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HISTORY OF ISRAEL

[Britain Loses Control]

1945 ... Germany Surrenders 

1944 ... Jewish Population of Eretz Yisrael Reaches 560,000 

SEPTEMBER 1945 ... Truman Calls on Britain to allow 100,000 Jewish refugees into Eretz Yisrael 

OCTOBER 31 1945 ... Large-scale attacks by Joint Command 

MAY 1 1946 ... Anglo-American Report Issued 

JUNE 16 1946 ... Rail Bridges Destroyed 

JUNE 19 1946 ... Lechi kidnap British officers 

JUNE 29 1946 ... Black Sabbath Operation "Agatha" 

JULY 26 1946 ... King David Hotel Bombing 

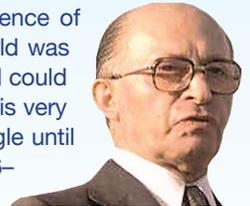
FEBRUARY 14 1947 ... Britain Turns Over Palestine Problem to the UN 

The leadership of the Jewish community in *Eretz Yisrael* decided it was time to pressure the British. A Joint Committee of all the Jewish paramilitary groups (Haganah, Palmach, Irgun, and Lechi) was established to coordinate military action (e.g. blowing up railroad lines and bridges).

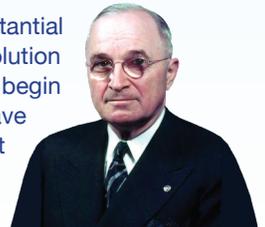
The British attempted to reach a compromise plan for the future of the land. No plan was acceptable to the Arabs, who repeated their demand for an Arab State in all of the Mandate, with no Jewish immigration.

The Zionist movement pressured the British politically, while at the same time attacking British military targets. The Haganah primarily targeted British facility that were trying to stop boats carrying "illegal" immigrants to the Yishuv. By early 1947, it became clear to the British that they could not maintain control. They turned the problem over to the UN.

“ We knew that *Eretz Yisrael* in consequence of the revolt, resembled a glass house. The world was looking into it with ever-increasing interest and could see most of what was happening inside. That is very largely why we were able to pursue our struggle until we brought it to its successful climax in 1946–1947. — *Prime Minister Menachem Begin*



“ I believe and urge that substantial immigration into Palestine cannot await a solution to the Palestine problem and that it should begin at once. Preparations for this movement have already been made by this Government and it is ready to lend its immediate assistance. — *US President Harry Truman (Presidential Message for Yom Kippur 1946).*



“ The war years had knit the community into a powerful, self-conscious organism, and the great war effort, out of all proportions to the numerical strength of the Yishuv had given the Jews of *Eretz Yisrael* a heightened self reliance, a justified sense of merit and achievement, a renewed claim on the democratic world. — *President Chaim Weizmann*



By the summer of 1945, there were over 100,00 Jewish survivors in Displaced Person Camps in Germany, and that number was growing. After receiving a report on conditions in those camps, President Harry S. Truman called on the British to allow 100,000 Jews to immigrate immediately to *Eretz Yisrael*. The British rejected Truman's plea.