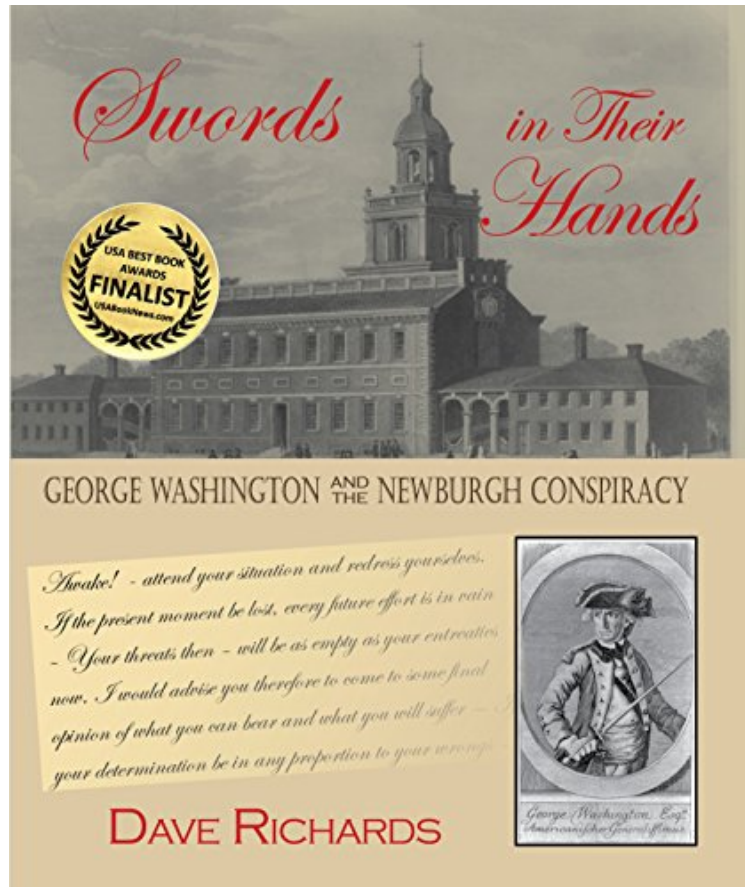


(Pdf free) Swords in Their Hands: George Washington and the Newburgh Conspiracy (English Edition)

# Swords in Their Hands: George Washington and the Newburgh Conspiracy (English Edition)

Von Dave Richards

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**Von Dave Richards : Swords in Their Hands: George Washington and the Newburgh Conspiracy (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Swords in Their Hands: George Washington and the Newburgh Conspiracy (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An Excellent Study Of A Critical Event In Early America Von James Gallen The triumph of the American Revolution almost ended in a disaster of financial insolvency, military revolt and the death of a new nation just aborning. Sword in Their Hands chronicles the roads to that lead to that crisis, the characters who spawned the Newburgh Conspiracy and the Father who saved his country once again. Author Dave Richards has done an excellent job of explaining the background to the events and the people involved. The main problem stemmed from the weakness of a Continental Congress that assumed the obligation to prosecute a war without the ability to impose taxes and states unwilling to pay their assessment to the national government. Army officers fought for years without pay or supplies while Congress

and the states looked to each other to provide the means to continue. With victory won they faced abnonnement: uncompensated, impoverished, victims of the country whose independence they had just won. With the Army headquartered at Newburgh, New York leaders called a meeting to prepare an ultimatum to Congress calling for payment of a pension or a lump sum to save its officer corps from poverty and disgrace. Just in its moment of victory the Army threatened to march on Congress, stage a military coup and scuttle the American experiment with democracy. As he had in the past and would in the future, George Washington rose to the occasion. A surprising and unwelcome visitor, he implored his men to do nothing that would tarnish their place in the hearts of their countrymen. Seeing they remained unconvinced, he produced a letter. Unlike his earlier notes, this one was in small print. He reached into his pocket and removed the glasses that they had never seen. His acknowledgement of infirmity: Gentlemen, you will permit me to put on my spectacles, for I have not only grown gray, but almost blind in the service of my county reconnected them with the chief they had followed, reminded them of all they had fought for and saved civilian control of the military. Thereafter Washington would be an advocate for those who had heeded his call one last time. I have seen reviews that claim that this book is too long. Perhaps so for those seeking History Lite, but not for me. This book is an extremely well research study of a little known but crucial moment in the early life of our country. The text is only 293 pages but a lot is packed into them. By the time I finished it I felt I had a much greater familiarity with military leaders who had previously been little more than names, a better perspective on the course of the war and an enhanced understanding of political environment in which nation and states were feeling their way into the future. I had recently read Moses Robinson and the Founding of Vermont by Robert A. Mello (see my review). The times of the two works overlap, a time when Vermont asserted its independence while fending off claims from neighboring states and indecision from Congress. As I read about Vermont's tale I wondered about the relative status of state and the national government. Swords in Their Hands touched on the same topics and struggles. At the end of this book I felt that I had a much better appreciation for the process that accompanied our nation's early, uncertain growth. For that Swords in Their Hands is worth every page and every word. I did receive a free copy of this book for reading and review.

Kurzbeschreibung Swords in Their Hands is the first book-length account of the closest thing to a coup that the United States has ever experienced. In the autumn of 1782, many Revolutionary War officers in the Hudson Highlands, angry that they have not been paid in months or even years, begin to fear that they will never get their back pay and promised postwar pensions. The Continental Congress in Philadelphia, meeting under the Articles of Confederation of 1777, has no power to raise funds to pay them. Two political factions are at odds: nationalists who want Congress to have direct taxation authority, and opponents who insist that only individual states should have that power. As the last months of the war approach, several key army officers, supported by some nationalist members of Congress, set in motion a desperate plot: they will terrify state legislators, and their delegates in Congress, into granting Congress the direct taxation authority it needs. One option is to lay down their arms before victory is achieved, and let the British quell the colonists' rebellion; alternatively, after defeating the British, they will refuse to give up their arms unless their demands are met. In March 1783, hundreds of Washington's officers, ready for revolt, gather at the Temple of Virtue in New Windsor, NY to agree on the first steps toward implementing their plan. Then General Washington himself arrives, and in a 15-minute address changes the course of history. Kurzbeschreibung Swords in Their Hands is the first book-length account of the closest thing to a coup that the United States has ever experienced. In the autumn of 1782, many Revolutionary War officers in the Hudson Highlands, angry that they have not been paid in months or even years, begin to fear that they will never get their back pay and promised postwar pensions. The Continental Congress in Philadelphia, meeting under the Articles of Confederation of 1777, has no power to raise funds to pay them. Two political factions are at odds: nationalists who want Congress to have direct taxation authority, and opponents who insist that only individual states should have that power. As the last months of the war approach, several key army officers, supported by some nationalist members of Congress, set in motion a desperate plot: they will terrify state legislators, and their delegates in Congress, into granting Congress the direct taxation authority it needs. One option is to lay down their arms before victory is achieved, and let the British quell the colonists' rebellion; alternatively, after defeating the British, they will refuse to give up their arms unless their demands are met. In March 1783, hundreds of Washington's officers, ready for revolt, gather at the Temple of Virtue in New Windsor, NY to agree on the first steps toward implementing their plan. Then General Washington himself arrives, and in a 15-minute address changes the course of history. ber den Autor und weitere Mitwirkende Connecticut native Dave Richards served seven years in the U. S. Army, primarily in military intelligence. After two years of Russian language instruction and specialized training, he was assigned to West Berlin, where he transcribed and translated Soviet intelligence activities. While serving in that field he earned a BA in Russian language and literature from George Washington University and an MA in Slavic and East European languages and literatures from Ohio State. Upon completing his studies he joined the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California, where he taught Russian to members of the armed forces. When

the Cold War came to an end he earned certification to teach English as a Second Language and taught in Korea and Japan for twelve years. An avid student of American history, Dave writes regularly for The Historical News, a series of historical quarterlies published by the Southern Historical News that are distributed throughout the South, and he is a frequent speaker on a range of historical subjects. His interest in history led him into extensive research on the Newburgh Conspiracy and the key figures involved. Dave lives in Hendersonville, NC, where he is active with Toastmasters and a member of the Writers Guild of Western North Carolina.