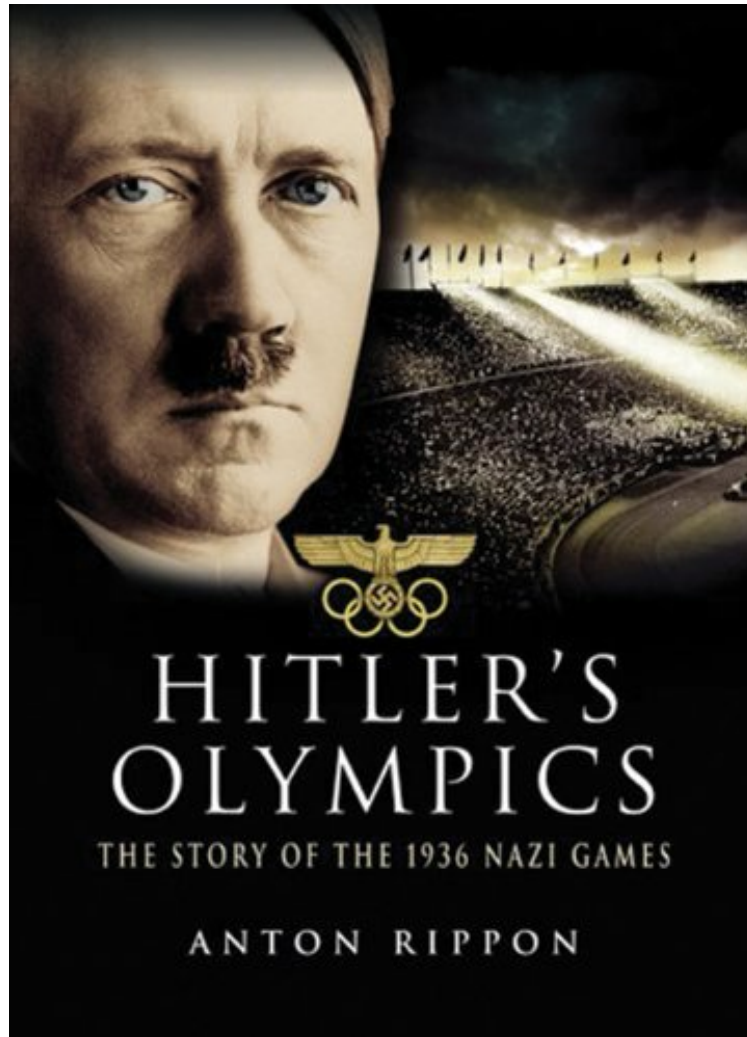


[Online library] Hitler's Olympics: The Story of the 1936 Nazi Games

Hitler's Olympics: The Story of the 1936 Nazi Games

Von Anton Rippon

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Von Anton Rippon : Hitler's Olympics: The Story of the 1936 Nazi Games before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hitler's Olympics: The Story of the 1936 Nazi Games:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An excellent account of an Olympic Games from another time in history.Von Ned MiddletonMuch has been said about the 1936 Berlin Olympics with the most notable event being, of course, Hitler snubbing Jesse Owens by refusing to shake his hand after he had won one of his events. This led to many charges of racism (Hitler - a racist? Surely not!) and yet it never happened. As is very clearly recounted in this first-class work, that snub will forever remain the Great Myth of the Berlin Olympics.In effect, Hitler, his entourage and fellow VIPs were in a raised enclosure similar to a Royal Box. When a German athlete won gold and was presented with his medal, that athlete turned towards Hitler and

gave the Nazi Salute - which Hitler duly returned. Later, when Owens received his medal he turned and bowed towards that same VIP enclosure and Hitler returned the gesture with another straight-armed salute before turning and leaving the box. That, however, is only one story from an Olympic Games from another era altogether. 1936 was a time when there were few, if any, coloured people representing European teams, starting blocks were not permitted, the swimming pool was outside and Europeans won the Gymnastic events. In short, this was a different time in the life of Europe people - almost on the very eve of a war which would change the make-up of that Continent's populations forever. The story of the 1936 Olympics is an engaging, fascinating tale of the many successes and failures told with fear or favour towards those who were involved. My only criticism of this extremely well-researched work concerns film-maker Leni Riefenstahl who, although mentioned in passing on four occasions, does not receive the acclaim I feel she deserves. In short, the author fails to mention her significant contribution to the Games on two fronts. Firstly, she pioneered the means of a filming style whereby the camera looked upwards to the German Athletes from a low vantage point so that they were filmed against the sky. This meant that all viewers found themselves looking up at those German athletes in a manner which suggested they were superior. It is a system still used to this day for film stars. Secondly, her pioneering skills were such that the only surviving footage of such notable athletes as Jesse Owens (and others) at work were taken by Riefenstahl at these games. NM

Kurzbeschreibung For two weeks in August 1936, Nazi Germany achieved an astonishing propaganda coup when it staged the Olympic Games in Berlin. Hiding their anti-semitism and plans for territorial expansion, the Nazis exploited the Olympic ideal, dazzling visiting spectators and journalists alike with an image of a peaceful, tolerant Germany. In Hitler's Olympics, Anton Rippon tells the story of those remarkable Games, the first to overtly use the Olympic festival for political purposes. His account, which is illustrated with almost 200 rare photographs of the event, looks at how the rise of the Nazis affected German sportsmen and women in the early 1930s. And it reveals how the rest of the world allowed the Berlin Olympics to go ahead despite the knowledge that Nazi Germany was a police state.

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ber den Autor und weitere Mitwirkende Anton Rippon is an author and historian.