

Thornton, Richard. *Odd Man Out: Truman, Stalin, Mao, and the Origins of the Korean War*.

Dulles, Virginia: Brassey's Inc. 2000.

In this comprehensive account covering two years after the outbreak of the Korean War, Thornton describes the relationships between Joseph Stalin, the autocratic Soviet Union Leader and Mao Zedong, the first President of the People's Republic of China. Though his work chronicles the leadership qualities depicted by three key leaders during the cold war period: Stalin, Mao, and Truman, it is arguable that Stalin and Communist leverage on Mao and Peoples Republic of China greatly catches the readers' attention in regard to the outbreak of the Korean War. He boldly offers that though circumstantial factors as well as arguments and advices from aides and staff, it is the leaders emerge with the final decision which in this case shapes or destroys the world order. Thornton adequately shows that both Stalin and Mao were destined to counter the American-backed Capitalism with the Soviet-backed Communism – this is depicted by the ultimate subdivision of Korea into Capitalist south and Communist north. Thornton's work is balanced in all the accounts he offers given that his arguments are not based on facts from suspicious sources but are drawn from American, Russian and Chinese government archives in equal measures. In this regard, this book will be of great importance to my research paper as it will offer not only what Stalin and Mao did but also the reasons behind their deeds.

Gaiduk, Ilya. *Confronting Vietnam: Soviet Policy toward the Indochina Conflict, 1954-1963*.

Washington, D.C.: Stanford University Press, 2003.

Gaiduk offers critical Cold War information particularly regarding the communism (Russian and Chinese) input. In tackling this, he puts two men on the spotlight, Stalin and Mao. In this end, he uses information gathered from the Central Committee of the Communist Party archives in Straya Ploschad. He bases his work from the Stalin Collection, a rich archive, from where he draws first-hand information regarding the Russian foreign policy towards the Indochina conflict as well as on Vietnam question. The work covers the period after the Geneva Conference of 1954 and of course the French war. In this regard, it offers a consistent analysis of the course of the Indochina war, its causes and most importantly its implications on the Communism-Capitalism relationship.

Ulam, Adam. *Stalin: The Man and His Era*. London & New York: Tauris Parke Paperbacks, 2007.

In his arguments, Ulam makes it very clear that for Stalin, a united Soviet Union under the auspices of Communism was the biggest dream ever. Perhaps this explains the reasons as to why even after his death back in 1953 it took almost four decades for the Union to break. The secret behind his power could even be cracked by his successors some of whom attempted to bring the Union into fall but failed. Strikingly, Ulam presents Stalin as a mysterious leader who sent countless men to their death in attempts to hold together the Union. In doing this, he juxtaposes his style to that of his predecessor, Lenin in great detail that. Ulam draws the content of his work from acknowledged history

professors such as Edward Keenan and Leonard Schapiro as well as from a rich bank of other research fellows. Most importantly, the book draws from the rich historical sources chronicling the life and times of Stalin. This book will serve a great cause in the overall preparation of the actual research paper given its rich analytical historical events.

Pollock, Ethan. *Stalin and the Soviet Science Wars*. Princeton N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2006.

Pollock carries out an intensive analysis of many of Stalin's scientific briefings and speeches. In doing this, Pollock gives a basic account of Stalin's political ideologies, his leverage in the World War II, his post-war leadership schemes and most importantly his attempts to form a strong link between the Unions political might and intellectual acumen. The book describes Stalin as a focused and intelligent leader who sought to compel the Unions bright brains into venturing in nationalistic causes such as the manufacture of the first Soviet made nuclear bomb. In doing this, Pollock relies on a wide range of primary sources accessed from the Russian archives. He also relies on several books and articles discussing Russian science as well as Stalinism ideologies. This mixture of primary and secondary sources makes the book's arguments strong. No doubt these arguments provide a suitable reference for drawing inferences regarding Stalinism and its impacts in the spread of Communism.

Rosefielde, Steven. "Stalinism in Post-communist Perspective: New evidence on Killings, Forced Labor and Economic Growth in the 1930s." *Europe-Asia Studies* 48, no. 6 (1996): 959-987.

He adopts an analytical tone in dissecting opposing paradigms regarding Stalinism and the fall of communism. Adopting an unbiased approach, he shows that both sides of Stalin, as a cruel and power thirsty leader who subjected all manner of brutality to minority communities, particularly the Kulaks and as a strategist who turned around the Soviet economic capacity. This piece of work is to a great extent very useful given the unbiased tone as well as its comparative tone that draws in equal measures the dark and bright sides of Stalin. Most importantly, the work is based on post-communism accounts, making its assertions unbiased and hence highly reliable in drawing an impartial account of Stalin leadership vis-à-vis the circumstances of the communism era. In achieving this, the article consults a wide range of literary and documentary works written during the communism as well as post-communism era. No doubt, the input of this work in the overall presentation of arguments regarding the research topic is indispensable.

Quinn-Judge, Sophie. *Ho Chi Minh: The Missing Years, 1919-1941*. London: C. Hurst & Co. Publishers, 2003.

This book provides a detailed analysis of the early leadership years of Ho Chi Minh as a political activist and a nationalist attempting to dismantle the French leadership in Vietnam. To achieve this, Quinn-Judge makes great use of French archival documents which includes intelligence documents kept by the Service de Protection du Corps

Expeditionaire (SPCE) to draw out some of the earlier convictions of Ho Chi Minh. Facts drawn from these sources are juxtaposed with those drawn from key debates and documents detailing the Comintern policy. Most importantly, the author of this book adopts a “top-down” analysis on Ho Chi Minh early leadership ideologies as a young French Communist Party member. His work covers, the period beginning from the time the Comintern made its first incursions among the French colonies, particularly Vietnam in the years between 1928 and 1935. These apparently are the years which Ho Chi Minh made the greatest impacts as nationalist leader.

Tin, Bui, Stowe, Judy, & Van, Do. *Following Ho Chi Minh: The Memoirs of a North Vietnamese Colonel*. London: C. Hurst & Co. Publishers, 1995.

This book offers an extensive account of Ho Chi Minh leadership during a time when he successfully steered the Vietnamese Communist led nationalist party was at its peak in terms of its influence on the Vietnamese. Ho Chi Minh successfully delivered the Vietnamese from French domination using the Communist ideologies and went ahead to wage war against American led incursion in the country to counter the spread of Communism. The author himself being one of the men actively involved in this war offers first hand information that cannot be equaled. Basically, he describes Ho Chi Minh as an avid schemer whose followership was made up of Vietnamese of all walks courtesy of his political and military credentials that were given substance by strong Communism ideologies. No doubt, this work forms the most reliable source of reference in the actual research paper given its first-hand information.

Jian, Chen. "Sino-soviet Alliance and China's Entry into the Korean War. Working Paper No. 1. Edited by Ostermann, Christian." Presentation at the Michigan State University on Cold War International History Project's Workshop on Chinese Foreign Policy, Michigan, October 31- November 1, 1992.

This series article describes the People's Republic of China (PRC) alliance with the Soviet Union in 1950, an alliance that is billed as a precursor to the Korean War which China entered as a direct reaction to the American incursion in the North Korea. To achieve this, the article utilizes Chinese government archive sources. The article finds that the Mao-led CPP specifically allied itself to the Stalin-led Soviet Union as a show of good will to forging international peace with nation states that recognized the existence of the People's Republic of China (PRC) as an equal partner particularly in the upholding of the rights of the majority proletariats, which Mao belonged to. In this regard, Mao and PRC recognized Stalin and Communism as the only way to uphold these ambitions. On the other hand, Mao perceived the American-backed Capitalism as bourgeoisie and oppressive to the proletariats. This article provides an unbiased account that can be used to analyze Mao and Stalin leadership ideologies.

Zedong, Mao "On the People's Democratic Dictatorship," 30 June 1949, *Mao Zedong xuanji* (Selected Works on Mao Zedong, hereafter cited as *SW*), Beijing: The People's Press, 1965, IV, 1477.

Upon his conviction on the strength of Communism and the bourgeoisie nature of the Capitalism, Mao was determined to liberate the PRC. This work presents a detailed account of these convictions and the plan of action which heavily relied on mutual collaboration with like-minded nations and leaders particularly the Soviet and Stalin as well as the protection of small nations from the Capitalism York. Basically, this work draws its content from Chinese as well as Russian government archives as well as from other sources written during or after this time in history. Moreover, the article depicts Mao as a self-pronounced enemy of America and Capitalism ready to enter into war at the slightest provocation. This article is no doubt an important reference material for this research paper as it provides authentic excerpts from speeches made by Mao particularly the lean-to-one side speech that formally declared his stand.

Roberts, Priscilla Mary (Ed.). *Behind the Bamboo Curtain: China, Vietnam, and the World Beyond Asia*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2006.

Roberts, ventures behind the Bamboo Curtain to illuminates what took place for a period spanning a whole decade in Vietnam where the US forces were busy trying to curtail the Communism growth in the predominantly Soviet stronghold. This book describes the People's Republic of China as well the Vietnam led by Ho Chi Minh efforts to entrench Communism in a bid to shake off Capitalism which they perceived as oppressive to the proletariats. In essence the book describes the Russian input in this decade long conflict

fueled by the seeds of nationalism planted by Stalin, Mao, and in extension Ho Chi Minh. Basically, the author benefits from the historical backlash between Chinese and Vietnamese leaders regarding the outcome of this conflict.