Foundation for Iranian Studies Program of Oral History

AZIMI, GENERAL REZA

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

General Reza 'Azimi was born in Tehran during the Qajar period. As a youth he enrolled at the military high school. Subsequently, he joined the Iranian armed forces. During the Reza Shah period he served in a number of regiments in various parts of Iran. He rose in the ranks to that of a four-star general, and served as Iran's Minister of War for most of Amir 'Abbas Hoveyda's tenure as Prime Minister, and until 1979. He was one of the most senior of Iran's officers, and one of the few who joined the armed forces during the early years of Reza Shah's rule. His recollections shed much light on the history of Iran's military forces, and their working during the Pahlavi period.

INTERVIEWEE: GENERAL REZA AZIMI

INTERVIEWER: FARROKH GHAFFARI

PARIS, JUNE 1990

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PREFACE

This manuscript is the product of a series of tape-recorded interviews conducted for the Oral History Program of Foundation for Iranian Studies by Farrokh Ghaffari with General Reza Azimi in Paris, France, in June 1990.

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