

Washington Novelist and Network News Insider Witnessed Watergate Firsthand Finds That Reality Is Scarier Than Fiction

Research for Terry Irving's political thriller "Courier" uncovers a level of criminal activity and corruption far greater than known by most Americans.

WASHINGTON, DC, USA, December 30, 2014 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Terry Irving, the Washington DC based author of the breakthrough thriller "Courier" and an Emmy award-winning television news producer, has found while researching his latest book that, to his surprise, Richard Nixon's criminal betrayal of the nation was far beyond anything anyone but the most radical would have thought in the 1970's.

"I can remember reading Hunter S. Thompson's coverage and thinking that statements like 'Richard Nixon was an evil man...utterly without ethics or morals or any bedrock sense of decency' were paranoid and irrational" said Irving, who worked for ABC News during the scandal and witnessed firsthand many of the now legendary events.

However, Irving's attitude changed dramatically during his extensive research for his breakthrough thriller "Courier". The critically acclaimed novel tells the story of a Vietnam

veteran and Washington DC motorcycle courier for a major network news organization who picks up a reel of film and finds himself the target of a shadowy government kill squad determined to keep this story from the American public.

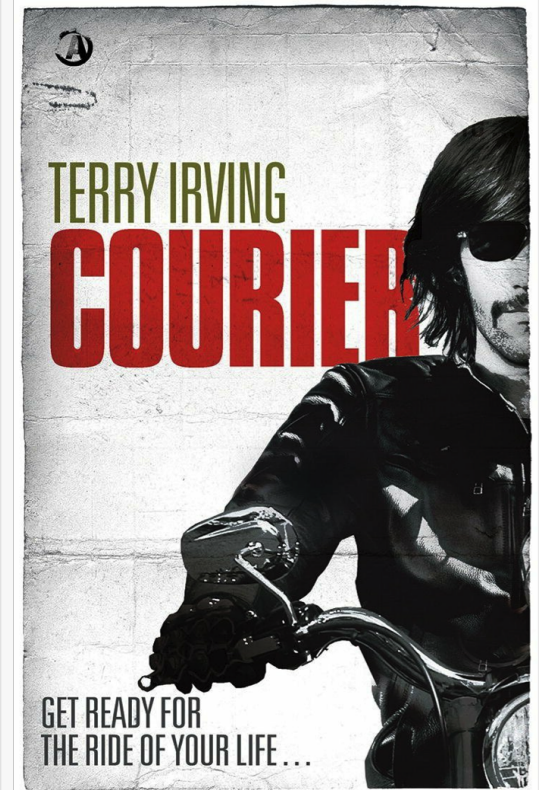
“

Kudos to one of television's best producers for writing the thriller of the year.

Sam Donaldson, White House Reporter

Irving himself rode a BMW for ABC News during Watergate and had a front row seat for events ranging from the "Saturday Night Massacre" to Spiro Agnew admitting he took bribes in the Vice President's office. Irving said that as he wrote the book, he thought the central secret in "Courier"—that Nixon was taking money from the South Vietnamese in 1972 to prolong the war—was great as a novel's plot device but a bit unlikely in reality.

"Like everyone else, I'd moved on to other stories and believed Watergate was a somewhat minor and predominately political affair. Wow, was I wrong." Irving said. "What amazed me most in doing the research for "Courier" was the increasing realization that Richard Nixon truly was 'a crook' despite his



famous denial and his administration was a criminal enterprise far beyond anything I could have imagined.”

Much of Irving’s information comes from new books that have reviewed and analysed notes, tapes, and trials that became public years after Nixon’s resignation. Here is an example from Ken Hughes recent book “Chasing Shadows” “From those documents and recordings, It’s now clear that Nixon made a deal with South Vietnam to pull out of the Peace Talks only days before the 1968 election, winning him the presidency and, arguably, leading to the deaths of over 21,000 American servicemen. President Johnson had ordered illegal surveillance to get to the bottom of this and warned Nixon through GOP Senator Everett Dirksen in a conversation a few days before the election,” said Irving. A damning portion of that conversation is as follows:

President Johnson: Now, I’m reading their hand, Everett. I don’t want to get this in the campaign.

Dirksen: That’s right.

President Johnson: And they oughtn’t to be doing this. This is treason.

Dirksen: I know.

In addition to Nixon’s violation of the Logan Act, Irving also found:

Senior Democratic White House officials decided to keep Nixon’s treasonous actions a secret to avoid a loss in public faith in the new President.

Nixon demanded that the IRS pull the tax files of his opponent, Sen. George McGovern.

On his own taxes, Nixon used accounting tricks to pay only \$6,000 on over \$790,000 of income during his second term as President.

Both Edmund Muskie’s withdrawal from the race and the revelations of Vice Presidential candidate Tom Eagleton’s psychiatric treatments were the work of Nixon’s “dirty tricks’ squad.

There was a very real plot to assassinate top DC journalist Jack Anderson by smearing a “massive dose” of LSD on the steering wheel of his car.

Many of these revelations have previously been reported, but Irving believes that most Americans have forgotten the sheer enormity of truly criminal acts involved in Watergate and think today’s political scandals are comparable.

“Watergate can’t be looked at in a Republican versus Democratic way. It was a criminal cabal that used the entire Federal government as a personal cash cow and a political weapon of frightening power. There is nothing happening today that comes anywhere near.”

About COURIER:

It's 1972, the Watergate scandal has Washington on edge and Rick Putnam, a Vietnam veteran and courier for one of the capital's leading television stations, is trying to get his life back together after his nightmarish ordeal in the war. When Rick picks up film from a news crew interviewing a government worker with a hot story, his life begins to unravel as everyone involved in the story dies within hours of the interview and Rick realizes he is the next target. When he discovers a rogue CIA agent has orchestrated the killings, Rick isn't surprised when his road to the truth leads directly to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Praise for COURIER:

"An action-packed tale of murder and political intrigue set in the politically turbulent 1970s.... Irving portrays [courier Rick Putnam] as a classic pulp-fiction hero: a chiseled, chain-smoking ex-soldier who's always ready with snappy quips. ... Irving's story is relentlessly paced, punctuated by bursts of action and violence, and driven by artfully unfolding suspense.... Exciting and gritty." -- Kirkus

Reviews

"Kudos to one of television's best producers for writing the thriller of the year." -- Sam Donaldson, longtime ABC News White House Reporter

"If the phrase 'a crackling good yarn' evokes an era before Twitter, Facebook, cell phones, videotape, DVD's or cable television, welcome to Terry Irving's fast-paced thriller." -- Ted Koppel, anchor for ABC News Nightline, now senior news analyst for National Public Radio and contributing analyst to BBC World News America and NBC

About The Author:

Terry Irving is a four-time Emmy award-winning writer and producer. Irving has also been awarded three Peabody Awards, three DuPont Awards and has served as a producer, editor or writer with ABC, CNN, Fox and MSNBC, worked closely with top network talent including Ted Koppel, Sam Donaldson and Don Imus as well as developed many of the earliest forms of online media. You can find Terry online at <http://www.TerryIrving.com> | <http://www.Facebook.com/TerryIrving> | [@TerryIrving](#)

To interview Terry Irving or to request a reviewer copy of "Courier," contact Allen Media Strategies' Burke Allen at burke@allenmediastrategies.com or call 703-589-8960.

Burke Allen
Allen Media Strategies, LLC
703-589-8960
email us here

This press release can be viewed online at: <http://www.einpresswire.com>

Disclaimer: If you have any questions regarding information in this press release please contact the company listed in the press release. Please do not contact EIN Presswire. We will be unable to assist you with your inquiry. EIN Presswire disclaims any content contained in these releases.

© 1995-2016 IPD Group, Inc. All Right Reserved.