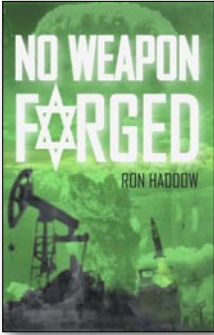


A Middle East war story

John Nicholls



No Weapon Forged.
Ron Haddow.
Published by Serendipity.
Price: £9: 95.
ISBN: 1 84394 191 0.

DOCTOR RON HADDOW spent the early part of his life in the Royal Air Force, both in flying and in testing the first airborne digital equipment to enter RAF service. His work then changed to teaching radar, electronic warfare, air defence and guided weapons, with special reference to Middle East warfare. He continued in research and design of equipment, and later became a Senior Advisor to a NATO Industrial Advisory Group working on future defences, and specifically led the team in investigating the future threat perceived to the West. He became a consultant to a department of the Ministry of Defence and travelled extensively for NATO, for industry and for the government, including many visits to the Middle East.

He belongs to a Christian group, but the reviewer is unsure which. In the book under review he is said to be “one of just two scientists invited to speak by the International Christian Embassy at the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem, in the year 2000”.

The book is described as a “technically authentic novel about a forthcoming Middle East conflict

that is triggered by a dispute over oil. The scenario and weapons in use are frightening—but there is a prophetic twist at the end”. The author was adopted into a “Christian family at the age of six months and given a new name”, only to lose his adopted father after three years. He was given what he describes as a “Victorian” upbringing by his widowed mother.

Though the book is a novel, it is based on facts, and is a feasible prediction of the future. The author came to realise in the 1970s that there is something unusual about Israel, and that Jerusalem holds the key to the future peace of the world. He is a believer in the prophets, and many of his interpretations will be familiar to Christadelphians. This aspect of the novel does not become apparent until the last three chapters.

This 237-page novel will not appeal to all in the Brotherhood, but for those whose thoughts dwell on the prophetic word it will be of interest and may stimulate fresh thoughts and insights into those judgements of God that are shortly to fall upon the nations in the Middle East when Gog makes his move into Israel to “take a prey . . . to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil” (Ezek. 38:13).

This is not so much a review as a notice that this fascinating book is available. Its value lies in the expertise and knowledge of the author, coupled with his apparent acceptance of the Old Testament prophets. It may be that an ecclesia or an individual brother or sister will purchase a copy that can be circulated amongst those interested. The reviewer is grateful to Brother Peter Mercer of the Kings Lynn ecclesia for telling him about the novel and lending him his copy.