stronger policies than did civilians, as in Vietnam after 1965. For better or worse, "military advice," says Betts, "has been most persuasive [to Presidents] as a veto of the use of force and least potent when it favored force."

Contemporary Affairs

THE JEWS
by Chaim Bermant
Times Books, 1977
278 pp. $12.50
L of C 77-79020
ISBN 0-8129-0705-1

"It's good to be a Jew, which is a somewhat un-Jewish thing to say, for Jews are rather more accustomed to hugging their wounds than counting their blessings." So begins this perceptive book by Bermant, a Glasgow Rabbinical College graduate, novelist, and historian. He believes that Sigmund Freud and the revolutionary Marxist Rosa Luxemburg exemplify "the inherited Jewish capacity to stand their ground in the face of all opposition." Others (the Rothschilds, Marc Chagall, Sandy Koufax, Leon Trotsky, Fanny Brice) reveal such traits of the Jewish psyche as a mixture of pride and diffidence stemming from the idea of God's Chosen; studiousness; a near-obsession with health; a strong propensity for charity; and "a pronounced sense of guilt." In Bermant's view, there is less anti-Semitism in the world today than ever before, but he sees American Jewry in the '70s as "waiting for the backlash." The psychological effects of the Holocaust linger on: "To have one's existence made a capital offense," he writes, "is not a fact which can fade quickly from the memory."

ARAB POLITICS: The Search for Legitimacy
by Michael C. Hudson
Yale, 1977, 434 pp. $22.50
L of C 77-75379
ISBN O-300-02043-0

It makes sense to treat Arab politics as a whole. This attempt, the first in English to discuss in one book each of the 18 Arab states plus the stateless Palestinians, deserves praise despite its flaws. Hudson, director of the Center for Arab Studies at Georgetown University, examines the elements of Arab identity, the treatment of religions and ethnic minorities, the legacies of imperialism, and modernization. He finds throughout the Arab world an inability to open political participation to enough of the people to build needed