

Arab-Israeli Conflict



Origins of the Conflict

- Palestine
- Zionism
- British Mandate
- Balfour Declaration
- Holocaust

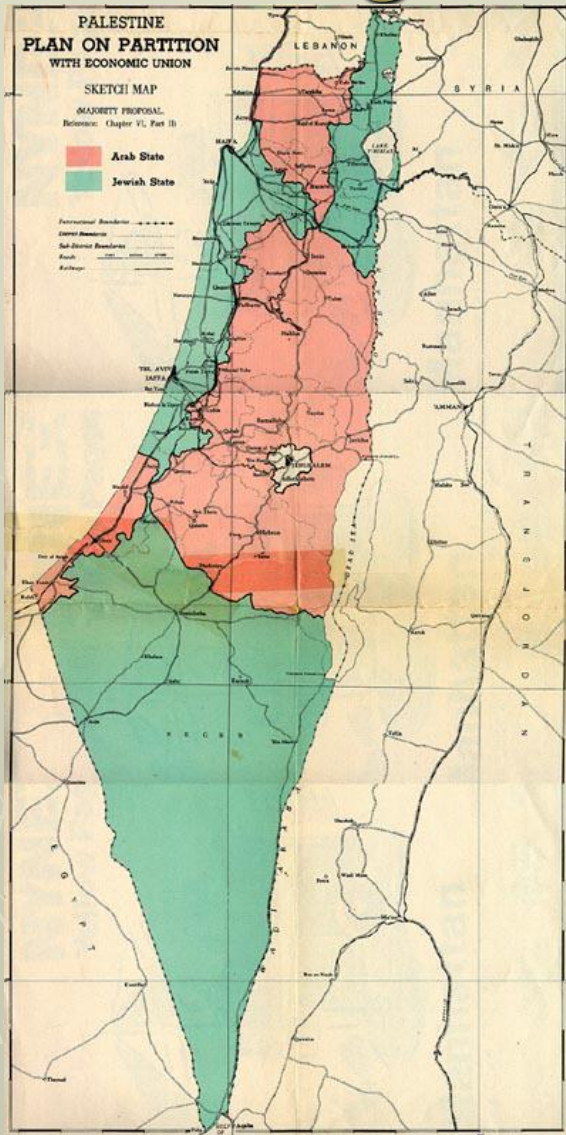


Origins of the Conflict

	Muslim	Jewish	Christian
1921	78%	11%	10%
1931	74%	17%	9%
1945	60%	30%	8%

• Jewish migration steadily increased into the region following the Balfour Declaration in 1917.

Origins of the Conflict



- UN Partition Plan
- May 14, 1948
- Expansion (50%)
- Palestinian
- Refugee
- Arab Allies

Who are Palestinian Refugees?

- “persons [and their descendants] whose normal place of residence was Palestine between June 1946 and May 1948, who lost both their homes and means of livelihood as a result of the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict” as defined by the UN Relief and Works Agency



- Originally numbering 914,000 (1950) the number has grown to over 4 million

Who are Palestinian Refugees?



- 1.2 million live in 59 camps located in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, the West Bank and Gaza
- The camps cost \$414 million each year and are run by the UN (US pays \$123 million, Arab countries \$7 million, EU the majority)

Who are Palestinian Refugees?

- Right of Return- the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes, has been in various UN resolutions
- “Israel is not ready to allow or discuss the return of refugees into its boundaries, refugees who had to escape because of a war that was forced on Israel. That would mean....the end of a Jewish state.” --

- P.M. Ariel Sharon (2004)

US Public Opinion

- The United States, under Pres. Harry Truman, was the first government in the world to recognize the modern state of Israel.
- At the time about 36% of Americans sympathized with “the Jews”, while 16% sympathized with Arabs.
- Following the Six-Day War, overwhelming support for Israel from majority of Americans.

US Public Opinion



- This trend persists today with half of Americans supporting Israel in the current conflict.
- Only 15% sympathize with the Palestinians. **WHY?**

War and Peace



- Munich Olympics (1972)
- Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO)
- Yasir Arafat

War and Peace

- Major Wars:
 - 1948
 - 1956: Suez War
 - 1967: Six Day War*
 - 1973: Yom Kippur War
- US Military Aid

*600 casualties
to 25,000



War and Peace



- Six Day War:
 - Golan Heights
 - Sinai Peninsula
 - Gaza Strip
 - West Bank
 - Jerusalem

War and Peace

- Land for Peace

1. Israel would withdraw from lands acquired during the Six Day War

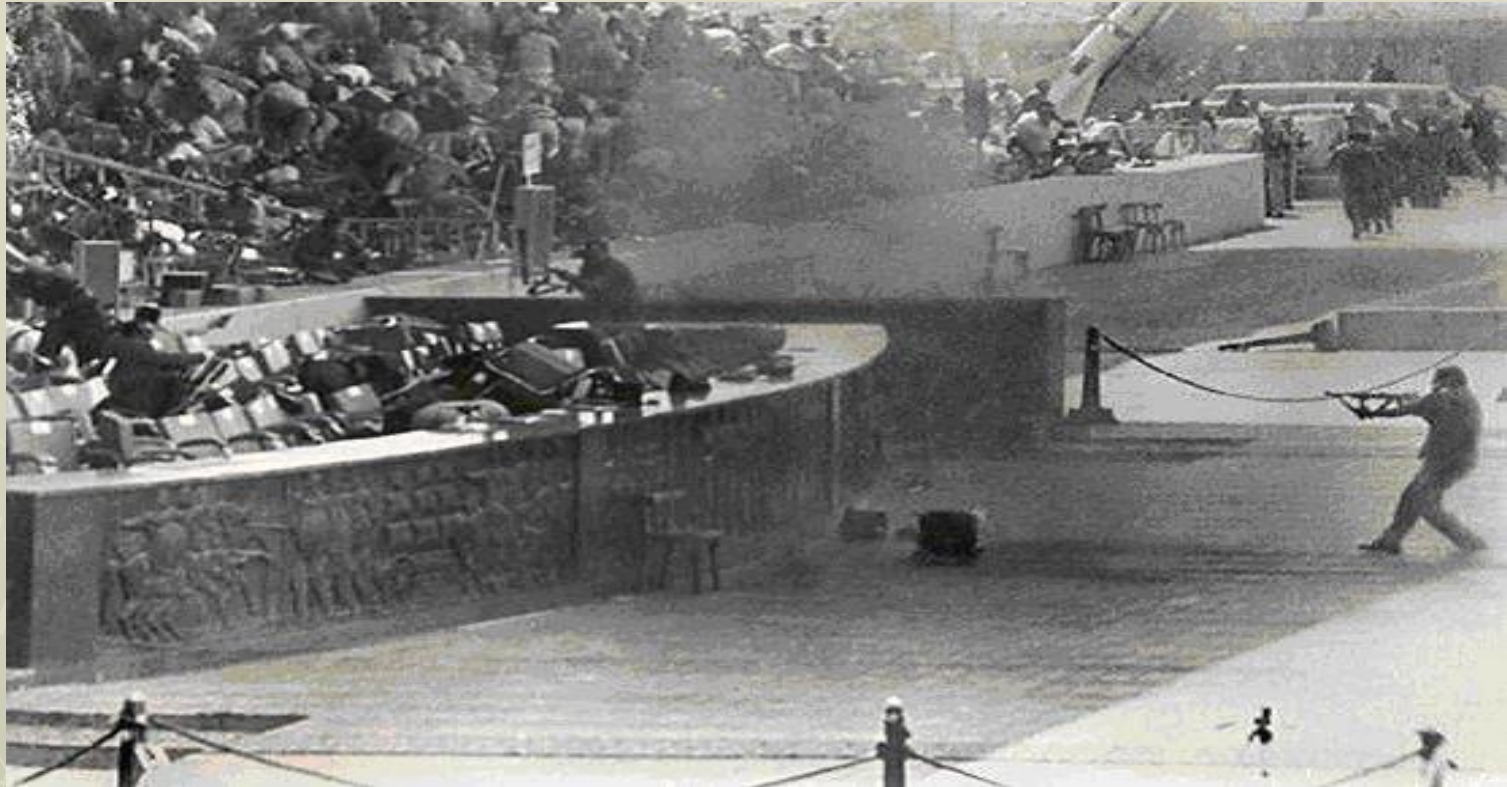
2. Arab states would cease hostilities recognize Israel's sovereignty and borders

War and Peace



- Camp David Peace Accords (1979)
- Anwar Sadat (Egypt)
- Menachem Begin (Israel)
- Recognition → Sinai Peninsula

War and Peace



Sadat Assassination (1981)

http://www.palestinefacts.org/pf_1967to1991_sadat_assassination.php

War and Peace

- Yitzhak Rabin (Israel)

- Yasir Arafat

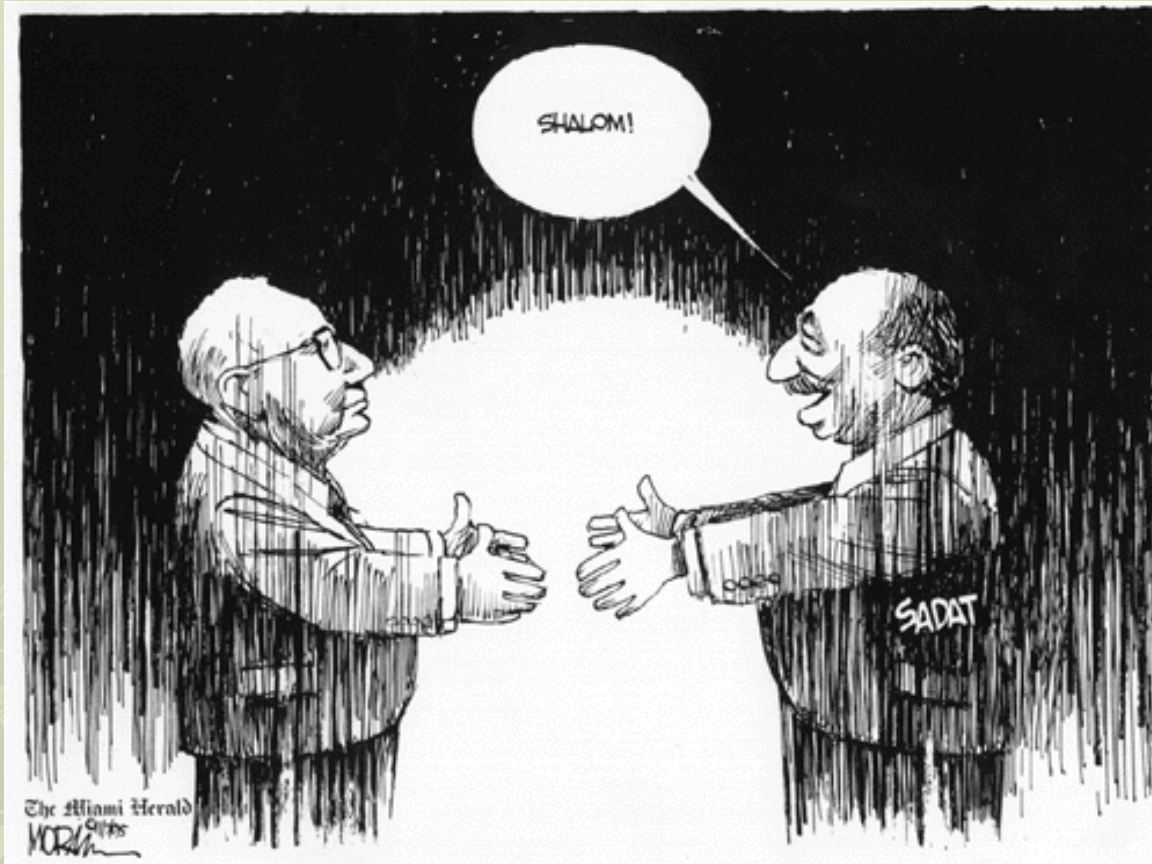
- Oslo Peace Accords (1993)

1. Called for an end to violence

2. The turn over of the Gaza Strip and West Bank, to the Palestinian Authority



War and Peace



- ▶ Rabin Assassination (1995)

Progress?

- Camp David Talks
 - July 2000
- Yasir Arafat
- Ehud Barak
- Settlements & Refugees
- Intifada
 - Sept. 2000



Progress?

Today almost 200 thousand Israeli Settlers live in the West Bank

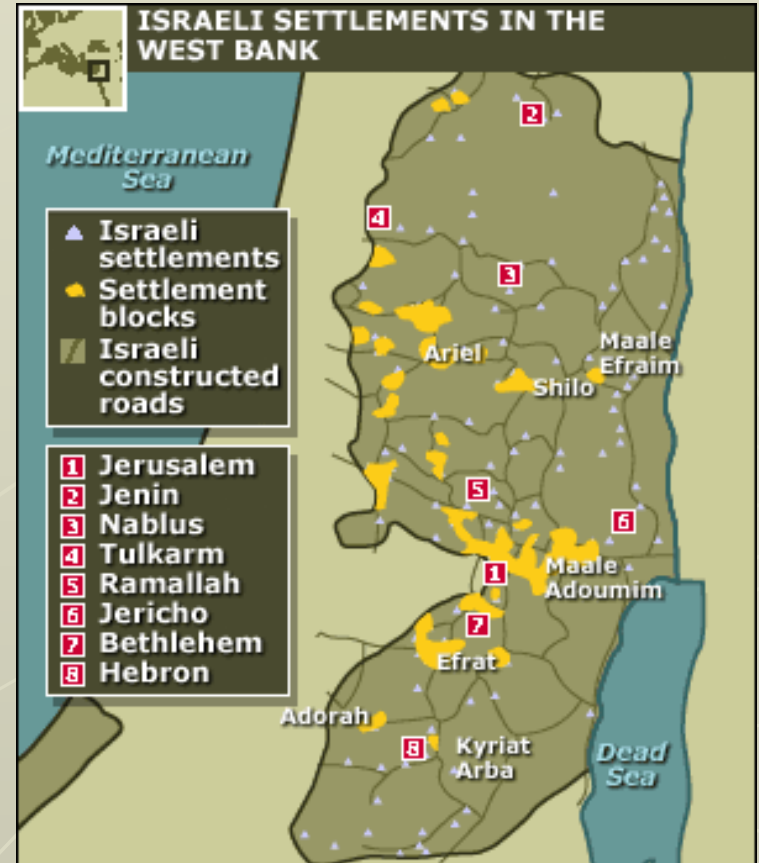
As a result of the ongoing Intifada and the threat of Suicide Bombers Israel is constructing a 370 mile long perimeter to separate the West Bank



Progress?



Israeli Security Fence



Israeli Settlements

Progress?



- ▶ Mahmoud Abbas
- ▶ Hamas (Islamic Resistance Movement)
 - Terrorist Organization
 - Political Party (Jan. 2006)
- ▶ Ehud Olmert

Progress?

