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Schließlich geht MILAN RISTOVIC im zwölften Kapitel auf die humanitäre Hilfe seitens Jugoslawiens an die griechischen Linksbewegungen während des Bürgerkrieges ein und beschreibt den Bevölkerungstransfer mit den slawischen Nachbarn Griechenlands.

In diesem Sammelband werden einzelne Themen im Verhältnis zur humanitären Nothilfe im besetzten Griechenland behandelt. Das Buch will unterschiedliche Aspekte der Hungersnot vorstellen, ohne jedoch alle Themenkomplexe, wie zum Beispiel die Rolle des Schweizerischen Roten Kreuzes, mit einzubeziehen, wobei dies ausdrücklich auch nicht angestrebt wurde. Dieses Werk liefert eine sehr aufschlussreiche Einsicht in den damaligen Überlebenskampf sowohl der einfachen Bürger als auch der Kämpfer und vergisst dabei nicht, die Lage im Hinblick auf die politischen Auseinandersetzungen in ihrem Kontext zu schildern. Dazu trägt insbesondere die Kompetenz der Autoren, die von verschiedenen Bereichen der Sozialwissenschaften kommen, und des in Fragen neugriechischer Geschichte erfahrenen Herausgebers bei.

Athen

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Staniša BRKIĆ, Ime i broj. Kragujevačka tragedija 1941 [Der Name und die Nummer. Die Tragödie von Kragujevac 1941]. Kragujevac: Spomen-Park Kragujevački Oktobar 2007. 221 S., zahlr. Abb., ISBN 978-86-80947-29-7

There is hardly any single event in Serbia, and even in the whole of former Yugoslavia during WWII, which has been described so often as the shooting of hostages in Kragujevac on October 21, 1941. That tragic event came to symbolize the suffering of the innocent civilian population amidst the wartime whirl. As every symbol, this one was dyed with several layers of ideology which hid the true nature of the event to the considerable degree. This concerned above all the number of victims, but also the role played by some actors, as well as the depiction of the event afterwards. The book of Staniša Brkić is a sober attempt at describing and analyzing the Kragujevac tragedy on the basis of the available archival sources.

After a brief introduction (7-9) the author describes the so-called April War of 1941 in Serbia and particularly in Kragujevac (11-15), as well as the beginning of the uprising of the Chetniks and the Partisans and the situation which would cause the retaliation of the German troops (17-37). Although he doesn't use some of the latest works about the Chetniks, relying on the already known documents, Brkić shows that their organization had preceded that of the Partisans. In that way he implicitly shows that the sources for writing a different history of WWII in Serbia were there for a long time, but that the will (or the courage) was not. The same would be shown later on in parts of the book dealing with the number of victims of the massacre.

The following chapter (39-43) describes the German retaliation in the villages surrounding Kragujevac for the losses previously suffered. This is also nothing new, but the fate of the

people killed there, although their number was everything but insignificant, was pushed to the margins of the mythologized historical memory.

The part of the book entitled "The Kragujevac Tragedy of October 21" (47-58) depicts mass arrests which took place on that day. Based on testimonies the author describes many moving moments, examples of bravery, but also of baseness. Special attention was devoted to the role of the members of the Ljotić-Movement in the whole action. The author adduces enough evidence which refute later attempts of its adherents to whitewash their complicity in the crime. The next chapter (59-74), "October 21", is written in the same vein. It gives a detailed description of the events on the day of the executions.

The next chapter, "The Kragujevac Tragedy in Sources" (75-89) deals with the roots of the mythical number of victims. Brkić quotes various authors and documents which mention different numbers including that one of 7.000, which used to be the official one for decades. He examines in great detail the reasons why certain individuals had adduced certain figures. On pages 86-88 Brkić adduces the highest number of victims in Kragujevac and the surrounding villages extractable from the available documents: 2.857. He is aware that, due to the circumstances (which he describes in great detail), it wouldn't be possible to establish the exact number of the killed (and neither of the survivors). However, what's most important is the final destruction of the myth of 7.000 victims (as if the number of 2.857 isn't horrendous enough!).

The last chapter, "Demographic-Sociological Analysis" (91-100) is a quite new contribution to the research of the Kragujevac tragedy. The author used for the first time the available (although incomplete) statistical data to determine the age, gender, ethnic, religious and professional make-up of the victims, dismantling some other ingrained misconceptions in the process. The first part of the book ends with a brief conclusion (101-104).

The second part contains illustrative materials in a broader sense of the word. The author presents photos and last messages of the murdered (106-128). This part is followed by tables showing various statistical data dealt with in the text (130-136), lists of the killed, but also of the survivors from Kragujevac and its vicinity (139-212). At the end of the book one can find the summary in Serbian and English (213-215). The whole book is richly illustrated, often with touching photographs.

The book of Staniša Brkić is the example how the archival and published sources can be used without an ideological bias to re-write the history of WWII in Yugoslavia. The author re-read the sources creatively, analyzed them without ideological partiality and drew his own conclusions. The fact that he was sometimes carried away by his emotions is certainly a professional shortcoming, but humanely understandable and pardonable, particularly since it doesn't affect the final result of his endeavour which should signify the definitive end of the mythical version of the Kragujevac tragedy.

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