

Beat: Arts

## Two French Books - THE WORLD ACCORDING TO DE GAULLE & FRANCE AND THE COLD WAR

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**USPA NEWS** - - LE MONDE SELON DE GAULLE" (The World According To De Gaulle) by François Kersaudy and published in FRANCE by Tallandier Editions. Charles De Gaulle (born November 22, 1890, Lille and died November 9, 1970, Colombey-les-deux-Ã%glises). He was French Soldier, Writer, Statesman, and Architect of France's Fifth Republic. The Family had produced Historians and Writers, and his Father taught Philosophy and Literature ; but, as a Boy, de Gaulle already showed a Passionate Interest in Military Matters. He attended the Military Academy of Saint-Cyr, and in 1913, as a Young Second Lieutenant, he joined an Infantry Regiment commanded by Colonel Philippe Pétain.

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Charles de Gaulle rose from French Soldier in World War I to exiled Leader and, eventually, President of the Fifth Republic. He served as President from 1959 to 1969. De Gaulle's Time as a Commander in World War II would later influence his Political Career, providing him with a Tenacious Drive. His time as President was marked by the Student and Worker Uprisings in 1968, which he responded to with an Appeal for Civil Order. In London (during the WW II) de Gaulle's Relations with the British Government were never easy, and de Gaulle often added to the strain. In 1943 he moved his Headquarters to Algiers, where he became President of the French Committee of National Liberation, at first jointly with General Henri Giraud. De Gaulle's Successful Campaign to edge out Giraud gave the World Proof of his Skill in Political Maneuvering.

Establishing France's Fifth Republic, de Gaulle dedicated himself to improving the Country's Economic Situation and maintaining its Independence. He sought to keep France Separate from the Two Superpowers (the United States and the Soviet Union). To show France's Military Relevance, de Gaulle successfully campaigned for the Country to press on with its Nuclear Weapons Program. De Gaulle was not afraid to make Controversial Decisions. After coping with Uprisings in Algeria for Years, he helped the French Colony achieve Independence in 1962. This Move was not Widely Popular at the Time. De Gaulle supported the Idea of a United Europe, but he wanted Europe to be Free from the Superpowers' Influences...

- "LA GUERRE FROIDE DE LA FRANCE - 1941 - 1990" (FRANCE and The Cold War - 1941-1990) by Georges-Henri Soutou and published by Tallandier Editions. During the Cold War France fashioned its Foreign Policy first in conjunction with, and then in Opposition to, the United States. In the Immediate Post-War Era the French diverted American Monies intended for Economic Growth and Military Defence against the USSR to Colonial Struggles in Indochina and Algeria. In the 1960s, France dissented from American Policy in Vietnam, withdrew from NATO's integrated command, and pursued its Own Agenda in the Hope of achieving Détente.

De Gaulle's Desire for France to play a Central Role on an International Level meant that whilst he did not absolutely reject the Western Alliance, he sought to undermine the United States as one of the Superpowers in the Cold War System, demanding that France be "accepted as a Major Player in the Western Camp" [?]. Studying French-Soviet Relations is important in many Regards in order to understand the Complex International Dynamics that led to the End of the Cold War. Even before the Beginning of the Cold War and despite their Different Social-Political Regimes, both States intended to build Relations going beyond their Ideological Opposition.

Later, their Participation in Opposite Cold War Alliances did not prevent the Emergence of a Privileged Relationship. Under General de Gaulle, these Relations developed in the Framework of a "Détente" [?] that, on the French Side at least, sought to move beyond the Opposition between the Soviet Bloc and the West, and promote the Idea of a Europe "from the Atlantic to the Urals" [?]. Twenty years

later, French-Soviet Relations played a Significant Role in ending the Cold War, evidenced by the signing of the Charter for a New Europe in Paris in November 1990....

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