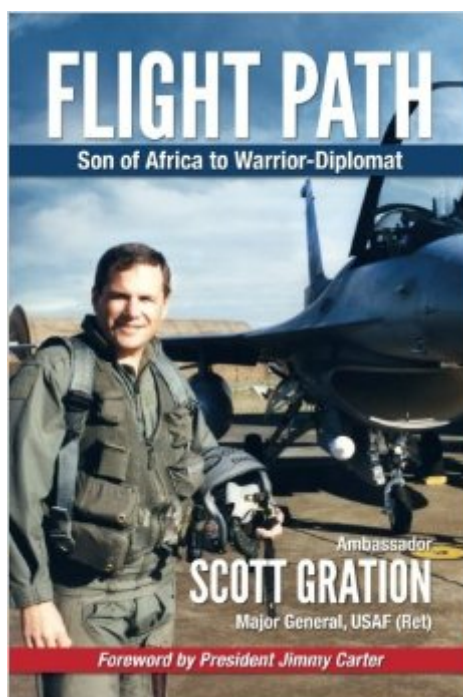


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Flight Path: Son Of Africa To Warrior-Diplomat



Synopsis

Former President Carter introduces this gripping first-person narrative that provides significant details about six headline stories not previously revealed. Captivating experiences from my unique childhood—attending boarding school at the age of seven, escaping the 1964 Congo rebellion as a refugee, and being inducted into the Masai tribe in Kenya—jumpstart the book. Human-interest vignettes punctuate fascinating accounts of developing the Predator drone, conducting the 2003 scud hunt in Iraq, and accompanying Senator Obama to Africa in 2006. I painfully describe surviving the 1996 Khobar Towers bombing in Saudi Arabia and the 9/11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon, and then recall speaking at the 2008 National Democratic Convention and helping to birth South Sudan in 2011. My reflections at the end of the memoir highlight important lessons I have gleaned during my unlikely journey from son of Africa to a warrior and diplomat. In 2012, I was fired from my job as Ambassador to Kenya over disagreements with the State Department on security and other issues, including using my Gmail account to supplement the Department's OpenNet computer system. Since revelations about Hillary Clinton's private email server surfaced a year ago, I have been interviewed on CNN's "State of the Union" program and my name has appeared in numerous articles about the State Department's "double standard." This book provides facts that have not been exposed previously. Author: Scott Gration was reared as a son of missionaries in Congo and Kenya. After graduating from Rutgers University, he joined the US Air Force and spent much of his military career as a fighter pilot. After retiring as a Major General from the US Air Force, Scott Gration served as a chief executive officer, the President's Special Envoy to Sudan, and the US Ambassador to Kenya. He and his wife, Judy, live in Kenya where Scott is the executive chairman of Champion Afrik.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Flight Path" is the inspiring story of Ambassador Scott Gration's journey to serve others and a cause greater than himself. His "flight path" in life is extraordinary. I enjoyed reading the page-turning accounts of Gration growing up in Africa as the child of missionaries who became a fighter pilot and leader in the U.S. Air Force, a White House fellow, the U.S. Special Envoy to Sudan, and the U.S. Ambassador to Kenya. It was fascinating to read about the events that shaped Gration's character. He shares insights about how to lead and unite people. Thanks to Gration's detailed accounts, I felt the joy of his triumphs and the pain of struggles he faced during times of adversity and disappointment. At the end of the book, I enjoyed reading Gration's reflections about what he's learned from his life's journey. Gration is a thoughtful individual and excellent writer. Anyone will benefit from reading this book. It helps us make sense of our own experiences in life and encourages us to persevere in taking the high road.

FLIGHT PATH is captivating. I read through it once, then started from the beginning to take in the suspense and the important lessons again. Several things make this book fascinating, informative and inspirational. First, Scott Gration writes candidly about his amazing life story, and is not afraid to be vulnerable even on sensitive, personal issues. Rapid promotions, frequent changes in work and location, careers in service, government, politics, military and diplomatic positions... almost every reader can find something to identify with. Gration was at the Pentagon on 9/11. He was at Khobar Towers when terrorists attacked in 1996. He was in Denver when the then Senator Obama received the Democratic Party nomination in 1998. He was in Kenya during the attempted coup de'etat in 1982. He gives the inside story on all these historic events, and much more. Gration honors military heroes and military families in this book by identifying with the sacrifice they make in defense of their country. The book is also significant; his experiences of being accused of using personal email for classified information during his tenure as the US Ambassador to Kenya speaks to our current political context. Descriptions of various aircraft and procedures provide an excellent layman's manual for all things military. I definitely recommend that you invest in "Flight Path" -- it is well worth the read.

Fascinating details from a person who has personally experienced what most of us only read about in newspaper headlines. It made me realize anew how such stories that often seem so far away affect real people just like me. I also stand amazed at how much positive influence one life can have when lived with the passion, dedication, and courage of Scott Gration. In addition, I believe that at this moment in history, many readers will be particularly interested in the revelations that come out as he describes his time as Ambassador to Kenya under then Secretary of State, Hilary Clinton. Tucked in there is a rather fascinating discussion of what she thought of his emails! Read it and find out!

Flight Path is a gripping story of a man of deep faith, strong convictions and scrupulous integrity. The story of Scott Gration has all the elements of an award-winning TV action.drama series. Reading Flight Path is like riding a roller-coaster--- an exhilarating ride filled with hairpin political twists and turns and breathtaking adventures. A highly decorated Major General in the Air Force, Scott was a fighter pilot in the Iraqi War, survived two major terrorist attacks, including the 9/11 attack on the Pentagon, a skillful diplomat and a compassionate humanitarian. Flight path is a fascinating, inspiring and informative account that takes you behind the scenes and introduces the reader to a world that few have experienced. This book is a page-turner that you will find difficult to put down.

Scott Gration's book Flight Path - Son of Africa to Warrior Diplomat is a great read. Scott shares his life stories from his unique childhood in Africa to his life-threatening events in the military and his unique and humbling experiences as Ambassador to Kenya. His first person stories of surviving the bombing in of the Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia, the 9/11 Pentagon attack and his close encounters as an Air Force pilot keeps you engaged. I especially enjoyed reading about his leadership experiences and lessons learned from his life and successful military and diplomatic career. These would make for some very stimulating discussions in a leadership class/workshop. His honest reflections on his family and the challenges of balancing career, family, and faith add to this great book.

Ambassador Gration's book is well worth reading as it covers many fascinating and dangerous events in recent history. To experience danger from early childhood in the Congo to life threatening times in the US Air Force is remarkable. Not many have survived two attacks by terrorists, let alone been there. Leadership is one of the many skills that Amb. Gration used to the benefit of those that

worked with him, together with integrity, faith and courage. Apart from the dramas the book has interesting insights into the workings of high level people in Washington DC and NASA. This book is both interesting and educational.

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