Bad Advice: Bush's Lawyers In The War On Terror

Harold H. Bruff

Civil liberties have been restricted or worse in numerous countries, including in the United States. Forces of repression have been emboldened, using the language of antiterrorism to justify violating the rights of ordinary political opponents. With a heavy emphasis on Islamic threats, the authors identify U.S. enemies and offer advice on how to fight these enemies and promote democracy. Patrick Hayden; Tom Lansford and Robert P. Watson. 2003. America’s War on Terror. Argues that the Bush administration uses the war on terror to solidify its political base, manipulate public perceptions of a terrorist threat, and to justify the necessity of conservative social and economic agendas. S-11. 2004. Mission Not Accomplished: How George Bush Lost the War on Terrorism. Roseville, Calif. From wiretapping American citizens to waterboarding foreign prisoners, the Bush administration has triggered an uproar over its tactics in the War on Terror--and over its justifications for using them. Through a close study of the legal advice provided to President Bush, former Justice Department attorney Harold Bruff provides an incisive and scathing critique of those justifications, which he finds at odds with both American law and moral authority. He shows that Bush’s claims of executive power exceed anything found in U.S. history or judicial precedent, that clear statutory limitations were treated with contempt, and that Bush and his lawyers strove to exclude both congressional and judicial participation in setting anti-terrorist policy. From wiretapping American citizens to waterboarding foreign prisoners, the Bush administration has triggered an uproar over its tactics in the War on Terror--and over its justifications for using them. Through a close study of the legal advice provided to President Bush, former Justice Department attorney Harold Bruff provides an incisive and scathing critique of those justifications, which he finds at odds with both American law and moral authority. Edition Details. If you want to understand the role of indispensable players in the formulation of these policies -- the lawyers who advised President Bush, Vice President Cheney, and others in the Executive branch -- you will read “Bad Advice.” The author, Harold Bruff, a leading expert on the Read More. 0.