

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll

Between Two Armies in the Ixil Towns of Guatemala: David Stoll's Insightful Exploration

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll presents a compelling window into one of the most complex and tragic episodes of Guatemala's recent history. This phrase encapsulates David Stoll's in-depth research and ethnographic work on the Ixil region, where indigenous communities found themselves caught in the brutal crossfire of the Guatemalan Civil War. Through his meticulous fieldwork and nuanced storytelling, Stoll reveals the human experiences behind the headlines, shedding light on how the Ixil people navigated the harrowing realities imposed by two conflicting military forces.

The Historical Context of the Guatemalan Civil War

To truly understand the gravity of the situation "between two armies in the Ixil towns of Guatemala David Stoll" describes, one must first grasp the broader historical backdrop. The Guatemalan Civil War, lasting from 1960 to 1996, was a devastating conflict fueled by political repression, social inequalities, and Cold War dynamics. The government's military forces fought against various leftist guerrilla groups, but indigenous populations, particularly the Ixil Maya, often bore the brunt of violence.

The Ixil region, located in the western highlands, became a focal point of military campaigns aimed at eradicating guerrilla influence. The Guatemalan army suspected the Ixil people of supporting insurgents, which led to widespread atrocities. David Stoll's work delves into this fraught environment, highlighting the daily struggles and survival strategies of the Ixil communities trapped "between two armies."

David Stoll's Ethnographic Approach

David Stoll is not just a historian but also an anthropologist whose fieldwork has been integral to understanding the lived realities in the Ixil towns. His approach involves immersive ethnography, which means spending extended periods living among the Ixil people, listening to their stories, and documenting their perspectives. This method allows Stoll to present a multi-dimensional view of the conflict, moving beyond simplistic narratives of victimhood or rebellion.

Listening to the Ixil Voices

One of the most striking aspects of Stoll's work is his commitment to amplifying

indigenous voices. The phrase “between two armies in the Ixil towns of Guatemala David Stoll” underscores the precarious position of the Ixil, who were often portrayed in external reports as either guerrilla sympathizers or passive victims. Stoll’s research reveals a more complex picture: the Ixil were navigating survival, community cohesion, and cultural preservation amid extreme violence.

By recounting personal testimonies, Stoll highlights how families coped with displacement, loss, and fear. These stories illustrate resilience and agency, challenging the one-dimensional portrayals common in mainstream war narratives.

The Impact of Military Violence on Ixil Communities

The Guatemalan army’s scorched-earth tactics in the Ixil region led to widespread destruction of villages and mass human rights abuses. Stoll’s work documents how the Ixil towns became battlegrounds where civilians were caught “between two armies,” enduring not only physical violence but also cultural and psychological trauma.

Displacement and Loss

Military campaigns forced many Ixil families to flee their ancestral lands, leading to mass displacement. Entire villages were razed, and survivors faced hunger, disease, and uncertainty in refugee camps or unfamiliar urban environments. Stoll’s detailed accounts emphasize the long-term consequences of displacement, including the erosion of traditional social structures and economic hardship.

Psychological and Cultural Consequences

Beyond the immediate physical dangers, the conflict inflicted deep psychological wounds. Stoll explores how constant fear and loss of community identity affected the Ixil people’s sense of self and belonging. He also examines the attempts made by the Ixil to preserve their language, customs, and rituals despite the pressures of war and forced migration.

The Strategic Position of the Ixil Towns

The phrase “between two armies in the Ixil towns of Guatemala David Stoll” also refers to the geographic and strategic importance of the Ixil region during the civil war. The rugged highlands provided both refuge and a battleground for guerrilla forces and government troops.

Geography as a Double-Edged Sword

The difficult terrain of the Ixil area made it a natural stronghold for rebel groups but also rendered the local population vulnerable to military “counterinsurgency” operations. Stoll’s exploration of this dynamic highlights how geography shaped the experiences of war, influencing patterns of attack, defense, and displacement.

Ixil Towns as Sites of Contestation

Key towns such as Santa María Nebaj, San Juan Cotzal, and San Gaspar Chajul became symbols of resistance and suffering. Stoll’s detailed accounts of these communities reveal how they oscillated between moments of relative calm and intense violence, embodying the struggle of a people caught between opposing forces.

David Stoll’s Contribution to Understanding Indigenous Conflict

David Stoll’s research stands out for its depth, nuance, and commitment to portraying the complexities of indigenous experiences during the Guatemalan Civil War. His work has contributed significantly to academic and popular understandings of this dark chapter.

Challenging Simplistic Narratives

Many accounts of the Guatemalan conflict tend to polarize actors into heroes and villains. Stoll’s fieldwork disrupts this binary by showing the Ixil as active agents navigating a perilous environment, often forced to make difficult choices for survival.

Informing Human Rights and Reconciliation Efforts

By documenting the firsthand experiences of the Ixil people, Stoll’s work has also provided valuable insights for human rights advocates and reconciliation initiatives. Understanding the nuanced realities “between two armies” helps in crafting policies and programs that acknowledge indigenous suffering while empowering communities.

Lessons from the Ixil Experience

Reflecting on “between two armies in the Ixil towns of Guatemala David Stoll” offers broader lessons about war, indigenous rights, and resilience.

- **The human cost of geopolitical conflicts:** The Ixil story reminds us that wars fought over ideology and power often devastate marginalized communities.
- **Importance of ethnographic research:** Immersive fieldwork like Stoll's provides perspectives that are often missing from official histories.
- **Resilience amidst adversity:** Despite suffering, the Ixil people's commitment to preserving their culture and community highlights human endurance.
- **The need for inclusive peacebuilding:** Sustainable peace requires acknowledging the voices of indigenous populations and addressing their specific needs.

Exploring the experiences of the Ixil towns caught "between two armies" through David Stoll's scholarship enriches our understanding of conflict, identity, and survival. It urges us to look beyond statistics and political rhetoric, inviting empathy and deeper awareness of the human stories woven into the fabric of history.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is David Stoll in relation to the Ixil towns of Guatemala?

David Stoll is an anthropologist and author who conducted extensive research on the Ixil towns of Guatemala, focusing on the impact of the Guatemalan civil war on indigenous communities.

What is the main theme of David Stoll's work 'Between Two Armies in the Ixil Towns of Guatemala'?

The main theme of David Stoll's work is the experience of the Ixil people caught between the Guatemalan army and guerrilla forces during the civil war, highlighting the social, political, and cultural consequences of the conflict.

How does David Stoll describe the role of the Ixil communities during the Guatemalan civil war?

David Stoll describes the Ixil communities as caught in a tragic position between two hostile armies, often suffering human rights abuses and violence, which led to significant displacement and trauma among the indigenous population.

What methodology did David Stoll use to study the Ixil towns during the conflict?

David Stoll employed ethnographic fieldwork, including interviews, participant

observation, and analysis of historical and political contexts, to provide a detailed account of the Ixil people's experiences during the civil war.

Why is 'Between Two Armies in the Ixil Towns of Guatemala' considered important for understanding the Guatemalan civil war?

The work is important because it offers a nuanced perspective from the indigenous Ixil viewpoint, shedding light on the complexities of the conflict beyond military and political narratives, and emphasizing the human cost of war on marginalized communities.

Additional Resources

Between Two Armies in the Ixil Towns of Guatemala: David Stoll's Investigative Lens

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll presents a compelling exploration into the complexities of conflict and identity within one of Guatemala's most turbulent regions. David Stoll, a renowned anthropologist and author, has delved deeply into the realities faced by the Ixil communities caught amidst the violence of Guatemala's civil war, offering a nuanced perspective that challenges prevailing narratives and sheds light on the human dimensions of warfare.

Contextualizing the Ixil Conflict in Guatemala

The Ixil towns, nestled in the highlands of Guatemala, became an epicenter of violence during the decades-long civil war that gripped the country from the 1960s to the mid-1990s. This conflict pitted the Guatemalan government and its military forces against various insurgent groups, with indigenous populations like the Ixil Maya often ensnared in the crossfire. The region's rugged terrain and the sociopolitical marginalization of indigenous peoples contributed to a brutal dynamic where suspicion, fear, and violence permeated everyday life.

David Stoll's work is crucial in understanding this environment because he moves beyond simplistic binaries of victim and aggressor. Instead, he explores how the Ixil communities navigated the pressures exerted by "two armies": the state military and guerrilla forces. This duality created a precarious existence where loyalties were questioned, alliances were fragile, and survival was a daily challenge.

David Stoll's Methodological Approach

David Stoll's methodology in examining the Ixil conflict is marked by immersive ethnographic research combined with critical analysis of historical records and testimonies. Unlike many studies that rely heavily on official narratives or secondary reports, Stoll conducted extensive fieldwork within the Ixil towns themselves. His

approach included:

- Interviews with local residents, survivors, and combatants from both sides.
- Participant observation to gain insight into community life amidst conflict.
- Critical examination of government and military documents alongside insurgent communications.

This blend of qualitative and documentary research allowed Stoll to capture the complexities of identity, fear, and resistance in a region often reduced to statistics or political propaganda.

Between Two Armies: The Human Dimension of Conflict

One of the defining features of David Stoll's analysis in **between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll** is the focus on the lived experiences of the Ixil people. The phrase "between two armies" encapsulates the profound dilemma faced by this indigenous community: caught between the Guatemalan military's counterinsurgency campaigns and the guerrilla fighters seeking political change.

Military Strategy and Its Impact on Ixil Communities

The government's military strategy in the Ixil region was characterized by scorched-earth tactics aimed at eradicating guerrilla support bases. Villages were destroyed, crops burned, and populations forcibly displaced. Stoll highlights how this strategy often backfired, alienating the very communities the military sought to control. The Ixil towns were subjected to:

- Forced relocations and internment in "model villages."
- Widespread human rights abuses, including massacres and disappearances.
- Psychological trauma resulting from perpetual surveillance and threats.

Yet, Stoll notes that the Ixil were not passive victims; rather, they employed various survival strategies, negotiating their position between the two forces to maintain cultural continuity and community cohesion.

Guerrilla Presence and Ixil Responses

On the other side, guerrilla groups sought to recruit from the indigenous populations, viewing them as natural allies against the oppressive state. However, the relationship between the guerrillas and the Ixil was far from straightforward. Stoll's research reveals:

- Instances of coercion and forced recruitment by insurgents.
- Local resistance to guerrilla demands based on fears of reprisals from the military.
- Cultural and political divides within Ixil communities influencing their support or opposition to the guerrillas.

This nuanced portrayal challenges the simplistic portrayal of indigenous populations as monolithic blocs of support for one side or another, underscoring the agency of the Ixil people under duress.

Reassessing Historical Narratives Through Stoll's Work

David Stoll's scholarship is particularly significant for its challenge to dominant historical narratives surrounding the Guatemalan civil war. Many accounts have emphasized the military's narrative of counterinsurgency or framed the indigenous peoples solely as victims. In contrast, Stoll's work insists on the complexity of the Ixil experience.

Critiques and Controversies

While Stoll's work has been praised for its depth and originality, it has also sparked debate among scholars and human rights activists. Some critiques focus on:

- His skepticism toward certain eyewitness testimonies and mass atrocity claims.
- Concerns that his emphasis on indigenous agency might inadvertently downplay the scale of violence inflicted by the military.
- Questions about the balance between advocacy and academic neutrality in his analysis.

These debates highlight the challenges inherent in studying conflict zones, where narratives are contested and memory is fraught with pain.

Contributions to Indigenous Studies and Conflict Anthropology

Despite controversies, Stoll's research enriches the fields of indigenous studies and conflict anthropology by providing a textured understanding of how communities endure and adapt in war zones. His work informs:

- Policy discussions on post-conflict reconciliation and reparations.
- Academic debates about the role of ethnicity and identity in civil conflicts.
- Efforts to preserve indigenous cultural heritage amid violent upheaval.

Legacy and Contemporary Relevance

The themes explored in **between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll** remain relevant today as Guatemala continues to grapple with the legacies of its civil war. Issues of justice, memory, and indigenous rights are central to ongoing national dialogues.

Stoll's work serves as a vital resource for understanding how historical trauma shapes present-day realities in the Ixil region and beyond. It also offers broader lessons on the perils of conflict that divides communities and the resilience of those who live caught "between two armies."

As Guatemala moves forward, the insights from David Stoll's investigation encourage a more empathetic, comprehensive approach to addressing past atrocities and fostering sustainable peace among its diverse populations.

[Between Two Armies In The Ixil Towns Of Guatemala David Stoll](#)

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: Guatemalans in the Aftermath of Violence Kristi Anne Stølen, 2007-06-13 In this study of Guatemalan peasants rebuilding their lives after years in the crossfire, anthropologist Kristi Anne Stølen examines the dynamics of violence, survival strategies in situations of extreme violence, and social reconstruction in its aftermath.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: Political Movements and Violence in Central America Charles D. Brockett, 2005-03-14 This book offers an indepth analysis of the confrontation between popular movements and repressive regimes in Central America for the three decades beginning in 1960, particularly in El Salvador and Guatemala. It examines both urban

and rural groups as well as both nonviolent social movements and revolutionary movements. It studies the impact of state violence on contentious political movements as well as defends the political process model for studying such movements.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: To Save Her Life Dan Saxon, 2007-05-21 Part human rights drama, part political thriller, part love story, this riveting narrative chronicles the disappearance of one woman as it tells the larger story of the past fifty years of violence and struggle for social justice and democracy, and U.S. intervention in Guatemala. Maritza Urrutia was abducted from a middle-class neighborhood while taking her son to school in 1992. To Save Her Life tells the story of her ordeal which included being interrogated in secret by army intelligence officers about her activities as part of a political opposition group. Chained to a bed, blindfolded, and deprived of sleep, Maritza was ultimately spared because her family was able to contact influential intermediaries, including author Dan Saxon, who was in Guatemala working for the Catholic Church's Human Rights Office. Here Saxon brings to life the web of players who achieved her release: the Church, the U.S. State Department, the U.S. Congress, numerous NGOs, guerrilla groups, politicians, students, and the media. Reaching back to 1954, when Maritza's grandparents were activists, the book is a study of the complex and often cruel politics of human rights, and its themes reverberate from Guatemala to Guantánamo to Iraq.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: The Politics of the Spirit Timothy J. Steigenga, 2002-05-24 The Politics of the Spirit is a masterful study of the political effects of evangelical Protestantism in Central America. Timothy Steigenga's thoughtfully crafted work questions whether the spread of Protestantism in Latin America has reinforced authoritarian elements in political culture or deepened nascent democracy. Steigenga provides a thorough review of the literature on religion and politics in Latin America, putting many of the hypotheses generated in this literature to the test through an analysis of comparative survey data and qualitative interviews. Steigenga investigates the impact religious affiliation has on political activity and belief, and the influence of cross-denominational religious beliefs and practices on Latin American life. His comparative work explores how different political systems--the established democracy of Costa Rica and the transitional system of Guatemala--impact the politics of religion. This enlightening interdisciplinary book will appeal to scholars seeking to understand the relationships between religious and political change in Latin America.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: Buried Secrets Victoria Sanford, 2003-04-19 Between the late 1970s and the late-1980s, Guatemala was torn by mass terror and extreme violence in a genocidal campaign against the Maya, which became known as La Violencia. More than 600 massacres occurred, one and a half million people were displaced, and more than 200,000 civilians were murdered, most of them Maya. Buried Secrets brings these chilling statistics to life as it chronicles the journey of Maya survivors seeking truth, justice, and community healing, and demonstrates that the Guatemalan army carried out a systematic and intentional genocide against the Maya. The book is based on exhaustive research, including more than 400 testimonies from massacre survivors, interviews with members of the forensic team, human rights leaders, high-ranking military officers, guerrilla combatants, and government officials. Buried Secrets traces truth-telling and political change from isolated Maya villages to national political events, and provides a unique look into the experiences of Maya survivors as they struggle to rebuild their communities and lives.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: Inter-American Yearbook on Human Rights / Anuario Interamericano de Derechos Humanos, Volume 10 (1994) Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Inter-American Court of Human Rights, 2022-08-15 The print edition is available as a set of two volumes (9789041103024).

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: Reconciliation, Nations and Churches in Latin America Iain S. Maclean, 2016-04-22 This book examines the recent phenomenon in Latin America of national Truth and Reconciliation commissions. Few studies have examined the role of Churches or religion in political processes that proclaim valued theological

terms as their agenda - truth, forgiveness, and reconciliation. This book questions the role of religion, specifically of established Churches. The impact of such reconciliation commissions on Indigenous Native Americans is also examined, as is the role of women and how both commissions and Churches or religions were challenged by their experiences. The contributors offer differing perspectives on one or more national truth and reconciliation processes and thus offer a collection that serves as valuable source for the disciplines of Religious Studies, Ethics, Theology, Political Science, Social Sciences and Women's Studies.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: *The Guatemalan Military Project* Jennifer Schirmer, 2010-08-03 In 1999, the Guatemala truth commission issued its report on human rights violations during Guatemala's thirty-six-year civil war that ended in 1996. The commission, sponsored by the UN, estimates the conflict resulted in 200,000 deaths and disappearances. The commission holds the Guatemalan military responsible for 93 percent of the deaths. In *The Guatemalan Military Project*, Jennifer Schirmer documents the military's role in human rights violations through a series of extensive interviews striking in their brutal frankness and unique in their first-hand descriptions of the campaign against Guatemala's citizens. High-ranking officers explain in their own words their thoughts and feelings regarding violence, political opposition, national security doctrine, democracy, human rights, and law. Additional interviews with congressional deputies, Guatemalan lawyers, journalists, social scientists, and a former president give a full and balanced account of the Guatemalan power structure and ruling system. With expert analysis of these interviews in the context of cultural, legal, and human rights considerations, *The Guatemalan Military Project* provides a successful evaluation of the possibilities and processes of conversion from war to peace in Latin America and around the world.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: *The Bible in Human Society* Mark Daniel Carroll R., David J. A. Clines, Philip R. Davies, 1995-10-01 This collection of essays written by biblical scholars from around the world attempts to probe the relationship between the Bible and the world. It reflects modern social, political and hermeneutical issues, including liberation concerns. These themes echo John Rogerson's commitment to relate his research and the Bible to contemporary issues - a commitment visible both in his publications and in his religious and political activities. This book is an expression of appreciation of John Rogerson by former and current colleagues, former students, and other biblical scholars.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: *Ideology and Mass Killing* Jonathan Leader Maynard, 2022-05-26 In research on 'mass killings' such as genocides and campaigns of state terror, the role of ideology is hotly debated. For some scholars, ideologies are crucial in providing the extremist goals and hatreds that motivate ideologically committed people to kill. But many other scholars are sceptical: contending that perpetrators of mass killing rarely seem ideologically committed, and that rational self-interest or powerful forms of social pressure are more important drivers of violence than ideology. In *Ideology and Mass Killing*, Jonathan Leader Maynard challenges both these prevailing views, advancing an alternative 'neo-ideological' perspective which systematically retheorises the key ideological foundations of large-scale violence against civilians. Integrating cutting-edge research from multiple disciplines, including political science, political psychology, history and sociology, *Ideology and Mass Killing* demonstrates that ideological justifications vitally shape such violence in ways that go beyond deep ideological commitment. Most disturbingly of all, the key ideological foundations of mass killings are found to lie, not in extraordinary political goals or hatreds, but in radicalised versions of those conventional, widely accepted ideas that underpin the politics of security in ordinary societies across the world. This study then substantiates this account by a detailed examination of four contrasting cases of mass killing - Stalinist Repression in the Soviet Union between 1930 and 1938, the Allied Bombing Campaign against Germany and Japan in World War II from 1940 to 1945, mass atrocities in the Guatemalan Civil War between 1978 and 1983, and the Rwandan Genocide in 1994. This represents the first volume to offer a dedicated, comparative theory of ideology's role in mass killing, while also developing a powerful new account of how ideology affects violence and politics more generally.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: *Religious Freedom and Evangelization in Latin America* Paul E. Sigmund, 2009-05-01 In his introduction, Paul Sigmund states that the growing religious pluralism in Latin America is one of several reasons why the trend toward democracy that has marked the last two decades may endure. Nevertheless, Sigmund notes that this new pluralism, particularly the growth of Protestantism, has led to tensions that must be resolved. *Religious Freedom and Evangelization in Latin America* provides an indispensable resource for understanding the range of issues confronting the continent, offering Catholic as well as Protestant perspectives, and trenchant analyses of the situation in different countries, including Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Cuba.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: *Maya after War* Jennifer L. Burrell, 2013-05-15 Guatemala's thirty-six-year civil war culminated in peace accords in 1996, but the postwar transition has been marked by continued violence, including lynchings and the rise of gangs, as well as massive wage-labor exodus to the United States. For the Mam Maya municipality of Todos Santos Cuchumatán, inhabited by a predominantly indigenous peasant population, the aftermath of war and genocide resonates with a long-standing tension between state techniques of governance and ancient community-level power structures that incorporated concepts of kinship, gender, and generation. Showing the ways in which these complex histories are interlinked with wartime and enduring family/class conflicts, *Maya after War* provides a nuanced account of a unique transitional postwar situation, including the complex influence of neoliberal intervention. Drawing on ethnographic field research over a twenty-year period, Jennifer L. Burrell explores the after-war period in a locale where community struggles span culture, identity, and history. Investigating a range of tensions from the local to the international, Burrell employs unique methodologies, including mapmaking, history workshops, and an informal translation of a historic ethnography, to analyze the role of conflict in animating what matters to Todosanteros in their everyday lives and how the residents negotiate power. Examining the community-based divisions alongside national postwar contexts, *Maya after War* considers the aura of hope that surrounded the signing of the peace accords, and the subsequent doubt and waiting that have fueled unrest, encompassing generational conflicts. This study is a rich analysis of the multifaceted forces at work in the quest for peace, in Guatemala and beyond.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: *State Violence and Genocide in Latin America* Marcia Esparza, Henry R. Huttenbach, Daniel Feierstein, 2009-09-10 This edited volume explores political violence and genocide in Latin America during the Cold War, examining this in light of the United States' hegemonic position on the continent. Using case studies based on the regimes of Argentina, Chile, Guatemala, Peru and Uruguay, this book shows how U.S. foreign policy – far from promoting long term political stability and democratic institutions – has actually undermined them. The first part of the book is an inquiry into the larger historical context in which the development of an unequal power relationship between the United States and Latin American and Caribbean nations evolved after the proliferation of the Monroe Doctrine. The region came to be seen as a contested terrain in the East-West conflict of the Cold War, and a new US-inspired ideology, the 'National Security Doctrine', was used to justify military operations and the hunting down of individuals and groups labelled as 'communists'. Following on from this historical context, the book then provides an analysis of the mechanisms of state and genocidal violence is offered, demonstrating how in order to get to know the internal enemy, national armies relied on US intelligence training and economic aid to carry out their surveillance campaigns. This book will be of interest to students of Latin American politics, US foreign policy, human rights and terrorism and political violence in general. Marcia Esparza is an Assistant Professor in Criminal Justice Department at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City. Henry R. Huttenbach is the Founder and Chairman of the International Academy for Genocide Prevention and Professor Emeritus of City College of the City University of New York. Daniel Feierstein is the Director of the Center for Genocide Studies at the Universidad Nacional de Tres de Febrero, Argentina, and is a Professor in the Faculty of Genocide at the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: Latin America 2024-2025

William H. Beezley, 2024-10-25 The World Today Series: Latin America offers the latest available economic, demographic, political, and cultural information. Including solid statistical data expressing freedom, violence, and governmental orientation. Consideration is given to the evolving relationships with the United States and other Latin American nations. Revisions have also addressed new historical interpretations, for example, of the history of Mexico and latest political changes, for example, in Venezuela and Cuba. Maps, charts, and photographs provide extensive visual expressions of the region, its geography, peoples, and cultures, in particular public architecture, agricultural technology, specular geology, and striking diversity. The images offer a narrative of the multiplicity of peoples as demonstrated in their clothing, economic and everyday activities, their physical surroundings. Consequently, the narrative combines global economics, national politics, and daily social life throughout the region. The chapters can be read as individual histories for each of the countries, within the context created by contrasts and similarities with the other nations of Latin America.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: Final Solutions Benjamin A. Valentino, 2013-01-19 Benjamin A. Valentino finds that ethnic hatreds or discrimination, undemocratic systems of government, and dysfunctions in society play a much smaller role in mass killing and genocide than is commonly assumed. He shows that the impetus for mass killing usually originates from a relatively small group of powerful leaders and is often carried out without the active support of broader society. Mass killing, in his view, is a brutal political or military strategy designed to accomplish leaders' most important objectives, counter threats to their power, and solve their most difficult problems. In order to capture the full scope of mass killing during the twentieth century, Valentino does not limit his analysis to violence directed against ethnic groups, or to the attempt to destroy victim groups as such, as do most previous studies of genocide. Rather, he defines mass killing broadly as the intentional killing of a massive number of noncombatants, using the criteria of 50,000 or more deaths within five years as a quantitative standard. Final Solutions focuses on three types of mass killing: communist mass killings like the ones carried out in the Soviet Union, China, and Cambodia; ethnic genocides as in Armenia, Nazi Germany, and Rwanda; and counter-guerrilla campaigns including the brutal civil war in Guatemala and the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. Valentino closes the book by arguing that attempts to prevent mass killing should focus on disarming and removing from power the leaders and small groups responsible for instigating and organizing the killing.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: Hemisphere , 1994

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: Emerging Sign Languages of the Americas Olivier Le Guen, Josefina Safar, Marie Coppola, 2020-11-23 This volume is the first to bring together researchers studying a range of different types of emerging sign languages in the Americas, and their relationship to the gestures produced in the surrounding communities of hearing individuals. Contents Acknowledgements Olivier Le Guen, Marie Coppola and Josefina Safar Introduction: How Emerging Sign Languages in the Americas contributes to the study of linguistics and (emerging) sign languages Part I: Emerging sign languages of the Americas. Descriptions and analysis John Haviland Signs, interaction, coordination, and gaze: interactive foundations of "Z"—an emerging (sign) language from Chiapas, Mexico Laura Horton Representational strategies in shared homesign systems from Nebaj, Guatemala Josefina Safar and Rodrigo Petatillo Chan Strategies of noun-verb distinction in Yucatec Maya Sign Languages Emmanuella Martinod, Brigitte Garcia and Ivani Fusellier A typological perspective on the meaningful handshapes in the emerging sign languages on Marajó Island (Brazil) Ben Braithwaite Emerging sign languages in the Caribbean Olivier Le Guen, Rebeca Petatillo and Rita (Rossy) Kinil Canché Yucatec Maya multimodal interaction as the basis for Yucatec Maya Sign Language Marie Coppola Gestures, homesign, sign language: Cultural and social factors driving lexical conventionalization Part II: Sociolinguistic sketches John B. Haviland Zinacantec family homesign (or "Z") Laura Horton A sociolinguistic sketch of deaf individuals and families from Nebaj, Guatemala Josefina Safar and Olivier Le Guen

Yucatec Maya Sign Language(s): A sociolinguistic overview Emmanuella Martinod, Brigitte Garcia and Ivani Fusellier Sign Languages on Marajó Island (Brazil) Ben Braithwaite Sociolinguistic sketch of Providence Island Sign Language Kristian Ali and Ben Braithwaite Bay Islands Sign Language: A Sociolinguistic Sketch Marie Coppola Sociolinguistic sketch: Nicaraguan Sign Language and Homesign Systems in Nicaragua

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: *Conversion of a Continent* Timothy Steigenga, Edward L. Cleary, 2009-11-27 A massive religious transformation has unfolded over the past forty years in Latin America and the Caribbean. In a region where the Catholic Church could once claim a near monopoly of adherents, religious pluralism has fundamentally altered the social and religious landscape. *Conversion of a Continent* brings together twelve original essays that document and explore competing explanations for how and why conversion has occurred. Contributors draw on various insights from social movement theory to religious studies to help outline its impact on national attitudes and activities, gender relations, identity politics, and reverse waves of missions from Latin America aimed at the American immigrant community. Unlike other studies on religious conversion, this volume pays close attention to who converts, under what circumstances, the meaning of conversion to the individual, and how the change affects converts' beliefs and actions. The thematic focus makes this volume important to students and scholars in both religious studies and Latin American studies.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: *The Rigoberta Menchú Controversy* Arturo Arias, David Stoll, 2001 Guatemalan indigenous rights activist Rigoberta Menchu first came to international prominence following the 1983 publication of her memoir, *I, Rigoberta Menchu*, which chronicled in compelling detail the violence and misery that she and her people suffered during her country's brutal civil war. The book focused world attention on Guatemala and led to her being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1992. In 1999, a book by David Stoll challenged the veracity of key details in Menchu's account, generating a storm of controversy. Journalists and scholars squared off regarding whether Menchu had lied about her past and, if so, what that would mean about the larger truths revealed in her book. In *The Rigoberta Menchu Controversy*, Arturo Arias has assembled a casebook that offers a balanced perspective on the debate. The first section of this volume collects the primary documents -- newspaper articles, interviews, and official statements -- in which the debate raged, many translated into English for the first time. In the second section, a distinguished group of international scholars assesses the political, historical, and cultural contexts of the debate, and considers its implications for such issues as the culture wars, historical truth, and the politics of memory. Also included is a new essay by David Stoll in which he responds to his critics.

between two armies in the ixil towns of guatemala david stoll: Civil-Military Relations in Post-Conflict Societies Orlando J. Pérez, 2015-04-10 Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Honduras are four Spanish speaking countries in Central America that possess uniformed military institutions. These four countries represent different approaches to reforms of civil-military relations, and embody varying degrees of success in both institutional democratization and the managing of security forces. In this book, Orlando J. Pérez expertly examines the competing theories of civil-military relations in Central America to advance our understanding of the origins, consequences and persistence of militarism in Latin America. Divided into four parts, Pérez begins by proposing a theoretical framework for analyzing civil-military relations, including an analysis of how U.S. foreign and military policy affects the establishment of stable civilian supremacy over the armed forces. Part Two examines the institutional and legal structures under which civil-military relations are carried out revealing in Part Three the reorientation of the missions and roles performed by the armed forces in each country. The concluding part analyzes the role beliefs of members of the military and public opinion about the armed forces in relation to other institutions. Combining both qualitative and quantitative data, Pérez bridges the gap between structural and cultural analyses for a more comprehensive understanding of the links between micro and macro level factors that influence civil-military relations and democratic governance.

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