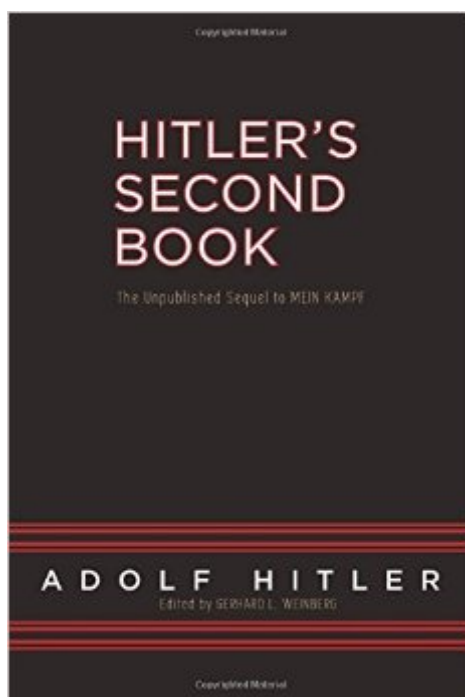


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Hitler's Second Book: The Unpublished Sequel To Mein Kampf



Synopsis

"Provides a valuable insight into the development of ideas that were to shape Hitler's foreign policy after 1933."•Jeremy Noakes, The Times Literary Supplement•The text bears all of Hitler's hallmarks, along with a terrifying, sustained belief in war and violence as a means to ensure that Germany would flourish.â •Publishers Weekly•He envisaged the German people becoming involved in a series of wars for Lebensraum culminating in an epic battle against America.â •Michael Smith, Daily Telegraph•The Second Book is in many ways more important than Mein Kampf.â •Guardian•I have never known anyone to say this is a forged document.â •Volker Berghahn, The New York Times•Hitler admires the young, racially select American people and the nation's restrictive immigration policies at the time.â •The New York Times•Far more than Mein Kampf, the Second Book establishes the grandiose scale of Hitler's ambitions.â •Dennis Showalter, Colorado College•More clearly than ever, Hitler sketched out the worldwide struggle against the Jews which he and his party had to lead.â •Richard Overy, Guardian•Hitler's Second Book is the first complete and annotated edition of the manuscript Hitler dictated shortly before his rise to power four years after publishing Mein Kampf. It contains a catalog of shocking policy statements and previously undisclosed plans of world conquest at the core of Nazi ideology that Hitler concluded were too provocative for publication.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It was apparently in 1961 that a book alleged to be the second literary effort of Hitler was published in Munich. I recall seeing a very small news item around then to that effect in one of the British papers, and I recall the statement in that same item that the work had achieved no significant sales. As it started, so it seems to have continued. It surprises me still that a document of so much historical significance has had to wait more than 40 years for its first English edition, and I naturally wondered whether it could really be genuine under the circumstances. Apparently it is, but it still seems to be avoiding the best-seller lists, and I can't recall a great deal of critical discussion of it either. Nothing that I have seen has cast doubt on the work's authenticity, which I am therefore taking on trust. In attempting a review I am mainly concerned with the actual content of the volume. However in awarding a rating I have given regard only to the editorial work, and I imagine it would go without saying that this rating does not reflect any endorsement of the poisonous doctrines of Adolf Hitler. The editor at least addresses the basic questions that I wanted to see addressed, namely -Is the authorship firmly established? Is this (seemingly untitled) book definitely a later work than *Mein Kampf*? Why was it not published in Hitler's lifetime? He also ponders earnestly the question why an English edition should be published. Because most of us struggle a bit with German would be sufficient answer for me. The likelihood that this text might be inflammatory nowadays would have struck me as nil in any case even if I had not known about its poor sales record.

Hitler's second book was written in 1928, but was withheld from publication because of its incendiary content. Discovered after the war and published by the author, the second book puts forth Hitler's rather grandiose vision of German foreign policy under his reign. And although it was generally thought that once in power, Hitler's fantasies and his "rough rhetoric" would be tempered by the realities of diplomacy, this was not to be the case. Hitler was no dummy. He was very much a rational actor on the international stage, and was as well-read as any of his contemporaries. Plus as we saw during WW-II, he seized every opportunity presented to him; he pulled back when it was in his strategic best interest, or when he was in a weakened position. He even negotiated when he thought it would get him more than going to war. And most of all, he sought allies to help shore-up his weaker flanks. No Hitler was not a raving maniac. He was hard-nosed, ruthless and determined to accomplish what he had set out in his writings. And in this regard, he never had a particularly complicated ideology. His rule of thumb for military action was to hit first, hard, and take no prisoners. He was an ideological purist who saw anyone who compromised as a weakling and as one "who could be had." Thus Hitler's view of the world was a clear, simple-minded, and

uncomplicated very much like a religious or a theological picture of the world today: there was the bad and the good, the sinful and the righteous, the guilty and the innocent, the dirty and the clean, and then of course, the inferior and the superior. And in this latter respect, Germans, the cream of the Aryan race, needed two things: domestic unity, and freedom from inferior polluting races.

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