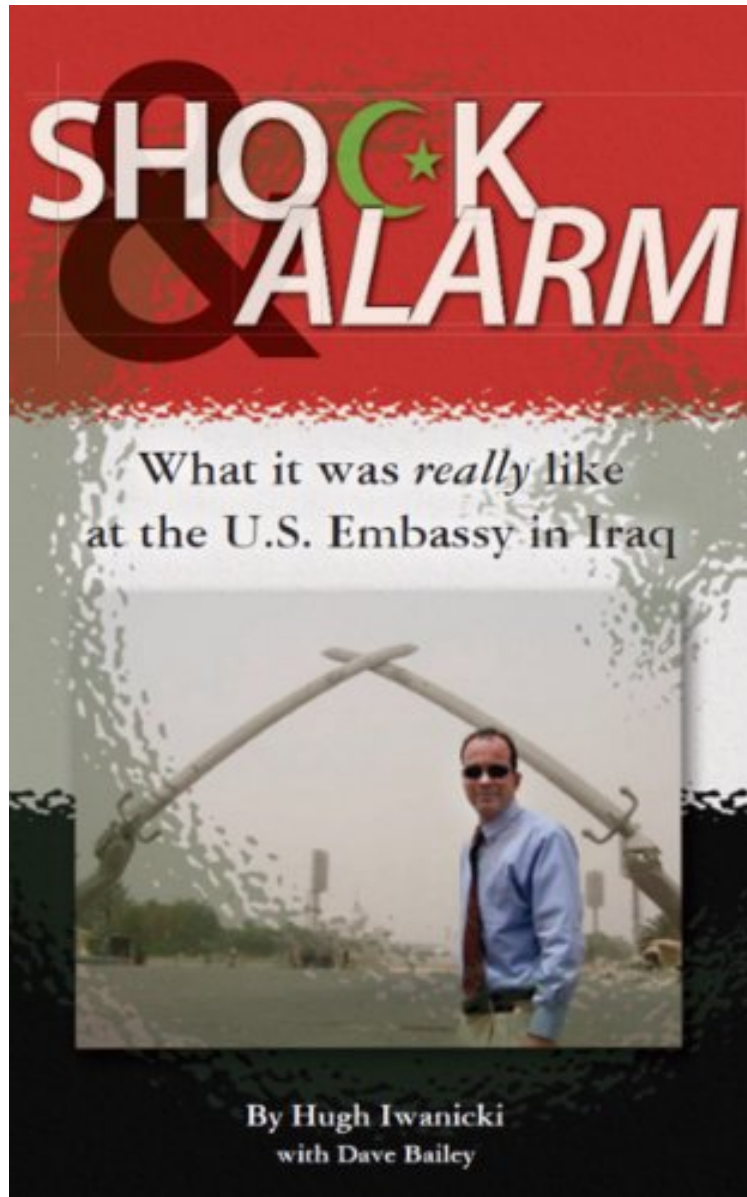


[Online library] Shock and Alarm: What it was really like at the U.S. Embassy in Iraq (English Edition)

Shock and Alarm: What it was really like at the U.S. Embassy in Iraq (English Edition)

Von Hugh Iwanicki, Dave Bailey
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Von Hugh Iwanicki, Dave Bailey : Shock and Alarm: What it was really like at the U.S. Embassy in Iraq (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shock and Alarm: What it was really like at the U.S. Embassy in Iraq (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Indeed stranger than fiction... Von ESWI was privileged to meet the author recently at a conference in Washington DC, where we chatted about Iraq. I was intrigued by his story as I spent part of my childhood in Iraq and wanted to hear more about what it was like now. Well, suffice it to say, the madness has grown. Nothing has really changed, and Hugh's stories transported me back in time, not only to Baghdad, but also to Kuwait, where I lived for nearly four years. Yes, life in these countries is indeed "stranger than fiction". Believe me, fiction can never match life in either Baghdad or Kuwait. Kudos to the author for not only describing the madness in this part of the world, but - even more important - taking the time to try to understand the reasons for this madness. The Koran was a good starting point. Thank you, Hugh, for caring about the plight of Christians in Iraq. Perhaps some of the professional understanders of Islam (Ben Affleck comes to mind) should spend some time at the Embassy compound. (Disclaimer: I was given the book free of charge.)

Kurzbeschreibung Shock and Alarm: What it was really like at the US Embassy in Iraq is a riveting behind-the-scenes expos of daily life at the Baghdad Diplomatic Compound in 2009, providing an insightful look at the culture clash taking place between the Islamic world and the West. This is Hugh Iwanicki's personal story of the eleven months he served as a performance auditor for the Office of the Inspector General at the Embassy. His journal of unforgettable experiences juxtapose the mundane with the bizarre, moving from discussions of constitutional law with Sharia attorneys to several near-death experiences, as well as the strange bedfellows tale of a regional embassy housed in a Shiite-owned "Temporary Marriage Honeymoon Hotel." For comic relief, there are also the misadventures of the Blackwater contractors, Marines, diplomats, and plumbers who inhabited the Green Zone and made the best of the Coalition embassy parties, where the women, though far outnumbered, were in full control of the men. And then there's the story of how the Embassy got an unlimited supply of free beer, thanks to a Sharia law against alcohol. Iwanicki's startling autobiographical account brings to light the human, the brutal, and the bewildering sides of life among the Iraqis, Jordanians, and Kuwaitis, as well as the mind-bending ironies and paradoxes encountered by the jumbled crew that lived within the confines known as the US Embassy in Iraq. Shock and Alarm pulls back the curtain on the bunker mentality of the prison, where a grinding monotony was pierced by near-daily rocket attacks and week-long sandstorms. It also reflects on Iwanicki's first-hand experiences of the Middle East's Islamic culture, framing disturbing questions about America's engagement in Iraq and with Islam itself. While readers of all backgrounds and interests will enjoy the fish-out-of-water humor of Iwanicki's early adventures in Iraq, little will prepare them for his climactic awakening to a horror hiding in plain sight. Iwanicki's story ends with a silent scream, as he discovers that the menace he thought he had escaped by returning to the US was awaiting him at home. Shock and Alarm is an urgent and heartfelt memoir that provides a much needed wake-up call to all Americans.

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ber den Autor und weitere Mitwirkende Dave Bailey worked for many years at IBM, leaving in 1992 to start a non-profit called Education Transfer that organized events for schools similar to those he had arranged as a volunteer. By 2001 he was serving several schools on Long Island - schools with families that were devastated by the 9/11 attack. Bailey felt a compelling need to understand the ideology behind the attack and, after retiring in 2010, he devotes his time to helping others

comprehend the forces within Islam that threaten the West.