

however, inevitable in a work which seeks to provide unity of analysis for such a large geographical area and for over five centuries of developments. In any case, many of the editor's interpretive statements stimulate further historical discussion and debate.

Twenty-five of the readings deal exclusively, or in large part with the territory of the five Balkan states, and some of these selections will be cited here as of particular interest. The extracts from the «Turkish Letters» by Ogier Ghiselin de Busbecq, the Habsburg ambassador to Constantinople in 1555, emphasize the more colorful and culturally intriguing aspects of the Ottoman Empire during the last years of Suleiman the Magnificent's reign. «The Ottoman System», excerpted from a longer study by Walter Livingston Wright, Jr., in 1935, describes and evaluates the strengths and weaknesses of Ottoman institutions in the sixteenth century. The influence of the French Revolution on Southeastern Europe is treated in an essay by Nicholas Iorga, the distinguished Rumanian historian. The contemporary observations of Prince Gheorghe Cantacuzene of Moldavia and «Thourios: War Hymn» by Rhegas Pherraios capture the feelings for revolution among Greek patriots prior to 1821. The Hungarian economic historian, E. Niederhauser, in «The Problems of Bourgeois Transformation in Eastern and Southeastern Europe», highlights with a Marxist slant the difficulties involved in modernizing the underdeveloped states of this area in the last half of the nineteenth century. Khristo Botev's «The Sole Salvation Lies in Revolution» and Svetozar Markovich's «The Proposal of Fifteen for the Organization of the Youth of Serbia» provide insights into the programs of two Balkan social revolutionaries. «Information Concerning the Formation of Bands» acquaints the reader with the policies of the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization (IMRO) in 1903 during the height of its struggle for control of Macedonia. A valuable analysis of the political systems during the interwar years is excerpted from Hugh Seton-Watson's *Eastern Europe between the Wars, 1918-1941* (1945). The agrarian question for this same period is discussed by David Mitran, a leading authority on peasant problems, in a selection from his *Marx against the Peasant* (1951). Irwin Sanders, a sociologist specializing in Balkan affairs, grapples with the issues of rural social organization and «familism» in his intensive study of a Bulgarian village prior to the outbreak World War II.

Professor Fischer-Galati in providing this potpourri of documents and essays, is to be commended for his wise selection of materials. As this reviewer can testify from personal experience, *Man, State, and Society in Eastern Europe* (available also in paperback) serves an important function in the organization of good reading list assignments for history courses on the Balkans and Eastern Europe. Individuals less academically inclined but interested in the region can also profit from its perusal. It is to be hoped that in the future, additional edited collections on East European themes will also be produced. For example, a volume stressing the rich culture, with English translations of folklore, poetry, and songs would be a valued contribution for an increased understanding of this fascinating section of Europe.

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Raul Hilberg, ed., *Documents of Destruction: Germany and Jewry 1933-1945*, Chicago, Quadrangle Books, 1971, pp. xii + 242.

This collection of documents selected and annotated by Professor Hilberg serves as an elaboration of the thesis on the Holocaust he presented in his earlier definitive study *The Destruction of the European Jews*. However, it also stands by itself as an incisive survey of

the destruction process revealed by the perpetrators' and victims' own words. The editor has divided the collection into fifty sections, embracing about twice that number of documents, all translated into English. Most of the documents are from the Nuremberg documents and the Alexandria, Virginia, collection of the U.S. National Archives - archives which professor Hilberg himself helped put in order. However, there are significant items from the documents assembled for the Adolf Eichmann trial, Jerusalem's *Yad VaShem* institute, the Munich *Institut für Zeitgeschichte*, and elsewhere.

As the title of the collection indicates, the bulk of material concerns German relations with the Jews, but the editor's choice encompasses many areas of Europe. Of the fifty sections, eighteen deal with Germany, six with Poland, four with Slovakia, three each with Hungary and France, two each with Greece and the Soviet Union, and one section each with Austria, Romania, Holland, Italy, Norway and Yugoslavia (Croatia). (Six of the fifty sections are on the Jewish killing centers in Poland and cannot be classified geographically). Chronologically, only the first eleven sections relate to the Jewish experience in Germany under the Nazis before World War II; the bulk of documents concerns the application of the Final Solution.

As indicated above, the documents are chosen and grouped to emphasize Hilberg's five-stage description of the destruction process (identification, confiscation, concentration, deportation, and execution), but both the selection and presentation are enlightening and judicious. Statistical data and bureaucratic communications are placed together with eye-witness accounts and autobiographical essays. The most outstanding examples of this are two documents on shootings in the Soviet Union. The first consists of several pages listing the daily activity of an *Einsatzgruppe* in Lithuania and Belorussia from July to December 1941, dispassionately giving the number of persons shot each day. The other from the same section is the amazing and moving account of a woman survivor from a mass execution in Belorussia given at the Eichmann trial. The editor's use of selections from the court transcripts of this trial is particularly effective. Other outstanding selections include the final sections «Who is Who in Postwar Germany» and «Amends». The former are selected entries from the 1967 edition of *Wer ist Wer?* with glosses pointing out the designated luminary's connection with the Final Solution during the war. The «Amends» section is Hilberg's own description of the type of compensation Jews have been receiving from the German Federal Republic - often leaving a bizarre impression. For example:

«Losses are indemnifiable only if they are the direct or indirect consequences of official German action. Thus a death in the Bucharest pogrom of January 22, 1941, is *not* covered, because Roumania (sic) is considered to have been outside the German sphere of influence at that time; but the situation in which a Jew who, having escaped from German-occupied Athens to the partisans, succumbed to hardships in the course of his stay with them is recognized because of the origin of the flight. Duodenal ulcers and gall bladder usually are considered problems of personal constitution, but the failure of parents impoverished by persecution to provide special training for a retarded child is indemnifiable as an impairment of economic advancement. Again, most manic-depressive disturbances are not included since they are ruled to be «endogenous», but the suicide of a Jew who had felt himself severely threatened immediately after listening to a Hitler speech is ground for an admissible claim», (p. 240, italics in original).

Hilberg's comments on each section are more than just introduction, and help to explain the documents as well as to give continuity to his theme.

Of particular interest to readers of *Balkan Studies* are two German reports showing the

relationship between Rabbi Koretz of Thessaloniki and Prime Minister John Rallis. The collection also contains a memoir from the *Yad VaShem* oral history depot by Mauricius Soriano of Rhodes describing the fate of his community as well as several eye-witness accounts of the Romanian Jews from *Yad VaShem*. Finally, while scholars and general readers will no doubt find Mr. Hilberg's book of great interest, its major use will be as an excellent supplementary text for general and specific courses in European history.

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E. J. Czerwinski and Jaroslav Piekalkiewicz, eds., *The Soviet Invasion of Czechoslovakia; Its Effects on Eastern Europe*, «Praeger Special Studies in International Politics and Public Affairs», New York, Praeger Publishers, 1972, pp. 214.

This is a collection of eleven articles and essays by ten authors of various points of view and disciplines on the aftermath of the events of August 1968 in Czechoslovakia. Piekalkiewicz, a political scientist, and Czerwinski, a literary critic, contributed the first and last selections. The diversity of their fields characterize the range of the other contributors—who include three other political scientists, three other linguists, a philosopher, and an economist. The perspectives of the selections include some which are highly technical and scholarly, others which are polemical, and some merely observational. The title of the collection is somewhat misleading, as there is no coherent attempt to describe the aftermath of August 1968 in Eastern Europe in general. Each article or essay stands by itself. Several of the authors discuss other Eastern European countries—namely Poland, Yugoslavia, Romania, and Hungary—while half of the essays deal exclusively or chiefly with Czechoslovakia itself. Professor Ivan Svitak in his essay «Crisis of the European Left» in fact extends the scope beyond Eastern Europe by writing about similarities between Prague and Paris in 1968.

The book is presented as a work of scholarly impartiality, but despite the merits or drawbacks of any of the individual essays (all of which, I should add, show merit) the total impression of the presentation is that of a political assault. The format of the book—the printing having the appearance of typewritten reports with documentation at the end of each article—detracts from its scholarship and leaves the reader with the impression that he is being «let in» on the latest governmental or foundation information based on hitherto unrevealed facts. All of the essays are unreservedly anti-Soviet in their outlook. Moreover, the publishing house itself has the reputation of being an ideological attack unit in the cold war.

The lead article of the collection is by editor Piekalkiewicz, «Public Political Opinion in Czechoslovakia During the Dubcek Era». It is a summation of six opinion polls conducted by a team of professional poll-takers from April 1968 to May 1969. The six are part of a larger group (twenty) discussed in the author's earlier Praeger monograph, *Public Opinion Polling in Czechoslovakia, 1968-1969* (1971). The author states that the polls included here were taken from representative samples and the statistics used seem characteristically large enough, but for obvious reasons a complete revelation of the polling sample is not possible. In any case, the results are not surprising. The samples include the Czechoslovak public at large, members of the Communist Party, and the Communist Party leadership. The polls reveal that the Czechs and Slovaks wanted a liberalization of the socialist system but not its replacement, and Piekalkiewicz concludes that this demonstrates that the Soviet justifications for the entry of troops—threats of foreign invasion from the west or counter-revolution—were not true. He does indicate that there was a nationalist, anti-Russian aspect to the Czech Spring but does not fully develop this. Furthermore, in something of a historically inaccurate non sequitur his final paragraph reads: