Contents

Introduction, 1

1. The Purge and the Totalitarian System, 12

2. The Purge as a Technique of Totalitarian Government, 25

3. The Soviet Concept of the Purge, 38

4. The Expansion and Evolution of the Stalinist Purge, 1930–1936, 49

5. The Mass Purge and Terror Coalesce: The Violent Stage, 1936–1938, 65

6. The Impact, 98

7. The Safety Valves, 116

8. The Delicate Stage, 1946–1952, 132

9. The Purge and the Struggle for the Stalinist Succession, 151

10. Summary and Conclusion, 168

Appendix I: Some Important Dates in the History of the Soviet Purges, 177

Appendix II: The 1937 Byelorussian and Caucasian Purges, 180

Bibliography, 190

Notes, 201

Index, 249
The Permanent Purge