

The Silent Guns of Two Octobers

Kennedy and Khrushchev Play the Double Game

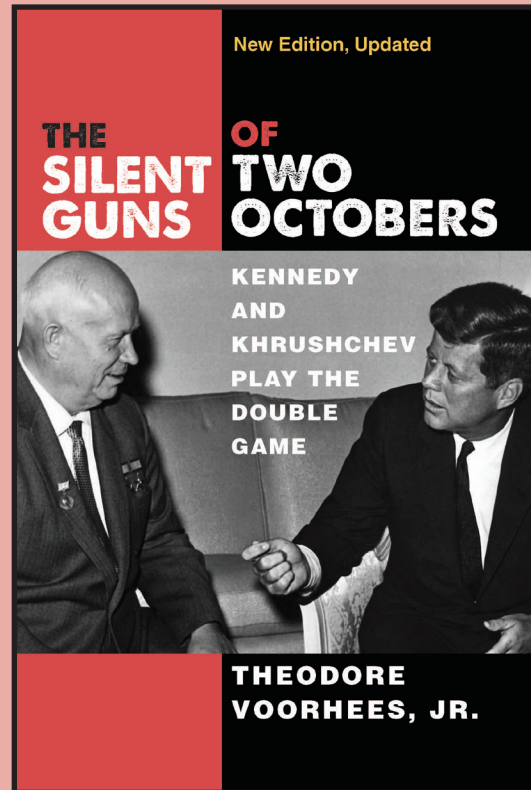
New Edition, Updated

The Silent Guns of Two Octobers uses new as well as previously underappreciated documentary evidence to link the Cuban Missile Crisis to the Checkpoint Charlie tank standoff to achieve the impossible—craft a new, thoughtful, original analysis of a political showdown everyone thought they knew everything about. Ultimately the book concludes that much of the Cold War rhetoric the leaders employed was mere posturing; in reality neither had any intention of starting a nuclear war. Theodore Voorhees reexamines Khrushchev's and Kennedy's leadership, decision, and rhetoric in light of the new documentary evidence available. Voorhees examines the impact of John F. Kennedy's domestic political concerns about his upcoming first midterm elections on his handling of the Cuban Missile Crisis through his use of back-channel dealings with Khrushchev during the lead-up to the crisis and in the closing days when the two leaders managed to reach a settlement.

Theodore Voorhees, Jr. is Senior Counsel at Covington & Burling LLP.

"A thoroughly new and original approach to a subject that most historians (myself included) believed to be very well-trod ground; as such, it offers a fresh look at what was then (and remains) the crisis that brought the world closest to nuclear war."

—Gregg Herken, University of California, Merced



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