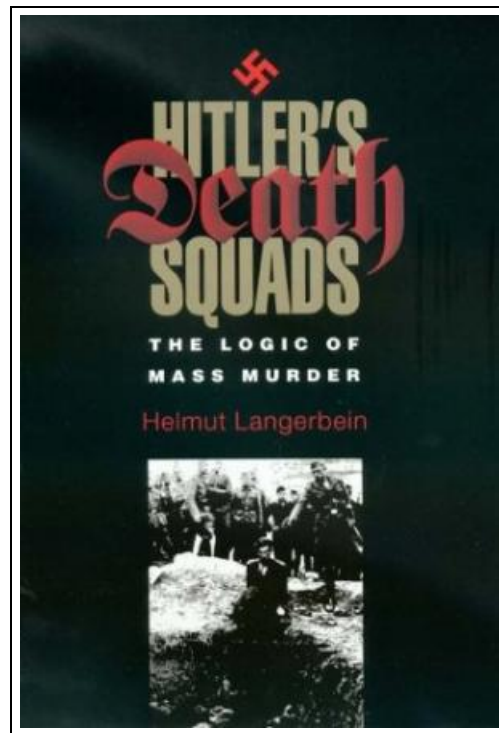


Hitler s Death Squads: The Logic of Mass Murder (Hardback)



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Reviews

It in one of the best book. Better then never, though i am quite late in start reading this one. You wont feel monotony at at any moment of the time (that's what catalogues are for regarding in the event you check with me).
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HITLER'S DEATH SQUADS: THE LOGIC OF MASS MURDER (HARDBACK)

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Texas A M University Press, United States, 2003. Hardback. Condition: New. New. Language: English . Brand New Book. In the preparations for the German invasion of the Soviet Union, special units known as the Einsatzgruppen were formed with the special charge of executing Jews, communists and members of other targeted groups. Drawn from the SS, the SD and the Gestapo, members of the Einsatzgruppen had the reputation of being the most cold-blooded of all Nazi killers. After the war, the German government investigated 1770 former Einsatzgruppen members and brought 136 of these men to trial. Helmut Langerbein has systematically examined the trial evidence in search of characteristics shared by these mass murderers. Using a much broader data base than earlier studies, Langerbein identifies a number of factors that could explain their actions, illustrating each with a particular person or group of officers. Particular traits and degrees of anti-Semitism, self-aggrandizement, sense of duty to obey superiors and peer pressure may each have played a role in the cases of individual officers, but Langerbein concludes that the only characteristic common to all his subjects was the war itself. It was above all the extraordinary circumstances and brutality of the Eastern Front that shaped their behaviour. Given the extent of its data, its detailed analysis and its careful conclusions, Hitler's Death Squads will push historians and psychologists toward a reappraisal of the Nazi killing machine, the behaviour of the men behind the battle lines, and the overwhelming power of circumstance. Langerbein's chilling conclusions, which challenge the leading theories explaining why people commit mass murder, should be of interest to those concerned with World War II, the Holocaust, Eastern Europe, warfare, war crimes, genocide and human behaviour.

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