

RECENT BOOKS

Friedman, Norman, ed. *U.S. Destroyers: An Illustrated Design History*. Annapolis, Md.: Naval Institute Press, 2004. 552pp. \$76.50

U.S. Destroyers is a robust technical and historical reference documenting the birth and development of the U.S. Navy destroyer and its influences from abroad and within design bureaus and boards. Evolution of engineering, weaponry, and hull form are covered with a continuity that lends to an understanding of progressive improvements between successive classes of destroyers. Illustration is ample and detailed; in many cases equipment is circled in photographs and specifically identified. Appendices document the specifications of each class of destroyer as well as the date upon which each keel was laid and when each ship was launched, commissioned, decommissioned, and what the ship's final disposition was, from DD 1 to DD 997. From the spar torpedo that sank Confederate ironclad CSS *Albatross* in October 1864, the founding of the Navy Torpedo Station, Newport, Rhode Island, in 1869, to the DD(X) and "Arsenal Ship" concepts of

the twenty-first century, this book serves as a detailed and evenly balanced technical reference.



Tenney, W. J. *The Military and Naval History of the Rebellion in the United States: With Biographical Sketches of Deceased Officers*. New York: D. Appleton, 1866; repr. Mechanicsburg, Penna.: Stackpole Books, 2003. 880pp. \$39.95

Nonspecialists in U.S. Civil War history may be surprised to learn of the existence of the 1866 *Military and Naval History of the Rebellion* (not to be confused with the foundational *Official Records*), reissued in facsimile format by Scarecrow. The work has the defects of histories rushed to print so quickly, but it also has their merits—the memories of surviving commanders were fresh, and Tenney submitted proofs for approval to many of them. His book also offers a broad range of political, logistic, medical, and social issues, as well as a wealth of primary sources (reports and correspondence), engravings, photographs, tables, and biographies.