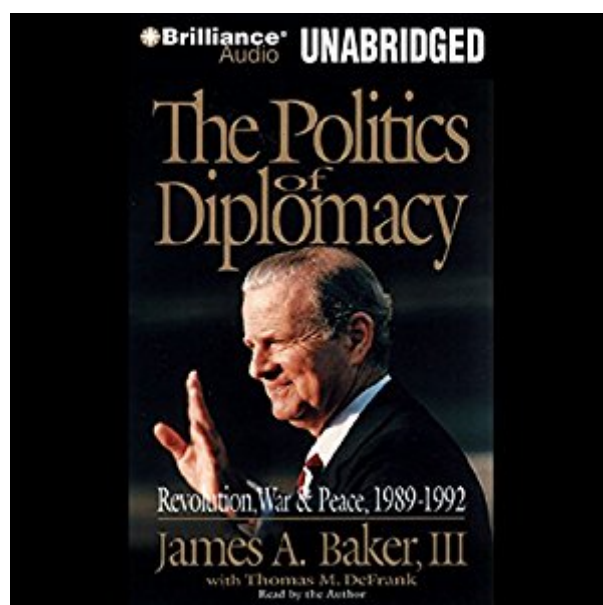


The book was found

The Politics Of Diplomacy



Synopsis

Few men have played such a critical role in the most pivotal events of the second half of the twentieth century. In this audio presentation - in his own words and his own voice - James A. Baker, III uses his unique perspective to take us inside those events and the personalities involved in them: the collapse of Communism, the Berlin Wall, and the Soviet Union itself; the reunification of Germany; the remarkable negotiations behind the coalition-building of the Gulf War; and the even more remarkable talks that led Israelis and Arabs to the same conference table for the first time in decades. But as the title indicates, this is also the story of the rough-and-tumble politics of diplomacy and the personalities who have shaped the world at the end of the century: Gorbachev, Yeltsin, Thatcher, Mitterrand, Kohl, Shamir, Mubarak, Assad, Kings Fahd and Hussein, and Baker's friend, George Herbert Walker Bush, the 41st President of the United States. --This text refers to the Audio Cassette edition.

Book Information

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Memoirs > Historical & Political Figures

Customer Reviews

An incredible read! James Baker's diplomatic memoirs cover his time as Secretary of State from 1989 to 1992. This book provides a unique insight into the world as it was being fundamentally transformed. Baker details the decisions, negotiations and processes which drove the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact, the reunification of Germany, the liberation of Eastern Europe from Soviet domination and communism. There is also a detailed review of the first Gulf war and the following Mid East Peace process efforts. Baker sets up a structure to his diplomacy based

on the need to gain domestic consensus for international action. This is a skill he is excellent at as he describes his patient negotiations with a Democrat controlled Congress prior to deciding and acting on behalf of the USA. Baker describes the process of the Soviet collapse and subsequent liberation of Eastern Europe in extensive details. There are details about discussions with Gorbachev and his Foreign Minister, Eduard Shevardnadze. Baker describes how he developed a genuine, deep friendship with his Soviet counterpart as they tackled the difficult issues surrounding the transformation of Europe. One of the few light hearted moments in an otherwise very serious book is Baker's description of him and Shevardnadze downing half gallon of Georgian vodka with tarkhun at the apartment of Georgian sculptor Zurab Tsereteli (along with Evgenii Primakov)...The book details the reluctance of Britain and especially France to allow German reunification and the careful diplomacy which allowed it to happen. Baker seems to repeat the challenge which France posed for American diplomacy even as an ally.

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