



Final Flight: Queen of the Air

A True Crime Story

Review by Patrick M. Hughes
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Final Flight: Queen of Air

Jesús D. Romero and Steven J. Tochterman
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This superb book is about the incredibly complicated tapestry of criminal enterprise involved in delivering illicit drugs and other associated illegal activities from multi-national sources into the United States. Sadly, it is also about our own citizens who are involved and complicit in this reprehensible crime. It is written in the first person by and about

the men and women who work against this scourge and who discovered and acted on ways to interdict and stop some of what has been happening to us for years -- the fundamentally harmful provision and presence of cocaine,

methamphetamine, fentanyl, and other similar narcotics in our society. The authors name names, they give their considered opinions, and they explain events and methods in a way that cannot be and should not be ignored. This is an important recounting of their dedicated service to America, but it is also a reference and a guide for how to fight against the unacceptable existential threats to us all from the criminals who seek to damage the fabric of our nation, perhaps for money and personal association but perhaps too for a deeper and more nefarious motivation, the weakening of our values and moral imperatives. I offer my salute



and my sincere thanks to the authors and those they served with for their bravery for their efforts to end this threat. My hope is that political and law enforcement leaders will act more firmly and resolutely to pursue and punish those who are involved. This fine book by Jesús Romero will help with that.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

Jesús Romero is a retired U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander and was a Civil Service Army Intelligence Operations Specialist assigned to Guatemala at the time of the investigation.

Steve Tochterman is a retired Special Agent with 36 years of service with the Federal Aviation Administration and supported the investigation.

Patrick M. Hughes, LTG (USA, Ret), was the 12th Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency from 1996 to 1999. Prior to that, he was Director, J2, for the Joint Chiefs of Staff; CENTCOM J2; Commanding General of the Army Intelligence Agency; Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence, on the Army Staff; commander of the 501st MI Brigade in Korea; and commander of the 109th MI Battalion in the 9th Infantry Division.



From 2003 to 2005 he served as Assistant Secretary for Information Analysis in the newly established Department of Homeland Security. Now fully retired from government service, he devotes his time to national security research, writing, speaking, and mentoring. He is a former President of the National Military Intelligence Association and served for many years afterward on the NMIA Board of Directors; he is now an NMIF Board Member Emeritus.