

A Selected

Reading List
on the Palestine Problem
and Arab-Israeli
Conflict

Prepared under the guidance of Professor Walid Khalidi of the Institute for Palestine Studies

THE FIFTH OF JUNE SOCIETY

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- N.B. Chronological rather than alphabetical order has been chosen as a help to readers and students. Where books cover the same period it is the sequence of their publication that has been followed.
- 1. Berger, Elmer. THE JEWISH DILEMMA (Devin-Adair, New York, 1956). An account of the Jewish national and religious renaissance, beginning in the 18th century, and including a critique of Zionism as a solution to the Jewish problem. By a distinguished American Jewish scholar and rabbi.
- 2. Antonius, George. THE ARAB AWAKENING (Khayats, Beirut, reprint, original publication date 1938. Also Capricorn). The classic study of the origins of Arab nationalism, and its development between the two World Wars. By a leading Arab historian.
- 3. Howard, Harry. THE KING-CRANE COMMISSION (Khayats, Beirut, 1966). Most authoritative study of the 2-man American Commission of Enquiry sent by President Wilson to the Near East during the 1919 Peace Conference to report on Arab opinion and aspirations.
- 4. SURVEY OF PALESTINE (2 vols.) (Palestine Government, Government Printer, Jerusalem, 1946). By far the most authoritative reference work for the entire range of background data on the Mandate period. Vital statistics on Jewish immigration, Arab development, British policy. An official report submitted by the British Government to the Anglo-American Commission of Enquiry which visited Palestine in 1946 as a result of an agreement between President Truman and Prime Minister Atlee.

- 5. Barbour, Nevill. NISI DOMINUS (Harrap, London, 1946).

 The best study of the British Mandate in Palestine up to 1945, with details of the Arab Revolt of the 1930's. By a British scholar.
- 6. Taylor, Alan. PRELUDE TO ISRAEL: AN ANALYSIS OF ZIONIST DIPLOMACY 1897–1947 (Philosophical Library, New York, 1959). An excellent short study of Zionist world diplomacy from the 19th century on. By an American scholar.
- 7. Kirk, George. THE MIDDLE EAST IN THE WAR 1939–1946 (Royal Institute of International Affairs, Oxford, 1953). Contains highly competent chapters dealing with the Palestine problem during World War II.
- 8. Lilienthal, Alfred. WHAT PRICE ISRAEL? (Regnery, Chicago, 1953). The case against American partiality for Israel particularly in the period leading up to the establishment of the state. By a leading American anti-Zionist Jewish writer.
- 9. THE PARTITION OF PALESTINE (The Institute for Palestine Studies, Beirut, 1967). A reprint of the report by an UN General Assembly sub-committee on the Partition Plan that was later substantially adopted in the famous Partition Resolution. This report is the most rigorous critique of both principle and details of the Partition Plan.
- 10. Stevens, R.P. AMERICAN ZIONISM AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY (Pageant, New York, 1962). The best account of Zionist diplomacy in the United States during the period leading up to the establishment of Israel. Particularly interesting because of its use of unpublished private papers of American congressmen. By an American scholar.

- 11. Khalidi, Walid. WHY DID THE PALESTINIANS LEAVE? (Arab League Office, London, 1964). Three articles based on primary (including Hebrew) sources on the 1948 war and dealing particularly with causes of the Arab exodus.
- 12. Childers, Erskine B. THE OTHER EXODUS (first published in *The Spectator*, May 12, 1961, now available as a booklet from The Fifth of June Society). The result of careful research, this study disproves the myth that the Palestinian Arabs fled in 1948 at the orders of their own leaders.
- 13. Glubb, Sir John Bagot. A SOLDIER WITH THE ARABS (Hodder and Stoughton, London, 1957). Memoirs of the former British Commander of the Arab Legion, with a detailed account of the Palestine war of 1948 seen from the Jordanian side.
- 14. Bernadotte, Folke. TO JERUSALEM (Hodder and Stoughton, London, 1951). Record of his mission by the Swedish UN Mediator sent to Palestine during the 1948 war to seek a compromise solution and assassinated by the Israelis in Jerusalem in September, 1948.
- 15. O'Balance, Edgar. THE ARAB-ISRAELI WAR, 1948 (Faber, London, 1956). Perhaps the best account of military operations during the Palestine war up to the Armistice.
- 16. THE ARAB-ISRAELI ARMISTICE AGREEMENTS 1949
 (The Institute for Palestine Studies, Beirut, 1967).
 Full official texts of the four armistice agreements between Israel and the neighbouring Arab states: Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon. Israel unilaterally denounced the Israeli-Egyptian agreement in 1956 and the agreements with Syria and Jordan in 1967.

- 17. Kirk, George. THE MIDDLE EAST 1945–1950 (Royal Institute of International Affairs, Oxford, 1945). Essential reading for its treatment of the Palestine problem in the aftermath of World War II.
- 18. Hutchison, E.H. VIOLENT TRUCE (Devin-Adair, New York, 1956). Memoirs of an American Marine officer who was Chairman of the Mixed Israeli-Jordanian Armistice Commission. Covers border conflicts from 1951-1956, and includes useful information on the Israeli-Egyptian border as well.
- 19. Burns, Lt. Gen. E.L.M. BETWEEN ARAB AND ISRAELI (Harrap, London, 1962). Memoirs of the Canadian Chief-of-Staff of the UN Truce Supervision Organisation for the period 1955-1961. Also first Commander of the UN Emergency Force established on the Israeli-Egyptian border in 1956. An authoritative account of breaches of the Arab-Israeli Armistice Agreements and different points of conflict.
- 20. Childers, Erskine B. THE ROAD TO SUEZ (McGibbon and Kee, London, 1962). A well-documented account of the origins and course of the Suez War of 1956. By an Anglo-Irish writer and broadcaster.
- 21. Nutting, Anthony. NO END OF A LESSON (Constable, London, 1967). The inside story of Britain's role in the Suez War of 1956 by the British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and close personal friend of Sir Anthony Eden, who resigned office in opposition to his government's policy.
- 22. Thomas, Hugh. THE SUEZ AFFAIR (Weidenfeld and Nicolson, London, 1967). Perhaps the most scholarly and comprehensive treatment of the policy of the Western countries involved in the Suez War of 1956. Particularly valuable because it includes the results of recent research and previously unpublished material.

- 23. Rizk, Edward. THE RIVER JORDAN (Arab Information Center, New York and London, 1964). In 1965 the Israelis began to divert the headwaters of the River Jordan, originating in three neighbouring Arab states, into the Negev. This booklet gives useful information about the Jordan, its tributaries, and states the Arab point of view about the different schemes to exploit it. The Israeli diversion was a major event in the escalation leading towards the war of 1967.
- 24. Sayegh, Fayez. THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT (Arab Information Center, New York, 1964). Highly competent bird's-eye-view account by a leading Arab scholar. Leads up to the crisis caused by Israel's decision to divert the River Jordan.
- 25. Menuhin, Moshe. THE DECADENCE OF JUDAISM IN OUR TIME (Exposition Press, New York, 1965). A poignant critique of political Zionism by the father of the famous violinist, himself an early settler in Palestine, who left in revulsion against Zionism in practice.
- 26. von Horn, Maj. Gen. Carl. SOLDIERING FOR PEACE (McKay, New York, 1967). Memoirs of the Swedish general who served as Chief of the UN Truce Observers Organisation in Palestine from 1958 to 1963. Invaluable as a source on Arab-Israeli tension carrying on from the end of General Burns's term (v no. 19).
- 27. Jirios, Sabri. THE ARABS IN ISRAEL (English translation published by the Institute for Palestine Studies, Beirut, 1968). The most authoritative account of Israel's legislation concerning, and treatment of, its Arab minority from 1948–1966. By an Arab lawyer resident in Israel. The first publication in Hebrew (Haifa, 1966) was banned. An Arabic translation is also available from the PLO Research Center, Beirut.

- 28. United Nations. REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF UNRWA, 1 July 1965—30 June 1966 (General Assembly Official Records, 21st session, Supplement no. 13 A/6316). The most recent of the annual reports submitted by the Commissioner-General of UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency) to the General Assembly on the Palestinian refugees. Contains authoritative data on all aspects of the refugees' conditions, vital statistics, etc.
- 29. Hadawi, Sami. THE UNITED NATIONS RESOLU-TIONS ON PALESTINE 1947–1966 (The Institute for Palestine Studies, Beirut, 1967). The full texts of all resolutions concerning Palestine adopted by the various organs of the UN on such questions as Jerusalem, the refugees, frontier incidents, etc., topically and chronologically arranged with the breakdown of the voting of the various member-states on each resolution.
- 30. ISRAEL AND THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS (The Institute for Palestine Studies, Beirut, 1968). A collection of articles and documents from non-Arab sources (including Israeli ones) relating to the conduct of Israeli forces in Arab territory under occupation since the June war.

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FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

The Institute for Palestine Studies will publish later in 1968 the first volume of its ANTHOLOGY OF READINGS ON THE PALESTINE PROBLEM. The two volumes together will consist of more than 100 selected texts (articles, chapters, documents), from Jewish and Western writers covering the period from the beginning of Zionist settlement in Palestine to the present day. For further details and a complete list of publications write: The Institute for Palestine Studies, Haddad Building, Chile St., Beirut.

The Palestine Liberation Organization's Research Center publishes mainly in Arabic. Its forthcoming publications in English include a translation of Fayez Sayegh's ZIONIST DIPLOMACY analyzing the techniques employed by Zionist diplomats from Herzl until the eve of the 1967 war. For further details and a full list of publications write: The Palestine Liberation Organization Research Center, 606 Sadat St., Beirut, Lebanon.

For a longer reading list (100 titles, including historical, social, economic and cultural background), write: The Fifth of June Society, P.O. Box 7037, Beirut, Lebanon.