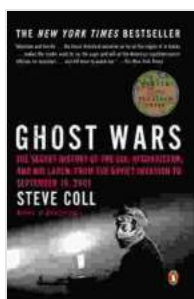


Unveiling the Secret History: CIA, Afghanistan, and Bin Laden from the Soviet Invasion

In the aftermath of the catastrophic 9/11 attacks, the world was left reeling from the realization that the United States had been blindsided by a group of terrorists who had operated right under its nose. At the heart of this tragedy lay a tangled web of connections that stretched back decades, involving the CIA, Afghanistan, and Osama bin Laden.



Ghost Wars: The Secret History of the CIA, Afghanistan, and bin Laden, from the Soviet Invasion to September 10, 2001 by Steve Coll

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 3581 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 732 pages
Screen Reader : Supported



Now, for the first time, a comprehensive account of this secret history has been pieced together, uncovering the hidden truths that led to one of the most pivotal events in modern history.

The Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan

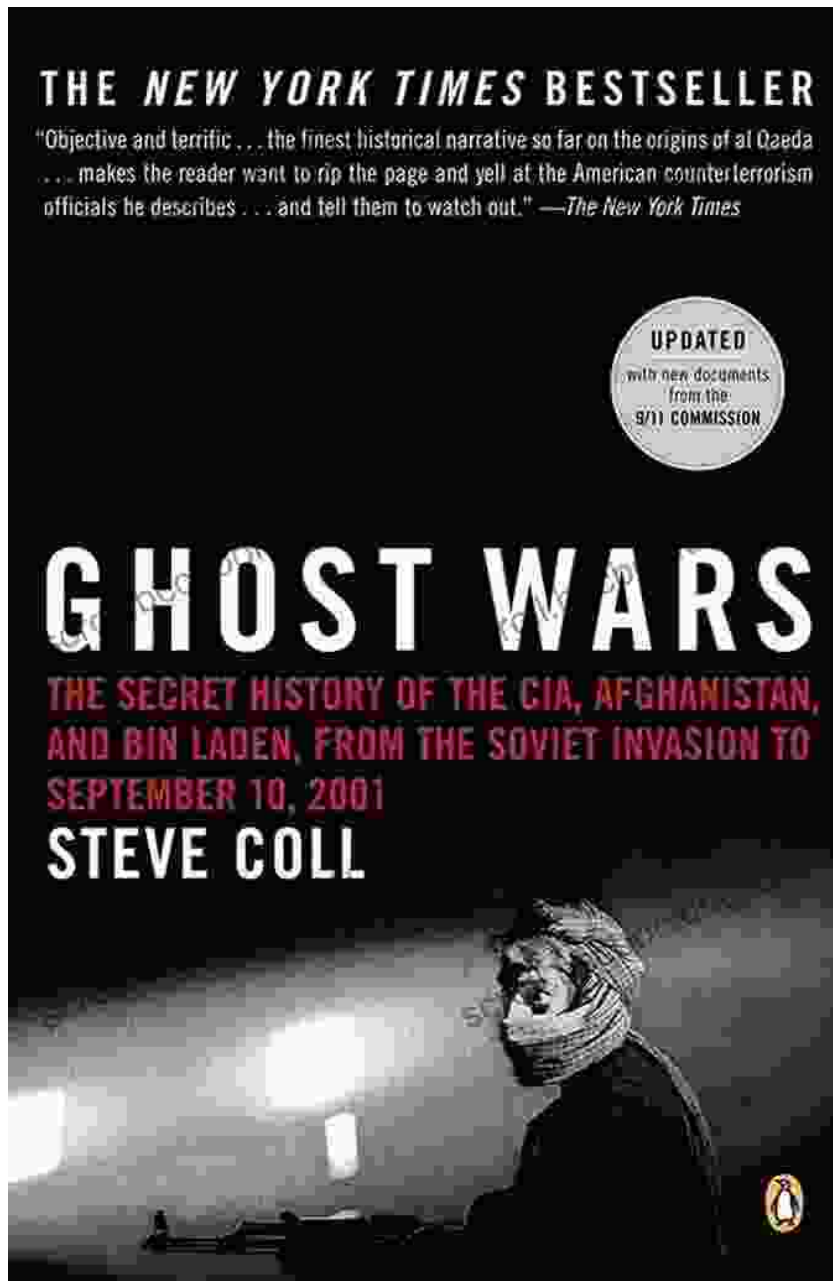
In December 1979, the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan, marking the beginning of a decade-long conflict that would have far-reaching consequences. The CIA, eager to counter the Soviet expansionism, saw an opportunity to support the Afghan resistance movement, known as the mujahideen.



Over the next decade, the CIA poured billions of dollars into the Afghan resistance, arming and training the mujahideen to fight against the Soviet occupation. Among those who received CIA support was a young Saudi named Osama bin Laden.

The Rise of Osama bin Laden

Osama bin Laden came from a wealthy Saudi family, but he was deeply opposed to the presence of American troops in the Middle East. In the early 1980s, he traveled to Afghanistan to join the fight against the Soviet invasion.



Bin Laden quickly rose through the ranks of the mujahideen, becoming a prominent figure in the resistance movement. With the CIA's support, the mujahideen eventually succeeded in driving the Soviet Union out of Afghanistan in 1989.

The Aftermath of the Soviet Withdrawal

After the Soviet withdrawal, Afghanistan was left in a state of chaos. The mujahideen had won the war, but they were divided among themselves and unable to form a stable government. Bin Laden, disillusioned with the CIA's support for the mujahideen, turned his attention to a new enemy: the United States.



In 1996, bin Laden and his followers established the Taliban, a fundamentalist Islamic regime that took control of most of Afghanistan. The Taliban provided a safe haven for al-Qaeda, the terrorist organization founded by bin Laden.

9/11 and the War on Terror

On September 11, 2001, al-Qaeda launched a series of terrorist attacks on the United States, killing nearly 3,000 people. In the aftermath of the attacks, the United States launched the War on Terror, which included an invasion of Afghanistan to overthrow the Taliban and capture Osama bin Laden.

THE *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLER

"Objective and terrific . . . the finest historical narrative so far on the origins of al Qaeda . . . makes the reader want to rip the page and yell at the American counterterrorism officials he describes . . . and tell them to watch out." —*The New York Times*



GHOST WARS

**THE SECRET HISTORY OF THE CIA, AFGHANISTAN,
AND BIN LADEN, FROM THE SOVIET INVASION TO
SEPTEMBER 10, 2001**

STEVE COLL

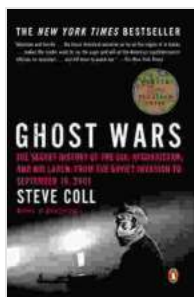


Bin Laden was killed by U.S. forces in 2011, but the War on Terror continues to this day. The secret history of the CIA, Afghanistan, and bin Laden provides a chilling reminder of the unintended consequences that can arise from foreign policy interventions.

The Secret History of the CIA, Afghanistan, and Bin Laden from the Soviet Invasion is a gripping account of one of the most pivotal events in modern

history. It is a story of chance encounters, missed opportunities, and tragic consequences.

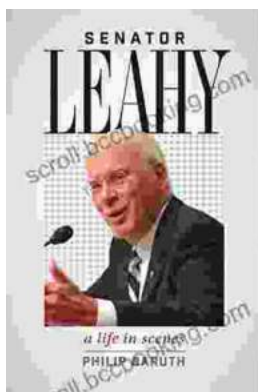
By delving into the depths of this hidden history, we can gain a better understanding of the complex forces that have shaped our world today.



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