

Crimes committed by Soviet soldiers against German civilians, 1944-1945: A historiographical analysis.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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W. Mikkel Dack is a graduate student of History at the University of Waterloo. He recently returned to Canada after living abroad in Europe where he attended the Freie Universität Berlin. Mikkel's research interests lie within the area of modern Europe with a specific focus on the cultural history of the Nazi Germany. He is currently writing his MA thesis on the 1936 Olympic Games, concentrating on the American and Canadian boycott movements and the resulting shift in the western perception of Germany. Mikkel's further interests include the rise of popular anti-Semitism in Nazi Germany, the forced expulsion of ethnic Germans from Eastern Europe following and Second World War, and Canadian foreign policy during the 1930s. Mikkel has presented his work at

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Crimes Committed by Soviet Soldiers against German Civilians, 1944-1945: A Historiographical Analysis

Mikkel Dack

Abstract

During the closing months of the Second World War across the Eastern Front. Soviet soldiers brutalized tens of thousands of civilians through acts of torture, rape, and murder. Despite the severity of these crimes, the scholarly attention to this aspect of the war and the broader community has been minimal. Due to political and ideological constraints, the Soviet Union was the sole perpetrator of war crimes, this imperative to address these crimes at the end of the Cold War ushered in a new era of historical research encouraged. In light of this amendment in historiography, scholars have developed constructive arguments, and formulated new research questions for study and have initiated further analysis. Such questions include: What was the brutal nature? How are "Nazi victims" to be perceived? Although these questions have helped to advance the field, further scholarly expansion.

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various conferences and has been published by the Canadian Battlefields Foundation. He intends to commence his doctoral work in the fall of 2009 and to pursue an academic career as a university professor.

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