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Isaac Deutscher, a specialist in Russian affairs since 1925, has been a brilliant contributor to both the London Observer and The Economist. Born near Gracow in 1907, he lived in Poland until 1929, when he went to London as a correspondent for Polish newspapers. In Warsaw he was active as a literary critic, economist, and a political publicist and had the opportunity to travel in Russia and in the Ukraine.

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At present he is engaged on work on a Social History of Soviet Russia and on two more biographies, Trotaky in Exile and Lenin, which, together with Stalin, will form a trilogy. He is also preparing material on modern Russian history for the new edition of the Cambridge odern History.