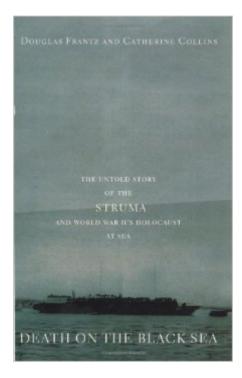
The book was found

# Death On The Black Sea: The Untold Story Of The 'Struma' And World War II's Holocaust At Sea





## Synopsis

On the morning of February 24, 1942, on the Black Sea near Istanbul, an explosion ripped through a ship filled with Jewish refugees. One man clung fiercely to a piece of deck, fighting to survive. Nearly eight hundred others -- among them, more than one hundred children -- perished.From this dramatic prologue Death on the Black Sea unfolds as a powerful story of endurance and the struggle for survival aboard a decrepit former cattle barge called Struma. The only path to escape led through Istanbul, where the desperate passengers found themselves trapped in a closing vise between the Nazis and countries that refused them sanctuary.The story of the Struma, its passengers, and the events that led to its destruction is investigated and revealed fully in two vivid, parallel accounts set six decades apart. One chronicles the diplomatic maneuvers and callousness of Great Britain, Romania, Turkey, and the rest of the international community, which resulted in the largest maritime loss of civilian life during World War II. The other part of the story recounts a recent attempt by a team of divers to locate the Struma at the bottom of the Black Sea, an effort initiated and pursued by the grandson of two of the victims.A vivid reconstruction of a grim exodus aboard a doomed ship, Death on the Black Sea illuminates a forgotten episode of World War II and pays tribute to the heroes, past and present, who keep its memory alive.

### **Book Information**

Hardcover: 368 pages Publisher: Ecco; 1st edition (February 4, 2003) Language: English ISBN-10: 0066212626 ISBN-13: 978-0066212623 Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.2 x 9 inches Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (20 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #444,772 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #140 in Books > History > Historical Study & Educational Resources > Essays #891 in Books > History > World > Jewish > Holocaust #3840 in Books > History > Military > World War II

### **Customer Reviews**

There are countless stories of the Holocaust that can never be told because those who experienced them were lost in the mad destructive fury. The story of the doomed ship \_Struma\_ might be one of those stories, except that one of the nearly 800 people on board survived the sinking of the vessel.

Death on the Black Sea: The Untold Story of the Struma and World War II's Holocaust at Sea (Ecco) by Douglas Frantz and Catherine Collins, is not just a survivor's story, but a full accounting of a shameful atrocity that has been largely overlooked, even in histories of that bleak time. The history begins with an account of pre-war Romanian history, and the brutalities that occurred even before the country joined the Nazis. Only the desperate would have paid the shamefully exorbitant cost for passage on the leaky, filthy cattle boat \_Struma\_, with the hope of getting to Palestine. The British controlled such immigration, however, and restricted it so as not to bother the Arabs and their oil supplies. The ship left Romania in December 1941, with intent to sail out of the Black Sea, through the Bosporus Strait, and on to Palestine. The engine failed on the first day, was patched, and failed three days later. The ship was towed by a Turkish tug to Istanbul harbor. There the ship stayed for almost two months, while bureaucratic nonsense was conducted to seal the fate of the passengers. They slowly withered due to disease and lack of fresh food and fresh air. There was even bickering over a plan to let the children leave the ship, a plan that never happened because Turkey, following a suggestion from the British, cut the anchor of the engineless vessel and simply set it adrift. Stalin had ordered Russian submarines to sink all ships in the Black Sea to prevent them from getting to Germany.

Many events that took place in WWII will never be known. Many people who had experienced and witnessed horrific events, during the Holocaust, perished. Anti Semitism was rampant in Romania before the war and intensified in November 1941 when the Romania, under Ion Antonescu, joined the Axis Powers (Germany, Japan & Italy). About 400,000 Jews were murdered in Romania during the Holocaust. One extreme example (p24) 200 Jewish men and women were taken, by the Romanian Legionnaires to an abattoir where they were stripped naked, driven up to the slaughterhouse, beheaded and hung on iron hooks along the wall. In December 1941, nearly eight hundred Romanian Jews attempted to escape to Palestine. They rented, from a Greek named Pandelis, for extortionate prices a wooden wreck vessel of dubious seaworthiness, named Struma. Due the engine problems the Struma had to anchor at the harbor of Istanbul, Turkey where it was guarantined by Turkish authorities for ten weeks. In 1938, the government of Turkey, under Ataturk adopted a measure that forbade transit through Turkey, a law clearly aimed at the Jews fleeing Germany and other countries in Europe.Britain, that at that time ruled Palestine, refused to let Struma's passengers to land in Palestine, and encouraged the Turks to send Struma back to the Black Sea. The Turkish Government ordered the ship to be towed back to the Black Sea, where she would doubtless be cast adrift outside Turkish territorial waters. Eventually it went down after an

explosion. All drowned except David Stoliar who close to drowning was miraculously picked up by a paddling man. The loss of Struma was the largest naval civilian disaster in WWII.

#### Download to continue reading...

Death on the Black Sea: The Untold Story of the 'Struma' and World War II's Holocaust at Sea Holocaust: Saviors - True Stories Of Rescuers That Saved Holocaust Refugees (Holocaust, Auschwitz, Hitler, Concentration Camps, WW2, World War 2) J. D. Robb CD Collection 2: Rapture in Death, Ceremony in Death, Vengeance in Death (In Death Series) The Secret Holocaust Diaries: The Untold Story of Nonna Bannister Beyond Courage: The Untold Story of Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust Anne Frank: Hope in the Shadows of the Holocaust (Holocaust Heroes and Nazi Criminals) Finland's Holocaust: Silences of History (The Holocaust and its Contexts) The Girls of Atomic City: The Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win World War II The Nazi Titanic: The Incredible Untold Story of a Doomed Ship in World War II The Forgotten 500: The Untold Story of the Men Who Risked All for the Greatest Rescue Mission of World War II Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race Dead Sea Scrolls: The Untold Story War and Genocide: A Concise History of the Holocaust (Critical Issues in World and International History) Ashley's War: The Untold Story of a Team of Women Soldiers on the Special Ops Battlefield Mutiny at Fort Jackson: The Untold Story of the Fall of New Orleans (Civil War America) Stopping the Panzers: The Untold Story of D-Day (Modern War Studies (Hardcover)) The Secrets of Inchon: The Untold Story of the Most Daring Covert Mission of the Korean War Crusade: The Untold Story of the Persian Gulf War Black Earth: The Holocaust as History and Warning Voices of the Pacific: Untold Stories from the Marine Heroes of World War II

<u>Dmca</u>