

Contents

<i>Glossary of Terms</i>	xi
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xv
<i>Translations</i>	xvii
1. Introduction: Becoming More Informed About Informers	1
I. Informers: Definition and Context	3
II. Our Case Study	4
III. Secret Police Archives and File-Stories	8
IV. (E)motions and Human Behaviour	17
V. Roadmap	21
VI. Conclusion	23
2. History of Communist Czechoslovakia and Its Secret Police	25
I. The Communist State and Its Dénouement	26
II. The StB: Its Structure, Standard Operating Procedures, and Connection to National Security	38
III. The StB and Its Informers	50
A. The StB's Work, Worth, and Network	51
B. Categories of Informers	57
C. The Informing Relationship	59
IV. Conclusion	64
3. Reckoning with Informers and the Communist Past	69
I. Velvet Transition(s)	69
II. Proclamations and Prosecutions	72
III. Exclusions and Lustrations	74
IV. Revelations and Transparency	82
V. Rehabilitation and Restitution	86
VI. Institutes of Memory	90
VII. Architectural Renovation, Refurbishment, and Overgrowth	92
VIII. Conclusion	99
4. Informer File-Stories	101
I. 'Věra'	102
II. 'Vašek'	110
III. 'Lily'	119
IV. 'Goldfus'	126
V. 'Volný'	133
VI. 'Soukup'	140

5. What Jumps Out: Informing as Intimacy and Emotions as Drivers	151
I. Overview	152
II. Informing as Intimacy and Conversation	154
III. Emotions as Catalysts and Drivers	163
A. Fear	164
B. Devotion and Allegiance	168
C. Desire: Getting Ahead and Getting Things	171
D. Resentment: Getting Even and Settling Scores	176
E. Summary and Synchronicity	178
IV. Life Cycles and Changes	180
V. Solicitude and Disappointment	186
VI. Victims who Victimize: Marginals with (Some) Power	189
VII. Conclusion	194
6. Transitional Takeaways	197
I. Czech Transitional Takeaways	199
A. Comfort	199
B. Cruelty	208
II. Whither Condemnation?	218
III. Conclusion	226
7. Informers Here, Informers There, Informers Everywhere	227
I. Recapping this Book	227
II. Uncorking New Directions	230
A. Just or Unjust Informing	232
B. Informers in Liberal Times	237
<i>Index</i>	245