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circus of the international media are all relayed with verve and candour. Munro describes with insight and sensitivity the cultural jarring experienced by the religiously conservative society of Saudi Arabia as their country became host to half a million Western infidels. He embeds his revelations in a thoughtful and informed analysis of the international politics of the Middle East. With Western armies once more engaged on the sands of the Gulf, this new updated edition of Munro's book provides a timely reminder of the pressures, pitfalls and potential of international diplomacy in the region."--Bloomsbury Publishing.