

works that illustrate specific entries, an area where Earl's work is noticeably weaker. The inclusion of multiple examples is helpful for students needing to compare various depictions of an individual subject or theme. Instructors may find this useful as a quick reference for choosing images to display to classes.

For these reasons, public and secondary school libraries should consider this new choice more carefully for inclusion while academic libraries may opt for it as most appropriate for lower-division survey courses. Libraries with tight budgets should examine Gordon Campbell's *Renaissance Art and Architecture* (Oxford Univ. Pr., 2004) as a cheaper alternative with its \$55 list price. Libraries possessing *The Grove Dictionary of Art* (Oxford Univ. Pr., 1996), edited by Jane Turner, in either print or electronic version, will not need this dictionary to supplement unless a one-volume option focused specifically on Renaissance art is desired. Recommended for all public library collections and for academic and special libraries where a one-volume option for lower level college and high school students is needed.—Jennifer B. Stidham, *Public Services Librarian, Houston Community College—Northeast, Houston, Texas*

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***Inventors and Inventions.*** Ed. by Evelyn Ngeow. Tarrytown, New York: Marshall Cavendish, 2008. 5 vols. \$399.95 (ISBN 978-0-7614-7761-7).

Targeted at high school and young adult audiences, this work serves as a valuable resource for researching major inventors throughout history. The biographical entries are thorough without being daunting and include timelines highlighting major milestones in the lives of each inventor. Although the primary focus of this 5-volume set is on the inventor, a nice selection of graphics, pictures, and related readings about the inventions is included. Overview articles on twenty-one topics such as buildings and materials, computers, and young inventors provide valuable supplementary information.

The volumes have attractive, sturdy covers and will look inviting on the reference shelf. Page layouts are appealing and the appropriate mix of text, full-color pictures, and graphics will keep reader interest. Primary source photographs are used effectively along with supporting material and depictions of some inventions. For example, a full-color diagram explains how helicopters work and a graphical table illustrates the spread of nuclear weapons since the end of World War II.

This set does not focus on inventors' race or gender as previous titles have done, such as Raymond B. Webster's *African American Firsts in Science & Technology* (Gale, 1999) or Ethlie Ann Vare and Greg Ptacek's *Mothers of Invention: From the Bra to the Bomb, Forgotten Women and Their Unforgettable Ideas* (Quill, 1989). Libraries already owning *The Grolier Library of Science Biographies* (1996) or *UXI's Scientists: The Lives and Works of 150 Scientists* (1996) will find *Inventors and Inventions* to be a more focused resource. The most comparable work found in public or school libraries is likely *Grolier's Inventions & Inventors* (2000) ten-volume set. The *Grolier's*

work focuses more on the invention and breaks each volume into a main subject area, while this new set is alphabetized by the inventor's last name.

A valuable tool for librarians, teachers, and students will be the indexes included in the set. Inventor names and inventions, as well as broader terms with subheadings to help readers narrow their focus, are included in each volume's index. The three indexes in volume 5 ("Name Index," "Inventions Index," and "Comprehensive Index") are extremely detailed and complete. In addition to using the indexes, readers may find the "Thematic Outline of Contents" in volume 1 useful as they work to narrow their research to an inventor in a topic area such as "Entertainment" or "Household Inventions."

As with any source covering a large theme, one can identify missing entries. Regardless, the overall work is detailed and informative and will meet the needs of most middle and high school students. Recommended for public libraries as well as middle and high school libraries.—Pam Sukalski, *Distance Learning Librarian, Minnesota West Community & Technical College, Granite Falls, Minnesota*

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***The Korean War: An Exhaustive Chronology.*** Bud Hannings. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 2007. 3 vols. alkaline \$245 (ISBN 978-0-7864-2814-4).

Author Bud Hannings's objective with this work is "to provide a detailed account of the combat actions of the Korean war" and to show "an accurate and factual depiction of the everyday occurrences from the minor engagements to the major battles that were fought by ground, air and naval forces" (3). The author, who manages a U.S. military history publishing company, presents a meticulously constructed record of the fighting in the "Forgotten War."

Hannings's chronology commences in January 1950 and ends on September 6, 1953. The majority of the text is dedicated to the activities of American forces along with coverage of South Korean, North Korean, Chinese, and United Nations forces. The account for each date ranges from a few sentences (for example, a brief statement indicating the change of a military unit's location), to several pages describing a major battle ("The Invasion of South Korea"). The chronology is complemented with useful supplementary features including an essay outlining the lead up to the war, sixteen appendixes, a bibliography, two indexes, and almost five hundred black-and-white photographs and maps.

The major strength of Hannings's work is that it provides readers with a vivid and in-depth view of combat. For example, each day's log is typically subdivided by specific geographic locations in South Korea ("Southwest Pusan perimeter") or in other parts of the world ("In Japan"), or the position of a military unit ("In the X Corps area"). Furthermore, entries are packed with information such as the specific time of an event, precise names, and numbers of weapons used in military actions, and the number of resulting casualties. Finally, Hannings's language is highly effective in creating stark images of the various battles: "blackened skies are illuminated