

## SOURCES

encompasses numerous topics beyond military history in the narrow sense. Strategic and geopolitical aspects are well covered, and the articles focusing on individuals treat governmental and political leaders as well as military leaders. Considerable emphasis is placed on cultural factors—both within the Russian/Soviet military and more generally—and how these help to explain the strengths and weaknesses in the armed services that have persisted over time. This is all explained very well in the lengthy forward by Bruce Menning, whose erudite discussion of the main themes lends great insight to readers seeking context for topics of interest. The broad subject coverage cited above does not unduly sacrifice depth, since although the articles are not lengthy, they manage to convey the most important material while referring those who want more information to the bibliography and further-reading lists.

This reviewer could locate no comparable works. Ray Bonds' *The Soviet War Machine: An Encyclopedia of Russian Military Equipment and Strategy* (Hamlyn, 1977) is a one-volume, heavily illustrated encyclopedia that, although it does have accompanying explanatory text, mostly focuses on detailed description of hardware and equipment. A very similar work (having some overlapping content with the Bonds title) is Stewart Menauo's *The Illustrated Encyclopedia of the Strategy, Tactics, and Weapons of Russian Military Power* (St. Martin's, 1980). Both are just short of 250 pages. Beyond being badly outdated, the cultural, historical, and political aspects covered in the Dowling work are only treated in passing. A much more ambitious reference work is found in David R. Jones' *The Military-Naval Encyclopedia of Russia and the Soviet Union* (Academic International, 1978–). Its eight volumes feature extensive, in-depth articles, some of which are more than one hundred pages. It is thus deeper but narrower in scope compared to Dowling. Unfortunately, despite taking twenty years (1978–98) to complete the volumes published thus far, no additional volumes seem to have come out since 1998, and that eighth volume had not yet completed the “A” alphabetic entries.

*Russia at War* sets an example for other publishers and editors to emulate. Strongly recommended for all libraries.—Michael L. Nelson, *Collection Development Librarian, University of Wyoming Libraries, Laramie, Wyoming*

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***Sweet Treats around the World: An Encyclopedia of Food and Culture.*** By Timothy G. Roufs and Kathleen S. Roufs. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2014. 623 pages. Acid free. \$100 (ISBN: 978-1-61069-220-5). Ebook available (978-1-61069-221-2).

What do Torments of Love, Lady's Upper Arms, Sigh of a Lima Woman, and Little Spiders have in common? They are all sweet treats featured in this encyclopedia authored by the Roufs. Timothy Roufs is a cultural anthropologist who teaches food-related courses at the University of Minnesota, Duluth while Kathleen Roufs is emeritus director of advising and retention at the same university. The preface states

that the volume “explores this myriad feast of sweets with an emphasis on an anthropological approach that focuses on foods in a holistic, historical, and comparative manner” (xix). The introduction goes into detail about humans' love for sugar, fat, and salt. The types of sugar are described such as fructose, sucrose, and glucose as well as artificial sweeteners such as aspartame and saccharin. The authors outline the history of sugar sources from chocolate to sugarcane to honey. The introduction ends with the prospect of creating sweet treats with a 3-D printer filled with cartridges of marzipan, chocolate, and other pastes.

The book starts out with a list of entries of countries in alphabetical order. Many countries are grouped together by region. For example, Southeast Asia includes Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam while the Horn of Africa is made up of Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia. After the entries comes an index of recipes for sample sweets from each country or region.

The articles are arranged alphabetically from “Afghanistan” to “West Africa” and range in length from a few paragraphs to several pages. The articles all start with a very brief introduction to the history and facts of the country and end with a list of further readings. The first line to the entry on “Switzerland” is “Milk, Chocolate, Swiss.” The Swiss consume about half of what they produce in chocolate. The word sugar comes from the Indian Sanskrit *sarkara*, meaning gravel or sand. Dates, figs, honey, and nuts are important in Middle Eastern cultures. Fresh fruit is the dessert of choice in most of Africa. Some countries only eat sweets for religious holidays. There is a Thai Dessert Museum in central Thailand that chronicles the seven-hundred-year history of sweet stuff. The reader's mouth will be watering as sweet after sweet is described.

The listing of readings includes articles, books, and websites. Within articles are insets of photographs with captions or terms with definitions. The authors were not able to go into depth about sweets in each country but do a nice job of giving the reader a taste of each country's cultural food.

There are more than two hundred recipes at the end of the volume, followed by an extensive index. A fun read that is appropriate for public libraries and those libraries with food-related collections.—Stacey Marien, *Acquisitions Librarian, American University, Washington, DC*

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***Women's Rights in the United States: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Issues, Events, and People.*** Edited by Tiffany K. Wayne. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2015. 4 vols. Acid free \$415 (ISBN: 978-1-61069-214-4). Ebook available (978-1-61069-215-1), call for pricing.

I have found *Women's Rights in the United States: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Issues, Events, and People* to be a well-organized, comprehensive, and useful resource. Since Ursuline College is a women-focused institution, the library tends to keep an eye trained on titles on topics like women's rights. Our reference collection includes multiple resources on