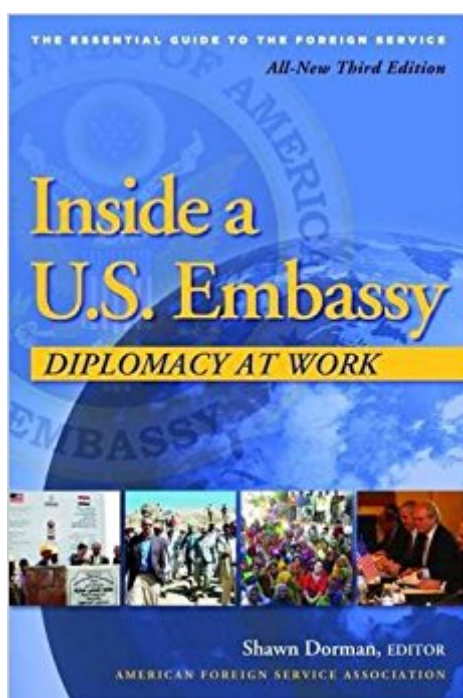


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# Inside A U.S. Embassy: Diplomacy At Work, The Essential Guide To The Foreign Service



## Synopsis

Inside a U.S. Embassy is widely recognized as the essential guide to the Foreign Service. This all-new third edition takes readers to more than fifty U.S. missions around the world, introducing Foreign Service professionals and providing detailed descriptions of their jobs and firsthand accounts of diplomacy in action. In addition to profiles of diplomats and specialists around the world—from the ambassador to the consular officer, the public diplomacy officer to the security specialist—is a selection from more than twenty countries of day-in-the-life accounts, each describing an actual day on the job. Personal reports from the field give a sense of the extraordinary challenges—the coups, the natural disasters, the civil wars—and rewards of representing America to the world. Inside a U.S. Embassy includes new chapters on the highly competitive Foreign Service entrance process, Foreign Service life outside the embassy, and briefings on topics such as handling high-level visits and service in war zones.

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## Customer Reviews

“You don’t have to be Secretary of State to enter the intriguing world of international diplomacy. What every American needs to know about the role of U.S. embassies is in this volume. Told from the unique vantage point of diplomatic practitioners, the stories recounted here shed light upon a profession little known to most Americans but deeply important to the safety, freedom, and prosperity of us all. These are the stories of the men and women who serve America’s interest—often under difficult and dangerous conditions—from the

great cities to the most remote corners of the globe. — Madeleine Albright, former U.S. Secretary of State (Madeleine Albright 2017-03-06) — “Anyone who has been connected to American diplomacy knows how often the question is asked, — “But what do you do in an embassy? — Here is the answer: a heck of a lot. Our citizens and our friends around the world will learn from this lively book just how vital the Foreign Service is to our country’s well-being and to the betterment of all peoples. — George Shultz, former U.S. Secretary of State (George Shultz 2017-03-06) — “Inside a U.S. Embassy — sits at my desk and I recommend it to all interested in the Foreign Service. — Ambassador Karl F. Inderfurth, Professorial Lecturer at George Washington University’s Elliott School of International Affairs and Former Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs (Karl F. Inderfurth 2017-03-06) — “I’m fascinated by the contents. I think that not only members of the Committee but all Americans will be deeply interested in this. — Richard Lugar, R-Indiana, Senate Foreign Relations Committee (Richard Lugar 2017-03-06) — “I’m absolutely a fan of this book. What makes it so interesting is that it’s about individuals and what they do, and it’s about how they support the United States in an active way. — Ambassador Marc Grossman, Career Ambassador and Former Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs (Marc Grossman 2017-03-06) — “Every day in hundreds of places around the world, thousands of your fellow Americans are at work in direct support of you and your interests. From helping American in trouble, to formulating American foreign policy, to talking to foreign leaders about cooperation in hundreds of different areas from trade to technology to preventing nuclear war, these people make a difference. This book tells the fascinating inside story of how it all works. — Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering, Boeing Company Senior Vice President for International Relations and Former Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs (Thomas R. Pickering 2017-03-06) — “Readers will find an up-to-date, compelling, interesting, accurate, and highly readable depiction of the Foreign Service and its vital role in service to our nation. The profiles and the stories all show the rich diversity of our people, in terms of both their varied backgrounds and the wide range of services they perform. — Ambassador Ruth A. Davis, Distinguished Adviser for International Affairs at Howard University and former Director General of the Foreign Service (Ruth A. Davis 2017-03-06) — “Inside a U.S. Embassy is required reading for the first week of my university seminar on practical diplomacy. My students are amazed at the variety and uniqueness of Foreign Service work described in the book’s first-hand accounts. I wouldn’t teach the course without

it.Ãçâ –Â•Ãçâ –â •Ambassador Genta Hawkins Holmes, former Diplomat in Residence, University of California, Davis Ã Â (Genta Hawkins Holmes 2017-03-06)

An American embassy is home to a dynamic team of professionals committed to public service and the value of diplomacy. Inside a U.S. Embassy takes you behind the scenes, into the day-to-day work and lives of embassy team members from Caracas to Casablanca, from Kabul to Conakry, and everywhere in between. Get to know the U.S. Foreign Service, working overseas, experiencing diverse cultures, and meeting the challenge of making a difference in the world.

A practical "what to expect" treatment of the everyday "behind the scenes" workings of the various agencies of the U.S. Foreign Service. A bit laboriously heavy at times with the organizational apparatus of the various subagencies (U.S. State Department, USAID, and the various "mission-oriented" branches). Heavy on the "how to get in" aspects of securing an appointment, passing the various exams, and the "hoop-jumping" required in any bureaucratic governmental organization. Informative and engaging but it reveals the sometimes almost miraculous "convergences" that have to occur to make "diplomacy" happen.

Having worked 25+ years in U.S. Embassies myself, I'm finding the information factually true. I'll admit I haven't finished this book yet, but I did expect it to be more exciting with more stories of the heroing sort and some of the off-the-wall- crazy-odd-ball things that happen overseas. Maybe they come in the latter part of the book that I just haven't gotten to yet.

IF you're thinking about going into the Foreign Service, this book is a must read. It gives you the day to day account of what people actually "do" in the Foreign Service, taking away some of the "glamour" that is often associated with being an FSO. The book gives first hand accounts of what diplomats spend their days doing as well as giving an overview of the "career paths" within the FS and what one might expect going into it. This is not a book speaking to the overall importance or big picture of the state department, rather it is a book about the daily lives of working as a FSO. The articles are all generally positive towards the FS, but it still gives a fair account of what life might be like. It's important to read between the lines in some of the stories as these are diplomats and they know that what they write could effect their careers in the long-run. That being said, there are still some great insights in the book and I highly recommend it to anyone who is looking into the Foreign Service as a career or just wants to know what our diplomats do to represent the US overseas.

As a retired Senior Foreign Service Officer I send this book to the youngsters majoring in Foreign Affairs that I run into who are looking forward to a career in the Foreign Service. A few have been Baristas at a Starbucks near a University in Washington, DC

I am still very interested and excited about working at a US Embassy, this book has been hailed as a great way to get an idea of what working at one would really be like... This book is really skimpy on details and can be more accurately described as a commentary on how people are really impressed by embassy employees. Lots of first hand accounts of stories when embassy employees told someone where they worked and how impressed those people were... only every once in a while is there a story that actually includes details about a given position.

Easy read with a lot of good insight into life at an Embassy. Recommended read for preparing for the FSOA. This is not a "study guide" but definitely gives you a more well-rounded understanding of the Foreign Service.

It gives greater insight into the work and background of FSOs in their different capacities; I found it very informative but not necessarily as a study resource for the FSOT.

good

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