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Israel, 1948

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THE PALESTINE POST

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Most Crowded Hours in Palestine's History

Between Thursday night and this morning Palestine went through what by all standards must be among the most crowded hours in its history.

For the Jewish population there was the anguish over the fate of the few hundred Haganah men and women in the Kfar Etzion bloc of settlements near Hebron. Their surrender to a fully equipped superior foreign force desperately in need of victory was a foregone conclusion. What could not be known, with no communications since Thursday morning, was whether and to what extent the Red Cross and the Truce Commission would secure civilized conditions for prisoners and wounded, and proper respect for the dead. Doubts on some of these anxious questions have now been resolved.

On Friday afternoon, from Tel Aviv, came the expected announcement of the Jewish State, and its official naming at birth, "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.

Yesterday the battle for the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv road was still under way, and two Arab villages were taken. In the north, Acre town was captured, and the Jewish Army consolidated its positions in Western Galilee.

JEWISH STATE DISTURBED

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 Yi'rael" (State of Israel) was proclaimed, the battle for Jerusalem raged, with most of the city falling to the Jews. At the

EGYPTIAN AIR FORCE SPITFIRES BOMB TEL AVIV; ONE SHOT DOWN

The Battle for Jerusalem, which began when the British forces withdrew on Friday morning, continued all day Friday and yesterday. The crackle 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.

Repeated efforts on Friday evening and again on Saturday by the U.N. Truce Commission to bring about a "cease-fire" were met with the brush of the guns. A short lull was negotiated, but the Arab representatives failed to agree with the specified terms.

On Friday morning, Egyptian forces entered Kfar Etzion and other settlements, and occupied the buildings requisitioned from Jews last year. This operation was almost bloodless, but beyond the outer limits of Zone C, Arabs returned to the Jaffa Road. The Arabs were forced back and the Barkay Bank was taken.

In other parts of the city, the fighting flared up. Jews overran one after another the areas seized by the British. By Friday night, the situation had assumed a more stabilized form, and the Jewish forces had consolidated their hold on the Jewish sections in North-Eastern Galilee.

The Security Council met yesterday in a special session to consider action on the invasion of Palestine by member states of the U.N.

The appeal to the U.N. to take action was delayed until this morning at 2 o'clock, but some of the states and the U.N. were engaged in other business. The Security Council adjourned after adopting a resolution to recognize the independent Jewish State, and its official naming at birth, "Medinat Yisrael." The Security Council met today to take further action on the situation.

Israel, the Tel Aviv broadcasting station, reported that early on Friday morning, Tel Aviv had been bombarded, three times in the previous evening and morning, and that one plane had been shot down and its Egyptian pilots taken prisoner.

In the first raid, four planes attacked from a height of 300 feet. Two dropped bombs, but these were scattered in the city. Little damage was caused. In the second attack, two hours later, the airport to the north of the city was bombarded, and an Air France plane parked there was damaged. The third raid was launched shortly before midnight, but the planes were driven off without causing any damage.

Two settlements in the Negev had also been attacked from the air, the radio reported.

I. S. R. ECOnizes JEWISH State

WASHINGTON, Saturday, May 16, 1948. —Ten minutes after the termination of the British Mandate on Friday, the White House released a formal statement by President Truman that the U.S. Government intended to recognize the Provisional Jewish Government 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 to Palestine only or the entire Middle East, and the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Jewish Provisional Government.

The White House press secretary, Mr. Charles Ross, told correspondents today that reaction so far to the recognition had been overwhelmingly favourable. He added: this step had been discussed with Mr. Marshall and Mr. Lovett before action was taken, and it had been their complete support.

Mr. Ross said that the President had decided several days ago to grant American recognition to the new Jewish State, but due to "profound" regulations he could not announce his policy.

Proclamation by Head Of Government

The creation of "Medinat Yi'rael", 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.

The first act of the Council of Government, as announced by the Prime Minister, was to abolish all legislation of the 1939 White Paper of the late Mandatory Power, particularly the Ordinances and Orders relating to immigration and land taxes.

The declaration of Independence, according to Mr. Ben Gurion, was made in the Arab cities of Palestine to restore peace, assuring the right to full civil rights and full representation in all government organs of the State.

Mr. Ben Gurion presided over the declaration with a review of the connection of the Jewish people with the Land of Israel and of their efforts to return, which never ceased throughout the generations of their dispersal, until the Palestinian proves fully the need for a Jewish State.

The Rallou Declaration of 1917, confirmed by the League of Nations, had been given explicit recognition in the new Jewish State, and the right of the Jewish people to reconstitute their National Home in Palestine, he said.

Special Assembly Adjourns

FLUSHING MEADOWS, N.Y. — The Special U.S. Assembly, called four weeks ago to discuss the U.S. proposal for a temporary Trusteeship for Palestine, adjourned yesterday until its next regular meeting in September.
Cuba Family Archives

April 13, 1948

Some of the most Americanized of the Arab Legion's soldiers were captured by the Free French forces near Latrun last night, after a three-hour battle. The Legion, which was advancing from the north, was cut off and forced to retreat when French planes and tanks entered the area from the south. The French captured about 300 Legionaries, including several officers, and took them prisoner. The Legion's retreat was unexpected, as it had been expected to continue its advance towards Jerusalem.

The French victory was reported by the Paris correspondent of the Associated Press, who said that the Legion was completely surrounded and had no chance of escape. The Legion's commander, Captain Jean-Louis Pailiez, was reported to be among the captured soldiers. The French claimed that the Legion was attempting to relieve the Jewish settlement of Kfar Etzion, which had been under attack by Lebanese forces for several days.

The battle for Kfar Etzion is of great importance, as it is considered a key to the road to Jerusalem. The Legion's capture is a major setback for the Arab forces, who have been trying to prevent the opening of a direct road to the city. The French victory is a welcome relief for the Jews, who have been under constant pressure from the Arabs for several months.

The French forces, who were supported by Egyptian planes and tanks, are now in a position to advance towards Jerusalem itself. The Legion's capture is a major blow to the Arab cause, and is likely to lead to further defeats for the Arab forces in the coming weeks.

The battle for Kfar Etzion is expected to continue for several days, as the French forces are determined to push the Legion out of the way and open the road to Jerusalem. The Jews are also determined to prevent the Legion's advance, and are expected to put up a strong resistance.

The situation in the area is expected to remain tense for some time, as both sides are determined to hold on to their positions. The French forces are expected to continue their advance towards Jerusalem, while the Legion is expected to try to regain control of Kfar Etzion.
There are days in the human record on which the world seems to shift its course, leaving behind it a legacy of change and consequence. One such day was March 15, 1956, when the United Nations General Assembly voted to admit the State of Israel to its membership. This historic event marked a significant turning point in the history of Palestine and the Middle East.

The Jewish state was recognized by the United Nations, bringing hope and legitimacy to the Jewish people. The end of the partition of Palestine and the creation of Israel marked a new chapter in history, with profound implications for the region and the world.

The establishment of the State of Israel was a milestone in the quest for self-determination and national independence. It was a triumph for the Jewish people, who had been dispersed and marginalized for centuries. The creation of Israel provided a platform for Jewish existence and a homeland for the Jewish people.

The creation of Israel was not without controversy or conflict. The Israeli-Arab War, known as the War of Independence, erupted soon after the establishment of the state. This conflict, known also as the Six-Day War, had a profound impact on the region and set the stage for future conflicts.

The creation of Israel was a significant milestone in the history of Palestine and the Middle East. It marked the end of the partition of Palestine and the beginning of the modern history of Israel. The establishment of the state of Israel was a historic event that has shaped the region and the world for generations to come.
it must be other. Independent promoters have been heard of his independence and of his courage against another is for the good of neither; and in coming, the count of the Arab against the powers that preach their interests, is to be more than the count of the Jew against those who have been active against freedom. Unless all these people are freed, none of them will be free; and the State of Israel will be strengthened in the strength of both the free peoples of Palestine. And as it can be said that the subject Jew was an assurance of the freedom of the Arab, it is clear that right—must be right to say that the free Jew is a promise of freedom for the Arab. In that case, there will be a righteousness of the new State of Israel.

Men and women have done well and can return to each other with a blessing. They are not their bodies as a shield, hand that steel and their brains is a ringing fork sharpens the wedge of tasks. They have few and wonderfully brave. They are still few and their must still be brave; and the mother must go off as dark and the mother wait at the dawn. It is the bravery and it is the leadership who, in this crisis, has been widely of Jews and in their tenacious temper, have brought into being the State of Israel, which has been done, as no one else. There is no cause to thank these men and women and their leadership and their heels in their hands for the rest of eternity. There is the day upon which no right falls.