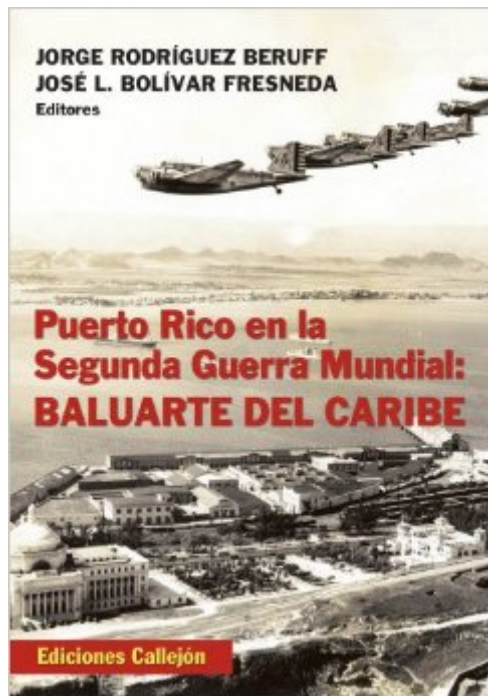


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Puerto Rico En La Segunda Guerra Mundial / Puerto Rico In World War II: Baluarte Del Caribe / Caribbean Bulwark (Spanish Edition)



Synopsis

La Segunda Guerra Mundial fue el acontecimiento del siglo XX de mayores repercusiones globales. Fue la guerra más destructiva, intensa y geográficamente abarcadora en la historia de la humanidad. Puerto Rico fue de importancia crítica para la planificación estratégica de Estados Unidos y las otras potencias. Las áreas marítimas de la región fueron una zona de combate en la llamada Batalla del Atlántico durante las primeras etapas de la guerra. El destino de las colonias en el Caribe de los países ocupados por Alemania y el control de las rutas vitales de comunicación marítima, incluyendo el Canal de Panamá, por donde fluían las materias primas y el petróleo requeridos para el esfuerzo bélico, fueron temas de gran relevancia. Este volumen se acerca al período de la guerra, no como un hecho "externo" a las sociedades y fundamentalmente militar, sino como un proceso complejo y multifacético que afectó todos los ámbitos de la vida política, económica, social y cultural de los países, provocando o acelerando grandes transformaciones sociales. A través de "Puerto Rico en la Segunda Guerra Mundial: Baluarte del Caribe" diecisiete investigadores de diversas disciplinas y enfoques analizan aspectos de la situación internacional, la planificación militar, la "alta política" y los cambios económicos, así como también otros procesos que transformaron la vida colectiva de los puertorriqueños de forma inmediata como la carestía de alimentos, la salud, la militarización de la educación y la prensa, las comunicaciones, la experiencia de los veteranos, la construcción de grandes bases, las campañas "cívicas", el desplazamiento de comunidades, las migraciones internas y externas, entre otros. Se trata de una contribución sin precedentes a la comprensión de una coyuntura decisiva en el desarrollo histórico de PR y el Caribe en el siglo XX.

(English) World War II was the Twentieth Century event of greatest global repercussions. It was the most destructive, intense and geographically inclusive war in the history of the humanity. Puerto Rico was of critical importance for the strategic planning of the United States and the other powers. During the first stages of the war, the maritime areas of the region were a battle zone rightly named the Battle of the Atlantic. The destiny of the colonies situated in the Caribbean and belonging to countries occupied by Germany, as well as the control of the vital routes of sea communication, including the Panama Canal, which was used to transport raw materials and petroleum for the war effort, became topics of great relevance. This volume approaches the period of the war, not like "an external" element to the societies or as a military exercise, but as complex and multiphase process that affected all the aspects of the political, economic, social and cultural life of these countries, causing or accelerating great social transformations. Through "Puerto Rico en la Segunda Guerra Mundial: Baluarte del Caribe" seventeen researchers of diverse backgrounds and approaches

analyze aspects of the international situation, the military planning, the "high level politics" and the economic changes, as well as other processes that transformed the collective life of the Puerto Ricans within a very short timeframe, like the food scarcity, the health, the militarization of the education and the press, the communications, the experience of the veterans, the construction of great bases, "the civic" campaigns, the displacement of communities, the internal and external migrations, among others. This book is a contribution without precedent to the understanding of a decisive conjuncture in the historical development of PR and the Caribbean in the XX Century.

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Customer Reviews

Starts out with a short but accurate account of Puerto Rico's development in the early years after the island was ceded to the USA after the Spanish American War in 1898, and the political undergoings regarding how the USA programmed the local government similar to a State (government structure, education, economics and defense). Later chapters deal with the World War Years and the devastation of the economies bordering the Caribbean Sea where German submarines raised havoc and the construction of military bases all around the island. The economy prospered during the early years of the WW2 by these events although population eviction from land used for base construction raised havoc with land owners, especially the sugar cane landlords. After the war came the political unrest while the USA reorganized the government and free elections replaced the appointment of governors and members of the legislature. The book is an account of great importance to understand how and why Puerto Rico remains a not annexed territory of the US, (in other words, a colony of the US). It is well put together by different points of view written by several

authors of the included essays.

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