



BookNotes Reviewer's Addendum

Susan Butler, ed. *My Dear Mr. Stalin: The Complete Correspondence Between Franklin D. Roosevelt and Joseph V. Stalin*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2005. xix + 361 pp. Introduction by Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., appendix, notes, bibliography, index.

Further Comments by the Reviewer

By Warren F. Kimball

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Susan Butler's compilation of the written and third-party Stalin/FDR exchanges is exactly as I describe it: "a straightforward compilation of what FDR either approved, wrote, or saw in his exchanges with Stalin, ... a convenient and useful collection. Nothing more." I am pleased that she did it, as are historians who will use it, including me. (One hopes she will allow a digitized version, at least of the actual documents which are in the public domain, to be posted on the appropriate websites.) But the compilation could have been so very much more, something I passed on to her when she was beginning the project. It is an opportunity lost.

That said, this is definitely not "the first accurate history [of the Stalin-FDR relationship] as seen through the eyes of the two original Cold Warriors," despite her claim. As she points out earlier in her rejoinder, "This is Roosevelt's book; it is focused on the view from Washington." Quite so.

Cheers,
Warren Kimball

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