
**HAWAII UNDER
THE RISING SUN**
by John J. Stephan
Univ. of Hawaii, 1984
228 pp. \$16.95

Following their successful December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor, many Japanese military leaders succumbed to "victory disease." Under the aegis of the Rising Sun, the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperty Sphere would, they believed, unite the nations of the Pacific basin and rid them of Anglo-Saxon colonialism. Stephan, a University of Hawaii historian, details the plans of Combined Fleet commander Admiral Yamamoto's staff to conquer Hawaii and make it the keystone of the new Pacific order. Roughly equidistant between Japan and the United States, the Hawaiian archipelago was deemed essential to control of the Pacific. The large Japanese population already on the islands (160,000 in 1941, or 40 percent of all inhabitants) made conquest, and a smooth transition afterwards, seem feasible to Yamamoto's staff. They counted on anti-American sentiment among the local Japanese, who were denied jobs by the U.S. firms (the Big Five) which dominated the territory's economy. (From 1937 to '39, Hawaiian Japanese contributed more to the Japanese National Defense Fund than did native Japanese.) Plans for the "liberated" islands included dissolution of the Big Five, land redistribution, and revival of the Hawaiian monarchy. Japan's disastrous setback in the Battle of Midway on June 5, 1942, grounded such flights of fancy.

**CANNIBALISM AND
THE COMMON LAW**
by A. W. Simpson
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354 pp. \$25

On September 6, 1884, Captain Tom Dudley and Mates Edwin Stephens and Ned Brooks of the shipwrecked yacht *Mignonette* arrived in Falmouth, England, after drifting 24 days in an open dinghy. The three Englishmen admitted, without shame, to killing and eating their shipmate Richard Parker, the youngest and sickest survivor, in order to save their own lives. They had no idea that their cannibalism—sanctioned by maritime custom in an era of frequent shipwrecks—would lead three months later to the conviction of Dudley and Stephens on charges of premeditated murder. (Brooks, who became the prosecution's major witness, said he had no part