Bibliographic information. QR code for War in the Modern Great Power.Get this from a library! War in the modern great power system, [Jack S Levy].Available in the National Library of Australia collection. Author: Levy, Jack S., ; Format: Book; xiv, p.: ill. ; 23 cm.

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