Most of this does not add up to anything very coherent. The paucity of Russian source material often forces the authors to rely on foreign sources for information on Russian attitudes. While in some instances that seems justified, one has to wonder how the oddball Croft Juraj Križanić deserves a prominent place in the volume. In fact, much more could have been done with the Russian sources, which are not always treated critically or thoroughly explored. The uninformed reader would never know from the book that there are questions concerning the attribution of certain writings to Prince Andrei Kurbskii (pp. 187ff.) or that there is much more to be learned from (and available about) the seventeenth century kuransy (new-sheets) (p. 156). Several citations of Russian texts from a German translation of the unsatisfactory English anthology compiled by Zenzovskii reinforce questions about some authors’ knowledge of the primary sources. The unfortunate shortcomings of the volume include inaccuracy of detail: vesti-kuransy existed before 1621 (p. 44), Johann van Sweeden probably was not a German (p. 196), and the Scot Patrick Gordon was definitely not English (p. 214). The illustrations are not always synchronized with the text, the table listing their sources has wrong page-numbers, and some are mislabeled (p. 212 – probably the death of Afanasii Naryshkin, not Artamon Mavroc; p. 195 – the attribution to Lopukhkin is unfounded). While the volume contains a helpful if curiously selective bibliography and a chronological table aligning events in Russian and

German history, the index is a disaster, with omissions too numerous to list here.

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