



# George F Kennan

**David Allan Mayers**



## George F Kennan:

*George F. Kennan and the Origins of Containment, 1944-1946* George Frost Kennan, John Lukacs, 1997 These letters show Kennan's fear of the extent to which the United States misunderstood the Soviet regime Especially in 1944 at the time of the Russians' betrayal of the Warsaw Uprising it became evident that the Soviets were interested in establishing their rigid domination of Eastern and Central Europe and dividing the continent

**George F. Kennan** John Lewis Gaddis, 2012-08-28 Winner of the Pulitzer Prize Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award Selected by The New York Times Book Review as a Notable Book of the Year Drawing on extensive interviews with George Kennan and exclusive access to his archives an eminent scholar of the Cold War delivers a revelatory biography of its troubled mastermind Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award this extraordinary biography delves into the mind of the brilliant diplomat who shaped U S policy towards the Soviet Union for decades This is a landmark work of history and biography that reveals the vast influence and rich inner landscape of a life that both mirrored and shaped the century it spanned

*George F. Kennan and the Making of American Foreign Policy, 1947-1950* Wilson D. Miscamble, C.S.C., 2021-04-13 When George C Marshall became Secretary of State in January of 1947 he faced not only a staggering array of serious foreign policy questions but also a State Department rendered ineffective by neglect maladministration and low morale Soon after his arrival Marshall asked George F Kennan to head a new component in the department's structure the Policy Planning Staff Here Wilson Miscamble scrutinizes Kennan's subsequent influence over foreign policymaking during the crucial years from 1947 to 1950

**Around the Cragged Hill: A Personal and Political Philosophy** George F. Kennan, 1994-05-17 Kennan comes to us as ambassador of a generation nearly gone and a conservatism so responsible dutiful and so long extinct it may look revolutionary As ever Kennan in the present book has fulfilled his responsibility admirably Chicago Tribune I have attempted to take the high ground writes George F Kennan in the foreword to this illuminating work trying to stick to the broader dimensions of things the ones that would still be visible and significant in future decades Against the background of a century of wars revolution and uneasy peace Mr Kennan advances his thoughts on a broad front how the individual's quest for power can transform a government into a confusion of ambition rivalry and suspicion how a nation's size can create barriers between the rulers and the ruled why America must first set its own house in order before it can become a beacon to others Deeply aware of the pressures under which public officials must act Mr Kennan sees a government in Washington that is forced to make decisions on issues of the moment often without regard for long term consequences Neither the legislature responsive to the interests of a narrow constituency nor the executive branch swamped by urgent problems at home and abroad has the time or inclination to look far beyond the next election Lost entirely is a vital element in any democracy deliberation based upon study review and judgment To address problems that defy quick political solutions Mr Kennan here boldly lays down a blueprint for a Council of State a nonpolitical permanent advisory board that would stand alongside yet apart from

government policy makers with the prestige to be heard above the cacophony of political ambitions Rich in historical example this volume is a brilliant summing up of the experience and thought of the man the Atlantic described in a cover story entitled The Last Wise Man as diplomat scholar writer of rare literary gifts one of most remarkable Americans of this century

**A Biography of George F. Kennan** Michael Polley,1990 Following fifty years of the life and times of a diplomat this volume highlights the background early training and major events in the career of the author of the containment policy that guided American diplomacy from 1947 to 1972 Interviews with George F. Kennan George Frost Kennan,T. Christopher Jespersen,2002-01-01 The Kennan Diaries George F. Kennan,2014-02-16 The annotated diaries of the late influential American diplomat and foreign policy strategist spans ninety years of U S history while sharing his insights into Depression era capitalism the Cold War and his literary achievements *George F. Kennan* Walter L. Hixson,1989 Kennan embodied the contradictions of Cold War anti communism and a distrust of democracy particularly as expressed in American anti communist hysteria Kennan later moved toward a realist perspective shedding ideology and addressing himself to the practical issues of detente and arms control This intellectual biography will serve general readers as well as students and scholars Excellent notes and bibliography Annotation copyrighted by Book News Inc Portland OR **George F. Kennan** John Lewis Gaddis,2011 The full scope of George Kennan s long life and vast influence is revealed by one of today s most important Cold War scholars Yale historian Gaddis began this magisterial history almost 30 years ago the result is a remarkably revealing view of how this greatest of Cold War strategists came to doubt his strategy and always doubted himself **George F. Kennan's Strategic Thought** Richard L. Russell,1999-04-30 George F Kennan s strategic thought was instrumental in the formulation of the American grand strategy of containment of the Soviet Union As Dr Russell points out Kennan s strategic thought was forged in the diplomatic practice and scholarship of the time Russell looks beyond containment however to sift through Kennan s work to illuminate the worldview that informed his analysis of international relations and American foreign policy Kennan s realist worldview contained principles for governing American diplomacy and the use of force to achieve national interests within the bounds set by the international competition for power between nation states Kennan s worldview illuminates the continuities of international politics that are often overlooked because of the massive changes in the post Cold War world Ironically Kennan s worldview continues to provide a theoretical footing for guiding American foreign policy after containment This is an important study for scholars policymakers and concerned citizens interested in international relations American foreign policy diplomatic history and strategic studies **George F. Kennan and the Origins of Containment, 1944-1946** George Frost Kennan,John Lukacs,1997 In 1945 the United States saw the Soviet Union as its principal ally By 1947 it saw the Soviet Union as its principal opponent How did this happen Historian John Lukacs has provided an answer to this question through an exchange of letters with George F Kennan Their correspondence deals with the antecedents of containment between 1944 and 1946 during most of which time Kennan was at

the American embassy in Moscow Kennan had strong opinions about America's appropriate role during and after World War II and is perhaps best known as the architect of America's containment policy Much has been written about Kennan and containment but relatively little is known about the events that made him compose and send the Long Telegram in 1946 that ultimately became the draft for foreign policy dealing with the Soviets in the following forty years These letters show Kennan's fear of the extent to which the United States misunderstood the Soviet regime Especially in 1944 at the time of the Russians' betrayal of the Warsaw Uprising it became evident that the Soviets were interested in establishing their rigid domination of Eastern and Central Europe and dividing the continent Kennan's letters to Lukacs are thorough and detailed suggesting that the Truman administration was not in the least premature in opposing the Soviet Union Indeed both correspondents suggest that these decisions should have been made earlier This series of letters will add greatly to our understanding of what preceded containment and the Cold War in 1947

**The Fateful Alliance** George Frost Kennan, 1984 An analysis of the Russian-French alliance of 1894 and what went wrong in Europe at the end of the nineteenth century

**Mr. X and the Pacific** Paul J. Heer, 2018-05-15 George F. Kennan is well known as the preeminent American expert on the Soviet Union during the Cold War and the author of the doctrine of containment In *Mr. X and the Pacific* Paul J. Heer chronicles and assesses Kennan's work in affecting US policy toward East Asia Heer traces the origins, development, and bearing of Kennan's strategic perspective on the Far East during his time as director of the State Department's Policy Planning Staff from 1947 to 1950 The author follows Kennan's career and evolution of his thinking as he subsequently became a prominent critic of American participation in the Vietnam War *Mr. X and the Pacific* offers readers a new view of Kennan, revealing his importance and the totality of his role in East Asia policy, his struggle with American foreign policy in the region, and the ways in which Kennan's legacy still has implications for how the United States approaches the region in the twenty-first century

**Remembering George Kennan** Melvyn P. Leffler, 2006 George F. Kennan, the father of containment, was a rather obscure and frustrated foreign service officer at the U.S. embassy in Moscow when his Long Telegram of February 1946 gained the attention of policymakers in Washington and transformed his career What is Kennan's legacy and the implications of his thinking for the contemporary era Is it possible to reconcile Kennan's legacy with the newfound emphasis on a democratic peace

**Memoirs 1950-1963** George F. Kennan, 2020-12-13 George F. Kennan's first volume of memoirs is *Memoirs 1925-1950* In the second volume of his memoirs George Kennan resumes the narrative of his remarkable career, re-creating his development as a historian and analyzing the crucial issues of the twentieth century I don't see how a memoir could be better even if you aren't interested in the subject at hand the language carries you along And the story here told with all action subject to the finest Kennan introspection is both important and absorbing All of it is graced by the Kennan style all is stamped with the Kennan foreign policy trademark which consists of an ability to think clearly about complicated matters with an utter independence of mind He draws on a superb stock of historical knowledge Most of the

conclusions that George Kennan has reached over the years involve in one way or another the Soviet Union and they emerge with admirable clarity from this book Kennan is the most brilliant and civilized of students of the public scene John Kenneth Galbraith The New York Times Delightfully written and appallingly frank Mr Kennan writes with a freedom and a sensitivity which carry the reader easily into a much deeper understanding of the difficulties of foreign policy making in a mass democracy of the American model D C Watt New Statesman An engrossing volume this volume and its predecessor form one of the outstanding memoirs of our time Richard W Leopold The American Historical Review T his second volume of his memoirs can be read with as much speed and pleasure as a novel This book is frank honest and introspective and it therefore reveals a great deal about Kennan as a person Kennan is obviously a complex fascinating character intelligent proud articulate independent minded dedicated to serving his country concerned over the fate of the world generous in giving of his time to others and yet suffering the pangs of frustration loneliness and alienation from his native land Thomas T Hammond The Russian Review As scholar and diplomatist policymaker and critic of policy George F Kennan possesses a rare combination of expertise and experience This book is notable for its lucid style and for the verbal portraits which it presents of such persons as Acheson Dulles Truman Eisenhower Stalin and Tito this volume ranks as an important contribution to our understanding of American postwar foreign policy Robert L Pfaltzgraff Jr The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science T here is much here worth any serious student s time indeed close attention Kennan should and will be read Kirkus Kennan writes so well it is no doubt his intention that though he shows himself plainly as a public figure as a private person he remains elusive a sort of Marquand character gentlemanly conservative in the best sense urbane direct and honest yet to any but his friends very private I m glad There are so few celebrated men who refuse to become celebrities Richard J Walton The Washington Post George Kennan and the Dilemmas of US Foreign Policy David Allan Mayers,1988 Index and bibliography included *Sketches from a Life* George F. Kennan,2000-10-17 Written originally as a series of entries in a travel diary and now considered one of the most important memoirs of our time *Sketches from a Life* is George F Kennan s peerless impressionistic record of his experiences with twentieth century history Beginning with his first foreign service post in 1927 and ending seven decades later Kennan s account is rich with the insight of a major historical participant Whether relating the perils of Hitler s Germany or revisiting Kennan s days as ambassador to the Soviet Union *Sketches from a Life* is as riveting as great literature and one of the most invaluable documents of our time **George Kennan** John Lukacs,2007-04-24 A man of impressive mental powers of extraordinary intellectual range and last but not least of exceptional integrity George Frost Kennan 1904 2005 was an adviser to presidents and secretaries of state with a decisive role in the history of this country and of the entire world for a few crucial years in the 1940s after which he was made to retire but then he became a scholar who wrote seventeen books scores of essays and articles and a Pulitzer Prize winning memoir He also wrote remarkable public lectures and many thousands of incisive letters laying down his pen only in

the hundredth year of his life Having risen within the American Foreign Service and been posted to various European capitals and twice to Moscow Kennan was called back to Washington in 1946 where he helped to inspire the Truman Doctrine and draft the Marshall Plan Among other things he wrote the X or Containment article for which he became and still is world famous an article which he regarded as not very important and liable to misreading John Lukacs describes the development and the essence of Kennan's thinking the perhaps unavoidable misinterpretations of his advocacies his self imposed task as a leading realist critic during the Cold War and the importance of his work as a historian during the second half of his long life

George F. Kennan-John Lukacs Correspondence George Frost Kennan, John Lukacs, 1952 The present collection includes more than 400 manuscripts some 360 of which are letters exchanged by Kennan and Lukacs over more than 50 years The number of letters written by each of the correspondents is roughly equal as is the total number of pages There are 38 letters written by other parties most commonly Kennan's secretaries There are also 23 enclosures many of them typescripts of writings or speeches sent by Kennan to Lukacs The collection was preserved by Lukacs the letters written by him are copies retained for his records mostly in the form of carbons or photocopies The Kennan letters are the originals received by Lukacs Lukacs's retained copies show edit marks in his hand as do photocopies he made of his letters from Kennan which are present and filed with the originals This editing was done ca 2008-09 in preparation for the publication of about 200 of the letters in *Through the History of the Cold War* The letters as published are abridged or excerpted as Lukacs says in the book's introduction in order to concentrate on the main subjects of our correspondence the cold war and history and perhaps philosophy from time to time

**Kennan** Frank Costigliola, 2025-02-11 A definitive biography of the U S diplomat and prize winning historian George F Kennan The diplomat and historian George F Kennan 1904-2005 ranks as one of the most important figures in American foreign policy and one of its most complex Drawing on many previously untapped sources Frank Costigliola's authoritative biography offers a new picture of a man of extraordinary ability and ambition whose idea of containing the Soviet Union helped ignite the Cold War but who spent the next half century trying to extinguish it Always prescient Kennan in the 1990s warned that the eastward expansion of NATO would spur a new cold war with Russia Even as Kennan championed rational realism in foreign policy his personal and professional lives were marked by turmoil And though he was widely respected and honored by presidents and the public he judged his career a failure because he had been dropped as a pilot of U S foreign policy Impossible to classify Kennan was a sui generis thinker a trenchant critic of both communism and capitalism and a pioneering environmentalist Living between Russia and the United States he witnessed firsthand Stalin's tightening grip on the Soviet Union the collapse of Europe during World War II and the nuclear arms race of the Cold War An absorbing portrait of an eloquent insightful and sometimes blinkered iconoclast whose ideas are still powerfully relevant Kennan invites us to imagine a world that Kennan fought for but was unable to bring about one not of confrontations and crises but of dialogue and diplomacy

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