

Contents

Acknowledgments xi

List of Abbreviations xiii

Introduction i

Part I. Postwar as Revolution: East Europe after the Second World War 23

1. The Rule of Chaos: The Polish Secret Police and the
Aftermath of the Second World War 29
2. The Czechoslovak Road to the Secret Police 77
3. Secret Police Networks in the Soviet Zone of Occupation in
Germany 118

Part II. The Trial of the Hungarian Communist László Rajk, Transnational Stalinism, and the Creation of the Eastern Bloc 151

4. Conquering the Secret Police in Poland 157
5. A Revolution in a Revolution in Czechoslovakia 197

6. Building the Stasi in the German Democratic Republic 251

7. The Secret Police: History and Legacy 283

Notes 295

Bibliography 365

Index 375