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Soviet Potentials: a Geographic Appraisal

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author give points of departure for the discussions that serve to show how ideology and power are linked together in the Soviet scheme of controlling the masses. Frequent comparisons are made between Czarist and Soviet Russia. Three of the essays deal with the internal aspects of Russian politics, and two with Russian international affairs. The essays, together with the extensive footnoting, provide a valuable insight into Russian application of ideology and power.

Keller, Werner. *East Minus West - Zero*. New York: Putnam, 1962. 384 p.

The author explains in lavish detail that Russian power, great as it is, has always been, and is now, relatively weak when compared with that of the West as a whole. The reason for this is that the West is the prime source of the Russians' power. They contribute no new ideas of their own, but borrow or steal all of their ideas from the West. The atom bomb, the rocket, the jet airplane are but a few of the Russian developments of the current generation that have been totally derived from Western intellect. This pattern existed during the reigns of the Ivans, Peter the Great, Catherine II and successors, and still exists. The Russians excel beyond all comparison at copying the works of others. The author believes that Russia lacks the basic potential—educated, free men in numbers approaching those of the West—and can never catch up on its own; though by devoting vast effort and energies to specific projects, it may occasionally lead the West in certain fields. He concludes by admonishing the West that whether Russia overtakes the West will be decided by the West itself, and the attitude it adopts toward Russia in the light of the Russians' past behavior. 'There is only one way of dealing with a power like Russia, and that is the way of courage.'—Karl Marx, 1853.

Cressey, George B. *Soviet Potentials; a Geographic Appraisal*. Syracuse, N.Y.: Syracuse University Press, 1962. 232 p.

The author, who has crossed Siberia seven times, points out the effect of the great distances within the Soviet Union on utilization of resources and world trade. The center of Soviet production, for example, is 6000 rail or 4000 air-line miles from the center of consumption in China. The distance from the Polish frontier to Vladivostok equals that from San Francisco to London. What is not so obvious, but of basic importance, is that most of this vast country lies in the latitude of Canada rather than of the United States. The great water bodies of the southern Soviet Union, such as the Black, Caspian and Aral Seas, lie on a parallel with the Great Lakes of North America. Those parts of the Union that resemble the United States correspond to Montana, the Dakotas and Nevada. Nowhere does the Soviet Union have a Mississippi Valley, an Iowa or an Ohio. Only small parts are really good, and much of their best farmland is inferior to that of

Minnesota. With this background of vastness, low fertility and wasteland, the author has attempted to cover all of Russia by geographical groupings of likenesses. As a result, it is hard to assimilate the facts of climate, rainfall, resources, distances, people, etc., of each similar locale as one moves across Russia from east to west, north to south and vice versa. The book abounds in statistical data and, for the general reader, student and/or professional, provides an up-to-date background on our opponent in the struggle for world leadership.

Daniels, Robert V. *The Nature of Communism*. New York: Random House, 1962. 398 p.

The stated purpose of this book is to contribute to the breakup of the vicious circle of fear, hostility and oversimplified misunderstanding of communism. The objective is a definition of the communist movement—an attempt to answer such questions about communism as: What is its real nature? How has it developed? What distinguishes it from other political movements and systems? What does it mean to say that an individual, an organization, or a government is communist? What, apart from nomenclature, do all have in common? What are the sources of such common denominators of the movements?

Grinnell-Milne, Duncan. *The Triumph of Integrity: a Portrait of Charles de Gaulle*. New York: Macmillan, 1962. 334 p.

This is a timely study of Charles de Gaulle in light of the Algerian cease-fire. The author, an RAF liaison officer to General de Gaulle in World War II, was assigned to, and accompanied, his subject throughout the war from 'the Thames via Dakar, Freetown and Lagos, to the banks of the Wouri and the quayside at Duala.' He takes the reader through the many personal triumphs and frustrations of De Gaulle, and the book is generous in its deep admiration. *Integrity* is perhaps De Gaulle's strongest virtue; the book shows how faith in his leadership compels the French to accept his authority.