The INS on the Line: 

In *The INS on the Line*, S. Deborah Kang traces the ways in which the INS on the US-Mexico border made and remade the nation’s immigration laws over the course of the twentieth century. Through a nuanced examination of the agency’s legal innovations in the Southwest, Kang demonstrates that the agency defined itself not only as a law enforcement unit but also as a lawmaking body. In this role, the INS responded to the interests of local residents, businesses, politicians, and social organizations on both sides of the US-Mexico border as well as policymakers in Washington, DC. The composite approach to border control developed by the INS continues to inform the daily operations of the nation’s immigration agencies, American immigration law and policy, and conceptions of the US-Mexico border today.

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