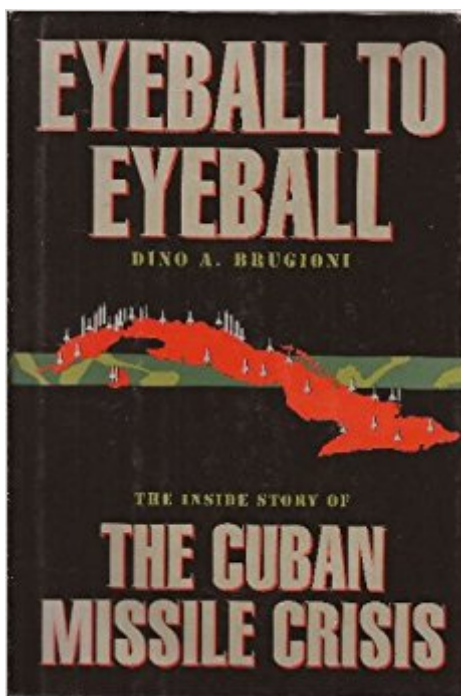


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Eyeball To Eyeball: The Inside Story Of The Cuban Missile Crisis



Synopsis

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Customer Reviews

Brugioni, an analyst for many years at the Central Intelligence Agency, uses his specialty in aerial photography, and his governmental contacts, to provide an insider's account of the Cuban missile crisis. His work, based on extensive interviews with participants, many of whom were lesser actors, revises and adds new insights into the motivations which led to President Kennedy's most important decision to put the United States on full military alert. Although focusing on the broader decision itself, Brugioni interweaves the importance of photo reconnaissance and military strategy in foreign policy decision-making, providing an interesting history of this little-known arm of the intelligence community, and a fresh appraisal of actions leading to the decision. Highly recommended for general readers as well as specialists. History Book Club alternate.- Roderic A. Camp, Latin American Ctr., Tulane Univ., New Orleans, La. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

An insider's tellingly detailed and chilling recap of the 1962 Cuban missile crisis. Drawing on his firsthand experience as a senior staff member at the CIA's National Photographic Interpretation Center, interviews with surviving principals, and archival sources, Brugioni offers a comprehensive overview of the confrontation that very nearly plunged the world into nuclear war. But before getting down to business on the critical two-week period that climaxed on October 28 with Moscow's agreement to withdraw offensive weapons systems, he provides valuable background on the

development of America's aerial reconnaissance capabilities during the Eisenhower Administration and JFK's ongoing problems with the Castro regime. His stage set, Brugioni settles into a wide-ranging, day-by-day narrative that sheds new light on virtually every aspect of the emergency. Cases in point run from when Soviet missiles of varying ranges were actually detected on the Caribbean island through how the White House kept allies informed, why the US military was put on full alert, the extent to which naval forces blockaded (or ``quarantined," in the language of diplomacy) Cuban waters, the crucial go-between role played by ABC-TV's John Scali in Khrushchev's capitulation, where the USSR secreted its warheads, and the reasons Washington did not press for on-site verification by UN representatives once the worse dangers were over. Nor does Brugioni neglect the human side of the potentially deadly encounter. He conveys, for example, the disdain of elder statesman Dean Acheson for the unstructured chaos of the ad hoc advisory meetings convened, without agendas, by one or both of the Kennedy brothers. Without overdramatic comment, the author also recalls phoning his wife to ask her to head for Missouri with their children should the nation's capital be attacked on Saturday the 27th. A definite briefing on one of modern history's landmark events. (Sixteen pages of photographs--not seen.) -- Copyright ©1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

A must read for any of us that lived through that experience. Too few today are aware of how unprepared JFK's critics in the military/intelligence community were at this point in our history. Mr. Brugioni does a wonderful job of laying the historical groundwork of the previous administration and the genesis of the Lockheed U-2 ultra-high altitude reconnaissance aircraft. This book should be in the collection of everyone who intends to write knowledgeably about the assassination of John F. Kennedy. All of the men and women who provided the analysis necessary for our Commander In Chief to make informed decisions during those trying times should be recognized for their vital contributions even as we remember the sacrifice of a man who made the right choices to avert nuclear war.

The story written is very accurate and will be referred to in future years as the best written record of the Cuban Missile Crisis...I know because I was involved as a reconn sensor specialist and photo interpreter working for the Governemnt at the time. I was involved during the Eisenhower Open Skys program which included the development of the U-2, the SR-71 and the RB-57(the British Canberra). At that time I worked at the Air Force Aerial Reconnaissance Laboratory at Wright Fied in Dayton, Ohio and later as a participant in the National Reconnaissance Office(NRO)surveillance

programs.

This was a gift for someone. I didn't pay any attention to how many pages it had when I ordered it. This is a thick book, a lot to read.

This is written by an insider who witnessed everything day by day and will be enjoyable

Extremely detailed with info that was previously classified. Mr. Brugioni is the real deal.

If you love history this book is for you. It is full of details and things I never knew the author is well versed in the subject and presents it very well

Written by associate of husband- he enjoyed reading it. It is a factual book on the Cuban Missile crisis and well written.

very good

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