

ning stage. The Air Force estimated that an enemy could attack nearly any point of the whole coastline and U. S. forces were held in reserve for the security of northeastern Brazil in case of possible invasion. Dangerous lags in the Panama defense were not solved until 1943 and the Battle of the Atlantic with German submarines during 1942 (particularly intense off British Guiana) endangered the whole Atlantic strategy which aimed at fighting the war near the homeland of the enemy.

After a valuable survey of Army Air Force infancy from World War I until 1939, the bulk of this volume is a detailed narrative history of the Air Force through a little more than three and a half years from January, 1939 to August, 1942. The pre-war period was one of planning, expansion, and competition with the other armed services. The early war period was one of accelerated expansion and discouragingly few tactical successes. Pearl Harbor, the Philippines campaign, the East Indies, Coral Sea, Midway, and the Battle of the Atlantic all found the Air Force in insufficient strength; and the A.A.F. was unable to prove, save by examples of enemy successes, that air power could be decisive. The volume ends with the first small aerial offensive launched against Germany from Britain in August 1942, less than a year after Pearl Harbor. The Army Air Force was firmly convinced of the value of strategic bombing and this offensive was in line with a carefully conceived strategic concept mapped out in the middle of 1941. The authors are to be commended for maintaining high standards of scholarship and not using this volume to support any protagonist.

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Who's Who in Latin America. Part VI, Brazil. Edited by RONALD HILTON. (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1948. Pp. xix, 269. \$3.50.)

Issuance of this invaluable guide in parts tends to cut down the gap between the date of collection of the material and the date of publication, with consequent increase in useful up-to-dateness. Inevitably, there are some omissions, but editor and publisher deserve praise and thanks. Foreword by Ambassador Carlos Martins; short biographical sketches of Percy Martin, by Gilberto Freyre, and John Casper Branner, by Francisco Venâncio Filho.

A. M.

Most of the World: The Peoples of Africa, Latin America, and the East Today. Edited by RALPH LINTON. (New York: Columbia University Press, 1949. Pp. 917. \$5.50.)

Most of the world in area, population, resources and in political and technological potentiality is not encompassed within the immediate