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What We Must Know About Communism

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BOOKS

Overstreet, Harry and Bonaro. *What We Must Know About Communism*. New York, W. W. Norton, 1958. 348 p.

The Overstreets have made a thorough and penetrating study of Communism — the theory, the Party and the Soviet Union — and have presented their findings with the aim of helping Americans to understand this force, and of stimulating and clarifying the thoughts of the individual. Beginning with a brief study of the conditions that led to the introduction of Communism into Russia, the authors analyze Marxist theory and outline its development up to the present time, including a summary of economic and doctrinal problems that Khrushchev has inherited from his predecessors. They next discuss the origins, activities and tactics of the CPUSA and of other Western Hemisphere nations, and their relationships, past and present, to the Communist Party of the USSR. Finally, they outline the ultimate aims of Communism, the tactics and techniques used to achieve those aims, and the “stakes,” or elements of civilization, that we must fight to preserve. The study is thoroughly documented by quotations from basic Communist and non-Communist sources. Of particular note are the extensive bibliography, the listing of periodicals that provide a continuous source of information, and the list of research centers from which “new materials of dependable scholarship are constantly being made available.”

Haley, Andrew G. *Rocketry and Space Exploration*. Princeton, N. J., D. Van Nostrand, 1958. 334 p.

Haley has provided an excellent source book for anyone seeking information on the history of rocketry from the vantage point of one with long acquaintance with his subject matter and with the personalities of all nations who have contributed to the present state of the art. It is a needed contribution to the astronautics field in that the author has covered for the first time many of the steps in the development of rocketry without becoming too technical or covering subject matter adequately treated in other works. For the student of rocketry or astronautics, this book provides the necessary background of what has been done, by whom, when, where, and under what circumstances. He has not missed the chance to “Monday morning quarterback” the historical events he presents, nor