

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910957766803321
Autore	Carruthers Susan L (Susan Lisa)
Titolo	Cold War captives : imprisonment, escape, and brainwashing / / Susan L. Carruthers
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2009
ISBN	9786612772641 9781282772649 1282772643 9780520944794 0520944798
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (351 p.)
Disciplina	909.82/5
Soggetti	Popular culture - United States - History - 20th century Cold War - Social aspects - United States Captivity narratives Political prisoners - History - 20th century Repatriation - History - 20th century Defection - History - 20th century Brainwashing - History - 20th century Cold War in mass media Cold War in motion pictures Cold War in literature
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: Between Camps -- 1. Upper East Side Story: Repatriation, Romance, and Cold War Mobilization -- 2. Bloc-Busters: The Politics and Pageantry of Escape from the East -- 3. Stalin's Slaves: The Rise of Gulag Consciousness -- 4. First Captive in a Hot War: The Case of Robert Vogeler -- 5. Prisoners of Pavlov: Korean War Captivity and the Brainwashing Scare -- Epilogue: Returns and Repercussions -- Abbreviations -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

This provocative history of early cold war America recreates a time when World War III seemed imminent. Headlines were dominated by stories of Soviet slave laborers, brainwashed prisoners in Korea, and courageous escapees like Oksana Kasenkina who made a "leap for freedom" from the Soviet Consulate in New York. Full of fascinating and forgotten stories, *Cold War Captives* explores a central dimension of American culture and politics—the postwar preoccupation with captivity. "Menticide," the calculated destruction of individual autonomy, struck many Americans as a more immediate danger than nuclear annihilation. Drawing upon a rich array of declassified documents, movies, and reportage—from national security directives to films like *The Manchurian Candidate*—his book explores the ways in which east-west disputes over prisoners, repatriation, and defection shaped popular culture. Captivity became a way to understand everything from the anomie of suburban housewives to the "slave world" of drug addiction. Sixty years later, this era may seem distant. Yet, with interrogation techniques derived from America's communist enemies now being used in the "war on terror," the past remains powerfully present.
