

Book Reviewer's Guide

ARMOR publishes book reviews on assignment only. If you would like to be considered as a potential reviewer, send a letter indicating your specific areas of interest to the editor at the address below.

ARMOR publishes reviews of books provided for that purpose by the publishers. The editor can normally offer no prior assurance as to whether or when a particular review will be published. The reviewer retains the book in any event, as well as receives two copies of the *ARMOR* issue in which your review appears.

The review's purpose is to inform readers of the publication of a book of professional interest, to briefly tell what the book is about, and to provide a concise evaluation of the book by a qualified observer.

Reviews should answer the following questions:

- What type of book is it (biography, anthology, history, monograph, etc.)?
- What does the book say?
- How authoritative is it?
- What are its special attractions, deficits, or other features? If it has flaws, point them out candidly.
- Is the book worthwhile and relevant to the Army community? If not, say so.

Reviews should be written with spirit and verve. Do not bore the reader.

As a reviewer, you should initially decide whether a book deserves a major review (300-400 words) or a shorter "pass in review" (150-200 words). You may even decide the book is poorly written or you feel it has no application for *ARMOR*'s audience. If so, please call or write the editor with your decision rationale.

Remember, an adverse review requires specifics. If you challenge the style, content, authority, or objectivity of a book, back it up with examples and facts. We insist on printing quality reviews, but this does not necessarily mean we print only laudatory ones. We have an obligation to warn readers about books that stir high expectations but promise more than they deliver.

The review should be typed, double-spaced (one side of sheet only), amply margined, and carefully edited. Reviews may be transmitted as electronic files by e-mail or on a floppy disk. Identify the operating system and the word processing program used. Do not submit original material by fax. Return the review within 45-60 days.

The editor reserves the right to edit and abridge reviews.

Include in the review heading the title, author, number of pages, publisher, date and price of the book. Also include your name and a brief credential or two establishing your authority to review the book. Sample heading:

The Long Walk by Slavomir Rawicz, The Lyons Press, Guilford, CT, 1997, 242 pages. \$14.95 (paperback).

To submit reviews or for more information contact:

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