

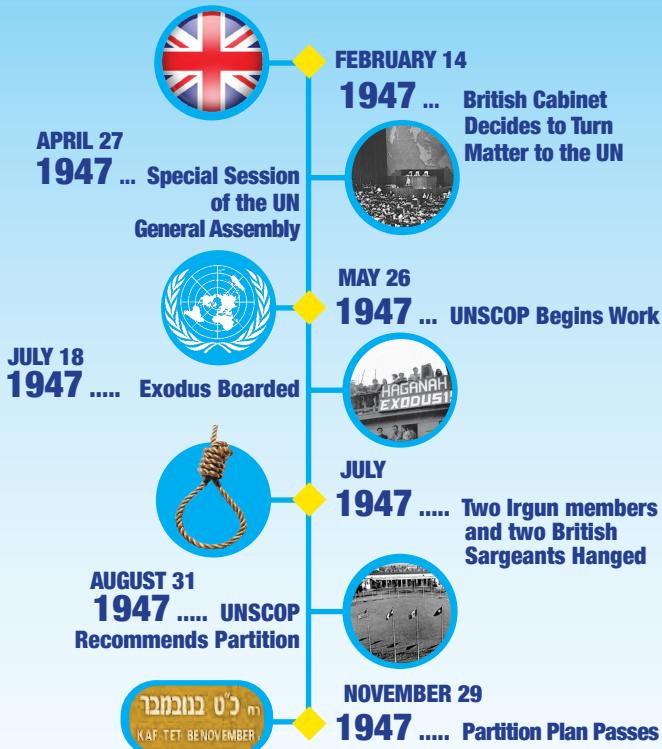


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## HISTORY OF ISRAEL

[The United Nations Partition Plan]



During the summer of 1947, a United Nations commission called the UNSCOP held extensive hearings and meetings in Pre-State Israel to assess the conditions there. The Arabs largely boycotted the meetings.

### Two events occurred that impacted UNSCOP delegates:

First, the British had sentenced two Irgun members to death by hanging for terror activities. In response, the Irgun kidnapped two British sergeants and warned that if their boys were hanged, the sergeants would be as well. Both sentences were carried out, horrifying observers.

Second, the British boarded a refugee ship renamed the "Exodus." When the refugees and crew on board fought back, three were killed and 26 were wounded. The boat was towed to Haifa and its passengers were forcibly transferred to three ships compelled to set sail for France. After France refused to accept anyone who did not want to disembark, the British set sail for Hamburg Germany, where the refugees were interned.

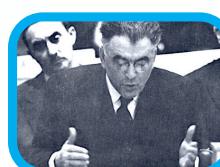
A sub-committee of UNSCOP toured the camps for displaced persons in Germany, and reported that almost all of the displaced persons wished to go to *Eretz Yisrael*. The UNSCOP issued a report by the majority, which called for the establishment of two independent states in the land; one Jewish and one Arab.

**On November 29, 1947, the UN General Assembly then voted on partition of the land. The Jews embraced the plan, while the Arabs threaten to go to war.**



**“**Who is willing and capable of guaranteeing that what happened to us in Europe will not recur? Can the conscience of humanity absolve itself of all responsibility for that Holocaust? There is only one security guarantee: a homeland and a state.” — Ben Gurion to UNSCOP, June 1947

**“**Harry all your life you had a hero. [He pointed to a bronze sculpture of President Andrew Jackson]. I too have a hero, a man I never met but who I think the greatest Jew who has ever lived. I am talking about Chaim Weizmann. He is a very sick man broken in health, but he has traveled thousands of just to see you and plea the cause of my people. Now you refuse to see him... **Edward Jacobson** (Truman's friend and former business partner) speaking to President Harry S. Truman on March 13, 1947. President Truman replied: “You win ... I will see him.”



**“**The Jewish people belongs in this society of nations. Surely the Jewish people is no less deserving than other peoples whose national freedom and independence have been established and whose representatives are now seated here. The Jews were your allies in the war, and joined their sacrifices to yours to achieve a common victory. — **Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver**, American Zionist Leader, addressing the UN on May 8, 1947.