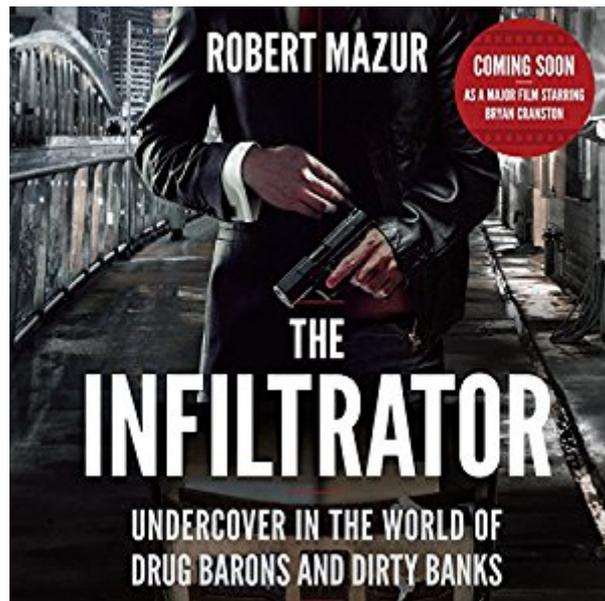


The book was found

The Infiltrator: My Secret Life Inside The Dirty Banks Behind Pablo Escobar's Medellin Cartel



Synopsis

Federal Agent Robert Mazur spent five years undercover as a money launderer to the international underworld, gaining access to the zenith of a criminal hierarchy safeguarded by a circle of dirty bankers and businessmen who quietly shape power across the globe. These men and women control multibillion-dollar drug-trafficking empires, running their organizations like public companies. Accountants, attorneys, and financial advisors, their roots run deep in their communities, and they are laundering billions of dollars a year, manipulating complex international finance systems to serve drug lords, corrupt politicians, tax cheats, and terrorists. In 1987 Mazur began infiltrating BCCI, the bankers behind the Medellín cartel. He meticulously gathered evidence for years until, during a fake wedding, federal agents arrested over 40 high-ranking criminals, who were all found guilty and sent to prison. Never before told, this is the incredible true story of how he did it.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 12 hours and 17 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Random House Audio

Audible.com Release Date: September 15, 2015

Language: English

ASIN: B013PU103C

Best Sellers Rank: #16 in Books > Business & Money > Economics > Banks & Banking #27 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > True Crime > Organized Crime #45 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Nonfiction > True Crime

Customer Reviews

For five years during the late 1980s, Robert Mazur played the undercover role of "Bob Musella," custom agent pretending to be an international banker and investor, extraordinaire. With a high quality tape recorder constantly running inside the walls of his expensive briefcase, Mazur managed to gain enough trust of both the Escobar and Ochoa brothers in-house bankers, to worm his way inside the cartels inner sanctums, and then up their respective financial food chains eventually enticing each to both launder and invest tens of millions of dollars per month through the notorious international bank, BCCI. The reader may recall that BCCI, during the Carter administration, along with Manuel Noriega's banks in Panama, were the money laundering hubs of the South American

drug cartels. Thus, gaining Escobar and Ochoa's trust was only part one of a two-part Custom's Department "financial con game," one which, when the two parts were taken together, was a dangerous but carefully designed ruse by Robert Mazur to bring down the entire drug-based money laundering financial machine. The second part of course was convincing BCCI that Musella was also the sole financial representative of a number of anonymous high-roller clients who had hundreds of millions of dollars to wash and to invest -- that is, with the right international bank. It turns out that the right international bank in this case meant one with the right amount of efficiency, technical savvy, and discretion: in other words, a bank that could transfer monies electronically anywhere in the world without leaving a paper trail, avoid all national taxes, currency regulations, etc., and would ask no questions about the source of the funds.

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