

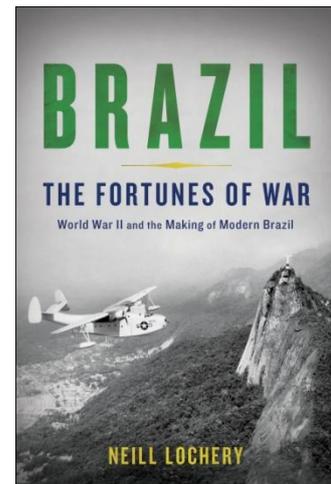
BRAZIL

The Fortunes of War

World War II and the Making of Modern Brazil

By Neill Lochery

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Brazil is poised to become one of the most economically powerful countries in the world. Yet, prior to 1939 it was considered little more than an exotic holiday destination, and a remote haven for expats. So, how did Brazil make the leap from tropical backwater to superpower-in-waiting? The truth lies in a long-buried chapter in the nation's history.

BRAZIL: The Fortunes of War reveals the secret history of the country's rise to power during World War II. Acclaimed historian, Neill Lochery, explains how Brazil's natural resources and proximity to the USA made it strategically invaluable to both the Allies and Nazi Germany, and how this fact was fully exploited by the country's dictator, President Vargas. In the early days of the war, Vargas cleverly played the two sides against each other, obtaining military weapons, and generating enormous wealth, fundamentally changing Brazil's economy and infrastructure.

In the book Lochery describes what happened when Vargas was finally forced to take sides, declaring war on the Axis powers, and sending 25,000 troops to Europe to fight against their former allies. Although they arrived too late to play any significant role Vargas had already made his mark, and Brazil's fortunes were transformed.

As Brazil prepares to host both this year's World Cup, and the 2016 Olympic Games, this is a fascinating, and timely, examination of how the country came to take its place on the world stage.

About the author: *Neill Lochery is Catherine Lewis Professor of Middle Eastern and Mediterranean Studies at University College, London. The author of six books, including Lisbon: War in the Shadows of the City of Light, 1939-1945. He lives in London and is available for interviews.*

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