

AS MOSCOW SEES US

American Politics and Society
in the Soviet Mindset

RICHARD M. MILLS

New York Oxford

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS 1990

CONTENTS

Introduction, 3

Part I American Politics and the Soviet Mindset

1. Who Rules? Economic Power and Political Power, 21
 - The Model: Basic Concepts, Features, and Versions, 24*
 - Political Features, 27*
 - Two Classic Versions, 27*
 - Complete Domination by Big Business, 27*
 - Partial Domination by Big Business, 29*
 - The Model in Operation: Big Business and Politics, 35*
 - Financial Groups: How Big Business Is Organized, 35*
 - Political Dynamics: How Big Business Controls Politics, 38*

2. How Do They Rule? Liberal Democracy in America, 44
 - The Origin of Liberal Democracy, 44*
 - How Liberal Democracy Developed, 47*
 - Restricting Liberal Democracy, 48*
 - Extending Liberal Democracy, 50*
 - Evaluations of Liberal Democracy, 55*

Part II American Society and the Soviet Mindset

3. Who Are the Rulers and the Ruled? The Class Structure, 65
 - Classes and Other Components of Society, 65*
 - Conflict Within Classes, 72*

The Bourgeoisie, 73

The Proletariat, 78

4. How Do Rulers and Ruled Interact? The Class Struggle, 86

Bourgeoisie versus Proletariat, 87

Exploitation and Countertrends, 87

Political Activity, 93

Revolution, 101

The Antimonopoly Coalition/Alliance of Democratic Forces, 103

Allies for the Proletariat, 103

Labor, Blacks, Students, and Youth, 107

Blacks, 108

Students and Youth, 117

Assessing the Democratic Movement, 119

Conclusion, 121

Part III Continuity and Change in Soviet Analyses of American Politics

5. Soviet Intellectual Contexts and the Interpretation of American Politics, 125

History, Political Leaders, Institutions, 126

Individuals, Ideology, Academic Traditions, 138

Effects on the Study of American Politics, 145

Conclusion, 155

6. American Political Institutions and Processes: Soviet Evaluations, 161

Parties and Ideologies, 165

Elections, 177

The President, 193

Congress, 201

The Supreme Court, 205

Policymaking, 210

Conclusion, 216

Part IV Interpretation

7. Explaining American Politics: Theories of Class, Pluralism, and Elitism, 221

Options, 221

American and Soviet Intellectual Contexts, 228

Criticism, 240

Conclusion, 246

8. Conclusions, 252

Notes, 257

References, 271

Index, 301