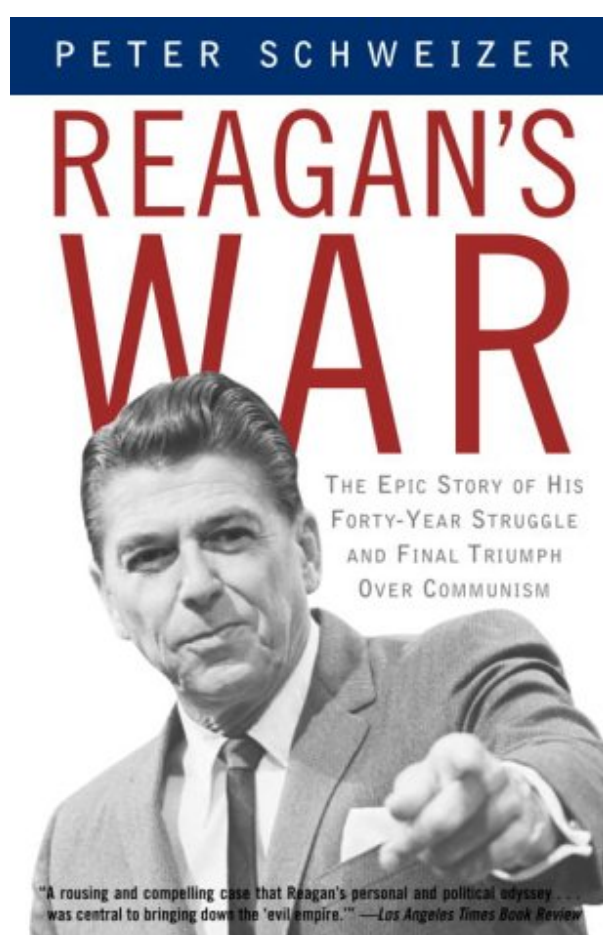


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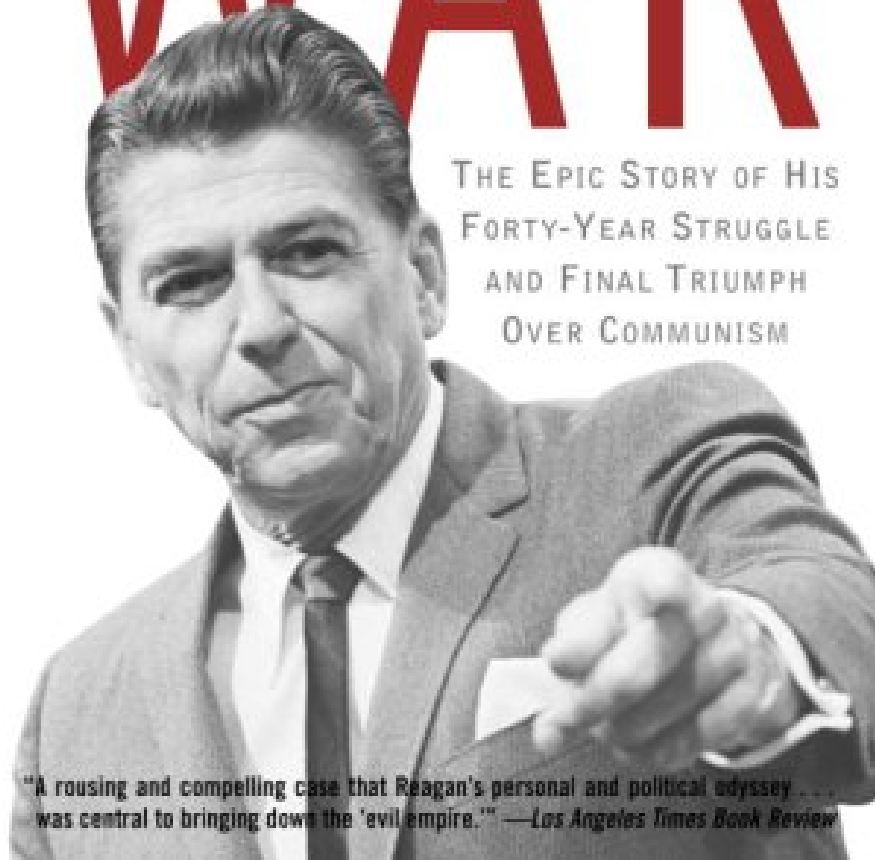
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Reagan's War is the story of Ronald Reagan's personal and political journey as an anti-communist, from his early days as an actor to his years in the White House. Challenging popular misconceptions of Reagan as an empty suit who played only a passive role in the demise of the Soviet Union, Peter Schweizer details Reagan's decades-long battle against communism.

Bringing to light previously secret information obtained from archives in the United States, Germany, Poland, Hungary, and Russia—including Reagan's KGB file—Schweizer offers a compelling case that Reagan personally mapped out and directed his war against communism, often disagreeing with experts and advisers. An essential book for understanding the Cold War, Reagan's War should be read by open-minded readers across the political spectrum.

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4 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

The Truth about Reagan

By wutanglen

This book is very easy to read and at the same time documents how Ronald Reagan helped to defeat communism and end the cold war. Using documents from the former Soviet Block as well as sources here, the author shows how Reagan defeated communism.

The book clearly shows that Reagan was concerned about communism and developed a plan of action from the time he was an actor and that he was far more than the empty suit the liberals will want you to believe. This was a great book that tells the truth about Reagan, a truth many of us already knew but many on the far left will never admit. This book should be required reading for anyone interested in recent history. Reagan was a great president and this book shows just one reason why. Complement this book with the recent collections of Reagan's letters for an accurate portrait of this great leader.

24 of 32 people found the following review helpful.

One man made all the difference

By Harold C. Hutchison

Peter Schweizer's book is perhaps the greatest untold story in the latter half of the 20th Century. Indeed, this book, and its predecessor, "Victory", make a compelling case that the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to the wrong person.

The evils of Communism are not as well known as those of Naziism, but they were no less real. Few people thought it could be defeated without a devastating war, but there was one who felt it could be done: Ronald Wilson Reagan, 40th President of the United States.

Furthermore, the proof is not in the comments of the policymakers on the American side, but the expert reserach that Schweizer has done from the archives of the former Communist governments. Indeed, these archives themselves show the fact that Reagan was the person the communists feared the most, and that his strategy, carried out by men like William Casey and Casper Weinberger, WORKED.

Indeed, the hidden stories are the most revealing, from the collaboration of some Democrats with the Russians in an effort to undercut Reagan's policies to Reagan's longstanding support for anti-ballistic missile technology (dating to the late 1960s).

This gripping historical work showed how, over four decades, one man made all the difference with the mere belief that America was not only cpaable of winning the Cold War without starting World War III, but the will to act on that belief.

"Reagan's War" tells that story.

74 of 84 people found the following review helpful.

Powerful

By Dave (D.J.) Butler

It's a pretty unusual book that sports praise from Margaret Thatcher, Lech Walesa and Caspar Weinberger on its dust jacket, but then Ronald Reagan was a pretty unusual man.

Reagan's War isn't a biography. It starts with the adult Reagan already married to Jane Wyman and in Hollywood, beginning his "forty-year struggle" against communism, and it ends with the end of Reagan's Presidency. In between Schweizer recounts the tale of how Ronald Reagan -- often alone and against public opinion and advice -- won the Cold War.

Reagan's War is an important reminder of many truths about the Cold War: that Soviet communism was aggressively imperialist, determined to rule the world; that the Soviets crushed their own citizens and mangled their own economy; that the Soviets were aided and abetted by many agents and useful idiots in the West; that a generation of American politicians allowed the Soviets to expand and dominate by constantly giving ground and putting faith in the mirage of detente; and that Reagan beat the Soviets, precisely by being a warmongering cowboy who would not accept compromise or defeat. Reagan challenged the Soviets on all fronts, supporting the Solidarity movement in Poland, broadcasting Radio Free Europe and the Voice of America into Soviet territory, arming and training insurgents fighting Soviet occupation, and most especially, by committing to an arms race that he knew the lumbering Soviet economy could not win.

Reagan's War is well-written, often entertaining and sometimes quite moving. In addition to being important history, the tale of Reagan's war against communism is a great moral example of the difference that an individual can make and a powerful illustration of the force of freedom.

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