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Title: Avi Shlaim Collection

Name of creator: Shlaim, Avi (b. 1945) Political scientist and historian

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Extent: 2 boxes

Biographical history: Avi Shlaim was born in Baghdad on 31 October 1945 and grew up in Israel where he did his national service in 1964-1966. He read History at Jesus College, Cambridge, 1966-1969 and completed the M.Sc. (Econ.) in International Relations at the London School of Economics, 1969-1970. He was a Lecturer and the Reader in Politics at the University of Reading from 1970 to 1987 when he moved to Oxford. Avi Shlaim is a Fellow of St Antony's College and a Professor of International Relations at the University of Oxford. He was the Alastair Buchan Reader in International Relations from 1987 to 1996. He was the Director of Graduate Studies in International Relations in 1993-1995 and 1998-2001. In 1995-1997 he held a British Academy Research Readership during which time he worked full time on the book *The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World*.

Avi Shlaim is based at the Middle East Centre at St Antony's College and his main research interest is the Arab-Israeli conflict. He is author of *British Foreign Secretaries since 1945* (joint author, 1977); *The United States and the Berlin Blockade, 1948-49: A Study in Crisis Decision Making* (1983); *Collusion across the Jordan: King Abdullah, the Zionist Movement, and the Partition of Palestine* (1988); *The Politics of Partition* (1990 and 1998); and *The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World* (2000). He is co-editor of *The Cold War and the Middle East* (1997); and of *The War for Palestine: Rewriting the History of 1948* (2001).

Professor Shlaim is a frequent contributor to the newspaper and commentator on radio and television on Middle Eastern affairs.

Scope and content: Unedited typescript of the book *The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World* published by W.W. Norton in the US and by Penguin Books in the UK. The unedited transcript is about 30,000 words longer than the published version. The section 'Israel's International Orientation' in chapter 2, pp74-85 was not included in the published

version and the conclusion was rewritten, shortened and renamed Epilogue. The cuts were made by Avi Shlaim or were approved cuts suggested by the editor.

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Finding aids: In Guide; handlist

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