

had already made the fatal mistake of abandoning guerrilla tactics for positional warfare. When American military aid began to flow in quantity to the government forces, it was only a matter of time before the end came.

After the defeat of ELAS by the British in January 1945, Aris stayed in the mountains. For his refusal to give up his arms, he was condemned by Zachariadis, and he died as he had lived, violently, in an ambush by government troops in July 1945 (his severed head being exhibited in the Triokka main square). A strong personality with an abrupt manner, he was a better partisan fighter than a politician or statesman, but as "the first and last combatant figure of ELAS" he has secured a niche in Greek history as one of the great Kapetanios.

The last part of the book, "Rewriting History," attempts to fill in some of the political gaps and omissions in more conventional or right-wing accounts. Dramatized versions of conversations (hinting of poetic license) seem out of place in such a serious and important subject, tending to give it a touch of frivolity. But, nonetheless, the author, who has gone to a great deal of trouble to interview many of the scattered survivors, has been able to depict their heroism, hopes, fears, distress, disappointment, and disillusionment vividly. He is to be complimented for producing an excellent first book. He has done his research thoroughly, and the volume can be read with pleasure and profit.

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CYPRUS: RELUCTANT REPUBLIC. By *Stephen G. Xydis*. Near and Middle East Monographs, 11. The Hague and Paris: Mouton, 1973. 553 pp. 86 Dglds.

Stephen Xydis has written an account of the diplomacy leading to the Zurich and London agreements creating the Republic of Cyprus in 1960. It is as exhaustive a detailing of the negotiations as is likely to be written. In over five hundred pages of tightly packed facts he covers in great depth the meetings between Greece, Turkey, Britain, and the Greek and Turkish Cypriotes which led to more than a decade of uneasy peace on that strategic Mediterranean island. The agreement contained the seeds of its own breakdown, however, for the best that could be negotiated, in view of the strong feelings of the two countries and two communities directly involved, was essentially a papering over of longstanding disputes and mutual suspicions. The intricacy of the net of compromises and arrangements can be appreciated through the lengthy and complex bargaining which Professor Xydis ably narrates.

Unfortunately, only two rather small groups of readers are likely to find this book useful. Those who have an intense interest in Cyprus coupled with knowledge of the background and context of the situation, may find it rewarding to go through page after page of minute intricacies of diplomacy in 1958–59. For all those who are interested in Cyprus or in the eastern Mediterranean, but are not already specialists in Cypriote affairs, the absence of any general perspective or interpretive material makes this book extremely difficult to use. Professor Xydis's account stops at the end of 1959 which is his prerogative, of course, but considering that thirteen years elapsed between the negotiations and the publication of his book, an evaluation of the agreements does not seem beyond the realm of expectation. Even with this temporal limitation, Professor Xydis could have provided a much broader service to his readers if, rather than including almost every conceivable fact of

the diplomatic intricacies, he had reserved some space for an introduction to the history, geography, and society of Cyprus, and for a conclusion which would have put the negotiations into a larger perspective.

The need for interpretation is only partially filled by the section of the book which will be of interest to a second group of readers—scholars of diplomacy in general, for whom the Cyprus negotiations can serve as a case study. The sixty-page introductory essay, "On State-Building in General and the Cyprus Case in Particular," is divided into two sections: "On the Proliferation of States" and "Micro-politics in the Case of Cyprus State-Building." In the first section Xydis compares the factors leading to the establishment of a Cypriote state to other similar situations in recent world history (for example, establishment of Jordan, Manchukuo, and the states of central Europe after World War I). In the second section, he gives some specific background to the Cyprus negotiations, but he is mainly concerned to demonstrate how this case illustrates a particular aspect of international relations theory, such as "the resort to unacknowledged use of force in international politics which has been an important feature of the post-World War II era," or the role of non-state actors in international relations.

These are valuable contributions, ably done. But, given Professor Xydis's obvious analytical abilities and his great knowledge of the material, it is all the more disappointing to have to predict that few readers will go beyond the first sixty pages. The great bulk of this volume is likely to result in little more than footnotes for the future work of others who try to examine the entire Cyprus situation and its role in the postwar world and in the politics of the eastern Mediterranean.

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EARLY RUSSIAN LITERATURE. By *John Fennell* and *Antony Stokes*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1974. 295 pp. \$18.50.

While all textbook surveys are necessarily selective, the authors of the present work have been more selective than most. Therefore, they do not claim that their book is "a comprehensive history of early Russian literature"; rather, "it is a collection of studies on those topics, genres, authors and individual literary monuments . . . of particular importance for anyone studying the history of Russian culture. . . ." The precise implications of this formulation may not be readily obvious, but the first four chapters, treating Russian literature up through the sixteenth century (authored by John Fennell), in fact treat no more than fourteen or fifteen works in any detail; chapter 5, on the seventeenth century (by Antony Stokes), is somewhat more inclusive and closer to a conventional textbook presentation. The aim is apparently to be representative rather than inclusive, and even an admitted masterpiece such as Epifanii Premudryi's *Life of Stefan of Perm'* is mentioned only in passing, presumably because fuller treatment has been given to the anonymous *Life of Dmītrii Donskoi*. It may have been an error to choose the lesser and later work in place of the earlier and greater, but cultural and historical considerations, as well as purely literary ones, may have influenced Fennell's decision.

No translated works are treated, a methodological departure perhaps without precedent for the historiography of Old Russian literature. This may shock some