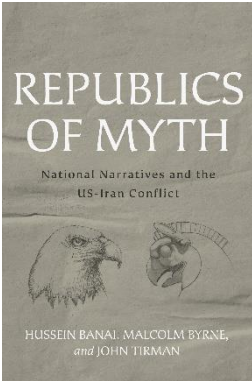


Reviews of Books by Malcolm Byrne



Republics of Myth: National Narratives and the US-Iran Conflict

By Hussein Banai, Malcolm Byrne, and John Tirman

(Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2022, 432 pp.)

“Republics of Myth is an outstanding and balanced review of the difficult relationship between Americans and Iranians. Based on unique research, this timely book addresses the grievances of both sides and pays special attention to the Iran-Iraq War.” — **Bruce O. Riedel**, Brookings Institution, former career CIA officer

“Well-researched and engagingly written, *Republics of Myth: National Narratives and the U.S.-Iran Conflict* is essential reading for anyone interested in Iran policy and U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East more broadly. As the negotiations to revive the nuclear deal with Iran hang by a thread, a deeper understanding of the causes of U.S.-Iranian conflict could not be timelier.” — **Daniel Larison**, review in *Responsible Statecraft*

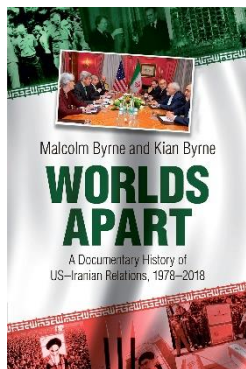
“By drawing on a broad range of primary and secondary material and utilizing diverse methodological and analytic perspectives this book offers an in-depth survey of different aspects of US-Iran relations. A timely publication and welcome addition to scholarship.” — **Ali Gheissari**, University of San Diego

“Even well-read aficionados of US-Iran relations will gain new insight into the failed diplomatic endeavors of the last 40 years ... *Republics of Myth* is worth reading for the diplomatic history alone [I]t should inspire readers to challenge and build upon its arguments in pursuit of the worthwhile goal of a more normal and peaceful relationship between two impassioned adversaries.” — **Christopher J. Ferrero**, *Perspectives on Politics*

“This is a detailed, enlightening history of the troubled U.S.-Iran relationship since World War II, which explains why these two countries' adversarial national narratives persist, based on documents and discussions with and among some of the decision makers on both sides of the divide. A thoroughly engrossing read.” — **Joost R. Hiltermann**, International Crisis Group and author of *A Poisonous Affair*

“The authors bring a lot of firepower and experience to the task ... [and] treat the ‘national narrative’ theme with great sophistication. They sketch out a descriptive landscape for both the United States and Iran that is not dogmatic and that leaves plenty of room for individual perspectives. Most important, they do not try to force all the historical facts into a rigid framework ... [The volume’s] unique perspective is a welcome addition.” — **Gary Sick**, former NSC Iran expert, review in *Responsible Statecraft*

“*Republics of Myth: National Narratives and the US-Iran Conflict* presents original insights that will enrich a four-decade-old conversation that shows no signs of abating [T]he book’s careful examination of how national self-conceptions and narratives feed the conflict is a highly original and significant contribution that makes *Republics of Myth* a relevant work. With this book, Banai, Byrne and Tirman provide the reader with a new lens through which the past four decades of Iran-US tensions and the current negotiations to revive the JCPOA can be better understood.” — **Marc Martorell Junyent**, review in *Informed Comment* (juancole.com)



*WORLDS APART: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF
US-IRANIAN RELATIONS, 1978-2018*

By Malcolm Byrne and Kian Byrne

(Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021, 342 pp.)

“The documentary record assembled in this book is an important addition to our understanding of how US–Iran relations have evolved over the past four decades By injecting primary sources into the Iran debate, *Worlds Apart* allows us to see things as they are, as opposed to how we wish them to be.” — **Ray Takeyh**, Council on Foreign Relations, review in *Survival*

“Four decades ago, Iran and the US substituted a close relationship for marked hostility. Byrne and Byrne have brought together in this book a collection of key documents that mark the major turning points – and the viewpoints of the principal actors – of these tumultuous decades. *Worlds Apart*, the title the authors have chosen for their fascinating collection, is strikingly apt. Their book is a page-turner and a significant contribution to the study of US-Iranian relations since the Islamic revolution.” — **Haleh Esfandiari**, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

“Through a series of significant documents, expertly given context in an accessible fashion, Byrne and Byrne offer both novices and old hands a unique and reliable tracing of the difficult,

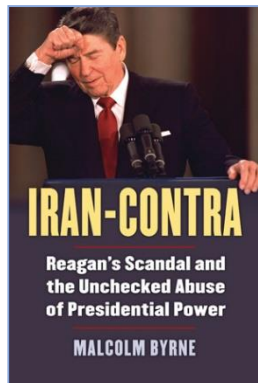
often muddled and damaging, history of US-Iran relations during and since the revolution.” — **Farideh Farhi**, Independent scholar

“An excellent collection of documents covering all of the major issues in US-Iran relations during the past forty years with introductory material that provides essential context. This will be an essential reference source for anyone interested in this important topic.” — **Mark Gasiorowski**, Professor Emeritus, Tulane University

“It's not a pretty story, but it should be required reading to understand how our two countries have been stuck on a road to nowhere for forty years. It's all here: the ignorance, the obliviousness, and the insights ignored. Thanks to the authors for giving us the raw material of history free of biases and personal agendas.” — **John Limbert**, Retired American diplomat and author of *Believers: Love and Death in Tehran*

“What a resource for historians, academics, journalists and policymakers. Thank you @Malcolm_Byrne. — **Barbara Slavin**, Atlantic Council, formerly *New York Times* and *USA Today*, Tweet on Sep 21, 2021

“Lkg forward to discussing gr8 new book today. Great resource & pedagogical tool that centers primary USG docs re Iran 1978-2018. Byrnes’ tireless work to FOIA & archive docs on US/Iran has been crucial for many of us throughout yrs — this book no exception.” — **Narges Bajoghli**, Johns Hopkins / SAIS, Tweet on Sep 21, 2021



IRAN-CONTRA: REAGAN'S SCANDAL AND THE UNCHECKED ABUSE OF PRESIDENTIAL POWER

By Malcolm Byrne

(Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 2014; paper, 2017, 464 pp.)

“Outstanding Academic Title” for 2014 — Choice Magazine

“[T]he foremost scholarly history of the scandal.” – **Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History**

“This book reopens the vitally important argument over Ronald Reagan's presidency — particularly, as Malcolm Byrne asserts with his use of many newly available documents, that Reagan was not passive, but “the driving force” behind the unconstitutional and embarrassing scheme ... Valuable also is Byrne’s analysis of the effects of the Reagan administration's

questionable use of presidential powers in shaping pivotal foreign policies of George W. Bush and Barack Obama.” — **Walter LaFeber**, author of *America, Russia, and the Cold War*

“At last, the Iran-Contra affair has a comprehensive history worthy of the scandal which, if the system had worked, should have landed many senior White House officials in the slammer. Malcolm Byrne has told this complex story in brilliant fashion.” — **Seymour M. Hersh**, investigative journalist and author

“A remarkable book about a remarkable scandal that shook American politics more than a quarter century ago. Byrne's riveting account is not only good history and an exciting tale of espionage and White House intrigue; it is a warning about the excesses of secrecy and partisanship in American foreign policy. It offers a rewarding look backward with lessons for looking forward.” — **Bruce Riedel**, Brookings Institution, former intelligence officer and author

“Finally we have a definitive account of a Washington scandal that was as bizarre as it was important This book not only traces their twisted paths, but provides as good an answer as we are likely to get to the question, ‘What could they possibly have been thinking?’”
— **Stephen Kinzer**, former *New York Times* correspondent and author of *All the Shah's Men*

“It is difficult to write dispassionately about the Iran-Contra affair and Byrne deserves praise for maintaining his objectivity while laying bare a tale of abuse of power, incompetence, and illegal behavior. The issues he raises are too important to ignore.” — **David S. Painter**, Georgetown University, review in *Journal of American History*

“This book, written by the unofficial dean of Iran-Contra studies, splits the difference between academic meticulousness and journalistic flare. When we're fact-checking season two of *Fiasco*, the phrase most commonly uttered in our office tends to be, ‘Check Byrne.’” — **Leon Neyfakh**, host of podcast *Slowburn*, “The Best Books on The Iran-Contra Affair,” in *New York Magazine*

“A high-quality, meticulously researched book that sheds much light on a controversy that, nearly three decades ago, shook the American political system to its core [Malcolm] Byrne, the deputy director of the National Security Archive at George Washington University, has been studying the scandal since it first erupted, and he has now pulled together years of research into a very good book that lays the scandal's ugly intricacies bare.” — **Wall Street Journal**

“Byrne does not portray Reagan as a passive, disengaged president victimized by maverick policy makers. Through the use of primary sources, the author demonstrates that Reagan was actively involved in every stage of Iran-Contra from its initiation through the cover up Byrne provides readers with a cautionary tale about structural issues in the American political system that perpetuate the unchecked abuse of power by the executive branch. this work is a must read for students of the presidency. Highly recommended.” — **Choice Magazine, Association of College and Research Libraries**

“Despite the subtitle ... potential readers would be mistaken if they presumed *Iran-Contra* was an anti-Reagan screed. Though Byrne clearly views Reagan as ultimately responsible for the Iran arms sales and clandestine Contra aid ... he presents not a polemic but a rigorously-researched,

lucidly-written reconstruction of the complex affair, along with incisive analysis and at times trenchant judgments. ... [I]n restrained yet eminently readable prose, he delivers an epic that despite its entertaining aspects is ultimately a sad commentary on the Reagan Administration's policy over-reach and abuse of power." — **James G. Hershberg**, The George Washington University; author of *Marigold: The Lost Chance for Peace in Vietnam*

"All the reviewers in this [H-Diplo] roundtable laud Byrne's book. James Hershberg considers it 'the standard work' on the scandal. Kyle Longley praises it as 'the best work on the topic and likely will be for many years.' Andrew Bacevich commends it as an 'extraordinarily detailed account' that will come as close as any study can to being 'the last word' on Iran-Contra for a long time to come. This is a roundtable, in short, in which all the reviewers agree that Byrne has written an exceptional book." — **Chester J. Pach**, Ohio University, review in H-Diplo

"Malcolm Byrne brings the crime [of Iran-Contra] – White House operatives using illicitly acquired revenue to fund congressionally prohibited policies – right back to the forefront. As it turns out, plenty of reasons exist to remember Iran-Contra and just as many to read this fine book. While there may be no last word on any subject, when it comes to Iran-Contra, this extraordinarily detailed account will serve as a reasonable facsimile for a long time to come." — **Andrew J. Bacevich**, Boston University, Emeritus, review in H-Diplo

"Thomas Schwartz recently noted in an introduction to a roundtable that 'Some roundtables in H-Diplo resemble a love fest, with reviewers trying to outdo each other with superlatives in describing the particular work in question.' I must admit that I will fall into that category. While I knew a great deal about the Iran-Contra Affair from my own research on books I wrote on U.S.-Latin American relations and Reagan and conservative mythology, I did not have a full comprehension of the events that Byrne presents It would be easy to overreach on this matter, but Byrne avoids the temptation to go beyond the documentary evidence and exaggerate the president's involvement in the cover-up and other efforts to manage the scandal [H]is book often reads like a novel that mixes spies and Keystone Cops Not looking at the scandal only through the lens of the Beltway shows more complexity and nuance in the whole affair ... [M]aybe at one point in the future documents or confessions [will] reveal more of this scandal ... Until that time, this book stands as the best work on the topic and likely will for many years." — **Kyle Longley**, Arizona State University, review in H-Diplo

"The contest between the United States and Iran, however, outlasted the sudden collapse of the Soviet power from 1989-1991. As Malcolm Byrne demonstrates in his very fine book, the Iran-Contra affair belongs as a key chapter in that longer story." — *History News Network*

"A thrilling account of secrecy, connivance and manipulation in the dark corridors of power in Washington and Tehran. The cast of characters – Casey, Rafsanjani, North, Ghorbanifar and others – remind one of Sidney Greenstreet and Peter Lorre in *The Maltese Falcon*. By digging into the history of the Iran-Contra affair, Malcolm Byrne shows us how much unchecked powers can damage the security of our nations. A truly fascinating book." — **Maziar Bahari**, author of *Then They Came for Me*

“This book should be read as the definitive volume on the Iran-Contra scandal and its impact on the US, the Middle East and Central America ... Byrne’s explorations of the impact of both the scandal and its mishandling by the US — on future abuses of executive branch power, on US-Iran relations, and on perceptions of the US in the Middle East — are provocative and offer many lessons to be learned.” — **Farideh Farhi**, author of *States and Urban-Based Revolutions in Iran and Nicaragua*

“All other accounts of this tragic episode in American foreign policy must be measured against this authoritative narrative, much of it in the words of the participants themselves.”
— **Gary Sick**, Columbia University, NSC staff Iran expert under Ford, Carter, and Reagan

“In this outstanding and meticulously researched book, Malcolm Byrne knits together two disastrous foreign policy initiatives of Ronald Reagan’s second term. The decision to support the Nicaraguan Contras and to sell arms to Iran to secure the release of U.S. hostages in the Middle East violated U.S. law and every public assurance given to Congress and the U.S. public. These episodes shared an underlying current of ideological zealotry that almost sank the Reagan presidency. As Byrne points out, the failure of the Iran-Contra scandal to lead to greater accountability cleared a path for continuing excesses in the name of national security.” — **Cynthia J. Arnson**, Director, Latin American Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

“Confusing as it unfolded, further muddled by efforts to hide the truth, the Iran-Contra Affair remains poorly understood. Using his knowledge and research skill, Malcolm Byrne reaches behind redactions to reveal the most serious usurpation of power imaginable, where officials put political and policy interests ahead of legal and constitutional restraints. *Iran-Contra: Reagan’s Scandal and the Unchecked Abuse of Presidential Power* is a parable for the security scandals of today. Byrne’s book should be read by experts and concerned citizens alike.” — **John Prados**, historian and author of *The Family Jewels, the CIA, Secrecy, and Presidential Power*

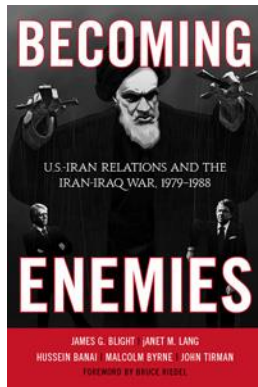
“Provides fascinating details about US ignorance about Iran, which contributed to the largely botched effort to free US hostages in Lebanon and hindered a possible breakthrough in US-Iran ties 30 years ago.” — **Al-Monitor**

“An impressive, compelling and revelatory work.” — **David Farber**, author of *Taken Hostage: The Iran Hostage Crisis and America's First Encounter with Radical Islam*

“Malcolm Byrne offers the first comprehensive academic study of the Iran–Contra scandal Byrne’s work is largely a narrative history of the entire Iran–Contra affair, although it is a narrative that establishes clear analytical observations about the Reagan administration’s decision-making process and the circumstances that contextualized it Byrne has conducted exhaustive research on this topic and it is an indispensable book for scholars interested in Reagan, presidential power, and U.S. foreign policy generally. But it is also a cautionary tale.”
— **James Cooper**, Oxford Brookes University, review in *Presidential Studies Quarterly*

“Malcolm Byrne is the right person to provoke [a] discussion [about Iran-Contra] ... Now drawing on previously inaccessible documents, including the personal notes of Caspar

Weinberger, Charles Hill, and George H. W. Bush, [Byrne] paints a compelling picture of a scandal with Reagan at its center ... The research is exceedingly thorough, yet Byrne is able to narrate the intricacies of covert actions and legal processes in a digestible way. In that sense, his book may come to replace Theodore Draper's *A Very Thin Line: The Iran-Contra Affairs* (1991) as the standard volume on the scandal ... Of the books on this topic, this stands among the best and will likely remain in that group for the foreseeable future.” — **Seth Cantey**, Washington and Lee University, review in *Political Science Quarterly*



*BECOMING ENEMIES: U.S.-IRAN RELATIONS DURING
THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR, 1979-1988*

By *James G. Blight, Janet Lang, Hussein Banai, Malcolm Byrne,
and John Tirman*

(Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2012, 408 pp.)

“I have never read a book quite like this. *Becoming Enemies* is the latest product of the indispensable National Security Archive, the Washington non-profit that has given new meaning to the Freedom of Information Act. They not only use their skills to get major U.S. policy documents declassified, but they take those documents and find innovative ways to illuminate important historical episodes. This book is a living example.” “No one can emerge from this book without a sense of revelation. No matter how much you may know about these tumultuous years, even if you were personally involved or have delved into the existing academic literature, you will discover new facts, new interpretations, and new dimensions on virtually every page.” — **Gary Sick**, Columbia University, NSC staff Iran expert under Ford, Carter and Reagan

“An elegantly written treasure trove of fascinating, forgotten, and previously unrevealed history. For those seeking to understand the roots of modern enmity between the U.S. and Iran, *Becoming Enemies* is a truly unique and wonderful resource.” — **Karim Sadjadpour**, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

“A fascinating, eye-opening book about the players and politics of the Iran-Iraq war and the war's domestic and foreign policy repercussions whose effects continue to resonate today.” — **Haleh Esfandiari**, former Director of the Middle East Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

“*Becoming Enemies* provides a unique and unrivalled insight into the framing of U.S. policy toward the Iran-Iraq war and the roots of the contemporary American-Iranian antagonism. The innovative approach of critical oral history yields penetrating insights into how policy-makers

and officials understood events at the time and in hindsight. This book is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand recent U.S. policy in the Middle East.” — **Nigel J. Ashton**, Chair of International History Department, London School of Economics and Political Science

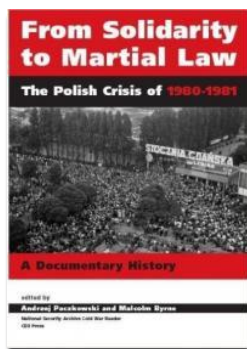
“Too often, Americans seem eager to do things rather than to understand things. For those who wish to understand, this book offers invaluable insights about the world's most dysfunctional relationship. By explaining a key episode in the long conflict between Iran and the United States, it presents invaluable insights. Whether Americans are willing to consider them could make the difference between war and peace.” — **Stephen Kinzer**, author of *All the Shah's Men*

“The roots of all of America's current problems with Iraq and Iran lie in our conduct during the Iran-Iraq War. *Becoming Enemies* provides a profound understanding into that experience. It is a fascinating story, and by presenting it in the words of those who crafted the policy, it gives the reader a rare “fly-on-the-wall” perspective on how American policy gets made, and how the United States got itself into the mess it is in today in the Persian Gulf.” — **Kenneth M. Pollack**, Brookings Institution, author of *The Persian Puzzle*

“In this brilliant and disturbing book, America's foreign policy toward the Islamic Republic of Iran in the 1980s is told, for the first time, from deep inside the U.S. decision making apparatus of the Carter and Reagan administrations. It is a sobering tale of Washington's misperceptions, ignorance and arrogance drawing on newly declassified documentation and oral testimony from key participants, who struggle to come to grips with how and why the U.S. rallied behind one of the twentieth century's most brutal despots, Iraq's Saddam Hussein, in his war with Ayatollah Khomeini's Iran, thereby sowing the seeds of bitter U.S.-Iranian enmity that exists to this day.” — **Patrick Tyler**, formerly *New York Times* and *Washington Post*

“For policymakers, scholars, and students pondering the causes of the enduring and Mathias and miss trust between Iran and United States today, this book is a must-read.” — **Ali Banuazizi**, Boston College, past President, Middle East Studies Association

“Given the dangers that continue to haunt US-around relations, becoming enemies could not be more urgent to read and ponder.” — **Augustus Richard Norton**, Boston University



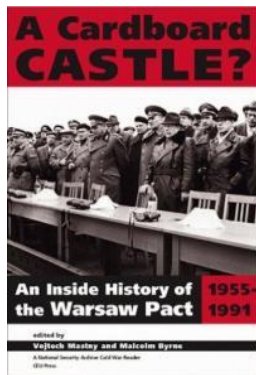
*FROM SOLIDARITY TO MARTIAL LAW: THE POLISH OF 1980-1981,
A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY*

By Andrzej Paczkowski and Malcolm Byrne

(Budapest: Central European University Press, 2006, 580 pp.)

“Any presentation of the events that took place in Poland in 1980-1982 faces an extremely arduous task ... Undoubtedly, the medium that could best describe the past and ourselves – the way we were at the time – consists of the pertinent documents. This is the reason I consider *From Solidarity to Martial Law* to be a highly successful effort at depicting the events of 25 years ago. These documents also enable us to perceive the path we have traversed since that time when – prior to Gorbachev and Reagan – we created the first fissure in the system of communist captivity.” — **Lech Wałęsa**, former leader of Solidarity and president of Poland

“An important and very revealing contribution to a better understanding of a particularly critical phase in the Cold War.” — **Zbigniew Brzezinski**, former U.S. National Security Advisor



*A CARDBOARD CASTLE? AN INSIDE HISTORY OF THE
WARSAW PACT, 1955-1991*

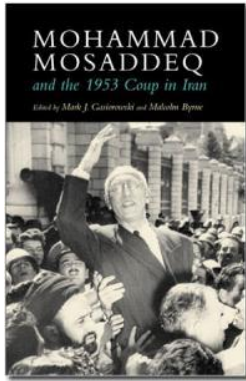
By Wojtech Mastny and Malcolm Byrne

(Budapest: Central European University Press, 2005, 726 pp.)

"Combining more than six hundred pages of fascinating, hitherto secret documents with a long, wonderfully trenchant introductory essay by Wojtech Mastny, this invaluable volume illuminates not only the "inside history" of the Warsaw Pact, but, as reflected in that story, the history of Soviet-East European relations, of the decline and fall of Communism, of East-West relations in Europe, and of East bloc planning (if that is the word for process remarkable for its misjudgments) for both war and peace." — **William Taubman**, Amherst College, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Khrushchev: The Man and His Era*

“This volume opens the door to one of the most important yet largely neglected chapters of the Cold War in Europe — the Warsaw Pact. [Mastny] and Byrne are to be congratulated for producing this monumental volume, with a trove of translated documents that is a major boon to both scholars and teachers.” — **William E. Odom** (Lt. Gen., Ret.), former Director, National Security Agency

“This ‘inside’ history of the Warsaw Pact is a remarkable achievement. It is a product of a multinational team of able researchers and translators who have extracted vital documents, each with illuminating headnotes, from the archives of all the members of the bloc Exposing conflict as well as consensus over the Pact’s forty-six year life span, this pioneer effort will be an indispensable resource for Cold War scholars.” — **Lawrence S. Kaplan**, Georgetown University, author of *Long Entanglement: NATO’s First Fifty Years*



MOHAMMAD MOSADDEQ AND THE 1953 COUP IN IRAN

Edited by Mark Gasiorowski and Malcolm Byrne

(Syracuse University Press, 2004, 360 pp.)

*Winner 2003-2004 biennial Mosaddeq Foundation (Geneva)
Award for "Best Book on Iran"*

“More books should have such a pedigree Seven polished studies that speak to each other The book [provides] a richly and tightly reasoned setting out of what might be dubbed the emerging scholarly synthesis: the British started it, but the United States took it over; Cold War concerns about ‘losing’ Iran were a greater factor than was oil nationalization.” — ***Foreign Affairs***

“The collection under review is by far the most thorough and objective study of the coup and is a must read for anyone interested in U.S.-Iran relations and American foreign policy. It is written by several scholars of integrity, with substantial previous relevant research and publication, and expertly edited by Mark J. Gasiorowski and Malcolm Byrne. “Gasiorowski, the world’s foremost living authority on the conduct of the coup, provides a detailed and fascinating account of its various stages based on published materials and interviews with former CIA operatives. — ***International Journal of Middle East Studies***

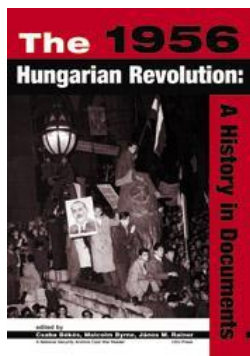
“This collection of essays by eminent Iranologists provides an exhaustive analysis of the sequence of events, reasons for the coup, and the roles of both foreign and domestic participants. Although their chapters are based on the recently declassified CIA report of Donald Wilber (the coup's primary instigator), the contributors have also had access to newly released US, British, and Soviet archival materials. As a result, the book stands alone as a definitive analysis Summing Up: Highly recommended.” — ***Choice Magazine***

“The articles are meticulously researched and thick with detail. Moreover, many of them ... use interviews to supplement the available written sources.” — ***Middle East Journal***

“This outstanding collection of articles that analyze the latest documentary information is a must read for anyone interested in Iran or in U.S. foreign policy. The authors convincingly explain the rise and fall of Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddeq, who in the 1950s tried to regain control of Iran’s oil resources for national use and profit This book provides a more complete and up-to-date coverage of these and other questions than any other work and sheds vital new light on issues that remain crucial to the evolution of U.S.-Iran relations and to continuing questions about unilateralism and secrecy in U.S. foreign policy.” — **Nikki Keddie, UCLA**

“Mark Gasiorowski and Malcolm Byrne have assembled a stellar array of talented scholars to examine this event on the basis of new scholarship. The tale is well told in its many parts, and the two coeditors do a masterful job in surveying the U.S. policy climate that made it possible and in providing an extraordinary blow-by-blow account of the coup itself. This is an exceptional collection dealing with a uniquely important event.” — **Gary Sick**, Columbia University, NSC staff Iran expert under Ford, Carter, and Reagan

“This marvelous collection of essays demonstrates that the overthrow of Mosaddeq in August 1953 was a transformative moment in U.S.-Iranian relations as well as a turning point in the Cold War. Never before have the domestic and international forces converging against the popular Iranian leader been studied with such care, objectivity, and subtlety. This multinational, multiarchival history is a magnificent addition to the literature on post-World War II international history.” — **Melvyn Leffler**, University of Virginia and author of *For the Soul of Mankind* and *A Proponderance of Power*



THE HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION, 1956: A HISTORY IN DOCUMENTS

By Csaba Békés, Malcolm Byrne, János M. Rainer

(Budapest: Central European University Press, 2002, 600 pp.)

“There is no publication, in any language, that would even approach the thoroughness, reliability, and novelty of this monumental work [I]t will change forever our views of what happened in Hungary between 1953–1963.” — **István Deák**, Columbia University

“This volume is important precisely because the documents speak for themselves. Thanks to judicious selection from an impressive array of sources, the volume reflects the very real complexities of 1956 The 120 top-level, formerly secret records included here not only offer a glimpse into the deliberations of the Hungarians, their fellow satellite regimes and beyond them the superpowers themselves, they provide us today with the unusual opportunity to watch the revolution unfold from a variety of perspectives — national, institutional and personal — from each of the dozen countries whose documents are represented here. It is an important achievement and one that is made even more valuable by the inclusion of detailed introductory essays, headnotes for each document, a wealth of footnotes, and other research aids that will help student and expert alike place these complex events in a meaningful context.” — **Charles Gati**, Johns Hopkins University



THE IRAN-CONTRA SCANDAL: THE DECLASSIFIED HISTORY

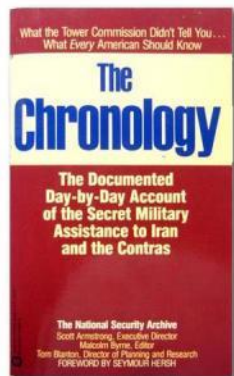
By Peter Kornbluh and Malcolm Byrne

(New York: The New Press, 1993, 448 pp.)

“The documents assembled by the National Security Archive take us inside the Reagan/Bush administrations, where lying and deception of the press, Congress and the public were as essential to the government's policies as the illegal operations.” — **Seymour M. Hersh**, investigative reporter and author

“Among the myriad books from this event, this volume alone provides the public record needed to reach a final verdict. A professionally done volume, it belongs in every public school and academic library.” — **Library Journal**

“The work of the National Security Archive has helped prevent this issue from being swept under the rug, *The Iran-Contra Scandal ...* is a history we must not forget.” — **Village Voice**



THE CHRONOLOGY: THE DOCUMENTED DAY-BY-DAY ACCOUNT OF THE SECRET MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO IRAN AND THE CONTRAS

By Scott Armstrong, Malcolm Byrne (Editor and principal contributor), Tom Blanton, and the National Security Archive

(New York: Warner Books, 1987, 687 pp.)

“The most comprehensive, authoritative, objective and useful summary of the Iran-Contra affair available. It makes the pieces fall into place and brings the individual players into focus.” — **Bob Woodward**, *The Washington Post*

“The Chronology is an extremely valuable work and will be immensely useful during the televised Congressional hearings on the Iran-Contra affair.” — **Peter Jennings**, ABC World News Tonight

“Essential reading If we’re ever going to find out the truth about the Iran-Contra scandal, it will come from the sort of work the National Security Archive has put into this chronology.” —

Stephen Engelberg, *The New York Times*

“The ultimate viewer’s guide to the televised congressional hearings, the Archive’s chronology is an extraordinary research tool. Even an expert needs a guide through the maze, and this is it.”

— **Bill Plante**, CBS News White House correspondent