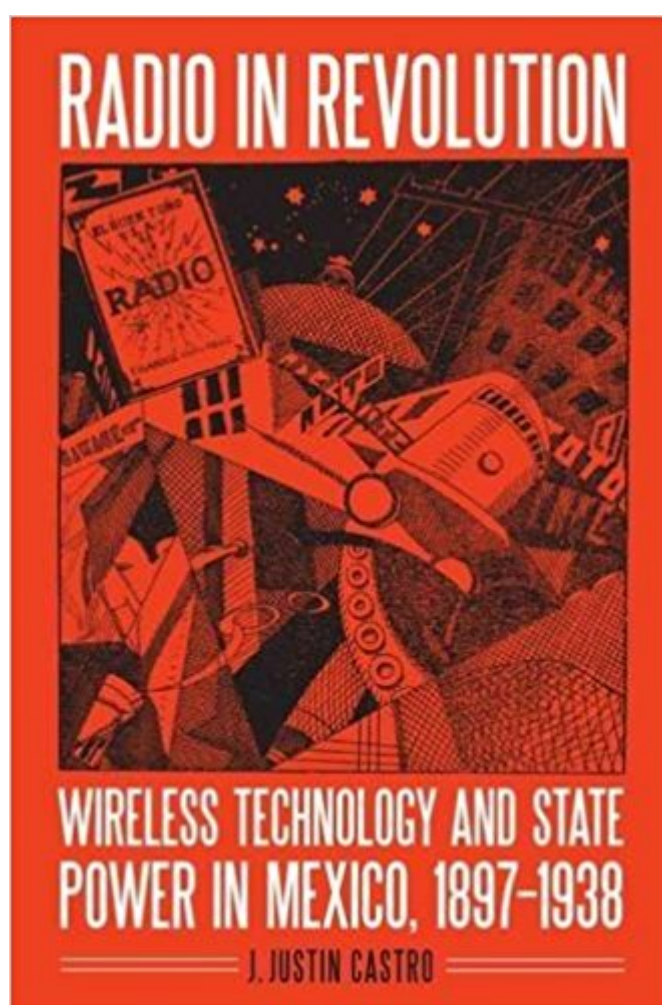


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Radio In Revolution: Wireless Technology And State Power In Mexico, 1897â€“1938 (The Mexican Experience)



Synopsis

Long before the Arab Spring and its use of social media demonstrated the potent intersection between technology and revolution, the Mexican Revolution employed wireless technology in the form of radiotelegraphy and radio broadcasting to alter the course of the revolution and influence how political leaders reconstituted the government. *Radio in Revolution* is an innovative study of early radio technologies and the Mexican Revolution, examines the foundational relationship between electronic wireless technologies, single-party rule, and authoritarian practices in Mexican media. J. Justin Castro bridges the Porfiriato and the Mexican Revolution, discussing the technological continuities and change that set the stage for Lázaro Cárdenas's famous radio decree calling for the expropriation of foreign oil companies. Not only did the nascent development of radio technology represent a major component in government plans for nation and state building; its interplay with state power in Mexico also transformed it into a crucial component of public communication services, national cohesion, military operations, and intelligence gathering. Castro argues that the revolution had far-reaching ramifications for the development of radio and politics in Mexico and reveals how continued security concerns prompted the revolutionary victors to view radio as a threat even while embracing it as an essential component of maintaining control.

Book Information

Series: The Mexican Experience

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: University of Nebraska Press; Reprint edition (July 1, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0803286783

ISBN-13: 978-0803286788

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 0.9 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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Best Sellers Rank: #688,353 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #248 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Radio Operation #263 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Telecommunications & Sensors > Radio #701 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > Caribbean & Latin American

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Radio in Revolution adeptly addresses a glaring oversight in the historiography of

twentieth-century Mexico: the interplay between radio technology and the Mexican Revolution (1910-40).ââJÃrgen Buchenau, coauthor of Mexicoâs Once and Future Revolution: Social Upheaval and the Challenge of Rule since the Late Nineteenth Century ÂÂ (JÃrgen Buchenau 2015-09-15)ââThis work has the potential to cause scholars to rethink the importance of technological savvy and acquisition, mainly radio, for Mexico during its revolution and postrevolutionary era. Castroâs decision to tackle radio developments during the Porfiriato and through the revolution renders a very rich analysis.ââCeleste GonzÃ¡lez de Bustamante, author of Muy Buenas Noches: Mexico, Television, and the Cold War ÂÂ (Celeste GonzÃ¡lez de Bustamante 2015-09-15)ââRadio in RevolutionÂ fills a major gap in the historiography of Mexicoâs telecommunications and early broadcasting industries. Castro raises the bar for studies of media and nation building during Mexicoâs tumultuous revolution.ââJosÃ© Luis Ortiz Garza, author ofÂ Una radio entre dos reinos (JosÃ© Luis Ortiz Garza 2015-09-15)ââCastro depicts a significant continuity from Porfirio DÃ­az to Plutarco ElÃ­as Calles in governmental use of radio technology to consolidate centralization. The Mexican Revolution, prototype for all twentieth-century social revolutions, was also the first war in which radio served a major military purpose.ââRobert H. Claxton, author of From âParsifalâ to Peron: Early Radio in Argentina, 1920-1944 ÂÂ (Robert H. Claxton 2015-09-15)

J. Justin CastroÂ is an assistant professor of history at Arkansas State University.Â

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