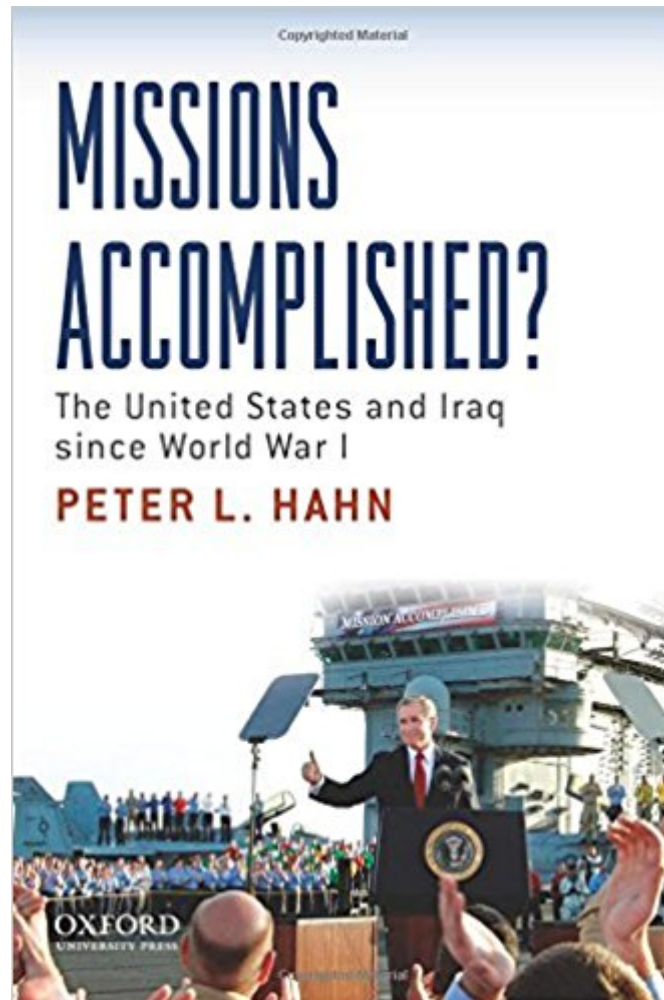


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Missions Accomplished?: The United States And Iraq Since World War I



Synopsis

Despite the central role that Iraq occupies in modern American diplomacy, there is relatively little scholarly literature on the topic. Author Peter L. Hahn is the first to synthesize the entire complicated, power-driven relationship between the United States and Iraq over the last ninety years. *Missions Accomplished? The United States and Iraq Since World War I* takes a straightforward, chronological approach, emphasizing the formulation of U.S. policy toward Iraq in its political, strategic, and military dimensions. The book pays careful attention to the context of the political situation in Baghdad; regional developments (including the Arab-Israeli conflict, intra-Arab rivalries, and Iraqi-Iranian tensions); and global dynamics, such as decolonization and the Cold War. Hahn boldly identifies the key players in Washington and Baghdad, evaluating the successes of every policymaker and each mission in the history of the United States-Iraq relationship. Incorporating insights from several sources—including books on the military aspects of the Persian Gulf War of 1990-91 and declassified documents on the political and military dimensions of the Iraq War of 2003—Hahn provides a balanced and nuanced discussion of recent and current events. Supplemented with lavish illustrations and maps and colorful vignettes of Americans who experienced Iraq first-hand, *Missions Accomplished? The United States and Iraq Since World War I* offers, above all, a discussion that remains mindful of deep historical antecedents.

Book Information

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 1 edition (October 13, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0195333381

ISBN-13: 978-0195333381

Product Dimensions: 9.1 x 0.5 x 6.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 2.6 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #367,591 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #128 in [Books > History > Middle East > Iraq](#) #331 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Middle East](#) #719 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > Middle Eastern](#)

Customer Reviews

"For instructors, students, and general readers looking for a sound, balanced, and accessible general history of the U.S. relationship with Iraq, look no further. Peter Hahn's incisive and dispassionate study expertly fills that great need. It provides the deep historical context essential for understanding the tortured course of American policy toward the Saddam Hussein regime-and all the turmoil and controversies surrounding the recent war with Iraq and its tangled aftermath."--Robert J. McMahon, Ohio State University "In this concise and illuminating book, Peter Hahn provides a wonderful historical backdrop that helps us to understand our present challenges in Iraq."--Melvyn P. Leffler, University of Virginia

Peter L. Hahn is Professor of History at The Ohio State University. He is the author of several books, including *Historical Dictionary of U.S.-Middle East Relations* (2007), *Crisis and Crossfire: The United States and the Middle East since 1945* (2005), and *Caught in the Middle East: U.S. Policy toward the Arab-Israeli Conflict, 1945-1961* (2004).

This book is a critical look at America's perceptions and policies on the Middle East, and specifically Iraq, since WWI. The author looks at official records and American media to build and support its point. I don't agree with the previous reviewer. This book's "bias" is its argument but the argument is well supported. Hahn uses many U.S. official and medial sources. Perhaps Hahn could have sought out more Iraqi accounts and experiences; they are out there. However Hahn's argument is not as critical of Iraqis as it is of the American knowledge and actions in the Middle East.

A jingoistic and uncritical account, which neglects the experiences of Iraqi entirely. The book is without merit as history.

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