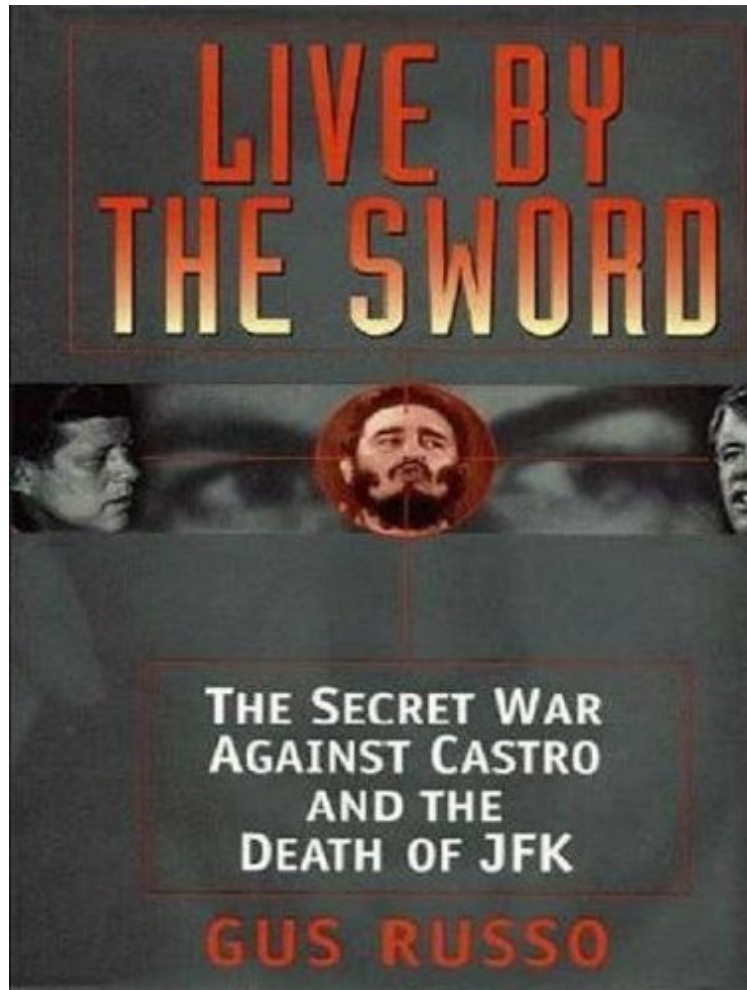


Live by the Sword: The Secret War Against Castro and the Death of JFK (English Edition)

Von Gus Russo

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Von Gus Russo : Live by the Sword: The Secret War Against Castro and the Death of JFK (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Live by the Sword: The Secret War Against Castro and the Death of JFK (English Edition):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Flawed Book But Still Important Von W. Tracy Parnell As a believer in the guilt of Lee Harvey Oswald, I was intrigued by the thesis of Live By the Sword: The Secret War Against Castro and the Death of JFK (Bancroft Press, Baltimore-ISBN 1-890862-01-0). That thesis, stated simply, is that the Kennedy brothers' "secret war" on Castro (during which they tried to remove him from power through invasion, counterinsurgency, and even assassination) backfired resulting in JFK's death at the hand of Oswald. This concept, while not new, does go a long way toward

providing the long sought motive for Oswald's actions and at the same time reinforces his guilt. The author, Gus Russo, is a long time JFK assassination researcher who worked on the highly regarded 1993 PBS Frontline documentary on the life of the enigmatic "Marxist Marine" (Who Was Lee Harvey Oswald). Russo admits to being schooled in the assassination by early Warren Commission critics such as Mark Lane. This could explain his disturbing tendency to lend legitimacy to otherwise unsupported observations by a few of the "thousands" of persons whose interviews he accessed (and conducted) for this book. One has the sensation when reading certain passages that it could be authored by Jim Marrs after undergoing a conversion at the hands of Gerald Posner. This certainly does not destroy the value of the book but it does diminish it. In fact, for most serious researchers, *Live By the Sword* is bound to be something of a mixed bag. The book's prose is generally very well-written. However, I did notice several typos that may be more the fault of the editors at Bancroft Press than Russo. There is a 32-page photo section near the center of the book that includes some never before published items. *Live By the Sword* features an "Additional Materials" section that includes three appendices, a bibliography, and 70 pages of endnotes which contain citations and the type of supplemental information sometimes found in footnotes. Russo divides his work into five "Books". These are Kennedy, Oswald, New Orleans, The Fall of Camelot, and A Coverup. Supporters of the Warren Commission defend its work by saying that despite flawed methodology and other gaffes, they were correct in their basic conclusions. This statement is analogous to my feelings for Gus Russo and *Live By the Sword*. He makes some excellent arguments over the course of the book's 617 pages, but has failed to tie everything together - an admittedly difficult if not impossible task. Russo may have hurt his work by trying to "throw in everything but the kitchen sink" in an effort to prove his thesis. The sad thing is, he probably didn't have to. He certainly seems to have had enough legitimate material (his bibliography covers eleven and a half pages) to make his case without using some of the more questionable data - especially certain interviews. This "information overload" may be partly explained by Russo's frustration at the failure of the Kennedys to release RFK's private papers. As one who believes Oswald acted alone, I was certainly ready to embrace Russo's book with open arms. It is definitely an appealing hypothesis. If the central thesis were more factually grounded, you could even think of it as *Case Closed* with a greater emphasis on motive. The truth is, history may ultimately prove Russo to be at least partly correct. However, wanting something to be fact doesn't make it so - at least not yet. Gus Russo has not proven his case with *Live By the Sword*. He comes very close in some areas but more often than not he leads the reader in a tantalizing dance only to stop the music. Having said that, I still recommend the book to any serious assassination researcher. There is plenty of food for thought and enough twists and turns to offer something for everyone. In fact, *Live By the Sword* may be remembered as being the first book on the JFK assassination that tried to be all things to all people. Russo will win no new friends among believers in the myth of Camelot. His book shatters that myth and shows John and Robert Kennedy to be what they were - human beings. They were no more or less heroic or villainous than many leaders before or since. They made mistakes (some more serious than others) and enjoyed victories as well. They suffered from vices of the flesh and spirit as well as petty jealousies and burning ambition. This pragmatic interpretation of Camelot is likely to be Russo's literary gift to the body of JFK assassination research.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. What they don't teach you in school
Von Ein Kunde
This book should replace what little history is taught to students on the subject of JFK and the events that led to a pivotal moment in our nation's brief life. *Live By the Sword* is going to end careers of authors who have made their living peddling "conspiracy" theories, as it sets such a logical sequence of events and egos that the conclusions are inescapable. It's been a long time since history has held any personal appeal (that was lost to me during monotone high school lectures), but books like this prove history is full of color, even when the simplest explanations of events are presented. Check out the picture of the car Kennedy was in when he was killed.....
0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A CIA cover story from start to finish
Von Theodore M. Herlich
The earth is flat, the sun revolves around the earth, the lone assassin of JFK is Lee Harvey Oswald, and the single, magic bullet entered JFK's back, exited through his throat, entered Connally's back, exited through Connally's right breast, entered and smashed his right wrist and was then embedded in his left thigh. If you believe this, there is a bridge in Brooklyn that I'd like to sell you. The absurdity of the author's thesis, that Oswald acted as an agent of Castro, is not made more believable simply by virtue of the number of footnotes located at the end of the book. The author, in effect, puts forth the CIA cover story that Oswald, the lone gunman, acted upon his Communist, pro-Castro beliefs. Wasn't the lone gunman theory decimated by the acoustical analysis conducted by the House Select Committee on Assassinations which found at least 4 shots, one emanating from behind the grassy knoll? Didn't Alpha-66 leader Anthony Veciana observe his CIA handler [David Atlee Phillips] in Dallas in the company of Lee Harvey Oswald? Didn't Sylvia Odio observe Lee Harvey Oswald attempt to solicit funds from her in the presence of two anti-Castro Cubans in order to support the anti-Castro cause? I refer intelligent readers to "The Last Investigation" by Gaeton Fonzi for an incisive analysis of the CIA's extraordinary efforts to block the House Select Committee on Assassinations investigation of the intelligence communities links with extreme anti-Castro Cubans and Lee Harvey Oswald, who was involved with them. Russo also takes as fact that Oswald was present in Mexico City, at the Cuban Consulate and Soviet Embassy, without any proof to back his assumptions up. The author is a talented spin doctor for the CIA. I suspect the CIA was involved in funding his research for the book. His reliance on numerous anonymous

CIA and ONI sources is indicative of the partisan brief he is arguing. His subtle whitewash on behalf of the CIA may fool readers who long for simple closure in this matter. His pro-CIA spin and his propagation of what I believe is the classic CIA cover story in this matter made me nauseous.

KurzbeschreibungIn this fascinating and masterful work of research, Gus Russo finally unmaskes the hidden secrets that have surrounded the Kennedy assassination for 35 years. Russo's book is packed with never-before-seen documents and photographs, and never-before-known informationthe result of tireless research and exhaustive interviews with countless key players in the Kennedy and Johnson Administrations. When the Warren Commission released the statement that Oswald acted alone with no clear motive, it was clearly an inadequate explanation. For years, this conclusion, combined with official silence on the topic, encouraged professional doubters, or Kennedy researchers, to wonder if the government itself had some complicity in the crime. But these skeptics were asking the wrong question. The question never asked was not WHO killed JFK, but WHY he was killed. And the answer to this question is the reason for over thirty years of government coverups.In *Live by the Sword*, Gus Russo attacks this very question. Guiding the reader through the labyrinth of information and intrigue, he explores the assassination in context, explaining the atmosphere of the times as well as the actions that led, inexorably, to the defining moment of this generation. This background prepares you for the stunning realization that is the core of this book: The Kennedys' relentless pursuit of Castro and Cuba backfired in tragedy on that terrible day in November 1963.An acclaimed investigative reporter and longtime student of the Kennedy presidency, author GUS RUSSO was one of the lead reporters on Frontlines landmark 1993 documentary, *Who Was Lee Harvey Oswald?* Most recently, he served as chief investigative reporter for ABC's *Dangerous World: The Kennedy Years*, hosted by Peter Jennings. He has assisted authors Gerald Posner, Seymour Hersh, and Anthony Summers with their books on Kennedy-related subjects, and has served as consultant to numerous network television specials, books, and magazine articles. For more than 20 years (and with no preconceived conclusions), Russo has sought to compile a credible account of President Kennedys assassination and the foreign policy errors that set the stage for it. Using first-time, on-the-record interviews, newly discovered photographs, and recently declassified U.S. government documents, he has crafted the definitive chronicle of a critical episode in American history.**Kurzbeschreibung**In this fascinating and masterful work of research, Gus Russo finally unmaskes the hidden secrets that have surrounded the Kennedy assassination for 35 years. 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