

Chapter 1 : The American house of Saud (edition) | Open Library

*The American House of Saud: The Secret Petrodollar Connection [Steven Emerson] on racedaydvl.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. An examination of Saudi Arabia and its immense clout in the United States and throughout the Western world thanks to its petrodollars wealth and control of a huge proportion of the world's petroleum.*

Texas can claim two native-born presidents, Dwight Eisenhower and Lyndon Johnson. House of Bush, House of Saud: The reason is the United States, the key player the Bush administration. House of Bush, House of Saud is a title that suggests a conspiracy, but this book does not belong to the conspiracy genre. Rather, it meticulously seeks to plot the relationship between Bushes senior and junior - together with their associates - and the elite Saudi families. Sometimes the link seems a little tenuous, resting on a narrative connection, but for the most part this is a very powerful, well-researched and sober book that leaves the reader both enlightened and more than a little disturbed. You will certainly view the Bush administration - and, indeed, American policy-making - through a rather different prism in future. The close relationship between the US and Saudi Arabia goes back 60 years, but what engendered its special intimacy was the oil crisis of 1973. From 1973, American oil production began to fall and the country was increasingly dependent on foreign supplies: Saudi Arabia became critical to the maintenance of the American way of life. A large proportion of the petrodollars that flowed into the coffers of the Saudi royal family as a result of the oil price hike were invested in the US. Houston, the oil capital of the United States, has benefited more than any other city and now has a significant Saudi presence. The Bush family has enjoyed a long connection with oil: George Bush bought an oil company in the 1950s and sold it, at a handsome profit, a decade later. His confidante and lifetime collaborator, James Baker, was similarly connected with oil, being a partner in Baker Botts, a big Houston law firm that represented oil-industry interests. Not surprisingly, this slowly became enmeshed with Saudi interests, which, especially in the figure of Prince Bandar, a member of the royal family and for many years the Saudi ambassador to the US, slowly and painstakingly sought access to the American political elite - most successfully of all with the House of Bush. Prince Bandar, for long the central Saudi figure in the US, hugely rich on his own account, has been a close confidante of George Sr for two decades. George Jr trod a not dissimilar path, establishing his own - albeit not too successful - oil company in the late 70s, until bought out by Harken Oil, of which he became a director; when Harken, too, was saved from extinction by a very wealthy Saudi investor, George Jr was one of the beneficiaries. The same wheels within wheels were turning. Unger is interesting on the differences between father and son. George Sr was a product of the East Coast establishment and later adopted Texas as his home. The US-Saudi relationship blossomed in the context of two crucial wars, both of which the US fought by proxy: It used Saddam, in strategy well detailed by Unger, as a means by which to counter the Iranian regime, secretly supplying him, for a decade or more, with weapons and cash. Unlikely as the American-Saudi alliance might seem, during the cold war there was a mutual sympathy. Of course, the central component was, and remains, one of raw, elemental interest. The US depended on a reliable supply of cheap oil - for which the Saudis were utterly crucial - while the Saudi regime needed a military guarantor for what was a deeply insecure regime in a profoundly unstable region. Both regarded the Soviet Union as the infidel: These interests coincided most closely in Afghanistan. The Saudis became enthusiastically involved in the American-inspired covert funding of, and support for, the mujahideen war against the newly installed Soviet-backed government. Strangely, 10 years before the end of the cold war, the conflict was to prefigure the future course of events, on the one hand the collapse of the Soviet Union and on the other hand the emergence of al-Qaida and Osama bin Laden. So al-Qaida was forged in the crucible of the Afghan war. Bin Laden was an authentic product of Saudi Arabia, not simply a rogue child. His family was one of the most powerful in the country. The House of Saud owed its very existence, and perpetuation, to Wahhabism, a fundamentalist school of Islam. He was not an aberration. But now, propelled by his experiences in the Afghan war, he became increasingly disenchanted with the corruption and westernisation of the House of Saud. The breach came in when, in the first Gulf war, the Saudi regime agreed to allow American troops to be stationed on its soil. He resolved on the removal of American troops - in which he eventually succeeded - and

the overthrow of the House of Saud, now weaker and more vulnerable than ever before. The Saudis never enjoyed the same kind of intimacy and ease with the Clinton administration as they did with the Bush administrations. The connections, cultivated over a quarter of a century, are complex and multifarious, emanating outwards from Houston, centred on oil, embracing both the public and private sector activities of the House of Bush, lubricated and driven by money and power. Unger catalogues the tensions in intimate detail. But the relationship between the US and Saudi Arabia - one of the cornerstones of American policy since , and earlier - is now closer to breaking point than ever before. Can the Bush administration continue to turn a blind eye? Will the House of Saud survive? What will the Americans do in response to its likely successor, an aggressively anti-American, fundamentalist regime? The future is, indeed, uncertain.

Chapter 2 : THE AMERICAN HOUSE OF SAUD: The Secret Petrodollar Connection by Steven Emerson |

In The American House of Saud (Franklin Watts, pages, \$), Steven Emerson, a journalist and former staff member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, chronicles anti-Israeli activities undertaken in recent years by prominent Americans who were receiving or prepared to receive Saudi money.

On their own, however, the Saudis lacked the connections and savvy to affect American-Israeli ties. To make up for this, the Saudi state recruited help. Nor does he seem to have a quarrel with Arab-Americans nor their Jewish counterparts who lobby for their beliefs. Rather, he attacks the arrangement by which paid agents surreptitiously forward the goals of a foreign government while ostensibly trying to promote American interests. In only one case - a State Department official who wrote a book on Saudi Arabia - did I receive an even partly convincing denial. Among the leading lights named in this expose is J. William Fulbright, who wrote an article about the Camp David Summit in in which he advocated a position very similar to that of the Saudi government. The article was published in Newsweek, where Mr. Fulbright identified himself only as a "former U. When I asked him to address Mr. Fulbright gave only the evasive answer that his article "had no reference whatsoever to legal representation of Saudi Arabia" by his law firm. A number of former ambassadors to the Arab countries are on the Saudi payroll. Emerson documents that one of them, Andrew I. Killgore, said in public that his company did not do public relations work for Saudi Arabia when in fact it did. Offered a chance to respond, Mr. Killgore did not deny the charge. Instead he accused me of wishing to "silence" him. A second former ambassador, John C. West, rushed to Miami in April To keep Saudi Prince Turki, accused of fighting with the police, out of jail. By winning retroactive diplomatic immunity for him. Emerson, since Mr. Responding to this information, Mr. West wrote that he does not represent the Saudi government-leaving open the possibility that he might represent private Saudi interests. Emerson also notes that the West Foundation, set up by Mr. Asked to comment, Mr. West would not name the contributors to the West Foundation. Akins, a third former ambassador, adopts such a tough pro-Arab stance that he often appears "more pro-Arab than the Arab officials," says Mr. For example, in Mr. Emerson implies that Mr. Akins did not respond to my repeated efforts to hear his side of the story. Other major figures tagged by Mr. Emerson argues that Mr. Agnew - previously well disposed toward Israel - began fulminating against "Zionist influences in the United States" as part of his successful effort to attract Saudi business. Lance spoke of "the great Jewish ownership of the press. There are other disturbing conjunctions. But the book notes that a European editor with no responsibility for advertising attended the meeting. Emerson implies that the blame for the duplicity he describes falls more on the Americans who do the dirty work than on the Saudis who employ them. What is clear is that Mr. Emerson has uncovered a grand deception.

Chapter 3 : House of Saud - Wikipedia

House of Saud is a translation of Al Saud, an Arabic dynastic name formed by adding the word Al (meaning "family of" or "House of") to the personal name of an ancestor. In the case of the Al Saud, the ancestor is Saud ibn Muhammad ibn Muqrin, the father of the dynasty's 18th century founder Muhammad bin Saud (Muhammad, son of Saud).

Then, lo and behold, so it was. Giving my readers some idea of what is actually happening in the world — as opposed to, say, confirming their biases and preaching to the choir. The new US position is carefully phrased: This is an enormous breakthrough for the anti-interventionist movement, closing off one of the major spigots of murderous conflict left open by the previous administration. It confirms the high hopes of those of us who bet the America First anti-globalist faction would win out against the pro-Saudi group centered around Jared Kushner. There was a debate within the administration over US support for the Yemen war, with the hardcore nationalists opposed, but they were outvoted by the generals, whose closeness to the Kingdom is traditional. This puts a huge obstacle on the road to the near-inevitable war with Iran that Trump was supposed to have started by now. And that has always been their appeal as the anchor of the US military presence in the region. Yet now the formerly formidable regime of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman is exposed as a house of cards, with rumors of a coup and several senior princes jockeying for position. As the gory details of the Khashoggi killing come to light, and the plight of Yemen as a nation comes to the fore, this is just the sort of thing that Trump hates. As the President would put it: What this all boils down to is that a seismic shift in our Middle Eastern policy is in the works, one that would have happened regardless of who occupies the Oval Office. The Saudi system is corrupt to its very core, and is inherently unstable: The question that US policy makers have hardly ever verbalized in public — what comes after the monarchy? Which is why I have no doubt that the US would throw the Crown Prince to the wolves in a New York minute if they thought it would save the dynasty. The three pillars of the old Cold War architecture of superpower competition — the US-Saudi alliance, NATO, and our Eastasian military presence — are either being downsized or are falling down altogether. Yet to see the President as the prime mover in all this is to blame the wind for the collapse of a structure honeycombed with termites and decayed beyond repair. On the other hand, Trump in the White House has escalated a process that might have been stretched out over twenty years or so. There is a lot happening in the world and a lot to write about. Alas my health has not been good and I apologize for the brevity of this column — but we do only what we can. I also want to thank our readers for making our recent fundraising drive a great success. I take this as a vote of confidence not only for my own work but also and especially the hardworking staff of Antiwar. But please note that my tweets are sometimes deliberately provocative, often made in jest, and largely consist of me thinking out loud. You can buy *An Enemy of the State: The Life of Murray N. Rothbard* Prometheus Books, , my biography of the great libertarian thinker, here. Read more by Justin Raimondo.

Chapter 4 : House of Saud () | CosmoLearning History

The American house of Saud by Steven Emerson, , F. Watts edition, in English.

Ibn Saud and Franklin D. Roosevelt in February After his defeat at Mulayda, Abdul-Rahman ibn Faisal went with his family into exile in the deserts of eastern Arabia among the Al Murra bedouin. Soon afterward, however, he found refuge in Kuwait as a guest of the Kuwaiti emir , Mubarak Al Sabah. Abdul Aziz, reported to have been barely 20 at the time, was immediately proclaimed ruler in Riyadh. As the new leader of the House of Saud, Abdul Aziz became commonly known from that time onward as "Ibn Saud" in Western sources, though he is still called "Abdul Aziz" in the Arab world. Ibn Saud also had to contend, however, with the descendants of his late uncle Saud ibn Faisal later known as the "Saud al-Kabir" branch of the family , who posed as the rightful heirs to the throne. Though for a time acknowledging the sovereignty of the Ottoman Sultans and even taking the title of pasha , Ibn Saud allied himself to the British, in opposition to the Ottoman-backed Al Rashid. Ibn Saud won final victory over the Rashidis in , making him the ruler of most of central Arabia. He consolidated his dominions as the Sultanate of Nejd. He then turned his attention to the Hijaz, finally conquering it in , just months before the British protectorate ended. For the next five and a half years, he administered the two parts of his dual realm, the Kingdom of Hijaz and Nejd , as separate units. By , Ibn Saud had disposed of all his main rivals and consolidated his rule over much of the Arabian Peninsula. He united his dominions into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia that year. Before the discovery of oil, many family members were destitute. He had at most only four wives at one time. He divorced and married many times. He made sure to marry into many of the noble clans and tribes within his territory, including the chiefs of the Bani Khalid , Ajman , and Shammar tribes, as well as the Al ash-Sheikh descendants of Muhammad ibn Abd al-Wahhab. He also arranged for his sons and relatives to enter into similar marriages. He appointed his eldest surviving son, Saud as heir apparent , to be succeeded by the next eldest son, Faisal. The Saudi family became known as the "royal family," and each member, male and female, was accorded the title amir "prince" or amira "princess" , respectively. Ibn Saud died in , after having cemented an alliance with the United States in He is still celebrated officially as the "Founder," and only his direct descendants may take on the title of "his or her Royal Highness. They were fully pardoned but were also barred from any future positions in government. President Barack Obama offers condolences on death of Saudi King Abdullah, Riyadh , 27 January Faisal was assassinated in by a nephew, Faisal ibn Musaid , who was promptly executed. Another brother, Khalid , assumed the throne. The next prince in line had actually been Prince Muhammad , but he had relinquished his claim to the throne in favor of Khalid, his only full brother. Khalid died of a heart attack in , and was succeeded by Fahd , the eldest of the powerful " Sudairi Seven ", so-called because they were all sons of Ibn Saud by his wife Hassa Al Sudairi. Fahd did away with the previous royal title of "his Majesty" and replaced it with the honorific "Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques", in reference to the two Islamic holy sites in Mecca and Medina , in A stroke in left Fahd largely incapacitated. This section does not cite any sources. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. The King holds almost absolute political power. The King appoints ministers to his cabinet who supervise their respective ministries in his name. The key ministries of Defence, the Interior, and Foreign Affairs are usually held by members of the Saud family, as are most of the thirteen regional governorships. Most portfolios, however, such as Finance, Labor, Information, Planning, Petroleum Affairs and Industry, have traditionally been given to commoners, often with junior Al Saud members serving as their deputies. Long-term political and government appointments, such as those of King Faisal , who was Foreign Minister almost continuously from to , King Abdullah , who was Commander of the National Guard from to , former Crown prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz , who was Minister of Defence and Aviation from until his death in , Prince Mutaib Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs from to , former Crown Prince Nayef who was the Minister of Interior from to , and the current King Salman , who was governor of the Riyadh Region from to , have perpetuated the creation of fiefdoms where senior princes have, often, though not exclusively, co-mingled their personal wealth with that of their respective domains. They have often appointed their own

sons to senior positions within their own fiefdom. Examples of these include Prince Mutaib bin Abdullah as assistant commander in the National Guard until ; Prince Khalid bin Sultan as assistant minister of defence until ; Prince Mansour bin Mutaib as assistant minister for Municipal and Rural Affairs until he replaced his father in ; and Prince Mohammed bin Nayef as assistant minister in the Interior Ministry. In cases, where portfolios have notably substantial budgets, appointments of younger, often full, brothers have been necessary, as deputies or vice ministers, ostensibly to share the wealth and the burdens of responsibility, of each fiefdom. Unlike Western royal families , the Saudi Monarchy has not had a clearly defined order of succession. Historically, upon becoming King, the monarch has designated an heir apparent to the throne who serves as Crown Prince of the Kingdom. Though other members of the Al Saud hold political positions in the Saudi government, technically it is only the King and Crown Prince who legally constitute the political institutions. June Main article: Succession to the Saudi Arabian throne U. Ibn Saud was succeeded by his son Saud. Saud was succeeded by his brother Faisal. Faisal was succeeded by his brother Khalid who, in turn, was succeeded by his brother Fahd. Fahd was succeeded by his brother Abdullah , and Abdullah by his brother Salman , the current King. Salman appointed his half-brother Muqrin as Crown Prince in January and removed him in April . Abdulaziz, in , had said that the further succession would be from brother-to-brother, not from father-to-son. King Salman ended the brother-to-brother succession and appointed his year-old nephew Muhammad bin Nayef as Crown Prince in April , thus making the next succession from uncle-to-nephew. However, in June of , Salman elevated Mohammad bin Salman to Crown Prince, following his decision to depose Muhammad bin Nayef of all positions, making his son heir apparent to the throne, and making the next succession father-to-son, for the first time since , when Saud bin Abdulaziz Al Saud succeeded his father, the founder of Saudi Arabia, Ibn Saud. United States President Donald Trump has expressed support for the arrests.

Chapter 5 : Review: House of Bush, House of Saud by Craig Unger | Books | The Guardian

The various waysâ€”secret and not-so-secretâ€”that Saudi Arabia and other Arab oil-producing countries, along with "a broad coalition of influential and powerful American supporters," have sought to influence US foreign policy: i.e., to advance Arab interests at the expense (in the main) of Israeli interests.

He has been missing for almost a week after he entered the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, Turkey, on October 2. Turkish police have launched a murder inquiry, on the suspicion that he was killed inside the consulate building. If confirmed, the case is a shocking violation of international law and norms of human decency. Saudi authorities deny any wrongdoing. They say Khashoggi left the building on the same day he arrived. And Riyadh has invited Turkish authorities and media to inspect the premises. Nevertheless, the Saudi authorities are implicated in responsibility for accounting for the whereabouts of the dissident journalist. More recently, he had gone into self-imposed exile, writing articles for US media in which he voiced critical views â€” albeit mildly worded â€” of the Saudi rulers and policies. Khashoggi went to the Saudi consulate in Istanbul last week to obtain routine documents he required for an intended marriage. It was her phone call that alerted Turkish authorities to his disappearance. The disappearance of Saudi dissidents is nothing new. Thousands of political opponents and human rights activists end up in Saudi jails. Some of them like female activist Israa al Ghomgham are facing execution by decapitation. But the Saudi rulers appear to have broken the limits this time in the case of Jamal Khashoggi. In another Post article, it was posited: The conjecture over Washington parting ways with Saudi Arabia seems to have a growing momentum among US analysts. Last week, President Trump made highly derogatory comments about the Saudi royals in which he demanded they "pay for our military protection". The US is implicated in war crimes because of its vital military support for Riyadh. That atrocity has served to sour US-Saudi relations among lawmakers, pundits and public. So, is a decisive rupture in US-Saudi relations on the cards, prompted by the latest apparent murder of a Washington-connected Saudi journalist? Despite the recent outcry, the chances of such a breakdown in bilateral US-Saudi relations are negligible. Simply put, the American ruling class needs the despotic House of Saud as much as the latter needs US patronage. Trump may harrumph about the Saudis needing to pay for military protection, but US imperialist planners know all too well that American hegemonic ambitions in the oil-rich Middle East are totally dependent on Washington ensuring that the House of Saud remains propped up. If the petrodollar system were to collapse, from say a political implosion of Saudi Arabia, then the American economy would also crash. Washington, as Trump seems to misunderstand, is not giving military protection to Saudi Arabia as some kind of benevolent act of kindness. American military power shoring up the Saudi monarchs is a necessary linchpin for US geopolitical survival. This racket is essential for US capitalism and its systematic dependence on a military-industrial complex to ever be abandoned. Another crucial role played by the Saudis for US imperialism is that the kingdom has long bankrolled CIA black operations around the world, which is a neat way for highly criminal American activities of subversion and regime-change wars to avoid political oversight by Congress. All in all, US global power is dependent on maintaining the despotism of Saudi rulers intact. No purported strategic realignment is possible under existing conditions and imperatives of American corporate capitalism and its imperialist function in the Middle East or beyond. The latest shocking incident of a Saudi journalist apparently being lured to his death in a Saudi consulate is an appalling wake-up call of lawlessness and barbarity. American media are no doubt jolted by the brutality and apparent flouting of international law. But calls for a substantial change in US-Saudi relations are delusional. Because such calls fail to understand the real, heinous nature of US power and how it operates in the world. As in Yemen and towards individual dissidents, Saudi rulers are allowed to get away with murder because Washington relies on this very ruthlessness for its own imperialist objectives. Finian Cunningham has written extensively on international affairs, with articles published in several languages. He is also a musician and songwriter. For nearly 20 years, he worked as an editor and writer in major news media organisations, including The Mirror, Irish Times and Independent. Thank you for your support.

Chapter 6 : House of Saud, Saudi Royal Family Website

EMBED (for racedaydvl.com hosted blogs and racedaydvl.com item tags).

The deal was struck 60 years ago. America struck a pact with Saudi Arabia. You give us oil at cheap prices, and we will give you protection. Every president since has reaffirmed the arrangement. Over the years, both sides have benefited. Billions of petro-dollars were recycled to buy expensive American military hardware. When necessary, America has intervened directly to keep the kingdom safe. For them, the monarchy is corrupt and the deal with America a bargain with the devil. Saudi preachers ascend their pulpits to rail against infidels and Jews. Saudi citizens have supplied millions of dollars to school and train jihadis around the world. Now Saudi militants have turned their sights on targets inside the kingdom and on Americans in Iraq. To one side of the crown prince sit leading Wahhabi clerics, guardians of tradition, who habitually resist change. Presumably, the two groups are partners in power. This is government by patronage. There is no Bill of Rights here. Whatever the prince says or does, the tribal chiefs express gratitude and pledge loyalty. Afterwards, they all gather to pray. The al Saud family conquered the kingdom in the name of God and the Quran. Do you expect this to ever become a representative democracy? Resistance to change is a matter of survival here. This is a nation in shock, where tradition and modernity are in violent collision. Few places on earth have come so far so fast as Saudi Arabia in the 20th century. A hundred years ago, the Arabian peninsula was a place of warring tribes, nomads, sheiks, emirs. Among them was the family of al Saud. There was no unity amongst these warring groups. In , with just 60 men at his side, Abdul Aziz ibn Saud rode out to begin his quest for a Kingdom. He certainly had a vision. He had a large, big vision of what he wanted this country to be. But to conquer the whole Arabian peninsula, he needed the fighting skills of the nomadic Bedouins known as the Ikhwan. The Ikhwan, or Muslim brothers, were renowned warriors, light and mobile and extremely courageous. They were also fervent Wahhabi Islamic puritans. To recruit them, Abdul Aziz had to commit the family to spreading their fundamentalist version of Islam. The Ikhwan were an important fighting force that supported the expansion of Ibn Saud. They had this vision that they propagated true Islam in its purest form. So anything they encountered that differed from that vision was regarded as objectionable. The nature of where they were coming from, the desert, was isolated really for almost years. In the desert, you have either day or night, you have cold or hot. Even the music is only one string. And that has kind of polarized their way of thinking. The first Western reference we have to the Ikhwan, the Brotherhood, comes from Captain Shakespear, who was one of the early British explorers in Arabia. From the beginning, this cutting edge of Saudi power was mistrustful of the West, and lethally mistrustful. For them, to kill a foreigner might well guarantee their place in heaven. With the Ikhwan troops, Abdul Aziz captured province after province of the vast desert. It brought prestige and substantial income from visiting pilgrims. It was also a great victory for the Wahhabis. Wahhab was first to see the value in forging an alliance with the able tribesmen of the al Saud family in order to help spread his austere version of Islam. And they wanted to keep going. And they just wanted to go on and on and attack, particularly, the British settlements in the north, and trans-Jordan, and so on. They wanted to create an empire extending across all of the Muslim Umma. God knows where they would have stopped, maybe in France, given the chance. So when Ibn Saud tried to restrain them and asked them not to launch attacks into these territories, they rebelled. They revolted against him, and they accused him of being an infidel, of having abandoned the faith of Islam and becoming worldly, and all that kind of thing. They said, "Why ibn Saud sent his kids or children or sons abroad to London? This is against Islam. Why we have the new technology coming, wireless station, whatever? If Abdul Aziz were to stay in power, he had to destroy the Ikhwan. But how could he, the defender of Islam, justify going to war against his Muslim fighters? His way out was to win over the religious establishment, the Ulema, who were regarded as the moral guardians of the realm. He said, "You judge this. Judge between me and the Ikhwan. So they gave the famous fatwa, which said that the Ikhwan were wrong. They had no right under Islamic law to rebel against the ruler. So from that moment, they actually changed their role, the Ulema, and they became almost like a force to be used to sanction politics. And that was the crucial moment in The path was now clear. In , Abdul Aziz declared

himself a king, and for good measure, gave his name to the country, Saudi Arabia. To unite the kingdom, King Abdul Aziz married a daughter of every tribal chief in his realm and produced 45 legitimate sons. Every Saudi king since has been a son of Abdul Aziz. How many daughters he produced is unknown. They are not counted. Abdul Aziz would not forget that religion and the Ulema remained central to his rise to power. But Saudi Arabia would have remained an insignificant backwater in world affairs if it were not for the discovery of oil. King Abdul Aziz was aware that neighboring states like Iraq and Bahrain had great natural resources, but most experts did not believe that the fields extended to Saudi Arabia. Then, in , they were surprised. There was an American philanthropist called Mr. And King Abdul Aziz was complaining about the lack of availability of water in the country. Crane sponsored a geological survey. So it is by chance that we discovered oil. We were looking for water. And this feat happens until today. Every time we look for water, we find oil. But the only way to get it out of the ground was to invite foreign companies into the kingdom. And Abdul Aziz feared that inviting foreigners " or infidels " would be resisted by the religious establishment. He invited them anyway. The king asked the companies to come. One of the scholars challenged that. He said that King Saud is doing something against Islam. So the king knew about this, and he asked these scholars to come to his court. When they came, he said, "I want you to give me an example why I shall not do that. You say this is against Islam," he said. Prophet Mohammed Saleem used Jews, used Christians. In , the first foreign oil prospectors started arriving in the kingdom. King Abdul Aziz did not care who got the concession, as long as they paid the money up front. The first number of holes were dry, and the question was, "Why should we continue with this? When King Abdul Aziz went to open the first oil field and he smelt the sulfur, and he was repugnantly surprised by the smell, and they told him, "Your Majesty, this is what oil, what the sulfur of oil smells like. Let me smell more of it! The king still had little idea what riches Saudi oil would soon bring. But by , the U. For President Franklin Roosevelt, oil was an American national security priority.

Chapter 7 : US-Saudi Split Looming?

The series concludes by looking at how the House of Saud stays in power. Enormous wealth and a very generous social contract has protected them but a demographic time-bomb, social media and low oil.

Spanish After the price of oil quadrupled in , Syria and other Arab states put pressure on Saudi Arabia to use its new wealth against Israel. On their own, however, the Saudis lacked the connections and savvy to affect American-Israeli ties. To make up for this, the Saudi state recruited help. Nor does he seem to have a quarrel with Arab-Americans nor their Jewish counterparts who lobby for their beliefs. Rather, he attacks the arrangement by which paid agents surreptitiously forward the goals of a foreign government while ostensibly trying to promote American interests. In only one case - a State Department official who wrote a book on Saudi Arabia - did I receive an even partly convincing denial. Among the leading lights named in this expose is J. William Fulbright, who wrote an article about the Camp David Summit in in which he advocated a position very similar to that of the Saudi government. The article was published in Newsweek, where Mr. Fulbright identified himself only as a "former U. When I asked him to address Mr. Fulbright gave only the evasive answer that his article "had no reference whatsoever to legal representation of Saudi Arabia" by his law firm. A number of former ambassadors to the Arab countries are on the Saudi payroll. Emerson documents that one of them, Andrew I. Killgore, said in public that his company did not do public relations work for Saudi Arabia when in fact it did. Offered a chance to respond, Mr. Killgore did not deny the charge. Instead he accused me of wishing to "silence" him. A second former ambassador, John C. West, rushed to Miami in April To keep Saudi Prince Turki, accused of fighting with the police, out of jail. By winning retroactive diplomatic immunity for him. Emerson, since Mr. Responding to this information, Mr. West wrote that he does not represent the Saudi government-leaving open the possibility that he might represent private Saudi interests. Emerson also notes that the West Foundation, set up by Mr. Asked to comment, Mr. West would not name the contributors to the West Foundation. Akins, a third former ambassador, adopts such a tough pro-Arab stance that he often appears "more pro-Arab than the Arab officials," says Mr. For example, in Mr. Emerson implies that Mr. Akins did not respond to my repeated efforts to hear his side of the story. Other major figures tagged by Mr. Emerson argues that Mr. Agnew - previously well disposed toward Israel - began fulminating against "Zionist influences in the United States" as part of his successful effort to attract Saudi business. Lance spoke of "the great Jewish ownership of the press. There are other disturbing conjunctions. But the book notes that a European editor with no responsibility for advertising attended the meeting. Emerson implies that the blame for the duplicity he describes falls more on the Americans who do the dirty work than on the Saudis who employ them. What is clear is that Mr. Emerson has uncovered a grand deception.

Chapter 8 : The American House of Saud: The Secret Petrodollar Connection :: by Steven Emerson

"The House of Saud" chronicles the unification of Saudi Arabia under Abd al-Aziz ibn Saud and the relationship that developed between the United States and the Saud family. The documentary highlights the importance of oil in U.S. foreign policy and the impact.

Chapter 9 : The American House of Saud :: Reviewed by Daniel Pipes

The first of the laws specifies that Saudi Arabia is a sovereign Arab Islamic state with a monarchy headed by the House of Saud. The Al Saud's control of government remains tight, but the new laws.