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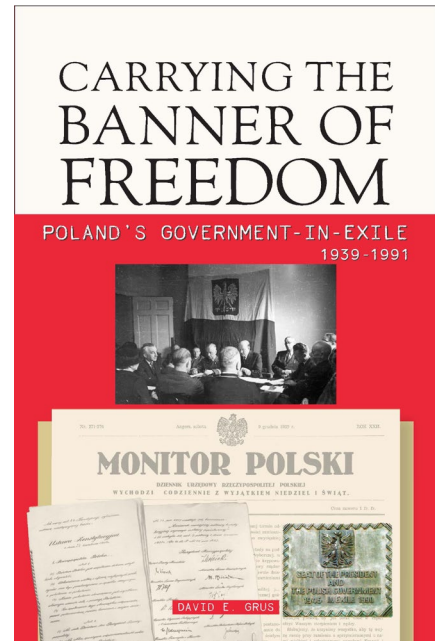
CARRYING THE BANNER OF FREEDOM: Poland's Government-in-Exile, 1939-1991

A fascinating exploration of a little-known subject--the government-in-exile of Poland which existed in London for over 50 years.

In the wake of the German and Soviet invasions in September 1939, the Republic of Poland's government re-established itself abroad, first in France, then in the United Kingdom, where it functioned until the fall of communism in Poland. It never surrendered to the Germans, nor did it accept the communist government imposed by the Soviet Union. Despite diplomatic and financial pressures, the exiles maintained a government consisting of a president, prime minister, council of ministers, national council, judiciary, and treasury, and they regularly conducted elections. Throughout its existence it remained a constant reminder of Poland's plight during and after the war.

This fascinating, comprehensive exploration of Poland's Government-in-Exile, from its creation in 1939 through the dissolution of the last of its bodies in 1991, is one of the few English-language resources on the subject. Exhaustively researched from hundreds of original documents, this book surveys a vital part of Poland's history, from the government's relations with wartime allies, its loss of recognition in 1945, its postwar mission, relevance, and international reach, and its legacy in post-communist Poland. Author David Grus closely examines internal conflicts and divisions in the exile community, the Government-in-Exile's advocacy for Poland throughout the Cold War, and its extensive support for *Solidarność*, the Solidarity opposition movement that eventually toppled communist rule in Poland.

David Grus is a second-generation Polish American. An engineer by education, he has an abiding interest in Polish history. This book is the result of his many years of research into the little-known history of Poland's Government-in-Exile. He resides in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania area.



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