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New Lies For Old



Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a difficult book - allow me to attempt to review it with the hope that someone reading this might be persuaded to temporarily ignore the John Birch Society atmosphere its conclusions engender. I believe it holds the key to certain geostrategic facts which an astute reader will infer, although they are too difficult to describe in a short book review. Golitsyn is an important and controversial defector (1961). This book, however, allegedly provides evidence of his profound paranoia that his critics argue ultimately misled such officers as James Angleton at CIA counterintelligence and inflicted great harm on US national security. This may be true, and Golitsyn's conclusions here are unfalsifiable, but the fact is this is not the book a madman would write, and at least on that basis its propositions ought to be considered seriously if for no other reason than that he is a genuine defector who provided much valuable information to the CIA. His main thesis is that after Stalin (d. 1953), and the German, Polish, and Hungarian revolts (last 1956), the Soviet state faced a profound destabilization. Stalin's power monopoly within the party was so complete there was a succession crisis following his death; his methods were so brutal re the newly created Soviet satellites that the populations took the opportunity of his death to revolt. Tito's rejection of Stalinism and Moscow's friction with Mao in particular also demonstrated dangers posed to the new Communist bloc's strategy of promoting revolution in the West and elsewhere. Lastly, and perhaps most urgently, the Soviet Union determined export by revolution through military means could never be accomplished in light of the advent of nuclear weapons and the West's determination (NATO, etc.

Throughout Major Anatoliy Golitsyn's 1995 book The Perestroika Deception, the author decries the West's blind acceptance of the political and economic changes that occurred within the Soviet Bloc, culminating in the collapse of the East Bloc and later the collapse of the USSR. In a typical passage denoting exasperation that can be found throughout the book, Major Golitsyn writes: "Western acceptance of the changes in the USSR and Eastern Europe [under the 'Long-Range Policy', a more subtle strategy to neutralize the West, as signed onto by all Communist nations in 1960] as a trend towards genuine democracy which serves Western interests and therefore merits Western support show how little the West comprehends the essence of the changes and the dangers they entail. In part this non-comprehension arises from confusion over terminology. What the West calls 'democratisation', Soviet strategists call the transformation of the 'dictatorship of the proletariat' into the 'state of the whole people'." Knowledgeable of limited Soviet strategic planning and operations (intelligence agencies don't tell their intelligence officers everything), KGB defector Major Anatoliy Golitsyn presents us with only half of the story, the complete story now clearly apparent thanks to the following observations by this researcher...

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