



The Diamond Smugglers

Ian Fleming

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Ian Fleming's world travels, interests, as well as his journalism and wartime experiences, lent authority to everything he wrote. Originally published in 1957, this edition restores the original observations, maps, and language used at that time.

In 1957, as the Cold War raged, Ian Fleming took a respite from writing James Bond to craft a work of nonfiction every bit as tense as a Bond adventure. Aided by an ex-MI5 agent and International Diamond Security Organization operative going by the alias "John Blaize," Fleming chronicled the IDSO's infiltration of the "million-carat network"—the world's most notorious diamond smuggling ring.

Every year, a shadowy band of racketeers pirated a fortune in diamonds out of Africa, and the majority of the stolen gems wound up in the hands of Communist nations. In response, the IDSO commissioned a private army, led by legendary British spymaster Sir Percy Sillitoe, to penetrate and topple the ring. And when the operation was complete, the *Sunday Times* gave the story to Fleming, who had impressed Sillitoe with his 1956 Bond adventure *Diamonds Are Forever*.

A remarkable feat of investigative journalism, *The Diamond Smugglers* is the thrilling true story behind one of the greatest spy operations in history.

The text in this edition has been restored by the Fleming family company Ian Fleming Publications, to reflect the work as it was originally published.

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