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Our panel of insiders discusses key issues

Monday, August 9, 2010

What Are You Reading -- And Watching?

By [Sydney J. Freedberg Jr.](#)

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It's time for our annual summertime reading go-round -- only this time, we're including movie viewing recommendations as well. We'd like to know what you're reading and watching: history, politics, biography and all other forms of nonfiction, sure, but also fiction if there's some tie-in to the themes we regularly discuss on this blog. The fate of the American empire? Whither China, Russia and Europe? War? Peace? An insightful bio of some neglected figure from U.S. history? Whatever is snagging your interest, whether you are situated on a beach chair or still stuck in the office, we'd like to know about it. In a few short sentences, please tell us why your choice might be of interest to others. Links are welcome.



August 9, 2010 9:00 AM



Conservative Critiques

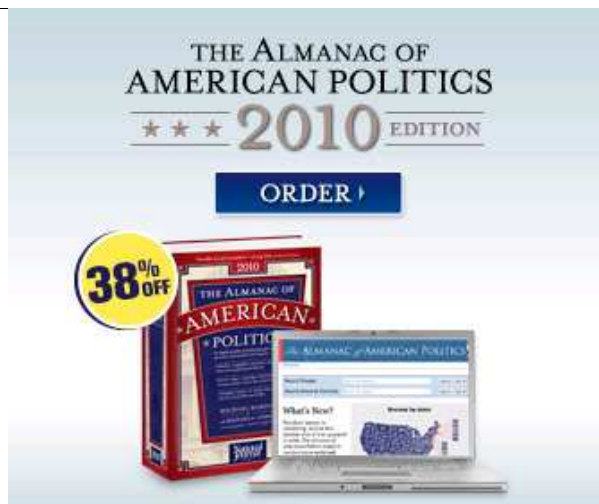
By [Steven Metz](#)

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Like many people, I read many books at the same time. My recent focus has been on works on national security which provide a conservative critique to the sort of global activism and interventionism that has dominated American strategy for many decades. A couple of weeks ago I read Christopher Preble's outstanding book *The Power Problem* which, I think, provides the most realistic alternative, affordable strategy. I'm now working on Andrew Bacevich's recently released *Washington Rules* which is a searing and beautifully-written critique of the liberal-imperial element of American strategy.

At the same time, I've become a Twitter addict, wrestling with the challenge of making cogent points in 140 characters. (@drstevemetz).

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