This book is an absolutely fascinating account of the impact of ethnic diasporas on the U.S.-Canada security relationship. Focusing not only on Muslim North Americans, but also on Irish-Americans and German-Americans, David G. Haglund brings in much needed historical perspective to current debates on both sides of the border. As Haglund shows, ethnic diasporas have profoundly shaped the security relationship for 150 years and will no doubt continue to do so in the future. Anyone interested in the intersection of demography and security in general and the U.S.-Canada security relationship in particular should read this book.

—Peter Andreas, John Hay Professor of International Studies, Brown University

“Ethnic Diasporas and the Canada-United States Security Community is an outstanding contribution to our understanding of the increasingly important Canada-United States security community. This study begins with innovative theorizing about geopolitics borders, zones of peace and ethnic lobbying. Those concepts are brought together effectively in authoritative case studies on Irish, German, and Muslim diasporas. The findings go far beyond simplistic notions of ethnic lobbying and help us to understand the origins, evolution, and likely future of the North American security community. In sum, this is the most important contribution to North American security studies in the 9/11 era and stands as a ‘must-read’ for scholars of North America and security studies writ large.”

—Patrick James, Dornsife Dean’s Professor of International Relations, University of Southern California

“One would be hard-pressed today to read anything original on the subject of post-9/11 security. Haglund’s comparative analysis of the security implications of Irish, German, and Muslim diaspora communities in North America is a rare and timely exception. This valuable contribution combines rich historical context and perspective, well-reasoned and nuanced analysis, and theoretical rigor. Anyone interested in deciphering the evolving challenges of homegrown terrorism in North America, parsing the complex nexus between demography, diaspora-based activism and continental security, or searching for the deeper roots of a brand of globalized Salafist jihadism, will benefit from reading this book. Policymakers in Ottawa and Washington, DC, who confidently proclaim they have the answers to these problems will find Haglund’s analysis incredibly insightful, informative and humbling.”

—Frank P. Harvey, Eric Dennis Chair of Government and Politics, Dalhousie University

“Timely, controversial, and informative. Examining the Irish, German, and Muslim immigrant ethos in the United States and Canada, Haglund draws conclusions about the diverse roles these immigrants have played in terms of positive contributions, efforts to gain political influence, and for a small group in opposition to the preferences of the majority, a proclivity toward violence. Identity politics and conflicts provide many useful insights for the curious reader.”

—Charles Doran

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