



Dear Mr. President ... Reagan/Gorbachev and the Correspondence that Ended the Cold War

Jason Saltoun-Ebin (editor)

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In "Dear Mr. President...Reagan/Gorbachev and the Correspondences that Ended the Cold War", historian Jason Saltoun-Ebin sheds new light on the end of the Cold War by presenting, in many cases for the first time, the top-secret correspondence between Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev that started the first day Gorbachev came to power. Saltoun-Ebin shows, through this private correspondence, that the most important reason for the end of the Cold War was simply the trust that Reagan and Gorbachev built through their letters. Although Reagan and Gorbachev at first found little to agree upon, they started the path towards the end of the Cold War by agreeing that despite their differences, they would continue to correspond. From when Gorbachev took office on March 11, 1985 till Reagan left the presidency in January 1989, the two most powerful leaders in the world exchanged over forty letters. It was this dialogue -- this decision that they could individually make a difference -- more than anything that led to the cooling of tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union and then the end of the Cold War. Trusting did not come easy for either of them. The letters presented in "Dear Mr. President..." show, once again, that the pen is mightier than the sword.

Dear Mr. President ... Reagan/Gorbachev and the Correspondence that Ended the Cold War Details

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From Reader Review Dear Mr. President ... Reagan/Gorbachev and the Correspondence that Ended the Cold War for online ebook

Tracey says

"Dear Mr. President..." was a free book I received as a result of a drawing on Good Reads.

I really enjoyed this book. I found the correspondence between Reagan and Gorbachev intriguing. They were both wanting to negotiate. There were many hurdles that hindered progress - hostages, an uninformed US News and World Report reporter ends up in the mix, Chernobyl, and more events. I enjoyed a quote made by Reagan in one of his letters, printed on page 74: "But agreement as to who is to blame is not necessary to find a solution." This is true in many other circumstances in each of our lives. I would recommend this book to a history buff, someone interested in American history, or an American History teacher. This would be beneficial to any high school or college level class.

side note:

A primary source is provided in cursive writing. There will come a day some readers won't be able to read the wonderfully composed letter written by Reagan since many schools across our nation do not see the need in learning cursive writing.

Kate O'Quinn says

This book was very interesting. The letters themselves were a little dry to read, however the insights in between the letters were very fascinating to read. It's a good snapshot of a very interesting and important time in our history.

Peter says

This is an interesting book. It is especially interesting to those that interested in learning more about how Reagan and Gorbachev brought an end to the cold war. The letters themselves aren't the most interesting, but give a valuable insight to the diplomatic relations and personal interactions that existed. I found the authors minimal commentary to be more interesting than the letters themselves. I did appreciate how the author made the letters the main focus of the book.

I received this book for free as part of Goodreads First Reads.

Caroline Walker says

Another great book on President Reagan and how he ended the cold war with letters. His command of the English language is just incredible and the tone that he used is not condescending or anything he commands respects and you get a positive feeling even though he was convincing Gorbachev to not mess with the US! The author brilliantly conveyed all of this through this book and made it all the more interesting and better! A must read for anyone at all especially if you like President's and the best of them all, President Reagan.

Taylor Troncin says

I received a free copy of this book through a goodreads giveaway.

I did not enter the giveaway from me - I wanted it for a close relative. However, I decided to take a crack at it.

The rating indicates my interest level - not necessarily the book's quality itself, etc.

Amy says

This is a great academic read, best suited for people studying diplomacy and action in international relations. Saltoun-Ebin does a good job if adding just enough context to keep the letters making sense, without bias on the process. I was glad to learn more about this time, these issues and this unique relationship. Thanks Goodreads for this giveaway! Right up my alley.

Mr. says

I found this book to be intuitive and knowledgeable, brought to light many things I never even would have thought about. A good book for those interested in this type of stuff.

Tony Parsons says

as a die hard history buff luv 2 win/read this book

T Hamboyan Harrison says

Disclaimer: I won this in a First Reads contest.

An interesting collection of letters between Reagan and Gorbachev, but the text suffers from a lack of professional editing in the form of several typos (warn instead of warm, feeing instead of freeing, etc.) and poor layout decisions, primarily the choice of displaying all letters in italics.
