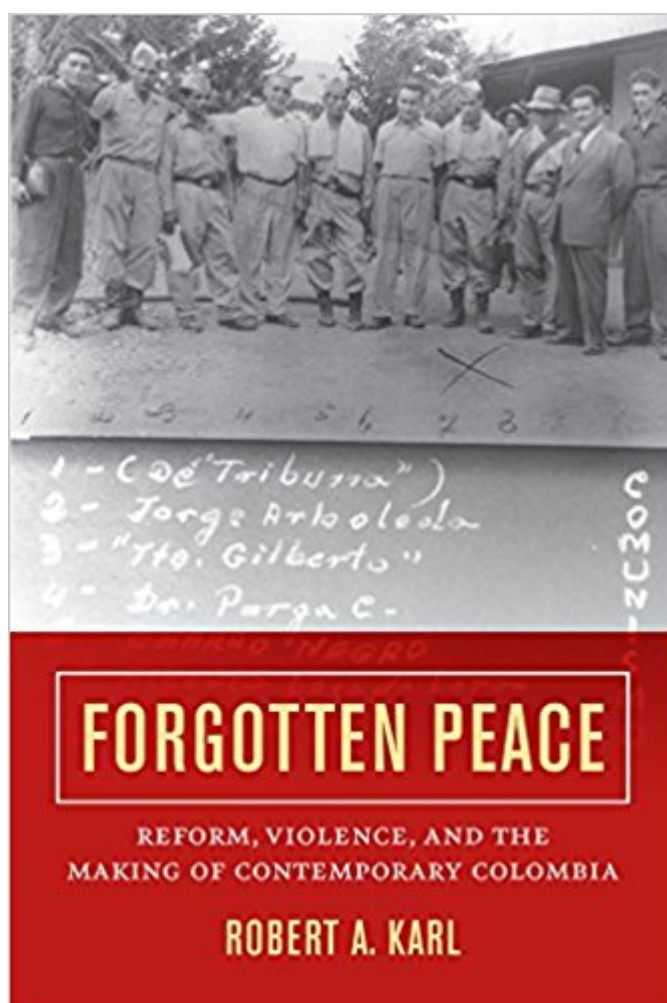


The book was found

Forgotten Peace: Reform, Violence, And The Making Of Contemporary Colombia (Violence In Latin American History)



Synopsis

Forgotten Peace examines Colombian society's attempt to move beyond the Western Hemisphere's worst mid-century conflict and shows how that effort molded notions of belonging and understandings of the past. Robert A. Karl reconstructs encounters between government officials, rural peoples, provincial elites, and urban intellectuals during a crucial conjuncture that saw reformist optimism transform into alienation. In addition to offering a sweeping reinterpretation of Colombian history—including the most detailed account of the origins of the FARC insurgency in any language—Karl provides a Colombian vantage on global processes of democratic transition, development, and memory formation in the 1950s and 1960s. Broad in scope, Forgotten Peace challenges contemporary theories of violence in Latin America.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"It's really a wonderful work, bringing readers back to those post-Cuban Revolution days, when Colombia teetered between promise and peril." (The Nation)

The remarkable strength of this book is its lucid, intelligent, artful narratives. Chapter after chapter, Karl takes scattered local and national actors and creates a stunningly integrated and compelling story about what he conceives of as the rise and fall of an effort at forging a national peace in Colombia during the complex period of 1957 to 1964. This is historical storytelling at its

best.â •â "Paul Gootenberg, Stony Brook Universityâ œForgotten PeaceÂ provides a sweeping reinterpretation of the mid-twentieth-century conflicts that became known asÂ La Violencia, with important implications for peace efforts today. In a vivid narrative that traces the interactions of local actors, intellectuals, and the Colombian state, Karl provides an entirely new explanation for the emergence of the FARC guerrillas from an ambivalent and fragmented peace process.â •â "Nancy P. Appelbaum, author ofÂ Mapping the Country of Regions: The Chorographic Commission of Nineteenth-Century Colombia

I read Karl's book in preparation for a radio interview with the author, and as someone who lives, works and studies in Colombia I found it to be insightful, in-depth and very digestible. For anyone wishing to really understand contemporary Colombia, this isn't a bad place to start at all. There are fascinating investigations revealed here which go a long way to explaining how the political drama of the Colombian conflict has played out in the way it has.

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