

The Downing Street Years

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A Journey with Margaret Thatcher
The Road to Number 10
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The Chamberlains
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the first volume of memoirs by margaret thatcher frankly recalls the former british prime minister s dealings with u s presidents the falkland war and her election victories in 1983 and 1987 150 000 first printing 150 000 ad promo tour

this first volume of margaret thatcher s memoirs encompasses the whole of her time as

prime minister the formation of her goals in the early 1980s the falklands the general election victories of 1983 and 1987 and eventually the circumstances of her fall from political power she also gives frank accounts of her dealings with foreign statesmen and her own ministers

today representative democracy is the dominant political system in the world britain played a prominent part in the democratization of the world through both its constitutional reforms at home and its power and influence abroad in that process prime ministers played a prominent role through their power and influence in government parliament and the country more generally quinault examines the stance of ten leading prime ministers from the mid nineteenth century until the twenty first century on the theory and practice of democracy the attitude of each prime minister is assessed by considering their general views on democracy and their use of that term and concept in their discourse and thereby their role in advancing or resisting democratic political change particular attention is paid to their role in electoral reform together with their stance on the composition and powers of the house of lords and the role of the monarchy in the governing process their attitudes to the democratic aspects of some major international issues are also considered

in this book tony blair the downing street years a prime minister s chronicles takes readers on an illuminating exploration of one of the most influential figures in recent political history from his early days in politics to his transformative leadership as the prime minister of the united kingdom this biography unravels the complexities of blair s career insightful and balanced the narrative navigates through blair s achievements controversies and the evolution of his political ideology engagingly written this book provides a comprehensive perspective on tony blair s life offering readers a nuanced understanding of the man behind the political legacy

based on a detailed analysis of archives and high level interviews this book looks at the role of beliefs culture and identity in the making of british nuclear policy from 1945 through to the present day this book also examines britain s nuclear experience by moving away from traditional interpretations of why states develop and maintain nuclear weapons by adopting a more contemporary approach to political theory traditional mainstream explanations tend to stress the importance of factors such as the maximization of power the pursuit of national security interests and the role of structure

in a largely anarchic international system this book does not dismiss these approaches but argues that british experience suggests that focusing on beliefs culture and identity provides a more useful insight and distinctive interpretation into the process of british nuclear decision making than the more traditional approaches

it is impossible to understand the last 75 years of british and american history without understanding the anglo american relationship and specifically the bonds between presidents and prime ministers fdr of course had churchill jfk famously had macmillan his consigliere during the cuban missile crisis reagan found his ideological soul mate in thatcher and george w bush found his fellow believer in religion and in war in tony blair in a series of shrewd and absorbing character studies ian buruma takes the reader on a journey through the special relationship via the fateful bonds between president and prime minister it s never been a relationship of equals from churchill s desperate cajoling and conniving to keep fdr on side british prime ministers have put much more stock in the relationship than their us counterparts did for britain resigned to the loss of its once great empire its close kinship to the world s greatest superpower would give it continued relevance and serve as leverage to keep continental europe in its place as buruma shows this was almost always fool s gold and now as the links between the brexit vote and the 2016 us election are coming into sharper focus it is impossible to understand the populist uprising in either country without reference to trump and boris johnson though ironically they are also the key buruma argues to understanding the special relationship s demise

in a remarkably candid new book former high ranking diplomat robin renwick provides a fascinating insight into margaret thatcher s performances on the world stage he examines her successes including the defeat of aggression in the falklands her contribution to the ending of the cold war and her role in the anglo irish agreement her special relationship with mikhael gorbachev and what the americans felt to be the excessive influence she exerted over ronald reagan and attitudes towards f w de klerk and nelson mandela and what she herself acknowledged as her spectacular failure in resisting german reunification he describes at first hand her often turbulent relationships with other european leaders and her arguments with cabinet colleagues about european monetary union in which regard he contends her arguments have stood the test of time and are highly relevant to the crisis in the eurozone today finally he tells of her bravura

performance in the run up to the gulf war her calls for intervention in bosnia and the difficulties she created for her successor while her faults were on the same scale as her virtues margaret thatcher succeeded in her mission to restore britain s standing and influence in the process becoming a cult figure in many other parts of the world including material from the recently released war cabinet files on the falklands conflict this book is an important exploration of an outstanding world leader

this work concentrates on the way british political leaders have come to power from bonar law in 1922 to tony blair in 1997 the author a political columnist analyzes the parties different methods of appointing a leader the mechanisms by which these leaders then made it to number 10 the changing roles of the monarchy and the rise of party democracy

it was winston churchill who in his speech at fulton missouri advocated a special relationship between the british commonwealth and the united states the continuance of intimate relationships between our military advisers leading to the common study of potential dangers through the eyes of churchill roosevelt and their successors sir robin renwick traces the development of the anglo american relationship since the desperate summer of 1940 and the part it played in the shaping of the post war world detecting once again a whiff of the 1930s in the air sir robin concludes that as one of the ties that bind europe and north america the relationship remains an important one and not only to britain and the united states there are many on both sides of the atlantic who will think that the world would have been poorer without it nor has the world yet assumed so secure and predictable a form as to render it redundant

what was the impact of margaret thatcher on british politics in the 20th century why was she electorally so successful has thatcherism really been a distinct ideological phenomenon in the conservative party s history was the ideological course of her governments charted before she came to power or was she the begetter of a new doctrine

the role of the special adviser is currently one of the most controversial issues in british politics this study of special advisers brings an historical as well as analytical perspective to a hot topic

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