

Israel's Enduring Record

Revision 1 June 26 2024

Gaza and the West Bank have been under Israeli occupation since the Six Day War of June 1967. Like all occupations, Israel's was founded and maintained by brute force, repression and fear, collaboration and treachery, beatings and torture chambers, daily intimidation, humiliation, and manipulation.¹

Summary of events

1516-1917 401 years of peace in Palestine during Ottoman rule: The period was marked by peace, harmonious coexistence and flourishing local culture. Given Jerusalem's position as sacred to the two other Abrahamic religions, the Ottoman Caliphate never tried to disturb the harmony that existed between believers of different religions by colonizing the region.

March 4, 1913 – March 4, 1921

Woodrow Wilson administration

October 1915 McMahon Letter: An alliance came about between the British and Arabs, by way of a letter from the British High Commissioner in Egypt, Henry McMahon. Britain would recognize the independence of the Arabs, both in the Levant ("Palestine"), in exchange for the support of the Arabs in World War I. Arabs came to regard this correspondence as their "Declaration of Independence".

1917 Balfour Letter: A letter response to the Zionist offer of help from the U.S. in the British war effort, in exchange for British support for a Jewish home in Palestine after the war.

1917 Balfour Declaration: The final Balfour letter, while officially signed by British Foreign Minister Lord Balfour, had been edited a number of times by British and American Zionists and British officials. It read, in part, "The four Great Powers are committed to Zionism, and Zionism, be it right or wrong, good or bad, is rooted in age long traditions, in present needs, in future hopes, of far profounder import than the desires and prejudices of the 700,000 Arabs who now inhabit that ancient land".²

April 6, 1917 Woodrow Wilson Decides to Enter WWI after all: Although elected promoting the slogan "He kept us out of war", Woodrow Wilson changed course and entered the war in support of the British. A number of reasons were provided to explain this change of course, and it would be quite reasonable to count US Zionist influence as a factor. The US entered the war on April 6, 1917.³

March 4, 2021 – August 2, 1923

Warren G. Harding administration

August 2, 1923 – March 4, 1929

Calvin Coolidge administration

1929 Jewish Agency for Palestine founded in Jerusalem

March 4, 1929 – March 4, 1933

Herbert Hoover administration

March 4, 1933 - April 12, 1945

Franklin D. Roosevelt administration

1936–1939 Palestinian Arab revolt in Palestine: Palestinian Arabs demanded independence and the end of the policy of open-ended Jewish immigration and land purchases. In response, Britain abandoning the Balfour Declaration by issuing the 1939 white paper which limited Jewish Immigration which was to be followed by Arab majority independence.

November 14 1937 Black Sunday: Refers to a series of acts undertaken by Revisionist Zionists of the Irgun faction against Arab civilians. It was among the first challenges to the Havlagah (lit. restraint) policy not to retaliate against Arab attacks on Jewish civilians.⁴

April 12, 1945 -- January 20, 1953

Harry S. Truman administration

1937-1946 Jewish insurgency in Mandatory Palestine: British concessions to the Palestinians did not sit well with the Zionist community, and led to years of insurgency retaliation on the British, culminating in the 1946 false flag bombing of the King David hotel.⁵

July 27 1946 Bombing of King David Hotel in Jerusalem: Motivated by the British intention to honor certain Arab requests, members of the Irgun Jewish terrorist organization entered the hotel disguised as Arab workers to plant the bomb. 91 people of various nationalities were killed, including Arabs, Britons and Jews, and 46 were injured⁶, in what today would be called a false flag operation.

1947 UN proposes partition plan: The British turned Palestine's fate over to the United Nations, who proposed partitioning Palestine into Israeli and Arab territories.

1947 U.S. State Department strenuously opposed partition plan: Zionism was considered contrary to both fundamental American principles and U.S. interests. One 1948 paper predicted that "the Zionist strategy will seek to involve [the US] in a continuously widening and deepening series of operations intended to secure maximum Jewish objectives."

1947 Harry Truman chose to support the Zionist partition plan: Truman's political advisor believed that the US Jewish vote and contributions were essential to winning the upcoming presidential election. George F. Kennan, in 1947 the State Department's Director of Policy Planning, outlined the enormous damage done to the U.S. by national security by the partition plan. The head of the State Department's Division of Near Eastern Affairs, Gordon P. Merriam, warned against the partition plan on moral and ethical grounds. Merriam added that without consent of Palestinians, "bloodshed and

chaos” would follow. An internal State Department memorandum accurately predicted how Israel would be born through armed aggression masked as defense.⁷

1947- 1949 Palestinian Nakba begins: The making of the State of Israel entailed the ethnic cleansing of over 750,000 Palestinians from their homes and destruction of 531 Palestinian villages between 1947 to 1949. But the Nakba has never ceased; it is a structure, not an event. The Nakba is ongoing.⁸

November 29 1947 UN General Assembly passes Resolution 181: Resolution 181, formulated by Zionist influence, recommended division of Palestine into two territories, 55% Israel and 45% Palestine.⁹ Arab states rejected this plan.

1947-1948 Zionist terrorism against Palestinians: With the apparent creation of the state of Israel, Zionists had been preparing for violence. There were at least 33 massacres of Palestinian villages, half of them before a single Arab army joined the conflict.¹⁰

1947-1948 Civil War: Fighting breaks out between Jewish immigrants and Arab countries over Palestine. This fighting was a "general land grab" between Israel, Transjordan, Syria, Egypt, and even Lebanon, all bent on preventing the birth of a Palestinian Arab state and carving out chunks of Palestine for themselves. When the dust had cleared, Egypt occupied what became known as the Gaza Strip; Jordan Occupied what became known as the West Bank, and the remainder of the previous Palestine was occupied by Israel.¹¹

April 9 1948 Deir Yassin massacre: One of the better known massacres, organized primarily by the Irgun and Lehi terrorist organizations, attacked the neutral village of Deir Yassin near Jerusalem. A Swiss *Red Cross* representative was one of the first to arrive on the scene, where he found 254 dead, including 145 women, 35 of them pregnant. Witnesses reported that the attackers lined up families – men, women, grandparents and children, even infants – and shot them.¹² Menachem Begin, the founder of Israel, and future prime Minister of Israel, congratulated the perpetrators of this atrocity: “Continue thus until victory. As in Deir Yassin, so everywhere, we will attack and smite the enemy.”¹³ This was part of the Palestinian Nakba.¹⁴

14 May 1948 Israeli Declaration of Independence: The Israeli Declaration of Independence, formally the Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel, was proclaimed on by David Ben-Gurion, the Executive Head of the *World Zionist Organization*, Chairman of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, and first Prime Minister of Israel. The declaration would take effect on termination of the British Mandate at midnight that day.¹⁵ With the declaration of the State of Israel, the name *Jewish Agency for Palestine* was changed to *Jewish Agency for Israel*. Now the largest Jewish non-profit organization in the world, it is the operative branch of the *World Zionist Organization (WZO)*¹⁶.

January 20, 1953 – January 20, 1961 Dwight D. Eisenhower administration

October 1953 The Qibya (Kibya) massacre: Israeli forces massacred more than sixty-nine Palestinian villagers, two thirds of which were women and children. Forty-five houses, a school, and a mosque were destroyed. The attack followed cross-border raids from the West Bank, and Israel framed the Qibya massacre as a response to the Yehud attack in which an Israeli woman and her two children were killed. The massacre was condemned by the U.S. State Department, the UN Security Council, and by Jewish communities worldwide.¹⁷

Summer 1954 The Lavon Affair: This was a failed Israeli false flag operation conducted in Egypt. As part of this operation, a group of Egyptian Jews were recruited by Israeli military intelligence to plant bombs inside Egyptian, American, and British-owned civilian targets: cinemas, libraries, and American educational centers. The bombs were planned to detonate several hours after closing time. The attacks, which never occurred, were to be blamed on the Muslim Brotherhood, Egyptian communists, "unspecified malcontents", or "local nationalists". Although Lavon, who also brought us the Kibya massacre, was forced to resign, Israel denied any involvement in the incident until 2005.¹⁸

29 October 1956 Second Arab–Israeli War: (Suez Crisis; Tripartite Aggression in the Arab world; the Sinai War in Israel) Israel invaded Egypt on 29 October, having the primary objective of re-opening an eight-year-long Egyptian blockade interfering with Israeli trade. After issuing a joint ultimatum for a ceasefire, the United Kingdom and France joined the Israelis on 5 November, seeking to depose Egyptian president Gamal Abdel Nasser and regain control of the Suez Canal. Shortly after the invasion began, the three countries came under heavy political pressure from both the United States and the Soviet Union, as well as from the United Nations, eventually prompting their withdrawal from Egypt. Israel murdered hundreds of Egyptian prisoners of war.¹⁹

January 20, 1961- November 22, 1963 John F. Kennedy administration

1963 First major sale of U.S. defensive weaponry: The Kennedy administration made the first tangible U.S. commitment to Israel's military security by authorizing the first major sale of U.S. defensive weaponry—Hawk anti-aircraft missiles—to Israel in 1963. This shift reflected a number of strategic considerations—considered to benefit both the US and Israel.

November 22, 1963 - January 20, 1969 Lyndon B. Johnson administration

1965-1966 Military aid to Israel skyrockets: US offensive as well as defensive military aid to Israel under the Johnson administration rose sevenfold from \$12.9 million in 1965 to \$90 million in 1966. As with Harry Truman, Israeli Lobby money and votes fueled his foreign policy.

June 5-June 11 1967 “Six Day War”: On June 5 1967, Israeli armed forces launched a sudden attack on Egypt and her allies, including Jordan and Syria. On the eve of this invasion, Johnson secretly authorized an additional shipment to Israel of a variety of weapons and military equipment. The war was fought on land, sea, and in the air. The *IDF* murdered hundreds of Egyptian prisoners of war, expelled between 100,000 and 260,000 Palestinians from the newly conquered West Bank and drove 80,000 Syrians from the Golan Heights. When the victims of these ethnic cleansings tried to sneak back to their homes, often unarmed, Israelis sometimes shot them on sight.²⁰ In six days, Arab air forces were almost entirely destroyed in Israel's overwhelming victory.²¹

The Eisenhower and Kennedy administrations convinced many Middle Eastern moderates that the US was at least a fair country to deal with. Beginning with the Johnson administration, the U.S. emerged as the most distrusted if not actually hated country by all of the Middle East.

June 8 1967 Israel attack on the U.S.S. Liberty: The attack occurred in international waters on a clear day, and consisted of multiple aircraft attacks using 30-mm cannons, rockets, and napalm, followed by torpedo boats using cannons and launching six torpedoes at the Liberty, one of which hit, then closing in and strafing the ship's hull with cannons and machine guns. 34 crew members were killed and 141 wounded. Israel claimed the attack was an “accident.” Although important statesmen objected to this claim, there was no actual investigation, and LB Johnson accepted the Israeli claim. To this day, US documents pertaining to the attack, officially called a “incident”, remain classified.²²

January 20, 1969- August 9, 1974 Richard M. Nixon administration

January 20, 1969 Nixon tries to be “evenhanded”: Although Nixon's original intention was to change America's position towards Israel and the Arab states, such plans met with Israeli hostility, and Nixon concluded that any reference to “evenhandedness” was politically unprofitable. Following the election to his second term as president in 1973, his main worry was Israel's intransigent position as well as “enormous pressures” from America's Jewish community. He was also concerned with “a hundred million Arabs hating us and providing a fishing ground not only for radicals but, of course, for the Soviets.” However, Nixon gave in to the pressure with the Egypt Israeli war.

1971-1973 Israeli use of cluster munitions: Israel uses air-dropped cluster munitions against non-state armed group (NSAG) training camps near Damascus Syria.²³

1973 Founding of Likud party in Israel: Founded by Menachem Begin and Ariel Sharon in an alliance with several right-wing parties. Both were associated with terrorist activities, and both became Prime Ministers of Israel. Begin bragged that Zionists had brought terrorism both to the Middle East and to the world at large.²⁴

1973 Israeli expansion into Egyptian Territory: Besides not relinquishing its territorial gain during the six day war, as required by UN resolution 242, Israel proceeded to

expand its settlements in the Sinai Peninsula, that is, Egyptian territory. This led Egypt to attack Israel, resulting in the October 6 1973 (Yom Kippur) Egypt Israeli war.²⁵

October 6-25 1973 (Yom Kippur) Egypt Israeli war: Under Richard Nixon, Thirty American C-130 transport planes were sent to Israel. Within a few days the United States was providing Israel with a thousand tons of war materiel a day. All in all, 550 American missions to Israel carried out the task of supply and resupply, an operation of greater magnitude than the Berlin airlift of 1948-49.²⁶

October 22 1973 Official Cease Fire declared. Soon after, the Cease fire is violated by Israel.²⁷

October 25 1973 All American conventional and nuclear forces placed on military alert: Because of Israel's violation of the Cease-Fire, a group of U.S. government leaders constituting the National Security Council met in the Situation Room in the White House where they unanimously decided to put all American conventional and nuclear forces on military alert. Soon afterward Nixon sent a message to Brezhnev, denying violation of cease-fire by Israel and warned the Soviet leader against Russia's contemplated unilateral military action.²⁸

August 9, 1974 - January 20, 1977 Gerald R. Ford administration

August 9, 1974 Ford inherits Nixon's Egypt Israeli war: Ford's position, right after his assumption of power, was to prevent renewal of war in the mid-east, and contain Soviet expansion. In a note to Rabin, he stated "I have given instructions for a reassessment of United States policy in the region, including our relations with Israel, with the aim of ensuring that overall American interests . . . are protected." For six months, between March and September 1975, the United States refused to conclude any new arms agreements with Israel. As could be expected, the announced reassessment upset the American Jewish community and Israel's well-wishers in Congress. On May 21 seventy-six senators wrote him a letter urging him to be "responsive" to Israel's request for \$2.59 billion in military and economic aid. He describes the Israeli position in these words: "Concessions will have to be made, . . . but we will make none of them. Sadat will have to make them all. And if Ford disagrees, we will show him who's boss." ²⁹

January 20, 1977- January 20, 1981 Jimmy Carter administration

1977-1981 Jimmy Carter observed Israeli policy as consisting of "six nos": (1) no political or military withdrawal from the West Bank; (2) no stoppage of the construction of new settlements or expansion of existing ones; (3) no withdrawal of Israeli settlers from the Sinai; (4) no application of UN Resolution 242 to the West Bank Gaza area, (5) no granting of real authority to the Palestinian Arabs; and (6) no voice for the Palestinian Arabs in determining their future. Still, American aid to Israel flowed uninterrupted.³⁰

January 20, 1981- January 20, 1989 Ronald Reagan administration

The Reagan administration found the Middle East in a state of considerable disarray. Terrorism was now being used as a weapon not only by a variety of disaffected groups but also by some governments. A number of peace plans were proposed during his administration, all of them rejected by Israel because of language requiring Israel to retreat from occupied territories and give Palestinians territory or recognition as a people.

June 7, 1981 Attack on Iraq nuclear reactor: Using American jet combat aircraft, Israel overflies Jordan and Saudi Arabia to Bomb an Iraq nuclear reactor near Baghdad.³¹

November 1981 Under Reagan, Israel gets "Strategic Cooperation Agreement MOU" With US.³²

July 24 1981 cease-fire called between Israel and Palestinian guerrillas working out of Lebanon: The U.S. government pledges to protect Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

December 14 1981 Israel annexes the Golan Heights: Golan Heights was Syrian territory under Israeli occupation since 1967. This upset the UN Security Council, as well as the US, and Reagan responded by putting the Strategic Cooperation Agreement MOU on hold. Israel criticized this. The MOU remained dormant for 2 years, during which time sales of arms to Israel continued.

June 6 1982 Invasion of Lebanon: Israel launched "Operation Peace for Galilee," a major invasion of Lebanon, to destroy the PLO and keep some of Lebanon's territory.³³ With Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982, the US gave an implicit "green light" to Israel's foray into neighboring countries.

July 4 1982 Siege of Beirut Lebanon: For seven weeks, Beginning on July 4, Israel attacked Beirut by land, sea, and air, cutting off food, water, and electricity. As with most sieges, the population of the city, some 500,000 civilians, suffered alongside the PLO guerrillas. By August 31, 1982, Israel's invasion resulted in 19,085 killed and 30,302 wounded among Lebanon's inhabitants, mostly civilians. The United States was aware long in advance of this invasion but did not try to prevent it.³⁴

September 16-18 1982 Massacre of Palestinian refugees at Sabra and Shatila: Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, who was later elected Prime Minister, allowed the entry of (mostly Christian militia) Phalanges into Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila on the outskirts of Beirut. The Phalanges were known for their hatred of Palestinians, and between September 16 and 18, they killed, according to Israeli count, 328 men, women and children, with 991 persons listed as missing. Israel gained control of the area in which the refugee camps were located.³⁵ The U.S. government clearly failed in its pledge to protect Palestinian refugees.

1983 Reagan revives the U.S. -Israeli strategic cooperation MOU

January 20, 1989 - January 20, 1993 George H. W. Bush administration

1987- 1988 -1993 First Intifada (civil uprising): The First Intifada was a sustained series of protests, acts of civil disobedience and riots carried out by Palestinians, motivated by collective Palestinian frustration over Israel's military occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as it approached a twenty-year mark. The *IDF* distributed truncheons to its troops and encouraged them to break the bones of Palestinian protestors.³⁶ According to Lenczowski, this was the first time active Arab resistance occurred on a massive scale within the areas controlled by Israel during the decades of occupation.

1991 Blockade Zero: Israeli imposed closure on the movement of goods and people to and from Gaza dates back to 1991 when Israel cancelled the general exit permit for Palestinians in the occupied territories. This policy was initially temporary, but eventually developed into a permanent administrative measure in March of 1993. Since then, the closure has varied in intensity, but has never been completely lifted.³⁷

January 20, 1993 - January 20, 2001 Bill Clinton administration

January 20, 2001- January 20, 2009 George W. Bush administration

2000-2005 Second Intifada: Again, Palestinians engaged in a sustained series of protests. Israeli response to the second intifada was even more violent than to the First. The *IDF* fired a million shells at the non-violently protesting Palestinians within the first few days. Over the course of that uprising, Israel killed 3,386 Palestinians, while 992 Israelis were killed. Well over half of both the Palestinian and Israeli fatalities appear to have been noncombatants.³⁸

September 11 2001 Terror Attacks on the US: Although Israeli supporters have often denied any connection between U.S. support for Israel and the terrorism in general or the September 11 attacks in particular, there is abundant evidence to the contrary. Sayyid Muhammed Husayn Fadlallah, spiritual leader of Hezbollah, Ramzi Yousef, who master-minded the first attack on the World Trade Center in 1993, and Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda all believed the US bears responsibility for all of Israel, in its occupation and settlement policies in Palestine, and the killing of Arabs. Bin Laden's Palestinian grievances have been documented by historians and biographers.³⁹

March 27 2002 Passover massacre: A Palestinian suicide bomber attacked the Park Hotel in Netanya, killing 30 civilians, while injuring 140 more. In total, around 130 Israelis, mostly civilians, were killed in Palestinian attacks during March 2002.⁴⁰

March 29-May 3 2002 "Operation Defensive Shield": A 2002 Israeli military operation in the West Bank, carried out amidst the Second Intifada. Lasting for just over a month, it was the largest combat operation in the West Bank since the 1967 Arab-Israeli War. Israel's stated goal for the escalation was to stop Palestinian terrorist attacks. An

estimated 497 Palestinians were killed, and 1447 wounded. 30 Israelis were killed and 127 wounded.⁴¹

2002 US officials work closely with Israeli Neocons to push for Iraq war: Iraq is a major enemy of Israel. Benjamin Netanyahu meets with U.S. senators to warn of Iraq WMDs. Key leaders of the US Israel lobby lend voices to the campaign for the Iraq war. All of this, after the 9/11/01 attacks on the US, precipitated the US war on Iraq.⁴²

March 16, 2003 Death of US Citizen Rachel Corrie: On March 16, 2003 Rachel Corrie placed herself between a Caterpillar bulldozer and a Palestinian home, trying to prevent the *IDF* from demolishing it. She was run over twice by the vehicle and killed. Physicians present and fellow ISM activists claimed that Corrie was deliberately driven over, while the Israeli army claimed that it was an accident because the bulldozer operator did not see her.⁴³

2005 Israel “withdraws” from Gaza: In 2005, the media reported Israel having withdrawn from Gaza. However, Israel never withdrew from Gaza; its settlers were removed, but Israel simply redeployed its forces from within Gaza to the perimeter. In Finkelstein’s opinion, at this point Israel is no longer an occupying power. Gaza, the West Bank, East Jerusalem, have all been incorporated as part of Israel. Israel is now dealing with a civil revolt from a slave population.⁴⁴

January 2006 parliamentary elections in the occupied Palestinian territories: *Hamas* won those parliamentary elections. Former president Jimmy Carter was in Gaza at the time, and he called them “completely honest and fair elections.” As soon as *Hamas* came into power, its position on recognizing Israel was going through a positive evolution. There were real possibilities on the Palestinian side, and in particular the *Hamas* side, to achieve a settlement on the basis of international law. Instead, Israel, the U.S., and the E.U. sabotaged those possibilities.⁴⁵

July- August 2006 Israeli Lebanon war: This war was precipitated by a 12 July 2006 *Hezbollah* cross-border raid which left 8 Israeli soldiers dead. Further disagreement resulted in Israeli airstrikes and artillery fire on *Hezbollah* military in Lebanon and Lebanese civilian infrastructure. The *IDF* launched a ground invasion of Southern Lebanon and imposed an air-and-naval blockade. *Hezbollah* then launched more rockets into northern Israel and engaged the *IDF* in guerrilla warfare. Both sides used cluster bombs during the conflict. *Hezbollah* fired 4,407 submunitions into civilian-populated areas of northern Israel in 113 separate strikes, killing one and wounded twelve. In order to compensate for the cluster rockets’ imprecision, Israeli units were ordered to “flood” the area with them. Israel proceeded to fire 4.6 million submunitions into dozens of towns and villages in southern Lebanon in 962 separate strikes, around 90% within the final 72 hours of the war, when the conflict already had been largely resolved by UN Security Council Resolution 1701. As many as 1 million submunitions failed to explode on impact, lingering as land mines that killed or maimed almost 200 people since the war ended.⁴⁶

January 2006-May 2007 Fatah–*Hamas* conflict: The Palestinian Authority was split into two polities, each seeing itself as the true representative of the Palestinian people – the Fatah-ruled U.S., EU, Israel approved Palestinian National Authority and the elected *Hamas* Government in Gaza. The Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights found that over 600 Palestinians were killed in the fighting from January 2006 to May 2007. Dozens more were killed or executed in the following years as part of the conflict.⁴⁷

2007 The U.S., EU, Israel, and PLO attempt a coup to overthrow *Hamas*: The Fatah-dominated PLO developed a plan to replace the *Hamas* government with one acceptable to Israel and the international community. According to the plan, unveiled in *Al Jazeera's Palestine Papers*⁴⁸, a national unity government would be formed meeting the Quartet's conditions, which excluded *Hamas*. *Hamas* refused to accept the dismissal and continues to claim it is the legitimate caretaker government of the Palestinian Authority.⁴⁹

June 10-15 2007 The Battle of Gaza: A military conflict between Fatah (supported by Israel and the US) and *Hamas* that took place in the Gaza Strip. The battle resulted in the de facto division of the Palestinian territories into two entities: the West Bank governed by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA), and the Gaza Strip governed by *Hamas*. The Palestinian Centre for Human Rights reported that at least 161 people were killed and more than 700 were wounded during the fighting.⁵⁰

2007 Israeli Blockade of Gaza: In 2007, Israel intensified its 1991 closure of Gaza into a blockade when it was dissatisfied with the results of the Palestinian election, and Palestinian officials refused to agree to the failure (of the Oslo Accords) to negotiate for a Palestinian state. Economic activity in Gaza came to a standstill, moving into survival mode. Exit and entry into Gaza by sea or air is prohibited.⁵¹

December 26th, 2008 “Operation Cast Lead”: Israel launches “Operation Cast Lead” on Gaza, killing 1400, up to 80% civilians, including 350 Gazan children. According to an Amnesty International report, Many Palestinian civilians were killed in attacks by high-precision weapons; many others were killed in indiscriminate and reckless attacks using imprecise and horrific weapons such as burning white phosphorus. Israeli forces repeatedly targeted ambulances and medical crews which were attempting to rescue the wounded and recover the dead. Israel also flattened 6,000 homes in Gaza. On the Israeli side, ten combatants and three children were killed.⁵²

January 20, 2009 – January 20, 2017 Barak Obama administration

2015 ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda receives warnings from Israel: Fatou Bensouda, representing the International Criminal Court decides to open a preliminary examination into the situation in Palestine. Soon after commencing the preliminary examination, Bensouda and her senior prosecutors began to receive warnings that Israeli intelligence is taking a close interest in their work.

January 20, 2017 – January 20, 2021 Donald Trump administration

2017-2019 Mossad Chief attempts manipulation of Fatou Bensouda: Mossad chief Yossi Cohen begins a personal attempt to dissuade Bensouda from opening a war crimes investigation into Israel. See **Israeli Espionage against the ICC** for end notes.

2018–2019 The Great March of Return: Israeli forces kill a total of 223 Palestinians during the Gaza border protests, also known as the Great March of Return, when Palestinians try to breach the blockade of their homes. According to the AL Mezan Center for Human Rights, since the start of the protests, over 150 Palestinians have been killed in the demonstrations. At least 10,000 others have been injured, including 1,849 children, 424 women, 115 paramedics and 115 journalists. Of those injured, 5,814 were hit by live ammunition. According to Israeli media, one soldier was killed.⁵³

December 2019 Bensouda announces grounds for Israeli war crime investigation: Bensouda announced that she had grounds to open a full criminal investigation into allegations of Israeli war crimes in Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

2019-2021 Mossad chief escalates attempts to intimidate Bensouda: Yossi Cohen then raised questions about the security of her family and suggested that a decision to open a full investigation would be detrimental to her career. Israel also attempted an unsuccessful “smear campaign” that had no impact on Bensouda’s work.

January 21, 2021 – January 20, 2025 Joe Biden administration

2021 Escalating Surveillance of Palestinians: In April 2021 The Israeli Finance Ministry announced the contract in April 2021 for a \$1.2 billion cloud computing system jointly built by Google and Amazon. In November 2021, the Washington Post reported on the existence of Blue Wolf, a secret military program aimed at escalating surveillance of Palestinians through a network of facial recognition-enabled smartphones and cameras in the West Bank. “Data collection over the entire Palestinian population was and is an integral part of the occupation,” Ori Givati of *Breaking the Silence*, an anti-occupation advocacy group of Israeli military veterans, told The Intercept in an email.⁵⁴

October 7 2023 Hamas attacks Israeli Homeland: Reminiscent of US military failures on 9/11/2001, somehow the *IDF* fails to detect and neutralize a large scale Arab attack on the homeland.⁵⁵ An estimated 2400 Israelis were killed and several hundred taken as hostages. Also included in these numbers are deaths due to Israeli fire.⁵⁶ Further, many false claims were initially made by Israel.⁵⁷

October 7 2023 Israel launches attack on Gaza: Israel’s response to the reported *Hamas* attacks have again followed the military Dahiya doctrine: As of 4/24/2024, 34262 Palestinians have been killed and 77229 wounded.⁵⁸ According to the world bank, the continuing conflict has damaged or destroyed approximately 62 percent of all homes in Gaza, equivalent to 290,820 housing units, and more than a million people are

without homes. Housing accounts for 72 percent of the total damage costs, at an estimated value of \$13.3bn.⁵⁹

January – February 2024 IDF attacks Palestinians seeking aid: The UN recorded over 14 incidents of shooting, shelling and targeting groups gathered to receive urgently needed supplies from trucks or airdrops.⁶⁰

February 29 2024 “Flour massacre”: Israeli troops fired on crowds of Palestinians gathered to collect flour in the south-west of Gaza City, killing at least 112 people and injuring some 760.⁶¹

February- March 2024 Israelis and soldiers attack Palestinian shepherds: Israeli settlers and soldiers drive Palestinian Shepherds out of Pastoral land in the South Hebron Hills.⁶²

March 15 2024 Food Massacre: 20 people were killed and 155 wounded by Israeli shelling as they waited for desperately needed food.⁶³

April 1 2024 Strike on seven *World Kitchen* aid workers: Although the *World Kitchen* claimed to have coordinated with the Israeli military over the movement of its cars, three vehicles moving at large distances apart were hit in succession. Seven were killed while trying to bring food to starving Palestinians.⁶⁴ The *Israeli Defense Force (IDF)* called it an unfortunate mistake.⁶⁵

April 1 2024 strike on Iranian embassy in Syria: Israeli officials say they didn't see their strike on a high-level Iranian target at the Iranian Embassy in Syria, which killed seven high-ranking Iranian officers, as a provocation for Iran's missile strike retaliation. This time the mistake was a “miscalculation”⁶⁶ An attack on an embassy is seen as a significant violation of the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. Targeting Iran's embassy is also seen as an attack on the host nation itself, Syria, setting a dangerous precedent against international law principles.⁶⁷ Israel expressed concern over the scale of Iran's retaliation of 300 missiles.⁶⁸ This is exactly Israel's military “Dahiya doctrine” turned back at them.

May 14 2024 At least eight Israeli strikes on Gaza aid groups since October: Israeli forces have carried out at least eight strikes on humanitarian convoys and their facilities in Gaza since October, even after aid organizations provided their coordinates to the Israeli authorities, according to a report by Human Rights Watch.⁶⁹

May 14 2024 Israeli settlers Block Aid Trucks: Right wing Israelis block aid trucks from the West Bank destined for Gaza and destroy aid desperately needed in Gaza.⁷⁰

May 14 2024 Palestinian Truckers Fear for Safety After Aid Convoy for Gaza Wrecked by Far-right Israelis: A driver with a West Bank-based truckers' union said that around 15 trucks had been damaged by Israeli settlers, who beat some drivers and

caused about \$2 million worth of damage, without intervention by the Israeli army or police.⁷¹

May 15 2024 Israeli settler mobs scale Erez Crossing threatening to invade Gaza:

Israeli settler mobs scaled the Erez Crossing into Gaza and threatened to invade the enclave if aid deliveries continue. This came a day after settlers attacked aid trucks heading for Gaza from Jordan and destroyed the humanitarian aid onboard which was destined for Palestinians suffering famine in the Strip.⁷²

May 22 2024 Arrest Warrants Requested for Israeli Ministers: Karim Khan, Bensouda's successor, requests arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant. See **Israeli Espionage against the ICC** for end notes.

¹ Mearsheimer & Walt p. 100

² Weir p. 17 See Note 69 p. 123 f

A number of authors refer to this; see the following citations.

One was William Yale in *The Near East: A Modern History* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1968), 266-270.

Yale, a descendant of the founder of Yale University, was an authority on the Middle East who had worked for the State Department in a number of roles in the Middle East, including as a member of the King Crane Commission, and worked for many years as a professor of history.

"Guide to the William Yale Papers, 1916-1972," University of New Hampshire Library, accessed on January 1, 2014, <http://www.library.unh.edu/special/index.php/william-yale>.

Yale writes: "...the Zionists in England set about winning British support for Zionism. This the English Zionists successfully did by the end of 1916. It was an amazing achievement which required great skill, unfaltering energy, and determination. The methods by which the conquest of the British government was made were diverse and of necessity in some cases devious."

He writes, "The Zionists in England well understood that British leaders would have to be approached on the basis of their interests and ideas," and notes, "The means used were adapted admirably to the personal outlook and characteristics of the men to be influenced."

Some were "persuaded that Zionism was a fulfillment of Old and New Testament prophecies." Zionists also appealed to "the idealisms of many [British]," convincing them that this was a solution to anti-Semitism and could be an "atonement by Christian Europe for its long persecution of the Jews."

Some top officials had to be persuaded “that Zionism was a noble and righteous cause of significance to the welfare of the world as well as to that of the Jewish people.”

Others were to be convinced that “by backing Zionism world-wide enthusiastic Jewish support for the allied cause could be assured.” Yale notes that in 1916 “the Allied cause was far from bright” and quotes a Zionist leader’s statements that Zionists worked to persuade British officials that “the best and perhaps the only way (which proved to be so) to induce the American President to come into the war was to secure the cooperation of Zionist Jews by promising them Palestine, and thus enlist and mobilize the hitherto unsuspectedly powerful forces of Zionist Jews in America and elsewhere in favor of the Allies on a quid pro quo contract basis. Thus, as will be seen, the Zionists, having carried out their part, and greatly helped to bring America in, the Balfour Declaration of 1917 was but the public confirmation of the necessarily secret ‘gentlemen’s’ agreement of 1916...”

Yale states that once “inner circles of the British government had been captured by the Zionists,” they turned their efforts to obtain French, Italian, and American acquiescence to the Zionist program.

In 1903, Zionists retained future Prime Minister Lloyd George’s law firm.

For a detailed discussion of the Lusitania incident and other aspects of the U.S. entry into WWI see John Cornelius, “The Hidden History of the Balfour Declaration,” Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, November 2005, 44-50. Print. Online at <http://www.wrmea.com/component/content/article/278-2005-november/8356-special-report-the-hidden-history-of-the-balfour-declaration.html>

³ Weir P. 16 f

⁴ Black Sunday https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Sunday,_1937#See_also

⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_insurgency_in_Mandatory_Palestine

⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/King_David_Hotel_bombing

⁷ Weir p. 48

⁸ N.Y.U. Review of Law & Social Change
THE ONGOING NAKBA: TOWARD A LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR PALESTINE RABEA
EGHBARIAH December 15 2023; extensively footnoted

<https://socialchangenyu.com/harbinger/toward-a-legal-framework-for-palestine/>
according to the author:

“And yet, leading law schools and legal scholars in the United States still fashion their silence as impartiality and their denial as nuance.

“This past November, after commissioning the following piece for the Harvard Law Review blog, that journal’s editorial board voted not to publish this work. Harvard Law Review’s editorial staff cited concerns about harassment, doxing, or attempts to otherwise intimidate their membership over the publication of this piece.

⁹ Weir p. 44

¹⁰ Weir p. 58

¹¹ <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-54116567>, Mearsheimer & Walt p. 84

¹² Weir p. 59, Ball, Passionate Attachment, 28-29

¹³ Weir p. 60: Ball, Passionate Attachment, 29.

¹⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deir_Yassin_massacre Weir p. 59

¹⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israeli_Declaration_of_Independence

¹⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_Agency_for_Israel#Formation_of_the_Jewish_Agency_for_Palestine

¹⁷ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Qibya_massacre

¹⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lavon_Affair

¹⁹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suez_Crisis Mearsheimer & Walt p. 99

²⁰ Mearsheimer & Walt p. 99

²¹ Lenczowski p 106f

²² Lenczowski p. 110 f

²³ Use of Cluster munitions against non-state armed group
<https://www.stopclustermunitions.org/en-gb/cluster-bombs/use-of-cluster-bombs/a-timeline-of-cluster-bomb-use.aspx>

²⁴ Weir p. 43-44

²⁵ Video recording and Transcript: Special Emergency Podcast on Gaza, October 8th 2023

<https://normanfinkelstein.substack.com/p/video-recording-and-transcript-special>
Finkelstein appears to have moved or removed this transcript.

²⁶ Lenczowski p. 130

²⁷ Lenczowski p. 130-1331

²⁸ Lenczowski p. 131

²⁹ Lenczowski p. 150f

³⁰ Carter "six nos" Lenczowski p. 167-168

³¹ Lenczowski P. 256 f

³² Lenczowski. 261

³³ Lenczowski p. 217

³⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siege_of_Beirut Lenczowski p. 218 f

³⁵ Lenczowski p. 222

³⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Intifada; Mearsheimer & Walt p. 100f

The Swedish branch of the Save the Children organization estimated that "23,600 to 29,900 children required medical treatment for their beating injuries in the first two years of the [first] intifada." More than four fifths "had been beaten on their heads and upper bodies and at multiple locations"; almost one-third of the children "sustained broken bones, including multiple fractures." Sixty-five hundred to eighty-five hundred children were wounded by gunfire during the first two years of the Intifada. Regarding the 106 recorded cases of "child gunshot deaths," the report concluded that almost all of them "were hit by directed—not random or ricochet—gunfire"; almost 20 percent suffered multiple gunshot wounds. By the fall of 1988 close to 300 Palestinians had been killed by the Israeli forces.

³⁷ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blockade_of_the_Gaza_Strip

Between 1993 and 1996, total closure was imposed on the Gaza Strip for a cumulative 342 days. During periods of total closure, Israel enforced a complete ban on any movement of people or goods between Gaza and Israel, and between the West Bank and foreign markets. In 1994, after the First Intifada, Israel built the Gaza–Israel barrier.

³⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Intifada Mearsheimer & Walt p. 100 f

³⁹ Mearsheimer & Walt p. 60-67

⁴⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Intifada

⁴¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Defensive_Shield

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Intifada

⁴² Neocons work closely with US officials Mearsheimer & Walt p. 238 f Netanyahu pushes for Iraq war: Mearsheimer & Walt p. 131 f

⁴³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rachel_Corrie

⁴⁴ <https://znetwork.org/znetarticle/norman-finkelstein-and-mouin-rabbani-held-an-emergency-teach-in-on-gaza/>

⁴⁵ <https://znetwork.org/znetarticle/norman-finkelstein-and-mouin-rabbani-held-an-emergency-teach-in-on-gaza/>

⁴⁶ <https://www.hrw.org/news/2008/02/17/israels-use-cluster-bombs-shows-need-global-ban>

<https://www.hrw.org/report/2008/02/16/flooding-south-lebanon/israels-use-cluster-munitions-lebanon-july-and-august-2006>

In the 131-page report, *Flooding South Lebanon: Israel's Use of Cluster Munitions in Lebanon in July and August 2006*, Human Rights Watch found that Israel violated international humanitarian law in its indiscriminate and disproportionate cluster munition attacks on Lebanon.

⁴⁷ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fatah%E2%80%93 Hamas_conflict

⁴⁸ *The Palestine Papers* Clayton E. Swisher 2011

⁴⁹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fatah%E2%80%93 Hamas_conflict

⁵⁰ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Gaza_\(2007\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Gaza_(2007))

In an April 2008 article in *Vanity Fair* magazine, the journalist [David Rose](#) published confidential documents, apparently originating from the US State Department, which would prove that the United States collaborated with the PNA and Israel to attempt the violent overthrow of *Hamas* in the Gaza Strip, and that *Hamas* pre-empted the coup.

⁵¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blockade_of_the_Gaza_Strip There are only three crossings in and out of Gaza, two of them controlled by Israel and one by Egypt. Israel

⁵⁹ <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/4/2/gaza-infrastructure-damages-estimated-at-18-5-bltn-in-un-world-bank-report>

⁶⁰ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/03/un-experts-condemn-flour-massacre-urge-israel-end-campaign-starvation-gaza>

⁶¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flour_massacre

⁶² https://www.btselem.org/video/20240522_video_footage_demonstrates_how_israeli_settlers_on_farms_take_over_palestinian_pastureland

B'Tselem is the Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories. According to its website <https://www.btselem.org/> it strives for a future in which human rights, liberty and equality are guaranteed to all people, Palestinian and Jewish alike. Such a future will only be possible when the Israeli occupation and apartheid regime end. “That is the future we are working towards.”

⁶³ <https://www.cnn.com/2024/03/14/middleeast/blasts-kill-palestinians-food-aid-gaza-intl/index.html>

⁶⁴ <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/central-world-kitchen-aid-workers-killed-airstrike-gaza/>

⁶⁵ <https://apnews.com/article/israel-Hamas-war-news-04-02-2024-9bdf66771b62af37d85a2800f71c0e6c>

World Central Kitchen founder José Andrés said in [an interview with Reuters](#) that the seven World Central Kitchen workers who were [killed by an Israeli strike](#) were targeted “systematically, car by car.”...“This was not just a bad luck situation where ‘oops’ we dropped the bomb in the wrong place,” Andrés said. “Even if we were not in coordination with the [[Israel](#) Defense Forces], no democratic country and no military can be targeting civilians and humanitarians.”

<https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-news/jose-andres-world-central-kitchen-israeli-airstrike-victims-1234998383/>

⁶⁶ Israel notified the U.S. just moments before its strike on the embassy. Publicly, U.S. officials voiced support for Israel, but privately, they expressed anger that it would take such aggressive action against Iran without consulting Washington. <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/04/17/world/middleeast/iran-israel-attack.html>

⁶⁷ Another tactic taken by Israel is that the building in Syria they attacked did not have embassy status, a claim contested by statements from both Iranian and Syrian officials and video footage.

<https://researchcentre.trtworld.com/perspectives/israel-strike-on-iranian-embassy-a-grave-threat-to-global-diplomatic-laws/>

⁶⁸ <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/04/17/world/middleeast/iran-israel-attack.html>

⁶⁹ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/may/14/israel-strikes-aid-groups-gaza-october-human-rights-watch>

⁷⁰ Israeli protesters block aid trucks destined for Gaza

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cq300jek94zo>

same event: *Guardian*:

Gaza-bound aid trucks set on fire and looted in West Bank – video

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/video/2024/may/14/israeli-settlers-attack-gaza-bound-aid-convoy-at-west-bank-crossing-video>

⁷¹ <https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2024-05-14/ty-article/palestinian-truckers-fear-for-safety-after-gaza-aid-convoy-wrecked-by-far-right-israelis/0000018f-776a-ddbe-addf-776fd8fe0000>

⁷² <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20240515-israeli-settlers-scale-erez-crossing-threatening-to-invade-gaza-if-aid-continues/>