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Eastern Europe in the Sixties

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BOOKS

Thayer, Charles W. *Guerrilla*. New York: Harper & Row, 1963. 195p.

Unconventional warfare did not originate with the communists. Historically, it was recorded some 2,000 years before Marx by the Chinese. Its first modern theorist, T.E. Lawrence, outlined basic principles in his *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*. The author of the book under review was graduated from West Point, resigned his commission to enter the Foreign Service, and headed the OSS mission to Tito's Partisans during World War II; he thus seems eminently qualified to write on the subject of guerrilla warfare. He begins with a critique of United States operations in South Vietnam 'as prescribed by regulations' and in the Bay of Pigs. These fiascos are contrasted with Magsaysay's success versus the Huks, the Tito victory over Mikhailovich, and the Giap campaign in Indo-China. Later chapters deal with the Greek civil war, Malaya (where although the ratio was 25 to 1, the struggle lasted ten years, with a final total of 6,000 dead Reds and 3,000 captured), terror in Cyprus, the Soviet partisans in World War II, the 35-day Warsaw uprising, and Latin America. It is obvious that the U.S.S.R. will continue to support this type of irregular 'warfare by proxy.' To combat this threat more effectively, Mr. Thayer suggests in his conclusions the establishment of an Irregular Warfare Command.

Fischer-Galati, Stephen. *Eastern Europe in the Sixties*. New York: Praeger, 1963. 239p.

This book is a compilation of eight articles, each by a different author, which were written to cover specific topics as suggested by the editor. The attempt to present and interpret the principal developments in Eastern Europe appears, in this reviewer's opinion, to have been successful. Each article approaches the problem from a different viewpoint, yet there is cohesiveness in the discussion of the problems of the overall area involved. The book is divided into the three parts: I - The New Social Order, II - The Planned Economy, and III - The Politics of Peaceful Coexistence. Grouped under these headings are observations on the following subjects: the society, education, agriculture, industry and labor, trade patterns, and political order; and a discussion of both East Europe and world communism, and East Europe and the noncommunist world. The volume is an excellent work for an overview of the problems facing East Europe; and the short Note section appended lists a limited number of works useful for further research.