

Forging Stalin's Army: Marshal Tukhachevsky And The Politics Of Military Innovation

By Sally Stoecker



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This innovative study examines the early years of the Red Army as it developed from a revolutionary partisan force into a modern, professional institution under the leadership of Mikhail Tukhachevsky, an important and controversial figure in the politics of the Stalin period. Sally Stoecker combines her institutional analysis of the formative period of the Soviet military with an astute look at the person and political maneuvers of Marshal Tukhachevsky and his complex relationship with Stalin, which eventually led to his spectacular downfall and execution in the Great Terror of the late 1930s.Based on newly available archival materials, the book will be welcomed not only by military historians but also by Russian historians for the light it sheds on a vital area of Soviet political history.

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Editorial Review

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Sally W. Stoecker is Research Professor in the School of International Service at American University. She is also project coordinator at American University's Transnational Crime and Corruption Center (Traccc) and an executive editor of the journal *Demokratizatsiya*.

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