

BOOKS AND REVIEWS

SYDNEY D. BAILEY: HOW WARS END¹

In his work entitled "How Wars End", Mr. Sydney D. Bailey, a student of political science and an acknowledged expert on "crisis diplomacy", has undertaken a systematic and ambitious analysis of the conclusion of conflicts; the result is worthy of attention on more than one score. Indeed, there are few studies on war based on law, politics or mass psychology that cast more than a cursory glance at the mechanisms by which hostilities are brought to end, or at volatile crisis situations that stabilize in stalemate, or are resolved.

The principal merit of Mr. Bailey's work lies in its discussion of the subject matter in the context of all the pertinent facts, and its explanation of the different aspects of the international factors that come into play as a crisis unfolds and is resolved.

The work consists of two volumes, the second of which examines several crises that arose between 1947 and 1964: the two Indonesian crises (1947 and 1949), Kashmir (1949), two in Palestine (1949), Korea (1954), Sinai/Suez (1956-1957) and Cyprus (1964). The first volume is a successful endeavour to give a systematic account of the procedure used by the international community to resolve these crises.

Also worthy of note is the attention the author gives to the humanitarian elements in crises resolution. Chapter 5 of the first volume is particularly devoted to this subject, but throughout the work, ICRC publications and the Geneva Conventions are extensively quoted. Chapter 6 contains a catalogue of recurring problems in the crises studied, which the author attempted to draw up for the benefit of future negotiators whose desire is to re-establish peace. Finally, the detailed study of multilateral diplomacy within the context of the United Nations Security Council is rich in information on this topic and gives a complete picture of its possibilities and limits.

¹ Sydney D. Bailey: *How Wars End—The United Nations and the termination of armed conflicts, 1946-1964*. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1982, 2 vols. 418 and 744 pages. In English only.

Although literally a quite weighty tome, the thousand odd pages of Mr. Bailey's work are enthralling and informative reading. A lengthy bibliography and the references to international documents serve to increase their value.

The International Red Cross, and the ICRC in particular, as international institutions increasingly involved in crisis resolution, should encourage further exploration of the possibilities brought to light by Mr. Bailey's study.

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