

Book Notes by Katherine R. Notley

Two important works now appear in English

Justice, Not Vengeance by Simon Wiesenthal, trans. from German by Ewald Osers, Grove Weidenfeld, N.Y., 1990, 372 pages, \$27.50.

I am very happy to report that two books we reviewed last year, which at the time only existed in German and French, have now been translated into English: Viktor Suvorov's *Icebreaker*, and Simon Wiesenthal's *Justice, Not Vengeance*.

One man who has certainly rejected the simplistic explanations for World War II is one of its personal victims—Simon Wiesenthal. And now, Americans can see for themselves that the proper attitude for a real Nazi-hunter is not the sort of “cowboy” approach employed by the Justice Department Office of Special Investigations. We first reviewed this book last fall (*EIR*, Nov. 10, 1989) when it was translated into French, and our reviewer Laurent Murawiec quoted Wiesenthal's advice to young Germans: “Try to disassociate this question from the Jewish question—it is genocide per se that interests me. . . . Genocide is the crime that most fatally threatens mankind.”

Murawiec described the portraits Wiesenthal paints from the war: the physician who refused to perform medical experiments on concentration camp inmates; and the two Nazi Party members who saved Wiesenthal's life (“they prove the absurdity of the idea of collective responsibility”). Wiesenthal also depicts the sickening, cynical exploitation of war trauma by

the Austrian Socialists and Edgar Bronfman's World Jewish Congress to brand Kurt Waldheim a Nazi, and the KGB-Polish intelligence lie that Wiesenthal himself was an SS collaborator in the camps.

It is refreshing, if not surprising, therefore, that a man of Wiesenthal's honesty would also draw a bead on Germany's foremost euthanasia advocate: the “Cyanide Doctor” Julius Hackethal. “I do not make hasty comparisons, but . . . it was medical ethics that demanded murder, in order to avoid something worse—in the event of the Judaization of Germany, or the spread of hereditary diseases.”

Whither disarmament?

Icebreaker, Who Started the Second World War? by Viktor Suvorov Hamish Hamilton, London, 1990, 364 pages, £16.99, (Can. \$35). *Icebreaker* will be available in the U.S. Viking Penguin edition for \$22.95 in September.

Hamish Hamilton plugs its other publications by the same author on the back cover, quoting reviews of two of Suvorov's books, *Spetsnaz* and *Aquarium*, from the *Independent*, the *London Review of Books*, the *Times Literary Supplement* and *EIR*. The text quotes from *EIR*'s review of *Spetsnaz*: “This book from a former military intelligence officer is perhaps the best introduction to the subject of Soviet military special-purpose forces so far available to the general public.” That review was by Lyndon LaRouche and appeared in *EIR*'s Sept. 4, 1987 issue.

The front cover of *Icebreaker* has a famous cartoon of Hitler and Stalin respectfully doffing their hats to each other and Hitler saying “The scum of the earth, I believe”; to which Stalin replies, “The bloody assassin of the

workers, I presume?” The cartoon couldn't be more appropriate in these days of “Gorbymania,” when carefully orchestrated, adoring crowds shout “Gorby! Gorby!” because “Mikhail! Mikhail” sounds too much like *Sieg heil*.

One year ago, Michael Liebig wrote (*EIR*, May 19, 1989): “This latest book, on Soviet Russia's political and military strategy during 1939-41, not only provides crucial new insights into that period, but also confronts us anew with the Soviet leadership's remarkable ability to successfully misinform the world about its true aims over a 50-year time-span—a circumstance which becomes all the more shocking, given that many of the essential facts which Suvorov presents in his book must certainly have long been known by military historians in the West. . . . Suvorov proceeds from the assumption that the Soviet leadership under Stalin obviously did not believe in their own propaganda formula on the ‘peaceful construction’ of ‘socialism in one country.’ They believed that Soviet Russia could only survive and secure a strengthened geopolitical position, as an outcome of a ‘second imperialist world war.’ Lenin himself repeatedly spoke about the ‘inevitability’ of a new world war. . . .”

“In this respect the crucial Soviet diplomatic breakthrough was attained with the signing of the Hitler-Stalin Pact on Aug. 23, 1939. With it, the Soviet leadership had cleared the way not only for the military liquidation of the Polish state in collusion with Nazi Germany, but also for the outbreak of the entire ‘second imperialist world war.’ . . . Hitler's remaining scruples over provoking war with France and Great Britain, both of whom had guaranteed Poland's integrity, had been swept aside through Stalin's political and military complicity.”