

## **Pathfinder Press**

Titles appearing in Reference — Research Book News — April 2011

### **Episodes of the Cuban Revolutionary War, 1956–58**

Originally written by Ernesto "Che" Guevara as a series of articles appearing in *Verde Olivo*, the weekly publication of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba, from 1961 to 1964, this volume recounts the last two years of the Cuban Revolution's military campaign that overthrew the Batista government. First published by Pathfinder Press in 1996, this edition is the first English-language volume to collect the entire series of articles from *Verde Olivo* and it additionally collects a number of other materials from other publications, as well as reports, letters, and other documents written by Guevara related to events covered in the narrative. Maps have been included to aid in the understanding of the campaigns described and footnotes provide details on political and other issues that may be unfamiliar to the reader. Also included are black and white historical photographs and a glossary. One of a Pathfinder Press series edited by Mary-Alice Waters, *The Cuban Revolution in World Politics*. (Annotation ©2011 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)

### **FBI on Trial: The Victory in the Socialist Workers Party Suit Against Government Spying**

This volume collects documentary materials from the case of Socialist Workers Party v. Attorney General, in which the SWP successfully sued the US government for spying and disruption by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in violation of the party's right to freedom of association, First and Fourth Amendment rights. This resulted in a 1986 ruling by US District Judge Thomas Griesa ordering the government to pay \$264,000 in damages and a 1987 injunction barring the government from using the information gained by the FBI's covert activities. Considering the widespread use of spying and disruption against civil rights, peace, anti-capitalist, environmental, and other groups, the case obviously has implications beyond merely the treatment of the SWP and its affiliate organization, the Young Socialist Alliance. The volume includes the text of the court's decision, US Justice Department briefs and affidavits on the proposed injunction, the text of the injunction, and excerpts of the trial testimonies of SWP officers Farrell Dobbs and Jack Barnes. Also included as appendixes are the financial summary and statement of the Political Rights Defense Fund (a non-partisan committee initiated by the SWP to organize public support for the case) and an essay on the case as it relates to workers' rights versus secret policing. (Annotation ©2011 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)

### **Humanism and Socialism**

This volume by George Novack (1905-1992), a leader of the Socialist Workers Party (US), explains the relationship between humanism and Marxist historical materialism over the course of eight chapters that progress from a labor theory of mankind's origins to the necessity of revolutionary socialism. The essays consider the problem of the origins of humanity; the emergence of society, speech, and thought; the role of creative practice in human life; the reality of social progress; the question of freedom; competing ideological claims to humanism; the necessary conditions for a genuine socialist humanism; and the revolutionary socialist view of the meaning of human existence. This is a paperback edition of a work first published in 1973. (Annotation ©2011 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)

### **The Revolution Betrayed**

First published in 1937, this work contains the thoughts from exile on the development of the Bolshevik revolution by one of its central early figures, Leon Trotsky. Trotsky addresses the economic gains of the Soviet Union, the economic policy shifts of the Soviet leadership, the triumph of Stalin in what Trotsky dubs the "Soviet Thermidor"-an analogy to the period of reaction after the French Revolution; inequality and social antagonism under Stalin, foreign policy and the

military, and the possible future directions of the Soviet Union, which Trotsky describes as a "degenerated workers state." Also available in Spanish as *La revolucion traicionada*. (Annotation ©2011 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)

### **Soldier of the Cuban Revolution**

Based on interviews with Alfonso Zayas in 2007 and 2009 this volume recounts his involvement in the Cuban Revolution beginning as a teenager in the guerrilla forces' earliest battles in the Sierra Maestra and his subsequent career to become a general in the Cuban armed forces, including three voluntary tours of duty in Angola from 1976-1987, to his role as an influential leader in the Association of Combatants of the Cuban Revolution today. The text provides lively narrative and interesting anecdotes about Zayas, Che, Castro and others as well as his own political insights. The work portrays revolutionary and post-revolutionary Cuba in an uncritically positive light, making this volume interesting, in an era of historical and political relativism, for its forthright pro-socialist narrative. The work is edited by Mary-Alice Waters, president of Pathfinder Press. Also available in Spanish as *Soldado de la revolucion Cubana*. (Annotation ©2011 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)