



Nazi Science: Myth, Truth, And The German Atomic Bomb

By Mark Walker

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In this book, Mark Walker - a historical scholar of Nazi science - brings to light the overwhelming impact of Hitler's regime on science and, ultimately, on the pursuit of the German atomic bomb. Walker meticulously draws on hundreds of original documents to examine the role of German scientists in the rise and fall of the Third Reich. He investigates whether most German scientists during Hitler's regime enthusiastically embraced the tenets of National Socialism or cooperated in a Faustian pact for financial support, which contributed to National Socialism's running rampant and culminated in the rape of Europe and the genocide of millions of Jews. This work unravels the myths and controversies surrounding Hitler's atomic bomb project. It provides a look at what surprisingly turned out to be an Achilles' heel for Hitler - the misuse of science and scientists in the service of the Third Reich. In this highly significant book, Mark Walker - a historical scholar of Nazi science - brings to light the overwhelming impact of Hitler's regime on science and, ultimately, on the pursuit of the German atomic bomb. Walker meticulously draws on hundreds of original documents to examine the role of German scientist in the rise and fall of the Third Reich.

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Nazi Science: Myth, Truth, And The German Atomic Bomb By Mark Walker Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1462071 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Basic Books
- Published on: 2001-08-07
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.25" h x .84" w x 5.50" l, .97 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 336 pages



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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Walker's (German National Socialism and the Quest for Nuclear Power, 1939-1949, Cambridge Univ. Pr., 1989) latest work examines whether most German scientists during Hitler's Third Reich embraced Nazi tenets or entered into a "Faustian pact" for financial support. One intriguing portion of the book deals with the German atomic bomb: "The German atom bomb is like the unicorn. It never really existed." "Hitler's bomb" has spawned a strong debate that should be of interest to anyone studying the questions raised by Nazi Germany. One side states that if there had been a bomb, the core of German scientists would have kept it away from Hitler. The other side states that the German scientists involved would have done whatever was necessary to win the war. Walker shows how the debate continues to be relevant today. Although scholarly, this will be accessible to general readers. Recommended for all academic and large public libraries.

Dennis L. Noble, Sequim, Wash.

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From the Back Cover

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