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A Choice of Enemies

America Confronts the Middle East

LAWRENCE FREEDMAN

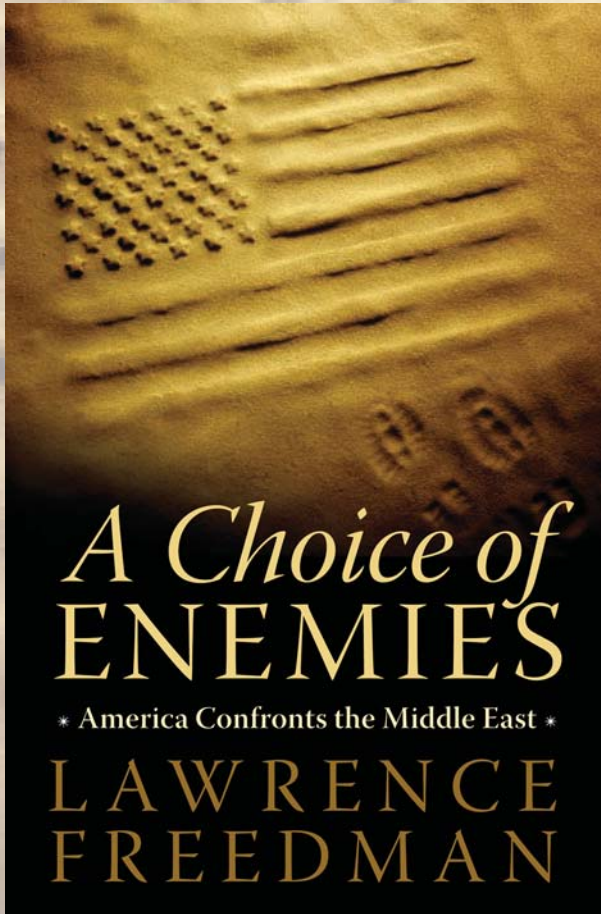
A renowned historian and security analyst sheds new light on America's quintessential foreign policy dilemma: our recent engagement in the Middle East

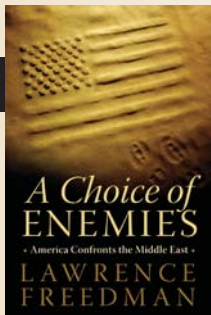
It is in the Middle East that the United States has been made to confront its attitudes on the use of force, the role of allies, and international law. The history of the US in the Middle East, then, becomes an especially revealing mirror on America's view of its roles in the wider world.

In this wise, objective, and illuminating history, Lawrence Freedman shows how three key events in 1978–79 helped establish the foundations of US involvement in the Middle East that would last for thirty years: The Camp David summit leading to the Israel-Egypt Treaty; the Iranian Islamic revolution leading to the Shah's departure followed by the hostage crisis; and the socialist revolution in Afghanistan, resulting in the doomed Soviet intervention. Freedman makes clear how America's strategic choices in those and subsequent crises led us to where we are today.

PUBLICAFFAIRS, May 2008, 576 Pages • 978-1-58648-518-4, \$29.95, hardcover

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LAWRENCE FREEDMAN is professor of war studies at King's College, London. In 2001, he was appointed head of the School of Social Sciences and Public Policy at King's and then in 2003 vice principal for research. Before joining King's he held research appointments at Nuffield College, Oxford, the International Institute for Strategic Studies, and the Royal Institute of International Affairs. He is the author of several books of history, including *Kennedy's Wars*.

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