of technical language, and, notwithstanding its subtlety and complexity, is a pleasure to read. With the advent of *Sacred Queens*, the study of gender relations, rank, and colonialism in the Pacific has made an important and exciting advance.

CAROLINE RALSTON  
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John Ravenhill (University of Sydney), in addressing challenges to American interests and policies in the South Pacific, has brought together papers from five Australia-based scholars and one American regional specialist. Ravenhill himself provides the overview first chapter and a concluding chapter of policy recommendations. Although the book’s primary focus is on the ANZUS alliance and American regional relationships, Andrew Mack, Robert Aldrich, and Graeme Gill have provided excellent chapters on, respectively, the evolution of Australian defense policy, the French regional presence, and Soviet regional interests and activities. With the exception of Henry Albinski’s chapter on American perspectives toward ANZUS and its regional environment, all of these topics are analyzed from varying Australian and New Zealand points of view.

The book presents a solid sampling of down under perceptions of American regional interests and policies and of related challenges. However, given its South Pacific focus, a more apt title would be “No Longer an ANZUS Lake?” Most contributors have overstated the levels of American influence and presence in the South Pacific island states and miss the point that they are of strategic relevance to the United States mainly because of their importance to Australia and New Zealand. The latter are the dominant external influences. Much of the data and analysis also are out of date and do not reflect major changes in US regional policies and practices since 1987. Nonetheless, the book accurately makes the point that US regional interests have suffered from insensitivity to island state concerns. Examples cited include past US fisheries practices (an issue now resolved), tolerance of French nuclear testing, failure to sign the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone treaty protocols, and low levels of American development assistance.

Albinski’s, Mack’s, and Michael McKinley’s chapters on American, Australian, and New Zealand perspectives toward ANZUS are excellent, including their treatment of the collapse of its United States–New Zealand leg. It is correctly made clear that Washington’s primary concern in determining its response to Wellington’s nuclear-free policies and “à la carte” approach to alliance responsibilities was containment of the “Kiwi disease.” They assert, with sound justification, that there is little prospect for major change in New Zealand’s position. Ravenhill and others do suggest that
shared regional and other interests argue for American restoration of a more normal relationship with New Zealand, that is, relaxation of some of the restraints on diplomatic, defense, and intelligence cooperation. That process is already underway in some areas, although not to the degree proposed by Ravenhill and desired by New Zealand.

There are major flaws in Ravenhill’s overview analysis of US relationships with Australia. He rightly points out that many Australians believe the United States benefits from ANZUS more than does Australia, and himself argues that view. But he ignores the fact that the major and costly deployment of US forces in the western and northern Pacific and other American contributions to regional security have permitted Australia and New Zealand to maintain far more modest defense budgets and forces than otherwise would be the case. He also cites the often stated allegation that the ANZUS treaty “is not worth the paper it is written on” because of the absence of a treaty clause guaranteeing an American military response to any attack on Australia or its forces in the region. He lends weight to that allegation by ignoring the very specific security assurances provided by nearly every US administration from President Kennedy’s onward, which are on public record. As one omitted example, Secretary of State Shultz, during the 1983 ANZUS ministerial review cited by Ravenhill, made clear that an ANZUS ally under attack would receive any necessary military support. More recent assurances have been provided by Secretary of Defense Cheney (1989) and by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (1988).

Ravenhill comments accurately on weak consultative processes between Washington and Canberra that flow from the former’s tendency to take Australia for granted. However, as Albinski points out, that tendency is largely a problem of the past; since the mid-1980s consultative processes between Washington and Canberra have been exceptionally effective.

Richard Higgot’s chapter on the economic dimension of the Australian-American alliance justifiably highlights the damage done to the relationship by American protectionist trade measures and by subsidization of wheat exports. The same point is made by Albinski and Ravenhill. However, Higgot’s discussion of trade issues suffers from the use of old and selective data. Other data demonstrate that Australian assessments of American damage to Australian trade in the mid-1980s were grossly exaggerated. Higgot also avoids discussion of the then existing high levels of Australian protectionism and barely touches on the significant investment linkages. Higgot’s presentation is nonetheless an accurate reflection of Australian perceptions at the time it was written (1987).

Albinski, Higgot, and Ravenhill make it abundantly clear that the economic and political dimensions of the Australian-American alliance are of increasing importance and that the security dimension is susceptible to major damage in the absence of adequate tending of those other dimensions. Related is the point that receding global and regional security threats are paralleled by new concerns for eco-
nomic security and a higher profile for economic issues.

Finally, most of the contributors emphasize the emergence in the 1970s and 1980s of a more self-confident, independent-minded, and assertive Australia. That development, coupled with changes taking place in the island states, the collapse of the United States–New Zealand leg of the alliance, and global change, requires higher levels of American sensitivity toward and attention to the region. Although one may not agree with all of the proposed policy changes in Ravenhill’s concluding chapter, few would quarrel with his underlying premise.

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John Connell’s monograph is primarily a teaching and bibliographic resource. It consists of a comprehensive bibliography on the economic development of small island states attached to a series of chapters covering a checklist of topics: self-reliance, demographic issues, employment, migration and remittances, rural development, fisheries, industrial development, services (finance and tourism), regional cooperation, and trade and aid.

The bibliography is the outstanding part of the monograph. It occupies 27 pages and contains 461 references (24 of them to Connell’s own previous work). For researchers newly embarking on the study of small-island economies, this bibliography will be a natural starting point. Even for old hands it is an excellent checklist, likely to yield some novelties. There can be few scholars more widely read in the small-islands literature than Connell, and his knowledge of the Caribbean and Indian oceans as well as the South Pacific gives the bibliography and accompanying text a genuinely global sweep.

His list of island microstates includes twenty countries with less than a million inhabitants and low per capita incomes. Fiji thus rubs shoulders with the Seychelles, Barbados with Tuvalu. Surely the first task must be to classify this group into subspecies? But no, Connell plunges directly into the attempt to deal with them all at once.

Partly as a result of this, the text makes heavy weather of a detailed and often confusing story. Connell is a meticulous collector, assembling fragments from all over the world in a set of predetermined topic-by-topic display cases. One’s admiration is aroused by the sheer effort required to gather so much material. But no great unifying themes or compelling line of argument emerge. The separate chapters tend to stand as entities, each fulfilling the need to say something about population, or trade, or agriculture, or tourism. They do not cross-fertilize, nor fit into any unfolding theoretical conception of the small-island economy as an ideal type—or alternatively, into a