ABOUT THE AUTHORS

GENEIVE ABDO has reported from numerous Islamic countries for a decade. She is currently the religion writer of the Chicago Tribune. Before that, she worked for the Boston Globe and was the correspondent in Iran for The Guardian and a frequent contributor to The Economist and the International Herald Tribune. She is the author of No God but God: Egypt and the Triumph of Islam (Oxford University Press, 2000) and most recently, with Jonathan Lyons, of Answering Only to God: Faith and Freedom in Twenty-First-Century Iran (New York: Henry Holt Company, 2003).


MICHAEL EISENSTADT is a senior fellow at The Washington Institute. He is a specialist in Persian Gulf and Arab-Israeli security affairs and has published on U.S. strategy in the Middle East, regional security, nonconventional weapons proliferation in the Near East and Southwest Asia, and the armed forces of Iraq, Iran, Syria, Israel, and the Palestinian Authority. His recent publications include U.S. Policy in Post-Saddam Iraq: Lessons from the British Experience, 1914-1948, co-edited with Eric Mathewson (The Washington Institute, 2003), The Last Arab-Israeli Battlefield? Implications of an Israeli Withdrawal
from Lebanon, co-edited with Patrick Clawson (The Washington Institute, 2000). Mr. Eisenstadt is a reserve officer in the U.S. Army. He served in 1991 in Operation Provide Comfort, and more recently at the United States Central Command (USCENTCOM), on the Joint Staff, and in the Office of the Secretary of Defense during Operation ENDURING FREEDOM and Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

VICTOR GILINSKY is an independent energy consultant and former Nuclear Regulatory Commissioner under Presidents Ford, Carter, and Reagan. He has been active on proliferation issues for many years, going back to his early work at RAND in Santa Monica, California. In 1971 he moved to the Atomic Energy Commission in Washington, DC, where he was Assistant Director for Policy and Program Review. From 1973 to 1975, he was head of the RAND Physical Sciences Department. From 1975 to 1984, he served on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, having been appointed by President Gerald Ford and reappointed by President Jimmy Carter. During his NRC tenure, Dr. Gilinsky was heavily involved in nuclear-export issues. In 1982 he received Caltech’s Distinguished Alumnus Award. He has a Ph.D. in physics from the California Institute of Technology.

GEOFFREY KEMP is the Director of Regional Strategic Programs at the Nixon Center. He served in the White House during the first Reagan administration and was Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs and Senior Director for Near East and South Asian Affairs on the National Security Council Staff. Prior to his current position, Dr. Kemp was a Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace where he was Director of the Middle East Arms Control Project. In the 1970s he worked in the Defense Department in the Policy Planning and Program Analysis and Evaluation Offices and made major contributions to studies on U.S. security policy and options for Southwest Asia. In 1976, while working for the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, Dr. Kemp prepared a widely publicized report on U.S. Military Sales to Iran. His most recent publication is “Stopping the Iranian Bomb” which appeared in the Summer 2003 edition of The National Interest. Dr.
Kemp received his Ph.D. in political science at M.I.T., and his M.A. and B.A. degrees from Oxford University.

ABBAS WILLIAM SAMII is the senior regional analyst for Southwest Asia at Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, where he prepares the weekly Iran Report, examining politics, terrorism, military affairs, economics, and social developments. He also covers Iraq and Afghanistan. Dr. Samii’s publications include “The Security Relationship Between Lebanon And Pre-Revolutionary Iran,” in Distant Relations: Iran and Lebanon in the Last 500 Years, Houchang Chehabi and Hassan Mniemnieh, eds. (I. B. Tauris, 2003), and “The Internal Struggle Over Iran’s Future,” in The Region at the Center of the World: Crises and Quandaries in the Contemporary Persian Gulf, Barry Rubin, ed. (London: Frank Cass, 2002). His work has appeared in Middle East Journal, Middle East Policy, The Weekly Standard, and Wall Street Journal Europe. Dr. Samii received his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge and was a Fulbright Scholar.

S. ROB SOBHANI is the President of Caspian Energy Consulting. He consults with various agencies of the U.S. Government and members of the U.S. Congress on American foreign policy as well as with private organizations on developing and implementing strategies for development in the Middle East and Caspian Sea region. He serves as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University. Dr. Sobhani has previously worked for the U.S. Agency for International Development and for former Congresswoman Connie Morella (R-MD). He is a regular contributor to national print media on U.S. domestic and foreign policy issues, and a frequent commentator on U.S. and international television and radio networks. Dr. Sobhani received his Ph.D. in political economy from Georgetown University.

HENRY SOKOLSKI is the Executive Director of the Nonproliferation Policy Education Center, a Washington-based nonprofit organization founded in 1994 to promote a better understanding of strategic weapons proliferation issues for academics, policy makers, and the media. He served from 1989 to 1993 as Deputy for Nonproliferation Policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense and earlier in the
Office of Net Assessment and as a legislative military aide in the U.S. Senate. Mr. Sokolski has authored and edited a number of works on proliferation related issues including, *Best of Intentions: America’s Campaign Against Strategic Weapons Proliferation* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 2001).