

The title of the second book, written by two Czechs, is misleading, because the book describes the activities of an *Abwehr* agent named Paul Thümmel who provided Czechoslovak intelligence with classified information from February 1936 until his arrest in March 1942 by the Gestapo. He, like Sorge, was executed after three years' imprisonment, only a few days before he would have been liberated from the Terezin concentration camp. Whereas the motives of a Poretsky or a Sorge do not represent much of a problem, those of Thümmel are more complex. An old-guard Nazi, awarded the NSDAP gold medal, he had joined the German intelligence service in 1928. Although he received money for his services, there must have been other reasons why Thümmel worked for the Czechs and indirectly for the Allies.

Amort and Jedlicka throw some light on relations between the *Abwehr*, headed by Admiral Wilhelm Canaris, and the Gestapo, which wanted to assume all foreign intelligence functions (for the Soviet version, see D. E. Melnikov and L. B. Chernaiia, *Dvulikii Admiral: Glavar' fashistskoi razvedki Kanaris i ego khoziaeva*, Moscow, 1965, pp. 108–14). According to the authors of the book under review, the Thümmel case was used by the Gestapo with good results in this struggle. Canaris himself was executed on April 9, 1945, having been implicated in the July 20 attempt on Hitler's life.

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EAGLES EAST: THE ARMY AIR FORCES AND THE SOVIET UNION, 1941–1945. By *Richard C. Lukas*. Tallahassee: Florida State University Press, 1970. ix, 256 pp. \$10.00.

This is a useful study, sketching in fair detail the story of American supply of military aircraft to the Soviet Union under Lend Lease, and the use of Soviet bases by American bombers. The author has evidently had access to much—though apparently not all—of the relevant information in the field. The book is weak on sources and coverage of tangential subjects, and to a much lesser extent also on the basic subject at hand, because general bibliographies covering such subjects as Soviet military affairs have not been used. One consequence is that such mythical sources as “Colonel Kalinov” and “Captain Krylov” are cited as if they were valid. Apart from rendering the first chapter weak and unreliable, these shortcomings do not on the whole dilute the basically sound and careful use of pertinent sources in the major part of the book.

The study illustrates in many specific ways how American military assistance to the Soviet Union for political and military reasons interacted with other military and a variety of bureaucratic and political problems. As the author notes, “Lend Lease had never been exclusively a response to military need; it was more a demonstration to the Russians of the Western commitment to the anti-Axis alliance.” Similarly, the book brings out the fact that the United States sent aircraft in part to placate the Russians for other disappointments, such as the postponement of a second front in Western Europe in 1942 and 1943.

The Russians, for their part, several times strung the United States along, postponing decisions and commitments to see if the course of events would make it possible to dispense with certain arrangements not to their liking. The Soviets rightly suspected that the Americans were interested in using Siberian airfields in 1941 not only for ferrying aircraft into the Soviet Union but also for possible future U.S. air strikes against Japan. Later the United States explicitly advanced its desire

to base some 650 aircraft in Siberia, but Moscow delayed and eventually the entire project came to naught. In the European USSR a proposal for large-scale United States and United Kingdom air deployment to the Caucasus in the fall of 1942 was eventually dropped, but substantial shuttle bombing between Italy and the Ukraine did take place in 1944–45. A total of 2,200 sorties were flown, involving 1,270 Americans at three Ukrainian bases, but overall this effort had only modest military results. (In addition, on the first major strike mission a German attack on the base at Poltava caused disastrous results—forty-three B-17's were destroyed and twenty-six damaged, and not a single attacking German aircraft was destroyed.) Nonetheless, the shuttle-bombing experience was a notable achievement in Allied cooperation.

Eagles East reads easily, and is recommended to those who would like to know more about this chapter in Soviet-American relations, as well as to those having a particular interest in the politico-military history of World War II.

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AN INTRODUCTION TO THE SOVIET LEGAL SYSTEM. By E. L. Johnson. London: Methuen & Co., 1969. New York: Barnes & Noble, 1970. xv, 248 pp. £3.25. \$10.50.

In this brief work the late E. L. Johnson attempts to introduce Soviet law and legal institutions to the educated layman. Its title notwithstanding, the book treats the law in much greater detail than the legal system; and to the law it is indeed a valuable overview, relatively free of the specialized jargon of lawyers.

The author has devoted special attention to those legal problems thought to be of particular interest to the educated citizen, especially criminal law and procedure and domestic relations. Brief attention is also given to contract and tort, labor law, and the Soviet equivalent of corporation law. Interestingly, and unaccountably, the area of civil rights is largely ignored. For instance, statutory restrictions on assembly and demonstrations, so clearly expressed in the trials of the Pushkin Square demonstrators, are not mentioned. Nor is any note taken of the procedural and statutory bases for the current Soviet practice of remanding political oppositionists to mental institutions, thereby avoiding some of the potential embarrassment of a criminal process. Such lacunae stand as the major shortcoming of the work.

In other regards, Johnson succeeds admirably in supplying a readable and intelligible background to Soviet law for the nonspecialist. The book is notably without ideological bias, and deserves a wide readership.

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POLITICS AND HISTORY IN THE SOVIET UNION. By Nancy Whittier Heer. Cambridge and London: M.I.T. Press, 1971. viii, 319 pp. \$12.50.

That the Soviet historian has special political functions is well known. Specialists have also become increasingly aware that in recent years the relationship between the historian and the party has become more complex, and that at the same time more objective history is being written. The great value of Nancy Heer's study is that through painstaking research and perceptive writing she has filled in a picture which we knew only in outline.