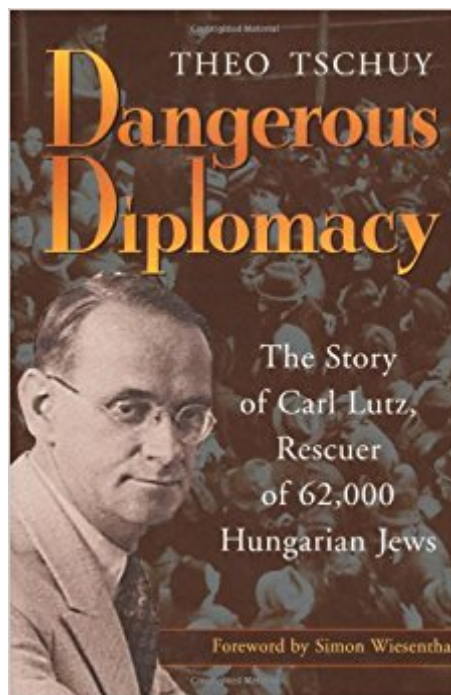




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Dangerous Diplomacy: The Story Of Carl Lutz, Rescuer Of 62,000 Hungarian Jews



Synopsis

Dangerous Diplomacy tells for the first time the courageous story of Carl Lutz (1895-1975), the Swiss diplomat who single-handedly rescued 62,000 Jews from deportation to Nazi concentration camps - a daring action now recognized as the largest, most successful rescue effort ever undertaken in Nazi-dominated Europe. For fifty years this dramatic story has remained dormant in government archives and among family papers. Finally now available in English, this carefully researched biography tells how Lutz, as Swiss Consul in Budapest from 1942 to 1945, defied diplomatic rules and conventions by issuing protective papers for tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews destined for the death camps. At grave risk to his own life, Lutz confronted the Nazi menace face to face, including Edmund Veesenmayer, Hitler's proconsul in Hungary, Adolf Eichmann's SS thugs, the Gendarmes, and the Arrow Cross gangs. Incredibly, Lutz was almost completely forgotten by the world after the war, and he was formally reprimanded by his own government for having overstepped his authority. Nevertheless, Yad Vashem recognized him and his first wife, Gertrud, among the first to be honored as "Righteous Gentiles." Various foreign states have honored him, and his home town, Walzenhausen, made its famous native son an honorary citizen. Lutz was even nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. Dangerous Diplomacy recounts Carl Lutz's selfless odyssey with compelling writing complemented by 24 black-and-white photographs. Theo Tschuy's moving and unforgettable narrative not only clarifies important historical events but also ably recognizes a heroic individual who represented a powerful ray of light amid one of the blackest periods of human history.

Book Information

Hardcover: 295 pages

Publisher: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company (November 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0802839053

ISBN-13: 978-0802839053

Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 6.3 x 1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,356,778 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #104 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Holocaust](#) #1070 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Ethnic & National > Jewish](#) #1191 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > History](#)

Customer Reviews

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A fabulous view of unreported WWII history of an unsung hero of the highest moral and ethical beliefs.

Tells the behind the scenes story of how this Swiss diplomat helped save thousands of lives, including my father's.

A story of courage by a few who had the moral compass to do the right thing even if it put them in danger.

well researched

This book represents a very thorough research into the exact details of a rescue operation. As we

have been fed countless stories with vastly inflated numbers, this book is a breath of fresh air. The author utilizes his research of archives held by the Swiss government and never before available. The story unfolds of the efforts made by Carl Lutz in saving lives in what is possibly the largest rescue operation of World War II. Without embellishing the heroics of Consul Lutz we are given the details of this story in a very readable fashion. This book authenticates the real number of survivors in Budapest, Hungary based upon the known number found following the war. Prior to this we have been given arbitrary numbers that always total more than the actual number of survivors. This book is a breath of fresh air for the serious reader of Holocaust activities. This leaves the reader feeling that indeed there are good people in this world, and that Carl Lutz was one of them. I strongly recommend anyone interested in Holocaust or humanistic stories to read this book.

After returning from a tour of Budapest last summer I returned eager to pick up the story of other diplomats, besides Wallenberg, and others involved in the rescue of Jews during the Holocaust. Wallenberg seems to get the most attention probably due to his tragic end but we must remember all who acted in face of great danger. People such as Anger, Lutz, Perlasca and others who were denied proper tribute in the period immediately following the war. My problem with this book is that it lacks notes and an index. Tschuy's account of Lutz published in German may include the needed footnotes but you will not find them here. Readers looking for a documented account should look elsewhere.

Well written and intense story of a true hero. Theo Tschuy spent numerous years and traveled behind the iron curtain to conduct research for this book. He met Carl Lutz personally and considered Mr. Lutz's story too tremendous to not write about. The book flows easily and is a must for history buffs everywhere. Thanks, Uncle Theo!

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