



## Military Innovation in the Interwar Period

*By Williamson R. Murray*

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### **Military Innovation in the Interwar Period** By Williamson R. Murray

In 1914, the armies and navies that faced each other were alike right down to the strengths of their companies and battalions and the designs of their battleships and cruisers. Differences were of degree rather than essence. During the interwar period, however, the armed forces grew increasingly asymmetrical, developing different approaches to the same problems. This 1996 study of major military innovations in the 1920s and 1930s explores differences in exploitation by the seven major military powers. The comparative essays investigate how and why innovation occurred or did not occur, and explain much of the strategic and operative performance of the Axis and Allies in World War II. The essays focus on several instances of how military services developed new technology and weapons and incorporated them into their doctrine, organisation and styles of operations.

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## **Military Innovation in the Interwar Period** By Williamson R. Murray Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #377356 in eBooks
- Published on: 1996-08-28
- Released on: 1996-08-28
- Format: Kindle eBook

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#### Review

"Alan Beyerchen's essay on German, British, and American work on radar is alone worth the price of the book and is a splendid demonstration of how a cultural and scientific historian can make a major contribution to military history. The description of how culture, organization, and strategic predicament shape a military's reception of a new technology is simply brilliant." *Foreign Affairs*

"Military Innovation in the Interwar Period offers detailed insights into how to proceed with today's revolution in military affairs. Those who find themselves today in the same position as Moffett, Towers, Liddell Hart, and Dowding did seventy years ago will want to study this book very closely." E.G.Hoffman, *Naval War College Review*

"This volume should make a big impact on American military academies and staff colleges, and would also make a good graduate course reader for students who have a reasonable foundation in the otherwise daunting historiography." Brian Bond, *The International History Review*

#### From the Back Cover

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#### About the Author

fm.author\_biographical\_note1

Allan R. Millett is a specialist in the history of American military policy and twentieth-century wars. He is the founder of the internationally renowned military history program at the Ohio State University, where he is Mason Professor of History Emeritus. Millett currently directs the Eisenhower Center for American Studies at the University of New Orleans, where he is the Ambrose Professor of History and serves as the Senior Military Advisor for the National World War II Museum. He is the author or co-author of eight books and co-editor of five others.

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