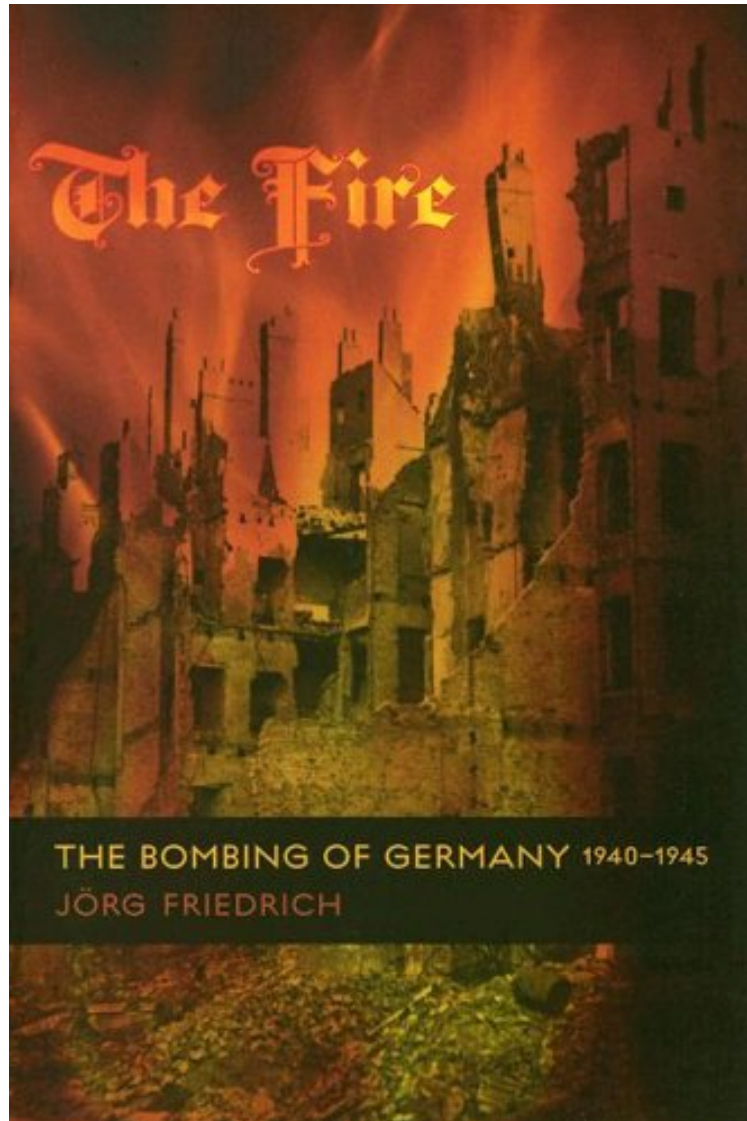


[Free pdf] The Fire: The Bombing of Germany, 1940-1945

The Fire: The Bombing of Germany, 1940-1945

Jörg Friedrich

*audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#466234 in Books Jorg Friedrich 2008-04-14Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.98 x 1.10 x 6.08l, #File Name: 0231133812552 pagesThe Fire The Bombing of Germany 1940 1945 | File size: 55.Mb

Jörg Friedrich : The Fire: The Bombing of Germany, 1940-1945 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Fire: The Bombing of Germany, 1940-1945:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Sheds light on a very dark episode of World War Two.By CustomerI have read a lot about WWII but this book was news to me. I had no idea quite how devastating the US/UK bombing campaign was for German cities and civilians. Kind of makes you ashamed to have been on the winning side, when such genocidal and cruel methods were used, not to military purpose, but as terror weapons meant to kill civilians, in

revenge for the bombing of England. After a while the book becomes a catalog of destruction, and all the historic buildings destroyed are listed, as if every single one was a unique treasure of architectural history. Shows just how morally ambiguous and treacherous a war can be. If you are interested in WWII aviation history, it is worth learning something about the bombs dropped by all those B-17s and B-24s. Despite its many flaws, this should be on your reading list. 8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. A tough go. By Scott I have just finished this and feel almost as numb as the bombing victims. I read slowly to begin with but I kept putting this down because it was often too hard to take. My father was a radioman and waist-gunner in B-17s in the 8th Army Air Force and, when I asked, he said that they were only interested in dropping their payloads and getting the hell out. After V-E day they got to fly over many of the destroyed cities, he offered no opinion other than to say they deserved it. The Nazis surely did. The Fire (Der Brand) shows the other side of the story. I'm certain Friedrich was sorely tempted at times to equate the firebombing with the Holocaust (which of course numbered in the millions not the hundreds of thousands). He does not. If architecture is the objectification of history, Friedrich does equate the obliteration of the cities and towns with the loss of Germany's history, heritage and people and asks whether it was necessary. 5 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Probably the best book ever written on the bombing of Germany. By Nachtjager To keep this simple, this is probably the single best book ever written on the fire bombing of Germany during WWII. Intensely personal with first-hand accounts instead of textbook-boring lists of statistics and reports, this is a troubling read that shows what it was like to live under the constant threat of allied bombing. I had to read this book ten or twenty pages at a time because it's troubling and intense; it will pull you into visual nightmares that are difficult to get away from. This is a very intense book, and as my grandparents lived through this and I've heard their stories most of my life, it is an especially important book to me. If you want to look at the allied bombing of Germany in an entirely new perspective, read this book - it's powerful and should be on every WWII history buff's shelf. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!

For five years during the Second World War, the Allies launched a trial and error bombing campaign against Germany's historical city landscape. Peaking in the war's final three months, it was the first air attack of its kind. Civilian dwellings were struck by—in today's terms—"weapons of mass destruction," with a total of 600,000 casualties, including 70,000 children. In *The Fire*, historian Jörg Friedrich explores this crucial chapter in military and world history. Combining meticulous research with striking illustrations, Friedrich presents a vivid account of the saturation bombing, rendering in acute detail the annihilation of cities such as Dresden, the jewel of Germany's rich art and architectural heritage. He incorporates the personal stories and firsthand testimony of German civilians into his narrative, creating a macabre portrait of unimaginable suffering, horror, and grief, and he draws on official military documents to unravel the reasoning behind the strikes. Evolving military technologies made the extermination of whole cities possible, but owing, perhaps, to the Allied victory and what W. G. Sebald noted as "a pre-conscious self-censorship, a way of obscuring a world that could no longer be presented in comprehensible terms," the wisdom of this strategy has never been questioned. *The Fire* is a rare account of the air raids as they were experienced by the civilians who were their targets.

Exhaustive and harrowing ... Friedrich's aim seems to be not only to wrest the history of German suffering from the clutch of the far right but to rescue the glories of German history from the twelve years of Hitler's thousand-year Reich. (Ian Buruma *New York Times*) *The Fire* represents the continuation of Friedrich's generation's indictment of National Socialism—except now the finger is pointed at the Allies, and sympathy is extended to the civilian Germans who were their victims. (The Nation) What W. G. Sebald lamented about the lack of open discourse on the air war appears to have been blown apart with the publication of *The Fire*. (Noah Isenberg *Bookforum*) Jörg Friedrich's achievement in *The Fire* has been to tell this tale of death and destruction with a rare plasticity and vividness. (German Historical Institute London Bulletin) Riveting. (TIME Europe) [Jörg Friedrich] describes in stark, unrelenting and very literary detail what happened in city after city as the Allies dropped 80 million incendiary bombs on Germany.... There is ... an edginess to Friedrich's writing and commentary, an emotional power. (New York Times) Jörg Friedrich tells the story from the viewpoint of the bombed with... great skill and objectivity. (Paul Johnson *The American Spectator*) Thorough and methodical... Friedrich's book underscores that precision bombing is anything but a scientific enterprise. (Stanley Hoffman *Foreign Affairs*) Mr. Friedrich deserves credit for both his diligence and his descriptive powers. (Economist) An indictment both of Hitler's appropriation of German history and of the Allies' destruction of a nation's culture... Thoughtful and detailed. (Library Journal) This is a book that demands to be read, no matter how uncomfortable the experience. (David Cesarani *The Independent*) [A] haunting book... forceful, incendiary. (Atlantic Monthly) A well-documented piece of historical writing... [that] is also a poignant, lyrical and terrible account of human suffering. (Adam R. Seipp *Houston Chronicle*) A vivid and powerful critique of war... [The Fire is] fascinating, ground-breaking, and thought-provoking. (Roger Moorhouse *BBC History Magazine*) Recommended. (Choice) A contribution to the German literature of remembrance; it is also a passionate denunciation of the excesses of the air war. (Harold Dorn *Technology and Culture*) About the Author Jörg Friedrich was born in Tyrolia in 1944 and grew up in the Ruhr District (Essen). A broadcaster in Berlin, Friedrich became a historian after he reported on the Majdanek

Trial during the 1970s. His first comprehensive history of the prosecution of Nazi criminals in Germany, *The Cold Amnesty* (1984), was a bestseller in the Federal Republic. In 1993 he published a monograph on the forgotten Nuremberg Trial of the German High Command titled *The Law of War: The German Army in Russia*, which earned him a honorary doctorate from the University of Amsterdam. The idea for *The Fire* came to Friedrich accidentally one night in February 2002, and since its publication, the book has been translated into ten languages, sparking debate worldwide. Jörg Friedrich was born in Essen, Germany, in 1944 and spent most of his career writing about Nazi atrocities before orienting his research toward an analysis of Allied military tactics. He lives in Berlin.