

NUOVA **ANTOLOGIA**   
**MILITARE**  
RIVISTA INTERDISCIPLINARE DELLA SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI STORIA MILITARE

**SUPPLEMENTO**  
**2020**

**Recensioni**  
**Book Reviews**



*Società Italiana di Storia Militare*

Direttore scientifico Virgilio Ilari  
Vicedirettore scientifico Giovanni Brizzi  
Direttore responsabile Gregory Claude Alegi  
Redazione Viviana Castelli

*Consiglio Scientifico.* Presidente: Massimo De Leonardis.

*Membri stranieri:* Christopher Bassford, Floribert Baudet, Stathis Birthacac, Jeremy Martin Black, Loretana de Libero, Magdalena de Pazzis Pi Corrales, Gregory Hanlon, John Hattendorf, Yann Le Bohec, Aleksei Nikolaevič Lobin, Prof. Armando Marques Guedes, Prof. Dennis Showalter (†). *Membri italiani:* Livio Antonielli, Antonello Folco Biagini, Aldino Bondesan, Franco Cardini, Piero Cimbolli Spagnesi, Piero del Negro, Giuseppe De Vergottini, Carlo Galli, Roberta Ivaldi, Nicola Labanca, Luigi Loreto, Gian Enrico Rusconi, Carla Sodini, Donato Tamblé,

*Comitato consultivo sulle scienze militari e gli studi di strategia, intelligence e geopolitica:* Lucio Caracciolo, Flavio Carbone, Basilio Di Martino, Antulio Joseph Echevarria II, Carlo Jean, Gianfranco Linzi, Edward N. Luttwak, Matteo Paesano, Ferdinando Sanfelice di Monteforte.

*Consulenti di aree scientifiche interdisciplinari:* Donato Tamblé (Archival Sciences), Piero Cimbolli Spagnesi (Architecture and Engineering), Immacolata Eramo (Philology of Military Treatises), Simonetta Conti (Historical Geo-Cartography), Lucio Caracciolo (Geopolitics), Jeremy Martin Black (Global Military History), Elisabetta Fiocchi Malaspina (History of International Law of War), Gianfranco Linzi (Intelligence), Elena Franchi (Memory Studies and Anthropology of Conflicts), Virgilio Ilari (Military Bibliography), Luigi Loreto (Military Historiography), Basilio Di Martino (Military Technology and Air Studies), John Brewster Hattendorf (Naval History and Maritime Studies), Elina Gugliuzzo (Public History), Vincenzo Lavenia (War and Religion), Angela Teja (War and Sport), Stefano Pisu (War Cinema), Giuseppe Della Torre (War Economics).

### *Nuova Antologia Militare*

Rivista interdisciplinare della Società Italiana di Storia Militare  
Periodico telematico open-access annuale ([www.nam-sism.org](http://www.nam-sism.org))  
Registrazione del Tribunale Ordinario di Roma n. 06 del 30 Gennaio 2020



Direzione, Via Bosco degli Arvali 24, 00148 Roma  
Contatti: [direzione@nam-sigm.org](mailto:direzione@nam-sigm.org) ; [virgilio.ilari@gmail.com](mailto:virgilio.ilari@gmail.com)

© 2020 Società Italiana di Storia Militare  
([www.societaitalianastoriamilitare@org](http://www.societaitalianastoriamilitare@org))

Grafica: Nadir Media Srl - Via Giuseppe Veronese, 22 - 00146 Roma  
[info@nadirmedia.it](mailto:info@nadirmedia.it)

Gruppo Editoriale Tab Srl - Lungotevere degli Anguillara, 11 - 00153 Roma  
[www.tabedizioni.it](http://www.tabedizioni.it)

ISSN: 2704-9795

ISBN Supplemento 2020: 978-88-9295-024-5

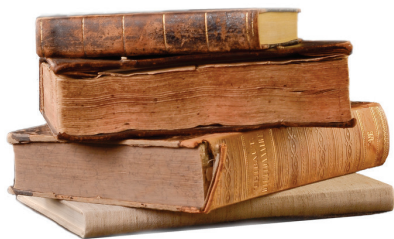
NUOVA **ANTOLOGIA**   
**MILITARE**  
RIVISTA INTERDISCIPLINARE DELLA SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI STORIA MILITARE

**SUPPLEMENTO**  
**2020**

**Recensioni**  
**Book Reviews**



*Società Italiana di Storia Militare*



Books Reading Read Free Photo

<https://www.needpix.com/photo/1102451/books-reading-read-writer-antiques>

# III

Storia Militare Moderna

*Modern Military History*





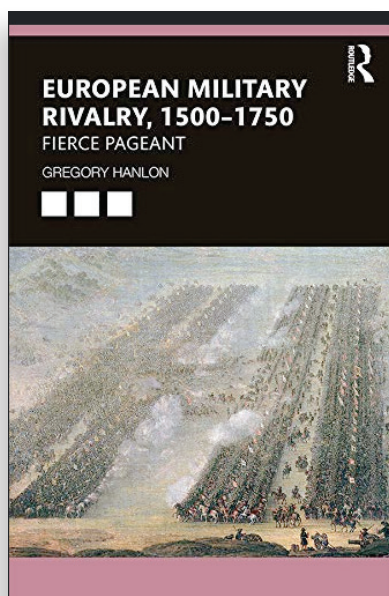


Hans Jacob Christoffel von Grimmelshausen,  
 Frontispizio di *Abenteuerlicher Simplificissimus* 1669. (wikipedia commons).

GREGORY HANLON

*European Military Rivalry, 1500–1750:  
Fierce Pageant.*

Oxford, New York, Routledge 2020.



“Great Power Competition” is back in the current political and strategic debate and mentioned in official policy documents such as the US National Security Strategy of 2017 (“*The competitions and rivalries facing the United States are not passing trends or momentary problems. They are intertwined, long-term challenges that demand our sustained national attention and commitment*”). Therefore, Gregory Hanlon’s latest book “*European Military Rivalry, 1500–1750: Fierce Pageant*” is a reminder of the fact that, according to the above mentioned NSS, “*A Central continuity in history is the contest for power*”. Writing a textbook on European warfare in the historic period (1500-1750) chosen by the author, without falling into the trap of rewriting a history of Revolution in Military Affairs was a real challenge in itself.

The method adopted by Hanlon, alternating chapters describing the military history of the period in question with chapters focussing on issues such as: field fortification; recruitment and establishment of standing armies and navies; manoeuvre and siege warfare; war finance; strikes an effective balance. It draws a comprehensive and cross-dimensional picture of the contest for power in Europe between the Renaissance and the early enlightenment.

The Renaissance is a turning point for western civilization and warfare is no exception. With the Italian Wars (1494-1559) begins a cycle of conflicts for hegemony on the European continent that comes to an end only in 1945. The dawn of the gunpowder age and the related development of a new kind of fortifications, the rediscovery of classical authors and the influence on politics and warfare, the continuous evolution of tactics, the financing of war are just among the main features of this period characterized by interstate conflict as well as by religious civil wars.

The “Parallel War” against the Ottoman Empire, at the apex of its power, in the Balkans and in the Mediterranean, is intertwined with the confrontation between the Habsburg realms of Charles V and France. Here we realize that the technology gap between the West and the Ottoman World at the turn of the XVI Century is far from emerging and the Sublime Porte still enjoys overall military superiority over its Christian opponents, notwithstanding Venetian technological prowess.

Hanlon clearly indicates the XVII Century as the age of political and technological transformation which thoroughly changed land and naval warfare. It is also the defining moment in European history when the French super national State, led by the still valid political doctrine of “*raison d’etat*”, gets the upper hand over the Habsburg attempt to restore Catholic supremacy and imperial prerogatives in Germany.

Within the logic of the “Balance of Power” among nominally equal sovereign states, the stage is set for French ascendancy and the subsequent building of a coalition of powers known as the “Grand Alliance”. The Alliance is the first of a long series of counterbalancing efforts, generally led by Britain, in order to contain and defeat the continental hegemon. On the South-Eastern front continues the “Long War” between the Habsburgs, Venice and Poland, on the Christian side, and the Ottoman Empire. The battle of St Gotthard is



a landmark event where western superior tactics, for the first time, prevail over Ottoman sheer numerical superiority but the turning of the tide begins under the walls of Vienna. Since then, the Habsburg counteroffensive pushes back the Ottomans right to Belgrade and the “Iron Curtain” of Christianity, Austria’s military frontier, falls upon the Balkan Peninsula.

Hanlon also focuses on Venice’s war in the Aegean Sea, the loss of Crete after one of the longest sieges in history, the Peloponnesian Campaign and the loss of naval supremacy in the Adriatic.

The War of Spanish Succession marks a temporary halt to the French quest for hegemony. After a long and exhausting war a new balance of power is reached after the peace of Utrecht only to slowly overturned by the subsequent wars (Quadruple Alliance; Polish Succession) culminating with the War of Austrian Succession which sees France “working for the King of Prussia” and Empress Maria Theresia saving the bulk of her domains against all odds. Meanwhile, in India, North America and on the high seas Britain and France fight for sea and world power. The Seven Years War will mark the ascendancy of the British Empire.

The thematic chapters are of the utmost interest and cover land and naval warfare as well as the economics of war. Maybe further attention could have been paid to the development of professional diplomacy and to its role as a power factor in coalition building and in the preservation of the balance of power.

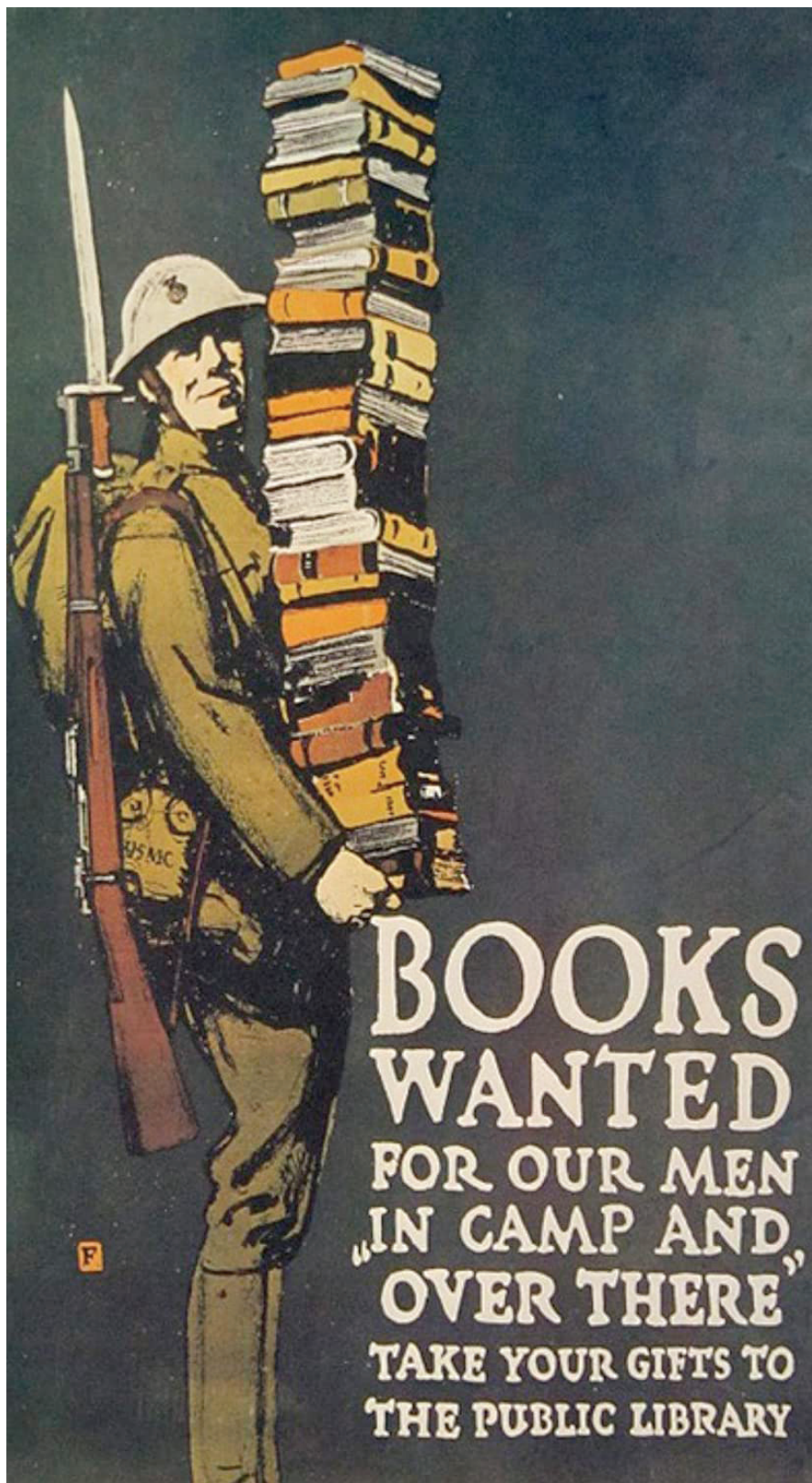
Among the many fascinating issues touched by this landmark essay worth noting are the chapters on fortification and siege warfare under all aspects: technical, logistical, tactical and strategic. These are closely related to a particular strategic and political mindset. Vauban’s concept of “pre carré” has had a longstanding influence on French strategic culture with reverberations to our days.

Gregory Hanlon, a well known military historian, has once again written a well documented, structured and brilliant essay which will not only serve its declared purpose of a University textbook but also stimulate further reading and research.



Jacopo Tintoretto, Sebastiano Venier Capitano Generale da Mar alla battaglia di Lepanto  
[Kunsthistorisches Museum, Gemäldegalerie, Wien. Wikimedia commons].





BOOKS  
WANTED  
FOR OUR MEN  
"IN CAMP AND,  
OVER THERE,"  
TAKE YOUR GIFTS TO  
THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

# Supplemento 2020

## Recensioni • Book Reviews

### I. Storiografia militare *Military Historiography*

JEREMY BLACK, *Military Strategy. A global History*, [di VIRGILIO ILARI]

DAVID L. LUPHER, *Romans in A New World: Classical Models in Sixteenth-Century Spanish America*, [di LUCA DOMIZIO]

VIRGILIO ILARI, *Clausewitz in Italia e altri scritti militari*, [by ANDREA POLEGATO]

JIM STORR, *The Hall of Mirror: War and Warfare in the Twentieth Century*, [by MARTIN SAMUELS]

J. BLACK, *Tank Warfare*, [by M. MAZZIOTTI DI CELSO]

JOHN LEWIS GADDIS, *Lezioni di strategia (On Strategy)*, [di MATTEO MAZZIOTTI DI CELSO]

GIANNA CHRISTINE FENAROLI, *Financial Warfare. Money as an instrument of conflict and tension in international arena*, [di DARIO RIDOLFO]

FABIO DE NINNO, *Piero Pieri. Il pensiero e lo storico militare*, [di GIOVANNI CECINI]

### II. Storia Militare Antica e Medievale *Ancient and Medieval Military History*

LEE L. BRICE (Ed.), *New Approaches to Greek and Roman Warfare*, [di VINCENZO MICALETTI]

JOHN HALDON, *L'impero che non voleva morire. Il paradosso di Bisanzio*, [di CARLO ALBERTO REBOTTINI]

DOMENICO CARRO, *Orbis maritimus. La geografia imperiale e la grande strategia marittima di Roma*, [di TOMMASO PISTONI]

FRANÇOIS CADIOU, *L'Armée imaginaire. Les soldats prolétaires dans les légions romaines au dernier siècle de la République*, [di CLAUDIO VACANTI]

ANTONIO MUSARRA, *Il Grifo e il Leone. Genova e Venezia in lotta per il Mediterraneo*, [di VITO CASTAGNA]

PAOLO GRILLO e ALDO A. SETTIA (cur.), *Guerre ed Eserciti nel Medioevo*, [di Andrea Tomasini]

### III. Storia Militare Moderna *Modern Military History*

GREGORY HANLON, *European Military Rivalry, 1500–1750: Fierce Pageant*, [by EMANUELE FARRUGGIA]

GERASSIMOS D. PAGRATIS (Ed.), *War, State and Society in the Ionian Sea (late 14th – early 19th century)*, [by STATHIS BIRTHACHAS]

GUIDO CANDIANI, *Dalla galea alla nave di linea. Le trasformazioni della marina veneziana (1572-1699)*, [di EMILIANO BERI]

PAOLA BIANCHI e PIERO DEL NEGRO (cur.), *Guerre ed eserciti nell'età moderna*, [di GUIDO CANDIANI]

VIRGILIO ILARI e GIANCARLO BOERI, *Velletri 1744. La mancata riconquista austriaca delle Due Sicilie*, [di ROBERTO SCONFIENZA]

ROBERTO SCONFIENZA (cur.), *La campagna gallispana del 1744. Storia e archeologia militare di un anno di guerra fra Piemonte e Delfinato*, [di PIERO CROCIANI]

CARLOS PÉREZ FERNÁNDEZ-TURÉGANO, *El Real Cuerpo de Artillería de Marina en el siglo XVIII (1717-1800). Corpus legislativo y documental*, [por MANUELA FERNÁNDEZ RODRÍGUEZ]

WILLIAM DALRYMPLE, *The Anarchy; the Relentless Rise of the East Indian Company*, [by JEREMY BLACK]

LARRIE D. FERREIRO, *Hermanos de Armas. La intervención de España y Francia que salvó la independencia de los Estados Unidos*, [por LEANDRO MARTÍNEZ PEÑAS]

ALEXANDER MIKABERIDZE, *The Napoleonic Wars. A Global History*, [di DANIELE CAL]

CARMINE PINTO, *La guerra per il Mezzogiorno*, [di EMILIANO BERI]

DANIEL WHITTINGHAM, *Charles E Callwell and the British Way in Warfare*, [di LUCA DOMIZIO]

SONG-CHUAN CHEN, *Merchants of War and Peace. British Knowledge of China in the Making of the Opium War*, [di ALESSIA ORLANDI]

### IV. Storia Militare Contemporanea *Contemporary Military History*

CHRISTIAN TH. MÜLLER, *Jenseits der Materialschlacht. Der Erste Weltkrieg als Bewegungskrieg*, [di PAOLO POZZATO]

CHRISTOPHER PHILLIPS, *Civilian Specialist at War Britain s Transport Expert and First World War*, [di MARCO LEFRIGGIO]

JAMIE H. COCKFIELD, *Russia's Iron General. The Life of Aleksei A. Brusilov, 1953-1926*, [di PAOLO POZZATO]

LÉVON NORDIGUIAN & JEAN-CLAUDE VOISIN, *La Grande Guerre au Moyen-Orient. Antoine Poidebard sur les routes de Perse*, [par JEAN-BAPTISTE MANCHON]

FILIPPO CAPPELLANO e BASILIO DI MARTINO, *La catena di Comando nella Grande Guerra. Procedure e strumenti per il comandi e controllo nell'esperienza del Regio Esercito (1915-18)*, [di PAOLO FORMICONI]

FERDINANDO SCALA, *Il Generale Armando Tallarigo. Dalla leggenda della Brigata Sassari al Dopoguerra*, [di FLAVIO CARBONE]

PAOLO GASPARI, PAOLO POZZATO, FERDINANDO SCALA, *I Generali italiani della Grande Guerra, Volume 2 (C-Z)* [di FLAVIO CARBONE]

SINCLAIR MCKAY, *Il fuoco e l'oscurità: Dresda 1945*, [di PAOLO CEOLA]

PIER PAOLO BATTISTELLI, *Storia Militare della Repubblica Sociale Italiana*. [di VIRGILIO ILARI]

BENNY MORRIS, *Medio Oriente dentro la guerra. Le guerre di confine di Israele 1949-1956*, [di ALESSANDRO TRABUCCO]