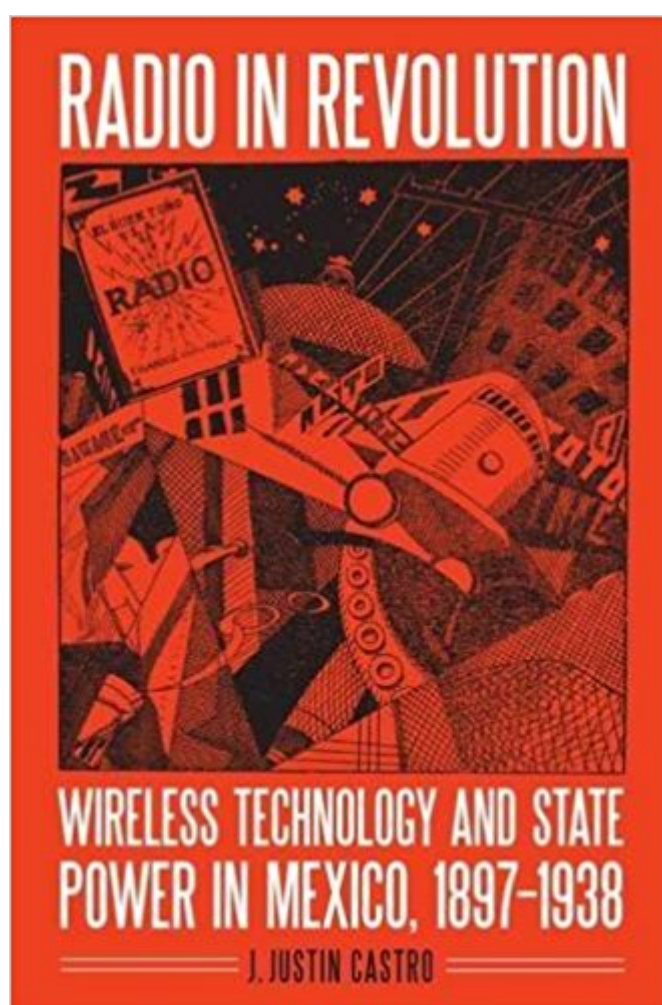


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# Radio In Revolution: Wireless Technology And State Power In Mexico, 1897-1938 (The Mexican Experience)



## 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.

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## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“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). Jürgen Buchenau, coauthor of *Mexico’s Once and Future Revolution: Social Upheaval and the Challenge of Rule since the Late Nineteenth Century* (Jürgen Buchenau 2015-09-15) “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. Castro’s decision to tackle radio developments during the Porfiriato and through the revolution renders a very rich analysis.” Celeste González de Bustamante, author of *Muy Buenas Noches: Mexico, Television, and the Cold War* (Celeste González de Bustamante 2015-09-15) “Radio in Revolution” fills a major gap in the historiography of Mexico’s telecommunications and early broadcasting industries. Castro raises the bar for studies of media and nation building during Mexico’s tumultuous revolution.” Joselyn Luis Ortiz Garza, author of *Una radio entre dos reinos* (Joselyn Luis Ortiz Garza 2015-09-15) “Castro depicts a significant continuity from Porfirio Díaz to Plutarco Elías 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.” Robert H. Claxton, author of *From Parsifal to Peron: Early Radio in Argentina, 1920–1944* (Robert H. Claxton 2015-09-15)

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