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# BOOK NEWS

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### **Hunting Nazis in Franco's Spain**

*LSU Press to Publish Study of the Allied Repatriation Program in May 2014*

**Baton Rouge**—In *Hunting Nazis in Franco's Spain*, David Messenger deftly traces the development and execution of the Allied repatriation scheme, a program destined to return Nazis based in Spain to Germany, and provides an analysis of Allied, Spanish, and expatriated Germans' responses.

In the waning days and immediate aftermath of World War II, Nazi diplomats and spies decided to stay in Spain rather than return to a defeated Germany. Amid fears of a revival of the Third Reich, Allied intelligence and diplomatic officers developed the repatriation program across Europe to return these individuals to Germany where occupation authorities could further investigate them.

Yet, due to Spain's longstanding ideological alliance with Hitler, German infiltration of the Spanish economy and society was extensive, and the Allies could count on minimal Spanish cooperation in this effort. Messenger shows that by April 1946, British and American embassy staff in Madrid had drawn up three lists of 1,677 men and women targeted for repatriation to occupied Germany. While the Spanish government did round up and turn over some Germans to the Allies, many of them were intentionally overlooked in the process. By mid-1947, Franco's regime had forced only 265 people to leave Spain; most Germans managed to evade repatriation by moving from Spain to Argentina or by solidifying their ties to the Franco regime and Spanish life. By 1948, the program was effectively over.

Drawing on records in American, British, and Spanish archives, this first book-length study in English of the repatriation program tells the story of this dramatic chapter in the history of post-World War II Europe.

**David A. Messenger**, associate professor of history and global & area studies at the University of Wyoming, is the author of "*L'Espagne Républicaine*": French Policy and Spanish Republicanism in *Liberated France* and numerous articles and book chapters dealing with the Franco regime's international stance from the civil war through the Cold War.

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