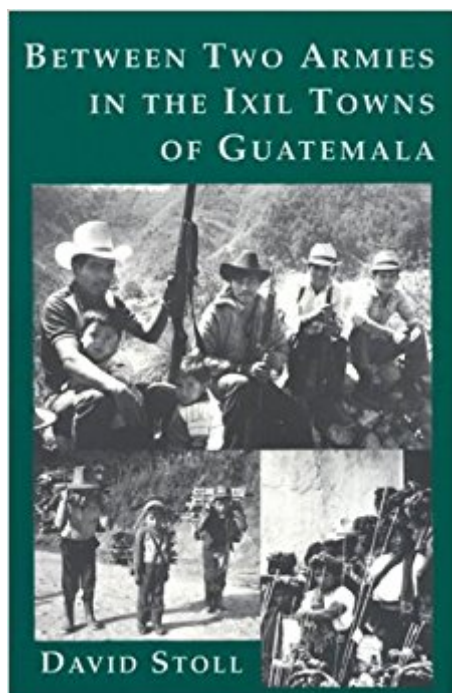


The book was found

Between Two Armies In The Ixil Towns Of Guatemala



Synopsis

Challenging the views of human rights activists, Stoll argues that the Ixils who supported Guatemalan rebels in the early 1980's did so because they were caught in the crossfire between the guerillas and the army, not because revolutionary violence expressed community aspirations.

Book Information

Paperback: 383 pages

Publisher: Columbia University Press (April 15, 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0231081839

ISBN-13: 978-0231081832

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,338,347 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #100 in [Books > History > Americas > Central America > Guatemala](#) #1163 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Latin America](#) #1315 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > Caribbean & Latin American](#)

Customer Reviews

Challenging the views of human rights activists, Stoll argues that the Ixils who supported Guatemalan rebels in the early 1980's did so because they were caught in the crossfire between the guerillas and the army, not because revolutionary violence expressed community aspirations.

A well researched and timely analysis of the role both the Guatemalan Government and guerilla groups terrorized and killed so many of the Maya population in the Ixil regional of Quiche in the highlands of Guatemala. The research contradicted the popularly held belief that all the human rights abuses were perpetrated by the Guatemalan military--although it also provided details on what those abuses were including an excellent profile of former President Rios Montt who eventually was tried and found guilty of many of those abuses. The author also provide valuable information about how the violence impacted religious groups in the area--and the eventual accelerated growth of Evangelical Christian churches. Many of the trends and lessons learned by the research are applicable to many of the Maya dominated regions of the Guatemalan highlands. The research included many graphs and maps which were very helpful. The information

was very timely for me as I revised several chapters of my soon to be published memoir, "Different Latitudes: My Life in the Peace Corps and Beyond" because although I've worked in and traveled to Guatemala many times over the last 40 plus years --including the Ixil Triangle which is the focus of the book--I always assumed that the military was the source of all the violence but that was not the case. Reading this book was like peeling an onion to a better understanding of the very complex history of violence, poverty and racism in Guatemala.

This is such an interesting book for anyone who is interested in Guatemala.

In the early 1990's, I prepared political asylum petitions for numerous Mayan Indians that had fled the killing grounds of Guatemala. The single thing that surprised me most, were their stories of atrocities committed by the Guerillas. I had thought the "Army of the Poor" were fighting on behalf of the Mayan Indians against the Army and Guatemalan State. However, many of the stories I heard had to deal more with communal land struggles than Revolution against the State. I soon realized that the situation was vastly more complicated than I had thought. Soon after the worst of the killings were over, the anthropologist David Stoll was doing fieldwork in one of the areas most devastated during the War. What he found is a more nuanced story than many of the accounts outsiders were hearing during this time period. By looking at revolution and counter-insurgency on a village by village, hamlet by hamlet basis, Stoll paints an extraordinary complicated picture of an Indian peasantry caught between a brutal Army and its own violent history of intercommunal conflict. More than any other type of warfare, revolution and counter-insurgency lends itself to the analysis of micro-history. This book is an extraordinary account of a War that devastated Guatemala's indigenous people. David Stoll is to be commended for his personal bravery in gathering the local details of the War and his commitment to the unvarnished truth. One has to wonder how many more years it will take for the first anthropologists to be doing this same work in Iraq. Highly recommended.

I have spent the past several years of my life living and working in the Ixil region of Guatemala. During this time I have traveled to nearly all the places described in this book. I HAVE lived and worked with many former guerrillas and members of the "comunidades en resistencia" and I found Stoll's analysis of the Ixil region and its recent history to be both enlightening and accurate. His conclusions concerning the nature of the armed conflict in this region correspond very closely to my own experiences interacting with the people here. Those who criticize Stoll are generally people

who have only a very superficial knowledge of Guatemalan reality or those who try manipulate the country's history to confirm their own political fantasies of third world "noble savages" carrying out popular utopian revolutions. The only criticism I would offer to Stoll is that he should have been much more vocal in his denunciations of the army's disgusting genocidal campaign against the Ixiles and the other indigenous peoples of Guatemala. By characterizing the army's campaign of mass murder as a simple reaction to a perceived threat, Stoll almost sounds as if he is excusing or rationalizing the unthinkable acts of this most horrible national institution.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Between Two Armies in the Ixil Towns of Guatemala Guatemala Journey Among the Ixil Maya Top 10 Places to Visit in Guatemala - Top 10 Guatemala Travel Guide (Includes Tikal, Antigua, Lake Atitlan, Guatemala City, Pacaya Volcano, & More) Paraguayan War: Armies of the Nineteenth Century: The Americas (Armies of the 19th Century: The Americas) Dark Elves Armies (Warhammer Armies) Escaping the Fire: How an Ixil Mayan Pastor Led His People Out of a Holocaust During the Guatemalan Civil War Country Towns of Maryland & Delaware: Charming Small Towns and Villages to Explore 45 Affordable Retirement Towns: Best U.S. Towns for Retirement on a Budget (The Best Places to Retire) (Volume 1) One Hundred & One Beautiful Towns in Great Britain (101 Beautiful Small Towns) Ghost Towns of the Pacific Northwest: Your Guide to Ghost Towns, Mining Camps, and Historic Forts of Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia Nevada Ghost Towns & Desert Atlas, Vol. 2 Southern Nevada-Death Valley (Nevada Ghost Towns and Mining Camps Illustrated Atlas) Guatemala ABCs: A Book About the People and Places of Guatemala (Country ABCs) Honeymoons In Guatemala: A travel guide of Guatemala, a honeymoon planner and some romance advice The Mexico Expat Retirement and Escape Guide: The Tell-It-Like-It-Is Guide to Start Over in Mexico: Mexico Retirement Guide FREE GUATEMALA GUIDE Retire in Antigua Guatemala Guatemala City, Antigua, Lake Atitlán & Guatemala's Central Highlands 2nd Ed. Guatemala Sights 2011: a travel guide to the top 35+ attractions in Guatemala. Includes Lake Atitlan, Antigua, Tikal, Flores, and more (Mobi Sights) Lonely Planet Guatemala Belize & Yucatan (Lonely Planet Belize, Guatemala & Yucatan) Guatemala 1:470,000 Travel Map (International Travel Country Maps: Guatemala) Guatemala Travel Guide: The Top 10 Highlights in Guatemala (Globetrotter Guide Books) City Maps Guatemala City Guatemala

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)