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Saudi Arabia in the 1980's, Foreign Policy, Security, and Oil

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part of the book relies heavily on secondary sources. It is probably too academic for an introduction to the subject, but not sufficiently original for most advanced readers.

The other side of the coin is, as discussed above, Shusterich's treatment of the problems and prospects of the ocean mining industry. This is the important aspect of his book. It makes interesting, if not optimistic, reading about that section of our ocean interests that has, apparently, undercut the rest.

M. W. JANIS
Cornell Law School

Quandt, William B. *Saudi Arabia in the 1980s, Foreign Policy, Security, and Oil*. Washington: Brookings Institution, 1981. 190pp. \$22.95 paper \$8.95

Drawing upon his experience as a member of the President's National Security Council staff responsible for Middle East affairs, William B. Quandt has written a useful primer on Saudi-American relations. The book has all the virtues of a well-written government briefing paper prepared for senior policy-makers—it is succinct, objective, and concentrates on those factors most likely to affect the bilateral relationship in the near future. In short, it is the perfect compact volume to pack into your attaché case if you suddenly find yourself appointed to negotiate with the Saudis and have to become an instant expert.

Now a senior fellow in the Brookings Institution Foreign Policy Studies program, Quandt has largely avoided the temptation to include in this work the inside information he was privy to as a result of his presence on the National Security Council staff, although there is a tantalizing mention of the reported role of the French in helping to recapture the Mecca mosque from Moslem

extremists in November 1979. Predictions, recommendations, and conclusions are frequently included without the additional supporting material one might find in a more scholarly type work. Nonetheless, it is difficult to dispute the author's choice of material or his findings. His footnotes and selective bibliography point the way for readers interested in additional study.

Saudi Arabia in the 1980s is divided into three parts dealing, respectively, with the threat to the Kingdom from abroad, with the manner in which the Saudi domestic system copes with the threat and, lastly, with the American connection. Each is so well done that it is unfair to attempt to characterize one as better than the others. Among the interesting material Quandt draws to the attention of the reader is Saudi Arabia's seemingly deliberate decision not to increase its oil production capacity from the current 10.5 million barrels per day to 14 to 16 million barrels in order to avoid the unwelcome pressure which it fears would come from the West seeking to use it to break the OPEC monopoly and from its OPEC partners demanding ironclad guarantees that this would not happen.

As befits the Kingdom's status as the source of vitally needed oil for the West, the author devotes considerable attention to the question of Saudi Arabia's stability. He discounts the likelihood during the present decade of a threat to national unity arising from a succession crisis or from the large community of foreign workers, estimated at almost 2 million. A military coup by disgruntled officers, he views as a serious threat to the regime, but as far from inevitable.

For Americans accustomed to viewing the Camp David Peace Accords between Egypt and Israel as a major triumph, Quandt performs a useful service by depicting them as they appeared to Saudi

eyes . . . as an unwelcome development requiring that Riyadh choose between its commitments to the Arab states and its ties with Washington. Under the circumstances, there was little doubt that the Saudis would opt to disappoint the American government. Indeed, a clear thread running through the book is the limited ability either the United States or Saudi Arabia has to substantially influence the other's major policy decisions. Quandt stresses in his conclusions the importance for the United States to realize that despite their wealth the Saudis are really not a first-rate power and that Washington will fail if we attempt to press Riyadh to go beyond the consensus reached by the Arab nations on any important issue. Similarly, he emphasizes that Saudi Arabia's future will largely be determined by its relationship with the United States and that this fact can be ignored in America only at our peril.

In sum, this book is a useful contribution to the available literature on Saudi-American relations. While probably of modest value to the scholar, it would be of interest to the general reader as an introduction to the subject and of particular importance to policy-making officials and to those that advise them.

BENSON L. GRAYSON
Middle East Horizons

Plascov, Avi. *Security in the Persian Gulf: Modernization, Political Development and Stability*. Totowa, N.J.: Allenheld, Osmun, 1982. 183pp. \$10

Avi Plascov's aim is to assess the nature and magnitude of domestic sources of conflict. Quite rightly, he both perceives Islam as forming the pillar of legitimacy within states of the Persian Gulf and places it as a potentially destabilizing force in the Gulf. It is only since the Iranian Revolution that the danger of instability to existing regimes

through Islamic fundamentalist movements has gained momentum.

The introduction of modernization, which entails Westernization, threatens Islam's legitimacy, and this has led to fervent reactions. Events such as the Grand Mosque Incident (1979) in Saudi Arabia are protests against the secularization of the ruling dynasty.

The many growing pains of modernization in traditional societies circle around the relationship between the regime and its subjects. The course of changing a predominantly rural society into an urban industrial one causes extreme difficulty, especially for the masses, in reconciling spiritual fundamentalism with materialism.

To conclude, the author asks whether free economic enterprises can be both divorced from notions of Western political order and avoid being pushed towards revolutionary Marxism or reactionary Islam. He uses the example of Iran to warn the West that it could be forced to deal with hostility in the Gulf toward Western-implemented industrialization.

ALVIN J. COTTRELL
Washington, D.C.

Levie, Howard S. *Protection of War Victims: Protocol I to the 1949 Geneva Conventions*. Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.: Oceana, v. III, 1980, 565pp., v. IV, 1981, 535pp. \$45 apiece

Roberts, Adam, and Guelff, Richard, eds. *Documents on the Laws of War*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1982. 498pp. \$34.50 paper \$17.95

The first books are the concluding volumes of Professor Levie's compilation of the negotiating record of the diplomatic conference which, meeting in Geneva from 1974 to 1977, produced two protocols additional to the Geneva