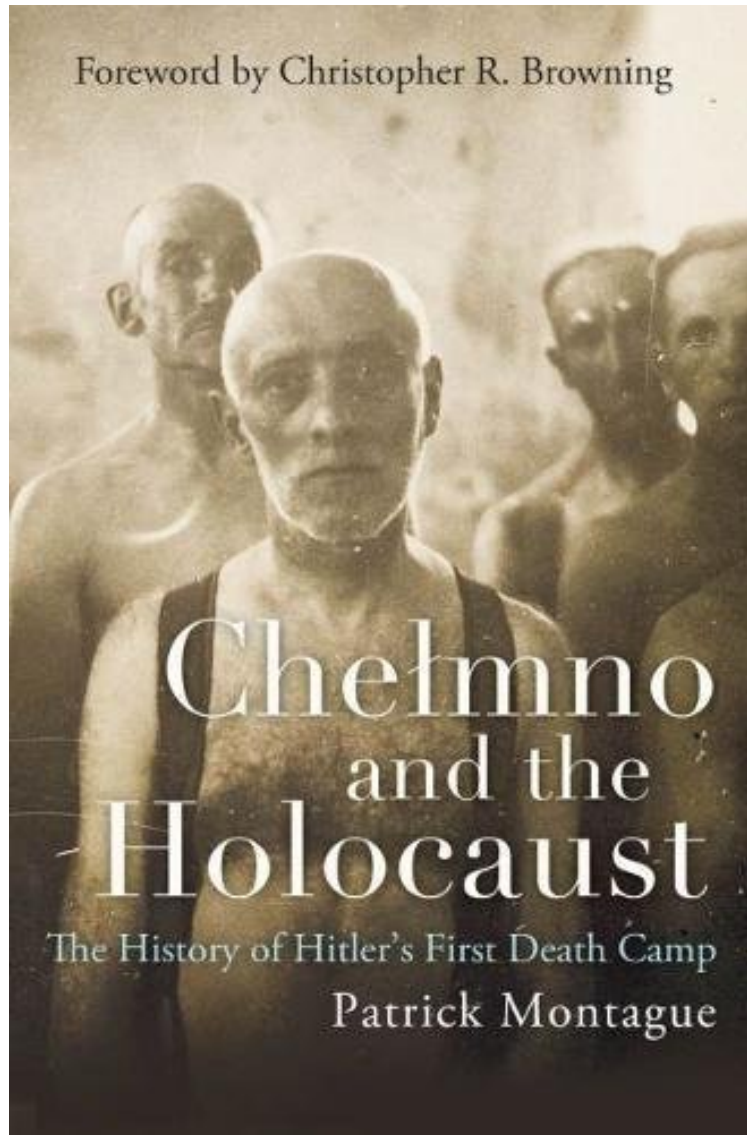


[Free] Chemno and the Holocaust: The History of Hitler's First Death Camp

Chemno and the Holocaust: The History of Hitler's First Death Camp

Patrick Montague

**Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#610500 in Books Patrick Montague 2012-03-19 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.20 x 1.30 x 6.30, 1.45
#File Name: 0807835277416 pages Chemno and the Holocaust A History of Hitler's First Death Camp | File
size: 74.Mb

Patrick Montague : Chemno and the Holocaust: The History of Hitler's First Death Camp before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chemno and the Holocaust: The History of Hitler's First Death Camp:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Exceptional
 By Paul
 There is so little written about Chelmno that this book is a peerless contribution to the literature -- certainly to literature that is accessible to people outside of formal Holocaust scholarship. The details provided by survivor testimonies are incredibly useful in understanding both the operations and the tragedy of this place. Also useful is the role of Chelmno (and the environment of the Warthegau and the Lodz ghetto) in particular in showing how the Holocaust was not *only* a creation of Himmler and the SS. Greiser, for instance, was the governor of the Warthegau, not an SS functionary. Hans Biebow was civil administrator of the Lodz ghetto, but he was as much of a sadist and a butcher as anyone in the SS. The book shows how the "final solution" was really a coalescence of local genocidal policies -- because Chelmno was never envisioned as a total solution to the European Jewish "problem". Nor were the Operation Reinhard camps, and nor were the Einsatzgruppen activities. They were all genocidal policies meant to solve "local" problems. Finally, the inseparability of the euthanasia program from the Holocaust is very evident in this book. Lange and his gas vans were a roving euthanasia clinic -- and then seamlessly morphed into a roving killer of Jews, before he finally settled down at Chelmno. This book really complements Yitzhak Arad's book about the Operation Reinhard camps, which performs a similar role for Treblinka, Sobibor, and Belzec. I would argue that it is indispensable for anyone trying to get a detailed understanding of the Nazi killing machine.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Belongs in EVERY Library of Holocaust Works
 By Kayla Rigney
 This book is currently one the the best in print that thoroughly explores the evolution of Aktion T-4 into the Final Solution. I cannot recommend it highly enough. As a Disability Historian and a Holocaust Scholar, my area of knowledge is Aktion T-4. T-4 was the Nazi programme of "euthanasia" against the disabled and mentally ill. From the beginning, Hitler wanted to empty hospitals and convalescent homes of so-called "useless eaters" and "life unworthy of life" to make room for the wounded of the coming war. By taking Negative Eugenics to its logical and fatal conclusion, Hitler and the Nazi Party took the vile step of exterminating those it deemed "inferior." At first, Aktion T-4 was limited in scope to so-called Aryan children but quickly expanded to include teenagers and adults with treatable disabilities and mental illnesses. With remarkable speed, the disabled and mentally ill of Germany, Austria, and France were rounded-up, sent from their home hospitals/institutions to centralized Killing Centers and gassed. Some scholars believe T-4 stopped "officially" because there was genuine and unexpected protest against the killings; but others believe it stopped because a target number of deaths had been reached. Either way, the Nazis were nothing if not efficient. *Chelmno and the Holocaust: The History of Hitler's First Death Camp* makes it clear that not only did T-4 morph into the Final Solution, at times the two programmes overlapped. The staff of T-4 was trained in Killing Centers, and then transferred and relocated to help create and then streamline the assembly line system of extermination used in the Death Camps. It's no coincidence that both T-4 Killing Centers and the Death Camps and later concentration camps used gas chambers to murder. The T-4 Staff took what they'd learned murdering the disabled and mentally ill applied it to Nazi Racial Policy. Chelmno is the place became T-4 *became* the Final Solution. This has never been discussed and documented so completely in any English language work. I bought *Chelmno and the Holocaust* for its documentation of the use of T-4 in Poland. I will reread it yearly as I do *Death and Deliverance* by Burleigh and Schmidt's biography of Karl Brandt. It's THAT important. We, as a society and as human beings, cannot forget that hatred of Difference, the Other and those we marginalize leads to death.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The most complete book about Hitlers most forgotten deathcamp
 By Ben de Witte
 Chelmno ("nad Nerem" in Polish), called "Kulmhof" in German is a great book with descriptions and testimonies about Hitlers most forgotten Deathcamp. And the only ones of these awful camps where Jews and, in a lesser scale, Gypsies were murdered in vans by means of their exhaustgases. It is the best and most complete book about Chelmno I ever read.

As the first extermination camp established by the Nazi regime and the prototype of the single-purpose death camps of Treblinka, Sobibor, and Belzec, the Chelmno death camp stands as a crucial but largely unexplored element of the Holocaust. This book is the first comprehensive work in any language to detail all aspects of the camp's history, organization, and operations and to remedy the dearth of information in Holocaust literature about Chelmno, which served as a template for the Nazis' "Final Solution." Patrick Montague reveals events leading to the establishment of the camp, how the mobile killing squad employed the world's first gas van to terminate the lives of mentally-ill patients, and the assembly-line procedure employed in the camp to commit genocide on the Jewish population. Based on over 20 years of careful research, this book provides the first single-volume history of the camp and its handful of survivors and includes previously unpublished first-hand accounts and photographs. Chelmno and the Holocaust is a vital contribution to a critically important chapter in the history of the Holocaust.

A definitive work. Essential. All levels/libraries.--Choice
 [Montague's] claim for this book as the first 'comprehensive history' of this least-known killing center is no exaggeration; this volume will be the standard work on its subject in the years to come.--Holocaust and Genocide Studies
 [A] prodigious work of scholarship. . . . In chronicling the history of the first Nazi extermination camp at Chelmno, Montague shows how the camp broke the psychological barrier for establishing subsequent factories of death, and became the model for death camps such as Treblinka and Auschwitz.--

Jewish Book WorldMontague's work deserves all of the acclaim it has earned. . . . A fantastic study of history's least-known death camp.--H-GermanMuch more than a mere summary enriched with some new details from archival findings. Montague has a Dantesque story to tell: it is the story of Chelmno and its immediate surroundings as an apocalyptic murder scene where German perpetrators, Jewish and Roma inmates, and Polish laborers met on a daily basis. . . . [Montague's book is] an altogether remarkable, informative, readable, and well-edited book.--American Historical Exceptionally detailed and conscientiously researched. . . . Montague's book is a major addition to the literature of the Holocaust--thorough, fearless, and filling a substantial void. . . . Chelmno and the Holocaust is a "must read" for serious students of this unimaginable period.--Martyrdom Resistance Through assiduous research into new sources, Patrick Montague gives a chilling account of the Chelmno camp, from its unusual topography to its terrible death toll to its overall horror. He further reconstructs Nazi extermination policies in the Warthegau, the German-annexed territory which Chelmno was to serve, while analyzing the camp's German personnel as well as the Poles and Jews who served in its nightmarish work detachments. In all, Chelmno and the Holocaust is an essential addition to Holocaust scholarship.--Norman J. W. Goda, University of FloridaChelmno is a subject that is relatively underrepresented in the growing literature in Holocaust studies in general and histories of the camps in particular. This book provides a very useful addition to the English language historiography and will be a valuable reference work for historians interested in knowing more about the evolution of the Chelmno camp. It is well written and packed with detail.--Tim Cole, Bristol UniversityChelmno and the Holocaust is very well researched and presents in highly accessible form a significant amount of new material. Patrick Montague gives much attention to the Jewish victims of Chelmno, but also explores in greater depth the background, motives, and behavior of the SS men, their local ethnic German auxiliaries and, in particular, the group of Polish former prisoners who were deployed as helpers and who turned into collaborators. This will become the standard work on the killing site at Chelmno.--David Cesarani, Royal Holloway, University of LondonFrom the Inside FlapAs the first extermination camp established by the Nazi regime, the Chelmno death camp stands as a crucial but largely unexplored element of the Holocaust. This book is the first comprehensive work in any language to detail all aspects of the camp's history, organization, and operations and to remedy the dearth of information in Holocaust literature about Chelmno, which served as a template for the Nazis' "Final Solution." Includes previously unpublished first-hand accounts and photographs.