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## On the Edge of the Cold War: American Diplomats and Spies in Postwar Prague

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By University Professor of History and International Relations  
Igor Lukes

Audible Studios on Brilliance, United States, 2016. CD-Audio.  
Book Condition: New. Unabridged. 171 x 133 mm. Language:  
English . Brand New. In 1945, both the U.S. State Department  
and U.S. Intelligence saw Czechoslovakia as the master key to  
the balance of power in Europe and as a chessboard for the  
power-game between East and West. Washington believed that  
the political scene in Prague was the best available indicator of  
whether the United States would be able to coexist with Joseph  
Stalin s Soviet Union. In this book, Igor Lukes illuminates the end  
of World War II and the early stages of the Cold War in Prague,  
showing why the United States failed to prevent Czechoslovakia  
from being absorbed into the Soviet bloc. He draws on  
documents from archives in the United States and the Czech  
Republic, on the testimonies of high ranking officers who served  
in the U.S. Embassy from 1945 to 1948, and on unpublished  
manuscripts, diaries, and memoirs. Exploiting this wealth of  
evidence, Lukes paints a critical portrait of Ambassador  
Laurence Steinhardt. He shows that Steinhardt s groundless  
optimism caused Washington to ignore clear signs that  
democracy in Czechoslovakia was in trouble. Although U.S.  
Intelligence officials who served...



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### Reviews

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