



Inside a U.S. Embassy: Diplomacy at Work, All-New, Third Edition of the Essential Guide to the Foreign Service

By Shawn Dorman

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Who works in an embassy? What do diplomats actually do? *Inside a U.S. Embassy* offers an up-close and personal look into the lives of the diplomats and specialists who make up the U.S. Foreign Service, taking readers inside embassies and consulates in more than fifty countries, providing detailed descriptions of Foreign Service jobs and first-hand accounts of diplomacy in action. Gain a sense of the key role played by each member of an embassy team from Paris to Kabul, from Bogota to Beijing, and places in between. Travel into the rainforests of Thailand with an environmental affairs officer, face rampaging militias with a political officer in East Timor, and join an ambassador on a midnight trip into a Macedonian refugee camp to quell a riot. The book includes profiles of diplomats and specialists around the world serving in Foreign Service positions -- from the ambassador to the security officer, the consular officer to the IT specialist. Also included is a selection of day-in-the-life accounts from seventeen different countries, each describing an actual day on the job. The story section includes twenty-six tales from the field that give a sense of the extraordinary: the coups, the evacuations, the civil wars, the hardships and rewards of representing America to the world. *Inside a U.S. Embassy* was published by the American Foreign Service Association in 2003, and updated and revised in 2005. Over 70,000 copies have sold.

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Editorial Review

Review

“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.”—Ambassador Genta Hawkins Holmes, former Diplomat in Residence, University of California, Davis

(Genta Hawkins Holmes 2017-03-06)

From the Back Cover

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.

About the Author

Shawn Dorman is the Editor-in-Chief of *The Foreign Service Journal* and directs the book program for the American Foreign Service Association. She has written extensively on issues related to the diplomatic career. A former U.S. Foreign Service political officer, Dorman has served in Kyrgyzstan, Indonesia, and Russia and in the State Department Operations Center in Washington, DC.

Users Review

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Scott Marin:

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