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## NEW TITLES

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### History

**LAFAYETTE IN THE  
AGE OF THE AMERICAN  
REVOLUTION: Selected  
Letters and Papers  
Vol. 1: 1776-1790**  
edited by Stanley J.  
Idzerda et al.  
Cornell, 1977,  
487 pp. \$18.50  
L of C 76-50268  
ISBN 0-8014-1031-2

London, March 9, 1777

*You will be astonished, my dear Papa, by what I am about to tell you; it has been more painful than I can say not to have consulted you. . . . I have found a unique opportunity to distinguish myself, and to learn my profession. I am a general officer in the army of the United States of America.*

Thus Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette, informed his father, the Duc d'Ayen, that he had joined up—with the American Revolution. Shortly afterward, Lafayette sailed aboard his own ship to Charleston, whence he traveled on to Brandywine, Valley Forge, privations, victory, and glory. The translation of this letter (with a reproduction of the blotted French original) is one of many items in a sizable correspondence—with his family, friends, brother officers, and the Continental Congress at Philadelphia—included in the first of six planned volumes funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (WQ, Autumn 1976). Lafayette wrote letters as tirelessly as he soldiered.

**STALAG: U.S.A.**  
by Judith M. Gansberg  
Crowell, 1977, 234 pp. \$9.95  
L of C 76-51407  
ISBN 0-690-01223-3

Here we have the story, long untold, of 372,000 German prisoners of war held in 44 camps in the United States during World War II. Because the POWs came under the terms of the Geneva Convention, their captors at first eschewed any interference in their political activities. However, in late 1943, reports of atrocities inside the camps prompted the War Department to begin segregating the ardent Nazis. In 1944, the Prisoners of War Special Projects Division was created to change the political attitudes of as many POWs as possible. This re-education program (top secret until May 1945) survived the persistent anti-Semitism of some prisoners, an uproar in the War Department over alleged Communist