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Soviet Military Strategy

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BOOKS

Sokolovskii, Vasilii D., ed. *Soviet Military Strategy*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1963. 544 p.

Soviet Military Strategy was originally published in the Soviet Union under the title *Military Strategy*. It is the first comprehensive discussion of Soviet military strategy and concepts available to the public since 1926. The book was written by a group of Soviet military authors under the guidance of Marshal V. D. Sokolovskii, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and former Chief of the Soviet General Staff. Written in the context of the Soviet Union's unsuccessful claim of strategic superiority over the West, the volume was published just prior to the Cuban confrontation in 1962. Among the many subjects covered are politics and strategy, organization, targeting, employment of the various armed forces of the Soviet Union, and concepts and strategy for future wars. To assist the reader, there is an analytical introduction by the Rand Corporation translators, all specialists in Soviet military strategy. The book is well documented and points up the conflicts in developing new military strategy within the Soviet Union in this rapidly moving technological age.

Cross, James E. *Conflict in the Shadows*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1963. 180 p.

' . . . The critically important need for Americans to understand the nature of insurgency, unconventional warfare and its significance in today's world' is the rationale behind James Eliot Cross's writing of this book. To his task he brings over twenty years of active participation in, and study of, unconventional warfare. Upon the foundation of this experience, and employing historical example for a tool, Cross examines first, the conditions which spawn insurgency; second, the forms insurgency takes; and third, the measures that have proven effective in 'easing the tensions that make for turmoil and political collapse' The result—a compact handbook on the nature of unconventional warfare that manages both to contribute toward this understanding of 'shadow' warfare the author so earnestly seeks, and to synthesize, in highly readable form, his own perceptive analysis and interpretation of the nature of such warfare.

Conflict in the Shadows, while providing no hard answers, does succeed in shedding considerable light.