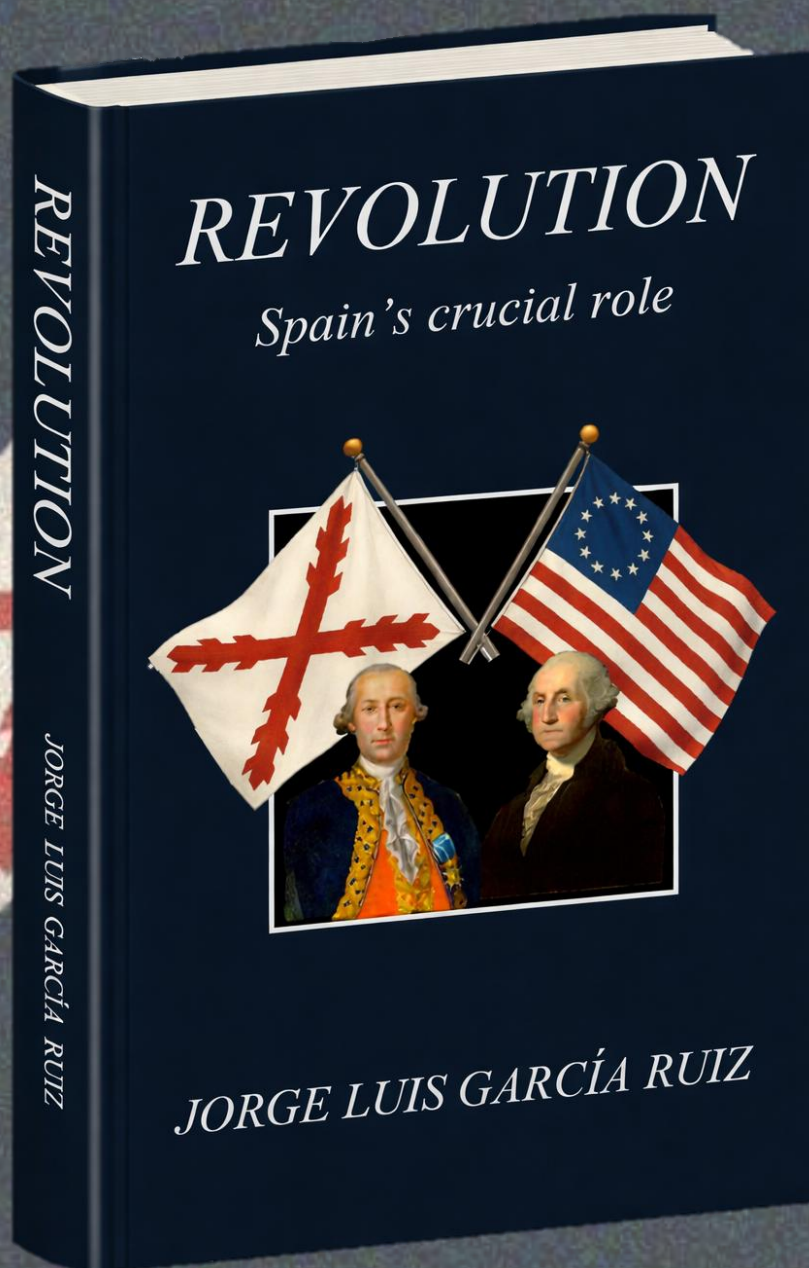
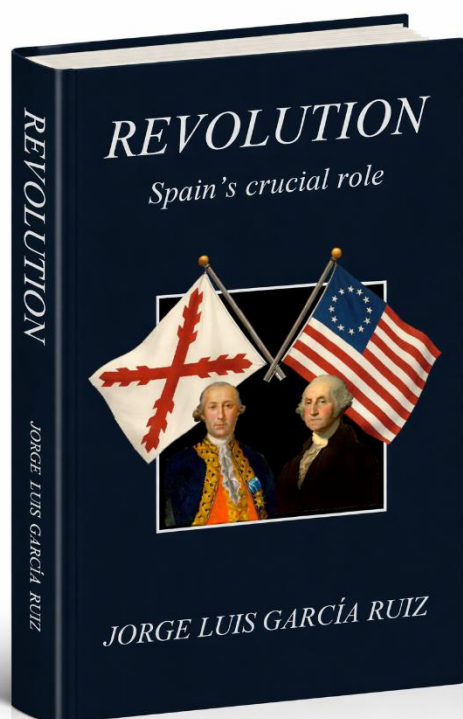


REVOLUTION

Spain's crucial role



JORGE LUIS GARCÍA RUIZ

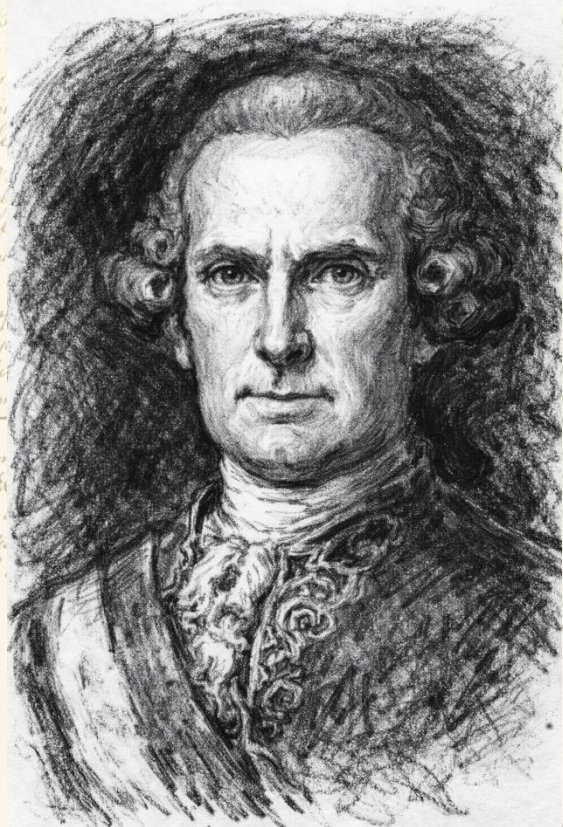


Beyond Spain's importance in this historical process, the book addresses issues of enormous relevance. It examines the prior negotiation process among all parties and identifies the main protagonists. It explains why, and at whose behest, Spain was drawn into yet another war with England. It also explores the always-complicated relationship with the French Crown and the ambiguity of its politicians and military leaders, leading us to question whether they were truly allies of the Spanish Crown or its worst enemies. We will also analyze the attitudes and behavior of the American envoys to the Spanish court.

As readers who reach the final pages will discover, this book steers clear of triumphalism as much as it does of victimhood, since both are enemies of truth. Contrary to the logic followed by chroniclers throughout history, who exaggerated numbers or the enemy's prowess to lend their narratives the necessary epic quality. Many modern authors revel in denigrating England, failing to understand that victories over an incompetent, foolish, and morally inferior foe carry no epic value at all. They also fail to grasp that recounting defeats is necessary to show that this was no walk in the park, that defeating England was extraordinarily difficult, and yet it was achieved.

We will move away from victimhood because, more often than not, the main culprit is oneself. This story, the one we share in this book, is full of mistakes, flaws, and internal conflicts that must be brought to light, not to punish ourselves, but to know and understand who we are.

We will come to know all the protagonists, not just the leading figures. This has been one of the great handicaps of Spanish historiography: focusing all success or failure on one or two individuals, making our history appear as a sequence of exceptional events produced by inspired geniuses, rather than what it truly was, a culture, a system, a set of values that produced a constellation of highly significant figures, the vast majority of them completely unknown to the general public. We will also see to what extent success was the product of individual brilliance or of careful planning, leading us to another interesting point: reshaping the perception of Spain as a disorganized and chaotic country, a perception that has followed it for more centuries than we care to admit.



Thos. Mifflin
Thomas Mifflin
Arthur Middleton

George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Th. Jefferson
Ben. Harrison
Th. Wilson Jr.
James Lightfoot Lee
Carler Braxton

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Economic matters will also play a key role. If there is ever to be a claim, it is essential to know what was paid or sent, who paid for it, to whom it was delivered, and, critically, on whose behalf the weapons and money were handed over, and above all, who had to sacrifice so that Americans could today celebrate 250 years of independence.

If recovering the financial debt falls within the realm of utopia, not because the right does not exist anymore or because the debtor lacks the means, which is not the case here, but because throughout its history the debtor has demanded much and paid little, with no reason to believe that pattern has changed, it is at least necessary to continue demanding recognition of the moral debt. Every lie told on this subject is doubly unjust.

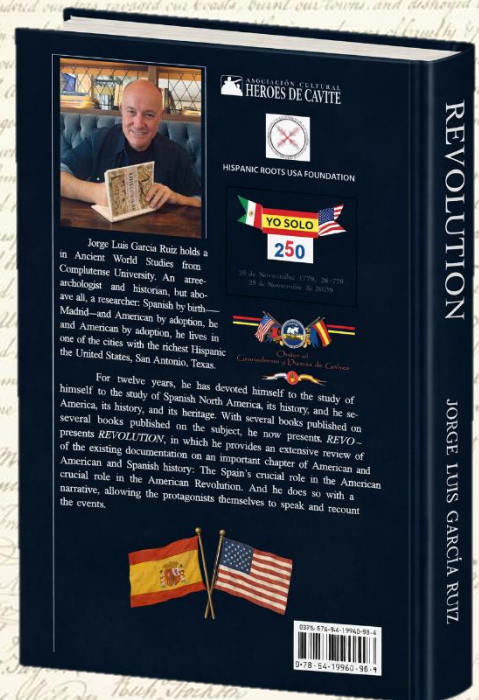
We will expose both the internal and external enemies, their relationships, and their interests. We will examine how peace was negotiated and who its actors were. What happened to the debt, what was acknowledged and what was ultimately paid. We will learn who gave thanks and who did not. What Spain obtained in return for such generosity. And finally, the conclusions will explore alternatives and ideas that have not been considered until now. But first, a small appetizer: at the end of the research, I would have liked to title this book "The Great Swindle," but political correctness, and perhaps common sense as well, require a more restrained approach for that first impression that is a book's cover. In any case, the reading of this work will leave no one indifferent.

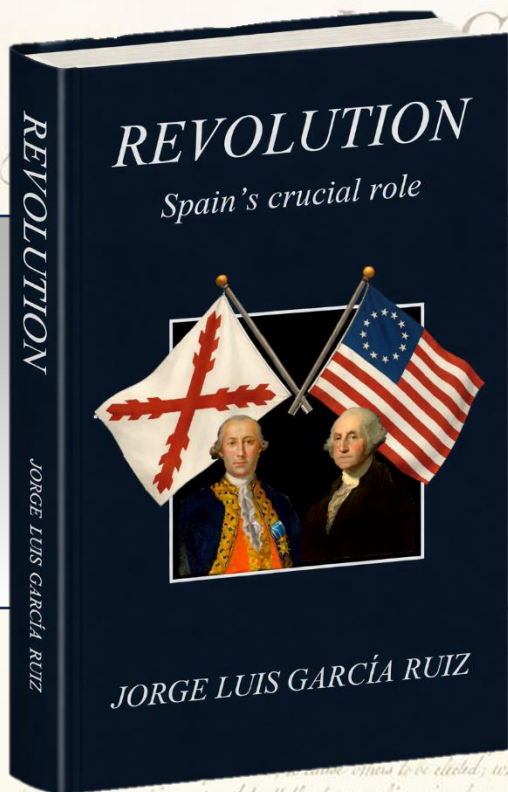
I believe that you will enjoy it, as I did.

Thus relates Jorge Luis García Ruiz, PhD in History and Archaeology and a specialist in the history of Spanish North America, in his book **REVOLUTION. Spain's Crucial Role**. A volume in which he has examined French, English, American and, of course, Spanish documents, cross-referencing the data among all of them and uncovering evidence that broadens the existing understanding of Spain's role and the importance it had for the American Revolution.

Without Spain, there would have been no independence.

As the author notes, **REVOLUTION** "is a new vision that comes from the simplest premise: returning to the original documents and setting aside 250 years of self-interested interpretations within historiography. Going back to the origin, to the source, to purify the narrative. No chauvinism, no legends, simply the plain, unvarnished facts.





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Jorge Luis García Ruiz

Holds a PhD in Ancient World Studies from the Complutense University of Madrid. An archaeologist and historian, he is a specialist in the history of Spanish North America, but above all, a researcher. He teaches at Texas Lutheran University. Spanish by birth and American by adoption, he resides in one of the U.S. cities with the deepest Hispanic roots: San Antonio, Texas.

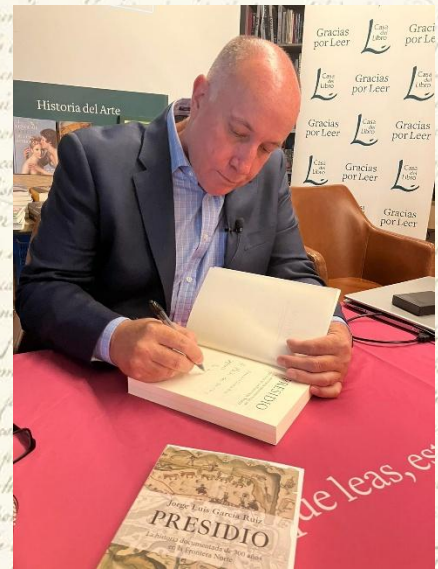
In recent years, he has devoted himself to the study of Spanish North America, its history, and its legacy. With several books already published on the subject, he now presents *Revolution. Spain's Crucial Role*, in which he offers a broad examination of the existing documentation on an important chapter of Spanish history: the help of Americans to conquest their Independence. He does so through a clear and accessible narrative, allowing the historical protagonists themselves to speak and recount the events.

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The maritime

Spain among the powers of the earth, the
 should declare the confes which imput
 with certain unalienable Rights, that as
 powers from the consent of the governed;
 Government, laying its foundation on suc
 will dictate that Governments long establis
 evils are justifiable, than to right themsel
 wishes a design to reduce them under ab
 ban the patient sufferance of those tedious
 Britain is a history of repeated injuries an
 world. — He has refused — He has refuse
 and pressing importances, unless suspensio
 pass other Laws for the accommodation of
 to tyrants only. — He has called to
 compliance with his measures. — He
 along time after such dissolutions, to call
 ing in the mean time refused to all the de
 long the Laws for Naturalization of Foreign
 Administration of Justice, by refusing his
 and payment of their salaries. — He
 us, in times of peace, standing Armies, wit
 with them to subject us to a jurisdiction fo
 armed troops among us: — For restricti
 our Trade with all parts of the world: —
 has to be tried for pretended offences —
 so as to render it at once an example and
 altho'g fundamentally the terms of our
 He has abdicated Government here, by
 of our people: — He is at this time ha
 feraciously paralleled in the most barbarous ages,
 this country, to become the avengers of the
 inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Ind
 have obtained for Relief in the most humi
 is unfit to be the ruler of a free people. —
 able jurisdiction over us. — We have unbind
 by the ties of our common kindred to disc
 consanguinity. — We must, therefore, acqu
 We, therefore, the Representatives of the
 tations, do, in the Name, and by Authority
 States; that they are absolved from all ob
 that as Free and Independent States, they
 States may of right do. — And
 and our sacred Honor.

Walter Gwinnett
 Lyman Hall
 Geo. Walton.

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Spain's Crucial Role in the Independence

On the Eve of the Revolution

First Assistance

Beaumarchais, an Accounting Engineer

Do not Say New Orleans, Say Smuggling

Oliver Pollock, Another Good Friend

Diplomatic Negotiations with Spain

Diego de Gardoqui

The French Ambiguity

Secret Spanish Aid

Saratoga: Turning Point

France Declares War

Spain Drawn into the War

Global War

Gibraltar Under Siege

The Gálvez Family from Macharaviaya

Bernardo de Gálvez in Louisiana

The Capture of Mobile

Nicaragua: A British Disaster

St. Louis Stands

Luis de Córdova y Córdova

José Solano y Bote

Francisco de Saavedra

British Counterattack at Mobile

I Alone

The Siege of Menorca

The Siege of Yorktown

Victory at Roatán, Defeat at Rio Tinto

French Debacle

Last Military Operations

Allies or Pirates?

The Spanish Sacrifice

A Very Texan Legend

John Jay in Spain

The Debt

Peace Negotiations

The Slow Agony

Internal Enemy

Recognition

America,

connected them with another, and to
 opinions of mankind requires that they
 that they are endowed by their Creator
 entitled among Men, deriving their just
 to abolish it, and to institute new
 and Happiness. Prudence, indeed,
 mankind are more disposed to suffer, wh
 passing invariably the same Object
 for their future security. — Such has
 history of the present King of Great
 know this, let facts be submitted to a candid
 his Governors to pass Laws of immediate
 to them. — He has refused to
 hit insupportable to them and formidable
 do, for the sole purpose of judging them int
 of the people. — He has refused for
 large for their services, the whole remain
 of these States for that purpose, obstruc
 of Lands. — He has obstructed the
 for the tenure of their offices, and the amoun
 their salaries. — He has kept among
 the civil power. — He has combin
 tion: — For quattering large bodies of
 of these States: — For calling off
 al by jury: — For transporting us beyon
 government, and enlarging its Boundaries
 is abolishing our most valuable Laws, and
 legislate for us in all cases whatsoever. —
 He has burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives
 with circumstances of cruelty & perfidy
 live on the high seas to bear Arms against
 us, and has endeavoured to bring on the
 In every stage of these Oppressions We
 id by every act which may define a Tyrant,
 to by their legislature to extend an unwarrant
 unanimity, and we have refused them
 e ban deaf to the voice of justice and of
 us in War, in Peace Friends. —

judge of the world for the rectitude of our in
 light ought to be Free and Independent
 is and ought to be totally dissolved; and
 lets and Things which Independent
 hledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes

Isiah Bartlett
 Mr. Whipple

Law's Adams

John Adams

Robt. W. Smith

George J. G. J.

Step. Hopkins

William Ellery

Roger Sherman

Sam. W. Huntington

Mr. A. Adams

Oliver Wolcott

Matthew Thornton