Record Nr. UNINA9910812862903321 Autore Graif Gid?on Titolo We wept without tears: testimonies of the Jewish Sonderkommando from Auschwitz / / Gideon Greif New Haven, Conn.;; London,: Yale University Press, 2005 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-281-72280-4 9786611722807 0-300-13198-4 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (400 p.) Disciplina 940.531853858 Soggetti Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) Sonderkommandos - Poland Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Foreword -- Acknowledgments --Photographs -- 1. The Sonderkommando in Auschwitz-Birkenau: Portrait and Self-Image -- 2. Josef Sackar: "To Survive, so the Truth Would Come Out" -- 3. Abraham and Shlomo Dragon: "Together-in Despair and in Hope" -- 4. Ya'akov Gabai: "I'll Get Out of Here!" -- 5. Eliezer Eisenschmidt: "Thanks to One Polish Family . . . " -- 6. Shaul Chazan: "Life Didn't Matter Anymore, Death Was Too Close" -- 7. Leon Cohen: "We Were Dehumanized, We Were Robots" -- 8. Ya'akov Silberberg: "One Day in the Crematorium Felt Like a Year" -- Notes Sommario/riassunto The Sonderkommando of Auschwitz-Birkenau consisted primarily of Jewish prisoners forced by the Germans to facilitate the mass extermination. Though never involved in the killing itself, they were compelled to be "members of staff" of the Nazi death-factory. This book, translated for the first time into English from its original Hebrew, consists of interviews with the very few surviving men who witnessed at first hand the unparalleled horror of the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp. Some of these men had never spoken of their experiences before. Over a period of years, Gideon Greif interviewed intensively all

Sonderkommando survivors living in Israel. They describe not only the details of the German-Nazi killing program but also the moral and

human challenges they faced. The book provides direct testimony about the "Final Solution of the Jewish Problem," but it is also a unique document on the boundless cruelty and deceit practiced by the Germans. It documents the helplessness and powerlessness of the one-and-a-half million people, 90 percent of them Jews, who were brutally murdered in the gas chambers of Auschwitz-Birkenau.