

Think and Write #5

What does the quote tell us about the British view of a Jewish State in Palestine?

Haj Amin al-Husseini



1920 - 1921

- “he (Haj Amin) had a great opportunity at Easter to show the world...that Zionism was unpopular not only with the Palestine Administration but in Whitehall (the area of Parliament) and if disturbances of sufficient violence occurred in Jerusalem at Easter, both General Bols [Chief Administrator in Palestine, 1919-20] and General Allenby [Commander of Egyptian Force, 1917-19, then High Commissioner of Egypt] would advocate the abandonment of the Jewish Home. Waters-Taylor explained that freedom could only be attained through violence.”
- Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen, former head of British military intelligence in Cairo, and later Chief Political Officer for Palestine and Syria

AIM #8 HOW DO THE BRITISH RULE THE PALESTINE MANDATE?

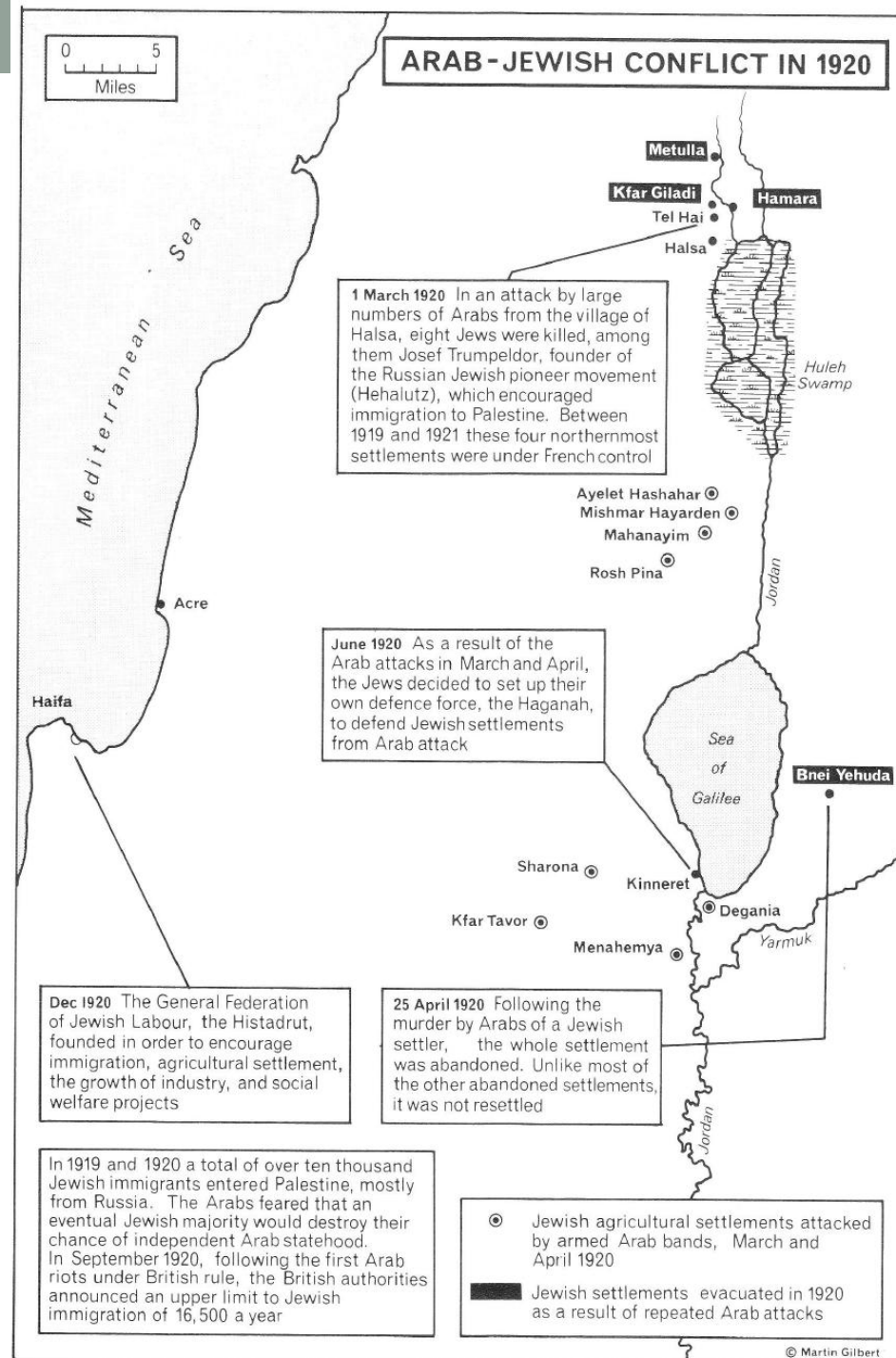
I. 1920's

A. First Riots

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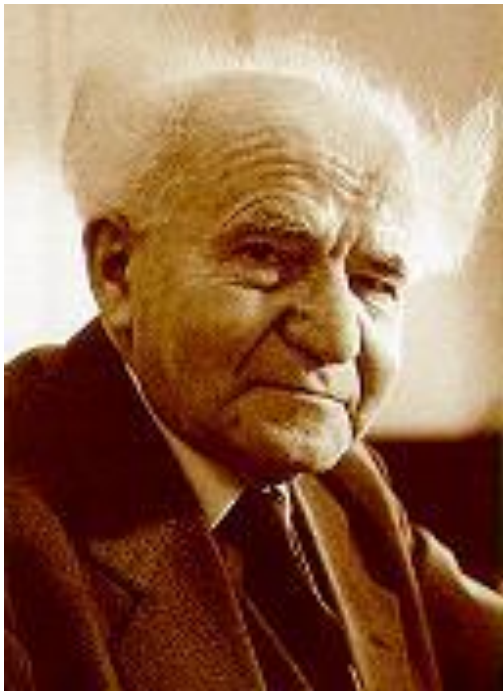


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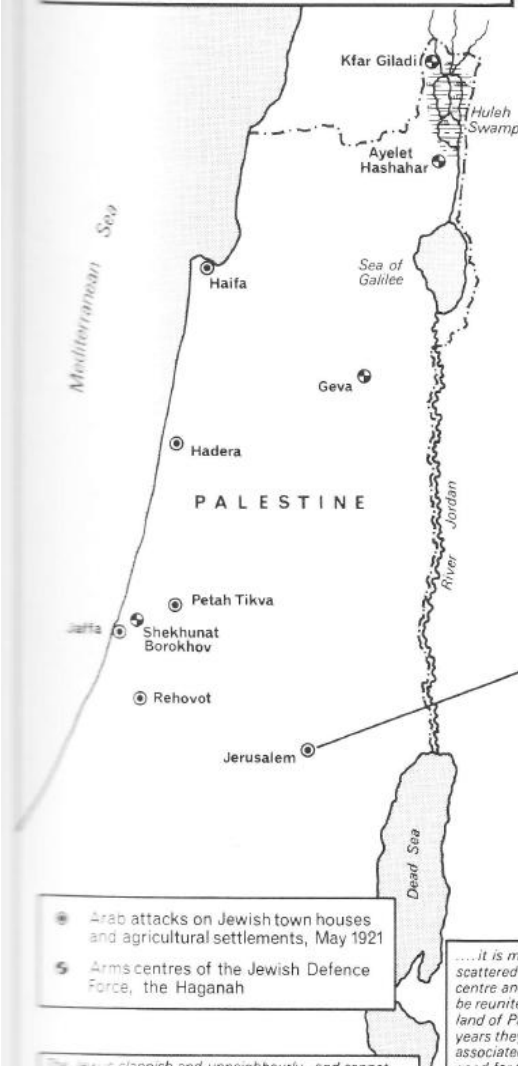


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ARAB - JEWISH CONFLICT IN 1921



Over 8,000 Jewish immigrants entered Palestine in 1921. The Arabs urged the British to give Palestine representative institutions at once, so that the Arab majority could then veto all further Jewish immigration. Britain rejected these demands. But as an immediate reaction to the riots of May 1921, the High Commissioner, Sir H. Samuel (himself a Jew) ordered an immediate suspension of all Jewish immigration, and some Jews already at Palestine ports were refused permission to land. Immigration soon began again, but the British insisted that it should never exceed 'the economic capacity of Palestine to absorb new immigrants', a phrase which pleased the Arabs and alarmed the Jews.

0 5 10 15
Miles

TRANSJORDAN

Entirely closed to Jewish settlement from 1921

Nov 1921 The Haganah repelled an Arab attack on the Jewish quarter of the Old City

- Arab attacks on Jewish town houses and agricultural settlements, May 1921
- ⚡ Arms centres of the Jewish Defence Force, the Haganah

The Jew is clannish and unneighbourly, and cannot mix with those who live about him. He will enjoy the privileges and benefits of a country and then lead its people, whom he has already impoverished, where he chooses. He encourages wars when self interest dictates, and thus uses the armies of the nations to do his bidding. THE HAIFA CONGRESS OF PALESTINIAN ARABS TO WINSTON CHURCHILL, 28 MARCH 1921

....It is manifestly right that the Jews, who are scattered all over the world, should have a national centre and a National Home where some of them may be reunited. And where else could that be but in this land of Palestine, with which for more than 3,000 years they have been intimately and profoundly associated? We think it will be good for the world, good for the Jews and good for the British Empire. But we also think it will be good for the Arabs who dwell in Palestine, and we intend that it shall be good for them, and that they shall not be sufferers or supplanted in the country in which they dwell or denied their share in all that makes for its progress and prosperity. WINSTON CHURCHILL TO THE PALESTINIAN ARABS, 28 MARCH 1921

B. The Haycraft Commission

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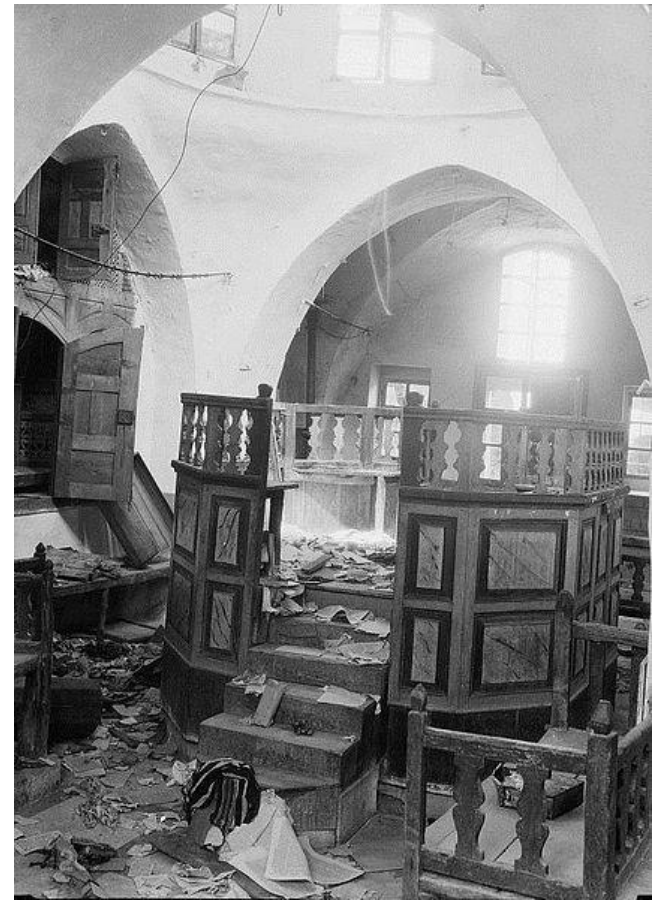
- “The fundamental cause of the Jaffa riots and the subsequent acts of violence was a feeling among the Arabs of discontent with, and hostility to, the Jews, due to political and economic causes, and connected with Jewish immigration, and with their conception of Zionist policy as derived from Jewish exponents. 4. 5.
- The racial strife was begun by the Arabs, and rapidly developed into a conflict of great violence between Arabs and Jews, in which the Arab majority, who were generally the aggressors, inflicted most of the casualties. 6.
- The outbreak was not premeditated or expected, nor was either side prepared for it; but the state of popular feeling made a conflict likely to occur on any provocation by any Jews.”

C. Winston Churchill goes over the evidence and issues the *White Paper* of 1922.

“For the fulfillment of this policy it is necessary that the Jewish community in Palestine should be able to increase its numbers by immigration. This immigration cannot be so great in volume as to exceed whatever may be the economic capacity of the country at the time to absorb new arrivals. It is essential to ensure that the immigrants should not be a burden upon the people of Palestine as a whole, and that they should not deprive any section of the present population of their employment.”

- 1.
- 2.

D. 1924 - 1929



E. The British Response to 1929

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F. The Passfield White Paper (1930)

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G. 1936 - 1939

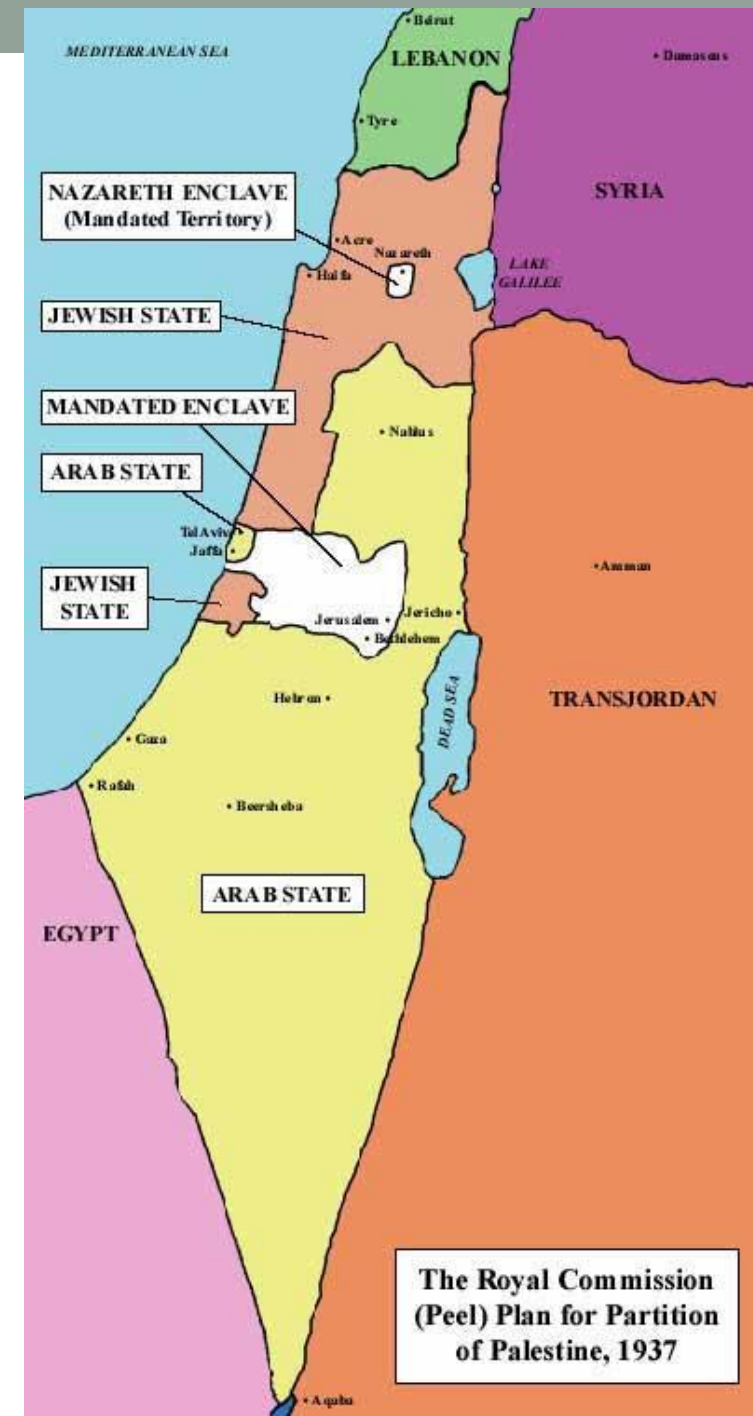
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"We shall fight the war against Hitler as if there were no White Paper, and we shall fight the White Paper as if there were no war."

--- David Ben-Gurion

World War II



Charles Orde Wingate





زعيم الشعب الالماني «ادولف هتلر» وسماحة المفتي الاكبر
السيد «امين الحسيني» اثناء اجتماعهما في برلين.

