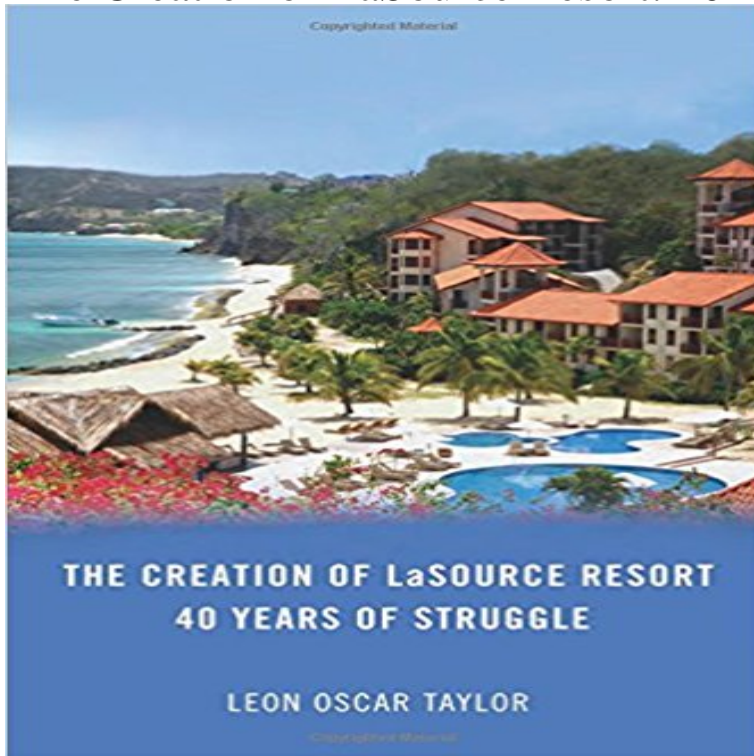


# The Creation of LaSource Resort: 40 Years of Struggle



This amazing story chronicles 40 years of personal struggle by Grenada developer, Leon Taylor, to create a luxury resort on a Caribbean island. His obsession with the vision of creating something outstanding on the island of his birth started when his father asked for his assistance to develop a barren estate with several beaches on the island of Grenada. After completing his post-graduate studies in Canada, Leon returned to the island in 1965 to plan the development of the estate. But even before construction could begin, the next 20 years presented him with a daunting series of political and military events that made headlines around the world. Leons first major obstacle came in 1967, when Grenada began the slide towards political dictatorship, under a Prime Minister more interested in political power than in the islands development. The oppressive government frustrated and marginalized Leons plans, forcing him to rely on his own personal finances to keep his company solvent until the political climate improved.

But matters only worsened. In 1979, the Prime Minister was overthrown by a coup of leftist Marxist revolutionaries under the influence of Cuba and the Soviet Union. Cold-War geopolitics ushered in new and discouraging challenges to Leons plans for the resort. Grenadas strategic location heightened its value to the Soviet Unions expansionist policies, leading to the rapid militarization of the island. The revolutionaries then dealt another severe blow to Leons plans: they confiscated his estate to build an airport that would have linked Cuba to its war in Angola. Yet again, turmoil intervened. Within less than 5 years, the revolutionary government imploded in a bloody confrontation that led to executions, a shoot-to-kill curfew, and the largest American military operation since the end of the Vietnam War. With democracy firmly restored, Leons plans once again shifted into high gear to

develop the remaining portions of the estate surrounding the airport. When it finally opened in 1993, LaSource became the islands premier resort and largest employer in the islands tourism industry. This book is Leons incredible true story about keeping his dream alive despite overwhelming business challenges and personal dangers under a right-wing dictator, a left-wing revolution, and military conflict. The book is filled with more than 60 pictures, which document in color the development of the resort: from Leons first hand-sketches of the golf course valley, to pictures with famous personalities like Morgan Freeman and Robert Branson, who enjoyed the luxuries of LaSource or socialized with Leon on their visits to Grenada. The LaSource story is a must read.

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