Contents

Acknowledgments vii
Introduction: Dictators, Their Enemies, and Repression 1

1. Stalin’s Praetorians 33
2. Ranks of the Chekist Elite 60
3. Organizing State Security 81
4. Political Enemies 106
5. Deadly Kremlin Politics 140
6. Planning Terror 166
7. Simplified Methods 202
8. The Repressors’ Dilemma 219
9. Conclusions 251

Appendix 1: The Power-Maximizing Dictator 281
Appendix 2: The Organization of State Security 283
Appendix 3: List of Repressed Residents of the Workers’ Village of Mogochino, Tomsk Oblast 287
Appendix 4: Framing Enemies to Limit the Loss of Loyalty 289
Appendix 5: A Selectorate Model of Soviet Succession Struggles 291
Appendix 6: A Dictatorial Eliminations Model 293
Appendix 7: Simplified Methods 295
Notes 299
Index 335