

About the author of this book:

WILLIAM L. SHIRER established an international reputation as radio's foremost interpreter of Germany during the crucial years of the Third Reich. Because of his work in Berlin during this time, much of Mr. Shirer's current writing about Germany grows out of his first-hand observations of that period. In addition, he has done extensive research in the massive data of captured Nazi documents and papers.

William L. Shirer was born in Chicago in 1904 and attended Coe College in Iowa. On graduation in 1925 he borrowed \$200 for a two-month trip to Europe which lasted 20 years. He worked on the Paris editions of the *Chicago Tribune* and the *New York Herald Tribune* and then became a foreign correspondent for the *Tribune* and the Universal News Service. In 1937 he joined the CBS foreign news staff and was stationed in Germany. While history was being made and Hitler was acclaiming Nazi supremacy, Mr. Shirer was close at hand, observing and reporting. Since 1947, when he left CBS, he has devoted his time to his writing.

Mr. Shirer and his wife are the parents of two daughters. They live alternately in a New York apartment overlooking the East River and on a farm in Connecticut. The farm has a barn which has been converted into a writing studio, and this is where Mr. Shirer does most of his work. Mr. Shirer is the author of several books, including *Berlin Diary* and another best-seller, *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*, published in 1960.