Quisling: A Study In Treachery

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HANS FREDRIK DAHL

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Synopsis

The word "Quisling" has been used as a synonym for "traitor" or "treachery." The original Vidkun Quisling (1887-1945) was a gifted Norwegian army officer who sided with the Nazis on the first day of Norway's entry into the Second World War. Dahl's biography is the first to use a complete range of source material from Nordic, German, Italian and Russian archives, and family archives now in the United States tracing Quisling's career through to the drama of his trial and execution for high treason in 1945.

Book Information

Hardcover: 452 pages
Publisher: Cambridge University Press; 1st edition (June 28, 1999)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0521496977
Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1 x 9.2 inches
Shipping Weight: 2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 3.0 out of 5 stars | See all reviews (3 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #2,171,717 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #157 in Books > History > Europe > Scandinavia > Norway #378 in Books > History > Europe > Netherlands #4403 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Military > World War II

Customer Reviews

This book created some stir in the medical community when it was released. Some doctors found it hard to believe that Quisling would have survived the medical examination described on pages 396 and 397, nor did they find any proper source for Dahl’s description. The book suggests x-rays were taken while Quisling's brain had been injected with "pressurized air". (Does Dahl mean they inflated his brain...?) "Large amounts of contrast liquid" was bumped straight into his brain by the neck arteries. The segment of the book goes on to suggest this weakened Quisling for the rest of his trial. Indeed he would have been weakened if the description is correct, as injected air into the blood vessels can be fatal. Let alone "pressurized" air... The author is further amazed on how changed Quisling has become when he was facing the final proceedings. Completely disregarded is that Quisling may have been nervous for his *future* health and not because of some change from unbelievably extreme and painful medical abuse on his person. This is followed by Quisling's critical reaction to the reinstitution of death sentence. Dahl does not use the opportunity to point out how
liberally the nazi regime itself executed people, deciding to wait a few pages before pointing to what crimes Mr. Quisling was guilty of. "Murders of the regime", this is called. Oddly, while the murdering of jews are mentioned, the words death camp and holocaust are not. Perhaps it should be noted that the professor Hans Fredrik Dahl used to recommend one David Irving, until Irving lost the court case he made against Deborah Libstedt. Dahl duly apologised, stating he had misunderstood Irving. Is this book revisionist? I am not able to say, nor do I have any major education on Quisling or in medicine.

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