

Pathfinder Press

Titles appearing in Reference — Research Book News — February 2011

Aldabonazo: Inside the Cuban Revolutionary Underground, 1952–58

This is the memoir of a key participant of Cuba's July 26 Movement, which led the uprising that overthrew Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista in 1959, appearing for the first time in English. Armando Hart Dávalos was a founding member of the movement and its National Directorate and later a government minister in the revolutionary government of Fidel Castro. In Hart's own words, "The main interest of the book lies in showing some fundamental elements of a historical thread that should not be forgotten, and that can serve as an important point of reference to better understand how the fabric of the Cuban Revolution was woven and, more broadly, to comprehend the second half of the 20th century." As part of this mission, Hart's chapters on the development of the Cuban Revolution are interspersed with a number of primary source documents written by Hart and other prominent figures of the July 26 Movement. Now with 28-page photo section, maps, chronological notes, and epilogue. Also available in Spanish as *Aldabonazo; En la Clandestinidad Revolucionaria Cubana, 1952-58*. (Annotation ©2011 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)

My Life

Leon Trotsky was one of the most famous people of the 20th century, having been one of the leaders of the Russian Revolution. In this lengthy autobiography, Trotsky describes his life as a revolutionary comrade of Lenin, as the military strategist behind the communist victory in the Russian civil war, and his political struggle with Joseph Stalin during the 1920s and 1930's to combat the bureaucratic dictatorship that grew in the USSR and to reverse the communist party's political degeneration. While sometimes laden with political rhetoric, the volume is surprisingly readable and patient readers will be rewarded by examples of Trotsky's extremely dry wit and insights into some of the main political and social battles in which he participated. (Annotation ©2011 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)

Teamster Bureaucracy

This is a reprint of the fourth and final volume of Teamster organizer and Socialist Workers Party leader Farrell Dobbs's history/memoir of his time with the Teamsters union in the 1930's first published in 1977. This volume focuses on the antiwar campaign initiated in opposition to World War II by the Minneapolis Teamsters Local 544; how it led to clashes between the local and the Teamster bureaucracy, aided by the Roosevelt administration's efforts to gag class-conscious workers; the subsequent federal trial on charges of sedition under the infamous Smith Act of local 544 organizers; and the international campaign to free those convicted and jailed, Dobbs among them. (Annotation ©2011 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)

To See the Dawn

In the early 1920s, the new Soviet state began attracting, organizing and leading the peoples of central Asia in a fight against colonialism and for self-determination. This book contains proceedings and major documents of one of the major events in that consolidation, the First Congress of the Peoples of the East held in Baku, Azerbaijan in 1920 and attended by some 2000 delegates from throughout Asia and the Middle East. Editor John Riddell's introduction gives background information on the conference, placing it into the larger context of early Soviet history and world revolutionary struggles. The documents are augmented with a 16-page photo section, relevant maps, glossary, and notes. (Annotation ©2011 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)