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Carlos Montezuma, M.D.
A Yavapai American Hero
by Leon Speroff

ISBN 0-9726535-4-6 • \$34.95 • 550 pages • 7 3/8" x 9" hard cover

"Leon Speroff provides us with a heroic example of how one man changed the course of his tribe's future through undaunted commitment and sheer perseverance. A moving tribute to a remarkable man."

— GEORGE THOMAS,
former White House Fellow and a founder of the American
Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES)

Impeccably researched and rich in detail, Carlos Montezuma, M.D. documents the life of one of the first ever Native American medical doctors. Taken from his family as a boy by Pima Indian warriors and sold to an itinerant Italian photographer, Montezuma found himself deposited into vastly foreign surroundings at a very young age. In late nineteenth-century Chicago, he was presented with opportunities, both educational and social, that had previously been unavailable to his people.

Dr. Montezuma became a firm believer in the importance of Native American assimilation into white society, and he fiercely spoke out against the Bureau of Indian Affairs, claiming that it was responsible for keeping American Indians dependent on the Federal Government. In the last years of his life, his intense focus shifted from this assimilationist philosophy to helping his tribe regain its land and water rights in the face of great adversity from the U.S. Government.

Leon Speroff paints a full and well-rounded picture of the life and times of this remarkable man. The inclusion of Montezuma's personal correspondence with numerous key players in the early American Indian movement lends this book the air of authority and authenticity that superbly recreates this time in our history when a disenfranchised group of people stood up to take their rightful place in American society.

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