

A Spy's Guide to Santa Fe and Albuquerque by E.B. Held

Amazon book review

When thinking of New Mexico, few Americans think spy-vs.-spy intrigue, but in fact, to many international intelligence operatives, the state's name is nearly synonymous with espionage, and Santa Fe is a sacred site. The KGB's single greatest intelligence and counterintelligence coups, and the planning of the organization's most infamous assassination, all took place within one mile of Bishop Lamy's statue in front of Saint Francis Cathedral in central Santa Fe.

In this fascinating guide, former CIA agent E. B. Held uses declassified documents from both the CIA and KGB, as well as secondary sources, to trace some of the most notorious spying events in United States history. His work guides modern visitors through the history of such events as the plot to assassinate Leon Trotsky, Ted Hall's delivery of technical details of the atom bomb to the KGB, and the controversial allegations regarding Los Alamos National Laboratory scientist Dr. Wen Ho Lee's contacts with China.

Held provides background material as well as modern site locations to allow Cold War enthusiasts the opportunity to explore in a whole new way the settings for these historical events.

"A fascinating look into the history that lies behind it all, A Spy's Guide to Santa Fe and Albuquerque is a top pick for those interested in New Mexico or espionage history." -- Midwest Book Review

"Bruce Held, himself an espionage officer of rare intelligence, insight and grace, takes us on a remarkable walking tour of espionage that extends seamlessly from Stalin's assassination of Leon Trotsky, through pre-cold war nuclear spying, Edward Lee Howard's cold war betrayal and into the present day global desire to "steal" high-technology secrets. All of this centers around a tiny but vital corner of the world---Santa Fe. Thanks to Held's deft research and deep understanding of the tradecraft of espionage, Santa Fe now takes its place along side the historic spy centers of the world. It's long overdue." -- David Cohen, Former Director, CIA Clandestine Operations

"[Held's] book will be a helpful guide, especially for those who want to visit site locations while exploring the setting of some of the most crucial spying operations in United States history." -- Tucson Citizen