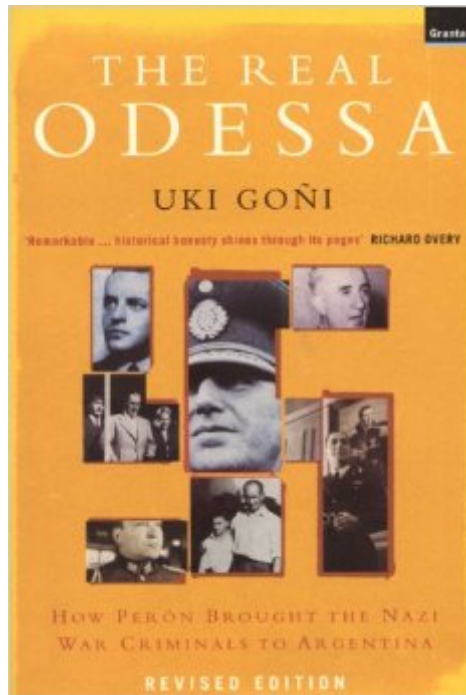


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The Real Odessa: How Peron Brought The Nazi War Criminals To Argentina



Synopsis

Drawing on American and European intelligence documents, Uki Goni shows how from 1946 onward a Nazi escape operation was based at the presidential palace in Buenos Aires, harboring such war criminals as Adolf Eichmann and Josef Mengele. Goni uncovers an elaborate network that relied on the complicity of the Vatican, the Argentine Catholic Church, and the Swiss authorities. The discoveries made in this meticulously researched book reveal the entangled web of the Nazi regime and its sympathizers and has prompted Argentine officials to demand closed files on the Nazi era from their current government.

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Customer Reviews

It is getting dark in the Alps. A night trip begins. The journey starts from the local Church in the town of Vinaders close to Innsbruck in Austria. The path is exhausting and steep going through the Alps. First you reach the Italian border, and then descend to Brennerbad and reach the local Church there. This might sound like the kind of adventurous hike organized by a local tourist agency today. In 1945 as the Second World War came to an end, this night hike was undertaken many times by travelers who were in fact Nazi war criminals. They were guided by members of a secret agency soon to be known as the ODESSA. Their aim was to escape from justice and head for freedom in Latin America. Hardcore Nazis, Ustashi, Belgian Nazis and Slovaks were among the many fugitives who, as Uki Goni reveals in his book "The Real ODESSA", escaped from war-torn Europe for a new life and a new identity in Argentina and, later on, countries such as Paraguay and

Uruguay. Since the end of the war, the subject of how Nazi war criminals were smuggled into South America has been speculated over by journalists, historians and even fictional writers, notably Frederick Forsyth in his novel "The ODESSA File". "The Real ODESSA" is one of the first books to describe in detail the inner workings of this secret organization, the existence of which has been denied for many years. The night trip mentioned above is one such detail revealed by the Argentine-born author who describes other similar escape routes or "ratlines." Perhaps the most revealing aspects of Goni's book are to do with the collaboration of the Argentinian government, led by President Juan Peron, and the fleeing Nazis, who found a safe haven in Argentina and some of the surrounding countries.

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