



Middle East Institute
Columbia University

Dying To Forget: The Foundations Of U.S. Foreign Policy In The Middle East, 1945-1949

IRENE GENDZIER

**Professor, Political Science
Boston University**



An examination of US public archives....

Publicly accessible US archives remain among the most underexamined sources for the study of US policy in the Middle East. This applies to US policy towards Israel and Palestine. Yet an examination of these sources challenges the prevailing views about the origins and nature of US policy in the critical period of the transformation of Palestine. It demonstrates the extent and nature of US involvement, and specifically, the conditions leading the State and Defense Department officials who had previously opposed partition and the creation of Israel, to conclude in the summer of 1948 that the emergence of the new state could play a significant role in the protection and projection of US regional interests.

Irene Gendzier is Professor in the Dept of Political Science at Boston University. She has written on subjects of US foreign policy in the Middle East and problems of development. She is co-editor, along with Richard Falk and Robert J Lifton, of *Crimes of War: Iraq* (Nation Books, 2006); *Notes From the Minefield: United States Intervention in Lebanon and the Middle East, 1945-1958* (Columbia University Press, 1997; 2006); she is author of, "The Risk of Knowing," that is part of the forthcoming anthology edited by E. Carvalho and D. Downing, *Academic Freedom in the Post 9/11 Era* (Palgrave, Macmillan 2010); as well as "Does Knowing Matter," in the law journal, *Harvard Unbound*, 2008 as well as numerous other books and essays.

Monday, Nov 22 ~ 12:30-2:00 ~ 207 Knox Hall