



Turning points in ending the Cold War /

Skinner, Kiron K.

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Monografía

"In 1983, U.S.-Soviet relations appeared to be in an uncontrollable free fall. It was the year Ronald Reagan called the Soviet Union an "evil empire," announced the Strategic Defense Initiative, and obtained permission from Western European governments to deploy intermediate nuclear forces (INF) on their soil. The Soviet government retaliated by walking out of the INF and Strategic Arms Reductions Talks. Yet, just two years later, Reagan and new Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev held their first summit and jointly declared that "a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought." Between 1988 and 1991, peaceful revolutions spread throughout Eastern Europe as the Warsaw Pact nations embraced democracy. These historic events defied widespread expectations, as many experts expected the cold war to end with a nuclear war. Why were they proved wrong?" "The essays in this collection offer illuminating insights into the key players - Ronald Reagan, Mikhail Gorbachev, Boris Yeltsin, and others - and the monumental events that led to the collapse of communism. The expert contributors examine the end of detente and the beginning of the new phase of the cold war in the early 1980s, Reagan's radical new strategies aimed at changing Soviet behavior, the peaceful democratic revolutions in Poland and Hungary, the events that brought about the reunification of Germany, the role of events in Third World countries, the critical contributions of Gorbachev and Yeltsin, and more."--Jacket

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