Saving Nelson Mandela: The Rivonia Trial and the Fate of South Africa

By Henry Brandis Professor of Law Emeritus Kenneth S Broun

Oxford University Press Inc, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Reprint. 209 x 147 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. The question was: would he hang? In 1963, when South Africa s apartheid government charged Nelson Mandela with planning its overthrow, most observers feared that he would be sentenced to death. But the support he and his fellow activists in the African National Congress received during his trial not only saved his life, but also enabled him to save his country. In Saving Nelson Mandela, South African law expert Kenneth S. Broun recreates the trial-called the Rivonia Trial after the Johannesburg suburb where police seized Mandela. Based upon interviews with many of the case s primary figures and portions of the trial transcript, Broun situates readers inside the courtroom at the imposing Palace of Justice in Pretoria. Here, the trial unfolds through a dramatic narrative that captures the courage of the accused and their defense team, as well as the personal prejudices that colored the entire trial. The Rivonia trial had no jury and only a superficial aura of due process, combined with heavy security that symbolized the apartheid government s system of repression. Broun shows how outstanding...

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