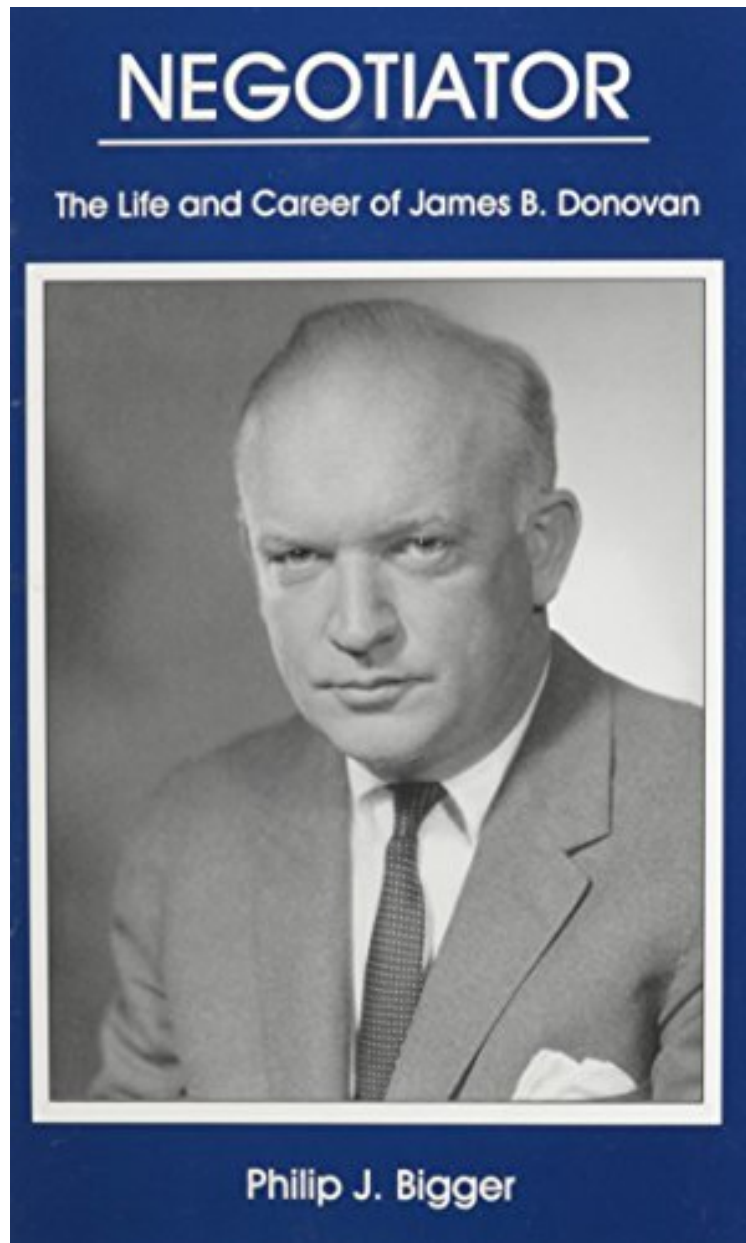


(Download free ebook) Negotiator: The Life And Career of James B. Donovan

Negotiator: The Life And Career of James B. Donovan

Phillip J. Bigger

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Phillip J. Bigger : Negotiator: The Life And Career of James B. Donovan before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Negotiator: The Life And Career of James B. Donovan:

62 of 62 people found the following review helpful. A Life Well LivedBy Christoph KellyGrowing up in New York

City, I had always heard about James Donovan. After I read Donovan's own *Strangers on a Bridge*, his book about the spy case of Rudolph Abel and subsequent prisoner exchange for Gary Powers, I sought out more information. It was strangely lacking. Other than a few New York Times articles and Donovan's own books, that wasn't much. It was probably due to Donovan's untimely death at the age of 53 in 1970. But *The Negotiator* has filled that void. Phillip J. Bigger explores the life and frenetic energy of James B. Donovan. His widow Mary sought out Bigger to write a definitive biography of her late husband because she felt his accomplishments should not be forgotten. Documenting the life of a workaholic attorney who was seemingly in the middle of every Post World War II and Cold War crisis of the 20th Century was a daunting task, but Bigger has done it brilliantly. Donovan served in the Navy during World War II, eventually becoming OSS General Counsel and then served at the start of the Nuremberg trials helping to set up a framework for the international tribunal. But it was his determined efforts to free the Cuban prisoners after the failed Bay of Pigs invasion that was his greatest achievement and Bigger details this brilliantly. Negotiating with Castro directly, he not only secured the prisoners' release, but was able to get other Americans out who were being held on the Island. Bigger writes a blow by blow account of Donovan's nonstop talks with Castro and the American government, particularly Robert Kennedy, who disliked Donovan. The story of how Donovan got corporate America to aid in the release is amazing. The hectic pace took a toll on Donovan's health and family life. Bigger does not shy away from that issue either. I highly recommend this book. It can be said that Donovan is one of America's most forgotten movers and shakers. Hopefully *The Negotiator* will go a long way towards correcting that.

This first biography of James B. Donovan portrays the brilliant attorney and humanitarian as a role model for all generations.

About the Author Phillip J. Bigger was an administrator in probation and pretrial services for the U.S. District Court in Brooklyn.