

LETTER

Training Army Officers in Tactics

In his concise background briefing in the last issue on training army officers in tactics (*United Service* 71 (3), 17 – 21 (September 2020), Brigadier David Leece drew on the excellent British Army training manual *Training for War* (His Majesty's Stationery Office: London, 1950).

For those readers seeking a more contemporary training manual on strategic and tactical thinking, I recommend the recently published United States Army manual by Nathan K. Finney (editor), *On Strategy: A Primer* (United States Army Combat Studies Institute Press: Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, 2020), which may be accessed at <https://www.armypress.army.mil/>.

Written in three parts, it covers the basics of strategy, the role of the strategist and advanced strategic concepts. At 250 pages, it is substantive (although many pages are notes/references), but the various chapters are stand-alone to an extent, and some could be the initial focus of study, *i.e.* Chapters 6, 7, 9, 12, 16, 18 and 19. The manual is recommended particularly for officers of any service who are preparing to take up a strategic policy or general/operational staff appointment.

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