



The Six-Day War & The Rise of Terrorism

The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Tensions Rise in Spring, 1967

- **Heavy Syrian bombardment from the Golan Heights provoked a retaliatory Israeli airstrike on April 7, 1967.**
- **In the dogfight that ensued, Israel shot down 6 Soviet-supplied Syrian MiG Jets.**
- **Shortly thereafter, the Soviets falsely asserted that Israel was concentrating military forces in the north, and that set in motion events that would lead to war.**

Six Day War (1967)

- **Following Soviet intelligence, Syria called for Egyptian military support, and so in May, Egyptian troops mustered in the Sinai while Syrian troops assembled on the Golan Heights.**
- **Egyptian President Nasser ordered the UN Emergency Force out of the Sinai, and on May 22, blockaded Israeli shipping in the straits of Tiran.**



LEBANON

SYRIA

IRAQ

Mediterranean Sea

Beirut ○

○ Damascus

ISRAEL

Tel Aviv ○

West Bank

○ Amman

Jerusalem ○

Gaza Strip

JORDAN

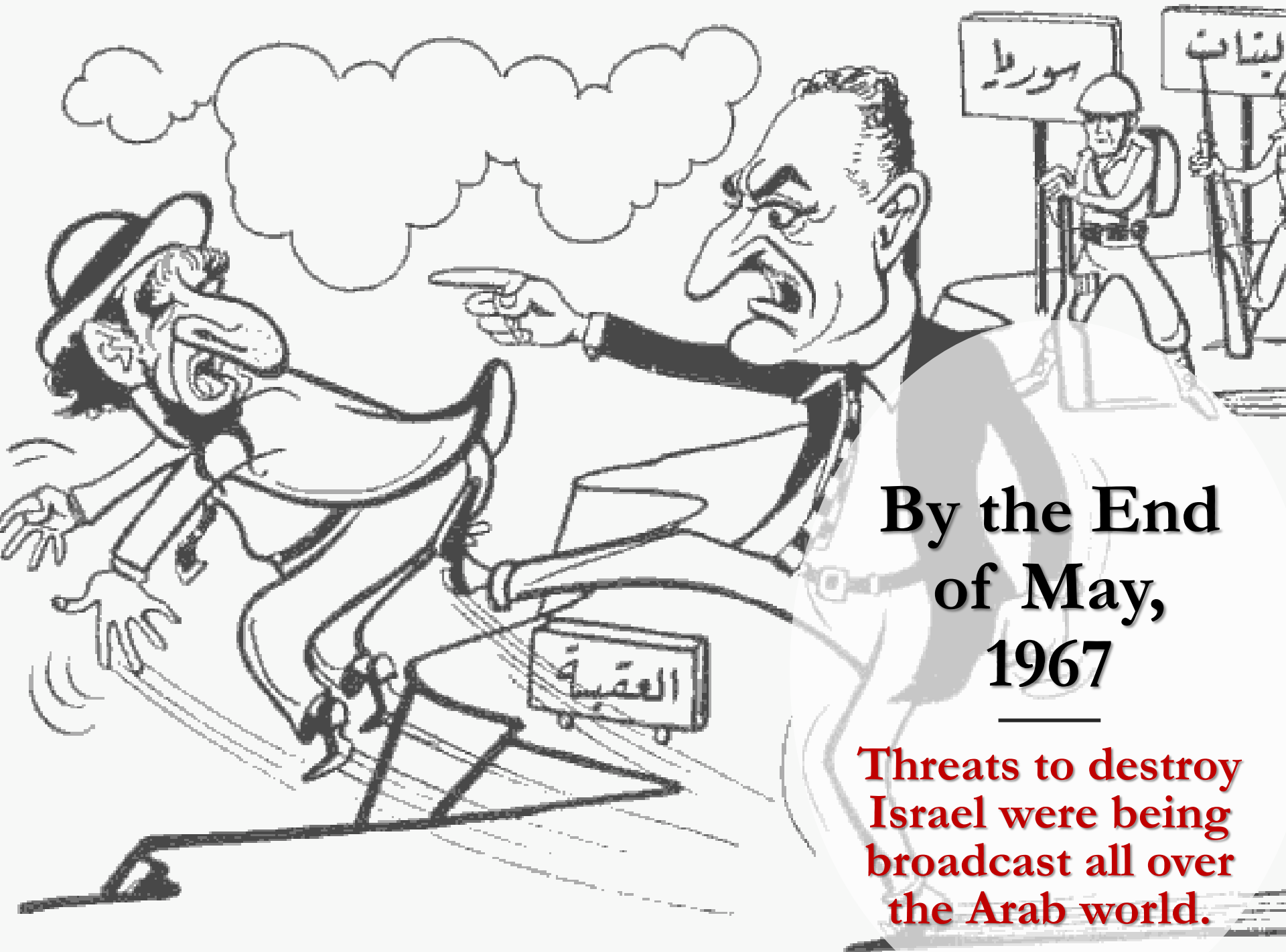
SAUDI ARABIA

Sinai

Cairo ○

EGYPT

0 50 100 miles



**By the End
of May,
1967**

**Threats to destroy
Israel were being
broadcast all over
the Arab world.**

On May 25

- Nasser told the Egyptian parliament: “The problem presently...is...how totally to exterminate the State of Israel for all time.”
- On May 28, he told the press: “We will not accept any possibility of coexistence with Israel.”
- The PLO’s Ahmad Shuqayri promised to “drive the Jews into the sea,” and that “there will be no survivors.”
- On May 30, King Hussein of Jordan signed a mutual defense pact with Egypt.

Israel was in a National Crisis

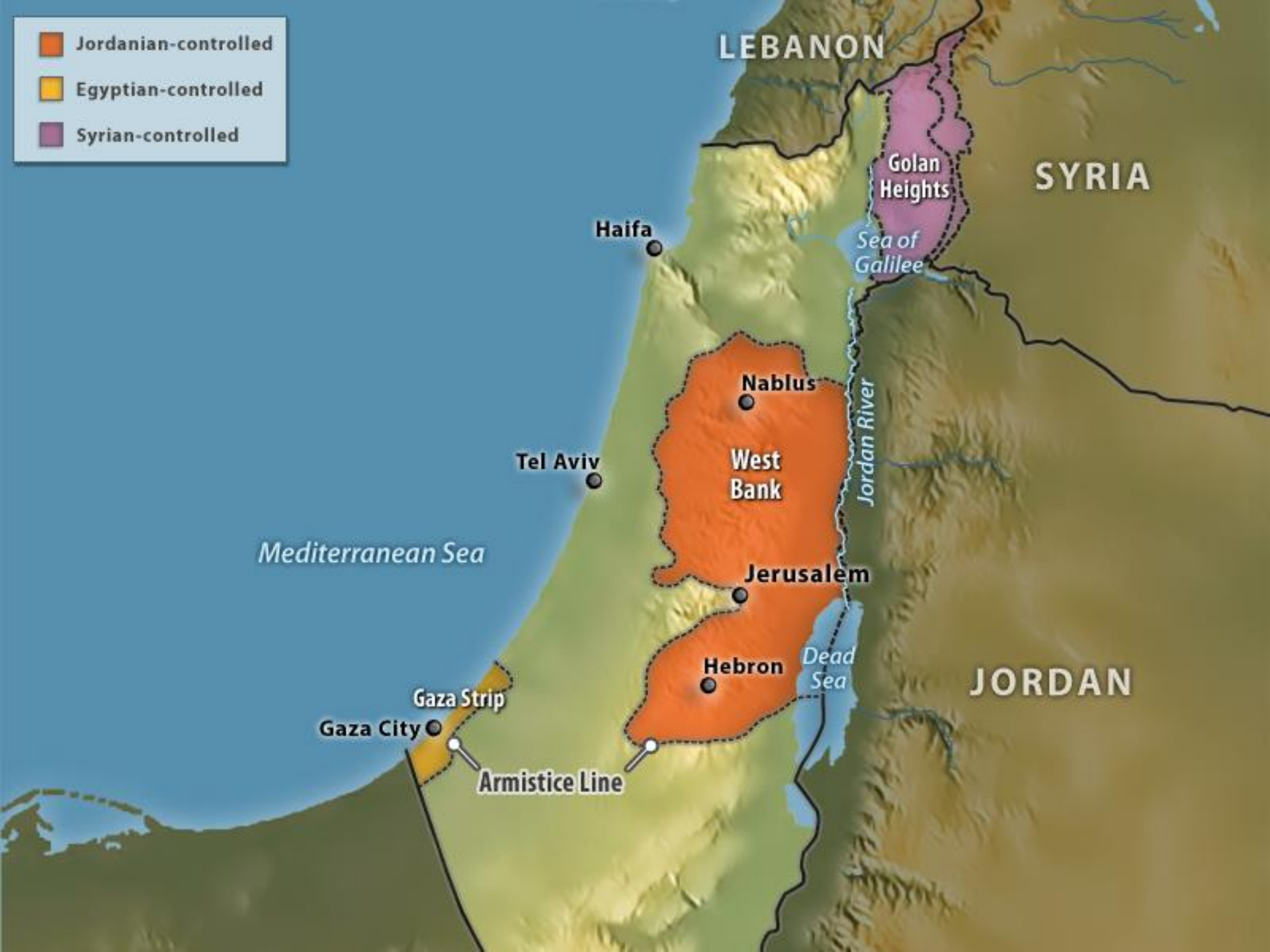
- **With indefensible borders so dangerous that the country was only 11 miles wide at its center, Israel was now “ringed by an Arab force of some 250,000 troops, over 2,000 tanks and some 700 front line fighter and bomber aircraft.”**
- **In response to this crisis, on June 1, Moshe Dayan was sworn in as Israeli defense minister.**

Moshe Dayan, Defense Minister

- At the start of the war, he was covering the Vietnam War to observe modern warfare up close as an observer with members of the US Marine Corps.
- The second child born on the first kibbutz in Israel, he was commander of the Jerusalem front in the 1948 Arab–Israeli War and chief of staff of the Israel Defense Forces (1953–58) during the 1956 Suez Crisis.



- Jordanian-controlled
- Egyptian-controlled
- Syrian-controlled



Despite US Pressure on Israel

- Not to launch a preemptive strike, the Israeli government and military did not believe it could withstand a first-strike assault by the combined Arab forces and still survive.
- Furthermore, Israeli forces had been on alert for 3 weeks now, and it was not economically feasible for the country to continue its mobilization indefinitely.
- President Johnson warned Israel “not to go it alone,” but Israeli leadership felt it had no choice.

June 5, 1967

- Israel launched a preemptive strike.
- While most Egyptian pilots were eating breakfast, the Israeli air force began a surprise attack against Egyptian air bases.
- Within 2 hours, the entire Egyptian air force, consisting of more than 300 planes, was destroyed.

**Ground War
Ensued in the
Sinai with the
most vicious tank
battles since
World War II**

**Within 4 days,
the entire Sinai,
up to the Suez
Canal, was in
Israeli hands.**



Before Hostilities Began

- Israel had sent secret messages to Jordan's King Hussein, imploring him to stay out of the war.
- Nevertheless, when Jordanian radar picked up the Israeli planes returning from the initial assault on the Egyptian air bases and being falsely informed by the Egyptians that the planes were theirs, King Hussein believed that an Egyptian air assault against Israel had begun.

Therefore...

- **The Jordanian army was ordered to shell West Jerusalem.**
- **Since Jordan had initiated the hostilities with Israel, the Israeli air force proceeded to destroy the Jordanian air force (as well as half the Syrian air force) and then launched a ground assault.**
- **Within 3 days, the IDF captured the West Bank and the Old City of Jerusalem.**

The Western Wall

- The significance cannot be understated—the most sacred shrine in Judaism was back in Jewish hands; Jews around the world celebrated.



צנחנים בכותל
PARATROOPERS AT THE WESTERN WALL



Most Israeli Troops

- Were engaged in the south with Egypt and in the central region with Jordan.
- But a relatively small group of soldiers held the Syrians at bay in the north.
- There Israeli troops fought uphill into the Golan Heights, taking severe losses, but intent on securing the high ground so that Israeli farmers would no longer be subject to bombing from Syrian emplacements on those hills.

By June 10, 1967

- Despite many casualties, the Golan Heights was secured, and Israel and her Arab neighbors accepted a cease-fire.
- Israeli troops had conquered the Sinai Peninsula, the Golan Heights, and the West Bank, including the Old City of Jerusalem in 6 days.
- And on the 7th day...

Israel rested.

Lost Lives, Ongoing Conflict

- Despite being outgunned and outmanned, the IDF had won a stunning victory, at great cost.
- Israel lost approximately 800 citizens—equivalent in per capita terms to 80,000 Americans.
- Another 2,563 were wounded.
- Arab losses were even more severe:
 - Syria: 450 dead; 1,800 wounded
 - Jordan: 700 dead; 6,000 wounded

The Victory was so Lopsided

- That it led to a tragic humiliation of the Arab nations and a rather dangerous overconfidence in Israel.
- **Israel mistakenly believed that the Arabs would now negotiate a peace in return for returned land.**
- But in August 1967, the Arab leaders met in Khartoum, Sudan and issued 3 “nos.”

3 “No’s”

1. No Peace with Israel
2. No Negotiations with Israel
3. No Recognition of Israel

The state of war would continue...



SYRIA

Golan Heights

Haifa

Sea of Galilee

Tel Aviv

Nablus

West Bank

Jordan River

Jerusalem

Mediterranean Sea

JORDAN

Dead Sea

Hebron

Gaza Strip

Gaza City

**Sinai Peninsula
(EGYPT)**

UN Resolution 242

- Intended to be the basis for a peace agreement, it became the source of much controversy.
- **The resolution called for:**
 - “termination of all claims or states of belligerency”
 - Recognition of the right of “every state in the area...to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force”

It Also Called For:

“withdrawal of Israeli armed forces from territories occupied in the recent conflict.”

- **This is the most disputed phrase in the resolution.**
- **The Arab states contend that this requires Israel to return to the pre-1967 borders.**
- **This was not, however, the intention of the original framers of the resolution...**

British and U.S. Ambassadors

- Who drafted the resolution, deliberately excluded the word “*all* territories” or even “*the* territories.”
- **Then U.S. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg:**

“The notable omissions—which were not accidental—in regard to withdrawal are the words ‘the’ or ‘all’ and ‘the June 5, 1967 territory lines’...The resolution speaks of withdrawal from occupied territories without defining the extent of withdrawal.”

Lord Caradon, British Ambassador

“It would have been wrong to demand that Israel return to its positions of June 4, 1967, because those positions were undesirable and artificial.”

Although all Israeli governments since have been willing to give up almost all of the territories seized in the war in exchange for peace, none were willing to give up 100% because of the very real danger to the country if it did so.

The Rise of Terrorism

- Israel developed settlements with Israeli citizens in the West Bank and the Gaza strip, which became a flashpoint in the dispute, particularly as they expanded in the late 1970s and 1980s.
- The final result of the Six Day War was the rise of Palestinian terrorism, and after the war, PLO operatives became innovators in terrorist methods.



Most Notable Terrorist Acts

- Hijacking
- **Hostages**
- Murder of children and invalids
- **The pinnacle of their terrorism was the ruthless attack on Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics in which 11 Israeli Olympians were killed.**

1976 – Air France Hijacking



On October 6, 1973

- **All Israel was observing Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement), the most solemn and sacred day on the Jewish calendar, when Egypt and Syria launched a coordinated surprise attack against Israel.**
- **The skeleton forces on duty in both the Golan Heights and the Sinai desert were simply overwhelmed.**

The Yom Kippur War (1973)

- 180 Israeli tanks faced 1,400 Syrian tanks in the Golan Heights
- 500 Israeli soldiers with 3 tanks faced 600,000 Egyptian soldiers with 2,000 tanks and 550 aircraft in the Sinai Desert along the Suez Canal
- Within the first few days of fighting, Israeli forces were driven out of the Golan Heights, while in the south Israeli troops retreated from the Suez into the Sinai Peninsula.

Facing Near Destruction

**And with the USSR rearming
the Arab attackers...**

**Israel appealed to the United
States for assistance.**

Within a Week...

- **The U.S. began a massive airlift of weaponry to Israel.**
- **This, along with the mobilization of the IDF, checked the Arab onslaught and ultimately turned the tide of the war.**

In the Sinai...

- **Israeli General Ariel Sharon** engineered a dramatic surprise crossing of the Suez Canal by Israeli troops, successfully surrounding the Egyptian Third Army, and opening the way for the IDF to march to Cairo unopposed, had Israel wished to do so.



In the North...

At great cost, the Israelis retook the Golan Heights and actually were in striking distance of Damascus.



The War's Impact

- The Yom Kippur War dramatically changed the situation in Israel.
 1. Israeli losses included 2,688 dead, 350% more than the Six Day War.
 2. Israeli invincibility was shattered; they had won the war, but victory was not assured; Israel was one war away from destruction.
 3. The Arabs unleashed the oil embargo, which pressured nations to abandon support of Israel or face the loss of oil supplies.

Yasser Arafat (1929-2004)

- **Born in Egypt, Arafat became the chairman of the PLO in 1967.**
- **An avowed terrorist, he was the 1st person to address the UN with a revolver at his side.**



Arafat: Terrorist Mastermind

- He oversaw the airline terrorism of the 1970s and gave the order to kill American diplomats.
- He arranged terrorist acts against Israel, including the slaughter of Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics and 20 Israeli schoolchildren in 1974.
- Although he later “disavowed” terrorism, he returned to violence and terrorism during the Terror War until his death in 2004.



The Two Arafats

Opinion Piece in *NYT*

- “The Palestinian View of Peace”
- **Arafat** condemned terrorism and claimed that, “Palestinians are ready to end the conflict.”
- One week earlier, Arafat gave a speech in Ramallah, vowing:
“We will make the lives of the infidels Hell!” calling for “Jihad, Jihad, Jihad” and “a million martyrs marching on Jerusalem.”



Menachem Begin

- Prime Minister from 1977-82, part of the conservative Likud party, and a supporter of Israeli settlements in the disputed territories.
- Insisted on calling the West Bank “Judea and Samaria.”
- Camp David Accords with Egypt in 1979
- Authorized the bombing of an Iraqi nuclear reactor in 1981, incurring the wrath of the UN and even President Ronald Reagan.



Camp David Accords, 1978

1982 Lebanon War

- The war was provoked by the PLO's continuous bombing of northern Israel.
- The PLO had come to Lebanon after King Hussein had expelled them from Jordan; Arafat virtually took over the entire country.
- When the PLO assassinated an Israeli ambassador, Begin authorized his defense minister, Ariel Sharon, to launch Operation Peace for Galilee on June 4, 1982.

Lebanese Christians & Muslims

- Welcomed the Israeli army as liberators.
- **However, as the PLO terrorist army withdrew to the cover of civilian population centers in Beirut, the IDF came under greater criticism because of the potential for civilian casualties.**
- Nevertheless, the IDF was able to secure a cease-fire that required the expulsion of Yasser Arafat and the PLO from Lebanon.

The First *Intifada* (uprising)

- On December 6, 1987 an Israeli shopper in Gaza was stabbed to death by a Palestinian.
- The next day, an Israeli truck driver in Gaza lost control of his vehicle, killing four passengers in an oncoming car, all Palestinian refugees.
- Rumors raged that Israelis had killed Palestinians deliberately, setting off the first Palestinian Intifada.

The Intifada Included Teenagers

- **Engaging in tire burning, stone throwing, and assaults with gasoline bombs on Israeli troops.**
- **Palestinians also used hand grenades, guns, and other explosives.**
- **But for much of the world, what images were shown on television?**



www.schnews.org.uk



Israeli Soldiers

Frequently commented that they would spend hours under assault by Palestinians without responding, but TV cameras only recorded IDF troops responding with force (when their safety was at risk), suggesting military brutality.

Within the First Months

- Yasser Arafat and the PLO leadership in Tunisia had co-opted the uprising.
- **Before long, the PLO was calling for “Days of Rage,” directing attacks against Jewish targets.**
- Also, any Arabs working for Israel became targets for “collaborating” with the enemy; in fact, Palestinian death squads killed more Palestinians in the uprising than did Israeli troops.

The Intifada Finally Fizzled Out

- **When Arafat and the PLO supported Saddam Hussein in the first Gulf War.**
- **The PLO was actually recognized by the U.S. from 1988-1990.**
- **By the end of the Gulf War, Arafat had lost all credibility in the Western World, as well as with the Arab states, so the uprising dwindled to a quiet end.**

Oslo Peace Accord: September 13, 1993





I enter negotiations with Chairman Arafat, the leader of the PLO, the representative of the Palestinian people, with the purpose to have coexistence between our two entities, Israel as a Jewish state and Palestinian state, entity, next to us, living in peace.

(Yitzhak Rabin)

“Enough of blood and tears. Enough!”

- **The Oslo Peace Accord** provided for Palestinian autonomy on the West Bank and Gaza and set in motion a new plan for peace and security in Israel.
- **Despite ups and downs in the peace process, there was a growing expectation that peace would reign in this troubled region.**
- **A deadline for a final status agreement was set for May 4, 1999.**
- **But on November 4, 1995...**

RABIN ASSASSINATED

Peres pays tribute to longtime rival, partner

By DAVID MARCUSKY, BOSTONIAN TRIBUNE and agencies

Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's Prime Minister, was assassinated today in a shooting attack on the Tel Aviv city center. The assassination was the first of its kind since the state's founding in 1948.

Peres was a war hero in the 1940s and 1950s. He was a member of the Haganah, the Jewish underground, and later the Israel Defense Forces. He was a member of the Knesset, the Israeli parliament, from 1951 to 1977.

Peres was a member of the Knesset, the Israeli parliament, from 1951 to 1977. He was a member of the Knesset, the Israeli parliament, from 1951 to 1977.

Peres was a member of the Knesset, the Israeli parliament, from 1951 to 1977. He was a member of the Knesset, the Israeli parliament, from 1951 to 1977.

A black day for the whole Jewish nation

EDITORIAL

The death of Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, is a black day for the whole Jewish nation. Rabin was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country.

Rabin was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country. He was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country.

Rabin was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country. He was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country.

Rabin was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country. He was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country.

Rabin was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country. He was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country.

Rabin was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country. He was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country.

Assassin: God told me to kill Rabin

By NANE MARCUS and HERB KATZMAN

The assassin, Yigal Amir, said he was inspired to kill Rabin by a religious conviction. He said he was inspired to kill Rabin by a religious conviction.

The assassin, Yigal Amir, said he was inspired to kill Rabin by a religious conviction. He said he was inspired to kill Rabin by a religious conviction.



Yitzhak Rabin addresses his final press rally last night in Tel Aviv.

War hero and peacemaker

By ELI WEINSTEIN

Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, was a man of peace. He was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country.



Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, was a man of peace. He was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country.

Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, was a man of peace. He was a man of peace, a man who had spent his life in the service of his country.

Pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot

By NANE MARCUS, NANE MARCUS and ALAN FISHER

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach. He was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach. He was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach. He was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach. He was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach. He was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach. He was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach. He was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach. He was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach. He was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach. He was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the chest and stomach.

Selected Readings

- *Kingdom of Priests* by Eugene Merrill
- *Between the Testaments* by Charles Pfeiffer
- *Bible and Sword* by Barbara Tuchman
- *Understanding the Arab-Israeli Conflict* by Michael Rydelnik
- *The Weapon Wizards: How Israel Became a High-Tech Military Superpower* by Amir Bohbot and Yaakov Katz
- *The Angel: The Egyptian Spy Who Saved Israel* by Uri Bar-Joseph
- *Satellite Bible Atlas* by Bill Schlegel

