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SPY SAGA

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LEE HARVEY OSWALD STANDS SAYS

PHILIP H. MELANSON

LEE HARVEY OSWALD
AND U.S. INTELLIGENCE
PHILIP H. MELANSON

As we approach the third decade since his death, the question remains unanswered: Who was Lee Harvey Oswald? Nothing approximating historical clarity has been achieved. He has been portrayed as a disgruntled loner and muddled leftist, as a Russian spy, as an agent of Castro's intelligence service, as a low-level Mafia pawn, and as a U.S. intelligence agent. He is by far the most fascinating and complex assassin in American history.

Despite three official investigations, dozens of file drawers filled with documents, and the work of hundreds of journalists and researchers, history still does not know this man. This book seeks to provide the answer to this question by presenting the best evidence in a systematic, detailed form. Philip H. Melanson takes a microscopic look at Oswald through the lens of espionage. The clarity provided by this view will help bring into focus the legitimate, unresolved questions and controversies that still surround the assassination of our thirty-fifth president after nearly thirty years.

Melanson's analysis reaches startling conclusions regarding a conspiracy in John F. Kennedy's assassination. Although it does not seek to establish Oswald's innocence or the existence of a second gun, it does demonstrate that Oswald's movements were choreographed by his handlers in U.S. intelligence—however on the fringe or renegade they may have been—at the time of the assassination.

Discovering that Oswald was a U.S. intelligence agent is not a footnote to the crime of the century, but rather a window into the conspiracy behind the assassination.

About the Author

Philip H. Melanson is Professor of Political Science at Southeastern Massachusetts University, where he is chair of the Robert F. Kennedy Assassination Archives. Dr. Melanson is author of *The MURKIN Conspiracy: An Investigation into the Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* (Praeger, 1989).

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WHO WAS LEE HARVEY OSWALD?

Spy Saga
Lee Harvey Oswald and U.S. Intelligence
Philip H. Melanson

"A compelling read. Finally the mystery surrounding Lee Harvey Oswald has been stripped away. All the pro-Castro posturing was just that. He was a U.S. intelligence operative who in the end became expendable as the assassination's straw man."

William W. Turner
Former FBI agent and author of *Hoover's FBI*

Spy Saga brings into focus the most complex character ever charged with a U.S. political assassination. Philip H. Melanson, renowned expert on U.S. political assassinations, examines every available record of FBI, Secret Service, and CIA files on the Kennedy assassination and sheds new light on Oswald's role as a U.S. intelligence agent.

Spy Saga brings a sober, historical clarity to the still-debated questions: Who was Lee Harvey Oswald and who might have been behind him in the conspiracy that took President Kennedy's life?

Anyone who ever wondered about the shadowy man charged with the assassination of John F. Kennedy will find *Spy Saga* an unforgettable book.

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