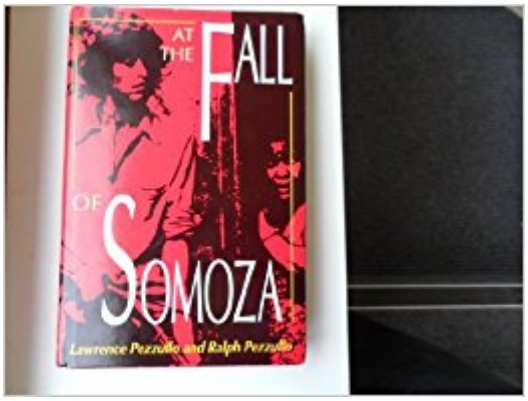
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At The Fall Of Somoza (Pitt Latin American Series)



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Synopsis

An account of the fall of Nicaragua’s Anastasio Somoza Debayle. It is based on the observations of a US official involved in diplomatic activity during the regime’s final weeks in 1979. His words are accompanied by those of other participants such as citizens, peasants and National Guardsmen.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Few individuals could provide a more insightful view into the final days of Somoza’s government in Nicaragua in 1979 than Lawrence Pezzullo, the U.S. ambassador. Unlike most authors who offer first-hand accounts, Pezzullo and his son Ralph tracked down other actors, high and low, interspersing their interpretations throughout. The wide-ranging interviews both strengthen and broaden Ambassador Pezzullo’s account, providing a fitting complement to Bernard Diederich’s Somoza, American-Made Dictator (LJ 9/1/81) and Anthony Lake’s Somoza Falling (LJ 3/1/89). The authors’ modest, forthright approach provides a readable, balanced narrative. Highly recommended.- Roderic A. Camp, Latin American Ctr., Tulane Univ., New OrleansCopyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Am doing research on a book -- this is great background! Although Ambassador Pezzullo is not the greatest writer in the world, his one-on-one confrontation with Somoza is great stuff.

Ambassador Pezzullo arrived in Managua at the end of June, 1979, shortly before the Somoza regime was toppled by a broad opposition coalition led by the Sandinista National Liberation Front. His book recounts the development of the crisis in Nicaragua, and the evolution of U.S. policy toward Somoza. Unfortunately, Pezzullo spends a great deal of time offering his opinions on Nicaraguan history rather than relating his own involvement. His tenure as ambassador to the victorious revolutionaries and, by extension, Carter's changing policy toward them, receives no attention whatsoever.Nevertheless, this is a primary source of significant value. It is not a scholarly analysis, and like any participant's account, it should be taken with a grain of salt. Viewed in this way it does provide insight to the problems confronting the Carter administration in Nicaragua, and to the mismanagement of its already limited options.

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