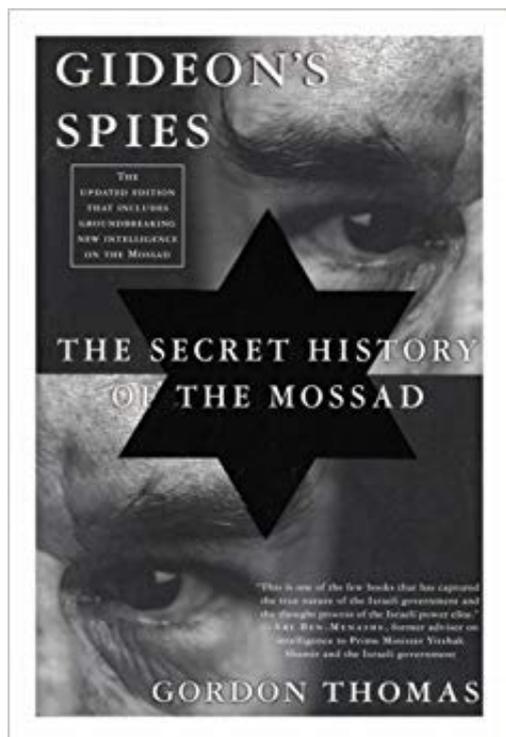


Gideon's Spies: The Secret History of the Mossad *by* Gordon Thomas



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In the world of spies & covert operations, no other intelligence service continues to be surrounded by myth & mystery as does Israel's Mossad. This book reveals for the first time that all too often the truth exceeds all the fantasies. The legendary spymasters of Israel tell in their own words what it was like to be directly involved in some of the most audacious operations that have included the kidnapping of Adolf Eichman, the murder of Yasser Arafat's chief aide, the theft of vital nuclear material from a Pittsburgh plant, the smuggling of a MiG aircraft out of Iraq, & Robert Maxwell's link in Irangate. Also, the story of Mossad's involvement in the deaths of Princess Diana & Dodi Fayed.



Reviews of the **Gideon's Spies: The Secret History of the Mossad** *by* Gordon Thomas

Monam

I thought this book was great in most ways. The Mossad is presented as an agency that will do anything to save Israel, to the point of assassination and framing their own agents. I have one major quibble though: his organization of the case histories/biographies/modern Israeli history was so annoying I wanted to tear my hair out by the end of the book. For example, a priest at Robert Maxwell's funeral leads to a shadowy meeting in the Vatican which goes to a flashback to Golda Meir meeting Paul VI to a flashback of James Jesus Angleton & Pius XII. A flashback to a flashback to a flashback?!?! And he starts the book with the Princess Diana tragedy, hinting more than a little it wasn't just a car crash. Apparently a Mossad agent was attempting to enlsh Henri Paul around the time of her death. But after she dies, the Mossad is barely mentioned for 30 pages except that they probably know something about it. I know he's an English journalist and the Diana death makes juicy copy, but why don't we start a book on the history of the Mossad with SOMETHING ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE MOSSAD?!?! So, I give Gideon's Spies 5 stars on content but a half a star on organization.

Brightfury

Whenever I read a book, I ask tell me something I don't know. Well, I did not know that the Mossad was taping Bill Clinton's phone sex with Monica Lewinsky!

Danny Yatom, the head of the Mossad, sent a spy team in March, 1997, to Washington D.C. based on reports "that President Clinton was repeatedly indulging in phone-sex calls with a former White House aide, Monica Lewinsky ... Knowing the White House was totally protected by electronic counter-measures, the yahalomin team focused on Lewinsky's apartment. They began to intercept explicit phone calls from the president to Lewinsky. The recordings were couriered by diplomatic bag to Tel Aviv."

Ken Starr in the Starr Report says that on March 29, 1997 "[Bill] told [Monica] that he suspected a foreign embassy ... was taping his telephones. If anyone ever asked about their phone sex, she should say that they knew that their calls were being monitored all day long, and the phone sex was a put on." [Gideon's Spies, p.104]

Just that little nugget above is reason enough to get this book.

I wonder how many *other* compromised U.S. politicians the Mossad has the dirt on?

In 1994 when Bobbie Ray Inman was up for consideration as the Secretary of Defense, there was a Mossad-inspired - or really American Zionist inspired - calling campaign to paint Inman as a homosexual. Inman is a married man and he may or may not be a man with a closet homosexual history. I do know this, after this campaign began Inman melted like a chocolate candy bar in the sun and withdrew his Secretary of Defense nomination.

Calls (to journalists) were also made concerning Inman's alleged homosexuality even *after* he withdrew his nomination. Years later Bobbie Ray Inman is still stung by what happened to him. I do not know if the "smears" were true or not, but I suspect they were given the way Inman collapsed so quickly.

The Mossad and American Zionists were outraged that Inman had restricted that satellite maps that the Israelis could look at to about 200 or 250 miles around Israel. Apparently, Israel feels it has the right to the entire panoply of U.S. intelligence.

Magis

"By Way of Deception, Thou Shalt Do War". Wow!! This book took me through a whirlwind of dense intensity and had me at the edge of my seat. Gordon Thomas paints and sculpts the life of a spy like Pablo Picasso. The writer takes the reader through tumultuous layers of the spy world. The work of

the spy is not only about abduction, clutching, and assassination but it requires rigorous thinking and planning to every little detail that goes into the finalization of every clandestine operations. The infinitesimal details we ignore in everyday life make the world of difference in the realm of clandestine operations. What works in the SPY world does not conform to the norm of the civilian world. In the spy world civility is quite a foolish concept and way of thinking. The world of the spy is absolute ruthlessness because the enemy you are dealing with is planning and ready to totally wipe you out of existence. You get the picture!!!! At the end of the day, the job of a spy is to get the job done by any means necessary. Quite an exciting book.

Whitesmasher

GIDEON'S SPIES is a comprehensive, and balanced picture of Mossad. The author begins with a plunge into the circumstances revolving around the death of Princess Diane. He paints an intricate picture of facts, and faux pas that clearly complicated the situation then and now. It is an interesting beginning to a book of this nature. However, it does demand the reader's attention, therefore, I believe it serves the purpose well.

After the dramatic introductory story, the author settles into a more traditional format based on the chronological events, and history of the Israeli spy agency, Mossad. Mossad has enjoyed a much more secretive past than its American counterparts. This alone, has me celebrating the encyclopedic work the author provides in this book. I literally could not put it down, and found myself reading it every time I had even a moment to spare.

The sources, and intimate knowledge the author provides is phenomenal. He was afforded many hours of interviews with intricate members that commented directly and anonymously. The history of the agency and incidents in which they were involved are fascinating. The author details the successes as well as the failures in dynamic detail.

This is a long book, but I highly recommend it for those interested in an absolutely fascinating look into this secretive agency and World History! Bravo!!!!

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