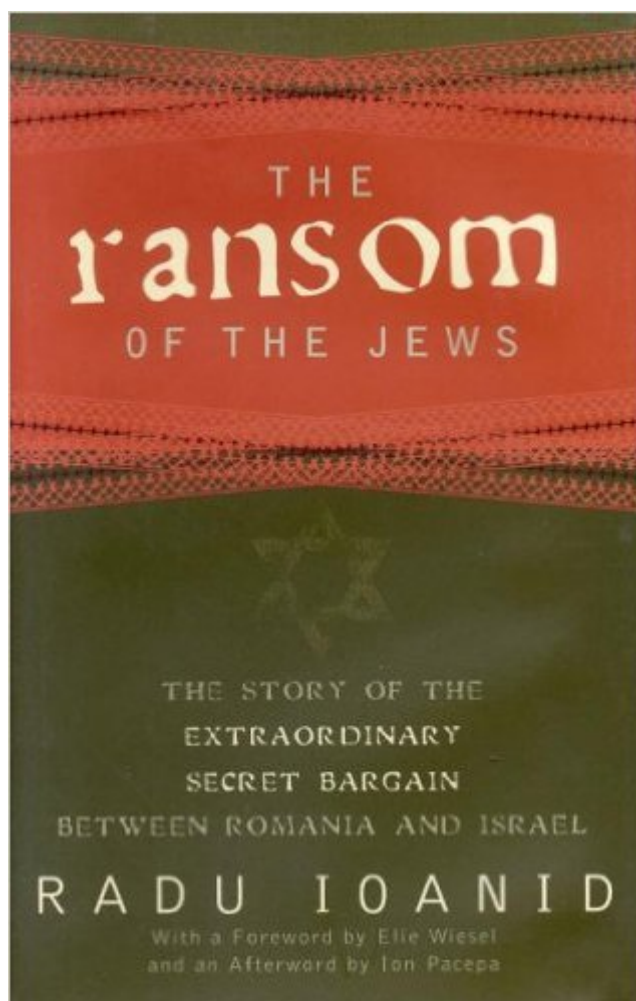


The book was found

The Ransom Of The Jews: The Story Of Extraordinary Secret Bargain Between Romania And Israel



Synopsis

After 1948, the 370,000 surviving Jews of Romania became one of the main sources of immigration for the new state of Israel. With the exception of a period in the early 1950s, almost all Romanian Jews left their homeland in several waves to settle in Palestine and Israel. Behind Romania's decision to allow its Jews to leave were practical economic and political reasons: Israel paid for them, and Romania wanted influence in the Middle East. The trade satisfied both states and is still considered a highly confidential matter. In *The Ransom of the Jews*, Radu Ioanid of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum traces the intriguing story of this secret exchange. Drawing upon restricted archival records and interviews with agents and others directly involved in the operation, he describes how Israel—*not without second thoughts*—traded cash, agricultural products, and sometimes political influence to ensure the emigration of Jews from Romania. The price was \$2,000 to \$3,300 per head, and also involved trade and loan considerations. This privileged relationship between the two countries allowed Israel after 1967 to maintain in Bucharest its only embassy in the East European Communist bloc. It also permitted Nicolae Ceausescu, the anti-Semitic Romanian president, to emerge as a mediator in the Middle East peace process, in which he hoped to use Israel to improve his own relations with the United States. In 1978, during the Jimmy Carter administration, Mr. Ioanid reveals, Washington learned of the sale of Romanian Jews to Israel but turned its eyes for reasons ostensibly related to its policies toward the Soviet Union. In all, some 235,000 Jews emigrated from Romania to Israel under the agreement, which ended with the fall of the Ceausescu regime.

Book Information

Hardcover: 244 pages

Publisher: Ivan R. Dee (January 13, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1566635624

ISBN-13: 978-1566635622

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 0.9 x 8.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars— See all reviews— (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,840,620 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #102 in— Books > History >

Europe > Romania #1712 in— Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Middle East #2308

in— Books > History > Middle East > Israel & Palestine

Customer Reviews

I don't think the core issue of this book - the fact that Romania demanded payments from Israel and West Germany for allowing emigration during its Communist regime(s) - will really surprise or shock anyone today. Indignation too seems somewhat idle. Those were aberrant times, but does history ever really stop being aberrant? Thankfully, the author - a historian - understands this well. This is a good book because it never rests in contemplation of its discoveries, never tells us what it thinks of them. In contrast, Ion Mihai Pacepa, the famous defecting general, pathetically abandons himself to lament in the awful afterword he was allowed to write. Not once does he refer to the deals of his former supervisors (Gheorghiu Dej and Ceausescu) without frantically seeking for the most damning adjectives: despicable, hideous... Let's be straight: General Pacepa is an invaluable resource for this book but at the same time he is one of its aberrant characters. He waits for the therapeutic mud to crack on Ceausescu's naked body while strolling with him 'along the restricted presidential shore of Lake Techirgiol', and six days later is 'magnanimously granted political asylum by the United States government' - whereupon Ceausescu tears his shirt screaming hysterically that he cannot even trust the shirt he's wearing (how could he, he was naked with his traitor less than a week ago). Of much less anecdotal value is Pacepa's condemnation of the 'hideous sale of Jews'.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Ransom of the Jews: The Story of Extraordinary Secret Bargain Between Romania and Israel
Israel Betrayed: How the Democrats, J Street, and the Jewish Left have Undermined Israel and why
a President Hillary Clinton would be Disastrous for Israel ROMANIA EXPLAINED TO MY FRIENDS
ABROAD: TAKE AWAY ROMANIA Romanian Gypsies: 9 true stories about what it's like to be a
Gypsy in Romania (Romania Explained To My Friends Abroad Book 3) ROMANIA Country Studies:
A brief, comprehensive study of Romania Holy Serpent of the Jews: The Rabbis' Secret Plan for
Satan to Crush Their Enemies and Vault the Jews to Global Dominion The Holocaust in Romania:
The Destruction of Jews and Gypsies Under the Antonescu Regime, 1940-1944 Buried in the Sky:
The Extraordinary Story of the Sherpa Climbers on K2's Deadliest Day: The Extraordinary Story of
the Sherpa Climbers on K2's Deadliest Day Countrymen: The Untold Story of How Denmark's Jews
Escaped the Nazis, of the Courage of Their Fellow Danes--and of the Extraordinary Role of the SS
The Foods of Israel Today: More than 300 Recipes--and Memories--Reflecting Israel's Past and
Present Through Its Many Cuisines Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility -- Iran, Israel, and
U.S. Foreign Policy (Iran, Israel and U.S. Foreign Policy Book 39) Reproducing Jews: A Cultural
Account of Assisted Conception in Israel (Body, Commodity, Text) Secrets and Truths: Ethnography

in the Archive of Romania's Secret Police (The Natalie Zemon Davis Annual Lecture Series Book 7)
The Regulation Game: How British and West German Companies Bargain With Government EBAY
Auction Power: The Crafters 9-Step Guide To Avoid Bargain Hunters, Ensure Dramatic Bidding &
Achieve Ultra Premium Prices The Bargain The Highlander's Bargain (The Novels of Loch Moigh
Book 2) Poetic Trespass: Writing between Hebrew and Arabic in Israel/Palestine LIST SERIES:
JAMES ROLLINS: SERIES READING ORDER: SIGMA FORCE BOOKS, THE BANNED AND THE
BANISHED BOOKS, GODSLAYER BOOKS, JAKE RANSOM BOOKS, TUCKER WAYNE BOOKS,
STANDALONE NOVELS BY JAMES ROLLINS The Ransom of the Soul: Afterlife and Wealth in
Early Western Christianity

[Dmca](#)