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Review of From Colony to Superpower: U.S. Foreign Relations Since 1776

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History professor George C. Herring (*Modern American Diplomacy, America’s Longest War*) has created a verbal monument to the place of the United States in the world. The only themed volume so far in the Oxford History of the United States series, *From Colony to Superpower* portrays the history of the world’s foremost republic through the prism of its international interactions. Striking is the emergence, through Herring’s clear and compelling story telling, of certain themes in the way the U. S. has conducted and still conducts itself among nations. Through Herring’s methodical presentation of the facts emerges a portrait of a nation alternately petty and grasping, magnanimous and generous, a nation propelled to greatness by equal amounts of arrogance, racism, and greed, but most of all by a genuine desire to make of the world something better. The author’s quick character sketches of the actors who move this narrative forward bring life to a subject that could, in less skilled hands, easily induce tedium. This book is highly recommended for both public and academic libraries.

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