

Celebrating Israel's 70th (and CIJR's 30th)
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THE PALESTINE POST. If you can't come to town, please telephone 4607. Lighting, Heating, Cooking, Refrigeration. CARL MARX 1 PRINCESS MARY AVE, JERUSALEM. JERUSALEM SUNDAY, MAY 14, 1948. PRICE: 15 MILLS. VOL. XXII, No. 414. THE SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT has 1455744 to The Palestine Post office, 10000, 10000, Tel. 4232.

STATE OF ISRAEL IS BORN

The first independent Jewish State in 19 centuries was born in Tel Aviv as the British Mandate over Palestine came to an end at midnight on Friday, and it was immediately subjected to the test of fire. As "Medinat Yisrael" (State of Israel) was proclaimed, the battle for Jerusalem raged, with most of the city falling to the Jews. At the same time, President Truman announced that the United States would accord recognition to the new State. A few hours later, Palestine was invaded by Moslem armies from the south, east and north, and Tel Aviv was raided from the air. On Friday the United Nations Special Assembly adjourned after adopting a resolution to appoint a mediator but without taking any action on the Partition Resolution of November 29.

Most Crowded Hours in Palestine's History

Between Thursday night and this morning Palestine was through what by all standards must be among the most crowded hours in its history. For the Jewish population there was the approach over Friday and yesterday. The arrival of small arms fire and explosions of mortar shells were still being heard in the early hours of this morning as the battle entered its third day.

Jews Take Over Security Zones

The battle for Jerusalem, which began when the British force withdrew on Friday morning, continued all day Friday and yesterday. The arrival of small arms fire and explosions of mortar shells were still being heard in the early hours of this morning as the battle entered its third day.

Egyptian Air Force Spitfires Bomb Tel Aviv; One Shot Down

Katari, the Tel Aviv broadcasting station, reported at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon that the Egyptian air force had bombed three times in the previous evening and morning, and that one plane had been shot down and another Egyptian plane taken prisoner.

U.S. Recognizes Jewish State

WASHINGTON, Sunday.—The Senate today voted 81-19 to recognize the Jewish State as the de facto authority representing the Jewish State. The U.S. is also considering lifting the arms embargo but it is not known whether it will do so.

Proclamation by Head of Government

The creation of "Medinat Yisrael," the State of Israel, was proclaimed at midnight on Friday by Mr. David Ben-Gurion, until then Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive and now head of the State's Provisional Council of Government.

Special Assembly Adjourns

STUTTGART, Monday.—The United Nations Special Assembly adjourned today after a session in which the members of the Provisional Council of Government were heard.

2 Columns Cross Southern Border

By WALTER COLLINS. Two columns of Egyptian troops crossed the Egyptian border into Palestine today, according to reports from the Jewish Agency.

Etzion Settlers Taken P.O.W.

Fighting in the Etzion bloc continued throughout Friday when 150 Jewish settlers were taken prisoner by Arab forces.

A Good Thing

It is a good thing that the Jewish Agency has been able to secure the release of the 150 Etzion settlers.

2 Villages Taken In Road Battle

In the battle for the Etzion bloc, the Jewish Agency has been able to secure the release of the 150 Etzion settlers.

Emergency

A state of emergency has been declared in Jerusalem.

War Office Says Legion Had Left

The War Office today said that the Legion had left the area.

British Contingent Arrived

A British contingent has arrived in Jerusalem.

U.S. Recognizes Jewish State

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**Editorial: Celebrating Israel's 70th (And CIJR's 30th):
"Good Arms" [IDF] and "Good Laws" [Diplomacy] Ensure Survival, and
Flourishing, of Jewish State
*Frederick Krantz***

CIJR's two Galas, celebrating its 30th and Israel's 70th, anniversaries, span modern Israel's development. One, in Montreal on October 14th, celebrates the role of the Israel Defense Forces in ensuring the survival and security of the new Jewish state. The other, in Toronto on October 21st, underlines the increasing diplomatic recognition of democratic Israel, and of Jerusalem, within the world community.

The much-misunderstood 16th c. Florentine republican thinker and diplomat, Niccolò Machiavelli, said in his great *Discourses on Livy* that "good arms" and "good laws", resting on and supported by *il popolo*, the people, guaranteed the stability and liberty of *lo stato*, the polity, or republic. (This why, remarkably for its time, Machiavelli made a Jew, Moses, a hero: our Moshe rabbenu was the greatest legislator of all history, beyond even the Athenians, Solon and Draco, because by giving God's laws to the Jews, he created the first sovereign republic in the ancient world).

Remarkably, republican, democratic Jewish Israel has survived multiple Arab attempts to destroy the tiny country, and absorbed, despite initial difficulties, repeated waves of *aliyah*, fulfilling its destiny as a land of refuge for the Jewish People. In the process, the Israel Defense Forces have made Israel the Middle East's regional hegemon, and one of the world's leading military powers.

Beyond this, Israel as a modern state has become concretely what it and its capital Jerusalem have always been religiously, the center of

the Jewish People. The millennial religious yearning for return from enforced exile to freedom in its own Land, which underlay and gave strength to the Zionist movement founded by Theodor Herzl, is reflected today in Israel's vigorous, Hebrew-inflected Jewish life, religious and secular.

Modern Israel, a major economic and technological power leading the West in advanced "start-up" technologies, is about to place a space satellite on the moon. And demographically it has already displaced the U.S. as the world's largest Jewish population center.

Diplomatically, Israel enjoys formal peace treaties with two former Arab enemies, Egypt and Jordan, and de facto recognition with a growing list of Sunni states like Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and United Arab Emirates. Civil war and internal discord have paralyzed former enemies like Syria and Iraq, and forthright American support under President Donald Trump has led to the recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, and the weakening of genocidal Iran by the U.S.'s setting aside of the JCPOA treaty.

Diplomatically and politically, Israel's security position today is in many ways the most stable since its founding 70 years ago. The Middle East remains, of course, volatile, and history's ability to spring surprises and unintended consequences should never be underestimated. Nevertheless, and despite worrying signs of an up-tick in antisemitism (on the left and on campuses in the U.S., in Europe, and with Corbyn in Great Britain), we can nevertheless, and while remaining ever-watchful, celebrate the approaching New Year with guarded optimism and a real sense of accomplishment.

Militarily, the IDF has made Israel's survival and stability possible, just as the remarkable economic and technological ingenuity and creativity of the Jewish people has enabled diplomacy to secure its regional and

international legitimacy. For its part, independent CIJR—its academic Fellows, lay Board members, and wonderful students—is proud to have played a creative and steady role in defending the Jewish state and Jewish people, and in ensuring Jewish continuity, over the last thirty years.

(NB: Here, a personal note: our wonderful Research Chairman, Baruch Cohen, turning 99 this month, is not feeling well. All of us who know and love him and his wonderful wife, Sonia, and have worked with him from the beginning, join with Lenore and me in wishing Baruch as speedy a recovery as possible. CIJR would not be what it is today without his many key contributions. His superb recent autobiographical memoir, “No One Bears Witness for the Witness”, is noted on p.11.)

(Frederick Krantz, Director, CIJR, and Editor, ISRAFAX)