

NEW REVIEW COMPARES FORMER CIA OFFICER'S BOOK TO SNOWDEN'S 'PERMANENT RECORD' AND BROWDER'S 'RED NOTICE'

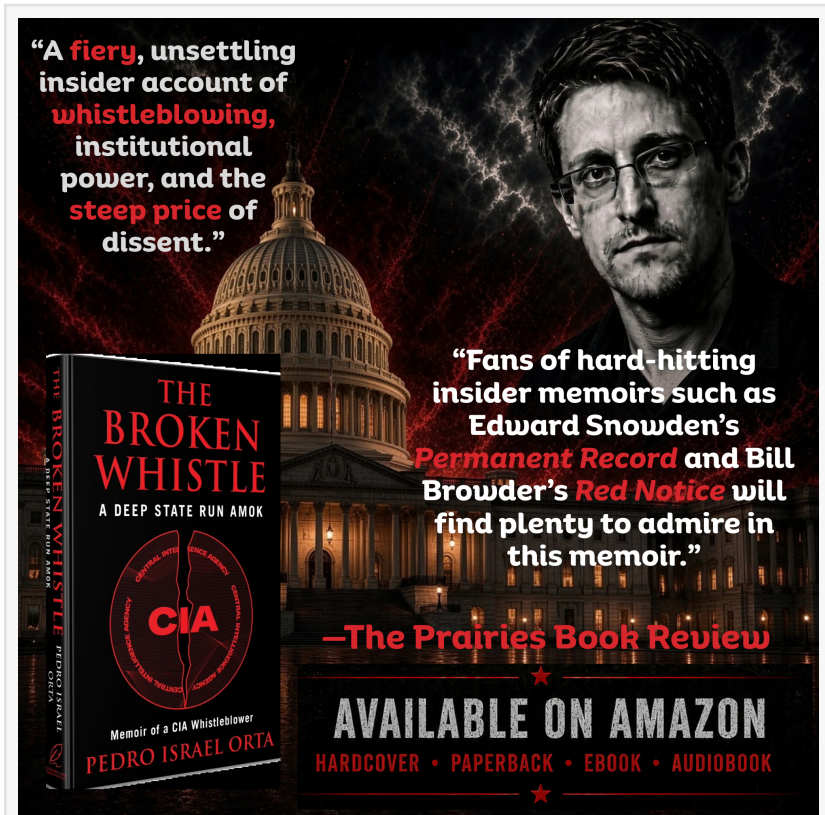
The Prairies Book Review calls "The Broken Whistle" an "urgent, combative" CIA memoir backed by extensive documentation and professional production.

WASHINGTON, DC, UNITED STATES, October 5, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- A new independent review of former CIA officer Pedro Israel Orta's "The Broken Whistle: A Deep State Run Amok" places the extensively documented whistleblower memoir in notable company, telling readers who admire Edward Snowden's "Permanent Record" and Bill Browder's "Red Notice" that they will find much to admire in Orta's book.

The [Prairies Book Review](#) describes "The Broken Whistle" as a: "Fiery, unsettling insider account of whistleblowing, institutional power, and the steep price of dissent."

The review goes further: "Fans of hard-hitting insider memoirs such as Edward Snowden's 'Permanent Record' and Bill Browder's 'Red Notice' will find plenty to admire in this memoir."

The comparison comes as "The Broken Whistle" accumulates independent critical recognition for its subject matter and the extensive documentary record underlying Orta's account of his 18½-year U.S. Intelligence Community career, whistleblower disclosures, subsequent disputes with internal oversight mechanisms, and eventual termination.

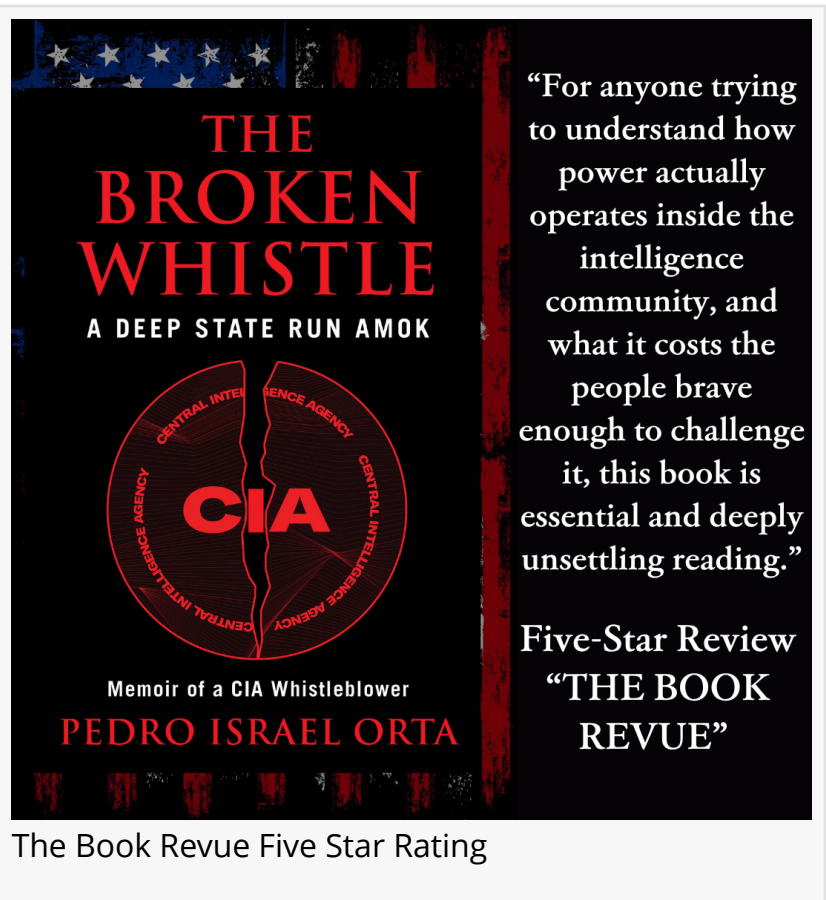


The Prairies Book Review

The Prairies Book Review emphasizes that documentary foundation, describing the memoir as “dense with documentation but propelled by personal conviction” and “an urgent, combative account of conscience colliding with bureaucracy.” That emphasis echoes other independent assessments.

[BookView Review](#) recently called "The Broken Whistle" a “painstakingly documented account” and concluded: “A document-rich, intensely personal reckoning with secrecy, power, and the battle to put one’s story on the record.”

[IndieReader](#) described the memoir as “a courageous and very detailed account of holding onto integrity despite coming under intense pressure from the CIA.”



Literary Titan awarded the book five stars, describing it as “more than an exposé,” while reviewer Philip Zozzaro, writing for Reedsy Discovery/San Francisco Book Review, called it “a stand-out exposure of the haphazard organization of the Central Intelligence Agency.”

“

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The Prairies Book Review

PROFESSIONALLY PRODUCED INDEPENDENT PUBLISHING

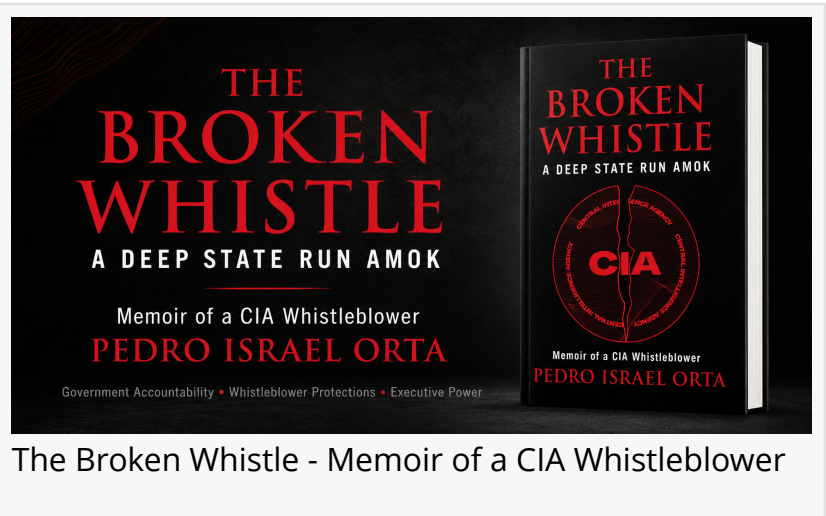
Although independently published, "The Broken Whistle" was developed with an experienced professional book

creation and publishing team spanning editorial assessment, copyediting, proofreading, and book design.

The manuscript was professionally copyedited and editorially assessed by veteran book editor Steve Gansen, whose publishing career spans nearly three decades and more than 100 books across memoir, military history, politics and nonfiction.

Gansen’s professional portfolio includes Floyd L. Paseman’s "A Spy’s Journey: A CIA Memoir", the

firsthand account of a 35-year CIA career spanning eight presidential administrations. The New York Times Book Review called Paseman's memoir "a pleasure to read," while Library Journal described it as "one of the best CIA memoirs published in a long while." The memoir was also reviewed in the CIA's professional journal, Studies in Intelligence. Gansen identifies "A Spy's Journey" among his career highlights and notes major coverage and reviews including The New York Times and USA Today.



"The Broken Whistle" received an additional professional review from United Kingdom-based David Haviland, an editor, author and publishing professional with more than two decades of industry experience. Haviland's background includes work as an editor, author, ghostwriter, literary agent and publisher, including experience in memoir, biography and nonfiction.

Completing the professional production team was veteran book designer David Ter-Avanesyan, who created the cover and visual identity for "The Broken Whistle." Ter-Avanesyan has more than 20 years of professional book-design experience, including work for Simon & Schuster, St. Martin's Press, Basic Books, McGraw-Hill and Skyhorse Publishing. After approximately 11 years at Simon & Schuster, where he advanced to senior designer, he later became a lead designer at Skyhorse Publishing.

Together, Gansen, Haviland and Ter-Avanesyan formed the professional book creation and publishing team behind "The Broken Whistle", bringing distinct expertise to editorial development, final proofreading and visual presentation.

CRITICAL RECOGNITION CONTINUES

The Prairies and BookView assessments add to a growing body of independent reviews. The Book Revue previously called the memoir "essential and deeply unsettling reading" for those seeking to understand power inside the intelligence community. Literary Titan awarded the book five stars, and IndieReader designated it IR Approved.

The reviews approach the memoir from different perspectives but repeatedly identify several characteristics: extensive documentation, an insider perspective, institutional conflict, and questions concerning accountability and the exercise of power inside government organizations.

The book's documentary record has also been developed into visual case studies examining leadership, organizational culture, institutional learning, and oversight inside the CIA, drawing upon episodes from Iraq, Afghanistan, CIA headquarters, and Intelligence Community oversight organizations.

ABOUT THE BROKEN WHISTLE

"The Broken Whistle: A Deep State Run Amok" is Pedro Israel Orta's memoir and exposé of an 18½-year career in the U.S. Intelligence Community and the disputes that followed his whistleblower disclosures. Drawing on correspondence, policies, complaints, timelines, and other records, the book presents Orta's account while providing readers extensive documentation to reach their own conclusions. "The Broken Whistle" previously reached #1 New Release in Amazon's Civil Rights Law category.

ABOUT PEDRO ISRAEL ORTA

Pedro Israel Orta is a former CIA intelligence and operations officer and former inspector within the Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community. During an 18½-year U.S. Intelligence Community career, his work included assignments in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other high-threat environments, as well as human intelligence operations, covert action, counterterrorism, counterintelligence, technical targeting, liaison, strategic intelligence analysis, and executive-level briefing. He also served as an Intelligence Community inspector working on whistleblower matters. Orta received eight Exceptional Performance Awards during his intelligence career. He is the author of "The Broken Whistle: A Deep State Run Amok" and the executive producer of the "Deep State Gangsters" documentary project, which examines intelligence, whistleblowing, institutional accountability, and government power.

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