

Envisioning the Arab Future

Decades before 9/11 and the “Arab Spring,” U.S. and Arab elites contended over the future of the Middle East. Through unprecedented research in Arabic and English, *Envisioning the Arab Future* details how Americans and Arabs – nationalists, Islamists, and communists – disputed the meaning of modernization within a shared set of Cold War–era concepts. Faith in linear progress, the idea that society functioned as a “system,” and a fascination with speed united officials and intellectuals who were otherwise divided by language and politics. This book assesses the regional implications of U.S. power while examining a range of topics that transcends the Arab–Israeli conflict, including travel, communities, gender, oil, agriculture, Iraqi nationalism, Nasser’s Arab Socialism, and hijackings in both the United States and the Middle East. By uncovering a shared history of modernization between Arabs and Americans, *Envisioning the Arab Future* challenges assumptions about a “clash of civilizations” and profoundly reinterprets the antecedents of today’s crises.

Nathan J. Citino is an Associate Professor of History at Rice University.

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Envisioning the Arab Future

Modernization in U.S.–Arab Relations, 1945–1967

NATHAN J. CITINO

Rice University



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For Sharon

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For there's no such thing as the present: there is only a past, and a future at its beck and call. In our subconscious minds we are forever constructing our futures.

– Ahmet Hamdi Tanpinar, *The Time Regulation Institute*

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> x
<i>List of Maps</i>	xi
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xiii
<i>Note on Transliteration and Translation</i>	xv
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xvii
Introduction: The “History of the Future”	i
1 The Age of Speed	15
2 Imperial Legacies	56
3 City of the Future	97
4 Yeoman Farmers	142
5 The People’s Court	177
6 The “New Men”	212
7 Changing Course	251
Conclusion: A Better Future	286
<i>Bibliography</i>	291
<i>Index</i>	317

Figures

1.1	<i>Ruz al-Yusuf</i> , December 10, 1947	<i>page</i> 36
1.2	<i>Ruz al-Yusuf</i> , September 7, 1944	49
1.3	<i>Qarandal</i> , April 9, 1952	51
1.4	King Husayn	54
3.1	Hassan Fathy at New Gournā	130
4.1	The East Ghor Canal, 1965	173
5.1	The People's Court	186
6.1	William R. Polk, early 1960s	222
7.1	Yuri Gagarin in the "People's Court" transcript	260
7.2	The American "system" in Asia	261
7.3	<i>Al-Da'wa</i> , September 21, 1954	262
7.4	Leila Khaled	269

Maps

- | | | |
|---|--|-------------------|
| 1 | The Middle East prior to 1967 | <i>page</i> xviii |
| 2 | The East Ghor Canal Irrigation Project | 155 |

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Note on Transliteration and Translation

Arabic titles and names are spelled according to a simplified version of the transliteration system used by the *International Journal of Middle East Studies*. Familiar names such as “Nasser” appear in their commonly used spellings. All translations from Arabic are the author’s unless otherwise indicated.

Abbreviations

ADP	Allen Dulles Papers
ASIIA	Records of the Adlai Stevenson Institute of International Affairs
BNA	British National Archives
CBP	Chester Bowles Papers
CFR	Records of the Council on Foreign Relations
CHMP	Charles Habib Malik Papers
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
DDEL	Dwight D. Eisenhower Library
DDRS	Declassified Documents Reference System
DHP	Donald Hawley Papers
EDP	Everette DeGolyer Sr. Papers
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FRUS	<i>Foreign Relations of the United States</i>
HFA	Hassan Fathy Archive
HIA	Hoover Institution Archives
HSTL	Harry S. Truman Library
JFKL	John F. Kennedy Library
JMD	John Marshall Diary
LBJL	Lyndon B. Johnson Library
MBP	Max Ball Papers
MMAUK	<i>Muhakamat al-Mahkamah al-‘Askariyah al-‘Ulya al-Khassah</i>
NARA	National Archives and Records Administration
NSF	National Security File
NYT	<i>New York Times</i>
RFC	Rockefeller Foundation Collection
RG	Record Group
SML	Seeley G. Mudd Library
WEM	William E. Mulligan Papers
WEP	William Eddy Papers
WLP	Walter Levy Papers

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MAP I. The Middle East prior to 1967.