Record Nr. UNINA9910456381703321 Autore Biddiscombe Alexander Perry <1959-> Titolo Werwolf!: the history of the National Socialist guerrilla movement, 1944-1946 / / Perry Biddiscombe Pubbl/distr/stampa Toronto, [Ontario];; Buffalo, [New York]:,: University of Toronto Press, , 1998 ©1998 **ISBN** 1-282-00333-X 9786612003332 1-4426-8328-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (484 p.) Disciplina 940.54/8743 Soggetti World War, 1939-1945 - Germany Guerrilla warfare Sabotage - Germany Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Foreign Terms and Abbreviations -- Abbildungen -- Introduction -- 1 Gothic Guerrillas: The Bureau 'Prützmann' and the SS-Werwolf -- 2 A Nursery Tale: The Hitler Youth and the Werwolf -- 3 A Werwolf War: The Military and the Kleinkrieg -- 4 Reign of Terror: The Party and the Werwolf -- 5 Werwolf Redoubts -- 6 The Werwolf along Germany's Periphery -- 7 Western Allied and Soviet Reactions to the Werwolf -- 8 Consequences and Significance of the Werwolf -- APPENDIX A: The Werwolf as a Research Problem: A Historiographical Essay -- APPENDIX B: Charts and Tables -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Illustration Sources and Credits -- Index Sommario/riassunto Near the end of the Second World War, a National Socialist resistance movement, known as the Werwolf, flickered briefly to life in Germany and its borderlands. Dedicated to delaying the advance of the Allies on both fronts, the Werwolf succeeded in scattered acts of sabotage and

violence. By the spring of 1945, it also showed signs of becoming a

vengeful Nazi reaction against the German populace itself.

'Collaborators' and 'defeatists' were frequently assassinated, and crude posters warned that certain death would follow any failure to resist the enemy. Werwolf violence failed to mobilize a spirit of national resistance. Biddiscombe argues that the group was poorly led, armed, and organized, and that it was doomed to failure given the warweariness of the populace and the hesitancy of young Germans to sacrifice themselves on the funeral pyre of the regime. He also demonstrates that although the group failed to assume a popular character, its influence was still great and its revolutionary sentiments would have grave implications for the future. Werwolf! is the most complete history to date of the Nazi partisan movement. It will be of great interest to general readers as well as to military historians.