

# The Soviet High Command A Military Political History 1918 1941

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the study makes extensive use of soviet military histories specialist military monographs red army regulations military manuals and handbooks memoirs

documentary collections on soviet military organization and army party relations unpublished captured german military documents describe the secret red army reichswehr collaboration japanese army records provide detailed information on the soviet military build up in the far east

an objective and documentary history of the earliest origins and formative years of the workers peasants red army from the civil war to the initial disasters of the war with germany the great patriotic war culminating in the battle for moscow in november december 1941

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challenging previous accounts megargee shatters the myth that german generals would have prevailed in world war ii if only hitler had not meddled in their affairs instead he observes that the military s strategic ideas were no better than hitler s and often were worse 20 photos

the recent transformations in the ussr are nowhere more evident than in the soviet military top level military officers have been relieved of their positions gorbachev has warned of lean times for the military the symbolic role of the armed forces has been downgraded and the concept of military sufficiency points to major modifications in soviet force structure contrary to some who see gorbachev as a sir galahad out to slay the evil military high command dale herspring concludes that the relationship between the highest soviet political and military leaders is at the moment more symbiotic than conflictual in this first in depth study of the evolution of civil military relations in the soviet union from 1967 to the present he shows how the views of senior military officers have varied over time currently even if the members of the high command do not like all gorbachev s changes they understand the need for them and are prepared to live with them as herspring looks at the personalities and politics of eight top military figures he reveals that the most important of them ogarkov was the first senior soviet military officer to understand the value of working with the political leadership ogarkov believed that the arms control and dtente processes if carefully managed could enhance the national security of the ussr in gorbachev the soviet military has found the type of individual that ogarkov was seeking originally published in 1990 the princeton legacy library uses the latest print on demand technology to again make available previously out of print books from the

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brigadier hemsley beskæftiger sig primært med den teoretiske og praktiske kontrol i militær sammenhæng sovjetisk ledelseskoncept effektivitetsmåling anvendelse af systemteori og datateknologiens udvikling

one of the largest and most feared military forces in the world the red army was a key player in advancing the cause of soviet socialism rising out of revolutionary era citizen militias it aspired to the greatness needed to confront its cold war adversaries but was woefully unprepared to change with the times in this first comprehensive study of the soviet officer corps roger reese traces the history of the red army from civil war triumph through near decimation in world war ii and demoralizing quagmire in afghanistan to the close scrutiny it came under during gorbachev s reform era reese takes readers inside the red army to reconstruct the social and institutional dynamics that shaped its leadership and effectiveness over seventy three years he depicts the lives of these officers by revealing their class origins life experiences party loyalty and attitudes toward professionalism he tells how these men were shaped by russian culture and soviet politics and how the communist party dominated every aspect of their careers but never allowed them the autonomy they needed to cultivate a high level of military effectiveness despite its struggle to develop and maintain professionalism the officer corps was often hampered by factors inextricably intertwined with the soviet state marxist theory revolutionary ideology friction between party and non party members and the influence of the army s political administration organs reese shows that by rejecting the western bourgeois model of military professionalism the state greatly limited its officer corps ability to develop a more effective military while a sense of group identity emerged among officers after world war ii it quickly lost relevance in the face of postwar challenges especially the war in afghanistan which underscored fatal flaws in command leadership red commanders offers new insight into the workings of a military giant and also restores leon trotsky to his rightful place in soviet military history by featuring his ideas on building a new army from the ground up it is an important look behind the scenes at a military establishment that continues to face leadership challenges in russia today

this book aims to furnish a history of the origins and development of soviet military leadership together with a survey of its relations with the communist party and the governmental apparatus within the chronological limits of the first attempts to organise the red army and a military command

conversino s story is as interesting as it is unfamiliar and succeeds in opening up frantic s many dimensions including the personal as well as the political strategic and operational his revelations regarding the interactions between american servicemen and ukrainian russians are especially valuable and underscore the immense difficulties of implementing alliances at the grass roots level dennis showalter author of tannenberg clash of empires

selected bibliography p 511 519

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

in this collection senior scholars explore the transit ion from war to uneasy peace how and why the war ended as it did whether a different resolution was possible and if the ensuing cold war was inevitable

the use of airpower in wartime calls to mind the massive bombings of world war ii but airplanes have long been instrumental in small wars as well ever since its use by the french to put down rebellious moroccan tribes in 1913 airpower has been employed to fight in limited but often lengthy small conflicts around the globe this is the first comprehensive history of airpower in small wars conflicts pitting states against non state groups such as insurgents bandits factions and terrorists tracing it from the early years of the twentieth century to the present day it examines dozens of conflicts with strikingly different scenarios the greek civil war the philippine anti huk campaign french and british colonial wars the war in south vietnam before the american escalation counterinsurgency in southern africa latin american counterguerrilla operations and counterinsurgency and counterterrorist campaigns in the middle east over the last four decades for each war the authors describe the strategies employed on both sides of the conflict the air forces engaged and the specific airpower tactics employed they

discuss the ground campaigns and provide the political background necessary to understand the air campaigns and in each case they judge the utility of airpower in its broadest sense in their historic sweep they show how forms of airpower evolved from planes to police helicopters aircraft of the civilian air reserve and today s unmanned aircraft they also disclose how small wars after world war ii required new strategies operational solutions and tactics by taking this broad view of small war airpower the authors are able to make assessments about the most effective and least effective means of employing airpower they offer specific conclusions ranging from the importance of comprehensive strategy to the need for the united states and its allies to expand small wars training programs airpower in small wars will be invaluable for educating military professionals and policy makers in the subject as well as for providing a useful framework for developing more effective doctrine for employing airpower in the conflicts we are most likely to see in the twenty first century

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