

SOVIET RUSSIANS UNDER NAZI OCCUPATION

In this compelling account of life and death in a Russian province under Nazi occupation, Johannes Due Enstad challenges received wisdom about Russian patriotism during World War II.

With the benefit of hindsight, we know how hopelessly destructive Germany's war against the Soviet Union was. Yet ordinary Russians witnessing the advancing German forces saw things differently. For many of them, having lived through collectivization and Stalinist terror in the 1930s, the invasion created hopes of a better life without the Bolsheviks. German policies on land and church helped sustain those hopes for parts of the population.

Drawing on Soviet and German archival sources as well as eyewitness accounts, memoirs, and diaries, Enstad demonstrates the impact of Nazi rule on the mostly peasant population of northwest Russia and offers a reconsideration of the relationship between the Soviet regime and its core Russian population at this crucial moment in their history.

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SOVIET RUSSIANS UNDER NAZI OCCUPATION

Fragile Loyalties in World War II

JOHANNES DUE ENSTAD

University of Oslo



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-42126-3 — Soviet Russians under Nazi Occupation
Johannes Due Enstad
Frontmatter
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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314-321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
79 Anson Road, #06-04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108421263
DOI: 10.1017/9781108367707

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First published 2018

Printed in the United Kingdom by Clays, St Ives plc

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-108-42126-3 Hardback

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Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-42126-3 — Soviet Russians under Nazi Occupation
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For Ingvil

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Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-42126-3 — Soviet Russians under Nazi Occupation
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Acknowledgments

For all the concentrated solitude required to research and write this book, I could not have done it without the support of several fine institutions and good people. The University of Oslo, the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment, and the Center for Studies of the Holocaust and Religious Minorities have provided indispensable infrastructure and funding. I am heavily indebted to the archival staff at numerous institutions: the Central State Archive of Historico-Political Documentation in St. Petersburg; the state archives in Pskov, Novgorod, and Vyborg; the Federal Military Archive in Freiburg; the Federal Archive at Berlin-Lichterfelde; the Political Archive of the Foreign Ministry in Berlin; the Ludwigsburg Central Office for the Investigation of National Socialist Crimes; the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC; and Columbia University's Rare Book & Manuscript Library. A special thanks to Andrea Meier, Helga Waibl, Natalia Bykova, Vera Popova, Vadim Altskan, and Tobias Hermann for helping me identify and locate sources.

During my visits to St. Petersburg, Novgorod, and Pskov, I benefited from the generosity of several people. I am particularly grateful to Aleksei Vinogradov, Izolda Ivanova, Boris Kovalev, Aleksandr Sedunov, and Yurii Krasavin for taking the time to meet with me. They all supported my research efforts by sharing their knowledge, offering copies of valuable sources, and providing good company.

I would like to thank all those who took the time to read and comment on parts of the manuscript along the way, including Karel Berkhoff, Nicole Eaton, Mark Edele, Niels Bo Poulsen, Knut Kjeldstadli, Steve Maddox, Jon Waterlow, Tanja Penter, Jens Petter Nielsen, Morten Ottosen, Kjetil Simonsen, Øystein Hetland, Pål Kolstø, and not least the reviewers approached by Cambridge University Press, whose critical remarks sharpened my arguments. Chapter 6 builds on my 2016 article "Prayers and Patriotism in Nazi-Occupied Russia: The Pskov Orthodox Mission and Religious Revival, 1941–1944," published in the *Slavonic and East*

European Review, whose anonymous reviewers offered valuable comments. I also thank Michael Watson and Elizabeth Friend-Smith of Cambridge University Press for taking on my manuscript and helping it to see the light of day.

Many esteemed colleagues and friends have helped guide me on my way by offering their experience, insights, advice, and encouragement. At the risk of omitting anyone, I would like to thank Thomas Hegghammer, Bernhard Chiari, Per Rudling, Anton Weiss-Wendt, Oleg Nikolaev, Jürgen Kilian, Alexander Hill, Dieter Pohl, Sebastian Stopper, Alexander Prusin, Nikita Lomagin, Konstantin Oboznyi, Andreas Hilger, Alexander Prusin, Nikolay Sarkisyan, and Vadim Musaev.

Last but not least I thank Ingvil, my beloved life companion and foremost ally; our two daughters, for lighting up my world; and my ever-supporting parents, Nina and Martin.

Note on Translation and Transliteration

All translations are mine unless otherwise noted. For rendering Russian words in the Latin alphabet, I follow the Library of Congress transliteration system, except that diacritical marks, including soft and hard signs, are omitted. I have stored online sources using the web archiving service *Perma.cc*, and the URLs provided refer to the archived versions.

Chronology of Military Events

June 22, 1941	Nazi Germany invades the Soviet Union
July 9, 1941	Germans take Pskov
August 15, 1941	Germans take Novgorod
August 23, 1941	Germans take Velikie Luki
September 8, 1941	German forces lay siege to Leningrad
October 2, 1941	Battle of Moscow commences
October 17, 1941	Germans capture Kalinin
November 8, 1941	Germans capture Tikhvin
December 5–6, 1941	Soviets begin Moscow counteroffensive
December 9, 1941	Soviets retake Tikhvin
December 16, 1941	Soviets retake Kalinin
January 7, 1942	Soviets launch offensive south of Lake Ilmen
February 8, 1942	Soviets encircle 90,000 German troops at Demyansk
March 1942	Soviet counteroffensive grinds to a halt
June 28, 1942	German summer offensive toward the Caucasus commences
July 12, 1942	German forces close the Volkhov pocket, annihilating the Soviet Second Shock Army and capturing 30,000 soldiers
August 10, 1942	German troops reach outskirts of Stalingrad
November 23, 1942	German Sixth Army encircled at Stalingrad
January 15, 1943	Soviets retake Velikie Luki
January 18, 1943	Soviet forces open a land corridor south of Lake Ladoga to relieve besieged Leningrad
February 3, 1943	Germans surrender at Stalingrad, their Sixth Army destroyed
February 8, 1943	Soviets retake Kursk
February 12, 1943	Soviets retake Rostov

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Chronology of Military Events

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March 1, 1943	Soviets retake Demiansk
July–August 1943	Soviet victory in Battle of Kursk
November 6, 1943	Soviets retake Kiev
January 20, 1944	Soviets retake Novgorod
January 27, 1944	Siege of Leningrad lifted
February 12, 1944	Soviets retake Luga
July 23, 1944	Soviets retake Pskov

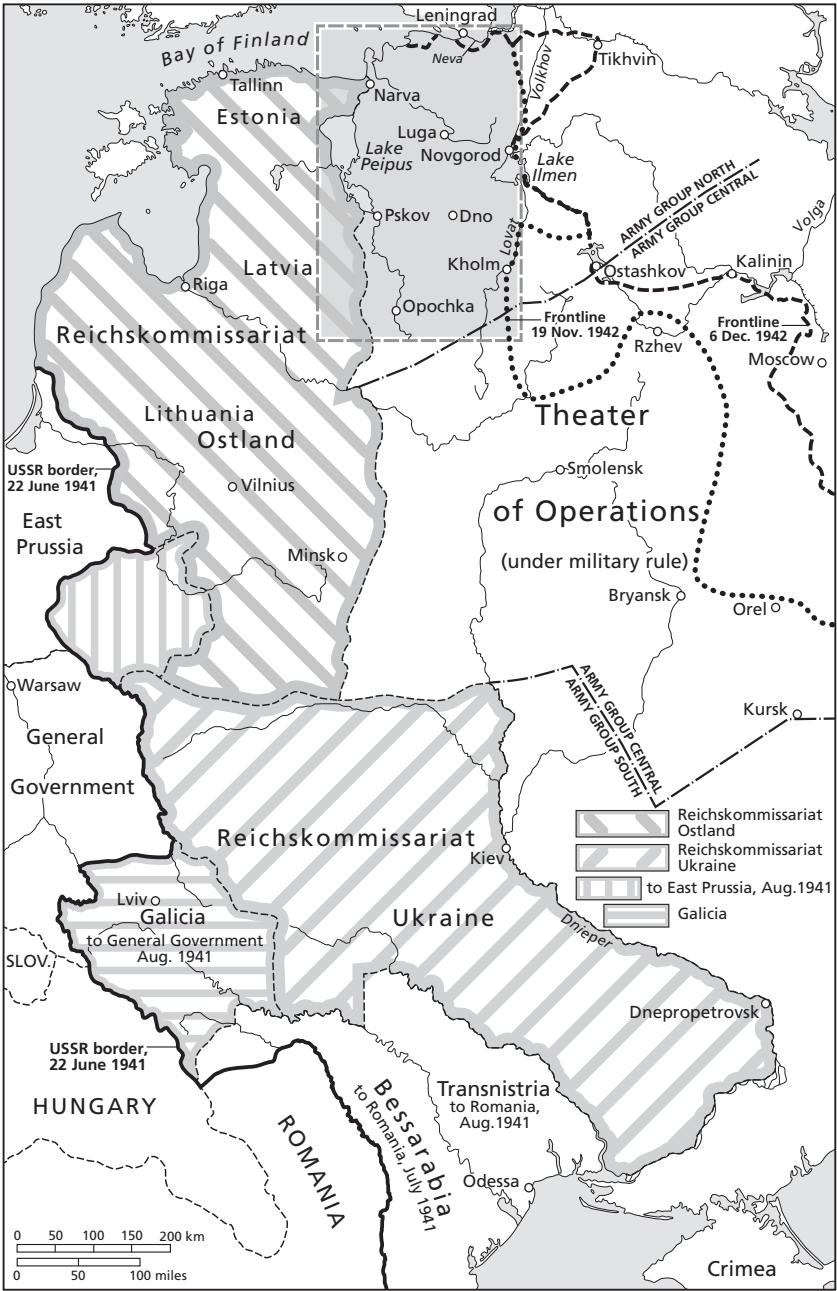
Glossary and Abbreviations

AK	<i>Armeekorps</i> (army corps)
AOK	<i>Armeeoberkommando</i> (army high command)
Berück	<i>Befehlshaber des rückwärtigen Heeresgebietes</i> (army group rear area commander)
Dulag	<i>Durchgangslager</i> (transit camp)
EK	<i>Einsatzkommando</i> (Special Force; detachment of the mobile SS and police forces)
EKA	<i>Einwohnerkampfabteilung</i> (Indigenous Fighting Detachment)
EM	<i>Ereignismeldung UdSSR</i> (Event Report by the Chief of the Security Police and the SD)
FK	<i>Feldkommandantur</i> (field command)
GFP	<i>Geheime Feldpolizei</i> (secret field police)
H.Geb.	<i>Heeresgebiet</i> (army group area)
H.Gr.	<i>Heeresgruppe</i> (army group)
Ia	<i>Führungsabteilung</i> (command staff)
Ib	<i>Quartiermeister-Abteilung</i> (quartermaster staff)
Ic	<i>Feindaufklärung und Abwehr</i> (Intelligence and Security)
Iv Wi	<i>Wehrwirtschaftsoffizier</i> (military economic officer)
kolkhoz	<i>kollektivnoe khoziaistvo</i> (collective farm)
kolkhoznik	collective farmer
Korück	<i>Kommandant des rückwärtigen Armeegebietes</i> (army rear area commander)
KTb	<i>Kriegstagebuch</i> (war diary)
La	<i>Landwirtschaft</i> (agriculture)
MGB	<i>Ministerstvo gosudarstvennoi bezopasnosti</i> (Ministry of State Security)
NKGB	<i>Narodnyi kommissariat gosudarstvennoi bezopasnosti</i> (People's Commissariat of State Security)

Glossary and Abbreviations

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NKVD	<i>Narodnyi kommissariat vnutrennikh del</i> (People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs)
obkom	<i>oblastnoi komitet</i> (oblast/regional party committee)
oblispolkom	<i>oblastnoi ispolnitelnyi komitet</i> (oblast/regional executive committee)
OD	<i>Ordnungsdienst</i> (order service)
OK	<i>Ortskommandantur</i> (town headquarters)
OKH	<i>Oberkommando des Heeres</i> (High Command of the Army)
OKW	<i>Oberkommando der Wehrmacht</i> (Supreme Command of the Armed Forces)
O.Qu.	<i>Oberquartiermeister</i> (head quartermaster)
OT	<i>Organisation Todt</i>
POW	prisoner of war
Prop.Abt.	<i>Propaganda-Abteilung</i> (propaganda section)
Qu.	<i>Quartiermeister</i> (quartermaster)
raikom	<i>raionnyi komitet</i> (district party committee)
raispolkom	<i>raionnyi ispolnitelnyi komitet</i> (district executive committee)
rückw.	<i>rückwärtiges Armeegebiet</i> (army rear area)
A.Geb.	
rückw.	<i>rückwärtiges Heeregebiet</i> (army group rear area)
H.Geb.	
SD	<i>Sicherheitsdienst</i> (Security Service)
SS	<i>Schutzstaffel</i> (Protection Squadron; Hitler's main police, security, and terror organization and instrument of genocide)
Sich.Div.	<i>Sicherungs-Division</i> (Security Division)
Sich.Reg.	<i>Sicherungs-Regiment</i> (Security Regiment)
starosta	village elder
VAA	<i>Vertreter des Auswärtigen Amtes</i> (Foreign Office Delegate in the Wehrmacht)
VII	<i>Abteilung Kriegsverwaltung</i> (military administration staff)
Wi	<i>Wirtschaft</i> (economy)
WiIn	<i>Wirtschaftsinspektion</i> (economic inspectorate)
WiKdo/ WK	<i>Wirtschaftskommando</i> (economic command)



Map 1 The Eastern Front, 1941–1942