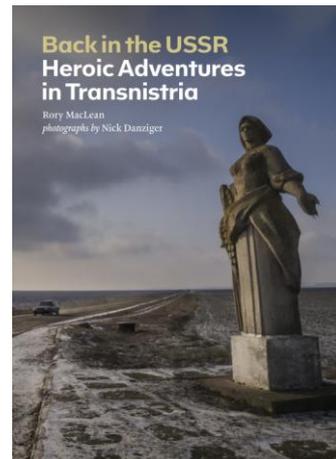


BACK IN THE USSR **Heroic Adventures in Transnistria**

By Rory MacLean and Nick Danziger

Published by Unbound, 3 November, 2014

£19.99, Hardback, £6.99 e-book



Ian Fleming could not have imagined a better place to set a thriller – an upstart mini-state at the edge of Europe which looks to Lenin and Stalin for leadership, with a Facebook-savvy Cheryl-Cole lookalike foreign minister, a breathtakingly wealthy football club funded by KGB smugglers, and a retired Red Army general with a private zoo and free-roaming anaconda. Is this wild and wacky Cold War fiction? No, it's real, modern day Transnistria.

In **BACK IN THE USSR** best-selling author, Rory MacLean, and award-winning photo-journalist, Nick Danziger, take us into the heart of Europe's most secret state. Set on a strip of land on the Ukrainian border, Transnistria is recognised by no other country in the world. It's the only place not to have accepted the collapse of the Soviet Union. Statues of Lenin still stand in town squares and Communist slogans adorn the walls, although the central message of equality has been undermined by a criminal economy...and the elite.

In Transnistria MacLean and Danziger travel with Bentley-driving oligarchs in Gucci track suits who hunt wild boar with AK-47s, meet the attractive young women who are 'sexing up' government ministries (both online and in the flesh), train for revolution at the Che Guevara High School of Political Leadership, and discover how to sustain the half lotus yoga position with a KGB colonel. Above all they uncover – in their inimitable style -- Russia's covert war, and its ambitious plans for the new European order.

BACK IN THE USSR looks at how this breakaway nowhere-land -- which declared its independence in 1990 and has since lost half of its population – will soon affect us and the rest of Europe. Like Crimea, Transnistria has asked Russia to annex it. Only problem is, unlike Crimea, it's situated some five hundred miles from the Russian border, across Ukraine.

Rory MacLean and Nick Danziger are both available for interview.

For further information: Jane Beaton on 07802 433471 jane@kewpublicity.co.uk.