

BERLIN, EARLY 1950s—a haunted city, divided and on edge, and the espionage capital of the world. Agents for multiple intelligence agencies enjoyed virtually unrestricted travel across the sectors, making it ideal grounds for recruitment and reconnaissance. Berlin was also the central circuit for communications in Eastern Europe, based on the old imperial network that dated to before World War I. All calls—including to and from Moscow—were routed through Berlin.

This gave Western intelligence an intriguing idea.

In *Betrayal in Berlin*, Steve Vogel reveals the full story of Operation Gold, a daring plan to dig a clandestine tunnel—as long as the Empire State Building is high—beneath patrolling East German troops, stretching from the city's American sector to the Soviet one. If successful, the Americans and British would tap into critical KGB and Soviet military underground telecommunication lines, providing live access to a vast treasure of intelligence, including details about Soviet nuclear and conventional forces, KGB counter-intelligence operations, and the identities of hundreds of communist agents. Yet as the Allies were silently excavating, someone else was burrowing into the operation itself: a traitor, George Blake—code-named Agent Diamond—perhaps the most damaging mole of the Cold War.

Drawing upon years of archival research, secret documents, and interviews (including with Blake himself), *Betrayal in Berlin* is a thrilling true-life spy story, a German layer cake confectioned with deception, daring, and technological wizardry, one with an unforeseen twist, unknown for decades after Blake's treachery: another secret betrayal, this one by the KGB.

STEVE VOGEL is a veteran journalist who reported for the *Washington Post* for more than two decades. He covered the fall of the Berlin Wall and the first Gulf War, as well as military operations in Somalia, Rwanda, the Balkans, and Iraq. His coverage of the war in Afghanistan was part of a package of *Washington Post* stories selected as a finalist for the 2002 Pulitzer Prize. Vogel also covered the 9/11 attack on the Pentagon. The author of *Through the Perilous Fight: Six Weeks That Saved the Nation* and *The Pentagon: A History*, he lives near Washington, D.C.

READ BY JOEL RICHARDS

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**BETRAYAL
IN BERLIN**

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COLD WAR'S
MOST
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OPERATION**

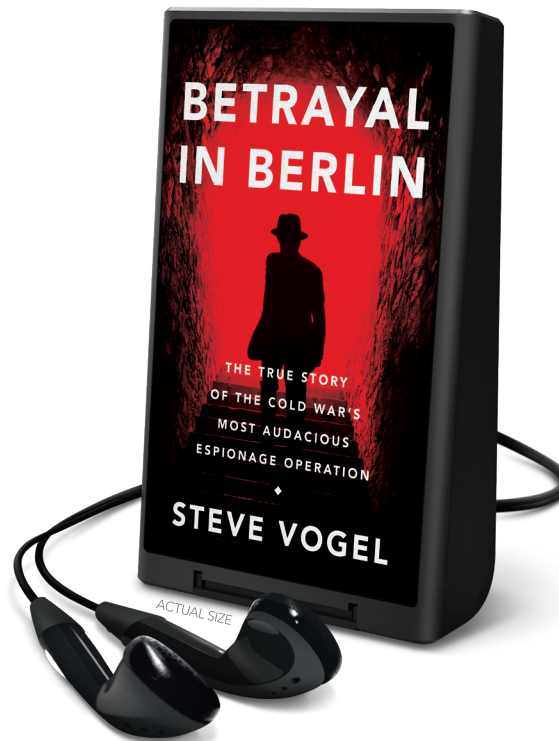
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