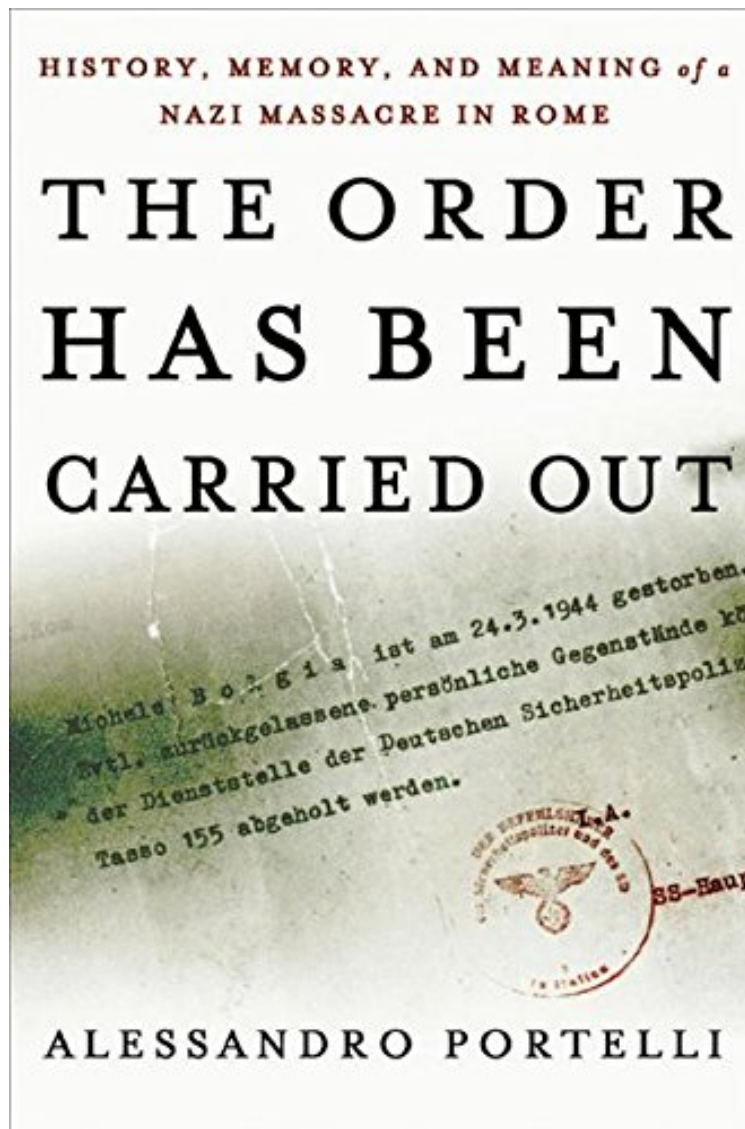


[Library ebook] The Order Has Been Carried Out: History, Memory, and Meaning of a Nazi Massacre in Rome (Palgrave Studies in Oral History)

The Order Has Been Carried Out: History, Memory, and Meaning of a Nazi Massacre in Rome (Palgrave Studies in Oral History)

Alessandro Portelli

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Alessandro Portelli : The Order Has Been Carried Out: History, Memory, and Meaning of a Nazi Massacre in Rome (Palgrave Studies in Oral History) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Order Has Been Carried Out: History, Memory, and Meaning of a Nazi Massacre in Rome (Palgrave Studies in Oral History):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I want to go back to Rome and visit every village that was involved. By minniehaha I read an article in the Boston Globe re: Pope FRANCIS would not allow ex-Nazi to be buried in a Catholic service. I found the book with . Wonderful book, horrifying once again how the Germans did what they did. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Amazing read! By Addict Great historical read that provided information and historical reference for a recent trip to Italy! 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Deeply Moving By August Reader It is horrifying to hear this story as told by those who lived its pain. As I say this, I think "please read it" so we don't let it happen again. I was moved to tears by some of the first hand accounts of the massacre. It is a stellar academic work. The only reason I gave it four stars was this...it reads slowly and slightly repetitively. I read more fiction (historical fiction is the best), so I am used to a faster pace.

On March 24, 1944, Nazi occupation forces in Rome killed 335 unarmed civilians in retaliation for a partisan attack the day before. Portelli has crafted an eloquent, multi-voiced oral history of the massacre, of its background and its aftermath. The moving stories of the victims, the women and children who survived and carried on, the partisans who fought the Nazis, and the common people who lived through the tragedies of the war together paint a many-hued portrait of one of the world's most richly historical cities. *The Order Has Been Carried Out* powerfully relates the struggles for freedom under Fascism and Nazism, the battles for memory in post-war democracy, and the meanings of death and grief in modern society.

From Publishers Weekly A valuable addition to the literature on the Ardeatine Caves Massacre, this dense oral history is definitely intended for the serious student of Italian affairs. On March 24, 1944, the Germans executed 335 Romans in retaliation for a Resistance attack that left 32 German military policemen and a few civilians dead. The executed Romans included Resistance fighters, prisoners already under sentence, Jews, civil servants, managers, students, scholars, workers and men scooped up off the street. For this volume, Portelli, a teacher of American literature at the University of Rome, has compiled dozens of recollections of the massacre, and of the war and post-war years, from a myriad of survivors. Gabriella Polli, for example, describes how many of the war widows were suddenly forced to go to work to support their families; Piero Terracina recounts how he was expelled from school for being Jewish. The personal testimonials argue strongly against many of the contemporary accusations against the Resistance (e.g., that their leaders failed to turn themselves in, which some believe might have prevented brutal German reprisal). Readers who don't already know some Italian history may find the postwar sections difficult to follow, and the author acknowledges that his own politics are Leftist. Nonetheless, this volume is a useful piece of both history and historiography. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "An extremely readable book. Portelli's work is to be valued not only for the light it casts on an important moment in the history of the Italian Resistance, but also for what it has to say about the history of the working classes in Rome." - *Journal of Modern Italian Studies* "Alessandro Portelli's *The Order Has Been Carried Out* is a major work by a scholar who has already helped to form the field of oral history. It is an intricate and compelling account of one of the central events of the German occupation of Rome during World War II, a partisan attack followed by a retaliatory Nazi massacre. Portelli manages to show how an historic event which is supposedly very well-known has in fact been largely hidden under layers of mystification during its constant telling and retelling." - Alexander Stille, author of *Future of the Past* "Alessandro Portelli, one of the most creative interpreters of oral testimony, explores again the complex intersection of memory, history, consciousness, and ideology, this time in the context of a Nazi massacre in the city of Rome in 1944. What is so startling about the work is the subtle and respectful manner in which the voices of those for whom the memory remains a deep personal scar is interwoven with those for whom the events are simply history. Only someone with the talents of Portelli could weave this kind of textured narrative that highlights the dual nature of the interviewing experience and the ways in which such testimony acts as a text within the continuing discourse about the human condition." - Ronald J. Grele, Former Director, Columbia University Oral History Research Office "This is a remarkable and innovative exploration at the intersection of personal experience, memory, and history. Portelli raises original and profound issues in theory and practice of history-making while letting participants speak their own minds. We join his subjects in reflecting on what it means when loved ones die at the wrong time and in the wrong place, when the causes for which they died fade from memory into history." - David Thelen, Indiana University "In contrast to his well-known volumes of collected essays, Alessandro Portelli's *The Order Has Been Carried Out* is a sustained book-length history-yet one that draws on and extends the qualities that have earned his earlier work international acclaim. Analytically, meditatively, passionately, and poetically, Portelli explores and documents, as fact and as memory, an episode critical to the history of Italy and World War II and to the postwar world right down to the present. Offering a movingly contemporary meditation on war, death, violence, and political struggle, *The Order Has Been Carried Out* reminds us that oral history matters because it demonstrates how the past and present necessarily, if not comfortably, live together within all of us." - Michael Frisch, Professor of History, University at Buffalo, State University of New York In this, his masterpiece, Alessandro Portelli restores memory, and with it oral history, to its proper role in reconstructing the meaning of historical events. Through the telling of a Nazi

massacre in Rome during World War II, we have been given a universal story that will permanently change our way of thinking about our past and ourselves -as witnesses and actors in a world increasingly plagued by what Portelli calls the "symmetry" of violence and retribution. - Mary Marshall Clark, Director, the Columbia University Oral History Research Office

About the Author Alessandro Portelli is Professor of American Literature at the University of Rome-La Sapienza. He is the author of *The Death of Luigi Trastulli: Form and Meaning in Oral History*; *The Text and the Voice: Speaking, Writing, and Democracy in American Literature*; *The Battle of Valle Giulia: Oral History and the Art of Dialogue*; and *The Order Has Already Been Carried Out: History, Memory and Meaning of a Nazi Massacre in Rome*.