

Beria Stalins First Lieutenant

Beria Beria, Stalin's First Lieutenant The Times, Life and Moral Dilemma of Beria Spy Chiefs: Volume 2 Stalin's Wars Stalin as Warlord Stalin's Curse Soviet Criminal Justice Under Stalin The Secret Police and the Soviet System Stalin's American Spy The Nature of Stalin's Dictatorship Stalin's Economist The Passing of an Illusion Stalin's Cold War Joseph Stalin Stalin In Stalin's Shadow Stalin The Last Days of Stalin Joseph Stalin and the Art of Tyranny Amy Knight Amy W. Knight Andrew Sangster Paul Maddrell Geoffrey Roberts Alfred J. Rieber Robert Gellately Peter H. Solomon Michael David-Fox Tony Sharp E. A. Rees André Mommen François Furet Caroline Kennedy-Pipe Helen Rappaport Christopher Read Oleg V. Khlevniuk Hiroaki Kuromiya Joshua Rubenstein William Nester

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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

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 katyń 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 breakthrough book provides a detailed reconstruction of stalin s leadership from the outbreak of the second world war in 1939 to his death in 1953 making use of a wealth of new material from russian archives geoffrey roberts challenges a long list of standard perceptions of stalin his qualities as a leader his relationships with his own generals and with other great world leaders his foreign policy and his role in instigating the cold war while frankly exploring the full extent of stalin s brutalities and their impact on the soviet people roberts also uncovers evidence leading to the stunning conclusion that stalin was both the greatest military leader of the twentieth century and a remarkable politician who sought to avoid the cold war and establish a long term detente with the capitalist world by means of an integrated military political and diplomatic narrative the author draws a sustained and compelling personal portrait of the soviet leader the resulting picture is fascinating and contradictory and it will inevitably change the way we understand stalin and his place in history roberts depicts a despot who helped save the world for democracy a personal charmer who disciplined mercilessly a utopian ideologue who could be a practical realist and a warlord who undertook the role of architect of post war peace

an authoritative account of stalin as a wartime leader showing how his paradoxical policies of mass mobilization and repression affected all aspects of soviet society a superb new history rieber analyses with clarity the impact of the war wendy slater times literary supplement the second world war was the defining moment in the history of the soviet union with stalin at the helm it emerged victorious at a huge economic and human cost but even before the fighting had ended stalin began to turn against the architects of success in this original and comprehensive study alfred j rieber examines stalin as a wartime leader arguing that his policies were profoundly paradoxical in preparation for the war stalin mobilized the whole of soviet society in pursuit of his military goals and intensified the centralization of his power yet at the same time his use of terror weakened the forces vital to the defense of the country in his efforts to rebuild the country after the devastating losses and destruction he suppressed groups that had contributed immeasurably to victory his steady ruthless leadership cultivated a legacy that was to burden the soviet union and russia to the present day

a chilling riveting account based on newly released russian documentation that reveals joseph stalin s true motives and the extent of his enduring commitment to expanding the soviet empire during the years in which he seemingly collaborated with franklin d roosevelt winston churchill and the capitalist west at the big three conferences of world war ii joseph stalin persuasively played the role of a great world leader whose primary concerns lay in international strategy and power politics and not communist ideology now using recently uncovered documents robert gellately conclusively shows that in fact the dictator was biding his time determined to establish communist regimes across europe and beyond his actions during those years and the poorly calculated responses to them from the west set in motion what would eventually become the cold war exciting deeply engaging and shrewdly perceptive stalin s curse is an unprecedented revelation of the sinister machinations of stalin s kremlin

soviet criminal justice under stalin first published in 1997 is a comprehensive account of stalin s struggle to make criminal law in the ussr a reliable instrument of rule using recently declassified archives peter solomon tells the revealing story of non political justice on the local scene as well as in the center contrary to conventional wisdom solomon emphasizes the initial weakness of the soviet state and the limits of stalin s capacity to rule solomon s study also offers new perspectives on collectivization the great terror the politics of abortion and the disciplining of the labour force this book should appeal to anyone interested in the political social or legal history of the ussr judicial reform in post soviet states law in authoritarian regimes or comparative legal development

even more than thirty years after the dissolution of the soviet union the role of the secret police in shaping culture and society in communist ussr has been difficult to study and defies our complete understanding in the last decade the opening of non russian kgb archives notably in ukraine after 2015 has allowed scholars to explore state security organizations in ways not previously possible moving beyond well known cases of high profile espionage and repression this study is the first to showcase research from a wide range of secret police archives in former soviet republics and the countries of the former soviet bloc some of which are rapidly closing or becoming inaccessible once again rather than focusing on soviet leadership the secret police and the soviet system integrates the secret police into studies of information technology economics art and ideology the result is a state of the art portrait of one of the world s most notorious institutions the legacies of which are directly relevant for understanding vladimir putin s russia today

compelling cold war mystery complete with espionage and double crossing agents this narrative sheds light on mccarthysim and stalin s purges

this is the first attempt to systematically study the nature of the political leadership system under stalin it focuses both on the formal institutions of power such as the politburo and on the informal networks of decision making that were a central feature of his system of rule it draws on a wealth of new archival material to highlight stalin s relations with his co leaders and wider elite groups and offers different perspectives on the nature and degree of stalin s system of personal power

this book analyses the contribution of eugen jenő varga 1879 1964 on marxist leninist economic theory as well as the influence he exercised on stalin s foreign policy and through the comintern on the international communist movement during the hungarian councils republic of 1919 varga was one of those chiefly responsible for transforming the economy into one big industrial and agrarian firm under state authority after the fall of the revolutionary regime that year varga joined the hungarian communist party soon after which he would become one of the comintern s leading economists predicting the inevitable crisis of the capitalist system varga became the soviet union s official propagandist as an economic specialist he would advise the soviet government on german reparation payments and unlike stalin believed that the capitalist state would be able to plan post war economic recovery which contradicted stalin s foreign policy strategy and led to his disgrace thus by the beginning of the cold war in 1947 varga was discredited but allowed to keep a minor academic position after stalin s death in 1953 he reappeared as a well respected economist whose political influence had nonetheless waned in this study mommen reveals how stalin s view on international capitalism and inter imperialist rivalries was profoundly influenced by debates in the comintern and by varga s concept of the general crisis of capitalism though stalin appreciated varga s cleverness he never trusted him when making his strategic foreign policy decisions this was clearly demonstrated in august 1939 with stalin s pact with hitler and in 1947 with his refusal to participate in marshall s european recovery plan this book should be of interest to a wide variety of students and researchers including those concentrating on the history of economic thought soviet studies international relations and european and cold war history

a brilliant and important book the publication of the american edition makes accessible to the general reader the most thought provoking historical assessment of communism in europe to appear since its collapse jeffrey herf wall street journal

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 that 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

to get to the top joseph stalin outmaneuvered lenin trotsky kirov and a legion of equally ruthless revolutionaries this accessible and easy to read reference work reveals the more personal side of the machiavellian mastermind who not only orchestrated the great terror but also forged the ussr into a world power joseph stalin a biographical companion offers balanced coverage and makes use of new information from soviet archives while at the same time avoids mind numbing communist jargon and terminology also included are scores of rare illustrations some never before published in the west

this new biography of stalin offers an accessible and up to date representation of one of the twentieth century's defining figures as well as new insights analysis and illumination to deepen our understanding of his actions intentions and the nature of the power that he wielded christopher read examines stalin's contribution to and impact on russian and world events in the first half of the twentieth century the biography brings together the avalanche of sources and scholarship which followed the collapse of the system stalin constructed including the often neglected writings and speeches of stalin himself in addition to a detailed narrative and analysis of stalin's rule chapters also cover his early years and humble beginnings in a small town at a remote outpost of the russian empire his role in the revolution his relationships with lenin trotsky and others in the 1920s and his rise to become one of the most powerful figures in human history the book closes with an account of stalin's afterlife and legacy both in the immediate aftermath of his death and in the decades since this concise account of stalin's life is the perfect introduction for students of modern russian history

in the voluminous secret history of the 1930s one episode that still puzzles researchers is the death in 1937 of one of stalin's key allies his fellow georgian g k ordzhonikidze whether he took his own life or like kirov was murdered the case of ordzhonikidze intersects several long debated problems in soviet political history what role did politburo members play in decision making during the stalin era what formed the basis of stalin's alliances were there conflicts between stalin and his comrades and if so how far did they go was there in fact opposition to stalin these and other questions are addressed by one of russia's best young historians whose pioneering work in previously closed party and government archives is refining our understanding of the political history of the stalin era

this profile looks at how stalin despite being regarded as intellectually inferior by his rivals managed to rise to power and rule the largest country in the world achieving divine like status as a dictator through recently uncovered research material and stalin's archives in moscow kuromiya analyzes how and why stalin was a rare even unique politician who literally lived by politics alone he analyses how stalin understood psychology campaigns well and how he used this understanding in his political reign and terror kuromiya provides a convincing concise and up to date analysis of stalin's political life

monografie over de laatste maanden in het leven van stalin en de periode daarna

joseph stalin and the art of tyranny examines authoritarian rule revealing how tyrants sustain power through a mix of comfort terror love and fear often convincing their subjects of their divine purpose such leaders build systems of loyalists and subservient institutions enabling unchecked authority joseph stalin exemplifies this tyranny as soviet leader from 1929 to 1953 he implemented totalitarian policies nationalizing industry and agriculture controlling economic production through five year plans and eliminating dissent through imprisonment forced labour or execution his brutal regime caused an estimated 20 million deaths despite this grim legacy stalin s reputation remains divisive in western democracies he is remembered as a genocidal dictator but in russia he often ranks among the most admired historical figures illustrating the paradox of his influence stalinism served as a model for communist regimes in china vietnam and cuba shaping their governance while many of these nations transitioned toward democracy countries like russia china and north korea continue to echo stalinist practices modern leaders such as saddam hussein vladimir putin and xi jinping have adopted similar strategies of control joseph stalin and the art of tyranny offers crucial insights into authoritarianism revealing the enduring appeal and devastating impact of totalitarian rule

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