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Cohen, Michael J. *Britain's Hegemony in Palestine and the Middle East 1917-56: Changing Strategic Imperatives*. London: Vallentine Mitchell, 2017. 330 pp. \$84.95. (9781910383216).

This book consists of fourteen essays (three of which have never been published before) discussing various discrete topics concerning the British presence in the Middle East from the Balfour Declaration to the Suez War. The author is an emeritus professor of history at Bar-Ilan University. One recurring theme is that Britain undertook the League of Nations' mandate for Palestine because it was considered strategically important to Britain's empire and that their actions were influenced by a fear both of the perceived influence of American Jews over the U.S. government and a reduction of Zionist financing of Mandatory Palestine. Essays on Harry Truman and Winston Churchill argue that they were not the friends of Zionism some maintain. There is another on the 1930 British government white paper which, if implemented, would have severely damaged the Zionist project. A pair of essays is devoted to Haj Amin al Husayni, the fiercely anti-Zionist Mufti of Jerusalem. This is a fitting follow up to Dr. Cohen's well regarded 2014 tome *Britain's Moment in Palestine: Retrospect and Perspectives, 1917-48*.

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