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Atomic Tragedy: Henry L. Stimson and the Decision to Use the Bomb Against Japan

By Sean L. Malloy

Cornell University Press, United States, 2010. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 226 x 156 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Atomic Tragedy offers a unique perspective on one of the most important events of the twentieth century. As secretary of war during World War II, Henry L. Stimson (1867 1950) oversaw the American nuclear weapons program. In a book about how an experienced, principled man faltered when confronted by the tremendous challenge posed by the intersection of war, diplomacy, and technology, Sean L. Malloy examines Stimson s struggle to reconcile his responsibility for the most terrible weapon ever known in human history with his long-standing convictions about war and morality. Ultimately, Stimson s story is one of failure; despite his beliefs, Stimson reluctantly acquiesced in the use of the atomic bomb against heavily populated Japanese cities in August 1945. This is the first biography of Stimson to benefit from extensive use of papers relating to the Manhattan Project; Malloy has also uncovered evidence illustrating the origins of Stimson s commitment to eliminating or refining the conduct of war against civilians, information that makes clear the agony of Stimson s dilemma. The ultimate aim of Atomic Tragedy is not only to contribute...



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