

Republic (1891–1930) as a period of racial inclusion, during which elites outlawed racial discrimination, celebrated African culture, and proclaimed an image of Brazil as a racial democracy (pp. 164–67).

This is simply incorrect. Far from celebrating African culture and racial democracy, the Republican state warred on the former and trumpeted doctrines of white supremacy not greatly different from those espoused in the United States and South Africa. The reasons why Brazil did not resort to racial segregation are to be found not in a powerful central state, but rather in the interactions between a political and social history that Marx does not seriously engage.

Finally, by constructing this three-way comparison, Marx seems to imply that the United States and South Africa represent a historical norm, with Brazil the exception. But even passing attention to the history of European imperialism elsewhere in the Americas, Africa, and Asia immediately shows the opposite: that in its lack of formal racial strictures, Brazil is much closer to world historical experience, while the United States and South Africa are the outliers. Marx does explain those exceptional cases reasonably well (though again, that explanation can already be found in the work of previous scholars), but contributes little toward an understanding of cases in which segregation did not occur. Why then is this book being hailed (to judge by the blurbs on its cover) as a theoretical breakthrough?

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The Mexican War Correspondence of Richard Smith Elliott.

Edited and annotated by MARK L. GARDNER and MARC SIMMONS. The American Exploration and Travel Series. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1997. Photographs. Illustrations. Maps. Notes. Bibliography. Index. xi, 292 pp. Cloth, \$29.95.

Timed with the sesquicentennial hoopla, Mark L. Gardner and Marc Simmons provide primary sources for the mill of commemorative historical reassessment of the Mexican War. In this book they gather and edit the letters of Lieutenant Richard Smith Elliott, a Missouri volunteer who doubled up as a war correspondent for the *St. Louis Reveille*. Elliott's war reports cover familiar ground: the gathering of volunteer and regular forces at Fort Leavenworth; the swift movement along the Santa Fe Trail; and the "peaceful" occupation of New Mexico, where Elliott would remain for the remainder of his one-year enlistment. If the truth be said, Elliott had little luck as a war correspondent. As the editors are quick to point out, he did not take part in any battle except for one minor skirmish toward the end of his tour of duty. Moreover, due to illness Elliott missed the only violent episode that took place in New Mexico during the entire war: the anti-American rebellions that erupted at the end of 1846 and early 1847 and the anti-insurgency operations that ensued. No wonder that we often find this 30-year-old lieutenant complaining about the dullness of life or convalescing in rather peaceful locales.

But herein lies the strength of Elliott's narrative. Rather than offering tales of adventure against the backdrop of exotic and ever-changing peoples and places, Elliott stayed long enough to develop an understanding of the community around him. While he naturally tended to live inside the Anglo-American cocoon in and around Santa Fe, he was quite observant and able to convey the atmosphere of the territorial capital as the fate of the entire region was being decided on faraway battlefields. An eerie calmness punctuated by rumors and bursts of apprehension was the setting in which Anglo-Americans and *nuevomexicanos* tried to come to terms with one another. Elliott's letters are somewhat spotty for the early phase of the military occupation of New Mexico. Indeed, in this section the editors are forced to interject extracts from Elliott's memoir published decades later to fill the gap. But Elliott is at his journalistic best in the months following the takeover as he describes theater performances, courtship rituals, food and beverages, secret societies, and the eccentricities of some of New Mexico's leading characters, including the famed Gertrudis Barceló, gambling queen extraordinaire. With an eloquent style peppered with Shakespeare quotes, the Missouri volunteer also revealed some moments of intense introspection and chronicled the gradual transformation of the army of occupation as the months of inactivity multiplied the gambling "hells" and undermined discipline, rendering it dangerously ineffective. The last pages of the book contain sketches of the campaign that Elliott wrote after his return to St. Louis in July of 1847. While less valuable as testimonial evidence, the sketches nevertheless show the richness of wartime lore and folklore. Elliott's letters are much enhanced by the editors' informative and sometimes extensive endnotes that place Elliott's assertions in context and provide relevant biographical data. The book is well illustrated and constitutes a most welcome addition to the growing body of primary sources pertaining to the Mexican War and to New Mexico's history in the first half of the nineteenth century.

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Nationalsozialismus in Lateinamerika: die Auslandsorganisation der NSDAP in Argentinien, Brasilien, Chile und Mexiko, 1931–1945. By JÜRGEN MÜLLER. *Historamerican*, vol. 3. Stuttgart: Verlag Hans-Dieter Heinz, Akademischer Verlag Stuttgart, 1997. Illustrations. Tables. Notes. Bibliography. 567 pp. Cloth.

Prodigious archival research in Latin America and Germany provides the underpinnings for this meticulous study of the attempt by the Auslandsorganisation (Foreign Organization, hereafter AO) of the Nazi party to gain a foothold in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Mexico. Much new information forms the solid substratum upon which this impressive monograph is based.

In this richly detailed narrative, Müller traces out the development of the AO from its inception in Hamburg in 1930 to the end of the Third Reich. He provides us with a clear picture of the AO and the role played by Adolf Hitler and his paladins, notably, Rudolf Hess, Josef Goebbels, Otto Strasser, and Heinrich Himmler. The careers of