

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Former NATO intelligence chief writes cyberterrorism spy thriller

Major General Val Pattee's novel lauded as compelling and a "tutorial for homeland security personnel"

(Victoria, BC) – Suppose al-Qaeda had a second, potentially more devastating attack planned in 2001. How would it be thwarted?

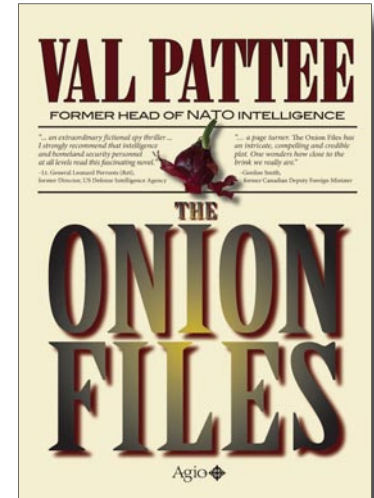
The Onion Files is a spy thriller differing from all previous novels in one very important aspect: author Val Pattee was one of the Western world's top spy masters. Serving as chief of intelligence for NATO in Europe during periods of Cold War-era terrorism, he worked with the heads of intelligence for sixteen member nations, and conferred with his Soviet and Red Chinese counterparts.

Although *The Onion Files* is fiction, Pattee infuses the action with a realism of people and places only an insider could deliver. The title refers to an ingenious and diabolical plot by al-Qaeda to devastate vast areas of the United States soon after the 9/11 attacks. Pattee introduces readers to protagonists Jim and Mark Buchan, who work with the US Central Intelligence Agency and Russian counter-terrorism units in a fast-paced hunt across three continents to halt a computer virus and its brilliant creator.

Pre-publication reviews are enthusiastic. Lt. General Leonard Perroots (Ret), former Director of the US Defense Intelligence Agency, calls *The Onion Files* "an extraordinary fictional spy thriller ... I strongly recommend that intelligence and homeland security personnel at all levels read this fascinating novel."

Former Canadian Deputy Foreign Minister Gordon Smith says Pattee's novel is "... a page turner. *The Onion Files* has an intricate, compelling and credible plot. One wonders how close to the brink we really are."

The Onion Files by Val Pattee, from Agio Publishing. ISBN 978-1-897435-06-9 (casebound); 978-1-897435-05-2 (paperback); 978-1-897435-07-6 (eBook). Release date November 2007.



HOT TOPICS

- how vulnerable is the US to cyberterrorism attacks on its infrastructure, as described in *The Onion Files*?
- how has intelligence gathering changed since the Cold War?
- why is cooperation between agencies and countries more important now?
- what's the biggest challenge in stopping al-Qaeda?

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Val Pattee is a retired Canadian major general who served as Chief of Intelligence and Security for NATO in Europe and for Canada. In that role, Pattee had unprecedented access to the most secret intelligence of sixteen nations as the Cold War drew to a close. He also met with the GRU (Russian Military Intelligence) in Moscow and with the People's Liberation Army in Beijing. Pattee worked in Paris at the height of the Action Direct terrorism and in the bunker near Bonn while the Red Army Faction was creating havoc across Europe.

The author and his wife Joan reside in Victoria, BC, and winter in Mexico where Pattee is writing the next novels in this series. His website is www.valpattee.com. He is available for interviews, presentations and radio talk shows.