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Nuremberg Diary





Synopsis

In August 1945 Great Britain, France, the USSR, and the United States established a tribunal at Nuremberg to try military and civilian leaders of the Nazi regime. G. M. Gilbert, the prison psychologist, had an unrivaled firsthand opportunity to watch and question the Nazi war criminals. With scientific dispassion he encouraged Göering, Speer, Hess, Ribbentrop, Frank, Jodl, Keitel, Streicher, and the others to reveal their innermost thoughts. In the process Gilbert exposed what motivated them to create the distorted Aryan utopia and the nightmarish worlds of Auschwitz, Dachau, and Buchenwald. Here are their day-to-day reactions to the trial proceedings; their off-the-record opinions of Hitler, the Third Reich, and each other; their views on slave labor, death camps, and the Jews; their testimony, feuds, and desperate maneuverings to dissociate themselves from the Third Reich's defeat and Nazi guilt. Dr. Gilbert's thorough knowledge of German, deliberately informal approach, and complete freedom of access at all times to the defendants give his spellbinding, chilling study an intimacy and insight that remains unequaled.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In August 1945 Great Britain, France, the USSR and the United States established a tribunal at Nuremberg to try military and civilian leaders of the Nazi regime for the plotting of aggressive warfare, the extermination of civilian populations, the widespread use of slave labor, the looting of occupied countries, and the maltreatment and murder of prisoners of war. G. M. Gilbert was the prison psychologist before and during the Nuremberg trial. He had an unrivalled, firsthand opportunity to watch and question the Nazi war criminals. With scientific dispassion he encouraged

Goering, Speer, Hess Ribbentrop, Frank, Jodl, Keitel, Streicher, and the others to reveal their innermost thoughts.

G. M. Gilbert was the prison psychologist before and during the Nuremberg trial and is the author of The Psychology of Dictatorship.

Very interesting and informative. It helps to understand Hitler's associates as a person (the good, the bad, and the ugly) and to what extend many were sycophants and self-serving.

Very well written, easy to read if not an easy reading...Insightful report of conversations the author shared with prisoners: reader is able to understanding somewhat the psych of these Nazi "founding fathers"!!!! This book is very informative and author is doing its best to remain fairly objective with few opinions and comments on the characters of each interviewees... I have enjoied this book very much

Truly a great book for anyone interested in any way in the second world war. If you want to see what REALLY drove people to accept/participate in such terrible atrocities then stop reading this and order the friggin book already! From Goring and Streicher's non penance and "loyalty" to Speer's "common responsibility", Gilbert covered it all. Also there are quite a few great jabs that Gilbert takes at the "defendants" which, I think, millions since the end of the war have wanted to take on these "men". It seems strange that this book would have the ability to not only turn your stomach during one of Streicher's rants or Rosenberg's excuse speeches, but also to make you giggle at times with comments like "Hess is crazy" over and over to Speer's naming Goring "The fat one". All in all a great book that will keep you deep inside it even though you already now the outcome!

A compelling read. It was like cracking their heads open and seeing the real thought processes of mostly totally irrational and crazy men. The scary thing was that they appeared normal within their families. A little overwhelming to feel their evil, and evil it was.

This psychiatrist's observations add great insight into these diverse defendents. Everything from IQ to mental stability is examined in this book. It was an excellent read before my visit to Nuremberg. I also found Albert Speer's diary while in Spandau very informative reading. The recording of Report From Nuremberg, the Armed Forces Radio dispatches useful as well. I got it through Audible.

Very interesting as historical document. Disgusting to see the Nazi leaders blaming each other for their own actions in the atrocities. I never understood why Speer got away with 20 years inprisonment.

SO important that people understand what Nurenberg was all about, how the top officials in the Nazi government were apprehended, tried, and executed for their deeds during the Third Reich....they deserved death, and MORE, if that was possible.

Great book! Very well written and shows a glimpse into the minds of some of the greatest criminals this world has ever seen. It shows almost the ordinariness or banality of those who perpetrated the greatest crime in world history.

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