

**The Nixon Reconfiguration:  
American Foreign Policy in the Middle East, 1969-1974**  
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Upon inauguration, President Richard M. Nixon began to make various alterations to standard American Foreign Policy in the Middle East. In particular his administration took steps toward arming Iran, and after some deliberation Israel as well. The purpose in doing so was to develop indirect channels for American influence in the region without straining the efforts in Vietnam and elsewhere. The result of this shift in policy created a new paradigm in which proceeding presidents would carry out Nixon administration strategies as a tool to keep American interests, as well as fiscal security afloat. For the purposes of this paper I will focus on the internal dialogue of the Nixon administration afforded to me by the Nixon Presidential Library as well as a number of secondary sources which appreciate the relevance of the Nixon administration in trend-setting Middle Eastern diplomatic efforts.