American Pravda: How Hitler Saved the Allies, by Ron Unz

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May 13, 2019

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Americká Pravda: Jak Hitler zachránil spojence

Ron Unz • 13. května 2019

• 8 300 slov • 943 Comments • Odpovědět Sdílejte s Gabem

Přehrávač zvuku



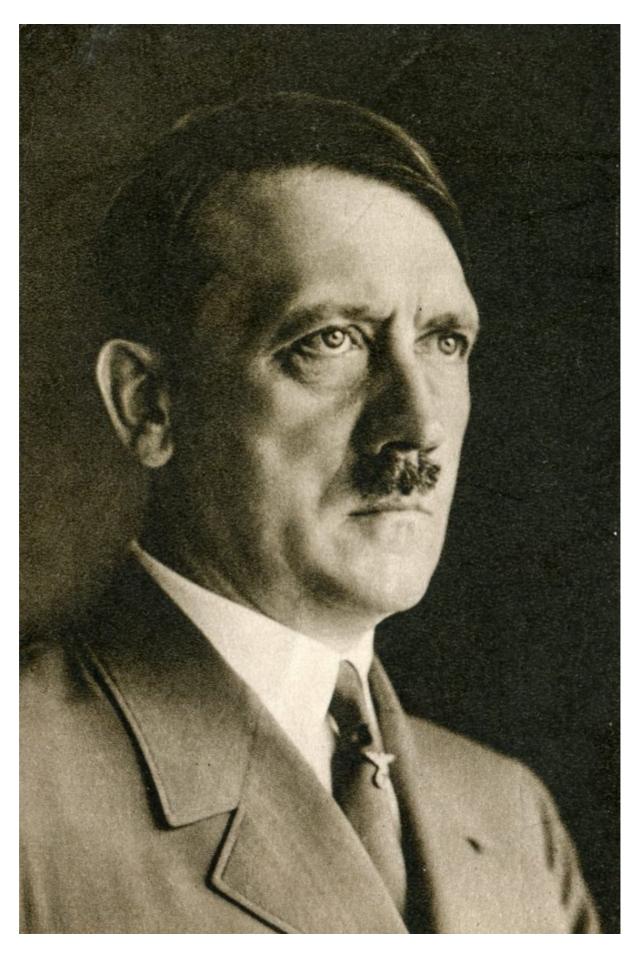




Před pár lety jsem náhodou četl paměti Sisley Huddleston, americké novinářky žijící ve Francii, z druhé světové války. Přestože se Huddleston již dávno zapomněl, strávil desetiletí jako jeden z našich nejvýznamnějších zahraničních zpravodajů a <u>desítky jeho hlavních</u> <u>článků</u> se objevily v The Atlantic Monthly, The New Republic a Harpers, zatímco napsal asi devatenáct knih. Vzhledem k takové eminenci sahaly jeho osobní vztahy daleko do elitních kruhů, přičemž jedním z jeho nejstarších a nejbližších přátel byl William Bullitt, americký velvyslanec ve Francii, který předtím otevřel naši první sovětskou ambasádu pod FDR.

Huddlestonova důvěryhodnost se zdála být bezvadná, a proto jsem byl tak šokován jeho přímým popisem válečného Vichy, zcela v rozporu s tím, co jsem vstřebal ze svých úvodních učebnic dějepisu. I když jsem měl vždy dojem, že Pétainův kolaborantský režim má malou legitimitu, nebylo tomu tak. Téměř jednomyslná většina obou komor řádně zvoleného francouzského parlamentu odhlasovala postaršího polního maršála do úřadu navzdory jeho vlastním hlubokým osobním obavám, považovali ho za jedinou naději Francie na sjednocujícího národního zachránce po drtivé porážce země v roce 1940 Hitlerovými rukama.

Ačkoli Huddlestonovy sympatie byly s Němci jen stěží, všiml si



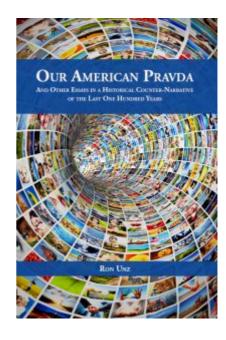
úzkostlivé korektnosti, kterou projevovali po jejich drtivém vítězství, politika, která pokračovala během prvních let okupace. A i když při

několika příležitostech vykonal menší služby pro rodící se hnutí odporu, když vylodění v Normandii v roce 1944 a následné stažení Německa náhle otevřelo dveře moci anti-Petainovým silám, zapojily se do orgií ideologického



krveprolití daleko. překonání nechvalně proslulé Vlády teroru Francouzské revoluce a pravděpodobně bez precedentu ve francouzské historii, přičemž možná 100 000 nebo více civilistů bylo souhrnně povražděno na základě malého nebo žádného důkazu, často jen proto, aby si vyrovnali osobní účty.

Když jsem se snažil porovnat Huddlestonovo svědectví s tradičním vyprávěním o válečné Francii, které jsem vždy plně akceptoval, zdálo se, že většina faktorů ukazuje v jeho prospěch. Koneckonců, jeho novinářské kompetence byly bezvadné a jako velmi dobře propojený přímý pozorovatel událostí, o nichž informoval, se jeho výroky jistě hodně počítaly. Mezitím se ukázalo, že většinu standardního vyprávění dominujícího našim historickým knihám vytvořili o generaci později spisovatelé žijící na druhé straně Atlantského oceánu, jejichž závěry mohly být podstatně ovlivněny černobílým ideologickým



rámcem. které se do té doby pevně usadily na elitních amerických univerzitách. Nemohl jsem si však nevšimnout jedné obrovské, zející chyby v Huddlestonově účtu, chyby tak závažné, že vrhala vážné pochybnosti na celou jeho důvěryhodnost jako novináře. Na začátku své knihy věnuje asi stránku nenucené zmínce o tom, že v prvních měsících roku 1940 se Francouzi a Britové připravovali k útoku proti neutrálnímu Sovětskému svazu, využívajíce své základny v Sýrii a Iráku ke strategickému bombardovací ofenzíva měla zničit Stalinova



ropná pole Baku na Kavkaze, jeden z předních světových zdrojů této životně důležité komodity.

Je zřejmé, že každá vojenská organizace vytváří množství hypotetických pohotovostních plánů pokrývajících všechny možné situace a protivníky, ale Huddleston nějak špatně pochopil takové možnosti nebo fámy jako naprostý fakt. Podle něj mělo spojenecké bombardování Sovětského svazu začít 15. března, ale zpočátku bylo z různých politických důvodů odloženo a přeloženo. O několik týdnů později se německé tankové divize prohnaly ardenským lesem, obklíčily francouzské armády a dobyly Paříž, čímž přerušily plánované spojenecké bombardování Ruska.

Vzhledem k tomu, že SSSR hrál hlavní roli v případné porážce Německa, časný útok spojenců na sovětskou vlast by jistě změnil výsledek války. Ačkoli Huddlestonovy bizarní fantazie z něj nějak vycházely, stěží se mýlil, když zvolal: "Jaký úzký únik!" Představa, že se Spojenci chystají zahájit velkou bombardovací ofenzívu proti Sovětskému svazu jen pár měsíců po vypuknutí druhé světové války, byla zjevně absurdní, tak směšná představa, do které se nikdy nedostal ani náznak této dávno vyvrácené fámy. standardní historické texty, které jsem četl o evropském konfliktu. Ale to, že Huddleston stále lpěl na takových nesmyslných přesvědčeních i několik let po konci války, vyvolalo velké otázky o jeho důvěřivosti nebo dokonce o jeho příčetnosti. Přemýšlel jsem, zda mohu věřit byť jen jedinému slovu, které řekl o čemkoli jiném.

Nedlouho poté jsem se však setkal s velkým překvapením v článku z roku 2017 publikovaném v *The National Interest*, navýsost úctyhodném periodiku. Krátký kus nesl popisný titulek "<u>V prvních dnech druhé světové války plánovaly Británie a Francie bombardovat Rusko". Obsah mě naprosto ohromil a s Huddlestonovou důvěryhodností, která se nyní plně prokázala – a důvěryhodnost mých standardních učebnic dějepisu byla stejně zničena – jsem pokračoval a podstatně jsem čerpal z jeho popisu mého dlouhého článku "Americká pravda: poválečná Francie a poválečná Německo."</u>

Americká Pravda: Poválečná Francie a poválečné Německo Ron Unz • *Recenze Unz* • 9. července 2018 • 6 600 slov

Sotva se považuji za specialistu na dějiny druhé světové války, ale zpočátku jsem se cítil hluboce v rozpacích, že jsem celý svůj život strávil naprosto ignorantem tohoto zásadního počátečního bodu obratu v obrovském konfliktu. Jakmile jsem si však pečlivě přečetl ten článek *National Interest*, moje hanba se rychle rozplynula, protože bylo zřejmé, že autor Michael Peck spolu se svými editory a čtenáři si nebyli těchto dlouho pohřbených faktů vědomi. Článek původně vyšel v roce 2015, ale o několik let později byl znovu publikován kvůli obrovské poptávce čtenářů. Pokud mohu říci, tato jediná esej o 1100 slovech představovala první a jediný případ, kdy se těmto popsaným významným událostem dostalo významné pozornosti veřejnosti za sedmdesát let od konce války.

Peckova diskuse velmi dokreslila Huddlestonovy krátké, nedbalé poznámky. Francouzské a britské vrchní velení připravilo svou obrovskou bombardovací ofenzivu, *operaci Pike*, v naději, že zničí ruské ropné zdroje, a jejich neoznačené průzkumné lety již přeletěly Baku a fotografovaly umístění zamýšlených cílů. Spojenci byli přesvědčeni, že nejlepší strategií pro porážku Německa je eliminovat jeho zdroje ropy a dalších životně důležitých surovin, a protože Rusko bylo hlavním dodavatelem Hitlera, rozhodli se, že zničení sovětských ropných polí se zdá být logickou strategií.

Peck však zdůraznil vážné chyby v této úvaze. Ve skutečnosti jen malý zlomek Hitlerovy ropy pocházel z Ruska, takže skutečný dopad i zcela úspěšné kampaně by byl nízký. A ačkoli byli spojenečtí velitelé přesvědčeni, že týdny nepřetržitého bombardování – zjevně představující dosud největší strategickou bombardovací kampaň na světě – by rychle odstranily veškerou sovětskou produkci ropy, pozdější válečné události naznačovaly, že tyto projekce byly divoce optimistické, s mnohem větší a silnější letecké útoky obecně způsobují mnohem méně trvalé zničení, než se očekávalo. Škody Sovětům by tedy pravděpodobně nebyly velké a výsledné plné vojenské spojenectví mezi Hitlerem a Stalinem by jistě zvrátilo výsledek války. Operace Pike: Jak bláznivý plán na bombardování Ruska téměř prohrál druhou světovou válku.

Ale ačkoli nám zpětný pohled umožňuje rozpoznat katastrofální důsledky tohoto nešťastného bombardovacího plánu, neměli bychom být vůči tehdejším politickým vůdcům a stratégům přehnaně přísní. Vojenská technologie byla v obrovském proudu a fakta, která se v roce 1943 nebo 1944 zdála samozřejmá, byla na začátku konfliktu mnohem méně jasná. Na základě svých zkušeností z první světové války se většina analytiků domnívala, že ani Němci, ani spojenci neměli žádnou naději na dosažení brzkého průlomu na západní frontě, zatímco Sověti byli podezřelí z chabé vojenské síly, možná proto tvoří "měkký podbřišek". " německé válečné mašinérie.

Také některé z nejdalekosáhlejších politických důsledků spojeneckého útoku na Sovětský svaz by francouzští a britští vůdci tehdy zvažovali. I když si jistě byli vědomi mocných komunistických hnutí ve svých zemích, všechna úzce spjatá se SSSR, teprve o mnoho let později vyšlo najevo, že nejvyšší vedení Rooseveltovy administrativy bylo včelou plástvem mnoha agentů plně loajálních Stalinovi, s konečný důkaz čeká na vydání Venona Decrypts v 90. letech. Pokud by tedy spojenecké síly náhle vstoupily do války proti Sovětům, totální nepřátelství těchto vlivných jedinců by značně snížilo jakékoli budoucí vyhlídky na významnou americkou vojenskou pomoc, natož na případnou intervenci v evropském konfliktu.

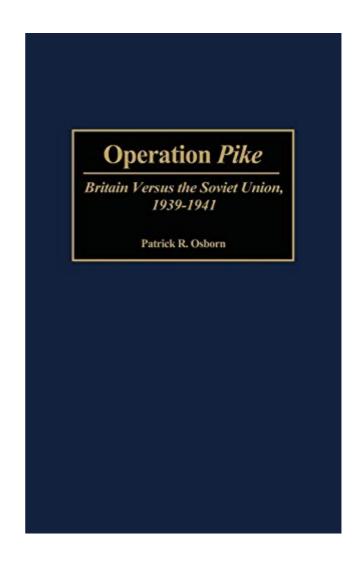
Pokud by tedy Němci z jakéhokoli důvodu odložili svůj útok na Francii v roce 1940 o několik týdnů, čekající spojenecký útok by přivedl Sověty do války na druhé straně a téměř zajistil německé vítězství. Zdá se nepopiratelné, že Hitlerova náhodná akce neúmyslně zachránila spojence před katastrofálními důsledky jejich vlastních pošetilých plánů.

Ačkoli zkoumání dramatických důsledků vypuknutí spojeneckosovětské války v roce 1940 může být zajímavým příkladem alternativní historie, jako intelektuální cvičení má pro náš současný svět malý význam. Mnohem důležitější je to, co zpráva odhaluje o spolehlivosti standardního historického vyprávění, které většina z nás vždy považovala za skutečné.

První věcí k prozkoumání bylo, zda důkazy pro plánovaný spojenecký útok na Sověty byly skutečně tak silné, jak naznačoval článek *National Interest*. Základní informace pocházejí z *Operace Pike*, kterou v roce 2000 publikoval Patrick R. Osborn v akademické sérii

nazvané *Contributions in Military Studies*, takže jsem si knihu nedávno objednal a přečetl, abych zhodnotil pozoruhodná tvrzení, která byla učiněna.

Ačkoli je tato 300stránková monografie dosti suchá, pečlivě dokumentuje svůj případ, přičemž drtivá většina materiálu pochází z oficiálních archivů a dalších vládních záznamů. Zdá se, že o reálnosti popisovaných událostí není nejmenších pochyb a spojenečtí vůdci dokonce vyvinuli rozsáhlé diplomatické úsilí, aby zapojili Turecko a Írán do svého plánovaného útoku proti Sovětskému svazu.



Zatímco primárním spojeneckým motivem bylo eliminovat tok nezbytných surovin do Německa, existovaly i širší cíle. Nucená kolektivizace sovětského zemědělství během třicátých let vedla k rozsáhlému porážení hospodářských zvířat, která byla poté nahrazena traktory vyžadujícími benzín. Vedení Spojenců věřilo, že pokud se jim podaří odstranit sovětské zásoby ropy, výsledný nedostatek paliva povede ke kolapsu zemědělské výroby, pravděpodobně k hladomoru, který by mohl pomoci smést komunistický režim od moci. Spojenci byli k Sovětům vždy silně nepřátelští a plánovaná operace byla ve skutečnosti pojmenována po jistém plukovníku Pikeovi, britském důstojníkovi, který zemřel v rukou bolševiků na Kavkaze během předchozí vojenské intervence o dvacet let dříve.

Toto protisovětské plánování se rychle zrychlilo po Stalinově brutálním útoku na malé Finsko koncem roku 1939. Nečekaně zuřivý finský odpor vedl západní mocnosti k vyloučení SSSR ze Společnosti národů jako do očí bijícího agresora a také vyvolal rozsáhlé požadavky na vojenskou intervenci mezi jak politické elity, tak široká veřejnost, přičemž se zvažují vážné návrhy na vyslání několika spojeneckých divizí do Skandinávie, aby bojovaly proti Rusům jménem Finů. Zdá se, že během velké části tohoto období bylo spojenecké nepřátelství mnohem větší vůči Sovětům než vůči Německu, a to i přes nominální válečný stav proti Německu, přičemž francouzské nálady byly obzvláště silné. Jak poznamenal jeden britský zvolený představitel,

Spojenci měli v úmyslu použít polské exilové síly ve svém pozemním boji proti Sovětům, možná dokonce podnítili polské povstání proti nenáviděným komunistickým okupantům jejich vlasti. Osborn poznamenává, že pokud informace o tomto plánu pronikly ke Stalinovi, mohlo by to vysvětlovat, proč právě v této době podepsal oficiální rozkazy nařizující NKVD okamžitě popravit 15 000 polských důstojníků a policistů, které již zastával jako válečné zajatce, což se nakonec stalo. známý jako Katynský lesní masakr, který se řadí mezi nejhorší válečná zvěrstva na světě.

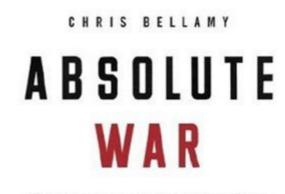
Všechny tyto vojenské plány a vnitřní diskuse Britů a Francouzů byly v té době drženy zcela v tajnosti a jejich archivy zůstaly historikům po mnoho desetiletí zapečetěny. Ale v úvodu svého fascinujícího příběhu Osborn vysvětluje, že poté, co se vítězné německé armády v roce 1940 přesunuly směrem k Paříži, se francouzská vláda pokusila zničit nebo evakuovat všechny své tajné diplomatické spisy a vlaková zátěž tohoto velmi citlivého materiálu byla zajata německými silami. 100 mil od Paříže, včetně kompletního záznamu plánů útoku na SSSR. Německo v naději, že dosáhne mezinárodního propagandistického převratu, tyto zásadní dokumenty brzy zveřejnilo a poskytlo jak anglické překlady, tak faxové kopie originálů. Ačkoli není jasné, zda se těmto odhalením v té době dostalo nějaké významné pozornosti v západních médiích, Stalin si toto podrobné

potvrzení informací, které už po kouskách a kouscích získal ze své sítě dobře situovaných komunistických špionů, jistě uvědomil, a muselo to prohloubit jeho nedůvěru k Západu. Tento příběh by se také rychle stal známým všem dobře informovaným pozorovatelům a vysvětloval, proč byl Huddleston tak sebevědomý, když se ve svých pamětech z roku 1952 jen tak mimochodem zmínil o plánovaném útoku spojenců.

Po Hitlerově Barbarossainvaze do SSSR v červnu 1941 náhle přivedla Sověty do války na straně Spojenců, tato vysoce trapná fakta by přirozeně upadla v zapomnění. Zdá se ale docela udivující, že taková "politicky korektní" amnézie se v akademické vědecké komunitě tak hluboce zakořenila, že na šest desetiletí, která předcházela vydání Osbornovy monografie, zmizely prakticky všechny stopy pozoruhodného příběhu. Během těch let mohlo být o druhé světové válce vydáno více knih v angličtině než o jakémkoli jiném tématu, přesto se zdá možné, že těch mnoho desítek milionů stran neobsahovalo jediný odstavec popisující významné plány spojenců zaútočit na Rusko na počátku dny války, možná dokonce zanechávajíce Huddlestonovy krátké, nedbalé poznámky z roku 1952 jako nejobsáhlejší popis. Osborn si sám všímá "vzácné malé pozornosti", kterou této záležitosti věnovali učenci z druhé světové války, přičemž jako jednu z mála významných výjimek uvádí článek z akademického časopisu z roku 1973. Měli bychom se vážně obávat, že události takového monumentálního významu strávily více než dvě generace téměř úplně vyloučeny z našich historických záznamů. Navíc se zdá, že dokonce i

vydání masivně zdokumentované Osbornovy akademické studie v roce 2000 bylo historiky druhé světové války téměř zcela ignorováno. Vezměme si například *Absolutní válku*

vydanou v roce 2007 uznávaným vojenským historikem Chrisem Bellamym, 800stránkové dílo, jehož zářivé titulky jej charakterizují jako "autoritativní" popis role sovětského Ruska ve druhé světové válce. Podrobný 25stránkový rejstřík neobsahuje žádný záznam pro "Baku" a jediným letmým odkazem na nesporné spojenecké přípravy na útok na SSSR na počátku roku 1940 je jediná nejasná věta, která se objevila o 15 měsíců a 150 stránek později po Barbarosse .: "Ale 23.



SOVIET RUSSIA IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR



června NKGB oznámila, že náčelník britského leteckého štábu, Sir Charles Portal, navrhl kabeláž velitelům v Indii a na Středním východě, aby jim nařídil, aby přestali plánovat bombardování ropných polí v Baku, kterých se obávali., mohla být použita k zásobování Němců." Zdá se, že Osbornova odhalení zmizela beze stopy, dokud si jich o 15 let později konečně nevšimli a zveřejnili je v *The National Interest*.

I když je docela snadné pochopit, proč se historici prvních pár desetiletí po skončení druhé světové války tomuto tématu vyhýbali, po uplynutí jedné nebo dvou generací by se dalo rozumně očekávat, že dojde k určitému opětovnému potvrzení vědecké objektivity. *Operace Pike* měla pro průběh války největší možný význam, tak jak ji mohl téměř úplně ignorovat prakticky každý autor na toto téma? Spojenecké přípravy na začátku roku 1940 na rozpoutání největší

strategické bombardovací ofenzívy ve světových dějinách proti Sovětskému svazu se sotva zdají být nudným, nejasným detailem, na který by se snadno zapomnělo.

I když ji první generace válečných kronikářů pečlivě vylučovala ze svých vyprávění, aby se vyhnula ideologické ostudě, musela si být vzhledem k německému zveřejnění dokumentů jistě vědoma faktů. A přestože jejich mladší nástupci o tom v knihách, které studovali, neviděli žádnou zmínku, dalo by se očekávat, že jim jejich mentoři občas pošeptali o některých "skrytých válečných tajemstvích", která ze standardního vyprávění vynechala. Osborn navíc poznamenává, že diskuse o faktech se velmi příležitostně objevila v odborných akademických časopisech a dalo by se předpokládat, že jediný takový případ by se šířil jako požár v celé akademické obci. Přesto i poté, co se Osbornův masivně zdokumentovaný svazek objevil v úctyhodné akademické sérii, zůstalo ticho naprosto ohlušující. Případ*Operace Pike* ukazuje, že musíme být extrémně opatrní při přijímání přesnosti a úplnosti toho, co nám bylo řečeno.

Takové závěry mají zjevné důsledky. Moje webové stránky mají tendenci přitahovat velké množství komentátorů, velmi různé kvality. Jeden z nich, imigrant ze sovětské Arménie, který si říká "Avery", se zdá být docela informovaný a vyrovnaný, i když silně nepřátelský vůči Turkům a Turecku. Před několika lety jeden z mých článků o druhé světové válce vyvolal jeho zajímavý komentář:

During the Battle of Stalingrad, Turkey, which was officially neutral but was secretly cooperating with Nazi Germany, had assembled a huge invasion force at the border of USSR (Armenia SSR). If Germans had won at Stalingrad, Turks were going to invade, race to Baku and link up with the German forces there, coming down from Stalingrad to grab the oilfields.

When Paulus's army was surrounded and annihilated, Turks quickly left the border for their barracks

Stalin never forgot the Turk treachery and never forgave.

When Germany surrendered, Stalin assembled huge armies in Armenia SSR and Georgia SSR. The plan was to invade and throw the Turks out of East Turkey/West Armenia. The detonation of two American atomic bombs convinced Stalin to stand down. Some believe US detonated the two bombs not to force Japan's surrender, but as a message to Stalin.

When questioned, he admitted he was unaware of any reference in a Western source, but added:

It was common knowledge in Armenia SSR, where I am originally from. WW2 war vets, old timers, discussed it all the time.....seeing more Red Army troops and military hardware assembling near the borders of Armenia SSR and Georgia SSR than they'd ever seen before. Then, they were all gone....

Under normal circumstances, weighing the universal silence of all Western historians against the informal claims of an anonymous commenter who was relying upon the stories he'd heard from old veterans would hardly be a difficult choice. But I wonder... The official documents discussed by Osborn demonstrate that the British made considerable efforts to enlist Turkish forces in their planned attack upon the USSR, with the Turks going back and forth on the matter until Britain finally abandoned the project following the Fall of France. But if the Turks had strongly considered such a military adventure in 1940, it seems quite plausible that they would have been far more eager to do so 1942, given the huge losses the Soviets had already suffered at German hands, and with a very formidable German army approaching the Caucasus. Soon after the war, Turkey became one of America's most crucial Cold War allies against the Soviets, being given a central role in the Truman Doctrine and the creation of NATO. Any hint that the same Turkish government had come very close to joining Hitler's Axis and attacking Russia as a Nazi ally just a few years earlier would have been extremely damaging to US interests. Such facts would have been scrupulously excluded from all our histories of the war. Until a couple of weeks ago, I still probably would have leaned towards favoring the united front of all Western historians against the causal remarks of a single anonymous commenter on my website. But after reading Osborn's book, I now think the anonymous commenter is more likely correct. This is a rather sad personal verdict upon the current credibility of our historical profession.

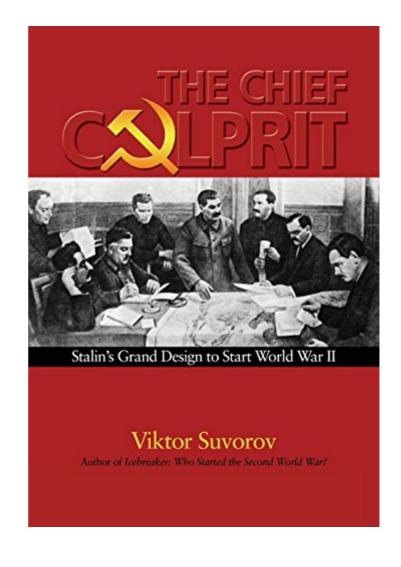
These important considerations become particularly relevant when we attempt to understand the circumstances surrounding Operation Barbarossa, Germany's 1941 attack upon the Soviet Union, which constituted the central turning point of the war. Both at the time and during the half-century which followed, Western historians uniformly claimed that the surprise assault had caught an overlytrusting Stalin completely unaware, with Hitler's motive being his dream of creating the huge German land-empire that he had hinted at in the pages of *Mein Kampf*, published sixteen years earlier. But in 1990 a former Soviet military intelligence officer who had defected to the West and was living in Britain dropped a major bombshell. Writing under the pen-name Viktor Suvorov, he had already published a number of highly-regarded books on the armed forces of the USSR, but in Icebreaker he now claimed that his extensive past research in the Soviet archives had revealed that by 1941 Stalin had amassed enormous offensive military forces and positioned them all along the border, preparing to attack and easily overwhelm the greatly outnumbered and outgunned forces of the Wehrmacht, quickly conquering all of Europe.

As I summarized the Suvorov Hypothesis in an article last year:

And so, just as in our traditional narrative, we see that in the weeks and months leading up to Barbarossa, the most powerful offensive military force in the history of the world was quietly assembled in secret along the German-Russian border, preparing for the order that would unleash their surprise attack. The enemy's unprepared airforce was to be destroyed on the ground in the first days of the battle, and enormous tank columns would begin deep penetration thrusts, surrounding and trapping the opposing forces, achieving a classic *blitzkrieg* victory, and ensuring the rapid occupation of vast territories. But the forces preparing this unprecedented war of conquest were Stalin's, and his military juggernaut would surely have seized all of Europe, probably soon followed by the remainder of the Eurasian landmass.

Then at almost the last moment, Hitler suddenly realized the strategic trap into which he had fallen, and ordered his heavily outnumbered and outgunned troops into a desperate surprise attack of their own on the assembling Soviets, fortuitously catching them at the very point at which their own final preparations for sudden attack had left them most vulnerable, and thereby snatching a major initial victory from the jaws of certain defeat. Huge stockpiles of Soviet ammunition and weaponry had been positioned close to the border to supply the army of invasion into Germany, and these quickly fell into German hands, providing an important addition to their own woefully inadequate resources.

Although almost totally ignored in the Englishlanguage world, Suvorov's seminal book soon became an unprecedented bestseller in Russia, Germany, and many other parts of the world, and together with several follow-up volumes, his five million copies in print established him as the most widely-read military historian in the history of the world. Meanwhile, the English-language media and academic communities scrupulously maintained



their complete blackout of the ongoing worldwide debate, with no publishing house even willing to produce <u>an English edition</u> of Suvorov's books until an editor at the prestigious Naval Academy Press finally broke the embargo nearly two decades later. Such near-total censorship of the massive planned Soviet attack in 1941 seems quite similar to the near-total censorship of the undeniable reality of the massive planned Allied attack on the Soviets in the preceding year.

Although the Suvorov Hypothesis has inspired decades of fierce academic debate and been the subject of international conferences, it has been scrupulously ignored by our Anglophone authors, who have made no serious attempt to defend their traditional narrative and

refute the vast accumulation of persuasive evidence upon which it is based. This leads me to believe that Suvorov's analysis is probably correct.

A decade ago, a solitary writer first drew my attention to Suvorov's ground-breaking research, and as an emigrant Russian Slav living in the West, he was hardly favorable to the German dictator. But he closed his review with a remarkable statement:

Therefore, if any of us is free to write, publish, and read this today, it follows that in some not inconsequential part our gratitude for this must go to Hitler. And if someone wants to arrest me for saying what I have just said, I make no secret of where I live.

American Pravda: When Stalin Almost Conquered Europe Ron Unz • *The Unz Review* • June 4, 2018 • 4,200 Words

For almost thirty years, our English-language media has almost entirely suppressed any serious discussion of the Suvorov Hypothesis, and this is hardly the only important aspect of Soviet history that has remained hidden from public scrutiny. Indeed, on some crucial matters, the falsehoods and distortions have greatly increased rather than diminished over the decades. No example is more obvious than in the ongoing attempts to conceal the enormous role played by Jews in the Bolshevik Revolution and worldwide Communism generally. As <u>I wrote last year</u>:

In the early years of the Bolshevik Revolution, almost no one questioned the overwhelming role of Jews in that event, nor their similar preponderance in the ultimately unsuccessful Bolshevik takeovers in Hungary and parts of Germany. For example, former British Minister Winston Churchill in 1920 denounced the "terrorist Jews" who had seized control of Russia and other parts of Europe, noting that "the majority of the leading figures are Jews" and stating that "In the Soviet institutions the predominance of Jews is even more astonishing," while lamenting the horrors these Jews had inflicted upon the suffering Germans and Hungarians.

Similarly, journalist Robert Wilton, former Russia correspondent of the *Times of London*, provided a very detailed summary of the enormous Jewish role in his 1918 book *Russia's Agony* and 1920 book *The Last Days of the Romanovs*, although one of the most explicit chapters of the latter <u>was apparently excluded from the English language edition</u>. Not long afterward, the facts regarding the enormous financial support provided to the Bolsheviks by international Jewish bankers such as Schiff and Aschberg were widely reported in the mainstream media.

Jews and Communism were just as strongly tied together in America, and for years the largest circulation Communist newspaper in our country was published in Yiddish. When they were finally released, the Venona Decrypts demonstrated that even as late as the 1930s and 1940s, a remarkable fraction of America's Communist spies came from that ethnic background.

A personal anecdote tends to confirm these dry historical records. During the early 2000s I once had lunch with an elderly and very eminent computer scientist, with whom I'd become a little friendly. While talking about this and that, he happened to mention that both his parents had been zealous Communists, and given his obvious Irish name, I expressed my surprise, saying that I'd thought almost all the Communists of that era were Jewish. He said that was indeed the case, but although his mother had such an ethnic background, his father did not, which made him a very rare exception in their political circles. As a consequence, the Party had always sought to place him in as prominent a public role as possible just to prove that not all Communists were Jews, and although he obeyed Party discipline, he was always irritated at being used as such a "token."

However, once Communism sharply fell out of favor in 1950s America, nearly all of the leading "Red Baiters" such as Sen. Joseph McCarthy went to enormous lengths to obscure the ethnic dimension of the movement they were combatting. Indeed, many years later Richard Nixon casually spoke in private of the difficulty he and other anti-Communist investigators had faced in trying to focus on Gentile targets since nearly all of the suspected Soviet spies were Jewish, and when this tape became public, his alleged anti-Semitism provoked a media firestorm even though his remarks were obviously implying the exact opposite.

This last point is an important one, since once the historical record has been sufficiently whitewashed or rewritten, any lingering strands of the original reality that survive are often perceived as bizarre delusions or denounced as "conspiracy theories." Indeed, even today the ever-amusing pages of Wikipedia provides an entire 3,500 word article attacking the notion of "Jewish Bolshevism" as an "antisemitic canard."

In <u>a subsequent article</u>, I summarized several of the numerous sources describing this obvious reality:

Meanwhile, all historians know perfectly well that the Bolshevik leaders were overwhelmingly Jewish, with three of the five revolutionaries Lenin named as his plausible successors coming from that background. Although only around 4% of Russia's population was Jewish, a few years ago Vladimir Putin stated that Jews constituted perhaps 80-85% of the early Soviet government, an estimate fully consistent with the contemporaneous claims of Winston Churchill, *Times of London* correspondent Robert Wilton, and the officers of American Military Intelligence. Recent books by Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Yuri Slezkine, and others have all painted a very similar picture. And prior to World War II, Jews remained enormously over-represented in the Communist leadership, especially dominating the Gulag administration and the top ranks of the dreaded NKVD.

Perhaps the most utterly explosive and totally suppressed aspect of the close relationship between Jews and Communism regards the claims that Jacob Schiff and other top international Jewish bankers were among the leading financial backers of the Bolshevik Revolution. I spent nearly all of my life regarding these vague rumors as such obvious absurdities that they merely demonstrated the lunatic anti-Semitism infesting the nether-regions of Far Right anti-Communist movements, thereby fully confirming the theme of Richard Hofstadter's famous book *The Paranoid Style in American Politics*. Indeed, the Schiff accusations were so totally ridiculous that they were never even once mentioned in the hundred-odd books on the history of the Bolshevik Revolution and Soviet Communism that I read during the 1970s and 1980s.

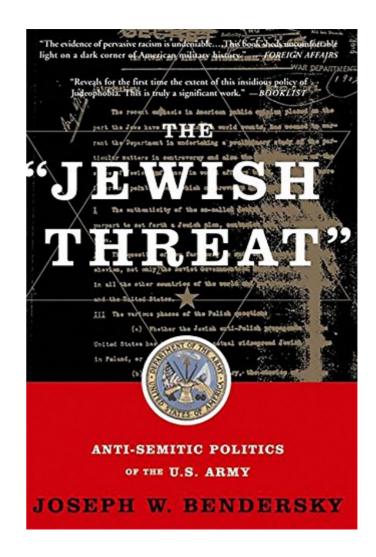
Therefore, it came as an enormous shock when I discovered that the claims were not only probably correct, but had been almost universally accepted as true throughout the first half of the twentieth century.

For example, <u>The "Jewish</u> <u>Threat"</u> by Joseph W.

Bendersky summarizes his years of archival research and he documents that Schiff's financial support

for the Bolsheviks was widely reported in the **American Military** Intelligence files of the period, with British Intelligence taking the same position. Kenneth D. Ackerman's 2016 study Trotsky in New York, 1917 describes much the same material. In 1925, the British Guardian published this information and it was soon widely discussed and accepted throughout the 1920s and 1930s by numerous major international media outlets. Naomi W. Cohen's 1991

hagiographic volume *Jacob*



<u>Schiff</u> devotes several pages to summarizing the various stories of Schiff's strong Bolshevik ties that had earlier been published in leading American periodicals.

Writing nearly a century after the events under discussion, these three Jewish authors casually dismiss all the numerous accounts they provide by highly-credible observers—American and British Intelligence officers and prominent international journalists—as merely demonstrating the delusional nature of the extreme anti-Semitism that had infected so much of the world in those bygone days. Yet most serious historians would surely place far greater weight upon contemporaneous evidence than upon the personal opinions of those writers who happen to gather together that material evidence generations afterward.

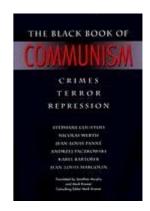
Henry Wickham Steed was one of the foremost journalists of his era, and he had served as editor of the *Times of London*, the world's most authoritative newspaper. A couple of years after his retirement, he published his lengthy personal memoirs, <u>now conveniently online</u>, which contain the following very intriguing passages:

Potent international financial interests were at work in favour of the immediate recognition of the Bolshevists. Those influences had been largely responsible for the Anglo-American proposal in January to call Bolshevist representatives to Paris at the beginning of the Peace Conference — a proposal which had failed after having been transformed into a suggestion for a Conference with the Bolshevists at Prinkipo. The well-known American Jewish banker, Mr. Jacob Schiff, was known to be anxious to secure recognition for the Bolshevists...

...the prime movers were Jacob Schiff, Warburg, and other international financiers, who wished above all to bolster up the Jewish Bolshevists in order to secure a field for German and Jewish exploitation of Russia.

Schiff's own family later confirmed this widely-accepted history. The February 3, 1949 *Knickerbocker* column of the *New York Journal-American*, then one of the city's leading newspapers, reported the account: "Today it is estimated by Jacob's grandson, John Schiff, that the old man sank about 20,000,000 dollars for the final triumph of Bolshevism in Russia." The present-day value of the figure quoted is probably around \$2 billion, a very substantial sum.

Despite this enormous volume of persuasive evidence, for the next half-century or more Schiff's name almost entirely vanished from all mainstream texts on Soviet Communism. As <u>I wrote</u> last year:



In 1999, Harvard University published the English edition of *The Black Book of Communism*, whose six co-authors devoted 850 pages to documenting the horrors inflicted upon the world by that defunct system, which had produced a total death toll they reckoned at 100 million. I have never read that book and I have often heard that the alleged bodycount has been widely disputed. But for me the most remarkable detail is that when I examine the 35 page index, I see a vast profusion of entries for totally obscure individuals whose names are surely unknown to all but the most erudite specialist. But there is no entry for Jacob Schiff, the world-famous Jewish banker who apparently financed the creation of the whole system in the first place. Nor one for Olaf Aschberg, the powerful Jewish banker in Sweden, who played such an important role in providing the Bolsheviks a financial lifeline during the early years of their threatened regime, and even founded the first Soviet international bank.

American Pravda: The Bolshevik Revolution and Its Aftermath Ron Unz • *The Unz Review* • July 23, 2018 • 6,900 Words

Perhaps the extreme caution and timorous silence exhibited by nearly all Western historians on these sensitive elements of World War II and the Bolshevik Revolution should not entirely surprise us given the professional and personal risks they might face if they strayed from orthodoxy.

Consider the very telling example of David Irving. During the first half of his professional career, his string of widely-translated bestsellers and his millions of books in print probably established him as the most internationally successful British historian of the last one hundred years, with his remarkable archival research frequently revolutionizing our understanding of the European conflict and the political forces behind it. But as he repeatedly demonstrated his lack of regard for official orthodoxy, he attracted many powerful enemies, who eventually ruined his reputation, drove him into personal bankruptcy, and even arranged his imprisonment. Over the last quarter-century, he has increasingly become an un-person, with the few occasional mentions of his name in the media invoked in the same talismanic manner as references to Lucifer or Beelzebub. If a historian of such towering stature and success could be brought so low, what ordinary academic scholar would dare risk a similar fate? Voltaire famously observed that shooting an admiral every now and then is an excellent way to encourage the others.

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<u>The Remarkable Historiography of David Irving</u> Ron Unz • *The Unz Review* • June 4, 2018 • 1,700 Words

The destruction of Irving's stellar career came at the hands of Jewish activists, who were outraged at his balanced treatment of Hitler and his ongoing commitment to investigating many of the widely-accepted wartime myths, which he hoped to replace with what he called "real history." In the introduction to his new edition of *Hitler's War*, he recounts how a journalist for *Time* magazine was having dinner with him in New York in 1988 and remarked "Before coming over I read the clippings files on you. Until *Hitler's War* you couldn't put a foot wrong, you were the darling of the media; after it, they heaped slime on you."

As Irving was certainly aware, the unreasonably harsh vilification of enemy leaders during wartime is hardly an uncommon occurrence. Although it has largely been forgotten today, during much of the First World War and for years afterward, Germany's reigning monarch, Kaiser Wilhelm, was widely portrayed in the Allied countries as a bloodthirsty monster, one of the most evil men who had ever lived. This vilification came despite Wilhelm having been the beloved eldest grandchild of Britain's own Queen Victoria, who according to some accounts died in his arms.

Moreover, although Allied propaganda routinely portrayed Wilhelm as a relentless warmonger, he had actually avoided involving Germany in a single major military conflict during the first twenty-five years of his reign, while most of the other leading world powers had fought one or more major wars during that same period. Indeed, Irecently discovered that only a year before the Guns of August began firing, *The New York Times* had published a lengthy profile marking the first quarter-century of Wilhelm's reign, lauding him as one of the world's foremost peacemakers:

Now ... he is acclaimed everywhere as the greatest factor for peace that our time can show. It was he, we hear, who again and again threw the weight of his dominating personality, backed by the greatest military organisation in the world – an organisation built up by himself – into the balance for peace wherever war clouds gathered over Europe. '('William II, King of Prussia and German Emperor, Kaiser 25 years a ruler, hailed as chief peacemaker,' *New York Times*, 8 June, 1913)

That brief excerpt from the *Times* encomium points to another matter than I have never seen mentioned. I devoted much of the 2000s to digitizing and making available the complete archives of hundreds of America's leading publications of the last 150 years, and when I occasionally glanced at the contents, I gradually noticed something odd. Although the English-language world today invariably refers to Germany's wartime ruler as "Kaiser Wilhelm," that was only very rarely the case prior to the outbreak of war, when he was generally known as "Emperor William." The latter nomenclature is hardly surprising since we always speak of "Frederick the Great" rather than "Friedrich der Grosse." But it is obviously much easier to mobilize millions of citizens to die in muddy trenches in order to defeat a monstrously alien "Kaiser" than "Good Emperor William," first cousin to the British and Russian monarchs. The NGram viewer in Google Books shows the timing of the change quite clearly, with the Anglophone practice shifting as Britain became increasingly hostile toward Germany, especially after the outbreak of war. But "Emperor William" was only permanently eclipsed by "Kaiser Wilhelm" after Germany once again became a likely enemy in the years immediately preceding World War II. Actual publications of the period also reveal numerous discordant facts about the First World War, matters certainly known to academic specialists but which have rarely received much coverage in our standard textbooks, instead being relegated to a casual sentence or two if even that. For example, despite its considerable military successes, Germany launched a major peace effort in late 1916 to end the stalemated war by <u>negotiations</u> and thereby avert oceans of additional bloodshed. However, this proposal was fiercely rejected by the Allied powers and their advocates <u>in the pages of the world's</u> <u>leading periodicals</u> since they remained firmly committed to an ultimate military victory.

War fever was certainly still very strong that same year in Britain, the leading Allied power. When prominent peace-advocates such as Bertrand Russell and Lord Loreborn urged a negotiated end to the fighting, and were strongly backed by the editor of the influential London *Economist*, they were harshly vilified and the latter was forced to resign his position. E.D. Morel, another committed peace advocate, was imprisoned for his activism under such harsh conditions that it permanently broke his health and led to his early death at age 51 a few years after his release.

As an excellent antidote to our severely distorted understanding of both wartime sentiments and the domestic European politics that had produced the conflict, I would strongly recommend the text of *Present Day Europe* by Lothrop Stoddard, then one of America's most influential public intellectuals. Written prior to America's own entry into the conflict, the work provides the sort of remarkable scholarly detachment which would soon became almost impossible in American historiography.

<u>Present-Day Europe</u> *Its National States of Mind*Lothrop Stoddard • 1917 • 74,000 Words

Although the demonic portrayal of the German Kaiser was already being replaced by a more balanced treatment within a few years of the Armistice and had disappeared after a generation, no such similar process has occurred in the case of his World War II successor. Indeed, Adolf Hitler and the Nazis seem to loom far larger in our cultural and ideological landscape today than they did in the immediate aftermath of the war, with their visibility growing even as they become more distant in time, a strange violation of the normal laws of perspective. I suspect that the casual dinner-table

conversations on World War II issues that I used to enjoy with my Harvard College classmates during the early 1980s would be completely impossible today.

To some extent, the transformation of "the Good War" into a secular religion, with its designated monsters and martyrs may be analogous to what occurred during the final decay of the Soviet Union, when the obvious failure of its economic system forced the government to increasingly turn to endless celebrations of its victory in the Great Patriotic War as the primary source of its legitimacy. The real wages of ordinary American workers have been <u>stagnant for fifty years</u> and most adults <u>have less than \$500 in available savings</u>, so this widespread impoverishment may be forcing our own leaders into adopting a similar strategy.

But I think that a far greater factor has been the astonishing growth of Jewish power in America, which was already quite substantial even four or five decades ago but has now become absolutely overwhelming, whether in foreign policy, finance, or the media, with our 2% minority exercising unprecedented control over most aspects of our society and political system. Only a fraction of American Jews hold traditional religious beliefs, so the twin worship of the State of Israel and the Holocaust has served to fill that void, with the individuals and events of World War II constituting many of the central elements of the *mythos* that serves to unify the Jewish community. And as an obvious consequence, no historical figure ranks higher in the demonology of this secular religion than the storied Fuhrer and his Nazi regime.

However, beliefs based upon religious dogma often sharply diverge from empirical reality. Pagan Druids may worship a particular sacred oak tree and claim that it contains the soul of their tutelary dryad; but if an arborist taps the tree, its sap may seem like that of any other.

Our current official doctrine portrays Adolf Hitler's Nazi Germany as one of the cruelest and most relentlessly aggressive regimes in the history of the world, but at the time these salient facts apparently escaped the leaders of the nations with which it was at war. *Operation Pike* provides an enormous wealth of archival material regarding the secret internal discussions of the British and French governmental and military leadership, and all of it tends to suggest that they regarded their German adversary as a perfectly normal country, and perhaps occasionally regretted that they had somehow gotten themselves involved a major war over what amounted to a small Polish border dispute.

During late 1939, a major American news syndicate had sent Stoddard to spend a few months in wartime Germany and provide his perspective, with his numerous dispatches appearing in *The New York Times* and other leading newspapers. Upon his return, he published a 1940 book summarizing all his information, seemingly just as even-handed as his earlier 1917 volume. His coverage probably constitutes one of the most objective and comprehensive American accounts of the mundane domestic nature of National Socialist Germany, and thus may seem rather shocking to modern readers steeped in eighty years of increasingly unrealistic Hollywood propaganda.

Into the Darkness

An Uncensored Report from Inside the Third Reich At War Lothrop Stoddard • 1940 • 79,000 Words

And although our standard histories would never admit this, the actual path toward war appears to have been quite different than most Americans believe. Extensive documentary evidence from knowledgeable Polish, American, and British officials demonstrates that <u>pressure from Washington</u> was the key factor behind the outbreak of the European conflict. Indeed, leading American journalists and public intellectuals of the day such as John T. Flynn and Harry Elmer Barnes had publicly <u>declared</u> that they feared Franklin Roosevelt was seeking to foment a major European war in hopes that it would rescue him from the apparent economic failure of his New Deal reforms and perhaps even provide him an excuse to

run for an unprecedented third term. Since this is exactly what ultimately transpired, such accusations would hardly seem totally unreasonable.

And in an ironic contrast with FDR's domestic failures, Hitler's own economic successes had been enormous, a striking comparison since the two leaders had come to power within a few weeks of each other in early 1933. As iconoclastic leftist Alexander Cockburn <u>once noted</u> in a 2004 *Counterpunch* column:

When [Hitler] came to power in 1933 unemployment stood at 40 per cent. Economic recovery came without the stimulus of arms spending...There were vast public works such as the autobahns. He paid little attention to the deficit or to the protests of the bankers about his policies. Interest rates were kept low and though wages were pegged, family income increased by reason of full employment. By 1936 unemployment had sunk to one per cent. German military spending remained low until 1939.

Not just Bush but Howard Dean and the Democrats could learn a few lessons in economic policy from that early, Keynesian Hitler.

By resurrecting a prosperous Germany while nearly all other countries remained mired in the worldwide Great Depression, Hitler drew glowing accolades from individuals all across the ideological spectrum. After an extended 1936 visit, David Lloyd George, Britain's former wartime prime minister, <u>fulsomely praised the chancellor</u> as "the George Washington of Germany," a national hero of the greatest stature. Over the years, I've seen plausible claims here and there that during the 1930s Hitler was widely acknowledged as the world's most popular and successful national leader, and the fact that he was selected as *Time Magazine*'s Man of the Year for 1938 tends to support this belief.

Only International Jewry had remained intensely hostile to Hitler, outraged over his successful efforts to dislodge Germany's 1% Jewish population from the stranglehold they had gained over German media and finance, and instead run the country in the best interests of the 99% German majority. A striking recent parallel has been the enormous hostility that Vladimir Putin incurred after he ousted the handful of Jewish Oligarchs who had seized control of Russian society and impoverished the bulk of the population. Putin has

attempted to mitigate this difficulty by allying himself with certain Jewish elements, and Hitler seems to have done the same by endorsing the Nazi-Zionist economic partnership, which lay the basis for the creation of the State of Israel and thereby brought on board the small, but growing Jewish Zionist faction. In the wake of the

In the wake of the 9/11 Attacks, the Jewish Neocons



stampeded America towards the disastrous Iraq War and the resulting destruction of the Middle East, with the talking heads on our television sets endlessly claiming that "Saddam Hussein is another Hitler." Since then, we have regularly heard the same tagline repeated in various modified versions, being told that "Muammar Gaddafi is another Hitler" or "Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is another Hitler" or "Vladimir Putin is another Hitler" or even "Hugo Chavez is another Hitler." For the last couple of years, our American media has been relentlessly filled with the claim that "Donald Trump is another Hitler."

During the early 2000s, I obviously recognized that Iraq's ruler was a harsh tyrant, but snickered at the absurd media propaganda, knowing perfectly well that Saddam Hussein was no Adolf Hitler. But with the steady growth of the Internet and the availability of the

millions of pages of periodicals provided by my digitization project, I've been quite surprised to gradually also discover that Adolf Hitler was no Adolf Hitler.

It might not be entirely correct to claim that the story of World War II was that Franklin Roosevelt sought to escape his domestic difficulties by orchestrating a major European war against the prosperous, peace-loving Nazi Germany of Adolf Hitler. But I do think that picture is probably somewhat closer to the actual historical reality than the inverted image more commonly found in our textbooks.

American Pravda: Our Great Purge of the 1940s
Ron Unz • *The Unz Review* • June 11, 2018 • 5,400 Words

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 - <u>Chinese Melamine and American Vioxx: A Comparison</u> April 17, 2012 • 1,800 Words • 68 Comments
 - The Myth of American Meritocracy
 November 28, 2012 26,200 Words 249 Comments
 - <u>Our American Pravda</u> April 29, 2013 • 4,500 Words • 160 Comments
 - American Pravda: Reality Television
 May 6, 2013 900 Words 18 Comments
 - American Pravda: Barrels of Gunpowder and Sparks
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