

research need, and patrons seeking information about Native American artists, political leaders and activists, religious leaders, or writers will need to consult field-specific reference sources. Offering biographical sketches of some two dozen people not profiled elsewhere, and updating the life stories of contemporary or recently deceased Native Americans, *Native Americans Today: A Biographical Dictionary* is an optional purchase for secondary school and public library reference collections.—*J. Christina Smith, Anthropology and Sociology Bibliographer, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts*

September 11 in Popular Culture: A Guide. Ed. by Sara E. Quay and Amy M. Damico, Santa Barbara, Calif., Greenwood, 2010. 319 p. Acid free. \$85 (ISBN 978-0-313-035505-9). E-book available (978-0-313-35506-6), call for pricing.

As we approach the tenth anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attack on the United States, we can anticipate a flood of publications coming to examine every aspect of that terrible event and its ubiquitous repercussions. This reference guide is an early exemplar and covers the attack's effects on American popular culture during the past decade.

The book is divided into seven chapters: "Every Day Life" (covering topics like religion, nesting, and heroes), "News and Information" (via various media), "Books" (including fiction, nonfiction, and comic books), "Television" (covering trends, programming changes, and special episodes), "Film" (covering changes in release dates and scene deletions as well as pertinent movies), "Music" (including songs, albums, and benefit concerts), and "Visual Culture" (covering posters, memorials, and exhibits). Each chapter then has three parts: an introductory overview essay, relevant sidebars, and a series of spotlight essays on particular works, events, or topics. Each part lists its own references.

As befits a work on pop culture, the topics addressed in the narrow-bore spotlight essays range from the banal ("Comfort Foods," "Women's Magazines," and "Postcards") to significant works from serious artists in books, film, music, and television. Although not overtly political, the viewpoint of the writers tends leftward to the extent that we get complaints in an essay about newspaper headlines that overly belligerent headlines helped construct an atmosphere inhospitable to further dialogue with the perpetrators of the tragic events. Also, in an essay about hate crimes against Muslims, we are presented with statistics from the Council on American-Islamic Relations without any qualification of how some researchers have found CAIR's work extremely dubious. In the introductory chapter on film, the writer takes at face value the fact that war-oriented films did not perform well at the box office without considering that perhaps the anti-American, anti-military bent in films like *Redacted* and *Lions for Lambs* had something to do with the American public's rejection of such tin-eared products. In fact, this work devotes more attention to the opinions and works of September 11 truther conspiracy theorists than those of conservatives.

Still, this volume is engagingly written and broadly outlines how the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and their aftermath have strongly influenced all aspects of American popular culture over both the short and long term. Whether the book belongs in the reference collection is debatable because it seems more like a book that should circulate, but it emphatically does merit a place in the general collection. Recommended for all types of libraries.—*John Maxymuk, Rutgers University, Camden, New Jersey*

Space Exploration and Humanity: A Historical Encyclopedia. Ed. by Stephen B. Johnson. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 2010. 2 vols. acid free \$180 (ISBN 978-1-85109-514-8). E-book available (978-1-85109-519-3), call for pricing.

Begun in 2002 as a part of a project undertaken by the History Committee of the American Astronautical Society (AAS), this two-volume set offers articles by more than one hundred contributors under the general editorship of Stephen B. Johnson of the National Institute for Space, Science, and Security Centers at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center. Intended to serve as the "first comprehensive space history encyclopedia," the team of space historian-authors collectively describe how man's involvement in space has evolved during the last half-century.

Coverage spans six broad areas, including astrophysics and planetary science, civilian and commercial space applications, human spaceflight and microgravity science, military applications, space and society, and space technology and engineering. Each of these broad areas is introduced by a section editor with an overview essay intended to provide students with a range of themes and topics in that area of space history worthy of consideration as a research paper topic. There's a well thought out logic to the work, as within each broad area is a timeline and a logical progression of subsections that serve as a chronological outline of the history of the broad area of space exploration discussed.

Aimed at a target audience of high school seniors and college undergraduates writing a paper on a history topic, entries are alphabetically arranged within the previously described topical hierarchy, and each is typically four to several paragraphs in length, signed, and includes "see also" references and a one-to-three item bibliography intended to steer readers to additional information. While the presentation density of the text will likely intimidate high school students, readers will appreciate efforts by the editors to break up and supplement the narrative with hundreds of black-and-white photographs and illustrations, scores of tables with statistical data and lists (of satellites and other spacecraft, instruments, etc.), and a helpful list of acronyms and glossary. Both the table of contents and the eighty-page subject index (with main entries indicated in bold print) appear in each of the two volumes.

There are notable differences in the manner in which this set is presented. For example, because, as the editors point