

*Radar—Duell im Dunkell*, Cajus Bakker. Gerhard Stalling Verlag, Oldenburg, pp. 352, price DM18,50.

This book gives a very clear and lively account of the more important parts played by Germany and the Allies in the development of radar. It starts with pre-war days and goes on to the spectacular advances made during the war itself, and finally deals with recent developments. German achievements, which were made in close secrecy—mostly by the navy—are described for the first time. In fact the author, in order to be able to write this book, had to seek information personally from most of the still-living experts of the Radar Development Organization (*Funkmessentwicklung*). As regards Allied developments, especially British, he has relied on Sir Robert Watson-Watt's book as his chief source of information. It is clearly of interest to the British reader to learn of the means that were developed to jam British navigation during the war. But it is also of importance to be told of the German failure to foresee the efficacy of radar against their U-boats or to appreciate the suitability of centimetre wavelengths in radar.

Fifteen loosely connected chapters take the reader through the whole dramatic story of the war. Many hitherto unknown facts are brought to light for the first time. The last chapter is most impressive. In it the author, once an communications officer in the navy, tells us of the numerous and widespread areas of the world in which radar is today established. Few such areas, especially where air traffic control is concerned, are today without radar: a formidable advance to have been made in the space of twenty years.

The author is to be commended in that he makes the complicated technical beginnings easy to understand and explains them with historical sketches. Altogether it is a very readable book which deserves a wide circulation, in England as much as in its country of origin.

H. Giessler

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## CORRESPONDENCE

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL

SIR,—It has been pointed out to me that in my paper on the Admiralty Chart, printed in the April number of the *Journal*, I wrongly attributed the world-wide chart coverage of United States charts to the work of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. It is, of course, the United States Hydrographic Office that prepares and publishes charts on a world-wide basis, the Coast and Geodetic Survey confining its efforts to the coastal waters of the United States and its territories and possessions.

I hope my mistake has conferred no disservice to the United States Hydrographic Office, and I would be grateful if you would publish this correction.

Hydrographic Department,  
Admiralty,  
Whitehall, S.W. 1

Yours faithfully,  
G. S. Ritchie,  
Captain, Royal Navy