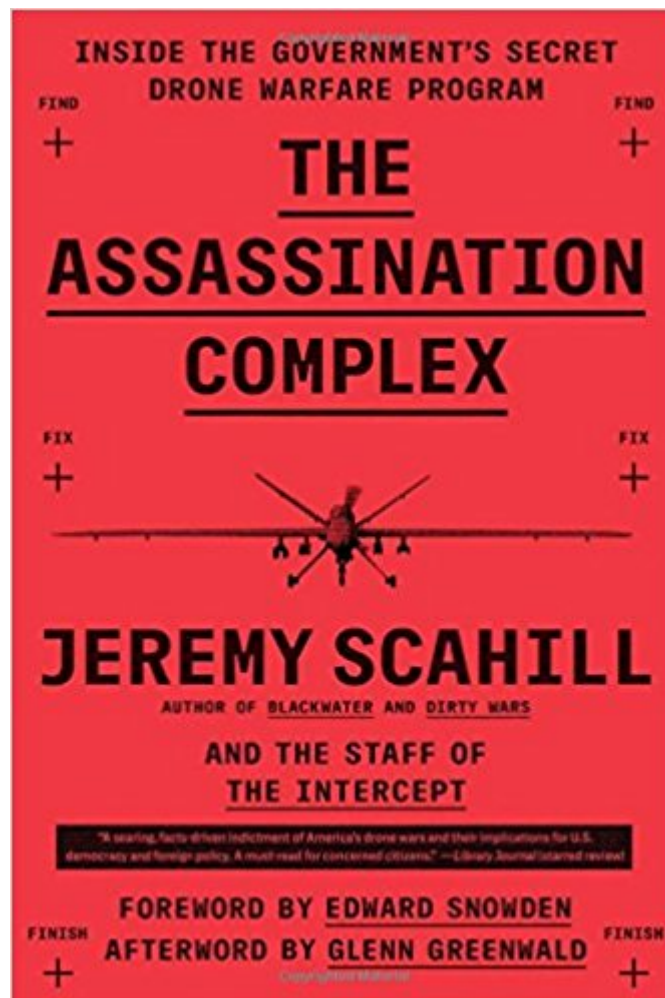**The book was found**

The Assassination Complex: Inside The Government's Secret Drone Warfare Program

Synopsis

Ã¢â ¬Å"A searing, facts-driven indictment of AmericaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s drone wars and their implications for US democracy and foreign policy. A must-read for concerned citizensÃ¢â ¬Å• (Library Journal, starred review) from bestselling author Jeremy Scahill and his colleagues at the investigative website The Intercept.Drones are a tool, not a policy. The policy is assassination. But drone strikes often kill people other than the intended target. These deaths, which have included women and children, dwarf the number of actual combatants who have been assassinated by drones. They have generated anger toward the United States among foreign populations and have even become a recruiting tool for jihadists. The first drone strike outside a declared war zone was conducted more than twelve years ago, but it was not until May 2013 that the White House released a set of standards and procedures for conducting such strikes. However, there was no explanation of the internal process used to determine whether a suspect should be killed without being indicted or tried, even if that suspect is an American citizen. The implicit message of the Obama administration has been: Trust, but donÃ¢â ¬â„¢t verify. The Assassination Complex reveals stunning details of the governmentÃ¢â ¬â„¢s secretive drone warfare program based on documents supplied by a confidential source in the intelligence community. These documents make it possible to begin the long-overdue debate about the policy of drone warfare and how it is conducted. The Assassination Complex allows us to understand at last the circumstances under which the US government grants itself the right to sentence individuals to death without the established checks and balances of arrest, trial, and appealÃ¢â ¬â •Ã¢â ¬Å"readers will be left in no doubt that drone warfare affronts morality and the ConstitutionÃ¢â ¬Å• (Kirkus Reviews).

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Customer Reviews

"A searing indictment of the U.S. drone program." (Lawrence D. Freedman Foreign Affairs)"Readers will be left in no doubt that drone warfare affronts morality and the Constitution. . . . Convincing and damning." (Kirkus Reviews)"A searing, facts-driven indictment of AmericaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s drone wars and their implications for U.S. democracy and foreign policy. A must-read for concerned citizens." (Library Journal (starred review))

Jeremy Scahill is one of the three founding editors of The Intercept. He is an investigative reporter, war correspondent, and author of the international bestselling books Dirty Wars: The World Is a Battlefield and Blackwater: The Rise of the WorldÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Most Powerful Mercenary Army. Scahill has served as the national security correspondent for The Nation and Democracy Now! and was twice awarded the prestigious George Polk Award. Scahill is a producer and writer of the award-winning film Dirty Wars, which premiered at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival and was nominated for an Academy Award.

In 2001 there were 16 names on the Known or Suspected Terrorist list. In 2013 there were 469,000 and there are now north of 680,000. These are people singled out for extra security at airports, like Senator Ted Kennedy who was prevented from boarding several flights, and a cub scout named Mikey Hicks, who got the treatment the first time when he was just two. It also includes the president of Bolivia and the Speaker of the Lebanese Parliament. Membership in a terrorist organization is not required. Once on the list, directives request every conceivable scrap of information, even biographical data on co-travelers. Mere death is not an acceptable reason for removal from the list, and neither is acquittal by a jury. To get off a list, all 19 American security agencies have to agree, and the subject will not be informed. And thatÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s just one list. So begins The Assassination Complex.The book is really well constructed. Its prologue is a view from above by Edward Snowden, who compares the treatment he received with the slap on the wrists to General Petraeus for basically the same thing, the first foretaste of the tsunami of hypocrisy to come. The first stories butter us up with the way civilians are targeted by agencies like TSA, and all the astounding kinds of data they collect on over a million people, most of whom are specifically not even suspected of belonging to terrorist organizations. Then we get into drone killing. In story after

story, the methods, the operations and the effects on individuals, families and whole countries comes into stark relief.Extrajudicial killing is a routine daily practice, with hundreds of civilians killed for every suspect targeted. This includes children, pregnant women, American hostages and whole families. Weddings have been particularly fruitful. American drones have deployed all over Africa and the Arab crescent, and now all kinds of other countries from France to China want to replicate the glorious freedom to kill at will with drones. Since the US has proven the way to get to pretty much anyone is to track them through their telephone SIM card, everyone on the planet is fair game, and there is absolutely no need to be sure of the target. One suspectÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s mother was bombed to death because her son lent her his phone. Oh well, try again.This is an updated collection of stories from The Intercept, an investigative journalism website that clings to ideals like press freedom against the monolith of the US government, which is totally against having to admit any of what it is doing. The book is also beautifully laid out, with dramatic red accents at the beginning and end of every story, and lots of photos and graphics integrated right where they are discussed. The stories are succinct, though they could have been edited to remove duplication.The epilogue devotes itself to showing Barack Obama as a complete hypocrite, outdoing George W Bush in ignoring the constitution and human rights, using his own words, before (ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å"Transparency and the rule of law will be the touchstones of this presidencyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•) and after being elected (ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å"Courts have no role reviewing the presidentÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s war on terror killingsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•). It is garden variety hypocrisy; once in power, they all revert to type, removing rights, invading privacy and limiting freedoms. In the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å"war on terrorÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• suspects of any kind have no rights whatsoever. Everyone is a potential suspect, and you have no choice but to play.David Wineberg

For those who have followed the work of Scahill, Greenwald and others through media outlets like Democracy Now, much that is reported in this book will be familiar. Nevertheless it is very helpful to have the entire case laid out clearly with supporting documents in one place. It is crucial reading for all Americans as we continue to wrestle with the legal principles which should govern the technology of modern warfare.

Jeremy Scahill is one of the best investigative journalist we have. He has been relentless exposing reality on the ground and the consequences of our misguided policy of assassinations by drones or other means. This book is a must read for anyone who cares to gain information behind the conventional media coverage or pentagon talking points. See his film Dirty Wars -It's heartbreaking-

and read his book on Blackwater.

There is no one like Scahill to connect the dots; to do research and interview folks who have not otherwise spoken. He assembles narratives that either flesh out the official story or counter it. Scahill is very bright, thorough, provocative, and a rock solid journalist who learned from the likes of Amy Goodman on WBAI. This book is not as long or as substantive Blackwater, but I was happy to read again Scahill.

Fairly technical, but easy enough to understand. A chilling, unbiased account of the phantom powers of assassination of the Executive branch, put into effect by G.W. Bush's ambiguous "war on terror" and perpetuated by president Obama.

This was my first time reading work of Jeremy Scahill, and I wish I found him sooner. The book details something not covered much by the media, but is key to understanding another layer of the quagmire that is United States interventionism and "nation building" in the Middle East. Drone strikes are a tool while targeted killing is the policy. The tone of how the evidence is presented in this book isn't so anti-American, rather a call to action for transparency in our highest levels of government. This wouldn't be so much of a story if more than a fraction of Americans knew full extent the protocol and controversy surrounding our drone program. A great read that stimulates what our "War on Terror" has evolved into.

Scahill's writing continues to get more compact and yet does not lose the ability to tell a story about how American policy touches people in far away lands that, through Scahill's eyes, we come to care about.Also exposes a grotesque expansion of military "mission" that is doomed to blow back on us.

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