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The Prince The Secret Story of the World's Most Intriguing Royal Prince Bandar bin Sultan

HOUSTON (Oct. 16, 2006) – Author William Simpson, a classmate of Saudi Arabian Prince Bandar bin Sultan, recently wrote a first-time biography about the Prince with the cooperation of Prince Bandar and his family. In the book, Simpson reveals how closely involved the Saudi Prince is with international policy and decision making – even within the halls of The White House and the United States Congress.

Learn more about this illegitimate son of a Saudi Prince and a servant girl who has become one of the most powerful men in the modern world when Simpson talks about his book at the University of St. Thomas at 4:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 30, Cullen Hall, 4001 Mt. Vernon St. A book signing and reception will follow the talk at 5:30 p.m. in Ahern Room, Crooker Center, 3909 Graustark. RSVP by Oct. 27 to 713-831-7241.

In THE PRINCE, Simpson regales readers with anecdotes that detail how Bandar played a key role in the Iran-Contra affair; convinced Mikhail Gorbachev to withdraw from Afghanistan; shared a table with Nelson Mandela and Muammar Qaddafi to bring the Lockerbie bombers to justice; and helped negotiate an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

Simpson sheds light on Bandar's dazzling rise from fighter pilot to powerful diplomat. He explores Bandar's invaluable contributions to Middle East and world peace—as well as recent controversies surrounding his name.

William Simpson was a classmate of Prince Bandar at the British Royal Air Force College, where they became friends through a mutual interest in fencing over the two and a half years of their officer training. Simpson founded and was CEO of an Internet company, and also worked with a Mayfair-based hedge fund as President of North American Operations. After his retirement from the world of financial services, Simpson undertook this biography with the cooperation of Prince Bandar and his family. Simpson lives in the United Kingdom.

University of St. Thomas is a private institution committed to educating leaders of faith and character, and to the liberal arts and the religious ethical and intellectual tradition of Catholic higher education.