

Notes from China

Barbara W. Tuchman

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WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE

NOTES FROM CHINA



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Barbara W. Tuchman : Notes from China before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Notes from China:

A journalistic tour de force, this wide-ranging collection by the author of the Pulitzer Prizewinning biography Stilwell and the American Experience in China is a classic in its own right. During the summer of 1972a few short months

after Nixons legendary visit to Chinamaster historian Barbara W. Tuchman made her own trip to that country, spending six weeks in eleven cities and a variety of rural settlements. The resulting reportage was one of the first evenhanded portrayals of Chinese culture that Americans had ever read. Tuchmans observations capture the people as they lived, from workers in the city and provincial party bosses to farmers, scientists, and educators. She demonstrates the breadth and scope of her expertise in discussing the alleviation of famine, misery, and exploitation; the distortion of cultural and historical inheritances into ubiquitous slogans; news media, schools, housing, and transportation; and Chairman Maos techniques for reasserting the Revolution. This edition also includes Tuchmans fascinating (The New York Review of Books) essay, *If Mao Had Come to Washington in 1945* a tantalizing piece of speculation on a proposed meeting between Mao and Roosevelt that would have changed the course of postwar history. Shrewdly observed . . . Tuchman enters another plea for coolness, intelligence and rationality in American Asian policies. One can hardly disagree. *The New York Times Book Review*