

Review from *RED DIRT REPORT*

<http://www.reddirtreport.com/rustys-reads/revolution-counter-revolution-spain-felix-morrow>

"Revolution & Counter-Revolution in Spain" by Felix Morrow

Pathfinder

"Revolution & Counter-Revolution in Spain" was originally released in 1938.

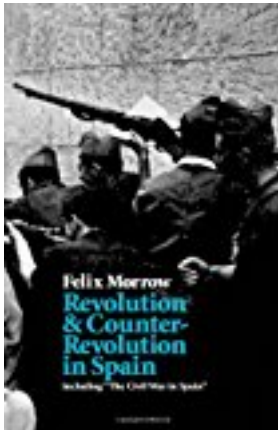
ANDREW W. GRIFFIN | DECEMBER 12, 2016

CATEGORY:

RUSTY'S READS

RUSTY'S SCORE

4.5



BOOK REVIEW: *Revolution & Counter-Revolution in Spain* by Felix Morrow (Pathfinder Press) 1936, 1938, 1974

When American Trotskyist and writer Felix Morrow wrote the important *Revolution and Counter-Revolution in Spain* 80 years ago, as the civil war in that European nation was expanding, Fascist leader Francisco Franco was to become Generalissimo of Nationalist Spain, while the Spanish Republican government approved the formation of the International Brigades, which would draw thousands from around the world – including some from Oklahoma – to fight the fascists who wanted to turn back the clock in that country.

“Bourgeois democracy is that form of capitalist state which leans on the support of the workers, secured through the reformist leaders. The capitalists of Spain concluded that democracy was intolerable, and that meant that bourgeois democracy and reformism were finished in Spain,” wrote Morrow, several years before Franco would become successful in his goal of turning Spain fascist. *“Mussolini declared he had saved Italy from Bolshevism. Unfortunately, the truth is that the workers’ post-war upsurge had already receded, thereby*

facilitating Mussolini's assumption of power. Hitler said the same, at a time when the workers were hopelessly divided and disoriented. Franco had need of the same myth for justifying his resort to arms. What was true, in Italy, Germany and now in Spain, is that democracy could no longer exist. Precisely the fact that fascism had to seize power, even though there was no immediate danger of a proletarian revolution, is the most conclusive evidence that democracy was finished."

If that sounds eerily familiar, you would be correct. With a proto-fascist Trump administration coming into power, featuring some of the most reactionary cabinet picks in American history, what the Spanish proletariats faced 80 years ago seems to echo forward to today. And that is why reading Morrow's account of what was taking place in Spain – a few years before the full-fledged outbreak of World War II – is such an important read.