The Significance of the Middle East During and After World War II
*Iraq, Then as Now, Played a Key Role*


Created by the newly formed American Christian Palestine Committee to clarify the part played by the Arab lands in the Second World War. The introduction, written by Chairman Dean Alfange, reiterates the fact that since appeasement failed miserably at Munich it should not even be considered in dealing with current Arab leaders. "This book aims to avoid just such a case of appeasement in the Middle East. The material presented here...demonstrates how in the days when Hitler's supremacy seemed certain, Britain was deserted and betrayed in a most strategic part of the world by peoples whose friendship she had strained herself to win."

A comprehensive, chronological history of the (up until then) modern Middle East is included along with reproductions of significant documents, maps, and relevant news clippings. Particularly fascinating considering the events of today is a map showing what might have happened if Iraq had come under the control of the Axis powers: "Germany would have controlled the oil of Iraq and Iran; German and Japanese forces would have attempted a junction somewhere in Asia; The British Empire would have been split in two; and Stalingrad would have been Axis victories."

The American Christian Palestine Committee was formed in 1946 as a merging of the American Palestine Committee (1932) and the Christian Council of Palestine (1942). Its members included prominent public figures, statesmen and officials who are listed by name on the inside cover. They include, among many others, Sen. Everett M. Dickson and Congressman Claude Pepper.