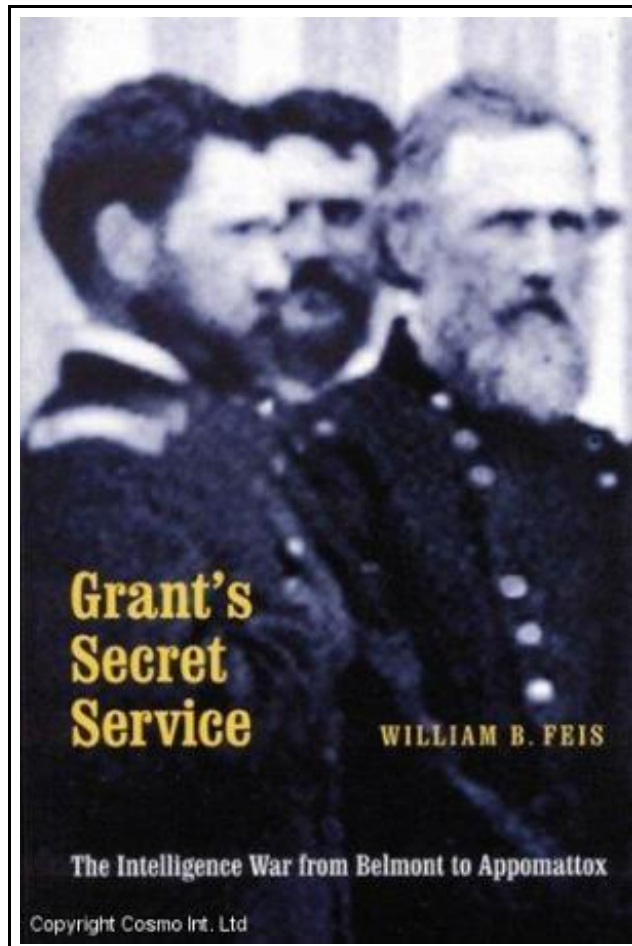


Grant's Secret Service: The Intelligence War from Belmont to Appomattox



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Reviews



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(Juliet Mertz)

GRANT'S SECRET SERVICE: THE INTELLIGENCE WAR FROM BELMONT TO APPOMATTOX



University of Nebraska Press, UK, 2004. Softcover. Book Condition: New. First Edition. Available Now. Book Description: 'The art of war is simple enough,' said Ulysses S. Grant. 'Find out where your enemy is. Get at him as soon as you can. Strike him as hard as you can and as often as you can and keep moving on'. Much has been written on Grant and his pursuit of the latter two prescriptions; William B. Feis offers us the first scholarly examination of Grant's first principle, the often vexing question of just where his enemy was and what he was doing. In the western theatre, Grant was successful despite limited intelligence resources; his victories there stemmed in part from his ability to analyze his opponents and anticipate their actions. In the absence of intelligence data, Grant's initiative, determination, and drive carried him to success. In the East, however, to overcome Lee's advantages of strategic and operational mobility coupled with his own initiative, Grant had to adapt and became more reliant on intelligence to provide information about Confederate movements and intentions. Feis makes the new and provocative argument that Grant's use of the Army of the Potomac's Bureau of Military Information played a significant role in Lee's defeat. "Grant's Secret Service" articulately rebuts accusations by Grant's detractors that his battlefield successes involved little more than the bludgeoning of an undermanned and outgunned opponent. William B. Feis is an assistant professor of history at Buena Vista University. He has published several essays and articles, including work in "North & South Magazine" and "Civil War History". : Review: 2003 Army Historical Foundation Award Finalist "Feis . provides fresh and unique insights into Grant's planning and strategy based on substantial original research focusing on how Grant used (or did not use) intelligence information throughout the war....

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