

The Darkness in the East

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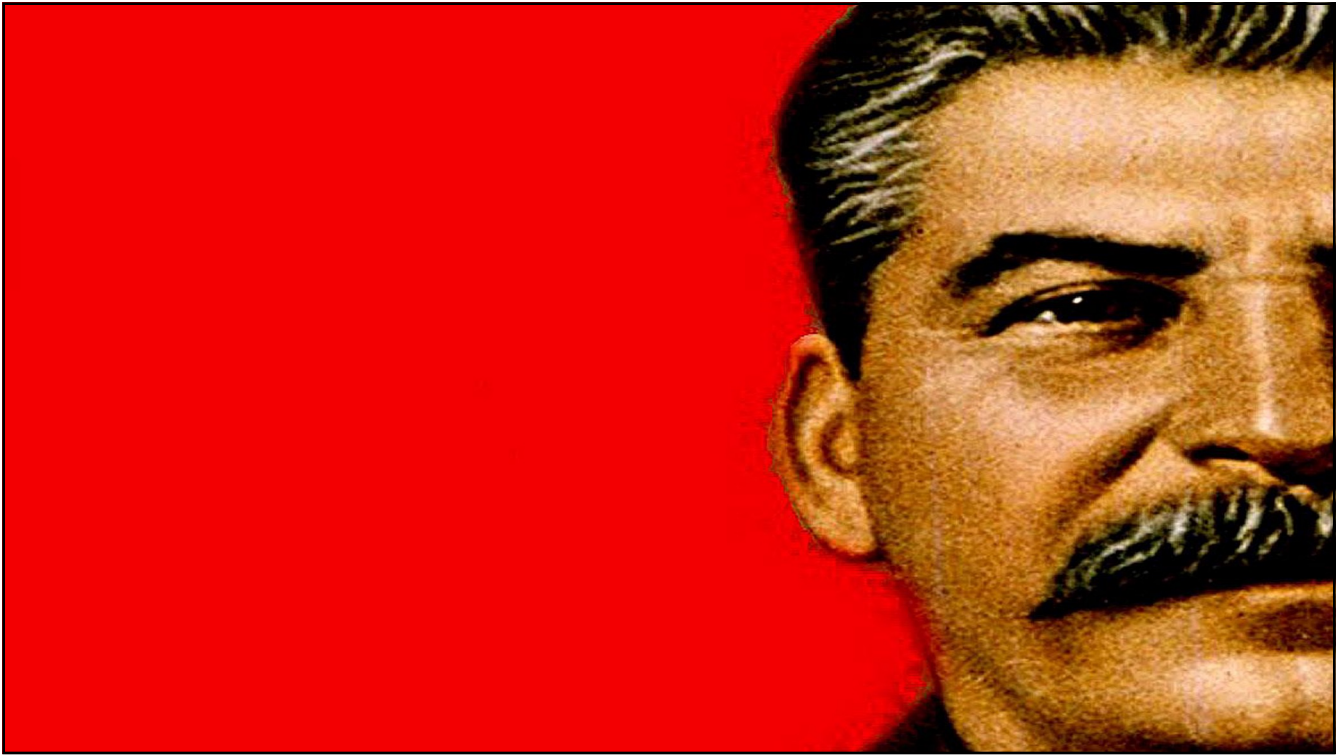
Dr. Tod Worner

1

The beginning of every war is like opening the door into a dark room. One
never knows what is hidden in the darkness.

– Adolf Hitler

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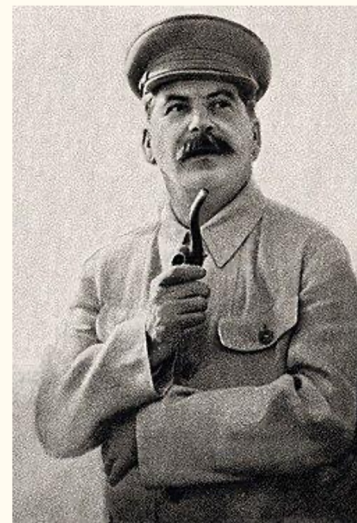


3

Who Was Joseph Stalin?

Joseph Stalin

- Born December 18, 1878 in Georgia (part of the Russian empire) to an alcoholic father and doting mother.
- Originally, Joseph Dzugashvili who changed his name to Stalin (“steel”) as a revolutionary.

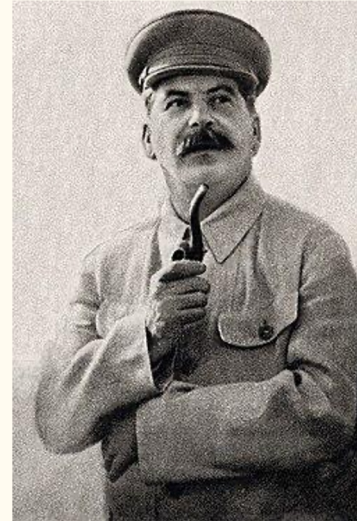


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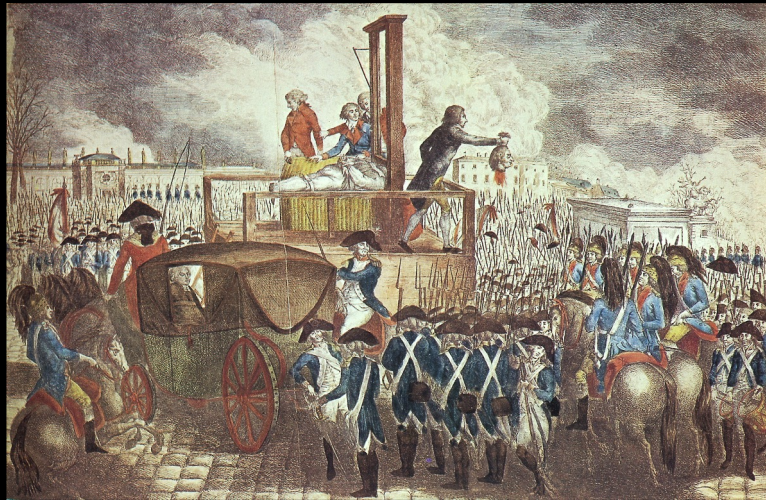
Who Was Joseph Stalin?

Joseph Stalin

- Criminal and Bolshevik revolutionary who idolized (and succeeded in 1924) Vladimir Lenin as General Secretary of the Communist Party (& leader of the Soviet Union)
- WHAT PHILOSOPHY INFORMED STALIN?



5



[We need] real, nationwide terror, which reinvigorates the country, & through which the Great French Revolution achieved glory.

- Vladimir Lenin, originally written in 1908

6



Comrades! . . . You must make example of these people. (1) Hang (I mean hang publicly, so that people see it) at least 100 kulaks, rich bastards, and known bloodsuckers. (2) Publish their names. (3) Seize all their grain. . .

– Vladimir Lenin, invoking the Red Terror after being shot twice in an assassination attempt

7

To overcome our enemies we must have our own socialist militarism. We must carry along with us 90 million out of the 100 million of Soviet Russia's population. As for the rest, we have nothing to say to them. They must be annihilated.

– Vladimir Lenin



8

Do not look in the file of incriminating evidence to see whether or not the accused rose up against the Soviets with arms or words. Ask him instead to which class he belongs, what is his background, his education, his profession. These are the questions that will determine the fate of the accused. That is the meaning and essence of the Red Terror.

- Martin Latsis, head of the Cheka (in Ukraine)

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The families of the deserters have been taken as hostages. When we started to shoot one person from each family, [the deserters] began to come out of the woods and surrender. Thirty-four deserters were shot as an example.

- Typical Cheka report during the Red Terror



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People were tied to planks and slowly fed into furnaces; the skin was peeled off victims' hands to produce "gloves"; naked people were rolled around in barrels studded with nails; in Kiev, cages of rats were fixed to prisoners' bodies and heated until the rats gnawed their way into the victims' intestines. . .priests, monks and nuns were crucified, thrown into cauldrons of boiling tar, scalped, strangled, given Communion with melted lead and drowned in holes in the ice.

– Typical Cheka atrocities during the Red Terror

11

We must put an end once and for all to the Papist-Quaker babble about the sanctity of human life.

– Leon Trotsky



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One would like to stroke &
caress human beings; but one
dared not do so, because they
bite.

– Vladimir Lenin



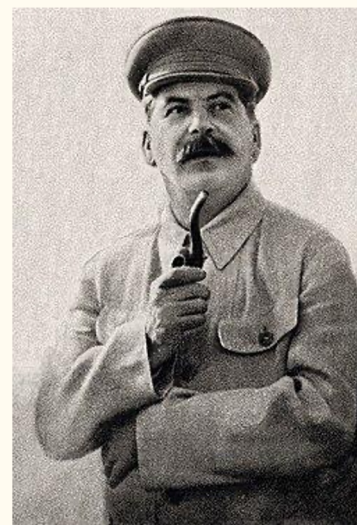
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Who Was Joseph Stalin?

Joseph Stalin

1920s – 1930s

- Had rivalry with Communist intellectual Leon Trotsky (ultimately had him killed).
- Ruthlessly consolidated power, executed friends and enemies, killed millions in collective farm enterprise.
- Established a NKVD police state
- In the 1930s, purges, show trials, utter domestic horror leading into the Second World War.



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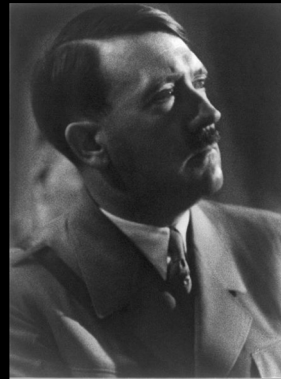
Bolshevism is not a policy; it is a disease. It is not a creed; it is a pestilence. It presents all the characteristics of a pestilence. It breaks out with great suddenness; it is violently contagious; it throws people into a frenzy of excitement; it spreads with extraordinary rapidity; the mortality is terrible; so that after a while, like other pestilences, the disease tends to wear itself out.

– Winston Churchill, in 1920



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- Adolf Hitler
 - 1923 - Wrote *Mein Kampf* (My Struggle)
 - Determination to expand German state eastward and enslave Russians & Asiatics.
 - "The Russian Empire in the East is ripe for collapse; and the end of the Jewish domination of Russia will also be the end of Russia as a state."



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- Adolf Hitler

- Felt Communists were a party led by Jews bent on world domination.
- Blamed 1933 Reichstag (German Parliament) fire on international Communist conspiracy.
 - Hitler banned German Communist party, suspended civil liberties, and assumed emergency powers which helped make him dictator.



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If this Bolshevism would be content to promote this doctrine in a single land, then other countries might remain unconcerned, but its supreme principle is its internationalism and that means the confession of faith that these views must be carried to triumph throughout the whole world, i.e., that the world as we know it must be turned upside down...Since I have fought against these Jewish Soviet ideas in Germany, since I have conquered and stamped out this peril, I fancy that I possess a better comprehension of its character than do men who have only at best had to deal with it in the field of literature.

– Adolf Hitler, 1936

18

The Bolshevization of Germany. . . means the complete annihilation
of the entire Christian-western culture.

– Adolf Hitler

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The Nature of Joseph Stalin's Rule

1920s-1930s

- Collectivization
- The Great Purge
 - Leadership Purges & Show Trials
 - Military Purges & Show Trials
- The Great Terror



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Collectivization

- Effort to combine peasant farms into large well-run “collectives”
 - “Drastic social changes, on a scale not seen since the abolition of serfdom in 1861.” - Anon
 - Coinciding destruction of folk habits, ethnic cultures, & religious traditions to indoctrinate peasants into Communist faith



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Collectivization

- “Five-Year Plans”
 - Began in 1928
 - “Crash” industrialization & collectivization plan
 - Pay dirt wages to peasants
 - Sell crops abroad
 - Near impossible standards to meet
 - 200% increase in industrial production & 50% increase in agriculture production



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Collectivization

- Significant resistance
 - Ruthless implementation by military
 - Singled out wealthy peasants (kulaks) as scapegoats
 - Fostered class warfare among peasants
 - Deported (5 million), enslaved, murdered tens of thousands
 - Civil disobedience with peasants killing own livestock, horses (1/2 of all horses in SU)



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He sought to achieve his objectives through the means of a system of terror, employing massive deportations and, in the end, turning human beings into simple pack animals, docile beings without ideas of their own who merely had to keep in mind the words of propaganda which were pushed out according to the dictator's criterion.

– Manuel Gimenez, historian

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The peasants ate dogs, horses,
rotten potatoes, the bark of trees...
anything they could find.

– Brenda Haugen, historian



25

Man-Made Famine

- Early 1930s...
- Draconian enforcement of collectivization, “theft laws” & extortion of crops from starving farmers to sell abroad
 - Ukraine especially singled out due to its drive for independence from Soviet Union & resistance to collectivization
 - Peasants executed for eating dead horse
 - Cannibalism
- It was **not** a crop failure but the excessive demands of the state, ruthlessly enforced, that cost the lives of as many as five million Ukrainian peasants.

– Alan Bullock, historian



26



While millions starved to death, it was simply denied that any famine existed.

– Robert Conquest, historian. . .
to speak of the famine brought a sentence of 10 years in prison or execution

27



We know millions are dying. That is unfortunate, but the glorious future of the Soviet Union will justify it.

– G.I. Petrovsky, Communist head of Ukraine to an American inquiry

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A child can see that this is not
famine, but abundance.

– Walter Duranty, Pulitzer Prize
winning journalist &
Moscow correspondent for the New
York Times on the Ukraine famine.



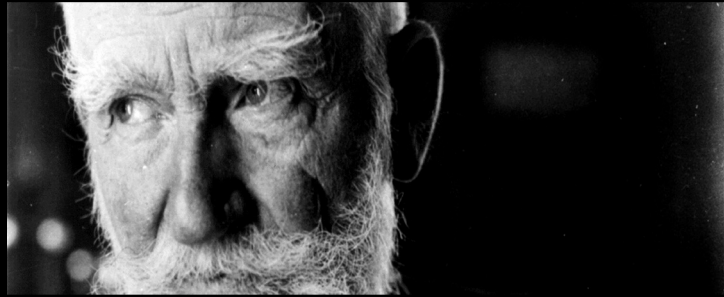
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I have never met a man more candid, fair and honest, and to these qualities it is, and to nothing occult & sinister, that he owes his tremendous undisputed ascendancy in Russia. I had thought before I saw him that he might be where he was because men were afraid of him but I realize that he owes his position to the fact that no one is afraid of him & everybody trusts him.

– H.G. Wells, famed British author/intellectual, after meeting with Joseph Stalin in 1934

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Particularly offensive and ridiculous is the revival of the old attempts to represent the condition of Russian workers as one of slavery and starvation, the Five-Year Plan as a failure, the new enterprises as bankrupt and the Communist regime as tottering to its fall. Although such inflammatory irresponsibility is easily laughed at, we must not forget that there are many people not sufficiently well informed politically to be proof against it...

– George Bernard Shaw, Nobel and Oscar-winning playwright and intellectual

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Stalin's whole system, & his whole technique of rule, was increasingly dependent on falsehood on a scale so vast that it seems fair to call it unprecedented.

– Robert Conquest, historian

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The thing that touched off my sense that western man was, as it were, sleep-walking into his own ruin, was the extraordinary performance of the ... intelligentsia, who, in those days, flocked to Moscow like pilgrims to Mecca. And they were one and all utterly delighted and excited by what they saw there. Clergymen walked serenely and happily through the anti-god museums, politicians claimed that no system of society could possibly be more equitable and just, lawyers admired Soviet justice, and economists praised the Soviet economy. They all wrote articles in this sense which we resident journalists knew were completely nonsensical...How could this be?.. How could this extraordinary credulity exist in the minds of people who were adulated by one and all as maestros of discernment and judgment?.. [How] could you explain how people, in their own country ardent for equality, bitter opponents of capital punishment and all for more humane treatment of people in prison, supporters, in fact, of every good cause, should in the USSR prostrate themselves before a regime ruled over brutally and oppressively and arbitrarily by a privileged party oligarchy? I still ponder over the mystery of how men displaying critical intelligence in other fields could be so astonishingly deluded.

– Malcolm Muggeridge, British author and journalist

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A con job needs a con man **AND** a sucker.

- Robert Conquest, historian

34

The Great Purge

- Leader Purge & Show Trials (1936)

- Against elite Communist leaders
- Accused of being Capitalists, undermining Communism, attempting to assassinate Stalin
- Torture, Confession, Trial, Execution



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The Great Purge

- Red Army Purge & Show Trials (1937-39)

- Marshal Mikhail Tuchachevsky
 - Highest ranking in Red Army
- 3 of 5 marshals (then equivalent to six-star generals)
- 13 of 15 army commanders (then equivalent to four- and five-star generals)
- 8 of 9 admirals
- 50 of 57 army corps commanders
- 154 out of 186 division commanders
- 16 of 16 army commissars
- 25 of 28 army corps commissars



36

The Great Terror

- Coined by historian Robert Conquest
 - Wider, indiscriminate purging of society (beyond military & political leadership) at the height of the “Great Purge” – 1937-38
 - Run by NKVD (Soviet secret police)
 - Endless list of capital offenses
 - Loose associations with old political factions
 - Economists or industrialists who fail to please Stalin
 - Religious affiliations
 - Travel abroad
 - Employment by Red Cross
 - American immigrants (coming for work during Great Depression)
 - Owning hotel prior to Revolution
 - Bad forecasts by meteorologists
 - Textile workers who made pant pockets too small
 - Quotas from each region for arrests of saboteurs” and Trotskyites
 - Penalty for NOT making quota was death
 - During 1937-38, 1000 executions per day (total of 681,692 – although some estimate 2.5 times this)*** (SSM p 228)



37

Don't you understand? They are arresting people for *nothing* now?

- Anna Akhmatova, Russian poet

38

Three inmates in a Siberian labor camp were talking to one another:

1st inmate: “What are you in for?”

2nd inmate: “I denounced Ivanov. How about you?”

1st inmate: “I made a speech in defense of Ivanov.”

Then they asked a third inmate: “And you?”

3rd inmate: “Me? I’m Ivanov.”

– Russian underground joke about the GULAG system

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GULAG

Acronym for “The Chief Administration of
Corrective Labor Camps & Colonies”

- 476 camps with hundreds of thousands of camp units (Applebaum)
- 14 million prisoners from 1929-53
 - Imprisoned for political dissent, missing work, petty theft, anti-government jokes
 - Often w/o trial



40

Rummaging through the garbage, eating rancid scraps of meat, chewing on fish skeletons – such behavior was so common that no one noticed.

There they are beaten, beaten, and once again, beaten, down on all fours and growling like dogs, kicking and biting one another for a gout of rotten trash.

– Janusz Bardasch and Martin Amis



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The labor camps have won high reputation throughout the Soviet Union as places where tens of thousands of men have been reclaimed.

– Anna Louise Strong, American journalist

42

The defense of Europe against
Bolshevism is our task for the next
two or three hundred years.

– Adolf Hitler



43

Our strength consists in our speed and in our brutality. **Genghis Khan** led millions of women and children to slaughter – with premeditation and a happy heart. History sees in him solely the founder of a **state**. It's a matter of indifference to me what a weak western European civilization will say about me. I have issued the command – and I'll have anybody who utters but one word of criticism executed by a firing squad – that our **war** aim does not consist in reaching certain lines, but in the physical destruction of the enemy.

Accordingly, I have placed my **death-head formation** in readiness – for the present only in the East – with orders to them to send to death mercilessly and without compassion, men, women, and children of Polish derivation and language. Only thus shall we gain the living space (*Lebensraum*) which we need. **Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?**

– Adolf Hitler, 1939 Obersalzberg Speech to Wehrmacht commanders (one week prior to invasion of Poland)

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Molotov-Ribbentrop (Nazi-Soviet) Non-Aggression Pact

- **August 23, 1939**
 - In advance of the Poland invasion, the Nazis engaged in furious shuttle diplomacy with arch-enemy, the Soviet Union.
 - Soviets & Nazis would divide Poland
 - Soviets would annex Finland, Latvia, & Estonia.
 - Hitler would avoid two front war (if West retaliated).
 - Hitler would get resources from Soviet Union.
- **August 25, 1939** (2 BLOWS TO HITLER...)
 - Anglo-Polish Treaty signed
 - Italy reneges on guarantee to fight with Germany



45

Everything I undertake is directed against Russia. If the West is too stupid and too blind to comprehend that, I will be forced to come to an understanding with the Russians, smash the West, and then, after its defeat, turn against the Soviet Union with my combined forces.

– Adolf Hitler upset that his plans have been frustrated:
 TO CRUSH FRANCE, MAKE POLAND A SATELLITE, TO ALLY WITH
 GREAT BRITAIN, & INVADE USSR

46

Russia is a riddle, wrapped in a mystery, inside an enigma.

– Winston Churchill

47



48



Hitler wants to trick us, but I think we got the better of him.

– Joseph Stalin

49

As the last factor in this struggle, I must – in all modesty – name my own person. Irreplaceable! Neither a military man nor a civilian could replace me! I am convinced of the powers of my intellect. No one has ever achieved what I have achieved! I have led the German people to a great height – even if the world does hate us now. The fate of the Reich depends only on me! I shall act accordingly! I shall shrink from nothing. I shall annihilate everyone who is opposed to me!

– Adolf Hitler, to his generals. He would repeatedly compare himself to Napoleon, Frederick the Great, and Bismarck

50



51



52

- Terror & Collectivization
 - On the heels of the Red Army's westward expansion, the NKVD followed and implemented terror in the newly acquired territories
 - Russian civilians claimed land, homes, jobs of occupied peoples & deported & liquidated natives.
 - Very similar to the SS following the German Army.



53

- Katyn Massacre
 - 15,000 Polish POW officers executed by the Soviets.
 - Blamed Nazis
 - Truth admitted in 1990



54

England's hope is in Russia and the U.S. If the hope in Russia disappears, America is also lost, because elimination of Russia would tremendously increase Japan's power in the Far East. . . But if Russia is destroyed, England's last hope is shattered. Germany will then be master of Europe and the Balkans. . . The sooner Russia is crushed, the better.

– Adolf Hitler... REMEMBER that Hitler wanted alliance with England to safely attack Soviet Union, but having difficulty getting England to submit to him or join him, he felt he would do it the other way around. By eliminating USSR, he would isolate England – with no Russia or U.S. to help them fight Germany. THIS, HOWEVER, WOULD RISK TWO FRONT WAR...

55

A campaign against Russia would be child's play.

– Adolf Hitler

56

Ideological/Racial War Against the Soviets

Hitler convinced generals of racial & ideological superiority of German National Socialism vs. Slavic Jewish Bolshevism.

Emphasized NOT to follow the standard rules of war

UNLIKE POLAND, MILITARY
WAS FAITHFUL TO HITLER'S
PLAN



57

Ideological/Racial War Against the Soviets

“The Barbarossa Decree”

- No due process for enemy civilians
- Guerilla fighters were to be peremptorily shot
- Collective reprisals against whole villages if perpetrators not identified
- Army crimes against civilians, not automatically punishable

“The Commissar Order”

- Political commissars will be shot at once.



58

The war against Russia will be such that it cannot be conducted in a knightly fashion. This struggle is one of ideologies & racial differences & will have to be conducted with unprecedented, unmerciful, & unrelenting harshness.”

– Adolf Hitler, to his Army officers



59



When Barbarossa commences,
the world will hold its breath.

– Adolf Hitler

60

Because Russia may be a big soap bubble, but it also could be something quite different.

– Adolf Hitler, on the eve of invasion, on why he felt invading Russia was his most difficult decision.



61

Operation Barbarossa

- June 22, 1941
- At 3:30 am, 129 years **ALMOST TO THE DAY** that Napoleon invaded Russia... the most massive attack in human history began...
 - 3 million German troops, 3600 tanks, 600,000 motorized vehicles, 2500 aircraft, 7000 artillery, and 625,000 horses along 1800 mile front attacked the Soviet Union WITH UTTER SURPRISE



62

Operation Barbarossa

- June 22, 1941
 - Stalin had dismissed all intelligence of coming German attack as British propaganda.
 - Within the first month:
 - >7500 SU planes shot down, 89 of 164 divisions (each of 10-30000 soldiers) destroyed, 20 of 29 tank divisions destroyed.



63



64



65

No one has been a more consistent opponent of Communism for the past 25 years. I will unsay no word that I have spoken about it. But all this fades away before the spectacle that is now unfolding.

If Hitler invaded the realms of Hell, I would find some way to make a favorable reference to the devil in the House of Commons.

– Winston Churchill, on his unexpected new alliance with Joseph Stalin



66



If we see that Germany is winning we ought to help Russia and if Russia is winning we ought to help Germany, and that way let them kill as many as possible, although I don't want to see Hitler victorious under any circumstances.

– Missouri Senator Harry S Truman

67

Our enemies are not human beings anymore, they are beasts.

– Adolf Hitler

Merciless battle.

– Joseph Stalin

The ruthless philosophies of two dictators. The Eastern front would be the most brutal battleground in human history.



68

All valuable property, including metal, grains, & fuel. . . must be destroyed without fail. . . Sabotage groups must be organized to combat the enemy, to foment guerilla warfare, blow up bridges & roads, damage telephone & telegraph lines, set fire to forests, stores, and transport. . . The [enemy] must be hounded & annihilated at every step.

– Joseph Stalin

69



There is no doubt that as a result of our plan many millions of persons in Russia will be starved to death.

- Adolf Hitler, about his war plan & foreshadowing his ruthless occupation plan

70

Einsatzgruppen

“Special Action Groups”

- Branches of the Nazi SS security police and intelligence units
- 3000 personnel of 4 Einsatzgruppen units working with the Wehrmacht, Waffen-SS, and local collaborators → “Mobile Killing Units”
- *Executions behind German lines* (usually victims digging own graves, shot, and pushed into them)
- At Babi Yar, a ravine outside of Kiev, 33,771 Jews were killed in a two day period,

Throughout the German occupation of seized Soviet territories, mass shootings continued to be the preferred method of murdering Jews.

At least 1.5 - 2 million Holocaust victims died in mass shootings or gas vans in Soviet territory.



71



72



73

Early Soviet Obliteration

- Soviet Defense – String of Defeat
 - Nazi penetration
 - 930 miles into SU
 - 4 million Soviet soldiers captured
 - Belarus, Ukraine, and the Baltic states, plus parts of Russia proper west of Moscow occupied (750,000 sq miles).
 - Draconian enforcement of racial hygiene by the SS.



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Early Soviet Obliteration

- Soviet Defense – String of Defeat
 - Stalin's response
 - Executed generals defending the Western front at the time
 - Execution of 100,000 prisoners in west Russian GULAGs
 - Continuous tribunals and executions of "enemies of the state"
 - Petty interventions & micromanagement at low levels in the heat of battle



75



It is probably no overstatement to say that the Russian campaign has been won in the space of two weeks.

– German General Franz Halder, in July, 1941, BUT...

76

The whole situation makes it increasingly plain that we have underestimated the Russian colossus. At the outset of the war, we reckoned with about 200 enemy divisions. Now we have already counted 360. These divisions indeed are not armed and equipped according to our standards, and their tactical leadership is often poor. But there they are, and if we smash a dozen of them, the Russians simply put up another dozen. . . And so our troops, sprawled over an immense front line, without any depth, are subjected to the incessant attacks of the enemy.

- General Franz Halder, in August, 1941

77

I declare today – without any reservation – that the enemy in the East has been struck down and will never rise again.

– Adolf Hitler, increasingly disconnected with his generals and the situation on the ground



78

The Battle of Moscow & the War with the United States

Nazi Weakness

- Nazis wanted propaganda victory capturing Moscow.
- Freezing temps, ill-equipped soldiers, stalled vehicles on Eastern front
 - Nazis suffer first Eastern front defeat – turned away from the gates of Moscow on 12/6/41
 - Battle of Moscow – 10/41-1/42 - 400K Nazi, 650K Soviet casualties



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The Battle of Moscow & the War with the United States

Nazi Hubris

- Hitler micromanages & fires generals, refuses surrender
 - Suspends offensive for winter
- Declares war on America four days after Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor



80



81



[Hitler] forgot about the winter. There is a winter, you know, in Russia. For a good many months the temperature is apt to fall very low. There is snow, there is frost, and all that. Hitler forgot about this Russian winter. He must have been very loosely educated. We all heard about it in school. But he forgot it.

– Winston Churchill

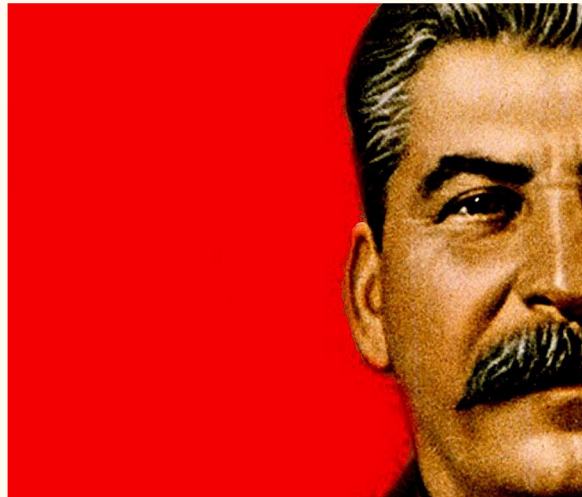
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[Churchill] is an utterly repulsive creature. I'm convinced that he has his place of refuge ready beyond the Atlantic. . . He'll go to his friends the Yankees. As soon as this damnable winter is over, we'll remedy that.

– Adolf Hitler

83



The German invaders want a war of extermination against the peoples of the U.S.S.R. Well, if the Germans want a war of extermination, they will get it.

– Joseph Stalin, November, 1941

84

[In six months, Hitler] deliberately added to his enemies the two potentially strongest military powers in the world: Russia and the U.S.

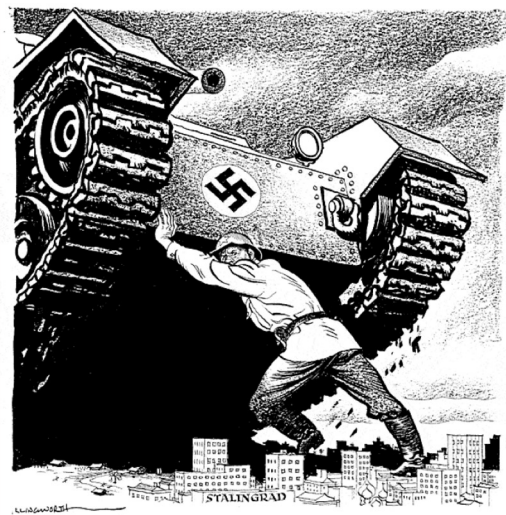
– William Shirer

85

The Battle of Stalingrad

“The bloodiest battle in human history.”

- July, 1942 - February, 1943 (7 months)
- Industrial hub, oil-rich, & propaganda (named after Stalin)
 - 2 million dead
 - Soviet soldier life expectancy < 1 day
- Stalin begins deferring to his generals
- Hitler micromanages and rabidly refuses to allow 6th Army's surrender.



86



Troops without ammunition or food. . . Effective command no longer possible. 18,000 wounded without any supplies or dressings or drugs. . . Further defense senseless. Collapse inevitable. 6th Army requests permission to surrender in order to save lives of remaining troops.

– General Friedrich Paulus, Commander of Nazi 6th Army, trapped & surrounded in Stalingrad rubble, radioing Hitler...

87



Surrender is forbidden! 6th Army will hold their positions to the last man & the last round! . . .Where a German soldier sets foot, there he remains!

- Adolf Hitler, in response

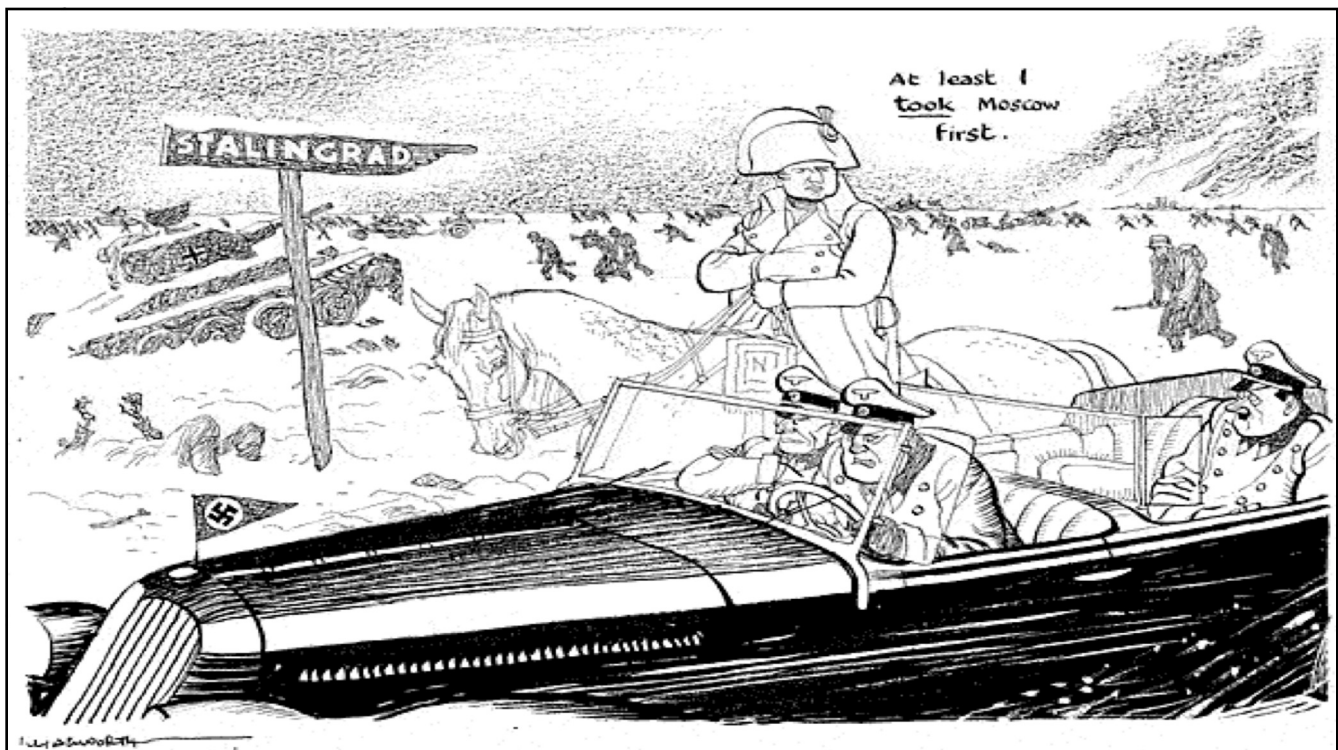
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Paulus should have shot himself.

– Adolf Hitler, in disgust, after the 6th Army surrendered in the Battle of Stalingrad

89



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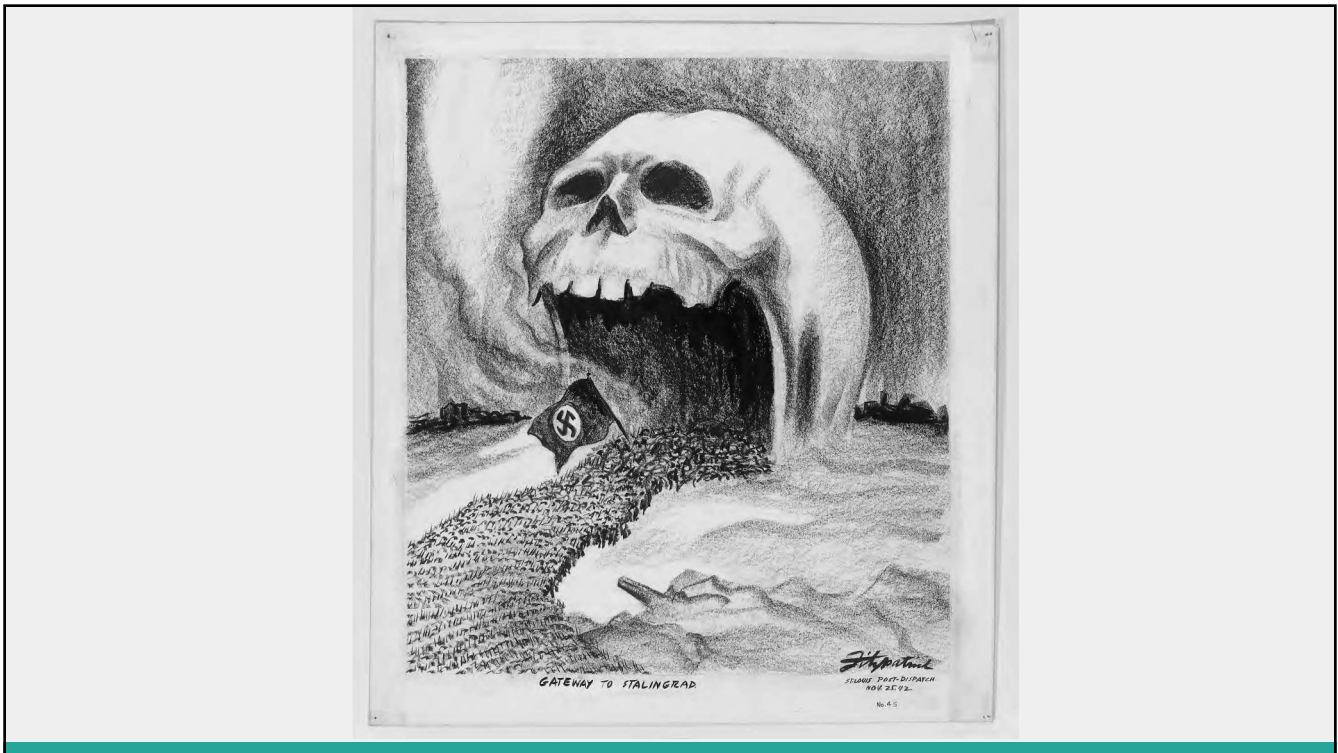


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There was not a word of sympathy or grief from Hitler, sitting in his comfortable headquarters far behind the front, for the [more than 300,000] German soldiers who had been slaughtered in the carnage of Stalingrad. . . Nor was there a single word from Hitler about his own responsibility for the greatest defeat in German history.

– William Shirer

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93

Hitler's hands trembled. He stooped. He stared fixedly. His eyes had a tendency to bulge and were very dull and lusterless. There were red spots on his cheeks. He was more excitable than ever. When angered he lost all self-control.

- General Heinz Guderian, on Hitler after the Battle of Stalingrad

94

Shaken & broken, our people behold the loss of the men of Stalingrad. 330,000 German men have been senselessly & irresponsibly driven to death & destruction by the inspired strategy of our World War I Private First Class. Fuhrer, we thank you!

– Blistering sarcasm from the White Rose resistance leaflets which were increasingly being circulated in Munich.



95

The Siege of Leningrad

September, 1941 - January, 1944
(872 days)

- Industrial hub and propaganda value
 - Named after Lenin
 - Home of the Russian Revolution
- Bombardment & starvation led to 1.5 million civilian deaths
 - Racially-motivated starvation policy



96

Unlike other dictators, Stalin and his satraps never made the mistake of believing themselves beloved – on the contrary they saw plots under every stone.

– Anna Reid



97

The Big 3 Meeting in Tehran

- The First Big 3 (Stalin, Churchill, FDR) Meeting – Tehran Conference
 - November 28 – December 1, 1943
 - Discussed
 - Establishing second front in Europe
 - Churchill promoted Mediterranean approach
 - FDR & JS successfully argued French approach
 - Free hand for Stalin in SU, but also Eastern European countries (including Poland) – essentially in exchange for...
 - Future organization to guarantee the peace (UN)
 - Cooperation in fighting Japan



98



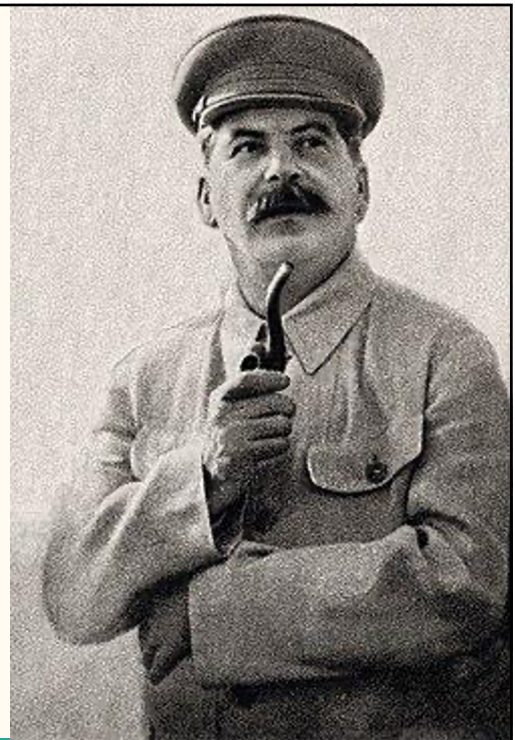
Marshal Stalin as a negotiator was the toughest proposition of all. Indeed, after something like thirty years' experience of international conferences of one kind and another, if I had to pick a team for going into a conference room, Stalin would be my first choice. Of course the man was ruthless and of course he knew his purpose. He never wasted a word. He never stormed, he was seldom even irritated.

– Anthony Eden, British Foreign Minister who attended Big 3 Conferences with Winston Churchill

99

I suppose you will not object if we add a small protocol to our agreement on postwar reconstruction.

– Joseph Stalin to British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden. The “small protocol” called for recognition of Soviet annexations made during the Nazi-Soviet pact (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, ½ of Poland, bases in Finland & Romania, and dismemberment of Germany)



100

I believe that we are going to get along very well with [Stalin] & the Russian people – very well indeed.

– President Roosevelt on the Big 3 Tehran Conference



101

The Warsaw Uprising

Polish underground striving to liberate Warsaw from the Nazis as Nazis retreat and Soviets arrive.

- Summer, 1944 (D-Day occurring in the West, while the Soviets press from the East).
- The Soviets deliberately stop advance.
- 63 days of fighting (largest European military resistance effort in the war).



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The Warsaw Uprising

Polish underground striving to liberate Warsaw from the Nazis as Nazis retreat and Soviets arrive.

- Nazis crushed the Polish Home Army, paving way for Soviets to enter defeated Warsaw and install pro-Soviet Polish government.
- 15K insurgents, 250K civilians killed
Nazis deported survivors and razed the city.



103



They'll swallow it.

- Joseph Stalin, on the West having to accept his actions during the 1944 Warsaw Uprising.

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Allied Bombing

The aim of the Combined Bomber Offensive. . . should be unambiguously states [as] the destruction of German cities, the killing of German workers, and the disruption of civilized life throughout Germany. . . They are not byproducts of attempts to hit factories.

- British Air Marshal Arthur “Bomber” Harris on the strategic bombing of Germany

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109

The Yalta Conference

Throughout history, Poland has been the corridor through which the enemy has passed into Russia. Twice in the last thirty years our enemies, the Germans, have passed through this corridor.

It is in Russia's interest that Poland should be strong and powerful, in a position to shut the door of this corridor by her own force. . . Therefore, it is not only a question of honor but of life and death for the Soviet state.

– Joseph Stalin, at the Yalta Conference,
2/45



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I just have a hunch that Stalin is not that kind of man. Harry [Hopkins] says he's not. . . I think if I give him everything I possibly can & ask for nothing in return. . . he won't try to annex anything & will work with me for a world of democracy & peace. . . I'm going to play my hunch.

– President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, to a former American Ambassador to Russia trying to convince FDR Stalin is imperialist

111

I deem it highly important that we should shake hands with the Russians as far to the east as possible.

– Winston Churchill, April, 1945, on the race to Berlin and Stalin's territorial ambitions as WWII was ending

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The huge number of Russian troops taken prisoner in the first eighteen months of the war convinced Stalin that many of them must have been traitors who had deserted at the first opportunity. Any soldier who had been a prisoner was henceforth suspect. . .

All such, whether generals, officers, or ordinary soldiers, were sent to special concentration camps where the NKVD investigated them. . . 20% were sentenced to death or twenty-five years in camps; only 15 to 20% were allowed to return to their homes. The remainder were condemned to shorter sentences (five to ten years), to exile in Siberia, and forced labor – or were killed or died on the way home.

– Allan Bullock, historian

114

In the Soviet army it takes more courage to retreat than to advance.

– Joseph Stalin

115

I fear very great evil may come upon the world.
.. the Russians are drunk with victory and there
is no length they may not go.

– Winston Churchill



116

It is important to diagnose the evil.

– Winston Churchill

117



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