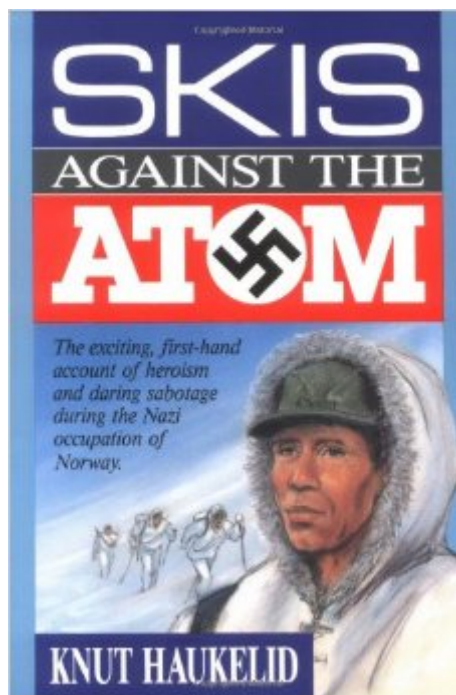


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Skis Against The Atom: The Exciting, First Hand Account Of Heroism And Daring Sabotage During The Nazi Occupation Of Norway



Synopsis

The exciting, first-hand account of heroism and daring sabotage during the Nazi occupation of Norway. The outcome of World War II could very possibly have been much different if Knut Haukelid and his small, but courageous band of Norwegian soldiers had not been successful in sabotaging the Nazis supply of heavy water. The heavy water produced at a facility in occupied Norway was vital to Hitlers race with the United States to develop the atomic bomb. Knut Haukelids Skis Against The Atom gives the reader an intimate account of the valiant and self-sacrificing service that the not-to-be-subdued Norwegians performed for the whole free world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Skis Against The Atom" is the personal account of the experiences of Norwegian resistance fighter Knut Haukelid during the German occupation of Norway 1940-1945. Haukelid was a Norwegian soldier who escaped to Britain in 1940 and was trained and returned to Norway by the British Special Operations Executive. The centerpiece of the account is the British-Norwegian effort to sabotage the production of Heavy Water at Vemork for use in the Nazi atom bomb program. This heroic effort was the basis of the 1965 movie "The Heroes of Telemark" starring Kirk Douglas and Richard Harris. The rest of the story is, if anything, even more heroic than the movie. Haukelid and his companions hid for months on the remote Hardanger plateau, dodging Nazi patrols and enduring harsh weather and skimpy rations while waiting for their opportunity to sabotage the Vemork facility. Their sabotage of the heavy water production also required the sinking of a ferry carrying surviving supplies of heavy water, a heart-breaking decision that caused the deaths of

Norwegian civilians. Haukelid's account also covers the efforts to organize the resistance in Norway after German occupation, and the preparation for Allied liberation in 1945. The Norwegian resistance, lightly armed and heavily outnumbered, undertook to bluff the Nazis into surrender to prevent massacres of Norwegian civilians or the destruction of the Norwegian economy by desperate German forces in the dying days of the Third Reich. Haukelid writes candidly in the first person. His account is told very much from his point of view. This book is a translation from the original Norwegian to English; the syntax may seem stilted or formal in places to American readers.

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