Record Nr. UNINA9910787303003321 Autore Jennings Eric Thomas Titolo Imperial heights [[electronic resource]]: Dalat and the making and undoing of French Indochina / / Eric T. Jennings Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-520-94844-0 1-283-27764-6 9786613277640 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (372 p.) Collana From Indochina to Vietnam: revolution and war in a global perspective 959.7/6 Disciplina HISTORY / General Soggetti a Lat (Vietnam) History a Lat (Vietnam) Colonial influence France Colonies Asia History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Foreword by the Series Editors -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1. Escaping Death in the Tropics -- 2. Murder on the Race for Altitude -- 3. Health, Altitude, and Climate -- 4. Early Dalat, 1898-1918 -- 5. Colonial Expectations, Pastimes, Comestibles, Comforts, and Discomforts -- 6. Situating the "Montagnards" -- 7. A Functional City? Architecture, Planning, Zoning, and Their Critics -- 8. The Dalat Palace Hotel -- 9. Vietnamese Dalat --10. Some Colonial Categories: Children, European Women, and Métis --11. Divine Dalat -- 12. The Maelstrom, 1940-1945 -- 13. Autonomous Province or Federal Capital? -- 14. Dalat at War and Peace, 1946-1975 -- Epilogue -- Notes -- Select Bibliography -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

Intended as a reminder of Europe for soldiers and clerks of the empire, the city of Dalat, located in the hills of Southern Vietnam, was built by the French in an alpine locale that reminded them of home. This book uncovers the strange 100-year history of a colonial city that was conceived as a center of power and has now become a kitsch tourist destination famed for its colonial villas, flower beds, pristine lakes, and

pastoral landscapes. Eric T. Jennings finds that from its very beginning, Dalat embodied the paradoxes of colonialism-it was a city of leisure built on the backs of thousands of coolies, a supposed paragon of hygiene that offered only questionable protection from disease, and a new venture into ethnic relations that ultimately backfired. Jennings' fascinating history opens a new window onto virtually all aspects of French Indochina, from architecture and urban planning to violence, labor, métissage, health and medicine, gender and ethic relations, schooling, religion, comportments, anxieties, and more.