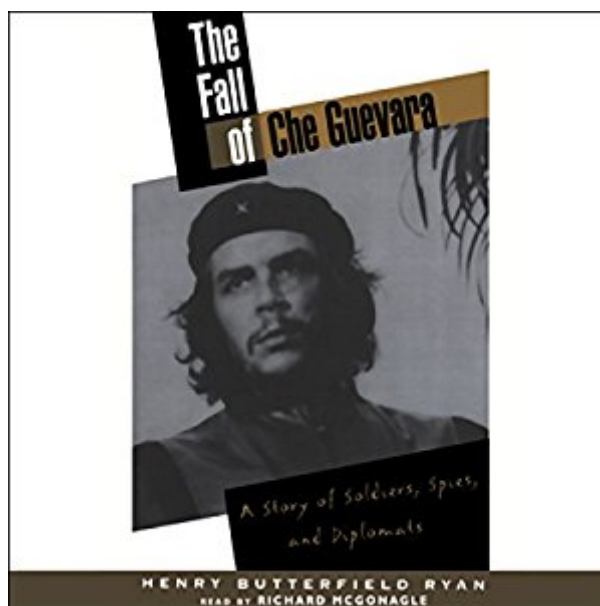


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The Fall Of Che Guevara: A Story Of Soldiers, Spies, And Diplomats



Synopsis

This book tells the story--for the first time--of the United States government's response to Guevara's ill-starred insurgency in Bolivia in 1967. Henry Butterfield Ryan argues that Guevara's life must be reevaluated in light of secret documents only recently released by the CIA, the State Department, the Pentagon, and the National Security Council. Ryan's dramatic account of the last days of Che Guevara is sure to appeal to scholars and students of United States foreign policy, Latin American history, military history, and to all others interested in this modern revolutionary's remarkable life.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Customer Reviews

Who would have thought anyone could return to this field that so many others have already harvested, and yet glean so many valuable grains of essential information. Mr. Ryan does just that with a spare narrative that is extremely well organized and clearly written. No romanticism or mythology here... "just the facts madam". I thoroughly enjoyed reading this terrific book about a critical part of latin american history. If you only read one book about "el che", this should be high on your list.

This was a good story told as if you were reading a congressional report. The story carries a lot of import and explains a very important change in America's strategy for dealing with insurgencies. But it tastes like cardboard. Even when Che is finally captured and killed there is no emotion. The facts researched for this book were very well done. Read it as a text book.

Yes, this audio CD was eye opener for me, the way the governments operate and it was interesting history that I never knew.

Books on Che Guevara are generally classified within the political spectrum the readers put themselves in. This book, by Henry B. Ryan proves that wrong or different. His writing occurred due to the opening of many documents about the Argentinian rebel that were held in silence for years. And, one of the things I do admire most in this Ryan's book is the excellent translation from research into writing his clear, precise use of the English language that turns his writing into an enjoyable narrative so easy to follow. New also, the metaphorical vision of Guevara within the Arthurian legends frame, not rare if Ryan identifies himself with the Anglo culture, similar as in a book by Regis Debray (Alabados sean nuestros senores) where he makes analogies between Guevara and the Middle ages French epic heroes. (No one have ever written about Che without falling a bit into the mythological trap). (One thing I share with Mr. B. Ryan as I read the dedication: his profound identification with the little ones in the family)

Ryan places Guevara's Bolivian adventure in an historical context that gives it hemispheric significance. As a case study of the US's Latin American counterinsurgency efforts in the 1960s, it demonstrates that the mistakes made in Vietnam were not repeated everywhere. Ryan also attacks some widely held assumptions, including Guevara's diminished ties with Cuba and CIA involvement in his eventual execution. Although objective at all times, this is "history with a heart". Key characters, such as Guevara himself, are brought to life by the author demonstrating not only his mistakes but his tremendous integrity, honor, and determination. A must-read for students of U.S.-Latin American relations during the Cold War.

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