1. Record Nr. UNINA9910554275303321 Autore Peck Alison Elizabeth <1970-> Titolo The accidental history of the U.S. immigration courts: war, fear, and the roots of dysfunction / / Alison Elizabeth Peck Oakland, California:,: University of California Press,, [2021] Pubbl/distr/stampa ©2021 0-520-38118-1 **ISBN** Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (240 pages): illustrations Disciplina 342.730820269 Emigration and immigration - Political aspects Soggetti Emigration and immigration law - United States - History Immigration courts - United States - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Preface -- Part I. crisis in the immigration courts -- 1. The Attorney General's Immigration Courts -- 2. Whittling Away at Asylum Law -- 3. Policing the Immigration Courts -- Part II. from world war ii to 9/11: the ghost of the fifth column -- 4. A New Type of Tough in the Department of Labor -- 5. Refusal -- 6. Invasion -- 7. The Welles Mission -- 8. Alien Enemies -- 9. Reckoning -- 10. Un Día de Fuego -- 11. President Bush's Department -- Part III. the future of the immigration courts --12. Checks and Imbalances -- 13. Reforming the Immigration Courts -- Epilogue: Portrait of an American in the Twenty-First Century --Notes -- Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto How the immigration courts became part of the nation's law enforcement agency-and how to reshape them. During the Trump administration, the immigration courts were decried as more politicized enforcement weapon than impartial tribunal. Yet few people are aware of a fundamental flaw in the system that has long pre-dated that

> administration: The immigration courts are not really "courts" at all but an office of the Department of Justice-the nation's law enforcement agency. This original and surprising diagnosis shows how paranoia sparked by World War II and the War on Terror drove the structure of

the immigration courts. Focusing on previously unstudied decisions in the Roosevelt and Bush administrations, the narrative laid out in this book divulges both the human tragedy of our current immigration court system and the human crises that led to its creation. Moving the reader from understanding to action, Alison Peck offers a lens through which to evaluate contemporary bills and proposals to reform our immigration court system. Peck provides an accessible legal analysis of recent events to make the case for independent immigration courts, proposing that the courts be moved into an independent, Article I court system. As long as the immigration courts remain under the authority of the attorney general, the administration of immigration justice will remain a game of political football-with people's very lives on the line.