

# DANIEL KURTZ-PHELAN THE CHINA MISSION

GEORGE  
MARSHALL'S  
UNFINISHED WAR,  
1945-1947

READ BY MALCOLM HILLGARTNER

A spellbinding narrative of the high-stakes mission that changed the course of America, China, and global politics—and a rich portrait of the towering, complex figure who carried it out.

As World War II came to an end, General George Marshall was renowned as the architect of Allied victory. Set to retire, he instead accepted what he thought was a final mission—this time not to win a war, but to stop one. Conflict between Chinese Nationalists and Communists threatened to suck in the United States and escalate into revolution. His assignment was to broker a peace, build a Chinese democracy, and prevent a Communist takeover, all while staving off World War III.

*The China Mission* traces this neglected turning point and forgotten interlude in a heroic career—a story of not just diplomatic wrangling and guerrilla warfare, but also intricate spycraft and charismatic personalities. Drawing on eyewitness accounts both personal and official, it offers a richly detailed and often surprising view of the central figures of the time as they stood face-to-face and struggled to make history, with consequences and lessons that echo today.

**"Brilliant... [A] beautifully written portrait of George Marshall, a statesman of such integrity that he seems as far removed from Washington, DC, today as would an ancient Roman."**

—Fareed Zakaria, *New York Times* bestselling author and CNN host

**"The China Mission has much to teach us about both the past and future of American leadership...I have rarely read such a vivid account of how diplomacy really works."**

—Madeleine Albright, former secretary of state

Daniel Kurtz-Phelan is the executive editor of *Foreign Affairs*. He previously served in the US State Department as a member of the secretary of state's Policy Planning Staff. His reportage and analysis have appeared in publications including the *New York Times* and the *New Yorker*.

Malcolm Hillgartner is an accomplished actor, writer, and musician. Named an AudioFile Best Voice of 2013 and the recipient of several Earphones Awards, he has narrated over 175 audiobooks.

Running Time: 14 Hours • Unabridged

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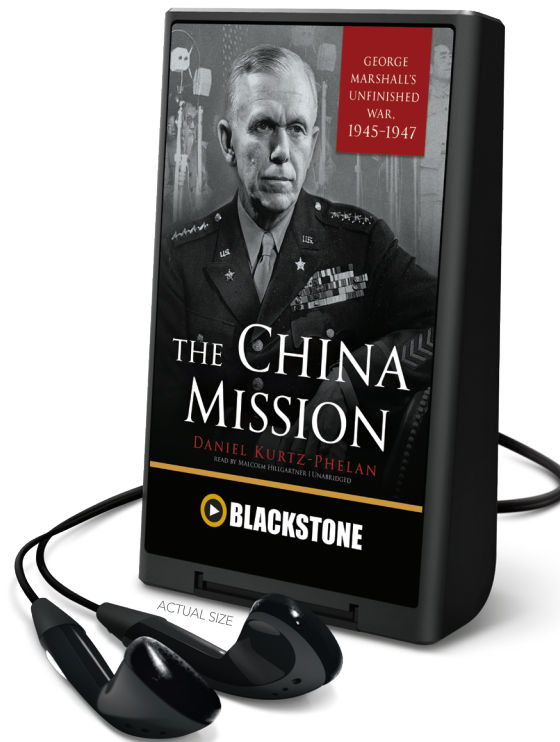
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