

national who willingly moved to North Korea right after the war in 1953. Mrs. Song and her daughter Oak-Hee were followers of Kim Il-sung and his son Kim Jong-il. Kim Hyuck's father gave him to an orphanage because the family could not feed him. Mr. Kim was a doctor struggling with the failed medical system and a member of the Workers' Party. Each one of these men and women became disillusioned with the party propaganda of better days ahead. All of them, some as individuals, others with their families, risked their lives to flee to South Korea where they could get more than one meager meal per day.

This book offers an intriguing glimpse into the lives of North Koreans, past and present. Although these individuals managed to escape, there are millions (estimated at 24 million by the CIA and the UN World Bank) still living under the oppressive regime enduring the daily hardships outlined by the defectors. Demick is straightforward and even blunt in her analysis of how and why many North Koreans have been "brainwashed" into submission by the party and their often-eccentric leader. As individuals these six defectors not only describe their lives under this dictatorship, but they also share how their realization that what they had been told and what they had believed was a fabrication. Simply put, this book provides first-hand accounts of the lives of six ordinary North Koreans, their miseries and their eventual triumphs at reaching the free world. Anyone interested in North Korea, the ways in which oppressive regimes manipulate people, and anyone who enjoys reading inspiring life stories, will find this book appealing and informative.

*Amarilla Blondia*

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Michael H. Hunt. *Crises In U.S. Foreign Policy: An International History Reader*. New Haven & London: Yale University Press, 1996. Pp. 447. Paper. \$27.00.

*Crises In U.S. Foreign Policy: An International Reader* focuses on seven international crises in the twentieth century with major U.S. involvement: events leading to WWI, WWII, the Cold War, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the 1953 Iranian Revolution. Written, researched, and edited by University of North Carolina's Everett H. Emerson professor emeritus Michael H. Hunt, *Crises In U.S. Foreign Policy* sifts through the details of these crises to gain a better understanding of what happened and to suggest what is to be learned from

each. These crucial issues not only underscore the importance of U.S. foreign policies, but also highlight the impact some decisions had on changing the course of history.

At the beginning of each case study, Hunt dedicates equal space to the opposing sides of each crisis. For example, chapter two covers the events leading up to the attack on Pearl Harbor, giving the United States and Japan equal coverage on what they were doing to antagonize one another. Reading about the disputes over “free trade” that favored the United States as well as other anti-Japanese tactics such as the 1924 Immigration Act that stemmed the influx of Asian immigrants, one gains a better understanding why the attacks were not as unexpected as is often believed. Hunt also describes Japanese imperialism against their Asian neighbors beginning with the Sino-Japanese wars of the late nineteenth century that erupted again intermittently in the early 1930s.

Hunt ends each chapter with the failed diplomatic efforts through the introduction of salient primary sources, which he reproduces in their original text with some editing to save space. He includes former President Theodore Roosevelt’s personal advice in 1910 to then current President William Taft to keep the Japanese out of the country, as well as President Franklin Roosevelt’s 1937 formal request to the world to work on “quarantining” Japan. There are also telegrams from Tokyo to their embassy in Washington D.C. in late 1941 emphasizing the importance of resolving the conflict diplomatically and the Chief of Naval Operations and Army Chief sending a joint memorandum to President Roosevelt in November 1941 petitioning the President that the military could not at the time manage a second front in the war.

Hunt brings the same attention to detail to each case study, including public correspondence from Franklin D. Roosevelt, Fidel Castro, Nikita Khrushchev, John F. Kennedy, Ayatollah Khomeini and others whose writings pertain to the themes of political, religious, social, and economic ideologies of their time. This inside look into the long and strenuous paths of diplomacy successfully conveys the complexities of foreign policy decisions, and how individual actions often shaped the future of societies. Hunt chose these particular crises because of their importance in the history of foreign policy and diplomatic methods that affected nearly the entire world. This easily accessible textbook is ideal for students interested in the history of U.S. foreign policy, and for people interested in learning how important twentieth-century events played out amongst the people in power.

*Michael Serrano*