

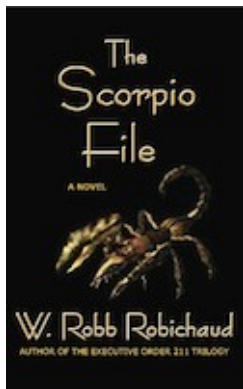
The Scorpio File

A NOVEL



W. Robb Robichaud

AUTHOR OF THE EXECUTIVE ORDER 211 TRILOGY



Al Qaeda terrorists discover the one place and time when they can destroy America's entire government infrastructure with a single attack. The answer to stopping the attack is "page 31." The question to the answer is the dilemma.

The Scorpio File

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First Edition Print 2004
ISBN: 1-59113-602-4

Printed in the United States of America

Chapter I

Unification of Intelligence

In 1996, a government liaison officer who answered only to the President of the United States walked into the White House oval office. His power and authority, second only to the Commander-in-Chief, were not abused. He sat down in the seating area and was joined by the president. The meeting was the highest of top-secret meetings and, as far as government records were concerned, it never took place.

International terrorism was on the rise. One organization of terrorists had stepped up their training campaign in remote areas of third world countries. The training consisted of military- style exercises and those who exhibited excellence were sent to advance training in the field of terrorist infiltration and assassination. The top graduates of advanced schooling were considered the elite and assigned missions in selected countries that were considered the power countries in the world.

The Arab leader of the organization was once a Saudi Arabia citizen. In the early 1990's he was stripped of his citizenship and was persona non grata in his birth country. He traveled to the Sudan and set up his terrorist organization. After being asked to leave the country, he relocated to Afghanistan where that country's leadership welcomed him with open arms.

Usamah bin Laden grew his terrorist group into a worldwide, network, terrorist organization called al Qaeda (the base), which eventually became a name recognized throughout the world. Al Qaeda had been expanding its forces and

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network since the early 1990's and had success in bloody assassinations and bombing government entities throughout the world. No country's facilities in foreign continents were immune to the possibility of being attacked.

The president understood that unless something was done soon to counter al Qaeda and Usamah bin Laden, there would be no stopping the escalating, terrorist devastation. He had sent bills to Congress asking for additional funds to form a secret assassination squad to circumvent Executive Order 12333, Part 211, which banned any member of the government, including American military forces from committing assassinations. Congress and the Senate had always voted against the bills.

Frustrated with the situation, the president decided to take matters in his own hands. The Washington, DC bureaucracy and red tape had reached the pinnacle of incompetence. A close friend, who had spent years in the intelligence arena, was also frustrated with the situation. Each agency within America's government that specialized in the gathering and the dissemination of intelligence had become an empire within itself. Egos of the top agency directors became over-inflated with their agency's abilities and each separate division considered themselves in competition with other agencies. The two major bureaus that wouldn't share information were the CIA and FBI.

The president decided that something had to be done, and soon. He had two meetings with David Pauls and today was the last one before a final decision was to be made between these two men.

After an hour meeting, the decision was made to recruit a group of highly-trained, ex-military civilians to secretly complete missions against al Qaeda. Pauls had four individuals in mind. The men were all ex-Navy SEALs,

extremely successful in civilian life, and had no reason other than hating terrorism to accept the job.

Over the next two years, the group called the International Covert Enforcement Team, acronym I.C.E., was successful in operations in Europe, Asia and Africa. In 1998 I.C.E. had grown to five of the most dangerous, covert killers in the world. Their vicious, blood curdling killings of low-life scum, put the terrorist world on notice. Any attack against American citizens or property, would be answered with extreme prejudice.

Pauls was their control contact and assigned the missions and funding for the assassins was set up through several dummy corporations all over the world. The ability to trace the executive in control of the funds, David Pauls, was virtually impossible.

I.C.E. was dissolved in 2000 and christened with new name. Falcon Agency eventually became a full-fledged, government entity after 9-11 and answered only to the Commander-in Chief.

The top executives of Falcon were the original members of I.C.E. Daniel White, an ex-professional, all-pro linebacker and successful multi-millionaire, was the Director and his two Assistant Directors were Merlin Miles (the Wizard or Wiz) and Raul Estavam. This threesome, along with their Operations Coordinator Kathy Starley, successfully unified the CIA, FBI, NSA and Secret Service into one cooperating intelligence unit. Each individual agency maintained anonymity but now, there was complete cooperation between every entity.

After 9-11, it was proven that all the different intelligence agencies had bits and pieces of information and if they had shared it with their “competitors”, the president firmly

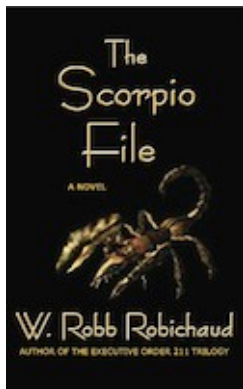
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believed there was a strong possibility the devastating attack could have been prevented.

That is when Falcon Agency became the legal, right hand intelligence organization of the president. The government's bureaucracy had been circumvented. Falcon's function was to gather all intelligence information and disseminate it to the other agencies. If the CIA, FBI, NSA or Secret Service discovered any information that could affect the security and safety of the United States, they were to turn it over to Falcon. For the first time since computer technology was incorporated into America's government, all agencies computer systems were networked into one group and all shared the common intelligence with each other. The agency that provided guidance to the whole operation was the elite, Falcon Agency.

In 2003, the unification proved successful. Falcon along with the FBI, CIA and NSA stopped a biological terrorist attack against the United States one day before the spreading of the chemicals was to commence in the major cities of America. In order to prevent hysteria amongst the citizens, the attempted attack was kept secret and would be for the next twenty years. In keeping with their tradition of extreme prejudice, twenty-six members of the terrorist cell had been wounded or killed by the Falcon team during the attack. The president signed an irrevocable Executive Order guarantying that the secret would not be released to the public.

In the summer of 2004 evidence of an attack that would be the most devastating atrocity ever in United States history was uncovered. The president asked Falcon Agency to investigate.



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