

10-1-2001

Review of Interrogations: the Nazi elite in Allied hands

Michael F. Russo

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College, mrusso1@lsu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.lsu.edu/libraries_pubs

 Part of the [European History Commons](#), [Holocaust and Genocide Studies Commons](#), [Military History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Russo, Michael F., "Review of Interrogations: the Nazi elite in Allied hands" (2001). *Faculty Publications*. 67.
https://digitalcommons.lsu.edu/libraries_pubs/67

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the LSU Libraries at LSU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Publications by an authorized administrator of LSU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact gcoste1@lsu.edu.

LJ Review Cover Sheet and Survey

Your name: Michael F. Russo

Your affiliation: Louisiana State University Libraries—Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Phone: (225) 578-6823

E-mail address: mrusso1@lsu.edu

Title of the book: *Interrogations: The Nazi Elite in Allied Hands, 1945*

Author or editor of the book: Richard Overy

This book is recommended for: academic libraries

Comments for your editor: It has been interesting to read about the Germans in World War II. I was wondering if it would be possible to switch gears a bit and read some British history (not necessarily with respect to World War II exclusively) or some biographies.)

Review

Author: Richard Overy

Title: *Interrogations: The Nazi Elite in Allied Hands, 1945*

Publisher: Viking

Release date: October 15, 2001

Number of pages: 652 pages.

Features: Photographs

Format: (Hard cover)

ISBN: 0-670-03008-2

Price: \$32.95

Desperate rats will devour one another to survive. At the end of World War II, the members of the captured Nazi hierarchy were indeed desperate to survive. Craven and cringing, they dissembled with their captors, attempting to sacrifice each other to escape inescapable guilt.

As historian Richard Overy (*Russia's War*) points out, though there was never any doubt of the criminality of the Nazi regime, subjecting that regime to judicial process was very risky: if the case were not proven, the accused might actually go free.

Overy's work presents excerpts of the pretrial interrogations that provided the Allies with much of the information they needed to convict those responsible for the war and its atrocities. The interrogations and the illuminating commentary that accompanies each paint a picture of the leaders of the "master race" as weak-willed cowards. It was typical for the primary defendants to deny responsibility for barbarity that occurred right under their noses or to feign incredulity that such fantastic cruelty could even occur.

Copiously annotated and supported by an extensive bibliography, *Interrogations* is highly recommended, especially for academic libraries with a strong emphasis on twentieth century or military history.

Michael F. Russo

Louisiana State University Libraries

Baton Rouge, Louisiana