

Caamaño in London: The Exile of a Latin American Revolutionary (Institute for the Study of the Americas)

Fred Halliday

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In January 1966, Colonel Francisco Caamaño Deñó, president of the Dominican Republic during the "Constitutionalist" uprising of 1965 and the subsequent U.S. invasion, was exiled to London. Spending twenty months in the British capital as military attaché at the Dominican Embassy, Caamaño remained intensely involved in the affairs of his home country. He rallied opposition to the U.S. presence and prepared for his own return before secretly flying, in October 1967, to Cuba. Six years later he lost his life while attempting to launch a guerrilla war in the mountains west of Santo Domingo.

Until now, little has been known about Caamaño's London sojourn, the most important by any Latin American radical leader in the British capital since the visits of Bolivar and San Martín in 1809. This book includes material from people who met Caamaño in Britain and a chapter on the London period by his Dominican biographer, Hamlet Herman. It also presents, for the first time, documents from official archives on Caamaño's conversations with British and American diplomats. The result is a complex and informative study on a missing chapter in the history of the Dominican Republic and, more broadly, a contribution to the often forgotten history of the cold war in the Caribbean.



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