VILAYET OF ALEPPO

SANJAK OF ALEPPO

ALEPPO

SANJAK OF HAMA

HAMA

SYRIA

SANJAK OF DAMASCUS

SANJAK OF NADLUS

SANJAK OF HAUERAN

INDEPENDENT SANJAK OF JERUSALEM

SANJAK OF MAYYAN

EGYPT

HEJAZ

PRE-WORLD WAR I TURKISH ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICTS IN PALESTINE AND SYRIA
mandate, Arab objections to
unwarranted, but given the fact
that the Peel Report believed
of Palestine into separate
would remain as a mandatory
the Peel Commission awarded
t of Palestine, comprising the
Plain (Esdraelon), south of
ese border to a point south
of were granted the remainder
slightly below Nazareth,
Palestine's being united with
under British mandatory

t would come
the most fertile area had been
ile would have to be evacuated.
number of Arabs, whereas
ion. Neighboring Arab govern-
condemning the proposals, and
ber 1937 to call for united Arab
lish a state in Palestine. Palestine
Palestinian Arab, issue.
al was mixed, if finally cautiously
n-Gurion and Weizmann found
ion in principle but demanding
ue was one of sovereignty. They
limited immigration, a crucial
beginning to flee anti-Semitism
iginal applicability of the Zionist
ld Jewry, it now seemed to be
ion did not feel they would be
sidered temporary boundaries,
ember of Parliament favorable
will treat it merely as a stepping-
nounced at the World
re could be no question... of
was arguable that the ultimate
ging the Peel proposals.160 The

Map 5. Peel Commission Partition Plan, 1937
In Palestine itself the Jews were still a minority - estimated 1.269 million Arabs in Palestine against 1.054 million Jews. Jews now owned approximately 3.1% of the cultivable land and slightly over 6% of all land. The rigidity of the mufti, given such circumstances, was unlikely to agree to partition. They were a sizable majority in their homeland. The British might mitigate their assumption that a Jewish state would advance the cause of the Jewish people. However, Zionists believed more firmly than ever that the need for immigrants to the refugee problem in Europe and the need to bolster Jewish settlement would advance. Although most Western leaders did not support the idea of a Jewish state, the General Assembly of the United Nations (UN) recommended action to the General Assembly, which passed a resolution recognizing the right of the Jewish people to establish a national home in Palestine. The British had stepped up their efforts to organize and armed resistance to the British occupation in Palestine. The Irgun and Lehi leaders considered the British handling of a refugee ship, the " Exodus 1947," a violation of international law.

Map 6. PATTERN OF JEWISH LAND HOLDINGS AS OF 1945 (Compare with Maps 5 and 7)
The End of the Mandate and the Creation of Israel

by the end of 1948 the British had withdrawn from the area, leaving the Jews free to establish the State of Israel. The United Nations Partition Plan of 1947 was implemented, dividing the land into two parts: a Jewish state in the western part and an Arab state in the eastern part. However, this division was not accepted by the Arab states, who launched a series of attacks on the Jewish settlements and the newly established state of Israel. The conflict between the Jews and the Arabs escalated into a full-scale war, which lasted from 1948 to 1949.

Throughout this period, tensions in the region increased. The Jewish and Arab populations were often at odds, with each side seeking to gain as much territory as possible. The U.N. mediator, Count Folke Bernadotte, attempted to mediate the conflict, but his efforts were met with resistance from both sides. Bernadotte's proposals were rejected by both the Jews and the Arabs, who were not willing to compromise.

Unacceptable also was his idea that the Jews should have equal rights and opportunities in the Arab state, which was seen as a threat to Arab identity. Bernadotte's formulations, accepted by both sides in principle, were not acceptable in practice. The Jews were not willing to accept the partition of the land, while the Arabs were not willing to accept the idea of a Jewish state.

For the Palestinian Arabs the following independence as much as possible. The Arab states the Israelis embarked on the territories they took over and for territory; between 400,000 and 450,000 approximately 860,000 Arabs who had lived in Israel, 133,000 remained. Of the remainder, controlled by Jordan, and the remainder were dispersed into Lebanon and Iraq taking lesser numbers.

Map 5.2 The 1948 War and Israeli Expansion

These maps show the pattern of Arab attack and expansion into areas not awarded by the plan. The Arab invasion enabled Israel to halt and and Jordan's Arab Legion; the Arab Legion launched a second stage to consolidate its position area of the Old City, and a reduced area of Palestine known as the West Bank, until the 1967 War. The maps were edited by Sydney Neutron Fisher and William R. McGraw-Hill Companies. Reprinted by permission.
The End of the Mandate and the Birth of the State

Figure 5.4 Palestinian Peasants Fleeing Israel, October 1948

The hostilities following the U.N. partition decree scattered the Palestinian community. Hundreds of thousands were driven out of what had been Palestine to become the refugees pictured here, possibly fleeing the Beersheba taking the Negev (see Map 5.2).

The question became one of the refugees, in the 1960s when a Palestinian national question was taken up by Arab state rivalries. The establishment of the state of all of Palestine, situated in Gaza, it as a means of denying him autonomy. In 1948 he proclaimed the unity of Arab leader, Raghib al-Nashashibi as his first minister.

Map 5.3 The State of Israel, 1949–1967

This map clarifies the resolution of the conflict. The fragility of the borders between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, until the Israeli-Egyptian and Israeli-Syrian borders, would be the scenes of severe clashes as they straddle Lake Tiberias or lay beneath the Golan Heights.
many forcibly evicted from their homes and lanes, fearing that they would not return. Given the overreaction, the report to the Israeli people that ‘Jews are prepared to return to the conditional security of their own land, alone for our existence and our survival, and doing for ourselves what the gentiles have done; and how to guarantee our future in a future unknown, as we did in the days of our wandering before.’ With this and other prewar assurances that it would be a victory run by euphoria and a sense of Jewish righteousness, it seemed to threaten it, but also by an overestimation of Israeli manpower, hoped to expand Israel’s borders. The US, in its aid to the PLO, aimed at self-inflation, provided justification for the Israeli attack.

Still, this left the United States and its allies, particularly Israel, with the promise to return conquests to the Arab states that the US, as stated by Eshkol, or in Acheson’s words, said that “We had changed our minds, and therefore suggested that he not insist on the recognition of the Jewish State. His way out of the impasse was to register a protest against the Jews. Generally speaking it was a protest that was turned to a political argument around a lot of anti-Vietnam, anti-war, anti-imperialism campaign. They wanted an opportunity to your advantage.

Yet the Vietnam preoccupation seems to have influenced the way how all parties would deal with the situation. It seemed that the US would try to assure both sides of this equation that excessive pressure on Israel because of the war. On its part, Israel was determined to secure the Golan Heights, whose boundaries, still undefined, were anywhere between 5,000 to 10,000 meters wide. As for the Arab states, they were determined to try to recover the Golan Heights and to ensure that their initial hypothesis of a 200,000-man army would be a significant victory. The equation would assume far greater

The significance of the 1967 War was not just its creation of new territorial frontiers. It also marked a turning point in the regional power structure, as Israel emerged as a major regional power and the United States became an even more influential player in the Middle East. It also showed the weakness of the Arab states and their inability to stand up to Israel's military and political strength. The war had profound implications for the future of the region, as it set the stage for the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine and the ongoing efforts to establish a lasting peace in the region.

MAP 7.2 Territory Acquired by Israel During the 1967 War: Israel occupied the Sinai Peninsula, the West Bank, and the Golan Heights during the 1967 War. It would return the Sinai to Egypt in 1982, lose much of the West Bank and all of the Golan Heights to Syria, and annex East Jerusalem sporadically; negotiations with Syria, now underway, could result in the return of some or all of Syria's pre-1967 Golan Heights. Map 11.1.
no proposals of his own. Whether or not he was actually responsible for the subsequent outbreak of violence remains subject to debate. But there can be little doubt that he fueled the fighting instead of trying to stop it. State-run Palestinian media exhorted crowds to participate, and daily coordinating meetings took place between Arafat's Fatah
choke the economy with checkpoints, like one in Barda, (above); and destroy the Bank's territorial continuum.

One potential consequence of the wall: It could fragment the Palestinian territories so much that their aspirations for statehood may stall. Even at this early stage of building, an estimated 30 percent of them say that, if they can't achieve independence, the wall will make them an integral part of Israel, a voting part. Because Palestinians are expected to outnumber Israelis in less than twenty years, this means the Jewish state could one day vanish in a hail of ballots. —Alan J.

Other Beefed-up Borders

India–Pakistan India has beefed up a 1,800-mile-long wall to keep out Pakistani militaries.

Kuwait–Iraq Kuwait has built 160 miles of border fences and 700 miles of border fences and 700

North Korea–South Korea North Korea has beefed up its 200-mile-long border fences and 2.5-mile-by-1.48-mile Demilitarized Zone separating the country.

United States–Mexico Mexico has built 60 miles of fence along its border with the U.S. to keep out sick cattle from Africa. Angola–Zambia Zambia is building a 620-mile border fence to keep out sick cattle from Angola.

Cyprus A 112-mile fence separates the Turkish from the Greek side.

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