

well-known irascibility, and prefers to dwell on the foibles of Bernardo O'Higgins and José de San Martín. Although the author's character assessments miss their mark, he is probably right that Cochrane's strategy was better suited to victory than that of San Martín.

Is de Avila also correct in concluding that Chile could have established itself as a major Pacific seapower? Notably absent from this well-documented volume is a discussion of British diplomacy and seapower. By contrast in an earlier study, *Sea Power and Chilean Independence*, Donald E. Worcester emphasized that the Chilean destruction of Spanish shipping enjoyed British collaboration. De Avila also misjudges the relationship between a navy and merchant marine, suggesting that the former can produce the latter, whereas usually the process is the reverse. Since Chile had a meager merchant marine from which to build a navy, a large percentage of naval officers and crews were ex-Napoleonic war veterans who sailed only as long as there were prizes to capture or salaries to receive. The question of finances represents the weakest part of de Avila's argument. O'Higgins and his successors allowed the navy to languish because the nation's resources were exhausted. The government mortgaged customs revenues, cut salaries, and demanded loans, but still it defaulted on obligations. Had Cochrane remained in the country, the Chilean navy would just as surely have succumbed to the financial crisis. The admiral was a great maritime leader, but he had neither the political nor the economic skills to overcome Chilean domestic problems of the 1820s and their repercussions on the armed forces.

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Bolívar: A Continent and Its Destiny. By J. L. SALCEDO-BASTARDO. Translated and edited by ANNELLA MCDERMOTT. Surrey, England, 1977. The Richmond Publishing Co. Maps. Illustrations. Glossary. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xv, 191. Cloth. \$6.25.

Bolívar: Genio, constitución, carácter. By MAURO TORRES. 2d ed. Bogotá, 1979. Ediciones Tercer Mundo. Bibliography. Pp. 235. Paper.

These latest additions to "Bolivariana" reflect the diverse contemporary interest in and use of Simón Bolívar and his career. Following his studies of Erich Fromm and Sigmund Freud, Mauro Torres turns the tools of biography and psychoanalysis upon the Liberator. Salcedo-Bastardo, issuing a call for a new consciousness and a final liberating revolution for Latin America, presents Bolívar as the true revolutionary, an

authentic guide for a new order. Both are challenging interpretations, but fail to contribute anything new to our understanding of the central figure of the Latin American revolutions.

In this updating of his *Perspectiva psicoanalítica de Simón Bolívar* (1968), Torres focuses upon two salient characteristics of Bolívar's personality: his hyperactivity and his genius. Torres finds hereditary evidence for the hyperactivity in the personality of the Liberator's father, Juan Vicente Bolívar. This need for action and challenge is channeled into a military and political career as a result of two critical events: the death of Bolívar's wife which liberated him from the normal social constraints of family and society; and the disillusionment with Miranda, which freed Bolívar from the lure of hero worship and brought him to the conviction that he must play the central and directing role in the events of his time. This led Bolívar to conclude that glory and a historical stature were his true goals. Wealth and power became secondary and incidental attributes. Freed from these restrictions Bolívar's genius emerged, which Torres concedes as a unique phenomenon of vision and ability, but constrained within the bounds of warfare. He concludes that Bolívar was a victor, a warrior who thrived on the demands for quick action and the transformation of events, but was incapable of accepting the erratic and hesitant pace of building a lasting political order.

By contrast, Salcedo-Bastardo argues that the ideas of the Liberator formed a true revolutionary program. Reviewing the colonial heritage, Salcedo concludes that an authentic rebelliousness against injustice and inequality had reached a revolutionary maturity as Bolívar entered the scene. Content with a textbook review of Bolívar's life, the author concentrates upon the ideology of the Liberator.

Discussing the issues of sovereignty, centralism, agrarian reform, slavery, Latin American unity, and freedom, Salcedo tries to piece together an intellectual profile of Bolívar as a true radical. His argument is unconvincing and contradictory. He extols Bolívar as a believer in a true participatory democracy rather than simply a representative one and yet he concedes that Bolívar felt that some matters must not be exposed to the uncertainties of elections. He hails Bolívar as a true pacifist but admits that the Liberator used war as a means to his ends and reached the stage of viewing the army as the principal guarantor of peace. Salcedo concludes that by the end of Bolívar's life the division of society was a sharp contrast of "Bolívar and the people" against the caudillos and oligarchs.

Both studies beg the question of Bolívar's relationship to the intellectual climate of the times. Torres explores the genius of the Liberator in terms of an environment of war and the conquest of glory, but avoids

any discussion of how this intellect dealt with the issues and ideas of the day. Salcedo decries the use of Bolívar as symbol by the conservatives, but in his attempt to capture the Liberator for the cause of the left, he remains superficial and polemical.

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El gobierno español del despotismo ilustrado ante la independencia de los Estados Unidos de América: Una nueva estructura de la política internacional, 1773–1783. By MARÍA PILAR RUIGÓMEZ DE HERNÁNDEZ. Madrid, 1978. Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores. Notes. Bibliography. Pp. 338. Cloth.

La independencia de los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica: A través de la prensa española. Edited by LUÍS ANGEL GARCÍA MELERO. Madrid, 1977. Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores. Notes. Pp. 299. Cloth.

These two studies were published in the Spanish monograph series devoted to various aspects of the independence of the United States. The series was prompted by a desire on the part of Spanish scholars to help the United States celebrate the bicentennial. Many, perhaps all, of the volumes in this series are doctoral dissertations designed to further the study of the independence movement and the post-independence period largely from Spanish sources and were written under the direction of eminent *catedráticos* at the Spanish universities.

The volume by Luís Angel García Melero viewed the independence movement in the British colonies of North America, 1763–1776, through the Spanish press. He confined his survey to the *Gaceta de Madrid* and the *Mercurio Histórico y Político* because they were the best and the most continuous of the eighteenth-century Spanish newspapers. He recognized that the press was closely controlled and censored by the royal government. Thus, coverage of the events leading to the Declaration of Independence was often limited for fear of the effect it would have upon the Spanish New World colonies. The principal topics covered were: the peace following the Treaty of 1763, Pontiac's conspiracy, the Sugar, Stamp, and Townshend Acts, the Boston Tea Party, and the Declaration of Independence. Quotations from the two newspapers are connected by commentary intended to provide continuity and some explanation of the events. Little or no effort is made to provide any interpretation or to draw any conclusions from the press coverage. There is a table of contents but no bibliography or index.