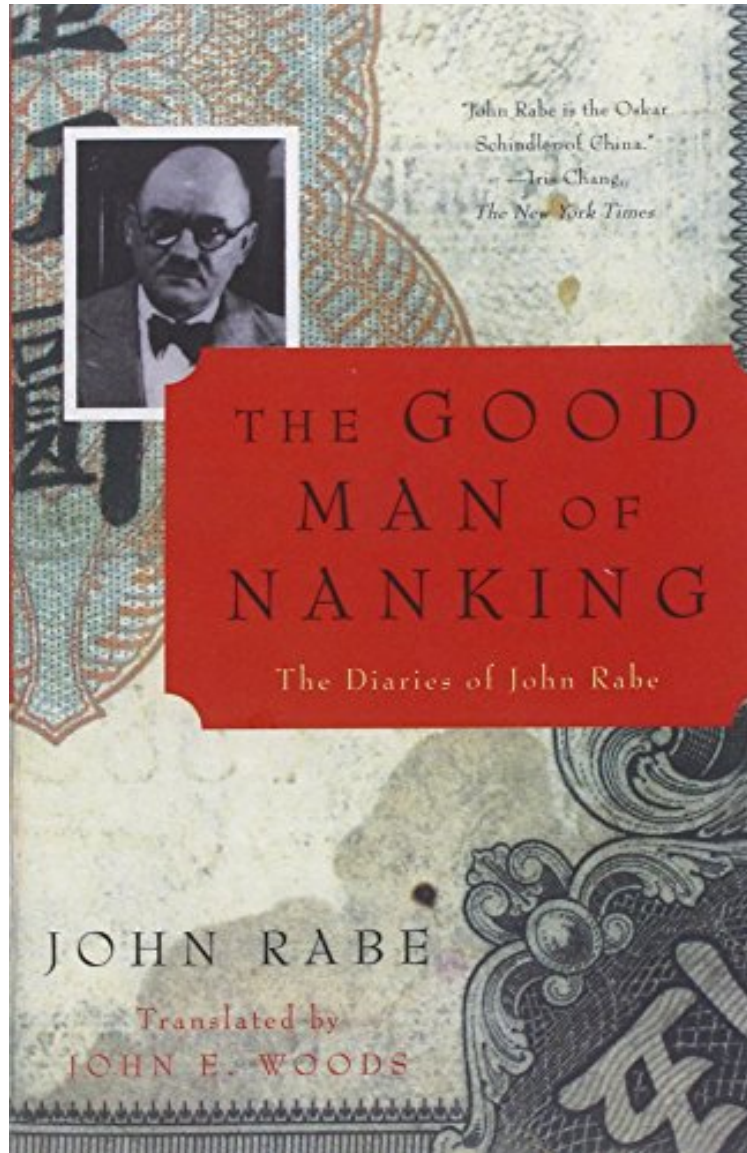


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## THE GOOD MAN OF NANKING: The Diaries of John Rabe

*John Rabe*

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#229910 in Books John Rabe 2000-03-14 2000-03-14Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .65 x 5.24l, .66 #File Name: 0375701974320 pagesThe Good Man of Nanking The Diaries of John Rabe | File size: 53.Mb

**John Rabe : THE GOOD MAN OF NANKING: The Diaries of John Rabe** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised THE GOOD MAN OF NANKING: The Diaries of John Rabe:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Arrived on schedule, book as described. John Rabe ...By Glenn FewArrived on schedule, book as described. John Rabe, having lived and worked as a Siemens representative in China

for many years by the time Japan occupied Nanking, was naive enough about the Nazis in his native land to believe that Hitler would exert diplomatic pressure on the Japanese to curb their atrocities. I found his first-hand account of events in Nanking to be utterly believable. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. it can get pretty disturbing, and there are pictures of various war ...By ShaneI came to this book after reading Iris Chang's *The Rape of Nanking*. While in Chang's book we get a glimpse of Rabe and an outsiders perspective at the events that took place between 1937 and 1938, in this book, we get to see the events as they unfold and from the perspective of someone who was actually there. It is a tragic and hard book to read, but it is very informative, and it is even filled with random clippings from other people who were there during the massacre. John's diaries also continue after the events that happened in Nanking and continues through Russia's invasion of Germany. I give this book 5 out of 5 stars because it is well written and it is informative. Warning for those who do not know much about the massacre, it can get pretty disturbing, and there are pictures of various war crimes and corpses. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is a great backgrounder, especially if you've read Iris Chang's *Rape ...*By Lucy KeThis is a great backgrounder, especially if you've read Iris Chang's *Rape of Nanking*. John Rabe was a significant thread throughout her book bc he lived every day of the occupation, and saved thousands of lives through his efforts. Like a lot of diaries, you sometimes get the humdrum, but the insights into this kind, determined man is worth those.

The Good Man of Nanking is a crucial document for understanding one of World War II's most horrific incidents of genocide, one which the Japanese have steadfastly refused to acknowledge. It is also the moving and awe-inspiring record of one man's conscience, courage, and generosity in the face of appalling human brutality. Until the recent emergence of John Rabe's diaries, few people knew about the unassuming hero who has been called the Oskar Schindler of China. In November 1937, as Japanese troops overran the Chinese capital of Nanking and began a campaign of torture, rape, and murder against its citizens, one man—a German who had lived in China for thirty years and who was a loyal follower of Adolph Hitler—put himself at risk and in order to save the lives of 200,000 poor Chinese, 600 of whom he sheltered in his own home.

.com In November 1937, the Japanese Imperial Army took Nanking (Nanjing), the capital of China and home to 1.3 million people, and began an orgy of murder, rape, and looting. By the time discipline was restored two months later, hundreds of thousands of Chinese were dead, with hundreds of thousands more homeless, starving, and traumatized. The Rape of Nanking, as it is commonly known, still causes international controversy, as Japanese politicians refuse to apologize unequivocally to China and school textbooks continue to misrepresent the events. Like Oskar Schindler of Schindler's List, John Rabe was an enterprising and fundamentally decent German businessman caught up in war. Head of the Nanjing branch of Siemens, the German electronics firm, he had lived and worked in China for almost 30 years. Rather than flee from the threatened city, he stayed to organize a safety zone as refuge of last resort for Chinese civilians. The Good Man of Nanking is his firsthand description of the terrible events and his ultimate success in saving perhaps a quarter of a million lives. The diary format provides a forum for the extraordinary power and immediacy of John Rabe's words, including his gallows humor, placing the reader there in Nanking as the bombs explode and the Japanese soldiers begin their massacres. Rabe's trials were not over when he returned to wartime Germany; diary entries that he wrote during the occupation of Berlin by the Soviet army form a fascinating coda to this book. --John StevensonFrom Publishers WeeklyConsidered the Oskar Schindler of China, Rabe was a German businessman who saved the lives of 250,000 Chinese during the infamous siege of Nanking. But Rabe was also a member of the Nazi party and a man whose motto was "Right or wrong—my country." This gaping paradox adds a fascinating complexity to his newly translated diaries, which primarily focus on the six-month Nanking siege in 1937 and 1938. When the Japanese air raids began over Nanking? where Rabe was regional director of the German industrial giant Siemens? Rabe's wife, along with most foreigners, evacuated the city. But Rabe stayed to protect his Chinese staff and co-workers; as he put it, "I cannot bring myself for now to betray the trust these people have put in me." As the magnitude of the Japanese assault became apparent, Rabe, along with American doctors and missionaries, created an International Committee whose purpose was to set up a Neutral Zone where Chinese civilians could take refuge. Six hundred of the poorest Chinese were soon living in Rabe's own house, symbolically protected by an enormous canvas painted with a swastika; thousands more took shelter in the arbitrary Neutral Zone that Rabe continually begged the Japanese to respect. Lacking food and medical supplies, Rabe was mobilized to continue his good works by the atrocities he witnessed; his descriptions of the sadistic rapes, torture and slaughter perpetrated by Japanese soldiers are chillingly vivid. Similar in some ways to Giorgio Perlasca, the Italian fascist businessman who helped save Budapest's Jews (Enrico Deaglio's *The Banality of Goodness*, *Forecasts*, June 1), Rabe was a complicated figure whose ultimate reasons were very matter-of-fact: "You simply do what must be done." Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library JournalJoining the ever-growing shelf of World War II memoir literature, this carefully edited book recounts the wartime experiences of an obscure German businessman who is now known as the "Oskar Schindler of China" and revered as a saint by the Chinese. Rabe (1882-1949) lived in China for almost 30 years, most notably as the director of the Siemens branch in Nanking during the infamous 1937 siege. Working closely with

American friends, he organized an International Safety Zone that offered relative security to 250,000 Chinese during the brutal Japanese occupation. This book, based on a journal he kept then, describes his rescue efforts as well as the atrocities he observed. Called back to Germany shortly thereafter, he was arrested by the Gestapo and forbidden to speak of his experiences. The editor, a friend who first met Rabe in China in the early 1930s, explains the general political and military background and, more importantly, summarizes the political information that was available to Rabe himself. Recommended for academic and informed lay readers. A Marie Marmo Mullaney, Caldwell Coll., NJ Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.