
The Saaris' almanac provides an extensive historical overview of the Holocaust and WW II. Volume 1 guides readers through the events that occurred and ideologies that took root after WW I and were necessary conditions for WW II and the Holocaust: the rise of Nazism in Germany, Fascism in Italy, militarism in Japan, and isolationism in the US. Volume 2 chronicles WW II (European and Pacific theaters) and the Holocaust. Well-selected primary sources, with introductions, discussions of key sources, and suggested readings appear at the end of each topical chapter in both volumes. Selections include excerpts from Mein Kampf, Primo Levi's Survival in Auschwitz, newspaper accounts of Kristallnacht, and Truman's comments on the Manhattan Project. Volume 3 presents more than 100 biographical profiles of both famous and lesser-known figures of the era. Appendixes on Jewish victims, Nuremberg war crime trials, Tokyo trials, and an overview of topically related films add depth to more than 800 photos, political cartoons, and maps. Essential for academic libraries and a welcome addition to reference collections that lack comprehensive coverage of the period. -- L. Lampert, California Lutheran University