

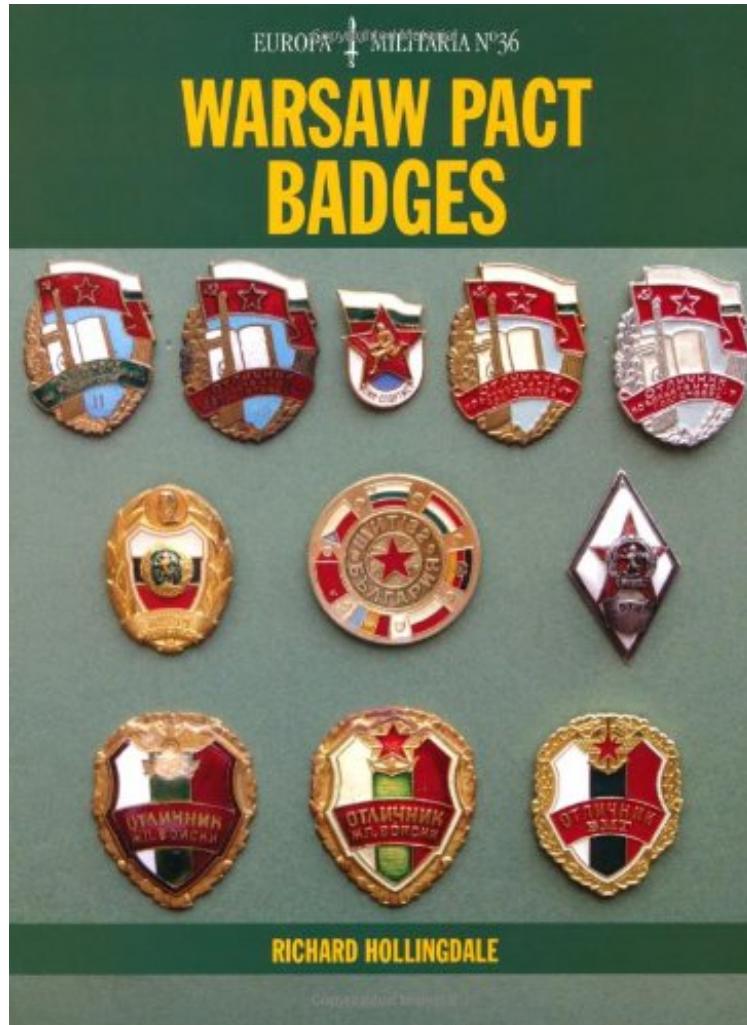
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Richard Hollingdale

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[Mobile library] Warsaw Pact Badges (Europa Militaria)

Warsaw Pact Badges (Europa Militaria)

Richard Hollingdale : Warsaw Pact Badges (Europa Militaria) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Warsaw Pact Badges (Europa Militaria):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Communist StatesBy James D. CrabtreeThis book looks at the badges of the Warsaw Pact armies, dominated by the USSR but including the DDR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Poland and Bulgaria. These are all peacetime awards, as the Warsaw Pact was never invoked to attack the West. The book goes from the reorganization of the eastern militaries into armed adjuncts of their respective communist parties to the collapse of communism in Europe in 1990. As such, you would think the USSR badges for service in Afghanistan would be included but they are not. Well-illustrated with color photographs and other pictures of the awards as worn, it is an interesting reference for anyone who collects badges.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. At last information in English about communist badgesBy Pat PThis book is a very good attempt to

cover a large topic in such a small space and deserves a larger work. The author has done a remarkable job to condense a huge topic into 64 pages, as such this book has to be considered as a starting point for anyone interested in collecting Warsaw Pact badges. This is a valuable book for the fact that most of the available information on these badges is not in English, added to this the photo's are crisp and of very good quality. I have been collecting Warsaw Pact militaria for over 20 years and recommend this book for the beginner and advanced collector alike. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Poorly Researched Book with Numerous Errors By Ehrentitle I had high hopes for this book, but collectors expecting a definitive and well researched reference on Warsaw Pact badges will be sorely disappointed. The author attempts to cover the badges from seven Warsaw Pact countries; USSR, East Germany, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Romania, and Bulgaria. However the limited depth of his research, which appears to be gleaned from non-authoritative publications and internet websites, creates a publication riddled with numerous errors and omissions that may lead less experienced collectors astray. For example the description of DDR parachute badges on page 36 erroneously describes a reproduction of a sample badge that was never produced or issued as "early type with diamond shaped-coat of-arms." On page 51 a non-military DDR sports badge is described as "DDR National People's Army Sports Badge". On page 58 a reproduction of a rare Classification Badge for members of the Parachute Service (parachute riggers) is erroneously captioned as "DDR National People's Army first type Parachute Proficiency Clasp." On page 45 the author indicates that the DDR Engels Military Academy Badge was an award of the "elite Guard Regiment Friedrich Engels" which is incorrect. This academy had nothing to do with the Guard Regiment but rather was the highest institution of military education in the DDR. Unfortunately these errors and many more may be taken as fact by the uninitiated collector which provides a disservice to the entire collecting community.

As the chief rival to NATO from 1955 - 1991, the Warsaw Pact was, and has since remained, a popular subject for military students and historians alike. On the collecting market the vast range of awards, badges and insignia produced during the Cold War has helped to make the national armies of the Warsaw Pact a popular choice with many military specialists. Surprisingly, even though a great deal has been written about the armor, weapons, uniforms and equipment, no comprehensive reference source on the subject of badges has been printed in the English language.

About the Author Richard Hollingdale is a militaria enthusiast, collector and academic historian.