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Frederick S. Calhoun. Power and Principle: Armed Intervention in wilsonion Foreign Policy. Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 1986. xi + 333 pp. \$24.95

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The English-speaking student of Brazilian affairs who wishes to understand the true nature of the coup of 1964 and its aftermath would do best to turn to Alfred Stepan's masterful The Military in Politics: Changing Patterns in Brazil (1971), and the equally perceptive work by Peter Flynn Brazil: A Political Analysis (1978). Both authors provide the kind of in-depth research sadly missing in the present volume.

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Frederick S. Calhoun. <u>Power and Principle: Armed Intervention in Wilsonian Foreign Policy</u>. Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 1986. xi + 333 pp. \$24.95

President Woodrow Wilson has attracted so much scholarly attention over the years that the casual observer might believe that he and his era have been thoroughly exhausted as a field for further historical research. Frederick S. Calhoun's <u>Power and Principle</u> demonstrates that this is clearly not the case, and that the only obstacle preventing a more profound reinterpretation of the past is a critical imagination and exhaustive primary research. Calhoun manifests a plethora of both virtues in his fascinating revisionist critique of the Wilson Administration. He writes, "to a remarkable extent, Wilson identified the goals, established the methods, and defined the terms of U.S. foreign policy in this century."

Wilson is not usually characterized as an enthusiast for things military; in fact, he is usually depicted as an intellectual with little interest in, and no patience for, the opinions of military men. Calhoun argues that while Wilson was no militarist, he understood the utility of arms as an adjunct force in resolving difficult foreign problems. Wilson was able to reconcile the conflicting requirements of power and principle, accepting the responsibilities and advantages of both, without being completely beholden to either. Wilson was more than a mere ideologue or a promulgator of pious platitudes, he was also a consummate power politician

applying calculated levels of violence in addition to diplomatic negotiations. Some scholars may take exception to Calhoun's interpretation of Wilson because it challenges the current consensus, but that is the essential

strength of this work.

Power and Principle is the most comprehensive treatment of Wilson's seven foreign military interventions and the different philosophical rationales that underlay each of them. While each of the interventions has been treated in greater depth elsewhere, Calhoun provides the first integrated analysis of them all. Calhoun describes the multiplicity of Wilsonian objectives - preserving order, promoting democracy, upholding international law, and the repulsion of aggression - which survived the Wilson era to form the basis of modern American liberal internationalism.

Power and Principle is a considerable contribution to the corpus of Wilsonian scholarship and should provide the basis for continued reconsideration of the President and his diplomacy. In addition, Calhoun describes a persistent pattern in twentieth-century American foreign relations - the application of force to aid in the resolution of complex situations overseas. Thus Calhoun's work serves as a cautionary warning that contemporary decision—makers would do well to ponder, because the requirements and contradictions of power and principle still need to be resolved.

David M. Esposito Pennsylvania State University

S.L. Cline and Miguel León-Portilla, eds. <u>The Testaments of Culhuacan</u>. Los Angeles: UCLA Latin American Center Publications, 1984. 281 pp.

The Testaments of Culhuacan is a collection of sixteenth-century Indian wills, written in Nahuatl text using the Roman alphabet, with an accompanying English translation. Its publication is a valuable contribution to the social history of native Latin American peoples,