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THE MEXICAN OPERATION: The Mafia, Mexican Immigrants, and Racism in a 1950s Desert Town

By Silva, Lee A.

Santa Ana, CA: Graphic Publishers, 2006. Soft cover. Book Condition: New. 1st Edition. Tall, very thick octavo, 640 pp., illustrated with numerous period photographs, 1979 Introduction, 2006 Afterword -- "the story behind the story," glossary, biblio. Author Lee Silva--a renowned historian and prize winning Western writer--here dramatically and graphically describes the way life was for thousands of poor, unsophisticated and uneducated Mexican farm workers who crossed the border--legally or illegally--into the American Southwest during the 1950s to find a better life, only to find themselves cheated, cruelly exploited and often even killed (to avoid having to pay them) during the roughly two decades that followed World War II. While this book is a fictionalized account based in part on the author's true experiences on the border--his father was mysteriously killed in 1962 while trying to help the "braceros"--the backdrop is based on facts and actual happenings, allegedly after organized crime discovered the massive profits to be made exploiting the Mexican farm workers. A fast-paced, thrilling story of intrigue, murder, racial prejudice and the clash of two cultures on the California border, of wide interest today! Includes histories of U.S.-Mexican race relations (then and now), border problems, the huge illegal immigration...



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