

about dictator Stalin and Soviet state founder Lenin.

"I was a Leninist and a Marxist for many years until I gradually realised that I and many of my colleagues had been misled," he said in a Reuters interview earlier this year.

"I was not a dissident—I thought the system could be reformed, be made more human and effective, but I was wrong. I was the first general to admit it, a black sheep."

In 1937, when Volkogonov was eight, his father was shot in Stalin's purges and his mother ended up in a labour camp. The young boy's faith in the system was not shaken and he entered the army as an orphan.

He made a perfectly orthodox career in the Soviet Red Army ending with a job as deputy head of the department responsible for communist indoctrination of troops.

He then became head of the Institute of Military History, which gave him unparalleled access to the nation's top archives. The deeper he delved, the more disillusioned he became.

Volkogonov rose to prominence in 1988 by producing the first Soviet biography of Josef Stalin, which portrayed the dictator as an immoral power-hungry killer.

This was hardly a revelation for Western historians. But it exploded like a bombshell among a people kept in ignorance of their own history for decades.

In 1991, Volkogonov and his team produced the first volume of a planned ten-tome official Soviet history of World War Two.

The book, which castigated Stalin for letting himself be outwitted by Hitler, was banned by horrified Soviet Defense Ministry officials.

Volkogonov resigned in protest.

After producing a biography of Soviet rebel-revolutionary Leon Trotsky, he tackled what he described as the last bastion—Lenin.

Previous accounts had always been careful to portray the Soviet state's founder as a kindly, wise man whose ideas were subsequently perverted by Stalin.

Volkogonov's biography, based on 3,724 top secret documents, smashed the illusion by unmasking Lenin as ruthless and ready to resort to mass killings to achieve his aims. "Lenin was the anti-Christ, more like the devil . . . All Russia's great troubles stemmed from Lenin," Volkogonov once said.

Volkogonov once served as a military adviser to President Boris Yeltsin. In that capacity, at the end of 1991, he headed a com-

mission which abolished communist party bodies in the armed forces.

Up to his death, he was a co-chairman of a joint Russian-U.S. commission looking into the fates of POWs and missing in action in world War Two, Vietnam and other wars.

DMITRY VOLKOGONOV, MILITARY HISTORIAN AND REFORMER, DEAD AT 67

(By Ntasha Alova)

MOSCOW (AP).—Dmitry Volkogonov, a military historian who helped reveal the truth about Communist Party repression and who headed the Russian-American Commission on missing POWs, has died after a long battle with cancer. He was 67.

Gen. Volkogonov died Tuesday night at a military hospital in Krasnogorski, outside Moscow, the Interfax news agency reported.

Volkogonov, who as director of the Soviet Defense Ministry's History Museum had extensive access to Soviet military archives, was one of the first historians in Russia to make public the extent of the Communist regime's persecution.

His confirmation that the repression began when the Bolsheviks took power in 1917 and was, in fact, launched by Vladimir Lenin, the Communists' idol, made hardliners revile him and pro-reform forces lionize him.

Volkogonov wrote more than 30 books. Best known are his history works on Lenin, Josef Stalin and Leon Trotsky, written in recent years on the basis of newly opened archive materials.

Born in Siberia in 1928, Volkogonov fell victim to Stalin's repression at an early age, when his father was shot and his mother sent into exile.

Volkogonov joined the Soviet army in 1949 after working as a teacher. He finished a tank school, then made his career as a student and later professor at the Lenin Military-Political Academy for top Soviet army political-propaganda officers.

He later headed the Soviet Defense Ministry's History Museum and conducted archival research there.

Volkogonov met Boris Yeltsin in 1990 when both became members of the Russian parliament, and in 1991 he became security and defense adviser to Yeltsin, then parliamentary speaker. He remained an adviser after Yeltsin became president.

After the 1991 Soviet breakup, Volkogonov presided over a commission charged with creating a Russian defense ministry and armed forces.

When the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on Prisoners of War and Missing in Action was

formed in 1992, Volkogonov became co-chairman, along with Malcolm Toon of the United States.

The commission was charged with determining whether any American servicemen were held on Soviet territory during the Cold War. So far, they have found none.

He also headed a presidential commission charged with finding missing Russian soldiers, including those lost during the war in Chechnya.

In 1993, the retired general was elected to the first post-Soviet parliament on reformer Yegor Gaidar's ticket.

The State Duma, the lower house of parliament, today observed a moment of silence in his honor.

Volkogonov was married, with two daughters.

STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR MALCOLM TOON, AMERICAN CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE U.S. RUSSIA JOINT COMMISSION

The U.S. side of the U.S. Russia Joint Commission was very saddened to learn of the passing of General-Colonel Antonovich Volkogonov, a fellow soldier for whom we had great respect, which only grew in the three and a half years we worked together. While serving as the Russian co-chairman of the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIA Affairs, General Volkogonov widened the windows of communication with the United States on POW/MIA matters, and was unswerving in his efforts to gain information which would help resolve painful questions about lost American and Soviet service members. Enduring great physical hardship, he nevertheless demonstrated a strength of character so admired by his friends and colleagues. His work will leave an enduring legacy to Russians and to the world alike, and his memory will serve as a beacon to those who continue his efforts. We will miss him.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in adjournment until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 8:01 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, December 7, 1995, at 9 a.m.