

AMERICAN POLICY AND THE DIVISION OF GERMANY: THE CLASH WITH RUSSIA OVER REPARATIONS. By *Bruce Kuklick*. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 1972. ix, 286 pp. \$9.50.

With attractive but perhaps excessive modesty, the author describes his book as "parasitic . . . on the work of contemporary revisionist historians, most importantly William Appleman Williams' *Tragedy of American Diplomacy*." True, Dr. Kuklick has accepted the revisionists' highly critical attitude toward U.S. foreign policy and its makers as the basis for his study, but within this framework he has carried through a sound and useful job of archival research aimed at clarifying the evolution of U.S. reparations policy. His focus is centered on the Department of State, although he gives intermittent attention to State's collaborators and, at times, rivals in policy formulation, the Departments of War and Treasury, as well as to the White House, standing apart from and above the cabinet agencies.

The strengths of the book are its own; its weaknesses it shares with the revisionist school as a whole. Of these the one most likely to strike a reader of this journal is the author's failure to make any serious effort to include Soviet foreign policy and its makers in his field of vision. The formidable difficulties in the way of doing so are, of course, well known, and no one can blame a scholar whose interest is primarily in the evolution of U.S. policy for his failure to overcome them. Kuklick, however, seems not to have made even the minimum feasible effort in this direction, as can be seen from his procedure for citing one of the key Soviet wartime pronouncements on reparations, Eugene Varga's 1943 essay-lecture, "Vozmeshchenie ushcherba gitlerovskoi Germaniei i ee soobshchnikami" ("Compensation for Damages by Hitlerite Germany and Its Accomplices"). Admittedly the publication history of this widely reprinted document is rather complex, but it has been set forth with admirable clarity in Peter Knirsch's bibliography of Varga's writings (Berlin, 1961; see nos. 719, 724, and 725). Kuklick, however, cites a Department of State reference, and seems not to have looked for or read the document itself, since he provides virtually no analysis of it.

Neglect of the Soviet aspect of the problem is regrettable but not surprising; less easy to understand or condone is Kuklick's failure to give due weight to the actions and policies of America's Western allies in the evolution of reparations policy. From his account of the Potsdam Conference, for example, one would never suspect that British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin was a major figure there in determining the outcome of Soviet-Western negotiations on the subject.

Kuklick has been successful in tracing the evolution of U.S. policy on reparations and in demonstrating that it played a major part in bringing about the division of Germany, but in trying to assign sole responsibility for this development to U.S. policy-makers he has attempted more than can be accomplished within the self-imposed limitations of his study.

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DIE KIRCHEN IN RUSSLAND: BERICHTE DOKUMENTE. By *Gerhard Simon*. Munich: Manz Verlag, 1970. 228 pp. DM 18, paper.

This book is of great importance in the field of studies dedicated to religion and churches in the Soviet Union. In fact the young author examines attentively not