

Indispensable Info #11 From Stalin to Gorbachev

Terms, People, Ideas:

Andrei Zhdanov	<i>Zhdanovshchina</i>	"Doctors' Plot"
Lavrentii Beria	Georgii Malenkov	Nikita Khrushchev
Triumvirate	Prague Spring	
<i>nomenklatura</i>	stagnation (<i>zastoi</i>)	<i>samizdat</i>

An Essential Chronology of Events:

1946	Beginning of the <i>Zhdanovshchina</i> – a cultural Cold War at home (so to speak)
1947	End of Wartime rationing
1953	Announcement of the "Doctors' Plot" Death of Stalin
1954	Initiation of "Virgin Lands" campaign Formation of KGB– <i>Komitet Gosudarstvennoi Bezopasnosti</i>
1955	Formation of Warsaw Pact in response to western alliance, NATO
1956	20th Congress of Communist Party: Khrushchev's "Secret Speech" Workers' Protest in Poland; Anti-Soviet Revolution in Hungary Khrushchev visits Britain
1957	Soviet Union launches <i>Sputnik</i> , the first artificial satellite
1958	Collective farmers receive internal passports
1959	Khrushchev visits the US
1960	Sino-Soviet split becomes public
1961	Yurii Gagarin becomes the first man in space Construction of the Berlin Wall Stalin's body is removed from the Lenin Mausoleum
1962	Cuban Missile Crisis
1963	Valentina Tereshkova becomes the first woman in space Exceptionally poor harvest
1964	Khrushchev is replaced as General Secretary of CPSU by Brezhnev USSR begins to import grain
1966	Trial of Iu. Daniel & Andrei Siniavskii
1968	Invasion of Czechoslovakia to suppress the "Prague Spring"
1970	Establishment of Human Rights Committee
1971	Beginning of large-scale Jewish emigration
1974	Deportation of Alexander Solzhenitsyn from USSR
1975	Helsinki agreement on European Security and Co-operation
1977	New Soviet constitution ("Brezhnev constitution")
1979	Soviet invasion of Afghanistan
1981	Martial law declared in Poland, along with crackdown on trade union Solidarity
1982	Death of Brezhnev, replaced by former KGB chief Iu. Andropov
1984	Andropov dies, replaced by Konstantin Chernenko
1985	Chernenko dies, replaced by Mikhail S. Gorbachev

Stunning Statistics:

Increase in Schooling in USSR:

	1914	1928	1940	1959	1975
Mils of pupils (prim./sec. school)	9.9	12	37.2	36.3	49
% of children in school	24.7	31.9	80		
High school students (millions)	0.127	0.169	0.811	2.15	4.7
# of students per 1000 inhabitants	8	12	40	102	187

Soviet Literacy

Aged 9-49 years			Over 50 years of age	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
1897	40.3%	16.6	20.5	6.5
1926	71.5	42.7	40.6	11.4
1939	93.5	81.6	48.7	23.1
1959	99.3	97.8	Data not	available

Urban Population Annual Growth Rate:

1811-1867	1.5%
1867-1913	2.3%
1913-1939	2.9%
1939-1959	2.5%
1959-1979	2.8%

Urban population (as % of total)

1860	9%
1910	16%
1940	33%
1960	50%
1975	60%

Total Population of Russian Empire / USSR:

1897	125,000,000	1939	170,000,000
1913	139,000,000	1971	244,000,000
1926	147,000,000	1980	266,000,000