

ARAB ISRAELI CONFLICTS 1948 - 73

United Nations recommends the partition of Palestine into two separate states:
Jewish & Arab (1947)

Arabs asked “why give up half the land we already own”

KEY: the holy city of Jerusalem would be accessible to both states.
- U.N. would hold the city in trust.

THE ARAB LEAGUE 1945

- Seven Arab countries join together to resist the Spread of Zionism
(Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Yemen)

1947 The U.N. passes a resolution (under heavy pressure from the U.S. and Jewish lobby groups) to create the State of Israel.

1948: The British pull out of the Middle East as they can no longer afford to station troops in the area. The British are the only effective force keeping the peace this creates a vacuum of power.

***** At this point rhetoric from both sides makes it difficult to judge who acted first.**

1948 Ben Gurion proclaims the state of Israel (on the eve of the expiration of the British Mandate)

1948 Arab –Israel war (War of Israel Independence)

- Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Iraq vs. Israel in the Arab- Israeli war also known as the Israeli war of independence. Israel, while outnumbered is fighting for a National cause; The Israeli army secures the Borders of Israel.

The Arabs hold control of the West Bank of the River Jordan and the Gaza strip (today's Palestine)

The 1949 war created 1,000,000 Palestinian refugees. These people lost their land, but have not given up their claim.

The neighboring state tolerated their fellow Palestinian – Arabs but as the Palestinian's began terrorist activity against Israel the host countries (Syria, Lebanon) soon kick the Palestinians out under Israeli retaliations.

Suez War 1956

- ***** KEY U.S.A. & the U.S.S.R. enter the region
- Think Eisenhower Doctrine

Israel gains the Gaza strip (more Palestinian territory)

U.N. Peace Keepers enter the area, but are later asked to leave by Arab Egypt

- Palestinians in frustration create the Palestinian Liberation Organization P.L.O & **the El Fatah**. The Palestinians now are fighting a nationalistic cause and for their **God**.

The 6 – day war June 1967

- Gamal Nasser asks the U.N. peacekeepers to leave the Suez Canal zone.
- Upset with the increased Jewish presence in the Middle East a coalition of Arab (Muslim) states mobilize their troops, Egypt, Jordan & Syria
- Israel attacks in a “preemptive strike” catching most of the Arab air force on the ground destroying it.
- Israel easily beats the Arabs taking more Palestinian territory: West Bank & the Golan Heights.
- U.S.S.R begins to mobilize their troops to support Egypt.

Outcome of the War:

- U.S.A. becomes close allies with Israel
- Palestinians give up on trying to Kick out Israel and change demand to having a homeland rather than all of traditional Palestine.
- Israel solidifies its territory and begins to settle the new territories (also called the occupied territories).

The Yom Kippur War: 1973

Yom Kippur is a Jewish Holiday

Anwar Sadat the new prime minister of Egypt.

Syria, Egypt, Iraq attack Israel and appear to be on their way to crushing Israel

U.S.A. aid Israel and help stop the Arab Advances

Outcomes of the Yom Kippur War:

THE CREATION OF O.P.E.C.

- Organization of Oil Exporting Countries
- The Arabs are in no position to fight Israel and the US so they cut oil production thus squeezing the US economy.
- Embargo last 5 months, oil price rise for two years, sparking the energy crisis of the 1970’s in America
- The instability in the Mid-East gave the U.S.A. reason to get politically involved in the region.
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PEACE IN THE MID-EAST?

CAMP DAVID ACCORDS

Anwar Sadat (Egypt) realizes that an Israeli state backed by the U.S. could not be defeated so he opens negotiations (against the advice of the other Arab states)

- 1977 Sadat goes to Israel – the first Arab leader to do so.

- 1979 President Jimmy Carter & Secretary of State Henry Kissinger broker the Camp David Peace Accords with Sadat & Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin
 - o Israel and Egypt agree not to make war
 - o Issue of Palestinian refugees is addressed.
 - o Egypt is expelled from OPEC
 - o Sadat is assassinated by his own honor guard
 - o Begin is shot but not killed by a Israel nationalist



THE 1980's

Israel Invade Lebanon is an effort to stop PLO attacks. The U.S. lead by Ronald Regan looks to broker a peace deal, but is seen a pro-Israeli.

Ronald Reagan was the first President to see Israel as a valuable ally in the Cold War. Reagan once wrote:

- *Only by full appreciation of the critical role the State of Israel plays in our strategic calculus can we build the foundation for thwarting Moscow's designs on territories and resources vital to our security and our national well-being.*
- Reagan government was beginning to look to the east for secure oil supplies

The Intifada 1987 -93: The rising

Palestinian terrorists increase attacks on military and civilian targets within Israel lead by Hamas suicide bomber. Israel steps up 'security measures' targeting Hamas and the families of the suicide bombers.

1990's

With the direct involvement of the US military in the Mid-East in Operation Desert storm Israel, as an US ally came under direct fire from Iraq. The US patriot missiles help to defend Israel.

* Note this application of the Eisenhower doctrine took place WITHOUT the threat of USSR retaliation (the wall had fallen).

2000's

The Second Intifada Begins with renewed attacks on Israel.

Israel begins to pull its settlers out of the occupied zones (often by force)

Israel starts construction of a defensive wall along the West Bank. Its goal to limit access to Israel and stop Hamas terrorist. The wall reduces terrorist attacks but is decried as a step into Apartheid.