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INSTITUTION  
ON  
WAR, REVOLUTION  
AND PEACE

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*Hoover Institution  
on War, Revolution, and Peace*

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READING ROOM ONLY**

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## FOREWORD

(SLAVIC)

DURING THIS CENTURY there have developed forces and events which, as never before in our national life, have had so profound an effect on our independence, our form of government, our social and economic system, and the setting of the American people in the international world.

Here in this Institution is the greatest amassing of the records of these forces and events that exists in the world. Its upbuilding and preservation have become doubly precious to the world because of the wholesale destruction of libraries and historical material during the Second World War. Over fifty organizations and sixty nations have contributed to the building up of these two-score millions of documents, books, and items covering the two great wars and their aftermaths.

Here are the records of the causes of war, their destructions, and their consequences to mankind.

Here are unique military records which have contributed and can contribute to the defense of the United States.

Here are the records of nations striving for independence and constitutional protection of the liberties of men.

Here are the records of men's strivings, their ideals, and their negotiations and failures to make and sustain peace in the world after these two world wars.

And here are the documents that record the great dramas of superlative sacrifice, of glory, of victory, of sorrow, of death, which inspired the idealism of men in both the making of war and the hopes of peace.

Here are also the most complete existing records of the revolutions of communism, nazism, socialism, aggressive nationalism, the concentration of power in governments, their reduction of men to slavery, their denial of government by their people, their denial of the dignity and freedom of the individual man, and their destruction of the foundations of religious beliefs through atheism.

And here are the records of the lowest of trickery and conspiracies to overthrow the governments of free men and the repeated violations of promises and agreements.

Here is a sanctuary where the papers of over 300 men active in world affairs have been deposited for safekeeping.

Here are the records of the compassion of the American people, who, by self-denial and long hours of labor, provided the food, medicine, and clothing which in the wars of the present century have enabled over one billion four hundred million human beings to survive who otherwise would have perished.

The Institution is not merely a library. Through its staff for research and publication it adds to the knowledge of history; it illuminates the dangers that surround us; it points out paths to freedom and peace, and to the safe growth of the American way of life.

HERBERT HOOVER

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The address by The Honorable Herbert Hoover at the dedication of Hoover Tower on June 20, 1941, is reproduced on page 65.

## INTRODUCTION

**S**INCE ITS FOUNDING right after World War I, the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace at Stanford University has become a national and international center of documentation and research on problems of political, social, and economic change in the twentieth century. Thousands of students and scholars from the United States and abroad have used its resources and facilities. They have made valuable contributions to the advancement of knowledge and learning as well as important suggestions as to how freedom and peace with honor are to be attained and preserved.

The world-wide coverage of the Institution's collections gives them special value in this period when so many problems are international in scope. While each of the major area collections (Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Africa, East Asia, and the Middle East) is in itself outstanding, the distinguishing feature of this Institution lies in the fact that it houses under one roof for convenient study the records of the major upheavals of the contemporary world. These great collections offer opportunity to concentrate on one area, to undertake comparative studies on certain critical subjects related to two or more areas, and at the same time to study important problems in the perspective of the world as a whole.

The Institution's holdings on the Russian and Chinese revolutions and the growth and spread of communism throughout the world are considered by many to be the outstanding collection in this field in the free world; it has one of the most complete records on Hitler and the Nazi movement as well as on Mussolini and fascism; it is a place where scholars can document such diverse but important twentieth-century events as the story of Vichy France, the French Fifth Republic, the rise of the Chinese Communist government, underground movements in Africa and Asia, the turbulent history of the Middle East, the postwar German and Japanese economic recoveries, or the development of the Western Alliance. Several country collections—the USSR, Germany, China, Japan and Turkey—are unequaled in their fields; many of the Institution's documents are the only ones in existence.

But the Hoover Institution is more than a group of collections available for the study of revolutionary movements such as communism and fascism. It serves not only the currently attractive branches of scholarship—Soviet, African, or East Asian studies—but also the more fundamental and seemingly prosaic areas of research. It has its own resident research staff, and hundreds of scholars and students come here each year to do the conscientious brick and mortar work which advances the frontiers of learning. As a result, the Institution has become an internationally recognized center for investigating not only international affairs but also many other aspects and problems of the twentieth century.

Over the years the Institution has published a substantial number of widely quoted studies and monographs, and several important new projects have been

initiated in the past two years. These include a history of the Communist International, studies of communist activity in Africa, and a series of monographs on Communist China as an economic power.

Other major studies are being planned; among them are a history of Chinese Communism, a study of the role of the United States in Africa, a history of the Paris Peace Conference, research in public finance to discover relationships between governmental fiscal policy and social change, including war, a series of studies on economic and political changes in the underdeveloped countries, and analyses of the development of and future prospects of the Western Alliance.

The primary focus of our program is on the problem of how to secure and maintain peace. This is in keeping with the expressed aim of the founder, who at the dedication of the Tower building on June 20, 1941 stated:

*The purpose of this Institution is to promote peace. Its records stand as a challenge to those who promote war. They should attract those who search for peace.*

The research done at the Hoover Institution is not forced into any particular mold; every scholar is free to pursue his independent interest. To quote Mr. Hoover again: "All the original materials of contemporary history we can lay our hands on are as free as the Sierra winds for historians to interpret as they see fit."

Certain common aims and characteristics do, of course, emerge from the Institution's research and publication program. We are concerned primarily with promoting basic research and documentary studies, *i.e.*, studies which provide the foundation upon which new knowledge is built. But we are concerned with living issues and hence with dynamic rather than static research. The object of the Institution's research program is, therefore, to investigate topics where the collections are particularly strong and to study problems where the findings can make important contributions to national policy. Finally, our approach is multidisciplinary. The research staff contains historians, economists, and political scientists, as well as persons broadly trained and experienced in international law and the social sciences generally.

We hope in this brochure to give a brief account of the origin, development, and present status of this great scholarly resource as well as to outline current activities and future plans—and in so doing, to honor the vision and devotion of Herbert Hoover and his many friends and associates who built this Institution.

W. GLENN CAMPBELL  
*Director, Hoover Institution on War,  
Revolution, and Peace*