

1961

Russia and the West under Lenin and Stalin

George F. Kennan

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review>

Recommended Citation

Kennan, George F. (1961) "Russia and the West under Lenin and Stalin," *Naval War College Review*: Vol. 14 : No. 8 , Article 6.
Available at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review/vol14/iss8/6>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at U.S. Naval War College Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Naval War College Review by an authorized editor of U.S. Naval War College Digital Commons. For more information, please contact repository.inquiries@usnwc.edu.

BOOKS

Fall, Bernard B. *Street without Joy; Indo-China at War, 1946-54*. Harrisburg, Pa.; Stackpole, 1961. 322 p.

Bernard Fall has succeeded in creating an object lesson in the efficacy of guerrilla tactics under jungle conditions when used against the more stylized and more road-bound tactics of the modern army. This book brings home the realization that: (1) fascination with modern weapons systems should not blind one to their comparative ineffectiveness under guerrilla combat conditions; (2) a hit-and-run war of this type requires large numbers of forces specifically trained for small unit operations under austere supply conditions; and (3) a country should not engage in such operations unless it is prepared to support them fully, even to what may be considered by some to be a disproportionate commitment of resources.

Plischke, Elmer. *Conduct of American Diplomacy*. 2nd. ed. Princeton, N.J.: Van Nostrand, 1961. 660 p.

Professor Elmer Plischke's second edition of *Conduct of American Diplomacy* undertakes an examination of the management of United States foreign relations. Concentrating on the principles, methods and machinery of diplomacy, it does not deal with the substance of American diplomatic history. This work is of value both as a general survey and a work of reference to the student of American foreign policy.

Kennan, George F. *Russia and the West under Lenin and Stalin*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1961. 411 p.

Russia and the West under Lenin and Stalin is based on a series of lectures given by the author at Oxford and Harvard Universities. It examines some of

the major episodes and turning points in the history of the relations between the Soviet Union and the West from the Revolution of 1917 until the end of World War II. The myths about the Soviet-West relationship which have been fostered by Soviet historians are very effectively refuted, while still not concealing the shortcomings of the West in this relationship. This work is highly recommended for those who desire background data before proceeding to deal with any specific subject area concerning Soviet foreign policy.

Nollau, Gunther. *International Communism and World Revolution*. New York: Praeger, 1961. 357 p.

Dr. Nollau has attempted to present in one volume a complete picture of collaboration between the parties of the working classes in their international revolutionary movement. He has approached this task with a historical and analytical presentation of "proletarian internationalism" from the time of its inception in 1864 until the present day. The quality of this work is best summed up by Leonard Schapiro in the foreword of the book:

It is well known that it is no easy task to maintain standards of serious scholarship when writing about communism. Yet it is just this that Dr. Nollau seems to me to have achieved. In spite of the difficult task of compression which he has had to undertake in the interest of space, his account never loses in clarity. His assertions of fact are fully documented and his conjectures, where conjecture is unavoidable, are clearly indicated as such and the reader is led to the sources upon which the conjectures are based.

This book is suggested as a guide for students of international communism.