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A riveting portrait of one of the world's most enigmatic powerbrokers: **Prince Bandar bin Sultan**

THE PRINCE

The Secret Story of the World's Most Intriguing Royal
William Simpson OBE

'...one of the great peacemakers of our time.'
– Nelson Mandela

'This book tells the story of a man for our time, who has been at the very heart of world events for two decades, and whom I am proud to call a friend.'
Baroness Margaret Thatcher

As the illegitimate son of a Saudi prince and a servant girl, Prince Bandar bin Sultan overcame his humble beginnings to become one of the world's greatest behind-the-scenes powerbrokers.

Through his political impact as the Saudi Ambassador to the United States from 1983 to 2005—and his privileged position as a trusted confidant to some of the world's most influential world leaders, including Presidents George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush—Bandar's global reach has acquired an almost mythical status. **THE PRINCE** (HarperCollins *Publishers*; ISBN: 0060899868, £16.99; pub date: May 2007) by William Simpson, the first biography ever written on Prince Bandar, parts the veil of secrecy surrounding the man the *New Yorker* called "Washington's indispensable operator"—putting these myths into perspective and context, and revealing for the first time the true story of the Prince behind the White House.

As the Saudi Ambassador to the U.S., Prince Bandar worked with CIA Director Bill Casey in covert CIA operations—such as more-or-less bankrolling the U.S. victory in the Cold War; **THE PRINCE** reveals how Bandar

- played a key role in the Iran-Contra affair,
- convinced Mikhail Gorbachev to get out of Afghanistan,
- shared a table with Nelson Mandela and Muammar Qaddafi to bring the Lockerbie bombers to justice,
- and helped negotiate an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

Shedding new light on the Prince's dazzling rise from fighter pilot to powerful diplomat, Simpson explores Bandar's invaluable contributions to Middle East and world peace—as well as recent controversies surrounding his name, such as his role in discreetly repatriating Saudi students and bin Laden family members after 9/11. Simpson, a former classmate of Bandar's at Britain's Royal Air Force College, Cranwell, also illuminates the more personal side of this royal Saudi Arabian; popularly referred to as the "Arab Gatsby" for his debonair lifestyle (Bandar's Aspen estate in Colorado was recently put on the market for \$135 million), the Prince has spent his leisure time rooting for the Dallas Cowboys, fishing with the Bush family and playing racquetball with Colin Powell.

A riveting must-read for anyone interested in politics—and the intersection of American interests and foreign policymaking—**THE PRINCE** is the definitive work so far on this enigmatic yet influential man, **THE PRINCE** also features a 16-page full colour insert and black and white photographs throughout the text, many of them never-before-seen, of Prince Bandar in his many roles: "Gatsby," politician, and royal son, as well as in the company of some (often surprising) friends and associates.

About the author:

William Simpson was a classmate of Prince Bandar at the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell, where they became friends through a mutual interest in fencing during the two and a half years of their officer training. Simpson founded and was CEO of an Internet company, and also worked with a Mayfair-based hedge fund as President of North American Operations. After his retirement from the world of financial services, Simpson undertook this biography with the cooperation of Prince Bandar. Simpson lives in the Channel Islands.

THE PRINCE: The Secret History of the World's Most Intriguing Royal

By William G Simpson OBE

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For further information about this book, or to receive a review copy, please contact Sophie Liardet on sophie@sophieliardet.com