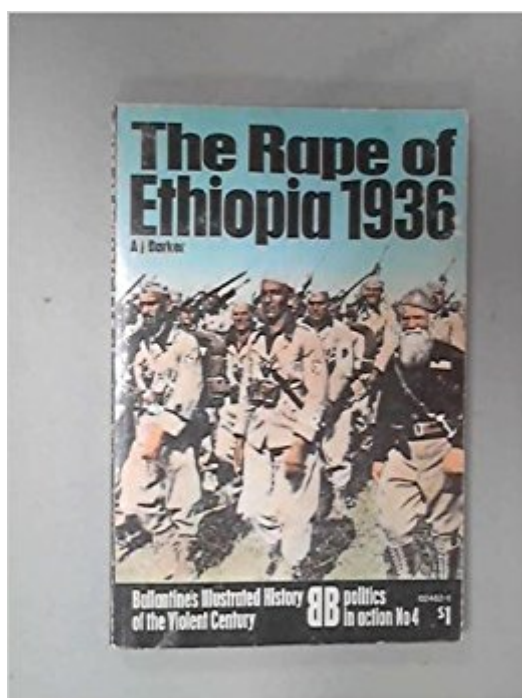


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Rape Of Ethiopia, 1936 (Ballantine's Illustrated History Of The Violent Century. Politics In Action)



Synopsis

The League of Nations "noted" and "deplored" the act of fascist aggression, while the bombers sprayed mustard gas and fighters machine-gunned the fleeing survivors of the Ethiopian army. This is the story.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The League of Nations "noted" and "deplored" the act of fascist aggression, while the bombers sprayed mustard gas and fighters machine-gunned the fleeing survivors of the Ethiopian army. This is the story.

Expertly written, concise coverage of an incident that should have warned everyone that world war was around the corner. The war marked the decline and fall of the League of Nations as a force for peace in the world.

This book is an excellent source of information about an obscure historical event with profound historical implications. In an effort to build an empire and to find an outlet for Italy's growing population, Mussolini invaded Ethiopia. The Italians used tanks, bombers and poison gas against barefoot tribesmen. Adolf Hitler watched closely at the indifference of the European powers. He learned first hand that there were no repercussions to aggression. If other countries had intervened on Ethiopia's behalf perhaps the Second World War would have been prevented. This book is well written and well researched. The rare photographs alone are worth the price of the book.

This is a good compilation of events related to the 2nd Italo-Abyssinian War of the 1930's. There are plenty of stories backed by photos and field accounts by various sources. I have joined a lot reading it.

I love reading about items that somehow miss everybody's attention. This explains a tragedy of incredible proportions perpetrated by Italy on a backward people. Excellent read for historians.

Smooth transaction item excellent thank you.

I used this book as research for a novel. It was very helpful, especially the pictures. Most of us have long forgotten this war, but it was just as much a harbinger of WWII as was the civil war in Spain.

McDonald Publishing and the Imperial War Museum teamed up back in the late 1960s and early 1970s to publish this tight series of illustrated paperbacks on the history of World War I, World War II (and a few other conflicts of the 20th century), which were picked up by Ballantine in the United States. They were all divided into subjects: battles, campaigns, weapons, war leaders, politics in action, human conflict, and regalia, by color bands on the bottom, enjoying common editing and artwork, and a fairly common collection of well-known historians. They cost \$1 at the time (a good deal of money) and a lot more now (being out of print). The series as a whole is slightly outdated by the disclosures from Allied codebreaking, and suffered from being whipped together in a hurry, but they remain then and now a fine introduction to conflict in the 20th century -- if you can find them. A.J. Barker is a veteran military historian, with piles of books on various subjects, and the volume on the Italian invasion of Ethiopia is a well-researched and highly comprehensive account of an extremely important but mostly forgotten event in history, which showed the weakness of the major democracies in the face of aggressive Fascism, their hypocritical and self-serving racism in action, and the overbearing violence of Fascism. The Italian invasion of Ethiopia was a military mismatch -- Ethiopia's ragged armies could not compete with Italy's massive air force, armored vehicles, and poison gas. But the Ethiopians fought hard and with unmatched courage for their homes against an invader that didn't hesitate to use poison gas and flamethrowers. Ultimately Ethiopia fell, and Emperor Haile Selassie's pleas for help were applauded, respected, and ignored. An empowered Benito Mussolini and Adolf Hitler, seeing the West's flabby response, began to march -- Hitler into the Rhineland, Austria, and the Sudetenland, Mussolini into Albania. The Axis

powers united in alliance and aggression. A.J. Barker's prose is fast-moving and detailed without losing sight of the big picture. The photo captions are detailed and well-tied to the text. The tragic impact of the war is well-shown as are the political failures of the other major powers. The book includes the liberation of Ethiopia in 1941, by British and Ethiopian troops, and the reparations bill Italy had to pay after the war. One thing left out is Haile Selassie's "Golden Declaration" of 1941, when he re-entered Addis Ababa, which declared a pardon for Italian civilians living in the country, who had been sent there either as settlers, businessmen, or builders and administrators. The Lion of Judah recognized that these individuals were victims of their Duce's arrogance, and it was fruitless and unnecessarily vindictive to punish a man for running a business that employed Ethiopians, an engineer who had built roads to connect his nation's communities, or a schoolmaster who had tried to make his children literate. As it turned out, numerous Italians would stay on after 1945, often to continue their businesses or operate their farms. It is pleasant to note that 80 years later, Italy remains a major investor in Ethiopia and the two countries are cooperating on building a major hydroelectric dam. Reconciliation is possible. But the reconciliation would not have been necessary without the ghastly acts that Mussolini perpetrated on this country, and the book is a great introduction to one of the most tragic and appalling acts of aggression in world history.

I read this book here, in Brazil. I'm an agronomist and I like to read books. About the "Rape" of Ethiopia, by fascist Italy, this book is concise and good. I read it about twenty years ago, and I still have this book. This book also has many photos, all of them B&W photos. This book is very easy to read and understand. In fact, I read all of it, in less than four hours. I'm not an expert about this subject. In my opinion, the main failure of this book is to be a little biased. This book isn't pro-facist. The main failure of this book is to almost forget, the terrible fact of this "rape" had so many supporters, outside Nazi Germany and Italy. Really, there were some sanctions, but as this book shows, they were, all weak and only for a small period of time. In fact, this out of time colonial war, was the last to be done in Africa. At that time, we must not forget, the fact of so many famous and respected Americans such as Wilbur Wright, Charles A. Lindbergh, Dr. Morris Fishbein (AMA's president and Jew), etc. were eugenicists. The support or even more, the "washing hands" for this brutal war and "rape", was enormous in USA, England and Canada. If you don't believe, remember the fact, that after this "rape" the sanctions became over and commercial relations, between Italy and USA or England return to normal. In 1940, Winston Churchill sent a message to Mussolini, giving to him, some parts of Africa as an exchange, to Italy's neutrality in World War II. Even having these very small failures, this book is concise and good as an overview, about this subject.

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