

**David Corn**



**BLOND  
GHOST**



Simon & Schuster

New York London Toronto

Sydney Tokyo Singapore

1994

Schuster was a patient editor, who wanted the best, not the fastest, book. His reading of the manuscript pushed me to make it better when I wishfully and wrongfully thought that it was done. Bob's assistant, Johanna Li, was always helpful. Mark Perry, a Washington journalist and fellow spook-watcher, was the first to suggest I take on this project, and I chose to listen to him.

Kai Bird, Martin Andersen, and Peter Kornbluh read sections of the manuscript, when it was at a bloated stage, and supplied insightful comments. Peter and his colleagues at the National Security Archive provided me with armfuls of documents, suggestions, and fellowship. Without the Archive, a private nonprofit outfit that collects material on U.S. foreign policy, much of this book could not have been written. Let me thank the following persons at the Archive by name: Thomas Blanton, Sheryl Walter, Malcolm Byrne, Laurence Chang, David Wallace, Jeffrey Richelson, Jeff Nason, and Bill Burr. Scott Armstrong, the visionary founder of the Archive, was a constant source of encouragement.

The National Archives staff in charge of the John F. Kennedy assassination records collection was of great assistance. The CIA portion of these papers became available in August of 1993, and it included hundreds of documents—cables, memoranda, dispatches—written by Shackley or related to operations he oversaw. There is no other set of publicly available Agency records like this one. The historical records unit of the CIA is to be commended for its quick processing of these papers in response to the law passed by Congress mandating the release of the documents. Unfortunately, the Freedom of Information office of the CIA was not as responsive. I filed dozens of requests with this office and received little new material. (Some responses were ridiculous. When I asked for material on the Hmong tribe and its leaders, the FOIA office claimed no such documents existed.) Moreover, it took unreasonable lengths of time to pry from its grip copies of material previously released. A Cold War mentality still seems to dominate that office.

Frank Snapp kindly permitted access to the records of his legal case. William Dobrovir, a Washington attorney, shared with me papers he had obtained from the Justice Department relating to its investigation of the congressional testimony given by U.S. officials and ITT officers in 1970. Author John Prados traded with me documents he had on Laos for material I possessed. David MacMichael, a former CIA officer who worked for a time with the Christic Institute, supplied several documents related to the investigations he conducted for the Institute. Journalists David Martin, Christopher Robbins, Doug Valentine, and John Kelly supplied fruitful leads. Seymour Hersh, the best investigative reporter in the business, was helpful in a special way.

I am indebted to several people who followed: Thomas Powers (*and the CIA*), Jeff Stein (*A Changed the Course of a*), and Alexander W. Ruffin (*Edwin P. Wilson*), Zalin (*Political Defeat of the U*), and *(The Crimes of Patriots: A*

Terry Harpold was always a computer nightmare. Danie saved me countless hours of thousands of names of companies referenced in Google often fulfilled research.

Most of all, I must thank my views, particularly those the decision to talk to a been trained most of my habit to break." This because officers believe that the they signed.

During the past five colleagues and friends ment, which were crucial coworkers at *The Nation* Carey, Elsa Dixler, C Lingeman, Judith Long litt, Dennis Selby, Bruce Art Winslow, and Joan

Others who deserve Alfieri, Kathi Austin, Belcher, Susan Bellow Burton, Joe Conason, Robert Fink, Agnieszka Janlori Goldman, Bruce Grayson, Christophe Jennings, Jeremy Kar Ed Long, Conrad Mar Nelson, Michael Poll

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José Antonio Echeverría, con tus ideas en marcha.

*A. Fuller*

Secretario General



*Bueno*

Secretario de Finanzas

Confiamos en que la pureza de nuestras intenciones  
nos atraiga el favor de Dios, para lograr el imperio  
de la justicia en nuestra Patria.

José Antonio Echeverría

I received \$10<sup>50</sup> (Ten dollars  
and fifty cents) from the  
sale of Bonds of the Cuban  
Student Directorate.

New Orleans, July 5th 1963.

Carlos Bringuier  
Delegate