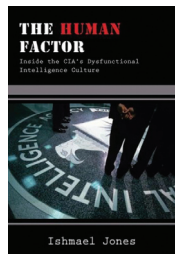


over the controls to an inexperienced Levine: ZOOT “Something was dramatically wrong. The *Columbia* was spiraling toward the ground at high speed.” Levine had stalled out the engine trying to climb above the clouds. In what seemed like a lifetime Chamberlin managed to gently coax the *Columbia* out of a three-mile death spiral and leveled the plane off at 4,000 feet. He was emotionally drained by the frightening experience. The fearless Levine thought it all good fun: like being on a “bucking bronco.”

The author has written sixteen nonfiction books for young readers. He has won the National Jewish Book Award twice, and his biography of Edward R. Murrow, *With Heroic Truth*, won the Golden Kite Honor Award for Nonfiction.

This superb book will appeal to readers of all ages who love adventure tales, and particularly to those who have an interest in early aviation. (September) *Alan J. Couture*

## Special Note

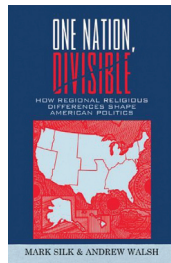


**Company Chaos:** The Central Intelligence Agency is a bloated, unresponsive bureaucracy that exists to serve itself and cannot fulfill its important intelligence-gathering role, which was the reason for its creation by President Harry Truman. This scathing

indictment is made, not by the enraged “liberal media,” but by a patriotic and devoted member of the CIA since the 1980s.

In ***The Human Factor: Inside the CIA's Dysfunctional Intelligence Culture*** (Encounter Books, 978-1-59403-223-3), Ishmael Jones, the false name for a deep cover agent, offers a chilling insider's account that shows repeatedly that the agency is driven by incompetence and greed. Its false intelligence not only led President Bush to declare war in Iraq, but the Agency's blunders were responsible for the Iranian hostage crisis that bedeviled the Carter administration, and the Cuban Missile Crises, which nearly precipitated a world-ending nuclear war between the Soviet Union and the United States during the Kennedy administration.

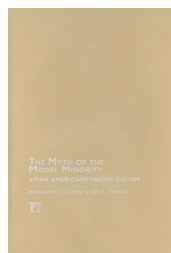
Jones was not thrown out of the CIA but was a highly regarded agent who resigned to write this book because he could no longer serve in this organization that had lost its sense of purpose and the capability to protect the United States from terrorist attacks. This controversial, eye-opening account will be popular in public libraries and debated by its readers. *Karl Helicher*



nation's regions differ politically and culturally.

In ***One Nation, Divisible: How Regional Religious Differences Shape American Politics*** (Rowman and Littlefield, 978-0-742558-458), Mark Silk, professor of religion in public life at Trinity College and director of the Leonard E. Greenberg Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life, and Andrew Walsh, the center's associate director, present a complex investigation into how religion has contributed to the nation's culture on a region-by-region basis. The regions identified are: New England, Middle Atlantic, South, Midwest, Mountain West, Pacific, Pacific Northwest, and Southern Crossroads (Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri).

The book is the final product of the “Religion By Region” project, an extensive study conducted by the Greenberg Center, and it includes a fascinating final chapter that revisits American history through the prism of regional religious affiliation. This scholarly work will appeal mostly to historians and political scientists, but it also will inform citizens and officials who want to gain insight into the often ignored role of religion in American society. *Karl Helicher*



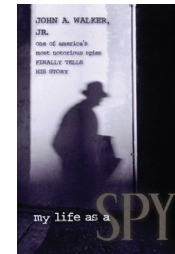
to it to become citizens of the United States. Persons belonging to it are, with few exceptions, absolutely excluded from our country. I allude to the Chinese race.”

From adjectives of ignorance like “inscrutable” and “submissive” to inflammatory tags like “yellow peril” and “gook,” from the buck-toothed farce perpetuated by Jerry Lewis to the high-achiever model found on sitcoms, the Asian immigrant has been subjected to discrimination both subtle and blatant.

Rosalind S. Chou and Joe R. Feagin try to get to the bottom of it in ***The Myth of the Model Minority: Asian Americans Facing Racism*** (Paradigm, 978-1-59451-587-3). Dozens of interviews with Asian Americans who have encountered racism in their daily lives fill out this detailed critique of a society “framed”

**Religion Roles:** Politicians would have a better understanding of why people vote the way they do if they grasped the impact of religious diversity in their communities, states, and the nation. Religion has frequently been the overlooked variable in determining how the

by white people to exclude those of color. Any color. *Heather Shaw*



**Spy Spin:** John A. Walker Jr., one of America's most notorious spies, is incarcerated in the U.S. Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, where he is serving a life sentence.

In 1985, Walker was arrested for selling highly classified information to the Soviet Union, for which he had been spying since 1968. In ***My Life as a Spy*** (Prometheus Books, 978-1-59102-659-4), Walker reveals why he became a spy and how he justified the actions he believes helped end the cold war. The author claims the cold war was trumped up by the United States against the USSR, a nation that was no match for U.S. military might, and that shadowy government officials murdered President Kennedy because they feared that his peace feelers toward the Soviets would bring the conflict to an end.

Walker's memoir of his life inside and outside prison is interesting. The espionage not only ruined his life, it also tore apart his family. Although Walker's claim that he is in no small part responsible for the end of the cold war strains credulity, his account will give readers much to ponder. *Karl Helicher* **F**