A Guide to the Microfilm Edition of
Confidential
U.S. State Department
Central Files

PALESTINE
United Nations Activities, 1945–1949

UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS OF AMERICA
A Guide to the Microfilm Edition of

Confidential
U.S. State Department
Central Files

PALESTINE
United Nations Activities,
1945–1949

Decimal Numbers
501.BB Palestine and 501.MA Palestine

Edited by
Paul L. Kesaris

Guide compiled by
Nanette Dobrosky

A microfilm project of
UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS OF AMERICA
An Imprint of CIS
44 North Market Street • Frederick, MD 21701
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Declassification Notice for Users of This Publication</td>
<td>iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note on Sources</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editorial Note</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization of the Department of State's Decimal Filing System</td>
<td>viii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synopsis</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronology of Major Events in Palestine, 1945–1949</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reel Index</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reels 1–13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reel 14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Refugee Organization—Palestine</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DECLASSIFICATION NOTICE FOR USERS OF THIS PUBLICATION

Documents in this microfilm publication were declassified by appropriate authorities of the Federal Government in accordance with the provisions of current Executive orders. Copies of documents bearing national security classification markings which are reproduced from this publication should be labeled as follows:

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652 or E.O. 12356
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

Documents determined to contain still sensitive national security classified information were withdrawn prior to the time of filming. Any withdrawn document is briefly described on a "Withdrawal Notice" filed and filmed in its place. Some withdrawn documents may have been reviewed again, declassified and released to the public subsequent to the preparation of this publication. Inquiries about such releases should be addressed to:

Diplomatic Branch
Civil Archives Division
National Archives and Records Administration
Washington, DC 20408

TRUDY HUSKAMP PETERSON
Acting Assistant Archivist
for the National Archives
INTRODUCTION

The documents in this microfilm collection have been obtained by University Publications of America (UPA) from the Central Files of the General Records of the Department of State, Record Group 59. These records are under the jurisdiction of the Legislative and Diplomatic Branch of the Civil Archives, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C., where they are housed. UPA has published these records in cooperation with the National Archives.

The Central Files of the General Records of the Department of State contain the bulk of the records accessed in Record Group 59—some 82 percent of this record group according to a National Archives estimate. The Central Files contain all instructions sent to and all correspondence received from diplomatic posts abroad by the Department of State. In addition, most of the State Department’s internal documentation, as well as correspondence between the Department and other federal departments and agencies, Congress, and private individuals and organizations, are included in the Central Files.

The records filmed from the Central Files for this collection are from the “International Conferences, Multilateral Treaties, Disarmament, League of Nations, United Nations, and Interparliamentary Union” subject classification of the Central Files. They include telegrams, airgrams, instructions, inquiries, studies, memoranda, situation reports, translations, special reports, plans, and official and unofficial correspondence.

These documents illuminate the UN’s involvement in Palestine from 1945 to 1949. Because of the broad scope of these records, they both supplement and complement the coverage offered by the Department of State’s own Foreign Relations of the United States series.

This collection has been microfilmed directly from the records held at the National Archives, Washington, D.C. As such, the records reproduced herein represent the best available copies. UPA is proud to make this collection available for your research.

To provide background information on the material covered in this collection, a chronology of events in Palestine for the years 1945–1949 has been included.
NOTE ON SOURCES

The documents in this publication are from Record Group 59, Records of the Department of State, Central Files: Palestine: United Nations Activities, 1945–1949. The decimal numbers microfilmed include 501.BB and 501.MA. These documents can be found at the National Archives, Washington, D.C.

EDITORIAL NOTE

University Publications of America (UPA) has microfilmed these files in their entirety. Only duplicate copies of documents have been excluded from this micropublication. UPA has filmed these documents as they are filed at the National Archives.
From 1910 to 1963 the Department of State used a decimal classification system to organize its Central Files. This system assembled and arranged individual documents according to their subject with each subject having been assigned a specific decimal code.

The decimal system from 1930 to 1949 consists of nine primary classifications numbered 0 through 8, each covering a broad subject area.

CLASS 0: General. Miscellaneous.

CLASS 1: Administration, U.S. Government, including the Department of State and the Foreign Service.

CLASS 2: Extradition. The negotiation, application, and interpretation of extradition treaties and individual extradition cases.

CLASS 3: Protection of Interests. The protection of private and national interests.

CLASS 4: Claims. The negotiation, application, and interpretation of treaties on claims and individual claims cases.

CLASS 5: International Conferences, Multilateral Treaties, Disarmament, League of Nations, United Nations, and Interparliamentary Union.

CLASS 6: Commerce, Customs Administration, and Trade Agreements.

CLASS 7: Political Relations of States, including diplomatic and consular representation and bilateral treaties, conventions, and agreements.

CLASS 8: Internal Affairs of States.
For this publication, University Publications of America (UPA) has microfilmed the documents contained in CLASS 5. Within this class each subject is defined by a decimal file number. The decimal file number is followed by a slant mark (/). The number after the slant (/) refers to the date on which the document was generated. Documents within each decimal file number are arranged in chronological order. The entire decimal file number is stamped on the right side of the first page of every document.

CLASS 5. Example, 501.BB Palestine/12-149

UN General Assembly                Special Committees and Commissions

501.BB Palestine/12-149 — Document Date

Class of Records----

International Conferences,
Multilateral Treaties, Disarmament,
League of Nations, United Nations,
and Interparliamentary Union

Subject----Special Committee
on Palestine

501.BB Palestine/12-149 indicates a document dated December 1, 1949, relating to the United Nations General Assembly (01), General Assembly Special Committee (BB) in Palestine.
SYNOPSIS

In World War I, the British, with Arab aid, gained control of Palestine. In the Balfour Declaration of 1917, they promised Zionist leaders aid in the establishment of a Jewish "national home" in Palestine, with due regard for the rights of non-Jewish Palestinians. The British also promised Arab leaders to support the creation of independent Arab states. The Arabs believed Palestine to be among these, an intention the British later denied. The League of Nations approved the British mandate in 1922, although the actual administration of the area had begun in 1920.

The struggle by Jews for a Jewish state in Palestine had begun in the late nineteenth century; the militant opposition of the Arabs to such a state and the inability of the British to solve the problem led eventually to a session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in April 1947, which established the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP). In August of that year, UNSCOP reported a plan to divide Palestine into a Jewish state, an Arab state, and a small internationally administered zone that would include Jerusalem. The necessary two-thirds majority of the General Assembly, led by the United States and the USSR, adopted the UNSCOP recommendations on November 29, 1947. Great Britain abstained, and the Arabs left the meeting, asserting their intention to resist.

On May 14, 1948, when the British high commissioner for Palestine departed, the state of Israel was proclaimed at Tel Aviv. On the same day, it received the de facto recognition of the United States and was invaded by the regular armies of the Arab states of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Egypt, and Iraq. The Jews were prepared, however, and the flight of most Palestinian Arabs from Jewish territory facilitated defense. The next day, the British control of Palestine officially ended.

A four-week truce went into effect June 11, but fighting resumed on July 9. A second cease-fire was concluded on July 18 on order of the UN Security Council. Not until January 1949 were armistice agreements reached.

Israel had quickly developed its own governmental structure. A state council with Chaim Weizmann as president and David Ben-Gurion as prime minister functioned in Tel Aviv as a result of the January 1949 elections. The government received recognition from Great Britain and de jure recognition
from the United States. On May 11, Israel was admitted to the United Nations. The Israeli claim to Jerusalem was strengthened by the removal of the capital to that city on December 14, 1949.

The chronology of major events in Palestine from 1945 through 1949 that follows reflects the materials the researcher will find in this microfilm publication. An index to the microfilm, broken down by month, starts on page 83, and permits the user access not only to the documents highlighted in the chronology, but also to many others that enhance the depth and scope of this collection.

Abbreviations included in this guide are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RAF</td>
<td>Royal Air Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNRPR</td>
<td>United Nations Relief for Palestine Refugees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| UNRRA        | United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administra
tion |
| UNSCOP       | United Nations Special Committee on Palestine    |
| USAF         | United States Air Force                          |
CHRONOLOGY OF
MAJOR EVENTS IN PALESTINE
1945–1949

1945
January 10. Two Jews from Tel Aviv and Haifa, both cities in Palestine, go on trial for premeditated murder (November 6, 1944) of Lord Moyne, resident British minister in Middle East. Murder inspired by Stern group.
February 14. Arab leaders hold conference to plan federation.
March 21. High commissioner Viscount Gort announces that office of mayor will be filled in rotation by Moslem, Jewish, and Christian councilors.
March 22. Final draft of constitution of Arab League is signed. Representative of Palestinian Arabs cannot sign (Palestine is not a state), but can vote. Assassins of Lord Moyne are hanged.
April 25. San Francisco Conference begins; purpose is to set up United Nations.
May 7. Grand mufti of Jerusalem Haj Amin el Husseini, responsible for Arab terrorist activities, is deported to France.
May 8. Germany surrenders to Allies.
June 18. Jewish Agency applies to Palestine government for allocation of 100,000 immigrants who are Jewish survivors in Europe.
July. In Britain Labour party is in power. Clement R. Attlee becomes prime minister and Ernest Bevin becomes foreign minister.
July 11. Palestinian High Commission announces appointment of five British officials to head Jerusalem’s administration in place of municipal council.
July 15. Foreign Policy Association in Washington, D.C., releases report suggesting internationalization of Palestine as part of long-range program to settle Middle East problems.
July 18. Senator Ralph O. Brewster (Maine) and Congressman Emanuel Celler (New York) send letter to President Truman urging him to insist that Palestine be opened for immigration.
August 1. First worldwide Zionist Conference since 1939 is held. Chaim Weizmann, head of Jewish Agency, asks UN to recognize establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine.
Chronology—1945

August 2. Arab leaders warn British prime minister Clement R. Attlee that any solution to the Palestine problem not acceptable to the Arabs will threaten peace of Palestine.

August 8. Five-point plan for future submitted to worldwide Zionist Conference.

August 13. Worldwide Zionist Congress demands a Jewish state in Palestine and that Palestine be opened to 1,000,000 Jews.

August 16. President Truman calls for free settlement of Palestine by Jews.

August 31. President Truman requests immediate admission of 100,000 Jewish displaced persons from Europe. British say no.

September 4. Jewish Agency has no more Palestinian immigration certificates. Instead of 100,000, British Colonial Office had issued 1,500.

September 20. In a final report William O'Dwyer, executive director of U.S. War Refugee Board, urges government to take all steps to reopen Palestine to Jewish immigrants due to problem of “stateless” Jews.

September 23. British government refers to UN the problem of Palestinian and Jewish immigrants. President Truman supports 100,000 Jews entering Palestine.

September 24. Jewish Agency rejects offer made August 25 by British government to allow 1,500 permits a month for Jewish immigration to Palestine.


President Truman denies that former president Franklin D. Roosevelt made commitment to King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia not to support Jewish claims on Palestine.

September 28. British constable J. Barry shot in Tel Aviv, Palestine.

September 29. Azzam Bey says Arab League opposes Russian or any other trusteeship of Tripolitania since it is an Arab country.

October 3. Iraq warns U.S. that any support to Zionism is an act against Iraq and Arab peoples.

October 6. Jews with survivors of concentration camps march through cities dressed in concentration camp clothing to protest the September meeting of British foreign minister Ernest Bevin and Arab League secretary general Abdul Azzam Bey.

October 10. Armed Jews (Haganah) raid Athlit clearance camp near Haifa, Palestine, injure several guards, and release 208 illegal immigrants. A police party is ambushed and a British constable killed.

October 11. Jewish terrorist force overpowers Jewish guards at Palestinian training depot at Rehovoth and escapes with arms and ammunition.
October 14. Senator Ralph O. Brewster (Maine) says British imperialistic policies are responsible for Arab agitation against Jews in Palestine and British could solve problem.

October 18. Secretary of State James F. Byrnes says U.S. government will not make any decision concerning Palestine without consultation with Jews and Arabs.

President Truman hopes British will admit 100,000 Jews to Palestine.

October 20. Egypt, Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon warn Secretary of State James F. Byrnes that creation of Jewish state in Palestine would lead to war.

October 23. American Zionist Emergency Council protests to Secretary of State James F. Byrnes that Arab states should not be consulted in Palestinian affairs.

Chicago convention of women’s Zionist organization, Hadassah, cables British prime minister Clement R. Attlee and protests the callous treatment of Jews.

October 24. Arabs propose economic sanctions against American oil companies with Middle East concessions.

Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of Zionist Organization of America, calls for British to fulfill Balfour Declaration and abrogate the 1939 White Paper (admission of 15,000 Jews a year into Palestine); he asks President Truman to keep insisting on admission of 100,000 Jews into Palestine per year.

Senator Ralph O. Brewster (Maine) urges U.S. support of Jewish Palestine and calls Arab threats a myth.

UN comes into existence.

October 31. First countrywide sabotage action. Railway bridges, police patrol ships in Jaffa and Haifa, both in Palestine, and oil refineries in Haifa are blown up. Palestinian transportation system is paralyzed. British blame Jewish extremists.

November 1. Arabs charge that Zionists are trying to force British government to act in their favor.

Delegates to International Christian Conference urge that Palestine be opened to Jewish immigration.

November 2. Arab nationalists call for one-day general strike to protest against Zionism and Balfour Declaration. In many Egyptian cities Jewish stores are attacked, synagogues are burned, and Jewish families are stoned.

Colonial Secretary George H. Hall announces resignation of Field Marshal Viscount Gort as high commissioner for Palestine and Transjordan and warns that violence in Palestine jeopardizes Zionist cause.


World Youth Congress hears demands that Palestine be opened to Jews.
November 4. Major General C.F. Loewen, British commander of northern Palestine, orders 5:30 P.M. to 5:30 A.M. curfew for coastal area around Haifa.

Six Jews attempt to raid British navy depot at Athlit, Palestine.

Demonstrations continue in Cairo, Egypt. Both Jewish and non-Jewish shops are attacked; police break up attacks.

November 6. One thousand British troops debark at Haifa, Palestine, from Ascania Lake, Turkey. Troops in Palestine now total 50,000.

November 7. More than 100 Jews are slain in Arab riots in Tripoli and Zawia, Libya; and Zliten and Zanzur, Tripolitania. British troops fire on mob. Arab leaders express regrets.

In Haifa, Palestine, 789 Jewish refugees land.

U.S. secretary of the treasury Henry Morgenthau says immediate admission of 100,000 stateless Jews into Palestine is their only chance for survival.

November 8. General Sir Alan Gordon Cunningham is appointed high commissioner for Palestine and Transjordan.

Dr. Izzat George Tannous, head of Arab Office in London, says Truman recommendation for Jewish immigration to Palestine was made without consulting Arabs and denounces Zionism.

November 11. Senator Ralph O. Brewster (Maine) says British-Russian disputes in Middle East may presage another war and urges creation of a Jewish commonwealth in Palestine.

November 12. Six hundred rabbis march to Capitol and stop at White House and British Embassy to plead that Palestine be opened for Jewish immigration.

November 13. President Truman and British foreign minister Ernest Bevin announce U.S.-British agreement on creating joint committee of inquiry to examine problem of European Jews and Palestine. Bevin suggests that Palestine become a trustee state of UN and later have self-government.

Bevin refuses the entry of 100,000 Jews into Palestine and declares a quota of 1,500 immigrants a month, subject to Arab acquiescence.

Senator Kenneth McKellar (Tennessee) charges that British are distributing arms to Arabs and denounces Bevin. Congressman Emanuel Celler (New York) denounces British.


Arab National Liberation League asks that Soviet Union and Balkans be included in Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise, joint chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council, criticize U.S. for agreeing to inquiry. Hadassah and World Jewish Congress criticize British foreign minister Ernest Bevin.
November 15. Day of prayer and fasting to protest British foreign minister Ernest Bevin’s actions. Violence in Palestine continues. Complete curfew is declared at noon in Tel Aviv, Palestine. Promises are made to execute anyone carrying a weapon. In Haifa, Palestine, Zionist sailors in the British navy protest.

November 18. At Zionist Organization of America meeting, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver is elected to succeed Dr. Israel Goldstein as president. A proposal is made to allow the Jewish National Fund of America to buy 500,000 acres of land in Palestine in defiance of British land transfer regulations. A budget is approved for immigration and settlement.

Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization, says British foreign minister Ernest Bevin cannot divide Zionists and other Jewish people.

November 22. Palestinian Arab leaders form Higher Committee to present their views to Arab League.

Jewish underground takes arms from RAF in Ras el Ain, Syria, according to British claim.

November 25. Jewish underground attacks Palestinian coast guard; blows up two coast guard stations in retaliation for capture of Greek schooner Demetrios which brought 200 illegal immigrants to Palestine.

November 26. Jewish underground blows up police headquarters and several electric power stations.

Mandatory government sends troops to search for arms in Jewish settlements in Sharon and Samaria.

Soviet Union proposes submittal of Arab-Jewish problem to Big Five Conference.

Polish Jews announce in Italy that they intend to proceed to Palestine by any means.

December 3. Abdul Azzam Bey, Arab League secretary general, announces that member states will boycott all Jewish-produced goods from Palestine beginning January 1, 1946.


December 11. Palestinian Arab Council (Higher Committee) announces opposition to the Anglo-American inquiry into Palestine. Arab League has offered cooperation.

December 12. U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee approves resolution of U.S. aid to open Palestine to the Jews.

December 17. U.S. Senate votes for Wagner-Taft resolution calling for free entry of Jews into Palestine and establishment of Jewish commonwealth.

December 19. U.S. House adopts Palestine resolution which Senate has approved.
December 20. British deport 52 Jews detained at Latrun, Palestine, to Eritrea, Ethiopia; the Jews were suspected of being terrorists.


December 23. Sumner Welles, chairman of American Christian Palestine Committee, advises that UN Trusteeship Council should establish Jewish commonwealth in Palestine with armed force to give security.

December 26. Jewish Agency charges that Palestinian government has stopped issuing immigration certificates despite British foreign minister Ernest Bevin's declaration that monthly quota would be permitted.

December 27. Bomb blasts and gun battles in Palestinian cities of Jerusalem, Jaffa, and Tel Aviv. Police blame Haganah (Jewish volunteer militia). Attack on arms depot in Tel Aviv.

December 28. About 2,000 people are arrested for questionings in bombings; most are released, including Moshe Shertok, Jewish Agency official.

December 29. British arrest 800 people for questioning in bombings.

December 30. Jamal el Husseini, exiled leader of Palestinian Arab party, predicts that Arabs will revolt if they lose hope of defeating Zionism politically.

Egyptian cabinet approves boycott on Palestine Zionist-produced goods.

1946

January 2. J.V.W. Shaw, Palestine administration chief secretary, announces that the 75,000 immigration certificates under the 1939 White Paper have been exhausted. He can offer no more immigration certificates.

January 3. Irgun and Stern Group claim credit for recent bombings. This clears Haganah (Jewish volunteer militia).

Senator Edwin C. Johnson (Colorado) and Senator Charles W. Tobey (New Hampshire) assail Anglo-American inquiry. Tobey says Congress has voted on Palestinian issue; thus, inquiry is not needed.

January 5. High Commissioner Alan Gordon Cunningham of Britain asks seven members of Palestinian Arab Higher Committee to consent to interim admission of 1,500 European Jews while Anglo-American Committee studies the problem.

January 6. At the Jewish National Fund Convention, the American Zionist Emergency Committee is urged to withdraw from the Anglo-American inquiry as a protest to British ban on immigration. Plans are also made to buy 500,000 acres in Palestine.
January 7. Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine begins sessions in Washington, D.C. Robert Nathan, an economist, tells committee that Palestine could absorb 615,000 to 1,125,000 people within ten years. Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, European director of American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, estimates that 600,000 European Jews wish to go to Palestine. Earl G. Harrison, who surveyed the Jews in Europe for President Truman during summer of 1945, urges that 100,000 Jews be admitted immediately.

January 9. Joseph M. Proskauer, American Jewish Committee president, recommends to inquiry committee that Palestine be placed under UN trusteeship.

Zionists criticize British foreign minister Ernest Bevin’s statement that British would refer refugee problem to the UN.

January 10. Lessing J. Rosenwald, American Council for Judaism president, tells inquiry committee that he rejects Hitler’s idea that Jews are race or nation. He says Zionists are raising false hopes because Palestine cannot solve their problems. He proposes UN conference to deal with refugee problem.

January 11. At Palestine inquiry Albert Einstein says UN trusteeship is preferred over British colonial policy. Although he advocates the majority of European Jewish refugees’ settling Palestine, he sees no need for a Jewish commonwealth.


January 16. Saudi Arabia and Egypt say that Palestine will remain an Arab country, and that they speak for all Arabs.

January 17. Nine hundred illegal immigrants captured off coast of Haifa, Palestine.

January 19. Power stations blown up.

January 20. Coast Guard station attacked.

January 25. Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine begins hearings in London. Professor Selig Brodetsky, president of British Jews Board of Directors, urges admission of 1,000,000 Jews to Palestine to establish numerical majority. He says Arab rights would be guarded and Arabs would be given full share in government.

Arab states ask Trusteeship Council of UN General Assembly to define term in charter which says that states should negotiate trust agreements with mandatory powers.

Arab League says it will support Arab Higher Committee in rejecting British proposal for Jewish immigration into Palestine to be set at 1,500 a month.

January 28. British high commissioner Alan Gordon Cunningham announces death penalty for terrorism after raid on RAF camp in Aquir, Palestine.

January 29. At Palestine inquiry hearings, Major General Sir Edward Spear accuses Zionists of having some of the characteristics of Nazis; for example, a desire to impose rule over weaker peoples.
January 29 cont. In Munich, Germany, the Congress of Liberated Jews demands that the UN declare Palestine a free Jewish state.

January 30. Leopold S. Amery, former British colonial secretary and state secretary for India, tells inquiry committee that division of Palestine into separate Jewish and Arab states is only solution.

Palestinian government announces that pending inquiry committee decision, 1,500 immigrants a month will be allowed to enter Palestine.

February 1. Faiz al-Khouri, spokesman for five Arab League states, tells inquiry that Arabs will not accept division of Palestine or Jewish immigration.

February 2. One-day strike called by Arab Higher Committee to protest interim immigration. Arabs protest to British and UN that Britain violated its word concerning immigration.

February 3. A Moscow magazine, New Times, criticizes U.S. and Britain for creating Palestinian inquiry and not consulting UN.

February 7. Jews raid British camp near Tel Aviv, Palestine.

February 11. The Arab Higher Committee decides that Palestinian Arabs will appear before inquiry when committee comes to Jerusalem.

Jewish Agency accepts 1,500 quota on immigration.

February 17. In Vienna Bartley E. Crum, U.S. member of Anglo-American inquiry, says he is afraid that 55,000 Jews in American camps in Germany are so desperate that they may fight to go to Palestine or start a wave of suicides. Of 4,418 Jews in Vienna, 1,065 want to go to Palestine.

February 19. Hungary and Rumania refuse admittance to inquiry members. Bulgaria has not replied.

February 21. Terrorists attack police headquarters in Haifa and Tel Aviv, both in Palestine, after blowing up RAF radar station at Mount Carmel, Palestine.

Congressman Augustus W. Bennet (New York) introduces House resolution for investigation of Palestinian situation.


March 2. At inquiry Arab League voice their opposition to a Jewish state and propose an Arab state.

Haganah, Irgun, and Stern Group join forces.

March 6. Jewish extremists raid two British military camps at Sarafand and Rehovoth, both cities in Palestine, but are driven off by troops.

Inquiry committee arrives in Jerusalem from Cairo, Egypt.

March 8. Chaim Weizmann presents Zionist case before inquiry. He proposes creation of a Jewish state by bringing in 1,000,000 more Jews and giving Arabs equal rights.
Chronology—1946

March 11. David Ben-Gurion, chairman of Jewish Agency, tells inquiry committee that Palestinian Jews can and will defend themselves if British troops withdraw.

March 12. Jamal el Husseini, Arab leader, requests that British leave Palestine.

March 14. Dr. Judah L. Magnes, Hebrew University president, proposes on behalf of the Ihud (Union) Association that Palestine be made a binational state with eventual Jewish-Arab numerical equality.

March 26. Anglo-American Committee concludes hearings in Jerusalem.

April 16. High Commissioner Alan Gordon Cunningham of Britain says that refugees at La Spezia, Italy, can enter Palestine under the 1,500 quota system. Refugees had threatened to conduct a hunger strike or to blow themselves up.

April 19. King Ibn Saud suggests that Jews can be sent to Australia, New Zealand, and the Americas, where there is more space than in Palestine.

April 23. Strike of 50,000 government employees (both Jewish and Arab) ends after the Palestinian administration raises wages.

April 25. Small Jewish band raids British camp near Tel Aviv, Palestine, to seize arms. British round up 1,200 suspects.

April 30. Anglo-American Committee recommends: (1) Palestine cannot take all Jews, so other countries must help; (2) 100,000 European Jews will be granted immediate entry; (3) there will be no partition—Palestine will be neither Jewish nor Arab, and Christian rights will be protected; (4) British mandate should continue, pending trusteeship by UN; (5) Arab standard of living needs to be raised; (6) other Jewish immigration will be permitted after first 100,000 are cared for; (7) 1940 laws prohibiting Jews from buying Arab lands will be rescinded; (8) agricultural and industrial development will be carried out in cooperation with other Arab states and will be state controlled; (9) educational system will be reformed; (10) use of force by Arabs or Jews will be suppressed. The Committee also recommends that the Jewish Agency should suppress terrorism and illegal immigration and maintain law and order.

Arabs say proposals are an outrage to national rights of Arabs. Jews agree to immediate entry of 100,000 immigrants but want a Jewish state.

May 1. British prime minister Clement R. Attlee announces that Britain will not carry out inquiry’s recommendations without help of U.S. The 100,000 immigrants will not be admitted until illegal armies are disarmed.

Arab Higher Committee calls for Arab general strike for May 3. Pan-Arab organization in Cairo, Egypt, warns of revolt in Near East if inquiry recommendations are implemented.

May 2. Arab Higher Committee tells the British cabinet that Arabs will resume their national struggle of 1936–1939 if inquiry committee’s report is carried out. Arab League sends protests. Syria condemns report and Iraq protests to U.S. and Britain.
May 2 cont. Bartley Crum and Frank W. Bexton, U.S. members of inquiry, say that British prime minister Clement R. Attlee's comments of May 1 about Jews are shocking. The committee had refused such conditions.

May 3. Arab youths stone British troops in Jerusalem. Arab strikes tie up Palestine, Syria, and Lebanon.

May 5. Arabs voice opposition to immigration of 100,000 Jews. Jamal el Husseini, Arab Higher Committee chairman, calls on Palestinian Arabs to resist enemies.

A British army newspaper, *Mid-East Mail*, criticizes President Truman by saying that British lives will not be sacrificed for American votes—American military aid is needed.

May 6. King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia pledges support to Arab Higher Committee and calls Anglo-American report an injustice, as do other Arab leaders. Arab Catholics protest to Big Five leaders and Pope Pius XII.

May 7. In parts of Tel Aviv, Palestine, bombs explode. The bombs are stuffed with Irgun leaflets, urging Jews to fight for Zionist state.

Arab Communists announce their support of Arab Higher Committee.

May 8. Bartley Crum, U.S. member of inquiry, says British foreign minister Ernest Bevin had promised committee that recommendations of inquiry would be carried out if they were unanimous. He also charges that Haj Amin el Husseini should be arrested as a war criminal.

Arab Higher Committee asks Stalin for help.

Jewish refugees stranded for months at La Spezia, Italy, sail for Palestine.

May 10. Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson promises representatives of Arab states that U.S. will keep Roosevelt's pledge to consult both Arabs and Jews before agreeing to any basic change in Palestinian administration.

One-day Arab strike paralyzes Middle East, including Palestine. Egyptian police and Arabs clash in Cairo, Egypt.

May 11. Senator Ralph O. Brewster (Maine) charges that British bought King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia with $20 million and backed him as Arab League leader. He urges that a Jewish state is solution for Palestine.

May 14. Greek ship *Smyrna*, which was captured by British on May 13, docks at Haifa, Palestine. British double monthly quota to admit immigrants on ship.

Saudi Arabia protests to U.S. State Department about Maine senator Ralph O. Brewster's remarks.

May 15. Arab Higher Committee demands dissolution of Jewish Agency because of illegal immigration.

In UNRRA trucks, 850 Jews leave Berlin; their eventual destination is Palestine.

May 16. Arab League members warn U.S. that any support of Anglo-American Committee would signify hostility to Arabs.

May 18. King Farouk of Egypt invites Arab leaders to discuss action against Palestinian report.
May 19. In Haifa, Palestine, 1,014 Jews arrive from La Spezia, Italy.
May 20. U.S. and Britain ask to have Jewish and Arab opinions concerning inquiry by June 20.
May 24. Arab Higher Committee responds to query of May 20 by requesting abrogation of British mandate, cessation of Jewish immigration, formation of Arab Palestine, and withdrawal of foreign troops.
May 27. Arab Higher Committee warns British administration that continued Jewish immigration will bring violence, and demands dissolution of Jewish Agency.
May 28. Arab leaders meet.
May 29. Arab Higher Front is established as rival to Arab Higher Committee.
May 30. In the Inshass conference, Arab League rejects further Jewish immigration.

June 2. American Council for Judaism, American Zionist Emergency Council, and Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland urge U.S. and Britain to carry out Anglo-American Committee recommendations immediately. Jamal el Husseini says that Arabs will defend country with blood and stand firm against Zionism.
June 11. President Truman creates committee to help him with Palestine problem. Military aid is discussed with Britain.
June 12. British foreign minister Ernest Bevin criticizes U.S. concerning Jewish immigration. He claims that U.S. would rather send Jews to Palestine than to New York, that more troops would be needed if 100,000 Jews immigrated to Palestine, and that Britain would not and could not pay for such a plan. He urges a Palestinian state, not a Jewish or Arab state.
June 13. Arab League proposes program for Palestine. Arabs will be armed until Zionist forces are disarmed and anyone selling land to Jews will be punished. U.S. is urged to withdraw from problem and Britain is warned that Arab League will go to UN if talks fail.
June 14. President Truman answers British foreign minister Ernest Bevin. Jews will go to Palestine; U.S. cannot expand its immigration policy.
June 15. Arab League sends notes to Britain and U.S., claiming that American support of Zionism encourages terrorism in Palestine and imperils peace in Middle East.
June 16. Major sabotage operations organized throughout Palestine by Jewish paramilitary organizations under political leadership of David Ben-Gurion. “Voice of Israel” underground station claims to have found British military document outlining plans to move against Haganah and Jews. British deny allegation.

Jewish Agency asks inquiry committee to plan implementation of recommendations. They again urge a Jewish state.
June 17. Bombing of roads and railways in Palestine and battles with British troops. British search Beth Haarava, a Palestinian village, for suspects.
Chronology—1946

**June 18.** British officers are kidnapped in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, Palestine, and held hostage to prevent execution of Irgun members arrested for attacking British camp. Curfew is ordered for Haifa, Palestine, and Tel Aviv.

**June 21.** Arms are found at Palestine Potash Company. British arrest manager.

Plans are found indicating that Lieutenant General Sir Evelyn G. Barker, commander of British forces in Palestine, was to be kidnapped.

**June 24.** Irgun announces it will try kidnapped British officers.

**June 27.** In Haifa, Palestine, 1,290 illegal Jewish immigrants arrive from Genoa, Italy.


**July 1.** British prime minister Clement R. Attlee links Jewish Agency to Haganah and to Irgun.

**July 2.** President Truman meets with Jewish Agency members. He says Zionist leaders should be released and that U.S. can aid in transport of 100,000 Jews to Palestine.

Jews arriving in Haifa, Palestine, from France are quarantined because of bubonic plague.

Jewish Agency denies link with Irgun. Palestinian police are accused of torturing Jews in Athlit, Palestine.

**July 4.** Captured British are freed.

Irgun declares war against Britain.

**July 7.** In London Jews demonstrate against British "terrorism" in Palestine.

**July 9.** Chaim Weizmann tells British government to end its policy in Palestine. He also adds that Haganah will not give up its weapons.

British deny visas to Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Louis Lipsky, Jewish Agency officials, to visit Palestine.

**July 10.** Palestinian government returns building to Jewish Agency.

**July 12.** Arab Higher Committee says that Jewish Agency leaders should be tried.

**July 14.** Inner Zionist Council and Jewish Agency refuse to cooperate with British until Jewish leaders are freed.

**July 15.** Jewish war veterans end two-day demonstration in Washington. They tell President Truman that they are ready to police Palestine.

**July 16.** Arab Higher Committee calls for full boycott of all economic, cultural, and social Jewish activities.

**July 18.** Jews end 15-hour hunger strike in Rafa and Latrun, Palestine (on the Palestinian-Egyptian border) detention camps.

**July 22.** British headquarters in King David Hotel are blown up.
July 23. Irgun claims responsibility for the King David bombing but claims British are real culprits.

Jewish Agency and Jewish National Committee protest bombing. President Truman warns that terrorism will retard any Palestinian solution.

British, in a White Paper, claim that activities of Haganah, Irgun, and Stern Gang are directed by Jewish Agency. Jewish Agency denies allegation.


Arab League countries send note to British government demanding new regime in Palestine before next General Assembly meeting: If demands are not met, they will bring issue before Assembly.

July 25. In London, England, Anglo-American Cabinet Committee proposes Morrison Plan, which calls for division of Palestine into Jewish, Arab, and central government districts. The real power will be British-controlled central government. The admittance of 100,000 Jews will depend on acceptance of this federalization plan.

July 26. Committee recommends that U.S. Congress grant $50 million to finance developments in Palestine to benefit Arabs.

July 27. In London, meeting of Committee ends.

Arab Higher Committee refuses to participate with Jews in conference. The Arabs want an independent Arab state and no Jewish immigration.


Lieutenant General Sir Evelyn Barker bans fraternization with Jews.

July 31. Herbert Morrison, lord president of Council, says that success of Palestinian partition depends on approval by U.S. If Zionists, Arabs, and U.S. back plan, then 100,000 Jews will be admitted within one year.

Arms are found in Tel Aviv. Two ships arrive in Haifa, Palestine.

August 1. Winston Churchill tells House of Commons that British should turn over mandate to UN, if U.S. will not share burden of Zionist cause. His proposal is rejected by cabinet.

August 2. Arabs accept Britain's invitation to conference on Palestine.

August 3. Pope Pius XII pleads for peace in speech to Arab Higher Committee.

August 4. Irgun broadcast promises more resistance to British.

Moshe Sneh, wanted by British for suspected terrorist activities, arrives in Paris for a Jewish Agency meeting. He denies that he was involved in King David bombing.

August 5. Jewish Agency assails Palestine federalization plan.

British hold security blackout in Haifa, Palestine, where 2,250 illegal Jewish immigrants are held aboard ships.
Chronology—1946

August 7. British announce illegal Jewish immigrants will be sent to Cyprus. Order also includes 7,000 held on ships or in Haifa, Palestine, camps.

August 8. Jamal el Husseini, Arab Higher Committee chairman, rejects both British government federalization plan and invitation to conference on Palestine.

British army lifts ban on fraternization with Jews.

August 9. U.S. general Joseph T. McNarney announces in Frankfurt-on-the-Main that he plans to halt well-organized movement of Jewish refugees into U.S. zone of Germany. He says zone is not "way station . . . to Palestine or any other place."

Air Marshal Sir William Sholto Douglas says he will halt refugees entering British zone of Germany.

August 12. British government announces that all illegal Jewish immigrants will be sent to Cyprus. Two ships with 1,300 Jewish immigrants arrive in Haifa, Palestine. First ship of illegal immigrants sails for Cyprus.

British charge that Zionist extremists are forcing an unfair settlement of Palestine problem.


Jewish National Council proposes first stage of noncooperative policy.

Jews charge that ban on immigration is illegal under mandate.

Arabs accept conference invitation. They want immigration ban.

August 16. Guy M. Gillette of American League for a Free Palestine reports that Palestinian Arabs are not hostile to Jews, but British soldiers are anti-Semitic.

August 18. British use tear gas and fire hoses to force 640 Jews to board Empire Heywood. Ship is forced to return after two bombs explode.

August 21. Bartley C. Crum charges that midlevel officials of U.S. State Department are sabotaging U.S. policy on Palestine and calls for resignation of Loy W. Henderson of Near East Affairs office. He also claims that U.S. inquiry members were spied on by British agents.

August 22. Empire Riva is bombed.


Jewish Agency announces that it is opposed to partition, and it wants continued immigration.

Empire Heywood sails for Cyprus after British authorities are told ship would be bombed again.

August 26. British search coastal villages for suspects in bombing of Empire Riva.

August 29. British refuse to invite Haj Amin el Husseini to London conference but invite four members of Arab Higher Committee.
August 30. British find arms in Jewish farming villages of Dorot and Rubama.

September 2. Jewish passengers of *Four Freedoms* resist British. Ship is brought to Haifa, Palestine, and passengers are deported.

September 4. Jewish Agency informs British of its refusal to attend conference unless Zionists can control immigration.

September 8–9. Violence in Palestine.


September 12. Jews announce they will go to conference. Arabs at conference reject autonomy plan.


September 16. In Jerusalem, Arabs form army as protection against Zionist terrorists.

September 20. Haifa, Palestine, railroad station is bombed.

September 22. Jewish immigrants aboard *Palmach* resist British, but immigrants are deported to Cyprus.

September 24. American Jewish Labor Council protests anti-Semitism by the mandatory government. Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, an adviser of Jewish affairs in Germany, reports that 90 percent of European Jews want to go to Palestine.

September 25. Zionist Inner Council votes that Jewish Agency should not go to conference until Zionist leaders are released.

Arab leaders propose provisional Arab-Zionist government.

September 30. “Shadow government” for Palestine is set up in Alexandria, Egypt.

October 2. Arabs present plan for an independent Palestine at London conference. Plan calls for seven Arabs and three Jews in government. They also want to prohibit Jewish immigration.

British seize 50 Jews in Tel Aviv, Palestine, after Jewish home is blown up because Jewish woman had refused to support Irgun.

October 4. At London conference, President Truman in his “Yom Kippur” speech endorses partition of Palestine and creation of Jewish state. He asks again for admission of 100,000 Jewish refugees.

October 6. In campaign speeches Thomas E. Dewey and Herbert H. Lehman urge that Jewish immigration to Palestine be allowed.

October 11. President Truman denies that he is jeopardizing the talks by requesting immigration.

October 13. Meyer W. Weisgal, secretary general of American office of Jewish Agency for Palestine, says that British policy and army are intensifying terrorism.

October 17. King Ibn Saud tells President Truman that Jewish immigration violates previous promises and that Jews were “aggressors from the start.”
Chronology—1946

October 18. British government rejects Jewish plea to raise immigration quota of 1,500.
October 21. British Moon intercepts boat of 819 Jews. They are sent to Cyprus. British arrest Arab Boycott Committee members for bombing Arab shops which refused to boycott Jews. Sternists threaten to kill British soldiers and police.
October 28. President Truman says a Jewish National Home in Palestine should be established and the 100,000 Jews admitted on humanitarian grounds. He tells King Ibn Saud the U.S. is not hostile to Arabs and promises will not be violated.
October 29. Colonel Richard H. Webb is removed from British command.
October 30. Jerusalem is bombed.
October 31. Jews damage Ras El Ain airfield. Political terrorism is denounced by Vaad Leumi (Jewish National Council). British embassy in Rome is bombed by Irgun.
November 1. Two ships leave for Cyprus.
   In New York Moshe Sneh, Jewish Agency executive, denounces terrorism.
November 2. Arabs strike against Balfour Declaration.
November 5. Jewish Agency leaders are released from Latrun concentration camp.
November 7. Railway travel is suspended after Irgun attacks on railways.
November 11. Nikolai V. Novikov, Soviet ambassador to Washington, suggests that Palestine be given independence from Britain and the area be placed under UN trusteeship.
November 12. It is announced that 1,050 Jews in Cyprus will be admitted to Palestine under quotas until mid-January.
November 14. Board of deputies of British Jews condemns idea of terrorism expanded to Britain.
November 18. Police and Jews clash in Tel Aviv, Palestine.
November 20. Jerusalem is bombed.
November 23. Fawi Husseini, cousin of Arab Higher Committee chairman, is killed by Arabs for selling land to Jews.
November 26. In Haifa, Palestine, Jews resist British because they do not want to go to Cyprus.
November 29. Supreme Court rejects petition to prevent deportation.
November 30. Jerusalem is bombed.
December 2–5. Palestine is bombed and land-mined.
December 2. Dr. Judah L. Magnes, Hebrew University president, charges that the play *A Flag Is Born* makes appeal for funds for terrorism. Eleanor Roosevelt is sponsor of play. Guy M. Gillette, president of American League for a Free Palestine, produced play. He denies charge.

December 7. U.S. secretary of state James F. Byrnes says that partition is best solution to Palestine problem.


December 10. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver criticizes President Truman and opposes partition. He defends resistance to Britain.

December 11. Dr. Emanuel Neumann, vice president of Zionist Organization of America, rejects Britain and says Jews of Palestine will have to rely on U.S. and armed strength.

December 12. Arabs call for general strike to protest Haganah abduction of an Arab in Salame, Palestine.

   Arab Higher Committee merges two illegal Arab armies under Arab Youth Movement.


December 15. Strike by Arabs to protest Salame, Palestine, kidnapping.

   World Zionist Congress suspends six members of Zionist Revisionist Union of America for unauthorized request to UN for discussion of Palestinian problem.

December 17. Land purchases and budget are discussed at World Zionist Congress.

December 18. Sir William Fitzgerald, chief justice of Palestine, says Jerusalem will be divided into Jewish and Arab boroughs.

   Arab landowner is assassinated because he sold land to Jews.

December 19. Johan J. Smertenko, vice president of American League for a Free Palestine, is barred from England where he had planned to start British branch of organization. He says terrorism is justified.

   William B. Ziff declares that negotiation by Jewish Agency would be opposed by Palestinian underground groups. Revisionists say that Ziff had been expelled for breaches of party discipline.

December 21. Arabs in Palestine refuse to pay taxes if money is used for Jewish immigration.

December 24. Israel Levin is murdered in Tel Aviv, Palestine, for betraying Stern Group leader.

   World Zionist Congress ends. Zionists urge an end of terrorism. They oppose UN trusteeship and want independence with no partition. They adopt resolution to boycott conference in London, England.

   Jews raid two diamond factories in Natanya and Tel Aviv, both in Palestine.

December 28. Congressman Joseph Clark Baldwin (New York) of Political Action Committee for Palestine appeals to Menahem Beigin to end terrorist activities.

December 29. Irgun kidnaps and whips British major.

December 30. In London, England, synagogues are set afire to protest kidnapping of British major.

1947

January 2. Irgun again declares war with bombings and machine gun attacks.

January 3. Sir Henry Gurney, chief secretary for British high commissioner, warns Jewish Agency that British will act against all Jews unless terrorism is halted.

January 4. British soldiers are barred from cafés and restaurants.

January 5. Haganah radio station condemns terrorist attack on train in Benha, Palestine.

January 8. Arrests are made. Suspects are part of Irgun “Black Squad.”

January 12. In Haifa, Palestine, an explosion by Stern Group ends lull in violence.


January 15. British government approves Arab delegation for conference. Most of the delegates are former Nazis.

January 17. British high commissioner Alan Gordon Cunningham returns to Jerusalem. The road he had travelled is found to have been land-mined.

January 18. Joseph Clark Baldwin, chairman of Political Action Committee for Palestine, tells President Clark Baldwin Palestine should be an independent Jewish state.

January 21. Dr. Emanuel Neumann, vice president of Zionist Organization of America, says U.S. Zionists will spend millions to finance illegal immigration.

January 22. British administration announces it will tax Palestine to pay for sabotage.

Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones of Britain reports that no culprits have been convicted for murders of British subjects.

January 26. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, president of Zionist Organization of America, in a speech at National Mobilization Conference, blames British tyranny and injustice for the Palestine problem.


January 31. British order all wives and children of British subjects to leave Palestine.


February 3. Palestinian government gives seven-day ultimatum to Jewish Agency and Vaad Leumi (Supreme Jewish Council) to ask community to help police and army capture terrorists. Agency replies that Jews will not be informers.

February 4. Parts of Jerusalem are evacuated to prepare for military occupation.


February 5. Vaad Leumi (Supreme Jewish Council) rejects ultimatum of February 3.

   Evacuation of women and children from Palestine begins. Sections of Haifa and Tel Aviv are fortified as security areas as families move out.

February 7. Both Jews and Arabs reject final British proposal for division of Palestine into Arab and Jewish zones and its administration as a trusteeship. Every two years 100,000 Jews would be permitted to enter.


   American League for a Free Palestine favors establishment of Hebrew Republic in Palestine, demands dissolution of Jewish Agency, and backs Irgun and resistance.

February 13. Carleton Beals says Palestine will be “self-imposed ghetto” under Zionist domination.

February 14. The London Palestine conference ends. British foreign minister Ernest Bevin decides to take Palestine problem to the UN.


February 15. Outbreaks of violence.

February 17. Illegal Jewish immigrants aboard the Herouth are captured and sent to Cyprus. Jews stage a strike in protest.

February 18. A Syrian delegate complains to UN Security Council that British are too humane to Jewish terrorists because U.S. favors Jews.

February 20. A report is sent to UN saying that all plans for Palestine’s future have been rejected. British foreign minister Ernest Bevin blames failure of his policies on American Zionists pressuring U.S. government.

   Irgun attacks RAF near Hadera, Palestine. Oil pipelines are cut.
Chronology—1947

February 21. Arab Higher Committee announces it will tax Arabs in Palestine to raise money to prevent Arabs from selling land to Jews.

February 25. British foreign minister Ernest Bevin claims that President Truman spoiled October 1946 negotiations because of his demands to admit 100,000 Jews. He says Jewish National Home is not issue. Palestine will have to be Arab state or Jewish state or Palestinian state. Palestine cannot be made into two states. Labor and Conservative parties assail Bevin's speech. Sol Bloom (New York) and Congressman Emanuel Celler (New York) denounce Bevin's speech.

February 26. President Truman calls British foreign minister Ernest Bevin's charges misleading. Palestine is not U.S. political issue. U.S. senators and Zionist leaders assail Bevin; however, he is supported by former Congressman Hamilton Fish (New York).

February 27. British foreign minister Ernest Bevin says U.S. and Britain are still on cordial terms. He does not want Palestine issue to drive wedge between two countries.

February 28. Haim Arlosoroff is run aground after British boarding party is thrown into sea. Immigrants are sent to Cyprus.

March 1. Violence, including Irgun attacks, occurs due to British foreign minister Ernest Bevin's speech.

March 2. British high commissioner Alan Gordon Cunningham declares martial law in Tel Aviv, Palestine, and part of Jerusalem. A four-year-old girl is shot and her mother injured for standing on a balcony.

National Administration Council of the Zionist Organization of America will aid immigration. Hebrew Sheltering & Immigrant Aid Society passes resolution asking UN to assign members quotas for absorption of European displaced persons.

March 3. Irgun declares open warfare because of martial law. Economic life in Tel Aviv, Palestine, is paralyzed.

March 5. High court rejects Jews' application to halt deportation.

March 6. British capture several terrorists.

March 7. Britain, China, France, and Soviet Union approve plan to create special UN committee to investigate Palestine (UNSCOP).

March 8. Attacks on British headquarters in Tel Aviv, Palestine.

March 12. Passengers of Ben Hecht are sent to Cyprus. The crew, including 18 U.S. seamen, are arrested.

March 17. Martial law is ended.

March 22. Jewish Agency Building is bombed.

March 23. Jewish Agency executive ends emergency meeting in Jerusalem. They decide to direct Zionist case to the UN.

March 24. Syrian premier declares death penalty to Jewish refugees trying to reach Palestine, people who help them, and Syrians who sell Palestinian property to Jews.
March 30. U.S. seamen from *Ben Hecht* are deported to U.S. The disabled *Moledeth* is rescued by British.
March 31. Oil tanks are bombed.
April 2. Britain refers Palestinian problem to UN. Sir Alexander Cadogan requests special UN General Assembly session on Palestine.
    *Ocean Vigour* is bombed. Haganah claims responsibility.
April 3. British delegates to UN say British will not be bound to Assembly decisions.
    *Empire Riva* is damaged by bomb.
April 9. Palestinian government grants itself a military dictator in any “controlled areas” imposed.
April 11. Violence in Palestine.
April 14. *Guardian* is boarded after gunfight.
April 16. British ask France and Italy to prevent Jews from going to Palestine.
    Violence in Palestine.
April 18. Irgun declares it will fight until Hebrew authority is in Palestine.
April 19. Explosive charges are detonated in Haifa, Palestine, harbor to thwart Jewish underwater assault of ships used to deport immigrants to Cyprus.
    Arabs press for immediate action, rather than waiting for General Assembly to organize inquiry committee. They promise military concessions to British if Britain backs Palestinian Arabs.
April 21. In jail, terrorists hang themselves rather than be executed.
April 22. Jewish Agency and Hebrew Committee of National Liberation request to represent Jews in General Assembly. Arabs want mandate terminated. They will ask UN for a halt to immigration.
April 24. British high commissioner Alan Gordon Cunningham asks Lieutenant General Sir Miles Dempey, Middle East land force commander, for more troops. Cunningham meets with David Ben-Gurion, Jewish Agency chairman.
April 26. Deputy Police Superintendent A.E. Conquest is assassinated in Haifa, Palestine.
April 28. Special session of General Assembly to discuss Palestine.
    Three agencies ask for Jewish representation. Jewish Agency boycotts session, pending decision.
April 29. Mixed feelings about Jewish representation: some Jewish groups favor an American representative.
April 30. Proposal to place Palestinian independence on UN General Assembly agenda is defeated. Syria claims U.S. is to blame for unrest, because U.S. had pressured Britain to increase Jewish immigration. Arabs say their countries are tolerant toward Jews. Jews disagree.
May 1. Question of independent Palestine is again defeated. British request for special committee is accepted. Arabs say Palestine should be an Arab state.

May 2. It is decided that Jewish Agency cannot speak before Assembly but can be heard by Political & Security Committee. Soviet delegate Andrei A. Gromyko urges Assembly to hear Jews.

May 4. Irgun bombs prison; both Arabs and Jews escape. Political Action Committee for Palestine seeks funds to buy parachutes for Jews going to Palestine.

May 5. Assembly votes that Jewish Agency will speak to Political & Security Committee, not before whole Assembly. Committee will decide whether to hear Arabs. Both Jews and Arabs displeased about vote.

May 6. Debates continue over Jews speaking before Assembly; some delegates feel that Jews have right to speak since Arabs had right. It is decided that both sides can be heard.

May 8. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver presents Jewish case before Political & Security Committee: Balfour Declaration and League of Nations both promised an independent state. In Palestine, Jews are restricted to less than 6 percent of the country, anti-Jewish laws are tolerated, and Jewish refugee ships are driven away. He suggests that committee visit Palestine and displaced persons camps in Europe. Soviet delegate Andrei Gromyko feels Big Five should be on inquiry committee. Prior decision had ruled out Big Five.

Jew is shot by Arab band. Tel Aviv, Palestine, shops are set afire when owners do not contribute to Jewish underground. Arab and Jewish telephone operators in Tel Aviv and Jaffa, Palestine, strike for more pay.

May 9. Arabs speak to committee. They claim mandate is illegal and violates self-determination; that Palestine should be independent with an Arab majority; that all Jewish immigration should be barred; and that displaced persons problem should be a separate issue.

May 10. Soviet delegate Andrei Gromyko is for immediate independence, but U.S. is against it.

May 12. Debates continue at UN. Jews want displaced persons problem linked with Palestine and no independence until Jews become majority. Arabs say there will be war if Jewish state is established. Jews charge that Arab Higher Committee is headed by a man who was involved in the Nazi extermination of Jews. Arabs dislike Jewish charges against their spiritual leader and question Jews’ right to say so, since Jews had crucified founder of Christianity. Jews charge that British had not kept their promises and that some members of the Higher Arab Committee rank with the worst Axis war criminals. Haj Amin el Husseini (Arab Higher Committee) denies plotting with Nazis.

May 13. Political & Security Committee votes to set up inquiry committee. Big Five are barred from membership.
May 14. Soviet delegate Andrei Gromyko proposes one Arab-Jewish state, if idea of two states is impossible.

Irgun tells UN that British should withdraw and Palestine and Transjordan should be Jewish.

May 15. UN General Assembly ends special session. Truce resolution is proposed.

May 16. Violence in Palestine. Bridges are demolished.

May 18. Irgun rejects truce during UN Palestine inquiry unless British suspend military action.


May 22. Zionists consider temporary partition of Palestine.

Arabs attack Jewish labor camp in retaliation for Haganah raid on Arab bands.

Arabs and Jews totaling 40,000 strike against all establishments operated by British War Ministry.

May 23. Mordei Haghetloath is boarded by British.

May 24. Arabs say they will boycott UN inquiry group if a study of European displaced persons camps is included as part of the inquiry on Palestine.

May 26. First session of UNSCOP.

May 27. Jewish underground migration hopes to transport 1,000,000 Jews from Europe to Palestine. Costa Rican steamer Colony Trader is detained because it is suspected of being used to transport refugees. London charges that non-Jewish Slavs and Poles in displaced persons camps are being recruited for Palestine army. Zionists deny charges.

May 28. Arabs warn that any unfavorable decision by UNSCOP would be signal for war against Palestinian Jews.

Bombing in Haifa, Palestine.

British Colonial office asks Jewish Agency to bring non-Zionist representation up to 50 percent. Anti-Zionist Jews of 17 countries including Palestine meet in Brussels to plan a Socialist, anti-Zionist, Jewish world organization.

May 29. British foreign minister Ernest Bevin says neither Balfour Declaration nor League of Nations meant that Arabs would be deprived of their rights.

Irgun spreads propaganda warning British are planning war against Jews.


June 1. Irgun promises not to harm any UN member.

June 2. Emil Sandstroem is elected chairman of UNSCOP.


June 5. President Truman asks U.S. citizens not to help terrorism.
June 6. UN requests all countries to guard against departure of immigrants for Palestine. Passengers of *Yehuda Halevy* are sent to Cyprus.

Palestine Inquiry Committee discusses whether to visit displaced persons camps in Europe.

June 9. Palestine Supreme Court upholds 1939 White Paper's ban on transferring land to Jews in approximately 60 percent of Palestine.

June 11. For the birthday of King George VI, British free 32 Haganah members. Haganah announces it will suspend unauthorized immigration for two weeks.

June 12. Inquiry members leave from New York to Palestine. UNSCOP asks UN secretary general Trygve Lie to tell British to stay execution of three condemned Jews.

June 13. Arab Higher Committee tells UN it will boycott session.


June 16. UNSCOP holds first Jerusalem session. It receives Palestinian government testimony in secret. Chairman Emil Sandstroem appeals to Arabs to end their boycott of hearings.

June 17. Moshe Shertok testifies for Jews: Arab-Jewish cooperation on an economic level is possible, but no political cooperation can occur until immigration is permitted.

Irgun asks UNSCOP to urge British not to execute Jews on trial.

June 19. UNSCOP members visit Haifa, Palestine. Within a hundred yards of their meeting, a kidnapping attempt is made upon British police official in a bookshop.

Haganah member is killed by Irgun.

Haj Amin el Husseini arrives in Cairo.

June 20. In Kfar Giladi, Palestine, and Tel Hai, British troops open fire on groups.

June 23. UNSCOP members visit Chaim Weizmann.

June 24. UNSCOP members visit Jaffa and Ramlae, both in Palestine. At textile factory, management walks out to protest presence of Israeli press.

June 25. UNSCOP members visit Tel Aviv, Palestine.

In Jerusalem, kidnapping attempt is made upon Alan Major, a liaison officer with UNSCOP.

June 26. UNSCOP members visit Negeb, Palestine, where, they are told, there is room for many people.

June 27. After spending war in Berlin, Sheik Hassan Abou el Seoud, aide to Haj Amin el Hussein, returns to Jerusalem by permission of government.
June 28. Stern Gang shoots British soldiers.

UNSCOP visits an Arab Christian town, but American newspaper reporters are barred from area. In Ramallah, UNSCOP members visit a school. Israeli press is banned from area; however, headmaster allows reporters to come in, saying he knew nothing about the ban. Irgun sends document to UNSCOP demanding union of Palestine and Transjordan into Jewish state.

June 29. In Haifa, Palestine, Sternists fire on café.

UNSCOP votes to condemn terrorism because of disregard for UN appeal for truce.

June 30. Palestine government allows oil companies to raise prices to pay for damage caused by bombings.

UNSCOP members visit Safad, Palestine, and Zichron Yaackov, a coastal Jewish colony and the home of Mishmar Haemek Bentov, leader of the Hashomer Hatzair party. Bentov tells UNSCOP that British policy has had terrible effect on people and is wrong.

July 1. British government rejects UNSCOP's request to halt execution of Irgun members, because UN Assembly truce resolution has no bearing on normal process of administration of justice.

UNSCOP members visit upper Transjordan. Inhabitants report progress made to combat malaria and work on water supplies, but they claim lack of manpower is impeding work.

July 2. Irgun and Stern Group warn British that British authority must end before a truce is observed.

Prime Minister Jan Christiaan Smuts of South Africa, who was a party to Balfour Declaration, says that a national home in Palestine never meant all of Palestine. He favors partition of Palestine into Jewish and Arab states.

UNSCOP members visit Acre, an Arab area, and Nahuriya, Palestine, where the Jewish residents complain of land restrictions which are preventing expansion of town.

July 3. UNSCOP completes tour of Palestine. Stern Group presents document to UNSCOP, demanding that British evacuate Palestine.

July 4. David Ben-Gurion says solution to Palestine problem is establishment of Jewish state in all or part of Palestine: Arab minority would be safe and Jewish settlement would bring economic development and social progress for Arabs. D. Horowitz, head of Jewish Agency's Economic Department, claims that Palestinian Arabs have better living conditions than Arabs elsewhere.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann succeeds Dr. Abba Hillel Silver as president of Zionist Organization of America.

July 6. Jewish Agency officials tell UNSCOP that Britain is exploiting Palestine for its own benefit. They claim that Palestine can hold two to three times its present population with proper irrigation and industrial development.
July 6 cont. Moslem and Christian Arabs adopt resolution at Haifa, Palestine, convention to excommunicate any Arab who sells land to a Jew.

Jamal el Husseini declares that revolt is inevitable if demands for independence are ignored.

July 7. Bubonic plague strikes Haifa, Palestine.

David Ben-Gurion asks UN to assume temporary supervision of Palestine while Jews build up an all-Jewish state; once there is partition, Jews can take care of themselves.

July 8. Chaim Weizmann, former World Zionist Organization president, urges a form of partition to satisfy both Jews and Arabs. He criticizes British methods against terrorism. He also urges that 1.5 million more Jews be admitted. UN votes not to visit Cyprus, where illegal Jewish immigrants are interned.

In Paris, police seize more than a ton of arms destined for Irgun in Palestine.

Death sentences of Irgun members are confirmed by British.

July 9. Irgun broadcast threatens retaliation if Irgun members are executed.

A Guatemalan delegate says British emergency methods make Palestine a police state. These methods are illegal according to mandate.

July 10. Arab Higher Committee rejects latest invitation to testify before UNSCOP.

July 11. Anglican bishop of Jerusalem, Bishop Stewart, urges that Christian interests be protected. He also reproaches UNSCOP members for meeting on Sundays.

Two British intelligence sergeants are kidnapped in Natanya, Palestine.


Haganah says it rejects terrorism and is strong enough to defend Palestine from Arab attacks.


Martial law in Natanya, Palestine.

July 15. Aharan Cohen, secretary of League for Jewish-Arab Cooperation and Rapprochment, says that Fawzi Darwish el Husseini, relative of Haj Amin el Husseini and former anti-Zionist, formed a new Palestine Society and made an agreement November 11, 1946, to cooperate with the League; however, he was murdered before he could cooperate.
Chronology—1947

July 15 cont. Father Custos, head of Franciscan order in Palestine, tells UNSCOP members that he is concerned about future security of holy places. UNSCOP members also hear representatives of Sephardic sect of Judaism, who are concerned about plight of Jews in Arab countries. Jewish Communists claim Fascists have entered England. They oppose Dr. Judah L. Magnes’s parity idea. The League for Jewish-Arab Cooperation and Rapprochement says British are trying to drive Arabs and Jews apart.

July 17. At an UNSCOP meeting, Jewish Federation of Labor claims Europe, except Sweden, is anti-Semitic. Moshe Shertok of Jewish Agency denies that 21 Arab villages were wiped out by Jewish land purchases and settlement. He criticizes Palestinian government, especially in their failure to develop land.

July 18. Moshe Shertok of Jewish Agency continues speaking before UNSCOP. He says Palestine must be a Jewish state and criticizes Dr. Judah L. Magnes’s plan as impractical. The Palestine Communist Union urges British withdrawal.

British warship escorts American-manned Exodus 1947 to Haifa, Palestine, after battle. UNSCOP members watch as illegal immigrants sail for Cyprus.

July 19. Palestinian government reports to UN that Jewish campaign of lawlessness has cost 70 lives and $6 million since 1940.

July 21. It is found that Exodus 1947 passengers went to France, not Cyprus.

July 22. UNSCOP holds its first plenary session.

July 23. A Washington Post editorial criticizes British for their part in Exodus incident. By their actions, British have stirred anti-British sentiment.

July 24. UN Committee members fly to Transjordan. Arabs say Palestine belongs to Arabs and that they had never accepted the Balfour Declaration. They want an unpartitioned, independent Palestine with an Arab majority. The Jews are invaders and there should be a ban on Jews buying land. The European refugee problem is of no concern to them. They blame Zionists for problem: Jews and Arabs had lived in peace until Zionists poisoned relations. The standard of living for Palestinian Arabs is the same as that of Arabs in other countries and does not need to be improved by Jews living in Palestine. They warn that an unfavorable decision would bring Arab force.

Demonstrators in New York protest British treatment of Exodus passengers. Claims are made that American citizen was murdered by British.


Haganah sinks Empire Lifeguard.

July 26. Menahem Begin, Irgun leader, claims that Haganah helped plan King David Hotel bombing.

July 28. Two Haganah ships are seized; passengers are sent to Cyprus.
July 29. Irgun members are executed for blowing up prison and liberating 200 Arab and Jewish prisoners. Jews compare executions to sentencing of Nazi field marshal Albert Kesselring, whose death sentence was commuted.

Passengers of *Exodus 1947* refuse to debark in France. The French say they will not use force.

July 30. Irgun hangs two British sergeants in reprisal for executions of three Irgun members.

UNSCOP votes to visit displaced persons camps in Europe.

August 1. Anti-British riots in Tel Aviv, Palestine. Jewish leaders call for end of terrorism. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver blames hostage killings on British for depriving Jews of a homeland. In Liverpool, England, and Glasgow, Scotland, there are anti-Semitic outbreaks to protest executions of British sergeants.

August 2. In U.S. cities anti-British slogans, swastikas, and dollar signs are painted on British consulates.

August 3. Haganah warns that British who killed Jews in Tel Aviv, Palestine, will be found and punished.

August 4. British blow up a Jewish home where arms had been found.

August 5. British security forces arrest thirty-five Zionist leaders and send them to Latrun, Palestine. Some of arrested leaders had decided to begin a campaign against terrorism.

Irgun blows up Department of Labor in Jerusalem.

Anti-Semitic outbreaks diminish in Liverpool, Manchester, Cardiff, and other cities in United Kingdom.


August 8. UNSCOP leaves Geneva, Switzerland, to tour European displaced persons camps.

August 9. Irgun derails train.

August 14. UNSCOP returns to Geneva, Switzerland. It reports that, with anti-Semitism growing, more displaced persons want to go to Palestine.

August 16. Arab-Jew clashes in the Palestinian cities of Tel Aviv and Jaffa.

August 21. Rabbi Baruch Korff, cochairman of Political Action Committee for Palestine, discloses that immigration will begin by airplane unless UN opens Holy Land to unlimited immigration.

August 23. *Empire Heywood* sails for Cyprus after authorities are told ship would be bombed again.

August 24. Jamal el Husseini declares that if Jewish immigration continues, then illegal Arab immigration will start.

August 29. British High Commissioner Alan Gordon Cunningham decrees that public is banned from trials involving members of British security forces.
August 29 cont. Three British ships carrying 4,300 Jewish *Exodus* refugees sail from Gibraltar to Hamburg, Germany. British had requested of French that Jews return to France by train. Jewish Agency and Jewish National Council had denounced British and had appealed to the UN. A special London, England, court had denied a writ of habeas corpus halting refugees' return to Germany.

August 31. UN Special Committee on Palestine decides unanimously that: (1) Palestine will be released from the mandate and made independent; (2) religious minorities and holy places will be protected; (3) European Jews should be helped. Majority plan is to partition Palestine into two sovereign states to become independent September 1, 1949. British will administer Palestine under UN supervision for two years until its independence. In this two-year period 150,000 Jews will be admitted. If independence is delayed, Jewish area will accept only 60,000 Jews per year. A minority plan calls for a federation.

September. Nation Associates publishes a paper comparing British rule in Palestine to Nazi rule.

September 1. Jews favor majority plan. Arabs displeased with plan, especially to give Jaffa, an Arab port, to Jews.

September 7. French claim that Stern Group had planned to attack London.


In Tel Aviv, Palestine, an area security officer is killed in house bombing.

September 10. Secretary of State George C. Marshall announces that U.S. had urged British to reconsider sending *Exodus* group to Germany. British had replied there were no facilities to house them elsewhere.

September 11. France volunteers to admit *Exodus* Jews if they are not forcibly deported from Germany.

Some Zionists are released from Latrun, Palestine, concentration camp.

September 12. Irgun threatens to assassinate British representatives in U.S. zone of Germany.

Sami Effendi Taha, secretary general of Arab Labor Federation and political opponent of exiled grand mufti of Jerusalem, is assassinated.


September 20. British cabinet favors UNSCOP recommendations if UN will share responsibility for putting them into effect.

September 22. An Arab spokesman announces that all Arab states secretly agreed 15 months previously to sever ties with Europe and U.S. if UN tries to partition Palestine.

Chronology—1947


September 24. Jews defy British decree and observe Yom Kippur at Wailing Wall in Jerusalem.

September 25. Exodus 1947 Jews reject offer of transfer to France.

September 26. British colonial secretary Arthur Creech-Jones announces to new Committee on Palestine (Ad-Hoc Committee) that British will relinquish mandate at an early, unspecified date even if UN has not solved Palestine problem. He also declares that Britain will not force a settlement on Arabs and Jews.

At Assembly Dr. Herbert V. Evatt is elected chairman of Committee on Palestine.

September 27. Af Al Pi passengers resist British.

September 28. Palestine Resistance Committee publishes ad in the World claiming that British are killing Jews immigrating to Palestine. They compare British imperialistic policies with past British policy in American colonies, India, and Egypt.

September 29. Bombings in Palestine.

Arab Higher Committee tells Assembly’s Palestine Committee that Arabs will fight reorganization, except as an independent, unpartitioned state under an Arab majority. They say Palestine problem could be solved if U.S. and Britain would stop favoring Zionists.

October 1. Arabs propose resolution against any immigration which would disturb friendly relations between neighboring countries.

October 2. Jewish Agency reluctantly accepts partition. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver says Jews can defend themselves when they gain independence.

British board the Paducah from Bulgaria.

October 3. Arabs stage one-day general strike as demonstration for independence without partition.

Northlands from Rumania is intercepted at Haifa, Palestine.

October 9. Arab League Council in Lebanon recommends that military forces should be sent to Palestine’s borders to help Palestinian Arabs, if Jews try to seize Palestine at the time of British withdrawal.

October 10. Arab troops begin to move toward Palestinian borders.


U.S. State Department announces it will not issue passports to American citizens who take part in any hostilities in Palestine on either side.


October 18. Arabs send troops to Syrian and Lebanese borders to replace British. Zionists protest that Arab troops are on both sides of northern Palestinian border.
October 20. Arab Youth Organization calls on Palestinian Arabs to register.

October 21. British high commissioner Alan Gordon Cunningham visits Syrian frontier. He asks both Jews and Arabs to avoid incidents.

American Christian Palestine Committee urges U.S. support for partition.

Enver Nashashibi, member of Arab Palestinian UN delegation, visits Chile to purchase agricultural machinery destined for Palestine.

October 22. Jewish National Council organizes a legal department, which could draft state constitution.

October 23. Iraq announces it will march into Palestine if partition occurs.

Jewish refugees detained in Cyprus offer their quota of 750 Palestinian immigration certificates to 400 *Exodus* refugees in Germany.

October 26. The Syrian and Lebanese American Federation of the Eastern States expresses concern for American-Arab relations. They say Americans and Arabs have long-standing friendship and cite strategic importance of the Arab world for world peace and U.S. demand for raw resources of Middle East. They state Jewish claim to Palestine violates internationally accepted principles of justice.

November 11. Vaad Leumi (Jewish National Council) votes to raise money for defense fund against Arab and Jewish terrorists.

November 12. Jewish Agency plans to establish Jewish state within boundaries set by UNSCOP, regardless of any UN decision. There are rumors that King Abdullah of Jordan plans to take over part of Palestine outside Jewish state.

November 14. Violence in Palestine after British kill three girls and two boys at a farmhouse where an arsenal was found.

November 15. British foreign office denies that Britain plans to take over financial surplus in Palestine treasury to pay for costs of evacuation and fighting illegal Jewish immigration.

November 16. The *Kadimah* is seized.

November 17. British administration plans to sell state-owned real estate along Haifa, Palestine, waterfront and to invest in England money from bonds sold to Palestinians.

November 22. Violence in Palestine.

November 24. Jewish Agency begins registration of Jewish youths to work for and defend Jewish state.

November 25. In a final effort for Jewish-Arab compromise, Arabs propose a new plan for a federal state.

November 26. Louis Bromfield, cochairman of American League for Free Palestine, charges that Arabs have obtained surplus U.S. arms.

November 28. In Haifa, Palestine, British admit 1,450 Jews from Cyprus, ahead of immigration quota.
November 29. UN General Assembly votes for Resolution 181, the partition of Palestine into Jewish and Arab states by October 1, 1948, with Jerusalem to be under a UN trusteeship. Jews approve; Arabs reject. Arabs say they are not bound by decision and charge that U.S. and Soviet Union coerced smaller countries to vote for partition.

November 30. Arab attacks on Jews begin.

December 1. Arab League plans to meet and discuss resistance of partition.

Zionist Organization of America forms plans to establish a new Jewish state. The organization's president, Emanuel Neumann, demands that UN recognize Jewish volunteer defense units as Jewish militia.

December 2. UN Trusteeship Council sets up committee to draft constitution for Jerusalem international zone.

December 5. The U.S. State Department announces that no arms will be sent to Middle East.

December 6. Violence between Haganah and Arabs.

December 7. During World Jewish Congress, Jews charge that anti-Jewish violence is occurring in Iran.

December 8. Egypt and Lebanon ask to be heard during UN debates. Jewish Agency also asks; however, a precedent would be set by Security Council if they admitted an entity other than a country.

December 9. Security Council tables a debate on partition after Syria reports that Arabs will question legality of such a partition.

December 10. British will not alter quota of 1,500 immigrants a month.

December 11. British government announces its intention to terminate its responsibility under mandate on May 15, 1948. Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones of Britain appeals to UN to speed up its partition plans.

Zionist Organization of America urges U.S. to provide ships for Palestinian settlement and to arm Jewish Agency defense forces.

Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish groups plan for displaced persons to settle in U.S.

December 12. UN Trusteeship Subcommittee announces that internationalized Jerusalem will only have a police force which can call on UN Security Council if more order is needed. Legislature is legally "rigged" so a minority group will keep a balance of power between Jewish and Arab factors.

British foreign minister Ernest Bevin asks Jews for moratorium on illegal immigration while mandate is in power.

King Ibn Saud promises that Arabs will protect and maintain American oil operations. He also hopes that U.S. will correct its "mistake" on Palestine (the partition).

Dr. Irving E. Medoff of New Jersey had written to U.S. State Department concerning his interest in organizing air force groups to perform scare missions on Arabs in Palestine. Gordon P. Merriam, chief of Division of Near Eastern Affairs, refers Medoff to UN, since Palestine is a UN matter.
December 13. Arab League tells U.S. and Britain that partition would be considered a hostile act toward Moslems.

Zionist Organization of America urges that the U.S. provide ships for Jews going to Palestine and help arm Jewish Agency defense forces.

December 17. Arab League council announces it will stop proposed division of Holy Land by force and begin raids on Jewish communities in Palestine; and they buy arms.

Moshe Shertok, Jewish Agency political head, charges that British are obstructing partition and that British administration does not protect Jews from Arab attacks, yet they prevent Jews from defending themselves. Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Jewish Agency executive, reports Jewish plans for Swiss-like neutrality.

U.S. State Department fears USSR is supplying arms to both sides of Palestine conflict.

December 18. Congressmen Andrew L. Somers (New York) and Hugh D. Scott (Pennsylvania) call on U.S. to transfer 210,000 Jews in U.S.-occupied Europe to Palestine by October 1, 1948.

December 19. Prepared to go to Palestine, Arab guerrilla forces gather in Damascus, Syria, recruiting in Damascus and Beirut, Lebanon.


December 21. Arabs plan to win full control of Palestine and set up an all-Arab state.

Jewish Agency gives Haganah approval to raid Arab villages and search for Arab soldiers.

December 28. Moshe Sneh resigns as Jewish Agency executive; he criticizes Agency for emphasis on a friendship with the West and says they should pay more attention to Soviet Union.

1948


Bombing of Semiramis Hotel.

January 9. Arabs from Syria go to Palestine; Lebanon protests when Syrians cross Lebanon to reach Palestine.

British convoy of food for Jews is besieged in Old City of Jerusalem.

First meeting of UN Palestine Committee.

January 10. Strong Arab attacks occur near Jerusalem, Lydda, and Jaffa, all in Palestine.
Chronology—1948

January 12. Jewish Agency announces it is ready with an interim government whenever UN decides in favor of partition.

January 13. U.S. War Assets Administration, on orders of secretary of the army, cancels sale of M-3 explosives to Jewish Agency.

January 14–15. FBI arrests six New York men on charges of trying to ship 60,000 pounds of TNT to Haganah.

January 14. British give UN committee secret report on plans to leave Palestine. British also defend selling of arms to Arab states. They say arms are bought under friendship treaties which cannot be suspended except for violations of UN charter. British intend for Palestinian troops to be transferred to Cyprus.

January 15. Moshe Shertok, political head of Jewish Agency, discusses Jewish case before UN Palestine Committee. He stresses need for international army in Palestine or approval for Jewish militia to import arms.

Arab League announces that once British leave, all of Palestine will be occupied by Arabs.

January 16–17. Arab-Jewish clashes in Haifa, Palestine.

January 19. Arabs continue boycott of entire partition plan.

January 21. British refuses to comply with UN General Assembly’s request that port and inland areas be open to Jews in Palestine. British intend to keep 1,500-a-month quota.

January 23–24. Violence almost at halt for Moslem holy rites.

January 23. UN Committee intends to tell Security Council that armed backing of their plan is vital. U.S. dislikes idea of sending troops to Palestine.


January 26–27. Golda Myerson (later Golda Meir) of Jewish Agency tells Committee that Jews must arm against Arab threats. Moshe Shertok, political head of Jewish Agency, asks UN to encourage U.S. to lift embargo on arms to Middle East.


January 28. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, of Jewish Agency, campaigns for American support for armed backing of partition.

British warn Arab League of Transjordan that its subsidy will be withdrawn if it attacks Palestinian Jews. Arab Higher Committee announces that Arabs are storing six-month supply of food to prepare for war.

January 29. Secretary of state had confirmed embargo and now announces that Americans will lose passports if they fight for either side.

UN Palestine Committee decides to help Jews organize defense force.

January 30. British government tells UN Palestine Committee it will not let Jews organize and train militia before mandate is surrendered. British dislike partition plan and announce Palestine Committee will only be protected for two weeks before mandate ends.
January 31. British officials say that 1,000 Russian-speaking Communists were aboard Pan York and Pan Crescent.

February 1. Moshe Shertok denies that Communist agents were on Pan York and Pan Crescent.

February 2–3. At a council in Damascus, Syria and Iraq express desire to hold command and not give command to Mufti of Jerusalem.

February 2. UN Committee informs Security Council that partitioning might end in a fiasco if enforcement is not adequate.

Irgun threatens to raid beyond Palestinian borders.

February 4. David Ben-Gurion announces that Jews could maintain order if they were so authorized.

Small countries deny Arab claim that U.S. coerced them to favor partition.

February 6. British tell Bulgarians not to help illegal immigration.

February 7. UN Palestine Committee appeals to British to let Jews and Arabs train militia and promises militia will not see action until British withdraw.

February 9. Pablo de Azcarate is appointed deputy secretary of Palestine Committee.


British prevent Arabs from moving bombs into Jerusalem’s Old City.

Jews execute ten Arabs.

February 11. Passengers of Beleaguered Jerusalem are sent to Cyprus.

UN secretary general Trygve Lie says he will go to Palestine if necessary to see that UN decisions are upheld.

February 12. President Truman announces that UN will have to decide how to enforce partitioning and that U.S. will support UN.

British clash with Arab raiders from Syria.

British report that many Arabs are in Palestine but British lack forces to run them out.

February 14. Secretary of State George C. Marshall defends British sale of arms to Arabs and says UN policy was not interfered with.

Haganah announces that it is prepared to fight Arabs but needs U.S. arms.

February 15. Congressman John W. McCormack (Massachusetts), House of Representatives Democratic whip, assails embargo.

Jews raid Arab settlement in Galilee.

February 16. Arab assault on Tirat Ziv is repelled by British and Jews.

UN Palestine Committee reports to Security Council that UN military force would be needed to save Palestine partition. Report criticizes Arabs for trying to alter partition by force, Jews for violence, and British for refusing to allow Jewish militia to be organized and armed immediately. Committee reports that between November 30, 1947, and February 1, 1948, 869 people died in Palestine.
Chronology—1948

February 16 cont. Although President Truman had appealed to Arab leaders to restrain spread of disorder in Middle East, they denounce him as chief sponsor of Jewish state and declare they will fight partition against all odds.

February 17. Arab League works on plan for all-Arab Palestine.

Senator Owen Brewster (Maine) calls embargo illegal.

February 18. Secretary of State George C. Marshall announces that U.S. policy concerning Palestine will be kept secret until Security Council meets next week.

Eleanor Roosevelt and Herbert H. Lehman, former New York governor, urge that embargo be lifted.

UN Secretariat imposes security ban on publishing pictures or travel routes of staff members going to Palestine. Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones of Britain warns that Arab threats to kill UN emissaries should not be taken lightly.

February 19. Citizens group led by Dr. Virginia C. Gildersleeve protests that partition has brought war, not peace. They suggest that the International Court of Justice discuss Palestinian situation. They also suggest an Arab-Jewish federation.

China advises Trusteeship Council that plans for international Jerusalem are under discussion. China is against forcing partition on Arabs.

February 20. Arab-Jewish mortar and machine gun battle in Haifa, Palestine.

Twelve Jewish terrorists escape from prison.

February 21. Arabs decide that U.S. oil companies will not be permitted to lay pipelines across Arab territory until U.S. renounces Holy Land partition.

Senator Robert A. Taft (Ohio), Republican presidential candidate, denounces embargo on arms to Palestine and says UN forces are needed to enforce partition.

Britain drops Palestine and Transjordan from sterling currency group and blocks Palestine’s $400 million in sterling balances, pending talks with partition group.


British Parliament reacts angrily to Jewish killing of British over Ben-Yehuda bombing and to Jewish Agency charge that British rule is pro-Arab.

British, Jews, and Arabs clash.

February 23. Palestine government rejects Jewish Agency’s request to withdraw British soldiers and police from Jewish quarter of Jerusalem.
February 24. Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones reaffirms Britain's decision to end mandate on May 15. Britain wants to stop squandering British lives to enforce a policy which is resisted by both sides. Warren Austin, U.S. ambassador to UN, announces American position before session of UN Security Council: Security Council under UN Charter can organize armed force to maintain international peace, but not for only enforcement of partition; Committee of Council's Big Five should ascertain whether the situation in Palestine threatens world peace. Faris el-Khoury, Syrian delegate to UN, assails "foreign invasion" of Jews and suggests that International Court of Justice should hear case.


February 26. Shukri al-Kuwatli, Syrian president, declares that if U.S. urges use of force against Arabs, no pipelines will be built through Syria or any other Arab country by either American or British companies.

February 27. Moshe Shertok, political head of Jewish Agency, says partition is only minimum of Jewish demands and urges Council to call on member states to lift arms embargoes.

Sixty-two civic, labor, business, women's, farmers', and veterans' organizations demand that U.S. give aid to Palestinian Jews.

Two anti-Communist Polish residents of Jerusalem are executed by Sternists as Arab spies.


February 29. Train bound for Haifa, Palestine, from Cairo, Egypt, is blown up in an area which police had turned over to Jews. Sternists claim responsibility in retaliation for Ben-Yehuda street bombing.

March 1. British mandate denounces Jewish Agency because British claim that Jewish Agency had been circulating false charges that British were responsible for Ben-Yehuda bombing and that Jewish Agency tolerates Jewish terrorism for political reasons. British denounce Jews in Palestine, saying they have no right to be considered a civilized people.

British lieutenant general G.H.A. McMillan’s car is fired on and bombed in Jerusalem; McMillan was not in the car.

March 2. Jews tell UN that Jewish Agency had considered a drive against Irgun and Stern Gang. They claim renegade British security personnel committed Ben-Yehuda bombing and that British are giving arms to Arabs.

British and Jews rout Arab snipers on Tel Aviv, Palestine, highway. In North, Haganah fights against Arab raids, and Sternists attack Arab office building in Haifa, Palestine.

Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones of Britain declares that Palestine problem is becoming insoluble.

New Jewish Council begins work on organization of Jewish provisional government.
March 2 cont. American Committee for Justice and Peace in the Holy Land is established with Dr. Virginia C. Gildersleeve as chairman. Group is made up of 100 leading churchmen and educators. Kermit Roosevelt, grandson of Theodore Roosevelt, is executive director. They say UN has produced war, not peace, and U.S. has been led into Middle East by following policies Zionists have urged upon government.

March 3. Advance guard of Palestine Committee secretariat reaches Jerusalem under heavy security.

Leaders of 11 Christian communities urge partition be shelved, in order to have peace.

March 4. Arabs attack Haganah youths.

Fauzi Bey el-Kawaky, Arab People's Army commander, enters Palestine from Syria.

March 5. Haganah kills Arabs near Tel Aviv, Palestine.

British high commissioner Alan Gordon Cunningham appeals that no one hurt any member of Palestine Committee.

Security Council accepts U.S.-Russian plan for ten days of informal Big Five consultations concerning guidance to be given to Palestine Committee about partition of Palestine. Warren Austin of U.S. and Andrei Gromyko of Soviet Union are against forcing a partition on the Arabs.

Zionist spokesman Dr. Abba Hillel Silver tells Security Council that Palestinian Jews would fight for their own state even if UN abandoned partition.

Jewish Agency announces that large-scale arms shipments will arrive in Palestine in May.

March 6. British troops, police, and families sail from Haifa, Palestine. Nearby are clashes between Jews and Arabs.

Paris police seize arms destined for Palestine.

Transjordan seeks admission to UN. Emissary announces that King Abdullah of Transjordan has offered to recognize Jewish state in Palestine if he can annex Arab Palestine.

March 7. Haganah claims it can draft U.S. citizens living in Palestine.

March 8–12. Informal big-power conferences concerning Palestine are held.

March 8. British insist that no Jewish militia will be allowed until May 15, end of mandate.

Haganah and Irgun agree to coordinate actions but fail to reach merger.

American columnist Drew Pearson reports that President Truman called Jews disloyal.

March 9. Soviet Union accuses some countries of weakening on partition issue. U.S. says the Soviet Union is prejudicing talks.

Jewish Agency submits to Palestine Committee a plan for provisional Jewish government.
March 10. British House of Commons approves mandate termination.

American spokesman reports that U.S. would favor federation instead of partition if everyone agrees.

March 11. Soviet Union charges that Arab oil and politics are swaying American policy on Palestine. Soviet deputy foreign minister Andrei Gromyko opposes further consultation with Jews and Arabs since their views are known. U.S., France, and China urge UN Security Council to invite both Jewish Agency and Arabs for conferences.

Democrat senators and congressmen ask Secretary of State George C. Marshall to support UN partition plan.

President Truman calls Drew Pearson report a lie.

Jewish Agency Building in Jerusalem is bombed.

Communists and leftist labor groups stage a protest rally against U.S. for betraying partition plan.

March 12. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver proposes that Security Council support UN Palestine Committee by declaring Holy Land situation a threat to peace. He calls on Arabs to cease resistance and asks UN to give arms to Jews but withhold arms from Arabs. Moshe Shertok, Jewish Agency, says Jews will not compromise on partition.

Arab Higher Committee charges in a “Black Paper” that Jewish Agency is organizing trained “illegal immigrants” in Europe for war service. Arabs also charge that Jewish Agency has set up laboratories for bacteriological warfare.

Drew Pearson, in his column the “Washington Merry-Go-Round,” reports reasons for President Truman’s backing down on partition question. He claims that U.S. does not want any Russians in Palestine even as part of UN forces.

March 17. U.S.-Russia-France-China conference concerning Palestine problem ends. They agree Palestine cannot become a threat to world peace.

March 18. Meeting held between President Truman and Israeli president Chaim Weizmann.

March 19. U.S. abandons support of partition, which comes as surprise to UN and Palestinian Jews. Warren Austin, U.S. ambassador to UN, proposes special General Assembly session to create UN trusteeship under which further efforts can be made to reach Jewish-Arab compromise. Jews claim they have been betrayed and announce they will fight for a separate state regardless of any UN decision. U.S. claims that partition cannot be implemented by peaceful means, that there is a need to maintain peace and have Jews and Arabs reach a decision, and that Security Council should instruct Palestine Committee to suspend its efforts to implement partition. Soviet deputy foreign minister Andrei Gromyko claims a peaceful partition is still possible.
Chronology—1948

March 20. Secretary of State George C. Marshall reports he recommended a halt-of-partition plan to President Truman. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver says he is shocked; U.S. had saved partition plan last November. Israeli prime minister David Ben-Gurion says Jews cannot agree to a trusteeship. Arabs are happy about American comments but say nothing about a trusteeship. British insist that May 15 is the last day of the mandate despite the U.S. policy, and that UN will have to decide about Palestine's future after May 15.


March 21. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver warns U.S. that efforts to enforce a trusteeship would mean bloodshed. Robert Taft, Republican presidential candidate, claims that UN force to support partition is about equal to UN force preventing partition.

Moscow radio broadcast charges that U.S. policy is concerned with Arab oil.


Jewish Agency and Vaad Leumi of the Jewish National Council decide to set up provisional government May 16.

British foreign minister Ernest Bevin disclaims rumors that the U.S. persuaded Britain to extend its mandate and says final date is still May 15.

March 24. In a closed session, Secretary of State George C. Marshall tells Senate Foreign Relations Committee that U.S. could not agree to enforcement of partition and that Russian troops in Holy Land may be hard to dislodge.

Arabs claim that U.S. will consider partition again after Jews have built up their forces.

France protests that enforcing partition is the same as enforcing trusteeship.

March 25. Chaim Weizmann does not favor a trusteeship and believes that American reversal will encourage Arab aggression.

President Truman claims that trusteeship is not a substitute for partition, only an emergency action to ensure peace. U.S. will help UN to reach a peaceful settlement. In a press conference, Truman urges an Arab-Jewish truce.

March 26. Jewish Agency suggests that 10,000 Danish and Norwegian troops be sent to police Jerusalem.

Near Jerusalem, Arab gunners command the Way of the Cross near Jerusalem. Small groups of Christians (mostly Arabs) continue their Good Friday observances.


March 28. Fighting near Jerusalem and Bethlehem curtails Easter activities.

Warren Austin, U.S. ambassador to UN, reports that partition could not be enforced by UN Security Council, since the General Assembly resolution is only a recommendation. A trusteeship is a different matter, especially if the trusteeship plan uses partition as an objective.

March 30. State Department denies passports for those wishing to join fighting forces.

British appoint Sir Hugh Dow to become diplomatic representative in Palestine after May 15.

U.S. and many Western and Latin American countries favor trusteeship. Soviet Union and Jewish groups favor a separate Jewish state. Soviet Union says a peaceful partition is possible and claims U.S. is concerned about oil and military position in Middle East.

Arab charter for Palestine would prevent Jews from gaining sovereignty over Palestinian soil.

Jewish Agency and Arab Higher Committee allow International Red Cross to work in areas of Palestinian fighting. Arabs continue to disrupt truck convoys and starve out Jewish communities.

March 31. Palestine Committee votes to organize a 1,000-member non-Palestinian police force for Jerusalem. UN Security Council asks Arab Higher Committee and Jewish Agency to halt violence, but violence continues.

Jews in Jerusalem ration bread.

Train bound for Haifa, Palestine, is blown up.

April 1. UN Security Council ends 37 days of considering Palestine partition. Council passes U.S. resolution for a truce and schedules special assembly meeting to start April 16. Question of a trusteeship will be saved for assembly.

Moshe Shertok, Jewish Agency, says Jews will not settle for anything less than a Jewish state.

Arabs hope special assembly will reconsider the blunder, as they call the partition plan.

Sir Alexander Cadogan tells Security Council that British refuse to have troops in Palestine, not even to help UN.

April 2. Palestine Committee continues work on partition plan, pending assembly action.

April 3. High Commissioner Alan Gordon Cunningham of Britain appeals to all Palestinians to halt violence. Jewish Agency asks for withdrawal of foreign Arabs.

Haganah captures Arab Kastel on Jerusalem–Tel Aviv highway.

April 4. Six thousand Palestinians living abroad are asked to return to Palestine to register for military service.

Pro-Zionist rally held in New York.
April 4 cont. American Jewish Congress urges abandonment of American trusteeship plan. Dr. Stephen S. Wise is elected president of American Jewish Congress for his seventh term.

April 5–10. Special General Assembly negotiates informally.

April 5. At a Security Council meeting, U.S. proposes its plan for trusteeship: trusteeship will be enforced, but UN forces will not include Russians; trusteeship will end when Arabs and Jews agree on a government, immigration, and land purchases. Arabs and Jews reject this plan.

Arab League Yarmouck (People's) Army raids Jewish settlements in northern Palestine.

April 6–8. At Zionist General Council, David Ben-Gurion asks that a central Jewish government authority be created at once. Jews should not support any bloc of powers or Soviet Union.

April 6. Irgun invades British camp near Pardes Hannah in search of arms.

April 7. Security Council president Alfonso Lopez of Colombia opens truce negotiations with Jamal el Husseini and Moshe Shertok.

Britain reminds UN that $6 million will be needed to buy food for Palestine for the period May 15 to June 30.

April 8. Talks encounter difficulties.

Prayer services for Jewish state are held throughout U.S.

Arabs recapture Kastel, Palestine.

April 9. Haganah recaptures Kastel, Palestine.

Irgun and Stern Group storm Deir Yassin, an Arab Jerusalem suburb. This village had refused entry to volunteer Arab units and was not involved in any attack on Jewish areas. Women and children are killed. Arabs flee other towns after hearing of Deir Yassin.

State Department refuses to lift embargo on arms. Acting Secretary of State Robert Lovett says more weapons mean more violence.

April 10. Warren Austin, U.S. ambassador to UN, says that Arabs and Jews are eager to have peace and that a truce is possible.

American Association for UN proposes that Palestine Committee be allowed to import American arms and recruit American volunteers to enforce partition.

Jewish Jerusalem is under Arab fire. Jewish and Christian religious leaders plead for religious landmarks to be spared.


April 13. Palestine Committee reports that military force is needed to keep order, otherwise chaos will result.

Arab assault on bus convoy carrying employees of Hadassah Hospital and Hebrew University.

Syria claims terrorists no longer listen to Jewish Agency.
April 15–17. Heaviest battle of Palestinian fighting occurs south of Haifa, Palestine, on plain of Armageddon. Haganah claims a victory.

April 16. General Assembly convenes in a special session to reconsider Holy Land problem. Dr. Jose Arce of Argentina is named Assembly president. Dr. T.F. Siang is elected chairman of Palestine Committee.

April 17. Security Council passes formal request for a truce in Palestinian fighting and refrainment in any political action which would prejudice the rights of either side. British are urged to persuade Jews and Arabs.

- Convoy of food trucks reaches Jerusalem.
- State Department official reports of unrest in Baghdad, Iraq: drought has caused bread shortages, rising food costs, and unemployment.

April 18–24. As British leave Haifa, Palestine, Jews take control of area.

April 18. Letter of appeal to UN General Assembly claims Palestinian Jewish political exiles are now being detained in South Africa. Exiles were flown from Latrun to Eritrea, Ethiopia, in 1944 and are being held without trial or charges.

April 19. Palestine Committee decides to suspend efforts on partition plan until Assembly makes decision.

- Jews take control of Tiberias, Palestine, after Arabs leave.

April 20. American trusteeship plan is suggested to General Assembly's Political Committee. All of Palestine, not only Jerusalem, would be under UN trusteeship plan. U.S. volunteers to provide troops to enforce trusteeship, but Jews and Arabs must accept truce. Other countries still favor partition.

April 21. Trusteeship Council halts plans to make Jerusalem the international capital of partitioned Palestine until a decision is made by General Assembly.

- British foreign minister Ernest Bevin meets with British prime minister. They conclude that truce is unlikely, that trusteeship will require much enforcement, and that Britain will not participate in forcing Jews and Arabs to solution.

April 22. U.S. attempts to have trusteeship plan referred to Trusteeship Council.

- Dr. Abba Hillel Silver tells Assembly's Political Committee that nothing will alter plan to establish Jewish government.
- Dr. Judah L. Magnes, president of Hebrew University and representative of Ihud (Union) Association of Palestine, favors truce.

- Arabs are hostile to trusteeship plan. They believe U.S. still sponsors creation of Jewish state.

- Haganah captures Haifa, Palestine. Arabs are evacuated from area. Arabs accuse Haganah of massacre.

April 23. British high commissioner Alan Gordon Cunningham claims that no massacre occurred. He blames Arabs because of their continuous attacks on Jews in Haifa, Palestine.
Chronology—1948

April 23 cont. Security Council votes to set up a Palestine truce commission. Arabs declare that a truce is out of the question unless Jews give up idea of separate state.

David Ben-Gurion, Jewish Agency, declares Jews “stand on the eve of a Jewish state.”


April 25. Arabs are bitter toward British for unannounced withdrawal from Haifa.

Irgun attacks Arab Jaffa with well-organized assault.

Jews withdraw from Lydda, site of only commercial airport in Palestine.

Soviet Union ends boycott of UN Trusteeship Council in order to have voice concerning future of Palestine. Boycott started March 26, 1947, on grounds that methods for awarding trusteeships violated UN charter.

April 26. Haganah raids Acre, Palestine, whose normal population had doubled due to Arab refugees from Haifa, Palestine.

Jewish National Council appoints David Ben-Gurion premier of the provisional cabinet.

British mandate ends news censorship after 12 years.

Jewish National Council announces makeup of Jewish provisional cabinet.

King Abdullah of Transjordan tells British high commissioner Alan Gordon Cunningham that he demands sovereignty over all of Palestine and warns that Arab states’ armies will march into Palestine before May 15. He offers Jews a national home.

Jewish Agency says it will not be swayed by threats. It would consider conference if extremists are left out.

UN General Assembly’s Political and Security Committee hears Jamal el Husseini, who says that Arabs would never agree to partition.

April 27. Trusteeship discussions will continue; however, many countries feel that American plan is hopeless unless commitments concerning UN enforcement and Jewish immigration are included.

Moshe Shertok, Jewish Agency official, informs Political Committee that Jews repulsed first wave of Arab invasion and that creation of a separate state had been accomplished.

Haganah had first denounced Irgun’s Jaffa assault, but now offers an agreement saying Irgun will act under Haganah’s supervision. Haganah seizes eastern and southern suburbs of Jaffa, Palestine. Many Arabs had fled from Jaffa. Under partition plan Jaffa would be under Arab control. Jews announce they will hold Jaffa until Arabs agree to stop menacing communities.

Arabs loot and burn custom house in Lydda, Palestine.
April 27 cont. British deny that Arab forces in Jericho, Palestine, will start an invasion. They say that when British leave, Arab forces will leave. Arab Legion armies were subsidized, trained, and officered by British. Commander was John Bagot Glubb. Forces in Jericho were from Arab League and assigned by British for security duties.

President Truman says he might send American troops to Palestine. At request of British, U.S. stops airmail service to Palestine. Sternists continue to rob banks as part of war effort.

April 28. British turn against Irgun to prevent them from capturing Jaffa harbor which is being used for British evacuation.

Jewish Agency and Arab Higher Committee agree in UN Trusteeship Council to truce for old city in Jerusalem.

April 29. Andrei Gromyko of the Soviet Union opposes discussion of trusteeship until it is decided if UN will substitute trusteeship plan for partition.

Chairman Pablo Azcarate of UN Palestine Partition Committee arrives from Jerusalem and reports that Jews have enforced partition with arms.

Arab Higher Committee rejects French plan of UN police force in Jerusalem. Jews demand that Arabs guarantee free movements of Jews in modern sectors of city.

UN Security Council’s Truce Committee warns King Abdullah of Transjordan that invasion would defy UN. King Abdullah had been vetoed from UN by Soviet Union, so he feels that he does not have to abide by UN decisions. Council feels they do not have enough evidence of Arab invasion, so they cannot issue Council warning to Arab states. Truce Committee wires Council that heavy fighting is expected.

Major General John H. Hildring of U.S., strong advocate of partition, is named special assistant secretary of state for Palestinian affairs. Hildring had been principal adviser to U.S. delegation during previous year when partition had strong American backing in UN. He had remarked days earlier that Jews should have separate state and aid to help them defend it. This appointment removed Loy W. Henderson, pro-Arab director of Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs, from supervision of Palestinian matters.

April 30. UN tries, without success, to hold truce to protect shrines in Jerusalem.

Jews attack parts of Jerusalem, and Haganah seizes part of Christian Arab Jerusalem. British step in to help Arabs. Jewish Agency defies Transjordan’s invasion threat, but offers to have conference with King Abdullah.

U.S. calls for speedy appointment of UN representative to persuade Arabs and Jews to consider Jerusalem truce under temporary UN trusteeship.

May 1. When Arab invasion is reported, Jewish Agency appeals to Security Council to intervene in Palestine. The report proves to be false.

May 2. British send army units and Royal Marine Commandos back to Palestine.

May 3. Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones of Britain advises Political Committee to put aside plans for trusteeship, because UN will not be able to act on it before May 15, and that there will be no permanent solution without lull in fighting or victory for one side. He proposes that UN set up temporary “neutral territory” to maintain administrative and public services.

   Arabs say there will be no Arab invasion of Palestine; Arabs will be present to keep law and order.

   Arab League and Jewish Agency reject compromise which called for one-year UN trusteeship and extension of mandate to May 25.

May 4. Political Committee votes to have subcommittee draft plan using British colonial secretary Arthur Creech-Jones’s suggestions.

   International Red Cross offers to administer Jerusalem as neutral zone if both Arabs and Jews invite organization.

   UN Consular Truce Committee goes to Amman, Transjordan, to talk with King Abdullah. There is speculation that the king will only invade Arab Palestine.

   Jewish Legislature Council meets. David Ben-Gurion reports 150,000 Arabs have left homes, but Jews have not lost a single settlement.

   Irgun claims to have captured Yehudia, which commands road between Tel Aviv, Palestine, and the Lydda airfield.

   Stern Group proclaims resumption of war against British due to addition of British troops.

May 5–8. Haganah in Upper Galilee, Palestine, claims Arab resistance is crushed in North. Safad, capital of Upper Galilee, almost has been deserted by Arabs and is now controlled by Jews.

May 5. Sarona, suburb of Tel Aviv, Palestine, is bought from mandate by Jewish National Fund and Tel Aviv municipal government to serve as capital of Jewish state.

   Political Committee adopts French working paper which calls for speedy decisions on how to stop Arab and Jewish military operations. Decisions have to be made concerning organization and duration of temporary authority, Jewish immigration situation, and extent of Arab and Jewish autonomy. Jewish Agency warns U.S. not to denounce partition. If U.S. denounces partition, Jews will demand all of Holy Land.

   In subcommittee session, Soviet Union claims there are no legal grounds for suspension of partition plan. Soviet Union announces it will recognize Arab state.

   Arab League holds meeting to discuss invasion plans. King Abdullah of Transjordan says he will invade Palestine whether or not Arab League accepts armistice.
May 6. General Assembly plans to establish trusteeship over Jerusalem. British high commissioner will select commissioner acceptable to both Jews and Arabs.

Haganah is redesignated as Jewish State Army. Report states that 200 planes and 150,000 immigrants will start moving from Europe to Jewish Palestine May 15.

Letter bomb in England kills the brother of Roy Farran, who was acquitted in 1947 of murder of Sternist youth.

May 7. Britain notifies UN that a commissioner cannot be found. U.S. criticizes British for lack of cooperation with UN.

British suggest that U.S., Belgium, and France—members of Consular Truce Committee—be made nucleus of “neutral authority.”

British send 4,000 troops from Haifa, Palestine, to England.

May 8. Negotiations among Arabs, Jews, and British in Jericho, Palestine, produce cease-fire order for Jerusalem. Jews say they will hold fire as long as Arabs do. Permanent agreement to make Jerusalem open city is stalled by Arab demand that Jerusalem–Tel Aviv highway remain closed to Jewish traffic.

May 9. Britain tells UN it will protect British economic interests in Holy Land.

May 11. Vicente J. Francisco of Philippines resigns from UN Commission on Palestine.

May 13. Arab League declares war on Palestine Jews (called Jewish “rebels” by Arabs) and captures Etzion bloc.

Britain offers Palestine all assistance except imposing by force a solution not acceptable to both sides.

May 14. British high commissioner Alan Gordon Cunningham sails from Haifa, Palestine.

Proclamation of State of Israel announced by Jewish National Council. Land held by Israel corresponds almost exactly to partition plan.

U.S. government recognizes Israel but does not lift arms embargo.

British leave Jerusalem. Despite British and UN efforts for truce, Arab-Jewish hostility continues. Israel says it is ready to defend itself. Heaviest fighting occurs west and south of Jerusalem.

First Arab-Israeli War begins. (War of Independence is Jewish name.) Egypt invades Palestine and occupies Gaza. Lebanon claims to have captured Malikya, Israel. Syria claims patrols have been sent into Israel’s Upper Galilee.
May 14 cont. UN adjourns after voting for Arab-Jewish mediation without repealing November 1947 partition plan. It also fails to pass new U.S. plan for trusteeship of Jerusalem. Harold Evans is appointed to hold “neutral mayorship.” General Assembly is surprised by U.S. recognition. Arabs denounce recognition and call special session a fake. Andrei Gromyko of Soviet Union criticizes U.S. for putting UN in a ludicrous position. It is believed that President Truman wanted to recognize Israel before Soviet Union did.

Egypt informs UN Security Council that it is ordering its army into Palestine. Jewish Agency pleads with Council to invoke all UN charter powers to check Arab “breach of peace.”

Guatemala recognizes Israel.

May 15–22. Tel Aviv, Palestine, is under moderate air attack.

May 15. Expiration of British mandate.

Israeli government is installed in Tel Aviv, Palestine. New government offers peace to Arabs and guarantee of protection for minorities in Israel. Chaim Weizmann, ill in New York, is elected president of Israel.

Israel's first 1,700 Jewish immigrants land at Tel Aviv and Haifa, Palestine. American general Lucius D. Clay promises in Frankfurt-on-the-Main that army would help all legal immigrants from displaced persons camps in Germany.

Under King Abdullah's direction, armies of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria invade Israel.

May 15. Israel applies to UN for admission.

In U.S. cities, rallies are held protesting arms embargo on Israel.

Israel captures Latrun, Palestine.

May 17–22. Arab Legion of Transjordan seizes most of Jerusalem.

May 17. Chaim Weizmann accepts presidency of Israel.

Soviet Union recognizes Israel.

Warren Austin, U.S. ambassador to UN, proposes resolution to Council that Palestine situation is threat to peace. Security Council orders end of fighting within 36 hours.

May 18. British Foreign Office announces that Palestine is no longer mandate, so Great Britain is not responsible for Arab Legion. British will continue to send treaty shipments of arms to Arabs unless UN decides that Arabs have acted illegally.

UN truce efforts fail. International Red Cross operates in Palestine.

Czechoslovakia, Poland, Uruguay, and Nicaragua recognize Israel.

Israel gains Acre, an Arab city according to partition plan.

International Refugee Organization stops helping refugees travel to Israel until new government is recognized by UN.

May 19. U.S. proposes that sanctions or force be used against Arab states. British disagree. Most nations agree with Sir Alexander Cadogan that Security Council cannot commit itself to use a UN police force not yet in existence.
May 19 cont. Secretary of State George C. Marshall says that end of embargo would depend on Security Council actions.

Israel seizes Ramleh, Palestine.

Yugoslavia recognizes Israel.

May 20. Council's Consular Truce Committee in Jerusalem warns UN that only strong diplomatic or military pressure on Arab states will stop war.

In Security Council session, Vasily A. Tarasenko of Ukraine says Britain should be declared a belligerent for supporting Arab League.

Count Folke Bernadotte is named UN mediator.

Israeli air force begins to attack Iraq's Transjordan positions in Lake Galilee.

Lebanese authorities in Beirut take 61 Israel-bound passengers off an American steamer, Marine Carp, claiming they are Zionists of military age. Passengers include Americans and Canadians.

May 21. U.S. demands that Americans be released from concentration camp and leave Lebanon.

Truce Committee pleads for large, powerful UN police force.

Faris el-Khoury of Syria says UN should thank Arabs for taking care of local disturbance.

Arabs set up civil regimes wherever they have advanced in Palestine.

President Truman invites President Chaim Weizmann of Israel to White House.

Chairman Styles Bridges of Senate Appropriations Committee announces plans to investigate whether American economic aid enabled British to send military supplies to Arabs, a charge made by Zionists.

May 22. UN calls for truce.

Arabs say they will never negotiate with Israel.

British foreign minister Ernest Bevin confers with U.S. ambassador Lewis W. Douglas in London. British want to maintain bulwark against Soviet expansion and communism and also safeguard oil resources. British are also concerned that U.S. might lift arms embargo.

British propose truce plan. Arabs favor part of plan concerning embargo of men and arms. Major Aubrey S. Eban of Jewish Agency denounces plan as a scheme to allow Arabs to plan new attacks on Jews.

Egyptians reach Bethlehem, Palestine. Earlier they had invaded Palestinian cities of Beersheba (May 20) and Hebron (May 21). Egyptian force is also reported in El Majdal, Palestine.

Israeli air force supports Jewish ground forces in Jerusalem.

May 23–29. Egypt and Israel battle in Gaza.
Chronology—1948

May 23. Israel agrees to cease-fire on condition that Arabs also accept it. Lebanon refuses U.S.'s demands for release of Americans.

Thomas C. Wasson, consul general in Jerusalem and a member of the UN Security Council’s Truce Committee, dies from May 22 shooting. Jews claim snipers responsible for shooting were Arabs.


May 25. Israeli president Chaim Weizmann visits President Truman where Israeli president is given some hope that U.S. will lift embargo and grant loan.

May 26. Arab League conference results in rejection of May 22 plea for truce. Arabs demand embargo on arms and men to Israel and propose that new Jewish government suspend operations.

President and Mrs. Chaim Weizmann of Israel refuse to visit Britain in protest of British policies, although both are British subjects.

Soviet Union opens diplomatic relations with Israel.

May 27. Sir Alexander Cadogan denies Russian and Jewish charges that the British are running Arab Legion of Transjordan. British had ordered British officers on leave from Legion to withdraw from Palestine. However, they have no control over John Bagot Glubb, commander of Arab Legion, and 15 other Britons serving as Arab Legion officers.

Israel claims to have solid hold on Syrian and Lebanese frontiers as result of “The Broom” operation.

May 28. In Jerusalem’s old city, the long siege ends. King Abdullah of Transjordan lays down terms of surrender.

May 29. Near Latrun, Palestine, Israeli army and Arab Legion clash. Israelis were trying to supply Jews in modern Jerusalem.

UN Security Council makes its sixth attempt to halt war. Russian measure supported by U.S. would have ordered unconditional cease-fire on threat of economic sanctions or military intervention. Measure did not pass, and British resolution was favored. Resolution calls for four-week truce. There is a worldwide embargo of arms to entire Middle East, not only Palestine. No new immigrants can be recruited. Soldiers cannot be imported by Israel or Arabs. Holy shrines will be protected. Both sides must cooperate with Count Folke Bernadotte, UN mediator. Security Council will consider action if either side rejects new appeal or violates truce. Israel dislikes new resolution.

May 30. U.S. protests for second time the detention of 41 Americans from Marine Carp.

May 31. Prime Minister Clement R. Attlee of Britain denies that there is an Anglo-U.S. rift over Palestine.

Israel strikes Arab stronghold Tul Karm-Jenin-Nublus, northeast of Tel Aviv. There is a stalemate around Latrun, Palestine, in the struggle for the Tel Aviv–Jerusalem Road. UN truce talks impede Jerusalem fighting.
June 1. Israel accepts truce plan under several assumptions: (1) embargo will prevent British from supplying Arabs with stores of British equipment located in the Arab states; (2) lines existing at moment of truce will be held; (3) Jews will be given normal civilian access to Jerusalem; (4) Egypt, Lebanon, and Syria would end efforts to blockade Israel; and (5) Israel will be free to admit any immigrant of any age, provided immigrant is not pressed into military service or training.

Arab League meets in Amman, Transjordan, to consider UN truce appeal. City is under air raid.

June 2. Arab League answers UN concerning truce plan. They make following points: (1) efforts should be made toward Arab-dominated state instead of toward making partition permanent; (2) continued Jewish immigration is threat to Arab countries; and (3) they would help Count Folke Bernadotte and Council's Truce Committee to supervise compliance with cease-fire. King Abdullah declares that Jewish state would never be accepted.

Faris el-Khoury, Syrian delegate to UN, is told by the Security Council that both unconditional acceptances would allow Count Bernadotte to fix a time of cease-fire.

British foreign minister Ernest Bevin says that Transjordan's Arab Legion had been invited to visit Arab Palestine; there was no invasion.

Israel issues cease-fire order but resumes fighting later in the day.

Israel is recognized by Hungary. Poland and Israel exchange diplomatic representatives.

June 3. Egypt shells Caesarea, Algeria.

British halt all deliveries of war materials to Arab states, including British stockpiles in Middle East. British also announce that no Jews will be allowed to leave Cyprus. Israel calls this announcement illegal.

Former president of General Electric Gerard Swope refuses Award of Honorary Commander of Most Excellent Order of British Empire, in protest against British policy.

June 4. Israeli warship and planes drive off three Egyptian vessels.

Catholic priests of Latin patriarchate in Jerusalem charge that Israelis are turning church institutes into military bases, echoing a similar charge by Christian Union of Palestine. Israel challenges these charges.

Franciscan priests announce plans to organize Holy Land militia of international volunteers to protect holy places.

Count Folke Bernadotte is authorized to fix a time for cease-fire.

June 5. Egyptian troops are trapped at Isdud.

June 7 and 10. In a Security Council session, Soviet Union demands that it be allowed to furnish truce observers. Count Folke Bernadotte decides to select observers from U.S., Belgium, France, and Sweden.
Chronology—1948

June 7. Count Folke Bernadotte obtains truce by giving ultimatum to Israel and Arab League: if immigration to Israel threatens Arabs, then immigration will be halted; no new troops or war materials will be moved into Palestine; only routine replacements along fronts will be allowed; both sides will suspend warlike actions; relief supplies to Jerusalem and Jaffa, Palestine, will be handled by International Red Cross.

June 9. Israel and Arabs accept truce, but neither side is satisfied.

June 10. Israel warns Lebanon not to seize Israel-bound cargoes as they have threatened: Israel would consider this action to be warlike.

June 11. First truce is called for 30 days as result of UN mediation. At time of truce, Egyptian force is still besieged at Isdud. Latrun, Palestine, struggle is undecided. Jews hold western and southern Jerusalem. Observers report that 5,000 to 10,000 Jews and Arabs have been killed or wounded since May 15.

Colonel David Marcus is killed while leading Haganah forces in Jerusalem battle a few hours before cease-fire. He was a member of U.S. delegations to the Teheran, Dumbarton Oaks, Yalta, and Potsdam conferences.

Finland recognizes Israel.

June 12. Rumania recognizes Israel.

Arabs and Jews complain of cease-fire violations. Count Folke Bernadotte's organization of 68 observers, the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), is still being assembled. There are plans to hold talks in Rhodes, Greece, to attempt to settle war in four weeks.

June 13. First Jewish immigrant ship since start of truce arrives in Tel Aviv, Palestine. Men of military age (18 to 45) are sent to Israeli refugee camp.

Israel complains of Syrian attacks in eastern Galilee. Fighting fronts, however, are pronounced quiet.

June 14. UN observers halt landing of 230 motor trucks at Tel Aviv, Palestine, to determine whether they are military imports. Because of embargo, Israel's factories are running overtime.

June 15. UN Security Council rejects Russian demand that truce observers must come from all Council nations.

Egypt charges that Israel fought past deadline to capture 11 villages in southern Palestine.

Irgun announces that it has become a political party (Jewish Freedom Movement) in Israel, but that it would continue as an underground military group outside the Jewish state.

June 16. On Count Folke Bernadotte's request and with Council's approval, UN secretary general Trygve Lie asks all UN and non-UN nations to furnish information concerning number of Jews fit for military service who have traveled to Israel.
June 17. UN secretary general Trygve Lie recruits 50 volunteers from uniformed guard and other UN departments to be commanded by Lieutenant John Cosgrove. They are nicknamed “Lie's Legion” and “Cosgrove's Lancers.”

June 18. UN volunteers led by Lieutenant John Cosgrove depart for Palestine.

Count Folke Bernadotte arrives in Rhodes to begin negotiations with Arabs and Jews.

June 19. Jewish Agency announces that 100 truckloads of fresh food will be sent daily to Jewish Jerusalem during truce. UN Truce Committee plans to inspect cargoes.

June 21. Haganah learns that Irgun ammunition settlement has landed near Natanya. Israeli troops attack area.

June 22–24. In Cairo King Abdullah of Transjordan calls for solidarity of Arab leaders.

June 22. Irgun tries to land another arms cargo at Tel Aviv, Palestine. Haganah attacks Irgun and sets Altalena afire.

James G. McDonald, who was on Anglo-American Palestine Inquiry Committee in 1946, is appointed President Truman's special representative to Israel. Israel names Eliahu Epstein to head Israel delegation to U.S.

June 23. Menahem Beigin announces that Irgun no longer recognizes Israeli government; he calls David Ben-Gurion “a lunatic dictator.”

Rabbis Yehuda Leil Fishman and Moshe Shapiro resign from Israeli cabinet.

June 24. Israeli Legislative Council gives David Ben-Gurion a vote of confidence for his defense of the truce. Rabbis Yehuda Leil Fishman and Moshe Shapiro withdraw their resignations. The government announces that Irgun rebellion is over.

June 25. Golda Myerson (later Meir) is appointed by Israel as minister to Soviet Union. Soviet Union names Pavel Ivanovich Yershov as minister to Israel.

Egyptian troops menace Jewish food convoy bound for Negba, Palestine. Egyptian pilot fires on UN observation plane. Count Folke Bernadotte wires UN that Egypt has violated truce, and gives Israel permission to fight in Negba.

June 26. Israel charges that Egypt attacked Kfar Darom near Gaza.

Harold Evans, UN neutral mayor of Jerusalem, returns to U.S., announcing he will help Count Folke Bernadotte.

Venezuela recognizes Israel.

June 27. Israeli government receives pledge of allegiance from new Zavah Itaganoh (Army of Defense). Irgun members are rounded up. Irgun promises to give up arms everywhere but Jerusalem.
**Chronology—1948**

**June 28.** Count Folke Bernadotte submits new peace proposals to Arab League and Israeli government.

Freda Kirchwey, president of Nation Associates, tells UN secretary general Trygve Lie and President Truman that King Farouk I of Egypt collabo-rated with Nazis.

**June 29.** U.S. mail service resumes to Israel.

**June 30.** Last British troops leave Palestine; Israeli flag goes up.

Syria charges that U.S. warship shelled Arab lines at Bruwa, Palestine. Lebanon says charges are not true.

**July 1.** Arab army, who never recognized truce, attacks Jews from Nazareth. Egypt allows Jewish food convoy to go to settlements in Negeb.

**July 2–6.** At their meeting, Zionist Organization of America pledges support to Israel.

**July 2.** In Nuremberg, expense account of German foreign minister shows that Haj Amin el Husseini, exiled mufti of Jerusalem, and Rashid Ali el Ghailani, former Iraqi premier, were entertained by Germans during World War II.

**July 3.** Count Folke Bernadotte meets with Arabs.

Israeli government accuses British of hampering Israel's economic growth by blocking $400 million in Palestine sterling balances without negotiation.

King Abdullah says Arabs will rely on arms.

**July 4.** Both sides reject Count Bernadotte's peace plan, which called for union of Arab and the Jewish states in Palestine and Transjordan. Each state would have full control over internal and foreign affairs. Immigration would continue for two years, after which the Council would rule if economic capacity were being exceeded. Arabs declare that they will never recognize a Jewish state and talk of resuming war. Jews dislike Arab control of Jerusalem and a limit on immigration.

Israel announces it is holding Peter Bergson, copresident of American League for a Free Palestine, on charge of "armed resistance" following Altalena incident.

**July 5.** Count Folke Bernadotte proposes that Jerusalem and Haifa, Palestine, be given neutral status. Jews agree on demilitarization of Jerusalem, but reject a neutral Haifa. Arabs accept a neutral Haifa, but reject demilitarization of Jerusalem. After both sides' rejections, Bernadotte appeals to the UN Security Council.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann is reelected president of Zionist Organization of America.

**July 6.** Commandant René La Barriere, French officer attached to UN Truce Committee, is killed when his jeep strikes a land mine in Nazareth.

**July 7.** UN Security Council appeals to both sides to extend truce. Arab delegation walks out when representative of Israel is seated.
Chronology—1948

July 7 cont. Stern Group executes Rosa Beiser on charges of spying for British and Arabs. Haganah convicts one of its air force officers of espionage for British. Irgun kidnaps five Britons on spying charges.

July 8. Dr. Philip C. Jessup, U.S. representative from UN Security Council, says if Arabs reject truce extension, U.S. will support action against them. Syria replies that they are "ready to be killed by atomic bombs" and Russia.

U.S. and French warships take 200 UN observers aboard at Haifa, Palestine.


Tel Aviv, Palestine, is bombed by Egyptian planes. Israel claims that Egypt struck before truce expired. Arabs and Jews shell Jerusalem.

Arab League offers counterproposals to Bernadotte's earlier peace plans. Instead of federal state, Arabs want provisional unitary government which Arabs would control. Minorities would have rights, but new Jewish immigrants would be denied citizenship.

Provisional Palestine administration is established, which will deal in essential services in Arab areas but will not be political.

July 10. Israel uses tanks for first time, capturing the Lydda airfield and Arab Legion stronghold of Wilhelma. It is reported that 35,000 Arab troops and 40,000 Israeli troops are in Palestine.

Israel claims that Egypt violated truce on July 7 and 8. An Egyptian order had been found, ordering troop movements. U.S. secretary of state George C. Marshall believes that Arabs are to blame, but he leaves matter to Council.

Count Folke Bernadotte leaves Rhodes, Greece, to go to New York and report to UN.

It is revealed that Count Bernadotte offered all of Arab Palestine to King Abdullah if he would favor a truce.

July 11. A B-17 flying fortress of USAF veterans is forced down in Halifax, Nova Scotia. They refuse to give their destination and are sent back to New York.

July 12. Count Folke Bernadotte reports to Council: Arabs oppose Jewish state and immigration; they will fight to the limit of their capacity; the Jews do not fear Arab threat. Therefore, UN has two alternatives: (1) make it unprofitable for Arabs to war against Jews; or (2) let two sides fight it out.

British hold up subsidy payment to Legion pending outcome of UN Security Council debate.

Jews capture Lydda and Ramle, Palestine. Fighting occurs in Jerusalem, Palestine.
Chronology—1948

July 13. Count Folke Bernadotte recommends that sanctions or force be used against any side that persists in waging war.

Dr. Philip C. Jessup of U.S., favoring Count Bernadotte’s ideas, declares that Palestine war is threat to peace. He suggests an unconditional cease-fire within 24 hours in Jerusalem and a truce within three days in Palestine. Truce would continue until a peaceful adjustment was made. Restrictions would be placed on the number of fighting men and weapons. If any side rejects or violates truce, UN Security Council would take action.

Norwegian member of UN guards is killed while escorting ambulances. Chief UN observer, Colonel Brunson, says there is complete disregard for UN flag.

Jews control Rah el Ain, rail junction which controls Jerusalem, Palestine, water supply.

Passengers from Marine Carp arrive in New York from Lebanon. En route to New York, 13 “jump ship.”

U.S. seizes two Constellations in Millville, New Jersey, for fear they will be flown to Palestine.

July 15–17. Light air raids transpire in Tel Aviv, Haifa, Jerusalem, all in Palestine; Cairo, Egypt; and Damascus, Syria.

July 15. UN Security Council decides Palestine conflict is menace to world peace. Sanctions or force is threatened. It is the first time in UN history that Council invokes Article 39, Chapter VII of Charter.


Arabs and Israelis agree to cease-fire.

Jews capture Nazareth.

London report says Israel is importing German-model fighter planes from Czechoslovakia.

Loy Henderson, former director of Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs in U.S. State Department, is appointed ambassador to India by President Truman. Zionists have called Henderson pro-Arab. Joseph Satterthwaite becomes new director of office.

July 17. Before Jerusalem truce takes effect, Irgun and Stern Group combine to attack Arab-held old city.

Fighting ceases in Jerusalem, Palestine.

Count Folke Bernadotte leaves for Middle East to resume mediation efforts.

July 18. Arabs accept cease-fire but oppose indefinite truce. They make the following demands to UN: (1) a complete halt to Jewish immigration; (2) a return of 300,000 Palestinian Arab refugees to their homes in Israeli-held areas; and (3) a time limit to truce.

Arabs protest truce outside palace of King Abdullah of Transjordan. The King tells them they should be in army rather than protesting.
**Chronology—1948**

**July 18 cont.** Arabs blow up pumping station in Latrun, Palestine, halting Jerusalem’s water supply.

Mob in Cairo, Egypt, stones Stephen Haas, American tourist, to death. Haas, Philadelphia realtor, was active in Jewish affairs but was in Cairo as tourist.

B-17 which was forced down in Halifax, Nova Scotia, lands in the Azores. The crew is impounded and will not give their destination, but it is suspected to be Palestine.

**July 19.** U.S. embassy protests death of Stephen Haas.

**July 20.** Britain demands end to Egyptian attacks on British.

**July 21.** It is reported that Israel has claimed possession of 810 square miles of Arab territory. Arabs hold 205 square miles of Jewish territory.

**July 22.** Jews put oil refinery in Haifa, Palestine, into operation.

Moshe Shertok, Jewish Agency, says Israel is prepared to give Arab countries free use of ports of Haifa and Jaffa, Palestine; however, the ports would not be placed under joint Jewish-Arab or international control.

**July 24.** Crew of B-17 returns to New York. Pilot is arraigned on charges of violating Presidential Arms Embargo.

British protest seizure of oil refinery partly owned by British company.

**July 26.** Israel decrees that New City of Jerusalem is Jewish-occupied area.

**July 27.** UN Security Council rejects Syrian resolution to ask International Court of Justice for advisory ruling on whether UN has any jurisdiction over Palestine.

Arab Legion’s and Transjordan’s subsidy payments from Britain are restored.

**July 28.** Arab Legion accepts responsibility for killing of Norwegian UN guard; soldier who shot UN guard is arrested for court-martial.

**August 1.** Israel appoints Dr. Bernard Joseph as military governor of Jerusalem, Palestine.

**August 2.** In UN Security Council session British offer to start relief fund for Arab refugees.

**August 4.** King Abdullah says both Jews and Arabs should consider compromise.

Israel demands that British release 11,000 Jews from Cyprus.

**August 5.** Israel invites all Arab League states to open direct Holy Land peace discussions. They submit their request to Count Folke Bernadotte.

Count Bernadotte recommends that UN Security Council affirm right of Arab refugees to return to their former homes in Israeli territory. Israel objects.

**August 6.** Count Folke Bernadotte conveys Israel’s message to Arab League. Before he had conveyed message, Egypt had already denounced it because Moshe Shertok, Jewish Agency, opposed readmitting 250,000 to 300,000 Arab refugees to Jewish-controlled areas in advance of a peace settlement and had refused to discuss demilitarization of Jerusalem with Arabs.
Chronology—1948

August 7. UN relief expert Sir Raphael Alento says Arab refugees are now as much a UN problem as were the Jewish displaced persons in Europe.

August 8. U.S. says it will support Israel's application to UN next month.

August 11. Count Folke Bernadotte insists that Arabs and Jews stop new flare-up of fighting in Jerusalem.

August 12. Latrun, Palestine, pumping station is blown up.

August 13–14. Israel demands that UN fix a time limit for truce.

August 14. Egypt tells Count Folke Bernadotte that Israel's offer of direct talks is rejected. They refuse to discuss any plan which would partition Palestine.

August 15. New Israeli pound is offered by government.

August 16. Arab League fires on UN truce team jeep in Latrun, Palestine.

August 17. UN Security Council warns both Jews and Arabs against breaking Holy Land truce. Count Folke Bernadotte reports that clashes in Jerusalem, Palestine, are getting out of hand.

August 18. Aubrey S. Eban asks all UN nations to support Israel's admittance to UN.

August 20. Sir Alexander Cadogan refuses Israel's request for admittance to the UN.

August 21. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver says that he hopes President Truman will give political and economic support for Israel.

August 22. World Jewish Congress asks that UN consider Egyptian treatment of Jews. Jews claim that 150 Jews were murdered and hundreds wounded in Cairo, Egypt, during June and July.

August 23. Egypt invades Jewish-held Talpioth, a Jerusalem, Palestine, suburb.

August 24. Israel releases five leaders of Irgun who were arrested in June for truce violations.

August 25. Two French UN observers die when their plane is fired on near Gaza. A French observer is wounded during Arab shelling of Jewish lines in Mount Zion.

August 26. Israel demands that UN protect Jews who abide by the truce.

August 27. Arab League leaders meet.


August 29. British says it will donate $400,000 of tents and medical supplies from Middle East military stocks to any suitable international organization that will use the supplies for the relief of Arab refugees.

August 30. Secretary of State George C. Marshall suggests that truce teams be doubled.

August 31. Zionist General Council meets.
August 30. Egypt agrees to let Israel send convoys to 35 isolated Negeb settlements.

September. State Department refuses to permit emigration of men aged 18 to 45 to Israel from U.S.-controlled displaced persons camps in Germany and Europe, except in cases approved by Count Folke Bernadotte.

September 2. State Department orders Czechoslovakia to halt movement of fighter planes and weapons to Israel because this is a violation of Palestine truce.

September 3. Export-Import Bank of the U.S. postpones action on $100 million loan to Israel due to "unsettled political conditions."

World Zionist Organization Committee ends session. They reject a demand by U.S. delegates that all Israel cabinet members withdraw from the executive. The ministers, however, do resign.

Jewish Agency for Palestine decides to spend funds only for charities not for security, political, or propaganda purposes.

American Red Cross agrees to survey Arab refugee situation.

September 4. Jews and Arabs agree to create second neutral UN–Red Cross zone. This agreement is brought about by General Aage Lundstroem, chief of staff to UN mediator Count Folke Bernadotte.

UN announces that Bernadotte's appeal for relief of Arab refugees has been answered by 14 countries and many relief agencies.

September 6. Paraguay recognizes Israel.

September 11. Count Folke Bernadotte tells an American delegate to the UN that the General Assembly must take up the Palestine question because hostilities will resume. He intends to withdraw as mediator if hostilities do resume.

September 13. Count Folke Bernadotte orders Israel to readmit 8,000 Arab refugees driven from three villages near Haifa, Palestine, by attacks which had violated the truce.

September 16. In Rhodes, Greece, Count Folke Bernadotte completes work on his UN report. He calls Jerusalem "a trigger-happy city."

Arab-Jewish artillery duels in Jerusalem. Jews had not wanted demilitarization of the city for fear of the Arab armies surrounding it.

El Salvador recognizes Israel.
September 17. Count Bernadotte is assassinated in Jerusalem, Palestine, allegedly by Stern Group. Andre Pierre Serot, chief of the French UN truce observer team, is also killed. Israel orders roundup of Stern suspects. UN secretary general Trygve Lie demands that UN stop procrastinating and raise an international guard to protect peacemakers. Hazit Hamoledet (Homeland of Fatherland Front) claims responsibility for assassinations. Hazit Hamoledet is branch of Stern Group which commits acts of violence to avoid implicating Sternists. They claim that Count Bernadotte was working for British, and they had boasted that they would kill UN emissaries to prevent an Arab-Jewish compromise. Sternists are also against demilitarization of Jerusalem, which Bernadotte had sought.

Sternist leader Nathan Friedman Yellin and his political adviser Dr. Israel Scheib flee from Palestine.

September 18. Count Folke Bernadotte’s body is escorted to Haifa, Palestine, by Israeli guards.

Ralph Bunche is appointed by Security Council as temporary successor to Count Bernadotte. Bunche tells Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok that Israel must take full responsibility for assassination as a breach of truce. Israeli officials protest; they say they are rounding up suspects. Jewish Jerusalem is under curfew. Irgun denounces assassins. James G. McDonald, special U.S. representative to Israel, is warned by terrorists that U.S. is not wanted in Israel. Arabs claim Bernadotte’s death is proof that Israel cannot control Jewish extremists. Secretary of State George C. Marshall says that efforts to make peace will continue, that the world will not permit a new outbreak of general warfare in Palestine, and that the assassination will not affect U.S. support to Israel. UN secretary general Trygve Lie calls on Security Council to organize UN guard force to protect truce observers. Jacob A. Malik of Soviet Union condemns killing and suggests that UN enforce 1947 partition plan.

September 19–21. Count Folke Bernadotte’s and Andre Pierre Serot’s bodies are flown from Haifa, Palestine, to Paris, France, for memorial service.

September 19. Irgun and Stern Group announce their dissolution. Members will join the Israeli army.
September 20. Irgun and Stern Group deny any part in Count Folke Bernadotte's assassination.

Count Bernadotte's last paper is published in Paris. Paper calls for recognition of Israel, but parts of Bernadotte's plan displease Jews and Arabs: Israel now exists, a fact Arabs cannot change; Israel cannot annex Arab territory; Israel will be admitted to UN. Plan also calls for merging of Transjordan and Arab Palestine. Transjordan will be admitted to UN. Haifa harbor (Jews) and Lydda Airport (Arabs) will be considered free ports. Jerusalem will be international city. Arab refugees should be allowed to return to their homes or compensated for their losses. Plans are made to expand provisions for refugees. It is reported that during seven weeks of truce, there were 288 complaints of violations (183 against Jews, 105 against Arabs). Arabs approve Bernadotte's relief program, but criticize UN for creation of refugee problem.

Israeli cabinet adopts emergency regulations for prevention of terrorism.

Irgun surrenders military supplies stolen from British.

Three hundred suspected members of Hazit Hamoledet are arrested.

Arab League announces it is establishing an Arab government for Palestine in Gaza. King Abdullah of Transjordan bars Gaza government from operating within security zone of his government.

September 21. Secretary of State George C. Marshall and British foreign minister Ernest Bevin support plan. Arabs reject plan; they insist on no partition of Palestine.


September 22. Israel announces it is willing to discuss Count Bernadotte's proposals. Main objections are to the surrender of Negeb, an area planned for large-scale development, and to internationalization of Jerusalem.

U.S. orders Greek Aid Mission to send food to Middle East refugees.

September 23. Arabs accuse Jews of shooting down Arab airliner. Dead include two British reporters.

Memorial service is held for eight UN representatives killed in Palestine. Twenty-six Sternists escape, but 25 are recaptured.


UN mediator Ralph Bunche demands that Israel and Transjordan stop fighting along Israel's "Burma Road," a road going to Jerusalem from Latrun, Palestine, area.

September 27. Israel admits that Arab plane was shot down, but claims that plane had violated Israeli-held Upper Galilee.

September 28. Mufti of Jerusalem Haj Amin el Husseini returns to Gaza.
Chronology—1948

September 30. Nathan Friedman Yellin and his aide Matiyyahu Schmurkwitz are captured by Israeli police in Tel Aviv, Palestine.

President Chaim Weizmann of Israel arrives in Israel after recovering from an operation in Geneva.

October 1. Haj Amin el Husseini is elected president of Arab Palestine National Assembly.

UN Truce Committee cables UN Security Council that truce in Jerusalem has been sabotaged by misconduct of Jewish forces under Dr. Bernard Joseph, Israel's military governor for Jerusalem.

October 2. Jews deny Truce Committee's charges.

Arab Palestine National Assembly proclaims Palestine an independent Arab state. Transjordan objects. Jews are considered invaders.

Israeli president Chaim Weizmann relinquishes his British citizenship but urges friendly British-Israel relations. He says President Truman told him U.S. will support Jewish claims to Negeb, an area to be allotted to Arabs by Bernadotte plan.

October 3. Israel tells UN it does not intend to surrender Negeb.

October 5. Moshe Shertok discusses Bernadotte plan with Secretary of State George C. Marshall.

Air raids occur in Tel Aviv and Haifa, Palestine.

October 6. Moshe Shertok, Jewish Agency official, announces territory demands of Israel: Western Galilee, modern Jerusalem, and land corridor between Jerusalem and rest of Israel. Eventually Israel and Arabs will have to settle their differences by direct negotiations. Israel favors annexation of Arab Palestine by Transjordan.

Arab League insists on unpartitioned Palestine.

October 7. Israeli army had fought off Egyptian attacks near Negeb. UN Truce Mission demands that both sides stop serious breaches of truce.

October 8. UNRRA Governing Committee allots money given to International Children's Emergency Fund to be used for Palestinian refugees.

Israel signs with Shell and Socony companies to ensure adequate oil supply for Israel.

October 10. In Jaffa, Palestine, police fortress, 170 Sternists rebel. Israeli troops put down rebellion and prisoners are moved to Acre, Palestine.

October 12. New Arab government in Gaza is recognized by Egypt and Iraq.

October 13. U.S. refuses to recognize Gaza government because it is opposed by Transjordan king Abdullah's Arab faction.

Police who let Sternists out of jail for a holiday are arrested.

October 14. Israel asks Security Council to compel Arabs to negotiate with Israel. Britain, China, and France in Security Council session charge that Israel is to blame for Bernadotte-Serot assassinations.
October 15. UN mediator Ralph Bunche pleads to General Assembly Political Committee for adoption of Bernadotte peace plan. He tells Security Council that truce will collapse unless UN finds way for Arabs and Jews to respect UN truce teams.

New Arab government in Gaza is recognized by Saudi Arabia.
Egypt attacks Jewish convoy which had tried to run through Egypt's Negeb blockade.

October 16. Israel and Egypt clash near Negeb in defiance of cease-fire demand issued by Brigadier General William E. Riley, UN chief of staff in Palestine. Israel refuses to halt military action unless Egypt does same.

Israel conducts ground raids against Egypt in Iraq al-Manshiyya, northeast of Gaza. Egypt bombs Jewish localities in same area. Israeli planes attack Gaza, Beersheba, and Faluja.


October 24. In a statement issued without notifying Secretary of State George C. Marshall, President Truman says Bernadotte plan is merely a basis for new negotiations and he criticizes Thomas Dewey (Republican presidential nominee) for making Palestine a campaign issue.

Israel stops Syrian attacks in Upper Galilee.

October 25. President Truman orders Export-Import Bank of the U.S. to resume negotiations for a loan to Israel.


October 26. Senator Robert A. Taft (Ohio) says President Truman's statement endorses both UN partition plan and Bernadotte plan. He criticizes Truman's handling of Palestine issue and the many reversals in U.S. policy toward Palestine.

Security Council holds emergency session to discuss Egypt's claims of Israeli aggression. Aubrey S. Eban, spokesman for Jews, declares Israel will defy UN mediator Ralph Bunche's request to give up its gains in Negeb. Israel proposes negotiations with Egypt to consider new frontiers between Israel and Egypt.

October 27. Iraqi troops attack Jenin-Tulkarm-Nablus, the "Arab Triangle" southeast of Jaffa, Palestine.

New Israeli settlement in Tel Aviv, Palestine, is dedicated.
Death of Dr. Judah L. Magnes, president of Hebrew University.

October 28. Israeli premier David Ben-Gurion pleads for separate, permanent peace between Israel and Egypt.

Britain, China, France, Belgium, and Canada call for resolution to create committee to determine if any sanctions should be used against Israel. Resolution receives implied support of U.S. Soviet Union calls for delay in voting on resolution.
October 28 cont. President Truman plans to carry out Democrats' platform promises to Israel. He tells American friends of Israel that U.S. policy toward Israel must be meshed with foreign policy around the world.

John Foster Dulles, U.S. delegate to UN General Assembly, advises Thomas Dewey to make immediate statement on his views, to guide U.S. delegation. Dulles does not favor sanctions against Israel.

October 29. British and Chinese call for sanctions against Israel if it does not give up gains in Negeb.

International Children's Emergency Fund votes for aid to Palestinian refugees. In session of UN General Assembly's Social Committee British propose that UN raise $30 million for relief of 500,000 Arab refugees in the Middle East.

Large-scale Jewish offensive conducted in Galilee.

October 30. Secretary of State George C. Marshall and British foreign minister Ernest Bevin meet to discuss Palestine and other issues.

Israeli troops battle for Galilee against Lebanese troops. UN chief of staff William Riley appeals for cease-fire, but both sides ignore appeal.

October 31. Israeli troops complete conquest of Galilee and move into Lebanon. Entire Northern Palestine border is now under Jewish control.

Arab government in Gaza is recognized by Afghanistan.

Soviet Union blames U.S. and Britain for creation of refugee problem.

November. Dr. William Haber, advisor to U.S. Army on Jewish Affairs, reports Jewish displaced persons are leaving Germany at rate of 4,000 a month. Since May 15, 15,000 have left.

Israel Corporation of America, which was formed in New York in partnership with Jewish Agency for Palestine, announces plans for huge housing development to accommodate 10,000 immigrants a month in Israel.

Israel begins full-scale colonization of Negeb; Beersheba is planned center of project.

November 1. Israel defies UN instruction to leave Lebanon.

Fighting subsides; UN mediator Ralph Bunche's efforts bring about cease-fire.

Turkey stops issuing permits for Turkish Jews to go to Israel. Jews get passports to go to Italy, but go to Israel instead.

November 2. King Abdullah of Transjordan is rumored to be making secret peace inquiries. Israel denies.

November 4. UN Security Council passes a modified version of British-Chinese resolution of sanctions against Israel. Resolution calls for (1) Israel and Egypt to go back to October 14 lines; (2) new truce lines to be negotiated; and (3) if points (1) and (2) are disobeyed, a Big Five Belgian-Colombian committee to decide if measures will be taken under Chapter VII of UN Charter. Israel protests and claims it is being threatened.
November 5–6. Egypt retreats from Negeb. Israeli troops observe retreat but hold fire.

November 5. American Zionist Emergency Council demands that President Truman take care of "a great injustice."

November 6. Arabs protest that UN chief of staff William E. Riley advised them to negotiate for peace. UN mediator Ralph Bunche denies that Riley gave such advice. Arab Legion denies November 2 rumors of King Abdullah's peace efforts.

November 7. Israeli government admits it had bought military equipment from several places including Czechoslovakia but denies it received help from Soviet Union.


Israel charges that British troops reentered Palestine from Transjordan to help Arabs; British deny.

November 10. UN rules that Jews are in violation of truce. Jews had arrested two UN officers who tried to observe Negeb battle.

November 12. Israeli premier David Ben-Gurion confirms that talks are under way between Israel and two Arab governments (presumed to be Egypt and Transjordan). Israel is opposed to new UN proposal whereby Israeli troops give up recent gains in Negeb. In original partition plan, Negeb is consigned to Jews. Ben-Gurion claims dispute can be settled in four weeks if U.S. stops Britain from interfering with Arabs' wish to talk peace terms.

UN mediator Ralph Bunche orders Israel to give up Iraq Suweidan.

November 13. President Truman feels that direct Arab-Jewish negotiations might work. He also advocates a full recognition of Israel and aid for 500,000 Arab refugees in Middle East.

UN Security Council listens to plan by UN mediator Ralph Bunche. Israel would withdraw to October 14 lines. Egypt would stay where it had retreated in Negeb fighting. A large part of Negeb would be demilitarized pending UN negotiations for peace. Israel rejects part of plan in which Beersheba would be under Arab administration. Plan is endorsed by Council's special committee on Negeb and Bunche orders Egypt and Israel to carry out plan.

November 15. In his address to Political Committee, Moshe Shertok declares that Israel will fight before it gives up Negeb.

Israel announces its peace conditions: (1) Jewish control of modern Jerusalem corridor to remainder of Israel; (2) no Arab use of Haifa port or Lydda airport except under Israeli terms; (3) retention of Western Galilee as long as area is needed for Israel's defense; and (4) no readmission of Arab refugees to Israel until peace is established. Israel also requests UN admission.
November 15 cont. Salah el-Kuntar, leader of Druse tribesmen’s National Army, says Druses want their 4,000-square-mile area shifted from Syria to Israel. Druses helped drive Syrian troops out of Upper Galilee.

November 16–17. Arabs insist on not recognizing Israel.

November 16. UN Security Council demands that Israel and Egypt negotiate Negeb armistice directly or through UN mediator Ralph Bunche. This demand does not alter previous order calling for demilitarization of Negeb.

At convention American Federation of Labor backs U.S. aid to Israel.

November 17. King Abdullah of Transjordan hopes for a “real peace” to replace “semi-peace.” He suggests that “the Israelis should be more reasonable” and the Arabs “should accept the logical.”

November 18. British state minister Hector McNeil offers Political Committee a resolution calling for permanent settlement based on Bernadotte plan.

Israel proposes compromise: it will withdraw all troops who arrived in Israel after October 14; troops who arrived before October 14 will stay to ensure that area does not fall to Egypt. Israel announces it is ready to begin armistice with Arabs.

November 19. UN mediator Ralph Bunche accepts Israel’s proposal.

UN General Assembly approves $30 million fund for relief of Palestinian refugees (mostly Arabs), forming the UNRPR. Assembly asks UN member countries for contributions.

November 20. Dr. Philip C. Jessup announces U.S. policy: any changes made in Israel’s boundaries should be agreed on by Israel; Bernadotte plan is only a basis for negotiations. He suggests that Israel give up Negeb in compensation for Western Galilee gains and endorses UN membership for Israel. Parts of Bernadotte plan to be considered are an international Jerusalem, the return of refugees to Palestine, and safeguarding of minorities.

First preliminary armistice talks begin. William E. Riley, chief UN truce observer, meets separately with Israel Foreign Office officials and Egyptian commander Fouad Sadeh Bey.

November 21. Israeli premier David Ben-Gurion praises King Abdullah of Transjordan and says he will meet with Abdullah and other Arab leaders anytime.

November 22. Soviet Union and Poland call for partition plan for Palestine.

November 23. In session of UN General Assembly’s Political and Security Committee, Dr. Philip C. Jessup suggests that both Bernadotte and UN partition plans be considered in fixing Israeli boundaries. Israel would keep Galilee and part of Negeb.

Aubrey S. Eban defends Jewish claims to both Galilee and Negeb.

Israel stops unrestricted army recruiting but forms reserve with men aged 40 to 45.

November 24. UN truce mission announces a provisional Arab-Jewish truce line.
November 25. Arabs announce they will not negotiate with Israel except through UN.

UN mediator Ralph Bunche recommends to Political Committee that UN try another strong appeal for Israel and Arabs to get together. He urges Israel's admittance to UN.

Israel's Provisional Government Council announces it will hold first general elections on January 25. Persons aged 18 years or more will be eligible to vote.

November 26. Israel-Egypt negotiations, through UN truce mission, for armistice in Negeb bog down. Problem is UN mediator Ralph Bunche's insistence on Security Council demand for Jewish withdrawals. Aubrey Eban tells subcommittee that Israel will not let large force of Egyptians withdraw from entrapment at Negeb until Arabs respond to Council's November 16 armistice resolution.

Bulgaria recognizes Israel.

Menahem Beigin, former Irgun commander in chief, visits New York mayor William O'Dwyer.

November 28. Three U.S. religious leaders denounce Menahem Beigin, Irgun leader, as a terrorist.

November 29. Israel applies for UN admission.

Stanton Griffis is appointed director of the UNRPR.

November 30. Colonel Moshe Dayan of Israel and Lieutenant Colonel Abdullah el Tell of Transjordan Arab Legion sign cease-fire agreement.

American Council for Judaism asks Attorney General Tom C. Clark for a federal investigation of Menahem Beigin's U.S. activities.

December 1. King Abdullah of Transjordan is proclaimed king of Palestine at a meeting of central Palestinian Arabs in Jericho. In reaction, riots occur in Damascus and Syrian premier Jamil Mardam Bey and his cabinet resign.

President Chaim Weizmann of Israel calls for Jerusalem's new city to be incorporated into Israel. All faiths would be able to worship.

December 3. Mission of the UN Mediator on the Palestine Disaster Relief Project meets with volunteer agencies. Dr. Pierre Descouedres, chief of mission, reports that refugees in camps do not have good living conditions. More supplies are needed as well as a better system of transporting them. Refugees tend to feel frustrated and isolated, although the goal of the camps is to build a sense of social consciousness.

December 4. The UN General Assembly Political and Security Committee passes a British-Canadian plan for a council commission on Palestine to negotiate a final peace settlement. The plan calls for (1) commission members to be appointed by Big Five; (2) an international Jerusalem; (3) a small UN guard to protect commission; and (4) aid to refugees. Plan mentions neither Bernadotte plan nor partition plan as basis for settlement.
Chronology—1948

December 6. Israel-Iraq cease-fire is signed.

December 7 and 10. Egypt attacks Jewish settlements in Negeb near Egyptian border, according to Jewish claims.

December 7. Soviet Union argues for partition plan.

President Truman announces he will ask Congress for money for Palestinian refugees. On the other hand, British wish to furnish supplies and money from UN working capital funds.

Transjordan cabinet gives its consent to crowning of King Abdullah as king of united Palestine and Transjordan.

December 8. British demand to Security Council’s Negeb subcommittee that sanctions against Israel be implemented. Their reason is Israel’s continued entrapment of an Egyptian force in Negeb.

King Abdullah denounces Arab League-sponsored Palestine Army regime in Gaza.

Egypt announces dissolution of Moslem Brotherhood, a fanatical national religious organization.

December 9. Iraq is asked by Britain, U.S., and France to reopen oil pipeline from Iraq to Haifa, Palestine. Oil refined in Haifa will not be furnished to Israel.


Israel agrees to UN truce mission’s request to let a trapped Egyptian force withdraw from Faluja in Negeb.

December 11. UN adopts resolution 194. The new Conciliation Committee for Palestine is set up by UN General Assembly. Its roles are to promote direct negotiation or act as a go-between, to cooperate with Jerusalem authorities until the city is internationalized, to safeguard religious shrines, and to work for repatriation, resettlement, and economic and social rehabilitation of Holy Land refugees permitted to return home. Refugees number 500,000 Arabs and 10,000 Jews.

King Farouk of Egypt and Syrian foreign minister disclose that they had warned King Abdullah of Transjordan not to annex Palestine.

December 12. Israel and Transjordan let Christians travel to Bethlehem on Christmas pilgrimages.

December 13. Transjordan Parliament authorizes King Abdullah to accept sovereignty over Arab Palestine and Transjordan defying a warning by council of Ulemas (a group of scholars and highest spiritual authority in Moslem world).

December 15. Israel breaks off negotiation for local truce agreements and demands future peace talks for all of Palestine.

December 16. Egypt charges that Jews announced new attack on Faluja garrison.

December 17. New Syrian cabinet is appointed.

From Yugoslavia 4,100 Jews leave by ship for Israel.
Chronology—1948

December 18. Israel denies Egyptian charges and says the charges were made to damage Israel's chances for admittance to UN.

December 19. UN mediator Ralph Bunche announces that a final solution to Palestine conflict is well on its way.

December 20. King Abdullah of Palestine appoints Sheikh Hussan Medin Jarallah as mufti of Jerusalem. Haj Amin el Husseini is recognized as mufti of Jerusalem by other Arab states.

Nathan Friedman Yellin, who went on trial December 5, denies he was involved in Bernadotte assassination.

December 22. Syria bans Life and Newsweek because of their increased Zionist propaganda.

December 23. Efforts of UN Truce Committee to arrange Israel-Egypt armistice conference break down. Israel attacks Egyptian troops near Gaza, Nirim, Rafah, and Khan Yunis.

December 24–25. Pilgrims are allowed to enter Bethlehem, but have to pass through Jewish and Arab checkpoints.

December 24. Egypt conducts air raids on Nazareth, Haifa, and Tel Aviv, all in Palestine.

Canada recognizes Israel.

The International Children's Emergency Fund reports that there are 750,000 refugees from Holy Land warfare.

December 26–31. Egyptian control in Negeb is almost wiped out by Israel.

December 26. Israel's 100,000th immigrant since state proclamation arrives.

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (of American Federation of Labor) donates $250,000 and lends $500,000 to Israel.

Sixty-four central Palestinian Arab towns endorse King Abdullah.

December 27. In report to UN Security Council, truce observers blame Israel for new outbreak of war.

Arabs refuse to open pipeline to Haifa, Palestine, until their "just demands" are met.

December 28. Egyptian premier Mahmoud Fahmy Nokrashy Pasha is assassinated by members of the Moslem Brotherhood for his failure to win war in Palestine.

Ibrahim Abdel Hadi is appointed new premier of Egypt.

Israel bomb Gaza.

Egypt and Israel battle in Faluja.

December 29. UN Security Council demands a cease-fire in Negeb. Israel declares it will continue offensive until Egypt agrees to peace talks. UN mediator Ralph Bunche urges Palestine Conciliation Committee to begin work.

Israel occupies area near the Egyptian border. British insist that Israel follow the decisions of UN Security Council.
December 31. Egyptian warship halts Israel-bound British freighter near Haifa, Palestine.

Israel considers cease-fire and partially lifts blackout of news concerning Negeb fighting. Egypt had lost land assigned to Arabs under the 1947 plan. Israel will not give up any land until there is peace.

1949

January 1. Egypt bombs Tel Aviv, Palestine. Israel warns that one more bombing will mean the bombing of Cairo, Egypt.

January 2-4. A delegation from Yemen visits King Abdullah and expresses its opposition to the annexation of central Palestine.

January 2. Modern Jerusalem is hit by three bombs.

January 3. Egypt accepts cease-fire. Israel is considering a cease-fire, but Israeli attacks continue.

State Department asks Israel for details about Egyptian offensive. U.S. tells Israeli government that the incident embarrassed Britain because of its treaty. U.S. warns Cairo, Egypt, against action.

January 4. Israel tells U.S. it never intended to hold Egyptian territory. Jews claim the British are sending troops and planes to Transjordan. British are encouraging Arabs not to negotiate peace.

January 5. Jewish Agency reports 130,000 immigrants entered Palestine in 1948.

British foreign minister Ernest Bevin asks U.S. to exert pressure on Israel to retreat to November 4 boundaries in the Negeb. U.S. replies that responsibility should be handled by UN Security Council.

January 6. Britain replies that Israel is still blocking road in Egypt. British also claim Israel is getting arms from Czechoslovakia despite UN embargo.

New Transjordan cabinet is appointed.

January 7. New cease-fire is in effect. Israel claims trapped Egyptian garrison at Faluja is still firing.

UN Security Council's seven-nation committee's session on possible use of sanctions against truce violators is adjourned pending armistice talks.

Israel raids southern Palestine. In Egypt, 35 miles from the border, Israel shoots down 4 RAF reconnaissance planes before cease-fire takes effect. British warn that they will become involved in war if Israel invades Egypt and Transjordan.

Dr. J.D. Cottrell, medical officer of World Health Organization, is appointed adviser to UN relief plan for Palestine refugees. Report from the camps indicates that disease is widespread.
January 8. British send troops to Aqaba, located on southern tip of Negeb. British order any Jewish plane to be considered hostile. Israel claims that one plane that fired on RAF was Egyptian. British address protests to Jewish authorities rather than Israeli government. Israeli consular general Arthur Louris refuses to relay British messages.

Arab League secretary general Abdul Rahman Azzam Pasha expresses his regret to Egypt that other Arabs hesitated to help them.

January 9. British announce that warships and troops are waiting in Mediterranean to back protests of Israel's actions.

Israel protests to UN Security Council concerning British reinforcement of Aqaba, Transjordan, and concerning British shipment of arms to Egypt.

January 10. UN secretary general Trygve Lie tells British to withdraw from the dispute with Israel. U.S. urges Britain not to make dispute a major issue. British, however, keep their Mediterranean forces on alert.

January 11. Israel complains to UN Security Council that presence of British military in Middle East is endangering peace talks. British denounce Jewish aggression in Negeb. They say Security Council should enforce a recent resolution which called for Jewish withdrawal from Negeb.

Arabs claim British promised to stop arms shipments by sea. They criticize British for their failure to do so. Arms shipments are continued to Jews.

January 12. Acting secretary of state Robert A. Lovett meets with representatives from Israel, Transjordan, and Britain. U.S. is concerned about British troop movements in Palestine before reinforcement of Aqaba. British say RAF pilot was watching Israeli movements near Egypt when plane was shot down.

Anthony Eden, British Conservative leader, criticizes British foreign minister Ernest Bevin. Eden says RAF flights are purposeless and Bevin is endangering U.S.-Anglo relations. The British cabinet supports Bevin.

January 13. In talks with Sir Oliver Franks, British ambassador to U.S., President Truman claims that there is no strain on U.S.-British relations; that U.S. policy is the same as stated on November 20; that Israel will not lose Negeb unless Israel agrees to do so; that U.S. does not want any new trouble with Israel; and that Arabs should be encouraged to make peace. Truman also denies that the RAF flight was made under a joint U.S.-British decision to keep informed on Israel's movements in Egypt.

UN armistice talks begin. Mediator Ralph Bunche talks with representatives of Israel and Egypt. After talks with Egypt, Bunche will meet with representatives from Transjordan, Lebanon, and Syria.

January 16. Israel withdraws from four villages in Lebanon.

January 17. UN mediator Ralph Bunche requests to UN Security Council that his mediation unit be dissolved. He wants a new Palestine Conciliation Committee.
Chronology—1949

January 18. British foreign minister Ernest Bevin says British will release 11,000 Jews in Cyprus. Arabs should settle with Israel and try to get best possible terms.


January 22. Israel-Egypt negotiations at Rhodes, Greece, bog down in dispute over Negeb. The question is how much of Jewish gains in Negeb will be given up. Disagreement may upset earlier agreements concerning Egyptians in Faluja (January 17) and Egyptian retention of coastal area near Gaza.

January 23. An American Jewish group pledges aid to Israel but says new state does not represent American Jews.

January 24. France recognizes Israel.

January 25. Israel's first elections are held; Mapai party of David Ben-Gurion wins.

January 26. Italy recognizes Israel.

Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin of Britain wins vote of support for his Israel policy in House of Commons, but is criticized by former British prime minister Winston Churchill. Bevin criticizes the U.S. and others for his lack of success in Palestine.

January 28. Australia and Switzerland recognize Israel.

January 29. Britain recognizes Israel.

Netherlands and Luxembourg recognize Israel.

India refuses to recognize Israel.

January 30. Pakistan refuses to recognize Israel.

January 31. President Truman grants full recognition to Israel.

February 1. Transjordan accepts invitation to peace negotiations conducted by UN mediator Ralph Bunche. King Abdullah urges other Arab states to do so also.

Israel cabinet decides to incorporate modern Jerusalem into Israel despite UN plans to make it an international city.

February 2. Israel rejects Israel-Egypt frontier in Negeb.

Ecuador and Denmark recognize Israel.

February 4. UN mediator Ralph Bunche offers another proposal.

February 5. Israel and Egypt meet in first direct conference.

Lebanon and Syria agree to talks, but Lebanon wants Israeli troops off Lebanese soil.

February 6. British appoint Alexander Knox Helm as first representative to Israel.

February 7. Brazil recognizes Israel.

February 8. Italy recognizes Israel.

February 9. Israel sets expansion goal for 1949. Thus, negotiations begin with Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Poland, Yugoslavia, and Rumania to allow 60,000 to 80,000 Jews to emigrate from these countries. Hungary refuses negotiations.
February 10. Political prisoners receive amnesty, except for Sternists Nathan Friedman Yellin and Matityahu Shmulevitz, who were sentenced to eight and five years in prison, respectively.

February 11. Transfer of Cyprus refugees to Palestine is completed in Haifa, Palestine.

Iceland recognizes Israel.

February 12. UN Palestine Conciliation Committee arrives in Cairo, Egypt, to begin tour of Arab countries.

Ireland recognizes Israel.

February 13. Israeli prime minister David Ben-Gurion says Jews would oppose UN plan for Jerusalem.

February 14–19. Israel's first Knesset (Parliament) holds sessions in Jerusalem. U.S., Britain, France, and Turkey refuse to send diplomatic observers because they disapprove of the Jewish Agency as site of ceremonies. Objection is that UN had made Jerusalem an international city, yet Israel holds legislative sessions there.

February 14. Eight hundred ninety immigrants leave Shanghai, China. These immigrants were Germans and Austrians who had fled to China in the 1930s and then were forced into ghettos by the Japanese.

February 15. Argentina recognizes Israel.

February 16. Chaim Weizmann is elected president of Israel.

In a United Jewish Appeal funds dispute among Jewish groups, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, president of the American sector of Jewish Agency, resigns. Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of Zionist Organization of America, also resigns.

February 17. An interim constitution is written for Israel.

Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok says Jerusalem is important historically to Israel. He hopes that Arabs will agree to a plan giving modern city to Jews and old city to Arabs. UN Palestine Conciliation Committee had been discussing such a plan with Egypt.

Egypt and Israel reach tentative agreement at Rhodes, Greece, armistice conference. Auja, near Egyptian border, is demilitarized. Beersheba, which was assigned to Arabs under partition plan but is now occupied by Israelis, is discussed.

Export-Import Bank of the U.S. loans Israel $35,000,000 for agricultural development.

February 19. Decision is made to reduce the Israeli army to small, mobile, peacetime force, manning "Weizmann line" of fortresses along boundaries.

U.S. strongly denies Saudi Arabian accusations that they continue to ship arms to Jews, citing their rigorous arms embargo and prosecution of American citizens involved in any war activities.

UN plane is hit by small-arms fire when passing Israel-Syria border.
February 20. UN mediator Ralph Bunche submits plan of agreement between Israel and Egypt. Israel would have temporary control of Beersheba.

February 21. Four hundred ninety-eight Jewish people from Shanghai, China, land in San Francisco. They will cross U.S. in sealed trains.

February 23. Transjordan is authorized to speak for Iraq during Rhodes, Greece, talks.

In negotiations with Transjordan, Israel discusses central Palestine, Beersheba, and eastern Negeb. A permanent Jewish-Arab division of Jerusalem is also discussed.

Saudi Arabia says it will favor any agreement, providing rest of Arab League will accept agreement. Syria and Yemen do not accept arrangements. Egypt declares that agreement with Israel is military agreement, because Egypt still does not recognize Israel.

February 24. Israel and Egypt sign armistice. Israel gets most of Negeb, except Auja which will be demilitarized and serve as UN armistice headquarters. Control of Beersheba depends on permanent settlement with Egypt and armistice with Transjordan. Egypt keeps Gaza. Both sides will withdraw forces from Negeb.

President Truman declares he will give aid to all of Middle East.

Mapam, a leftist Jewish group, says armistice does not uphold Jewish interests.

Israel will not sign armistice with Transjordan until terms are approved by Israeli Assembly.

Bolivia recognizes Israel.

February 25. UN secretary general Trygve Lie cites Israel-Egypt armistice as good example of UN role as influence for peace.

James Grover McDonald is appointed first U.S. ambassador to Israel. Eliahu Elath is appointed first Israel ambassador to U.S.


March 1–5. Jewish National Fund announces plans to reclaim 25,000 acres of neglected Arab-owned land in Israel over next three years. This year, 198 new settlements will be established and Arab owners will be reimbursed.

March 1. Nationalist China recognizes Israel and Transjordan.

Israel-Lebanon talks are held.

March 2. UN Palestine Committee invites Arab government to a meeting to discuss Palestinian refugees and permanent Arab peace with Israel. Dr. Bayard Dodge, president emeritus of American University, reports that Arab refugees number 873,000.

March 3. Jewish immigrants from Shanghai, China, sail for Israel from New York.

March 4. Israel Transjordan talks are held.

Dr. Olga P. Fernberg of Joint Distribution Committee reports that 4,000 Jews who fled from Yemen to Aden in 1947 will be transferred to Israel.
March 5. Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok says the British troops in Aqaba, Transjordan, are threat to peace.

March 6. Israeli foreign minister Moshe Shertok changes his last name to Sharett, which means "servant" in Hebrew.

March 8. Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion announces Israel's domestic plan. Immigration will be doubled and national center will be located in modern Jerusalem.

Mapam refuses to join first Israeli cabinet.

March 9. Arab Legion and Israel forces skirmish in southern Negeb near Aqaba, Transjordan. British voice their concern concerning Israel's holding territory in Negeb only two miles from Aqaba.

March 10. Israel completes occupation of Negeb; Jews declare they had not and would not invade Transjordan territory.

March 11. Israel and Transjordan sign cease-fire agreement. Ban on fighting is made permanent and is to be policed by UN regardless of whether the two countries reach full armistice. Truce does not affect Nablus-Jenin-Tulkarm "triangle" which is held by Iraq troops in north central Palestine.

March 12. British say they will strengthen garrison in Aqaba, Transjordan.

March 15. Austria recognizes Israel.

Refugee report shows following population numbers: Lebanon—100,000 to 105,000; Syria—85,000 to 100,000; Transjordan—85,000; Iraq—5,000; Egypt—8,000 to 10,000; North Palestine—230,000; and South Palestine—225,000. (Numbers for Palestine only cover areas under Arab occupation.)

March 16. Israel and Transjordan agree that armistice lines in Jerusalem will be based on November 30 truce. Jews will control modern Jerusalem. Arabs will control old Jerusalem.

March 17. Private relief agencies working in Middle East meet. They complain that UNRPR is not using enough of already existing personnel and services; instead, UNRPR is struggling to set up its own agencies. Private relief agencies also complain about lack of recognition by UN.

March 18. Cuba recognizes Israel.

March 20. Transjordan asks for reinforcement of Aqaba by British.

March 21. UN mediator Ralph Bunche reports that Syria has agreed to negotiate with Israel.

March 22. Israel threatens to break off negotiations if British continue to meddle in Negeb.

American Appeal for the Holy Land reports relief aid for refugees is hampered by lack of coordination between UN agency and volunteer agencies. The volunteer agencies complain they spent money on food, money which should have gone to social services.

March 23. Lebanon and Israel sign armistice.

UN mediator Ralph Bunche reports to the UN that both Syria and Transjordan violated truce by troop movements in Aqaba area.
Chronology—1949

March 30. In New York Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin of Britain is picketed by Israeli sympathizers representing Joint Committee to Combat Anti-Semitism.

Brigadier General Husni al Zaim becomes president of Syria. Minister of foreign affairs Amir Arslan resigns. Arslan had opposed “soft” attitude toward Israel.

April 1. Philippines recognizes Israel.

April 3. Israel and Transjordan sign armistice. Both sides are bound to decide issues with no aggression. Arab Legion will replace Iraqi army in north-central Palestine. There will be neutral zone between two countries, except Aqaba, where number of forces will remain the same. Committee of Arabs and Jews will work for peace with help from UN Security Council. Jews will control modern Jerusalem, and Arabs will control old Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Hebron, and central Palestine. Dead Sea will be divided in half. There will be free travel on Tel Aviv—Jerusalem highway and Jerusalem-Bethlehem highway. Jerusalem’s water supply from Latrun, Palestine, which was cut by the Arabs, will be restored. Jews control Hadera-Afula road, northwest of Nablus-Jenin-Tulkarm.

April 5. Syria-Israel talks begin.

Dr. Mordecai Eliash, Israel’s first minister to Britain, arrives in London.

April 6. Syria charges that Israeli soldiers violated the border near meeting site.

April 7. Mexico recognizes Israel.

April 8. Syrians boycott talks.

April 9. Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion of Israel reports Israeli troops have been withdrawn from Syria.

April 13. UN decides to delay Israel’s admittance to UN; Israel still opposes an international Jerusalem.

Israel-Syria cease-fire begins.

April 15. Pope Pius XII asks Catholic nations in UN to support an international Jerusalem and all other sacred places in Holy Land. Pope is concerned about freedom of Catholics and Christians in Palestine.

Truce permits Jews to visit old city for Passover. Some Christians are cleared to make Good Friday pilgrimage to Calvary.


April 17. Egypt settles with Transjordan. Egypt had opposed Transjordan’s plan to annex Arab Palestine.


April 25. Israeli president Chaim Weizmann visits President Truman. He says Israel would welcome Arab refugees back if they did not have aggressive intentions.

April 26. Transjordan is now called the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom; it is referred to as Jordan.
April 27. UN Palestine Conciliation Committee opens its settlement conference in Lausanne, Switzerland.
April 28. Israeli president Chaim Weizmann meets with Francis Cardinal Spellman. Israel still opposes UN administration of Jerusalem.
April 30. Walter Etlan of the Israel Foreign Office says Arab displaced persons are an international project.
May 1. As Jordan's Arab Legion withdraws there is an Arab-Jewish skirmish in Jerusalem.
May 3. Syrian ban on travel and business by Jews is lifted.
May 4. Israel celebrates first anniversary of Legislative Council's first meeting.
May 5. Israel tells UN that Israel should not have to give up any land beyond boundaries of partition because partition resolution was based upon peaceful implementation, and has been erased by Arab revolts and invasion. They also say that refugee problem is the result of the Arab invasion. After most of Arab population evacuated Israel, its ethnic pattern and economic structure changed. Israel cannot take a double burden of Jewish immigration and a return of Arab refugees. Compensation to Arabs must be limited, because Israel cannot afford a large compensation plan.
May 7. Jordan cabinet admits three Palestinian Arabs.
May 11. Jews still resist an international Jerusalem; Arabs are upset about Jewish opposition.
    Israel joins UN. Conditions of admittance include compliance of resolutions 181 and 194.
May 16. Zionist General Council closes its session. A budget for resettlement and relief of refugees was adopted.
May 17. Syria and Israel break off armistice negotiations after Syria's refusal to withdraw troops from Mishmar Hay Yaiden, a frontier town in northeast Galilee captured by Israel.
    Canada recognizes Israel.
May 18. Foreign minister reports Lebanon will not be able to take many refugees because of unemployment problem there.
    Arabs at Lausanne, Switzerland, demand that Absentee Act be abrogated to allow owners of groves and grove workers to return. They are concerned about damage to citrus groves.
May 20. France recognizes Israel.
    Israel and Poland reach trade agreement.
May 26–27. UN headquarters in Haifa, Palestine, is broken into; documents are taken, as well as envelopes addressed to Lausanne and files appear to have been rifled.
May 30. Britain agrees to allow Israel to spend $14 million of Jewish assets frozen in Britain since 1948.
Chronology—1949

June 3. At Lausanne, Switzerland, the refugee population numbers in each country are reported: Syria—80,000; Lebanon—100,000; Iraq—5,000; Egypt—15,000; Jordan—0; Gaza region—140,000; and the region in the Nablus-Jenin-Tulkarm “triangle”—180,000.

June 5–11. Indirect Israel-Arab peace negotiations through the UN Palestine Conciliation Committee in Lausanne, Switzerland, deadlock.

June 9. U.S. demands that Israel relax its stand on return of Arab refugees and give Arabs land to compensate for Israeli gains in excess of partition plan. Israel demands that U.S. use economic pressure to force Arabs to discuss all issues concerning Palestine, not only Arab refugee problem.

The Bank of America gives loan to be used to compensate Arabs who fled.

UN mediator Ralph Bunche advises British not to resume sending arms to the Arabs until it is cleared with Security Council. He points out that ban on weapons in Middle East is still in effect.

Senate Expenditures Subcommittee blames International Organization and nations of the world for failing to resettle more than 700,000 displaced persons still in Europe. They say that the problem will never be solved until immigration curbs are ended.

June 10. Britain announces it will resume sending arms to Arab states.

June 11. League of Red Cross Societies reports that more than $1 million of UN relief funds for Middle East refugees were wasted in excess profits for middlemen dealing in relief supplies.

June 12–18. Israel resists U.S. pressure to break deadlock in UN Palestine Conciliation Committee in Lausanne, Switzerland. Arabs want to discuss refugee problem before discussing peace terms. They request that Israel admit some of the 560,000 to 800,000 Arab refugees.

June 13. Major Aubrey Eban, of Israeli delegation to UN, protests British resumption of arms shipments to Arabs.

June 14. The Baghdad Arabic Radio reports the war in Palestine will be resumed shortly.

June 15. Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok of Israel speaks to Knesset: UN partition plan as well as internationalization of Jerusalem is void because Arabs attacked Israel; Israel should not give up any land that is in excess of partition plan. Arabs are trying to gain land politically because they could not gain land militarily; if Arab refugees are allowed to return before peace settlement, refugees could form army. Israel wants to obtain territory in Gaza from Egypt if 230,000 Arab refugees are readmitted to area; Syria wants more land on the Syrian-Israeli frontier near Galilee, a term Israel will never concede to.

June 17. At UN, Israel continues its opposition. U.S. delegate Mark Ethridge wants Israel to admit 230,000 Arabs immediately.
June 18. Arabs attack Jews in territory Israel gained from Jordan northeast of Jerusalem.

June 26. UN secretary general Trygve Lie advances $1 million of UN funds to continue operations of UNRPR. UN is now helping 940,000 Palestinian Arabs.

June 27. Rabbi Nathan Wise writes to President Truman, criticizing “Perfidious Albion,” his name for Great Britain. He warns U.S. not to be deluded by Great Britain: Britain supplied arms to Arabs and used anti-Israel propaganda; failure of Lausanne Conference was caused by British. Leonard R. Cowles, member of Palestine Conciliation Committee, sends reply saying the conference did not fail.

Dr. Walter Eytan, head of Israel delegation, reports to Palestine Conciliation Committee that many orange groves are beyond repair but some groves are being saved using Jewish and Arab labor. There is no need to hire extra labor. All refugees, including grove workers and owners, will be considered under peace plan. He also states that lawful Arab residents of Israel do not have frozen bank accounts.

June 28. Baghdad Arabic Radio reports on weakness of Arabs, especially Arabs who want normal relations with Israel. Broadcast reports that Arabs will never cease to regard Israel as a hostile enemy.

June 29. Israel’s Knesset endorses Foreign Minister Moshe Shertok’s policies concerning boundaries, return of Arab refugees, and future of Jerusalem.

July 2. Israel is admitted to World Health Assembly.

July 6. UN calls meeting to discuss problem of Arab Legion’s refusal to admit convoys with supplies and relief personnel to Mount Scopus.

In Lausanne, Switzerland, Arabs express their concern about property they left in Palestine. They fear property has been damaged, especially the orange groves. They are also concerned about damage to mosques. Israel says it will release churches as soon as security permits a release.

July 14. Syria says refugee problem was brought about by Jewish immigration.

July 20. Israel and Syria sign armistice. Disputed frontier areas are demilitarized.

July 25. A group of Arab leaders, friendly to mufti of Jerusalem and hostile to King Abdullah of Jordan, meet. They demand that Arab Palestine be made a separate state, not an annexation of Jordan.

July 27. Israel agrees to allow Arab women and children to return if heads of families are in Israel.

UN mediator Ralph Bunche announces that all truce conditions may be lifted, including arms embargo.

Chief public prosecutor of Sweden intends to examine Israeli report, submitted to UN May 1949, concerning Count Bernadotte’s assassination.
Chronology—1949

July 27 cont. Arab delegations meet UN Palestine Conciliation Committee. Committee wishes to be informed of refugees’ application for return. Jordan wants concept of family expanded. There is also discussion concerning frozen bank accounts.

July 28. UN Palestine Conciliation Committee defines its role: to see that Arabs and Israelis strive for definite settlement.

July 29. Israel offers to admit a definite number (100,000) of Arab refugees when permanent peace is made with Arab states. Israel requests that other Arab countries absorb 600,000 refugees.

August 2. U.S. representative on committee on refugees reports that refugees do not believe UN reports concerning state of affairs in Palestine. Resettlement in Jordan is not a popular idea, because King Abdullah is not trusted. An inspection of citrus groves shows 50 percent can be saved.

August 11. UN Security Council votes to relieve mediator Ralph Bunche of his mission. Council orders Israel and Arabs to observe armistice agreements pending permanent peace settlement. Number of truce observers is cut.

August 12. British resume selling arms to Arabs.

August 14. Husni al Zaim, who seized power as Syria's president on March 30, and Premier Mohsen el Barazi are taken captive and executed by army officers. There was considerable opposition to Barazi's plan to reach quick settlement with Israel on refugee problem. He planned to have refugees colonize and develop Syria. Egypt goes into mourning, and King Abdullah of Jordan proposes meeting.

August 16. Direct Israel-Arab talks through Palestine Reconciliation Committee begin.

September 13. UN Palestine Conciliation Committee submits a plan for an international Jerusalem. City will be demilitarized and divided into Arab and Jewish administrative zones under UN commissioner. Israel announces that it will never approve the plan.

September 16. International Refugee Organization reports that Israel has admitted 123,000 IRO-sponsored immigrants.

October 6. U.S. consulate in Haifa, Palestine, reports that it has a backlog of 15,000 people wanting to immigrate to U.S.

October 7. A Tel Aviv, Palestine, newspaper office receives a phone call saying UN representatives in Israel are in danger.

October 8. Egypt charges that Israel opened fire on Abbassan on October 7.
October 9. Palestine Arab Congress meets. They offer full cooperation with the Economic Survey Mission, an agency of the UN established to study Middle Eastern economic conditions and help refugee settlement. They state that refugees have an inalienable right to return to their homes; that the maximum number of refugees should be settled in Palestine, then Jordan, and Arab states will take remaining refugees. They also state that Arabs should receive compensation for lost and damaged property. A plan is set up to register refugees.

October 23. Israel charges that Iraq has arrested and tortured hundreds of Jews and appeals to U.S. and Britain.

October 25. Harry Greenstein, U.S. adviser on Jewish affairs in Germany, discusses Israel. He reports that Israel wants 150,000 more immigrants in 1950. Israel wants to keep the doors open for every Jew despite resettlement problems of displaced persons. Settlements have to be built, and people must be trained for jobs.

October 27. Iraq replies to October 23 charges that only 40 Jews were arrested for disturbing the peace.

October 28. Israel threatens to quit Palestine Conciliation Committee negotiations unless Arab states deal directly with Israel, not through Committee.

Secretary General Trygve Lie recommends that UN high commissioner's office be set up January 1, 1951, to protect displaced persons after International Refugee Organization disbands.

November 10. Israel holds reception for new immigrants. Jewish Agency reports that 32,000 Yemenite Jews were flown from Aden to Israel and that Aden-Lydda "airlift" will bring 15,000 more in two weeks. The Jews in the Soviet Union, Rumania, and Hungary are prevented from leaving.

November 18. UN Economic Survey Mission for the Middle East proposes after a three-month study that the General Assembly set up program of relief and public works in various Arab countries for 652,000 Arab refugees from Palestine.

November 20. Jewish population in Israel reaches one million.

November 25. Israel turns down the UN Palestine Conciliation Committee's plan for an international Jerusalem. Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett says Jews favored UN control of Jerusalem at one time. They oppose it now, because if they lose Jerusalem they will have to rescue it from Arabs. They recommend that Jerusalem's old city be internationalized. Modern Jerusalem's holy places will be accessible to people of all faiths.

November 26. Jordan rejects Jerusalem plan. Jordan and Israel are only countries to do so. Pasha el Mulbi says that Jerusalem must be held by Arabs to protect surrounding Arab sectors.

December 1. UN General Assembly's Political Subcommittee recommends an international Jerusalem despite objections of Israel and Jordan.
Chronology—1949

December 2. Political Committee votes for $54,900,000 for direct relief and work relief for Palestinian refugees.

December 8. UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees is established to handle $54,900,000. It succeeds UNRPR. Burma recognizes Israel.

December 9. UN General Assembly votes to put Jerusalem under permanent UN rule, the same decision as on November 29, 1947. Arab states approve because they are suspicious of Jordan's King Abdullah. Britain opposes plan because Israel and Jordan will be forced to accept plan. U.S. opposes plan but favors Dutch-Swedish compromise in which only religious shrines would be under UN control, instead of all of Jerusalem.

December 12. U.S. asks Israel and Jordan not to do anything which would disrupt relations with other Arab states or the Vatican.

December 13. Knesset ignores UN resolution for internationalization of Jerusalem and votes to complete transfer of all government offices to Jerusalem.

UN Trusteeship Council finishes drafting statute for Jerusalem.

December 14. Israeli government moves to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv, Palestine.

December 15–16. UN Trusteeship Council proposes to censure Israel for moving its government. It also asks Israel to help UN draft charter for city.

December 16. Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion of Israel announces that Jerusalem will become capital of Israel on January 1, 1950.

December 20. UN Trusteeship Council asks Israel to call off transfer of its government to Jerusalem.

UN Economic Survey Mission plans several projects to be covered by the aid program for Arab refugees including irrigation and hydroelectric development in Arab Palestine and Arab countries.

December 25. Israel and Jordan ease armistice restrictions so pilgrims can attend Christmas services in Bethlehem. Most people in Holy Land are UN personnel and diplomats, because Jordan prohibits other pilgrims from returning directly to Israel.

December 31. Israel refuses UN Trusteeship Council request that it remove its capital from modern Jerusalem. Israel claims there are too many obstacles to an international Jerusalem whether or not it is a Jewish capital. Jews claim General Assembly's attempt to internationalize the city is an "attempt to cancel liberty."
REEL INDEX

Reel 1

International Conferences

501.BB Palestine  UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine

0001  December 1945
0007  June 1946
0013  July 1946
0027  August 1946
0031  September 1946
0053  October 1946
0088  November 1946
0089  December 1946
0098  January 1947
0106  February 1947
0114  March 1947
0118  April 1947
0229  May 1947
0284  June 1947
0422  July 1947
0750  August 1947
0896  September 1947

Reel 2

International Conferences cont.

501.BB Palestine  UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.

0001  October 1947
0477  November 1947
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frame</th>
<th>File</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>501.BB</td>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0790</td>
<td></td>
<td>December 1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0969</td>
<td></td>
<td>January 1948</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reel 3**

International Conferences cont.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frame</th>
<th>File</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>501.BB</td>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0001</td>
<td></td>
<td>January 1948 cont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0089</td>
<td></td>
<td>February 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0553</td>
<td></td>
<td>March 1948</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reel 4**

International Conferences cont.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frame</th>
<th>File</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>501.BB</td>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0001</td>
<td></td>
<td>March 1948 cont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0054</td>
<td></td>
<td>April 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0711</td>
<td></td>
<td>May 1948</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reel 5**

International Conferences cont.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frame</th>
<th>File</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>501.BB</td>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0001</td>
<td></td>
<td>May 1948 cont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0327</td>
<td></td>
<td>June 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0928</td>
<td></td>
<td>July 1948</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reel 6

International Conferences cont.

501.BB Palestine   UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.
0001               July 1948 cont.
0704               August 1948

Reel 7

International Conferences cont.

501.BB Palestine   UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.
0001               August 1948 cont.
0384               September 1948

Reel 8

International Conferences cont.

501.BB Palestine   UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.
0001               October 1948
0678               November 1948

Reel 9

International Conferences cont.

501.BB Palestine   UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.
0001               November 1948 cont.
0397               December 1948
0714               January 1949
Reel 10

International Conferences cont.

501.BB Palestine UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.

0001 January 1949 cont.
0192 February 1949
0593 March 1949

Reel 11

International Conferences cont.

501.BB Palestine UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.

0001 March 1949 cont.
0068 April 1949
0257 May 1949
0660 June 1949

Reel 12

International Conferences cont.

501.BB Palestine UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.

0001 June 1949 cont.
0224 July 1949
0700 August 1949
### Reel 13

**International Conferences cont.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>501.BB</td>
<td>UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0001</td>
<td>August 1949 cont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0343</td>
<td>September 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0610</td>
<td>October 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0788</td>
<td>November 1949</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Reel 14

**International Conferences cont.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>501.BB</td>
<td>UN General Assembly Special Committee on Palestine cont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0001</td>
<td>December 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>501.MA</td>
<td>International Refugee Organization—Palestine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0161</td>
<td>January 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0170</td>
<td>July 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0171</td>
<td>August 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0181</td>
<td>September 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0194</td>
<td>October 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0218</td>
<td>November 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0221</td>
<td>December 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0226</td>
<td>January 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0290</td>
<td>February 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0393</td>
<td>March 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0661</td>
<td>April 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0723</td>
<td>May 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0754</td>
<td>June 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0835</td>
<td>July 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0942</td>
<td>August 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0978</td>
<td>September 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>October 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1036</td>
<td>November 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1049</td>
<td>December 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUNTRIES COVERED IN UPA'S CONFIDENTIAL U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT CENTRAL FILES SERIES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LATIN AMERICA</strong></td>
<td><strong>EUROPE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Salvador</td>
<td>Great Britain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Poland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>Soviet Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASIA</strong></td>
<td>Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formosa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indochina</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AFRICA</strong></td>
<td><strong>THE MIDDLE EAST</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Iran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Iraq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Palestine-Israel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Syria</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>