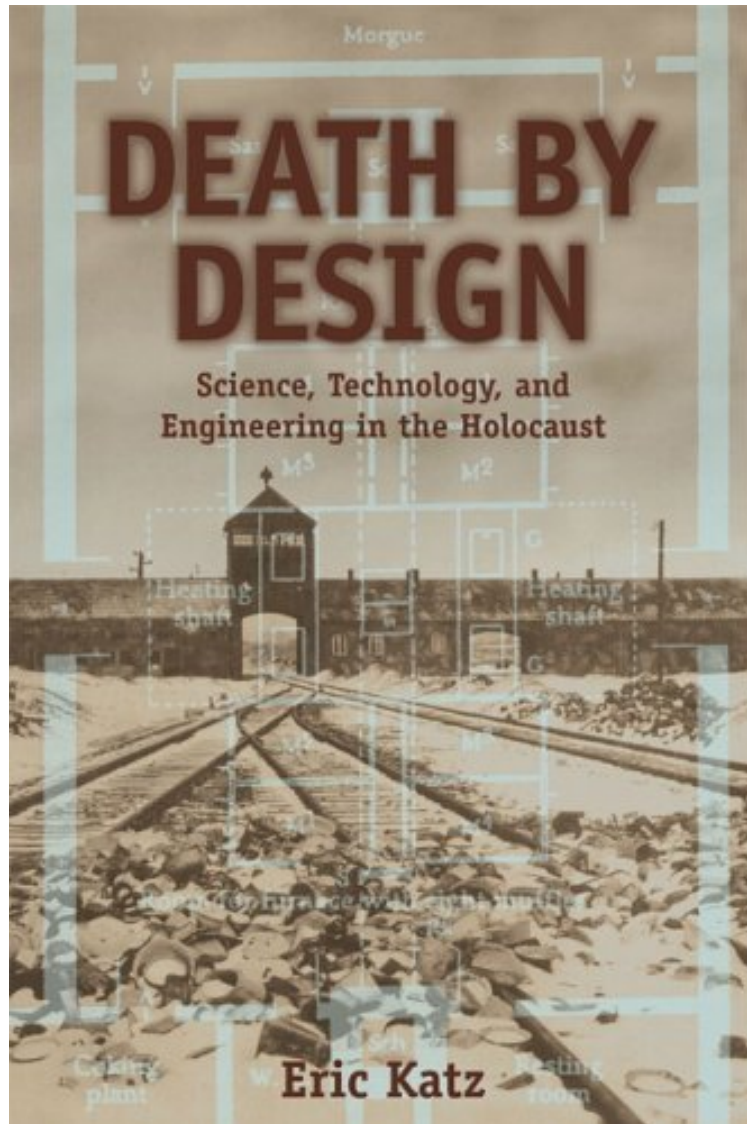


Death by Design: Science, Technology, and Engineering in Nazi Germany

Eric Katz

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Eric Katz : Death by Design: Science, Technology, and Engineering in Nazi Germany before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Death by Design: Science, Technology, and Engineering in Nazi Germany:

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at the same time the power to do great good, and great evil, sometimes at the same time. For the 'honor' of the greatest evil that science has done to mankind there would be many candidates: poison gas, the Atomic bomb come to mind, but by any standard of inhumanity the organization and operation of the holocaust has to rank quite high. For the 'Final Solution' the skills of many professions were required: It was among the first applications of data processing using IBM punched card equipment to identify those with Jewish grandparents as 'Jews.' The operation of the roundup and transportation of Jews to the camps was a major transportation effort, especially after the Allied implemented the 'Transportation Plan' to systematically attach transportation within Germany. In spite of all the other needs for transportation to support their armies, the trains kept running to the camps. Then, of course came the killing camps themselves, organized with Teutonic efficiency down to signs that would calm the new arrivals even as the Germans prepared to kill them. This book is a series of essays on the use of science and technology in organized murder. I can't help but close with a comment about the recent revisionist historians who argue that the Holocaust didn't take place. Not once do I see a defendant at Nurnberg present the defense that this didn't take place, and these people were on trial for their lives.

Through a selection of primary and secondary sources, *Death by Design* examines the uses of technology during the Holocaust and the specific ways in which scientists, architects, medical professionals, businessmen, and engineers participated in the planning and operation of the concentration and extermination camps that were the foundation of the 'final solution'. The book discusses the overriding intellectual, ethical, and philosophical implications of the Nazi's use of science and technology in their killing operations.

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