



## Social & Behavioral Sciences

had to be conceived and addressed in gradational terms.” She provides a nuanced and convincing analysis of the ways Germans depicted Poland for two centuries. **Summing Up:** Recommended. ★★ Upper-division undergraduates and above.—*M. Deshmukh, George Mason University*

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Mikoyan, Sergo. **The Soviet Cuban Missile Crisis: Castro, Mikoyan, Kennedy, Khrushchev, and the missiles of November**, ed. by Svetlana Savranskaya. Woodrow Wilson Center Press/Stanford, 2012. 589p index afp ISBN 9780804762014, \$65.00

The late Sergo Mikoyan, son of Soviet deputy prime minister Anastas Mikoyan, was a historian of Soviet-Latin American relations. This book is a reworked and translated edition of his *The Anatomy of the Caribbean Crisis* (Moscow, 2006). It is essentially a look at the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1959-62 from the perspective of the author's father, the intermediary between Castro and Khrushchev during the event. The book, filled with insights and valuable documents, reveals that Khrushchev believed that he was sending missiles to Cuba in order to protect Cuba from the US, and that Castro thought their purpose was to strengthen international socialism. The author shows that Soviet-Cuban misunderstanding exacerbated events and that it took the shrewd diplomacy of Mikoyan to resolve the crisis. He reveals how little the Soviets understood the US and vice versa, and how ideology and personal pique can threaten peace. Expertly edited by Svetlana Savranskaya, the director of Russian programs at the National Security Archive, the book is an invaluable and essential resource for understanding the Cuban Missile Crisis. **Summing Up:** Essential. ★★★★★ General collections; graduate students, faculty.—*D. J. Dunn, Texas State University—San Marcos*