

13 December 1966

Translated by FDD by special request.

BOOKS FOR IDIOTS

- Czechoslovakia -

[Following is a translation of an article by J. Boucek in the Czech-language daily newspaper Rude Pravo /Red Right/, Prague, 21 Nov 66, p 1]

Under this unflattering title an article was published in the anti-Soviet and anti-communist American journal The Russian Review. The article criticizes sharply prominent works in anti-communist and anti-Soviet literature. An article by P. W. Blackstock deals with the so-called historical school of Besserovski which - as indicated by what is said further in this article - is a grandiose mystification by which the most serious-minded political circles of the USA and other western countries were taken in.

The above-named Besserovski is a Russian emigree who has been knocking about in Paris for a number of years and managed to make a living as he could. In 1947, when he was in a difficult material situation, he got an idea. He took advantage of the first wave of the cold war which just started at that time and created a falsificate, namely fictitious memoirs of the collaborator General Vlasov under the title of I Chose the Gallows. It was a sensational publication and Besserovski continued with gusto. In the next book he invented an inexistent colonel of the Soviet general staff Ivan Nikitic Krylov, under whose name he published a book entitled My Career in the Soviet General Staff. The book was published in five translations at short intervals.

Encouraged by the success, Besserovski published under the name of Kiril Dimitrievich Kalinovskiy another falsificate under the title of Soviet Marshals Speak.

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