

Beria Stalin's First Lieutenant

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Stalin's Apostles
The Times, Life and Moral Dilemma of Beria
Spy Chiefs: Volume 2
Molotov: A Biography
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A History of Russia, the Soviet Union, and Beyond
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Twentieth Century Russia
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this is the first comprehensive biography of lavrentii beria stalin s notorious police chief and for many years his most powerful lieutenant beria has long symbolized all the evils of stalinism haunting the public imagination both in the west and in the former soviet union yet because his political opponents expunged his name from public memory after his dramatic arrest and execution in 1953 little has been previously published about his long and tumultuous career

shocking gripping unputdownable you thought you knew the cambridge five think again their level of treachery beggars belief yet the british establishment s incompetence and cover up is equally unbelievable damien lewis author of the ministry of ungentlemanly warfare meticulously researched this is a fascinating analysis nigel west author of a matter of trust senior s new book is impressive in its scope of ground breaking research and depth of historical context a powerful narrative helen fry author of the white lad using recently declassified files stalin s apostles explores as never before the treachery of five british men who spied for the soviet union donald maclean guy burgess kim philby john cairncross and keeper of the queen s pictures anthony blunt all radicalised while at cambridge university in the 1930s their supply of british and us intelligence gave stalin an inside track on us and british strategy at a critical period in history for more than twenty years there was barely a secret barely a decision made that stalin did not know about thanks to his cambridge spies the five became tools in stalin s imperial scheme responsible directly and indirectly for the death of thousands of men and women fighting against soviet domination shielded for so long by the british establishment four of the five were never prosecuted for their crimes and in time another dictator emerged as ruthless as stalin but with an even greater desire to establish a russian empire that would threaten western democracy the legacy of the cambridge five is not only in the graveyards of eastern europe but at the heart of putin s kremlin

there are some figures in modern history who stand out not just for their amoral conduct but their cruelty this book explores the life of the notorious beria stalin s henchman the first part provides an outline of the turbulent history of russia from 1900 to 1953 in order to set the background from which beria emerged the second section presents a biography of beria from his youth his early education and his obsequious behaviour towards stalin to his rise to be the head of the nkvd kgb and later to be amongst the most senior leaders of the communist structure in the ussr he was responsible for the deaths of millions and for organising the katy massacre infamous for murdering colleagues and a sexual predator and became the most feared man in the ussr next to stalin the third and fourth parts move away from history and biography to moral philosophy in order to understand from where such evil conduct arises the question of free will is explored in the light of human insight and these sections also discuss the most recent scientific claims concerning human behaviour as well as the factors which influence people in decision making

throughout history and across cultures the spy chief has been a leader of the state security apparatus and an essential adviser to heads of state in democracies the spy chief has become a public figure and intelligence activities have been brought under the rule of law in authoritarian regimes however the spy chief was and remains a frightening and opaque figure who exercises secret influence abroad and engages in repression at home this second volume of spy chiefs goes beyond the commonly studied spy chiefs of the united states and the united kingdom to examine leaders from renaissance venice to the soviet union germany india egypt and lebanon in the twentieth century it provides a close up look at intelligence leaders good and bad in the different political contexts of the regimes they served the contributors to the volume try to answer the following questions how do intelligence leaders operate in these different national institutional and historical contexts what role have they played in the conduct of domestic affairs and international relations how much power have they possessed how have they led their agencies and what qualities make an effective intelligence leader how has their role differed according to the political character of the regime they have served the profiles in this book range from some of the most notorious figures in modern history such as feliks dzerzhinsky and erich mielke to spy chiefs in democratic west germany and india

this is the first comprehensive biography of molotov and reflects the range of sources that have become available to historians since the fall of the ussr it is a commentary on soviet history molotov played his part in revolution civil war lenin s russia stalin s struggle with the oppositions collectivization industrialization the terror the great patriotic war the beginnings of the cold war and in the khrushchev era

a detailed study of the operations politics culture and autonomy of soviet partisans or guerrillas who fought the german army in wwii blending military political social and cultural history slepyan also provides a prism for viewing relations between the suffocating stalinist state and its independent partisan warriors

an animated adaptation of the story of the same title by maurice sendak in which a small boy makes a visit to the land of the wild things tells how he tames the creatures and returns home for primary grades

documents p 365 405 includes bibliographical references p 345 358 and index

a biography of the soviet dictator and the men and women who surrounded him focuses on the foundation of human psychological and physical supports that encouraged him through the early days of communism world war ii and the great terror

in the first analysis of the start of the cold war from a soviet viewpoint caroline kennedy pipe draws on russian source material to reach some startling conclusions she challenges the prevailing orthodoxy of western historians to show how moscow saw the presence of us troops in europe in the 1940s and early 1950s as advantageous rather than as a check on soviet ambitions the author points to a complex web of concerns than fuelled moscow s actions and explores how the soviet leadership and stalin in particular responded to american policy she shows how the soviet experience of the united states and europe both before during and after the second world war led moscow to a policy that was not simply fuelled by anti americanism six chapters cover events from the wartime conferences of 1943 until the death of stalin a final chapter places the book in the context of the current debate over the causes of the cold war

in this revision of their best selling book mackenzie and curran present a clear and objective account of the history of russians and other eastern slavs from its beginnings in ancient rus to the demise of the soviet union and most recently the putin presidency acclaimed in the field for its clarity comprehensiveness and accuracy the text balances social cultural history with political history the authors approach weaves the external geographic determinism of the eurasian school and the organic inner oriented approach of russian historians

a history of russia covers the entire span of the country s history from ancient times to the post communist present keeping with the hallmark of the text riasanovsky and steinberg examine all aspects of russia s history political international military economic social and cultural with a commitment to objectivity fairness and balance new chapters on politics society and culture since 1991 explore russia s complex experience after communism and discuss its chances of becoming a more stable and prosperous country in the future widely acclaimed as the best one volume history available a history of russia is

available in two split volumes the first covers early russia through the nineteenth century and the second ranges from 1855 to the present volume ii features an additional introductory chapter that links russia s modern history to the events that preceded it

a masterly review of the early pahses of the conflict between the united states russia china and their respective allies from 1946 to the cuban missle crisis in the autumn of 1962 it is clear thorough and judicious in short magnificent the economist gaddis has done a thorough job of collating material from these diverse sources and constructing a trenchant analysis that puts these fascinating tidbits into context san francisco chronicle examiner based on the latest findings of cold war historians and extensive research in american archives as well as the recently opened archives in eastern europe the former soviet union and china we now know provides a vividly written eye opening account of the cold war during the years from the end of world war ii to the cuban missile crisis the book brims with new information drawn from previously unavailable sources with fresh insight into the impact of ideology economics and nuclear weapons and with striking reinterpretations of the roles of truman eisenhower kennedy khrushchev mao and stalin indeed gaddis concludes that if there was one factor that made the cold war unavoidable it was stalin

the languages of the former soviet republics describes the evolution of each of the languages of the 14 non russian soviet republics paying particular attention to periods of russification during the tsarist and soviet eras non linguistic in content gary c fouse delves into languages that other authors frequently overlook or ignore and documents first hand accounts of native speakers who describe their experiences growing up in a bilingual environment targeted toward those interested in the former soviet union or language in general this book will be a tremendous resource for professors and students of sociolinguistics and soviet studies

largely because of his famous iron curtain speech churchill is often remembered as a determined cold warrior yet for all his fervent anti communism he saw the creation of the western alliance as a step not towards war but towards negotiations with the ussr john young shows how as prime minister in the 1950s he hoped for a summit meeting with soviet leaders an end to the cold war and an era of peaceful scientific advancement by humankind he exmaines the reasons why churchill

failed in this his last great political campaign reasons which included his own failing health the scepticism of allies abroad and the opposition of his ministers at home nonetheless argues the author the outlook which churchill developed in the first decade of the cold war made him the father of the european detente this is the first full critical analysis of the issue which dominated the last active years of one of the greatest statesmen of the twentieth century

ch 8 pp 197 214 the anti semitic campaigns deals with nkvd mgb activities against jews in the postwar period 1945 53 the jewish victims were relatively more numerous during this period than during the prewar great terror 1934 40 although most of the campaigns against various groups of jews jewish intelligentsia jews in the army and soviet apparatus jewish wives of prominent party leaders the victims of the doctors plot etc were led by v abakumov the minister of state security of the ussr and his henchmen it was stalin who initiated them neither abakumov nor beria the minister of interior were innate antisemites stalin s antisemitism had complex motivations and was manifested even before the war despite stalin s antisemitism and the anti jewish campaigns of 1946 53 many jews retained their high positions in various spheres

this classic work stands as the fullest most comprehensive text available on twentieth century russian history donald treadgold traces the wrenching transformations of russian society in the opening decades of this century marking the emergence of russian marxism from an obscure radical movement and chronicling its success as a vehicle for the seizure and maintenance of political power he then examines the development of the policy and practice of the soviet government over the course of its seventy year history revised and updated to include an account of the countries of the former soviet union since the collapse of communism twentieth century russia presents a seasoned scholar s interpretation of modern russian history although it centers on russia s political changes throughout the century this important work also examines developments in the economy literature arts foreign affairs and religion the eighth edition is revised from beginning to end and attempts to reflect massive public research of recent years it carries the russian epic into 1994 the brezhnev era the gorbachëv interlude the reemergence of nations of the former soviet empire the author adds vital new material to the introduction and provides updated analysis of the prerevolutionary economy and political scene he also gives in depth examinations of the attempted coup of august 1991 boris yeltsin s rise to power and the extraordinarily complex economic and political problems facing post communist russia he concludes with a look into the future evaluating the prospects for

russian democracy and economic reforms this newly revised edition of a classic account of russian history is appropriate as the main text for courses on twentieth century russian history or soviet history or as a supplemental text for courses on soviet foreign policy

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