

Walter Rundell. Military Money: A Fiscal History of the U.S. Army Overseas in World War II. (College Station and London: Texas A & M University Press, c1980.)

There are, unfortunately, few good histories of financial management in the United States Army, but Walter Rundell attempts to tackle part of that problem with his history of Army financial operations in Europe and the Pacific during the Second World War. This volume is formerly a Finance Captain Career Course selection and it is worth reading simply to consider the immense difficulties of financing an unprecedented (at that time) effort by American military forces around the globe. Lack of preparedness, attempting to run military finances similar to peace time, and a host of other complicating issues, gave the Finance Department (as it was then known) a myriad of headaches in administering military spending both in the United States and abroad. There are some omissions, such as a lack of coverage on General MacArthur's SouthWest Pacific command, but this book helps to fill a historical gap that makes it a worthwhile read for US Army financial managers.