

sion of Hindi as its successor, and the growing emergence of separatist, regional elite groups whose horizon and national cohesion will, in his judgment, be increasingly limited as time goes on. This divisiveness is enhanced by the fact that in the matrix of the old Hindu caste system (which the secularists hoped to wear down) vigorous regional-linguistic caste alignments arise and already have come to wield great power. The argument culminates in a searching examination of the role of the Indian Communist Party which is shown to thrive on the expert manipulation of these divisive factors. It is ironical that not only the ruling Congress Party, but the Communist Party itself, is hampered and riven by the internal working of these forces. While for the present the old remaining national leadership can secure unity, Harrison foresees the possibility of some future authoritarian adventure, as a desperate effort to save the union against the onslaught of separatist forces. There is, of course, the possibility that the tempo of linguistic disintegration will slow down or that external pressures (China) will foster a sense of national unity in leaders and masses. Harrison has contributed a penetrating, truly important study of problems far transcending the fate of the Indian Union itself.

Ritner's *Death of Africa* in a very real sense speaks for itself. He is fascinated by what he regards as the virtually unavoidable advent in Africa of "a historical monstrosity whose whole future is mortgaged to its deformities." He sees in the rapid disintegration of African society a source of coming disasters—social, economic, and political, which partial measures and correctives can do nothing to stem. Only truly massive American support measures can help. This will require a broad reorientation of American economic and foreign policy. To buttress his contention, Ritner takes the general reader on a well-directed guided tour through the principal areas of Africa south of the Sahara. The objectivity of his account is indeed somewhat "adulterated" by his "passionate convictions." But he has something to say, and he tells it with a dramatic force that cannot leave us indifferent. This is a striking and significant brief for a policy change. It deserves an audience.

WOLFGANG H. KRAUS

*School of Government,  
George Washington University*

**Tribes of the Sahara.** Lloyd Cabot Briggs. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1960. xx + 295 pp. Illus. \$6.

"There has been more pure balderdash written and repeated about the tribes of the Sahara," begins Cabot Briggs's preface, "than about almost any other peoples in the world." No truer words were ever written. The ignorance of most authors, though not their flights of imagination, about the tribes of the Sahara can be excused on the grounds that hitherto there has been no authoritative work in English to which they could turn; and although French literature covers most aspects of human life in the Sahara, that literature is mainly composed of scholarly monographs unsuitable for the general reader. At last we have an over-all picture in our own language, and one which places the French, no less than the English-speaking peoples, under an obligation to its distinguished author, whose polished prose equals his erudition.

The opening chapter is a valuable essay on the geographical factors which impose so narrow and sensitive a margin between life and death on man in the Sahara. In the following chapter the author brings to life the prehistory of the desert in a way that no other writer has approached. But in so doing he is, as indeed throughout the book, at pains to emphasize the limits of our knowledge. He never allows himself the mildest conjecture. This exceptional chapter concludes with a masterly summary of recorded history which for brevity, adequacy, and clarity is quite outstanding.

Cabot Briggs devotes a chapter to each of the main groups of Saharan tribes, in every case selecting for close study a typical member of each group. The Tuareg are represented by the Ahaggar, the Teda by those in the Tibesti, the nomadic Arabs by the Chaamba, and the Moors by the Ouled Tidrarin of the Spanish Sahara. Cabot Briggs protests that his account of the Ahaggar is "full of gaping holes," but it should fully satisfy most of his readers. In his account of the Teda, of whom we know so little, he stirs the imagination by pointing out that the far-distant "Tomb of Tin Hanan" is Teda in character. His accounts of the Chaamba's adoption of shopkeeping as an alternative to raiding and of how the still half-tamed Moors have been known to raid 1500 miles afield and to

take 8 months for such raids, make enthralling reading.

Earlier in the book we have chapters on the sedentary tribes and on the hunters and food gatherers, which include revealing sketches of the residual peoples of the Sahara, the tiny obscure tribes whose survival never fails to astonish. Those who have seen, from the security of a ship, the forbidding shore of Cape Bojador can scarcely fail to wonder how Gil Eannes, one of Prince Henry's captains, came to find footprints of men and camels on so desolate a spot. After reading Cabot Briggs, I cannot doubt that the owners of the footprints were the Imraguen, the queer nomadic fishermen who haunt this coast. This discovery is but a small part of my debt to this admirable book. Another is added respect for what the French have done in policing and cherishing these hordes of predatory nomads. There could be no better judge of this than the author.

Finally, a word of praise for the publishers. Excellent type, wide margins, and good maps and illustrations combine to achieve the same high standard as that set by the author. May this book be as widely read as it deserves, and the flood of balderdash be stemmed.

E. W. BOVILL

*Little Laver Hall, Harlow, England*

**The Professional Soldier.** A social and political portrait. Morris Janowitz. Free Press, Glencoe, Ill., 1960. xiv + 464 pp. \$6.75.

Serious inquiry has finally been made into the private life span of the professional military leader as a member of a group. This inquiry has not left a cold, heroic piece of statuary or the memory of an adventuring opportunist to symbolize the type of person to whom we entrust our national security. Instead, it has portrayed a dynamic human figure, continuously in transit from one situation to another, motivated, in the main, by rather altruistic objectives.

While you could not get any one of our officers to agree with all of Janowitz' findings and conclusions, yet the great majority of these officers will admire the depth of inquiry of his study. The *esprit de corps* of each service will generate objections to certain things, ranging from the title of the book itself to what appears, at first, to be