CONTENTS

PREFACE xi

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS xvii

CHAPTER 1
Introduction: An Eight-Hundred-Pound Gorilla 1

part one. the cold war era

CHAPTER 2
An Alliance of Necessity: The Secret Friendship of the Shah 19

CHAPTER 3
Rise of Israel, Rise of Iran 29

CHAPTER 4
Iran’s Quest for Supremacy 39

CHAPTER 5
Sealing Demise in the Moment of Triumph 49

CHAPTER 6
Megalomania 61

CHAPTER 7
The Rise of Begin and the Israeli Right 68

CHAPTER 8
Enter the Sign of God 79