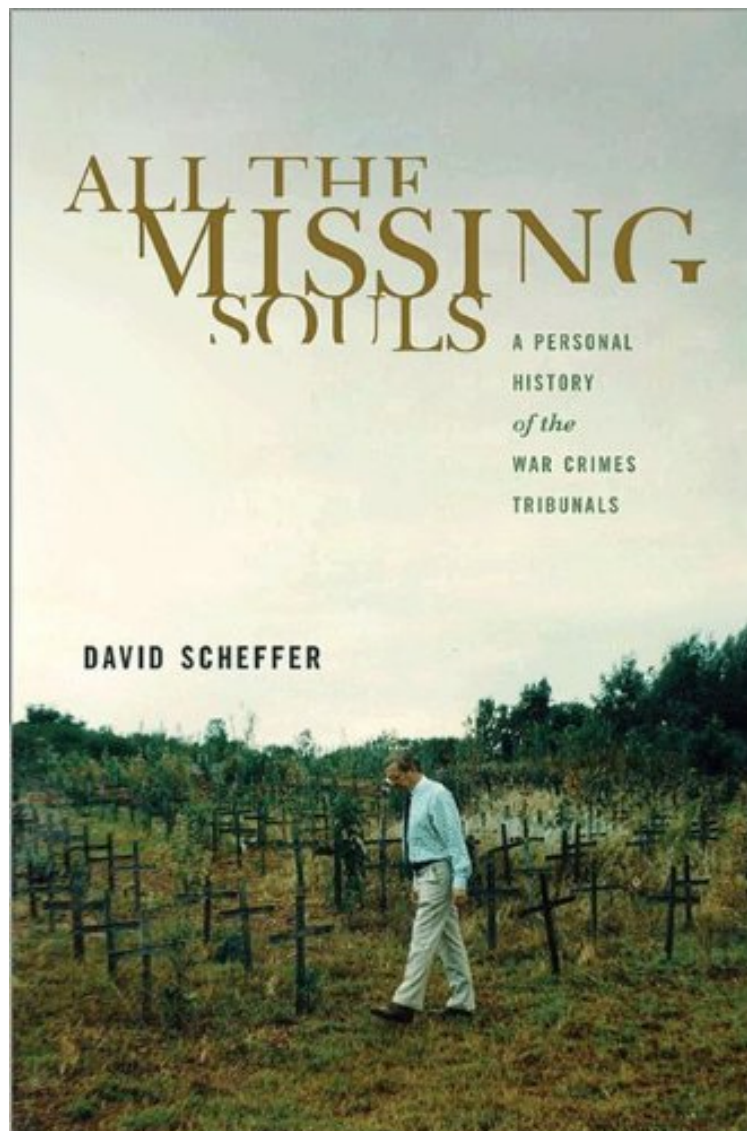


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## All the Missing Souls: A Personal History of the War Crimes Tribunals (Human Rights and Crimes against Humanity)

*David Scheffer*

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**David Scheffer : All the Missing Souls: A Personal History of the War Crimes Tribunals (Human Rights and Crimes against Humanity)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised All the Missing Souls: A Personal History of the War Crimes Tribunals (Human Rights and Crimes against Humanity):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I didn't really enjoy this book and though this guy was a little ...By BeckettI didn't really enjoy this book and thought this guy was pretentious and self-serving. There is gold but you have to mine through a lot of minutiae. The audio book was horrible. It sounded like a computer read the book.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. GreatBy NatashaFantastic book. I love the political aspects brought to life. It brings a wonderful introduction to the need for international justice.4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. DisappointmentBy CustomerDavid Scheffer proves that it is indeed possible for a book concerning atrocities to be overly maudlin. It is disappointingly poor writing from one of the architects of modern international justice, even one who is as angry and resentful, as the editorial reviews label him. For want of a well-turned phrase, Scheffer is happy to string together several sloppy ones. The polemic is far more forgivable for its tone and vitriol than it is for its unrelenting inelegance. There was a truly good book to be written here, and Scheffer has failed far worse in that project than ever he did in the events that it attempts to frame.

Within days of Madeleine Albright's confirmation as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations in 1993, she instructed David Scheffer to spearhead the historic mission to create a war crimes tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. As senior adviser to Albright and then as President Clinton's ambassador-at-large for war crimes issues, Scheffer was at the forefront of the efforts that led to criminal tribunals for the Balkans, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and Cambodia, and that resulted in the creation of the permanent International Criminal Court. *All the Missing Souls* is Scheffer's gripping insider's account of the international gamble to prosecute those responsible for genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity, and to redress some of the bloodiest human rights atrocities in our time. Scheffer reveals the truth behind Washington's failures during the 1994 Rwandan genocide and the 1995 Srebrenica massacre, the anemic hunt for notorious war criminals, how American exceptionalism undercut his diplomacy, and the perilous quests for accountability in Kosovo and Cambodia. He takes readers from the killing fields of Sierra Leone to the political back rooms of the U.N. Security Council, providing candid portraits of major figures such as Madeleine Albright, Anthony Lake, Richard Goldstone, Louise Arbour, Samuel "Sandy" Berger, Richard Holbrooke, and Wesley Clark, among others. A stirring personal account of an important historical chapter, *All the Missing Souls* provides new insights into the continuing struggle for international justice.

From BookforumScheffer provides an almost dizzying amount of information about how even the best-intentioned efforts to confront human rights atrocities on his watch fell repeatedly short. Because we follow him through grinding days, a sense of tunnel vision can set in. However, he writes clearly and at times grippingly, with especially strong accounts of the horrors wrought in Rwanda and Sierra Leone. Marguerite Feitlowitz Winner of the 2012 Book of the Year Award, American National Section of L'Association Internationale de Droit Pnal (AIDP) Selected for the Washington Post's "Best of 2012: 50 notable works of nonfiction" "All the Missing Souls is a very personal history, an angry book by an often bitter man caught in the middle, conflicted in his loyalties, trying to advance the American agenda on international justice, while simultaneously having to tell potential allies in other countries that the agenda did not apply to Americans. . . . [T]he question of whether the establishment of international justice was actually worth it hangs over David Scheffer's narrative. . . . Justice--imperfect, partial, expensive--has been done and even been seen to be done. In these places, murderous rages have subsided. Some have reconciled. States have achieved stability. People are moving on. One of the reasons for this may be that in some cases justice was done. If so, David Scheffer can be proud of what he tried to do."--Michael Ignatieff, *New York of Books*"The story [Scheffer] tells is fascinating, for it makes clear that his principal adversary in the struggle for international justice wasn't African warlords or Balkan nationalists but members of his own government."--Lawrence R Douglas, *Times Literary Supplement*"A diplomat fights an uphill battle to bring the worst criminals to justice in this dogged memoir. . . . Scheffer's narrative is an epic diplomatic history. . . . In it we see the birth of a more responsible and civilized world order."--Publishers Weekly"David Scheffer, a former State Department official who was a major architect of the five new tribunals of the 1990s, takes a refreshingly different approach to American pride in his semi-autobiographical study of the new courts. He is critical of his president (Clinton), he is critical of his secretary of state (Albright), and, remarkably and refreshingly in an American memoir in the twenty-first century, he is critical of himself. . . . Scheffer . . . offers an impressively gripping and persuasive story of the complexity of his own undertakings: the cooperation across bureaucracies domestic and international, the development of law respectfully and creatively, and the furious indifference of circumstance to the best of intentions. In other words, he has written a good book of contemporary history."--Timothy Snyder, *New Republic*"A revealing and valuable record of the U.S. role in the effort to entrench accountability for mass atrocities as a central principle in international affairs. . . . The centerpiece of Scheffer's book is a long and vivid account of the negotiations to set up a permanent International Criminal Court."--Anthony Dworkin, *Washington Post*"David Scheffer . . . provides the ultimate insider's life work, part autobiography, part documentary, all highly informative and enlightening. Indeed, much of the information contained in this text simply cannot be obtained from any other source."--Matthew Kane, *International Affairs*"Meticulous. . . . From 1993 to 1997 [Scheffer] served as senior adviser to Madeleine Albright, the US ambassador to the UN, and then until 2001, on

President Bill Clinton's nomination, he became the first US ambassador-at-large for war crimes issues. Scheffer is therefore particularly well placed to describe the changes that occurred over that eight-year period. . . . All the Missing Souls: A Personal History of the War Crimes Tribunals is first and foremost an insider's account, and one written from a US perspective. . . . No country has done more to create an international justice system than the US, or to keep itself outside the reach of that system. If nothing else, Scheffer's account establishes that for the US, even for the Clinton administration, this was about making international law for others."--Philippe Sands, Financial Times

"Scheffer recounts the effort to extend the reach of international justice to war zones and collapsing societies. . . . This impeccably documented work stands as a condemnation not just of such Bush-era expediency but also of moral compromise at the expense of the powerless. It's also the story of an attempt to attain the most strenuous of goals: upholding civilization in the face of monstrous evil. Scheffer is one of the very few people who can tell it."--Douglas Gillison, Time

"The most enduring and sobering message of All the Missing Souls is that--unless the most powerful players in international military actions insist otherwise--international criminal justice is always at the bottom of the list."--Jacqueline Bhabha, Harvard Magazine

"Pioneering. . . . From the indictment of Slobodan Milosevic in Kosovo to the trial of Charles Taylor in Sierra Leone, Scheffer recounts the highlights of this 'truly international counterattack on impunity for the worst possible crimes.' Reflecting after nearly a decade of battles, the author writes that international justice is the art of the possible and requires endless patience and persistence. . . . An important resource for scholars and specialists in international law."--Kirkus s"

"Scheffer provides a fascinating insider's account of the formation of the war crimes tribunals following atrocities in the Balkans, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and Cambodia. . . . Scheffer chronicles in captivating detail the diplomatic and political minefields that he and his colleagues navigated to help establish the International Criminal Court. . . . A superb account and unique perspective on the subject, complementing works such as Carla Del Ponte's Madame Prosecutor: Confrontations with Humanity's Worst Criminals and the Culture of Impunity."--Lynne F. Maxwell, Library Journal

starred review

"As the first Ambassador at large for War Crimes Issues, David Scheffer was literally at the centre of what is the most fertile period in the development of international criminal law since the Nuremberg Trial. . . . His insights into the dynamics of the evolving US policy in international criminal justice are invaluable. Amongst the many textbooks in international criminal law, David Scheffer's book is refreshingly different. It makes good reading for specialists and for students, yet it is also highly accessible to a broad public. This is a must acquisition for the international criminal law bookshelf."--William A. Schabas, PhD Studies in Human Rights blog

"The reporting of genocide and mass atrocities in the media often has the effect of dulling us to their full horror. They become abstractions, something that happens to other people, far away. In All the Missing Souls, Scheffer makes those crimes immediate and real, and describes an extraordinary effort to further the creation of a world that 'holds war criminals in contempt and breeds them no more.'"--Maria Browning, Chapter 16

"This is an honest and scholarly book."--Geoffrey Robertson, New Statesman

"[Scheffer] documents, in careful detail, the convoluted behind-the-scenes steps that went into the setting up of the various tribunals, the nit-picking delays, the timidity and obfuscation of governments and the endless postponements and quibbling. . . . [A] historically important book of record."--Caroline Moorehead, Literary

"Scheffer, who led U.S. efforts to develop international criminal courts during the Clinton administration, has written a personal history of these efforts. . . . Full of exhaustive details, although not organized in chronological or systematic fashion, this book will be of great interest to specialists in the field."--Choice

"This is an important book, its final chapter being, perhaps, the most important, because it points a way forward to new categories of crimes against humanity, such as atrocity crime, which need to be on the statute book if the ICC is to have even sharper teeth."--Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh, Middleburgh Blog

"All the Missing Souls clearly fills a gap in literature on the administration of international justice, and it is must reading for those interested in emerging themselves profoundly in this field. His direct personal involvement in working to create international tribunals to bring to justice individuals responsible for the worst of the 'atrocity crimes' of recent decades demonstrates that perseverance and tenacity can make a difference on the international scene."--Martin Wenick, American Diplomacy

"David Scheffer has provided us with a unique insight into the international legislative process and into the making of US foreign policy. We are in his debt."--Chris Brown, RUSI Journal

"All the Missing Souls is an excellent narrative on the formation and the future of international justice and rule of law initiatives."--Justin L. Heather, Chicago Bar Association Record

"Scheffer's general observations and recommendations are grounded in a wealth of detail on the diplomatic ins and outs of the pursuit of international criminal justice during his tenure."--Richard B. Bilder, American Journal of International Law

"On behalf of the world's most powerful nation in the 1990s, Scheffer was pivotal throughout the formative decade of international criminal justice. No historian or scholar of international criminal law can afford to miss his newly published All the Missing Souls: A Personal History of the War Crimes Tribunals. . . . The role of a talented and committed diplomat and lawyer, in the service of the world's most powerful nation and of his own pathway to redemption, can be invaluable. In the end, we are all indebted to Scheffer for his personal contributions to the cause."--Doug Cassel, American Journal of International Law

"This clearly written book [is] a comprehensive historical, political and diplomatic overview of the international criminal law system."--Rossella Pulvirenti, Political Studies

From the Back Cover "David Scheffer tells the inside story of the creation of international justice for victims of

atrocities crimes. As the picture of astronauts walking on the moon embodied the evolution of technology, this book captures eight years of a controversial process that is changing humanity forever."--Luis Moreno-Ocampo, chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court "Scheffer's personal experiences combined with his legal knowledge and moral appreciation of what it means to build a genuine system of international criminal justice make this an important book. His tale makes clear just how new and fragile this system is, and how contingent it is on the personal determination and political will of a handful of key players."--Anne-Marie Slaughter, Princeton University "Scheffer is not some sheltered academic writing idealistically about a world he does not know or understand. He has seen what can happen when there is no rule of law. This book is a treasure and an amazing achievement."--Gregory B. Craig, former White House counsel to President Barack Obama "David Scheffer was a central mover in the 1990's international assault on the world's architects of atrocity. The main weapons in this campaign were the international tribunals for former Yugoslavia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and Cambodia, and the newly established International Criminal Court. Scheffer's important and original book is a detailed and surprisingly personal account of a historic movement and the vital story of a revolutionary international investment in the struggle for a future of peace with justice."--Sir Brian Urquhart, former under-secretary-general of the United Nations "Few persons have been so intimately involved as David Scheffer in the contemporary emergence of international criminal justice. His insightful book shows not only his important role in bringing about the tribunals and the International Criminal Court, but also reveals the inner workings of the international legislative processes."--M. Cherif Bassiouni, DePaul University "David Scheffer has written a fascinating book that will be read with great interest by everyone in the growing field of international criminal law, as well as many others who are concerned about international law and institutions. All the Missing Souls is rich in detail and very compelling. There is nothing comparable to this in terms of its breadth and authority."--William A. Schabas, author of Genocide in International Law "All the Missing Souls is a masterful, well-paced read that fills a glaring gap in the literature on international justice. Scheffer is to be applauded for having written a passionate yet restrained personal account that is lucid, self-critical, and smart, and of singular importance. I have no doubt that All the Missing Souls will come to rank alongside Telford Taylor's The Anatomy of the Nuremberg Trials. Scheffer is the Taylor of our times."--Jens Meierhenrich, London School of Economics and Political Science