

Israel's Record at the United Nations

"If a resolution is passed not to our liking, so what?"

Mrs. Golda Meir, ex Foreign Minister of Israel, in an interview with *Newsweek*, July 3, 1967

On the fourth of July 1967, a General Assembly resolution was adopted by ninety-nine votes in favour and none against, expressing deep concern at the situation prevailing in Jerusalem as a result of the measures taken by Israel to change the status of the City. The Assembly called upon Israel to rescind these measures and requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly and the Security Council on the implementation of this resolution not later than one week from its adoption.

The week passed and Israel still persisted in strengthening its control over Jerusalem and in ignoring the Assembly's resolution.

Ten days later, on July 14, 1967, the General Assembly again reaffirmed this resolution and again called upon Israel to rescind the measures she had taken.

Ten months have now passed and Israel still persists in its defiance of the will of the International Community. It has dismissed the democratically elected Arab Municipal Council of Jerusalem, pulled down historic walls, bulldozed

whole Arab quarters and imposed arbitrary rules and regulations on the Arab city of Jerusalem.

The defiance of the UN by Israel is no new development. Since its birth in 1948 this country, which bases its right to exist on a UN decision, has shown nothing but contempt for the United Nations. Typical of this attitude is the statement made by the Israeli Prime Minister Levi Eshkol on the eve of the General Assembly's meeting in June 1967 when he declared, «Even if the UN votes by 121 votes to one, we will not withdraw from the territories we have occupied.»

This attitude has been encouraged by the unconditional support Israel receives from the pro-Zionist press and politicians of some Western countries. For example, on June 30, 1967, the American magazine **Life** found it appropriate to comment : « If there were no UN, the expectable consequence of the latest Israeli victory would be immediate negotiations between the defeated Arabs and their victors.»

ISRAEL'S CONTEMPT OF U.N. RESOLUTIONS

Since 1948 Israel has refused to comply with no less than 32 resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. No country in the world has openly defied so many resolutions of the U.N.

These resolutions are:

1. Resolution No. 181 (II) of November 1947 concerning the partition of Palestine.

Israel completely ignored the boundaries set by this resolution and Jewish troops invaded the territory assigned to the Arabs of Palestine long before May 15, 1948, date set for the end of the British Mandate and for partition to come into effect. In March and April of that year Jewish troops attacked and occupied parts of Arab Jerusalem, Jaffa, Western Galilee and more than a hundred small Arab towns and villages.

2. Resolution No. 186 (S2) of May 14, 1948 appointing a mediator in Palestine. Israel showed its contempt for the UN by allowing the assassination of the Mediator, Count Folke Bernadotte, a former President of the International Red Cross.

3. Resolution No. 59 of October 19, 1948 noting «with concern the failure of Israel to submit a report concerning the murder of the Mediator.»

Israel never submitted the report and the Israeli Government permitted the man later known to have been responsible for the murder of Bernadotte, Mr. Friedmann Yellin, to stand for election to the Israeli Parliament of which he became a member in 1950.

4. Resolution No. 194 (III) of December 11, 1948 (Part II) concerning the repatriation and compensation of the Arab refugees.

This resolution has been reaffirmed every year since 1948 by the UN General Assembly - in all 17 times* - but the plight of one million Arab refugees for whose expulsion they were responsible failed to arouse the slightest stir of compassion among the Israelis, and these resolutions always found their way to the waste paper basket.

5 - 20 Resolutions restating the substance of the above.

21. Resolution No. 303 (IV) of December 9, 1949 restating the intention of the General Assembly that Jerusalem should be internationalized and administered by the UN as decided previously by the partition decision.

Israel demonstrated its defiance of this resolution by proclaiming Jerusalem the capital of Israel and subsequently relocating the (Knesset Israeli Parliament) there.

22. Resolution No. 89 of November 17, 1950 calling upon Israel to repatriate the Arabs she had expelled from the demilitarized zone in Syria.

This resolution was ignored by Israel.

23. Resolution No. 93 of May 18, 1951 calling upon Israel to ensure.

a) «that the Palestine Land Development Company should cease operations in the demilitarized zone on the Syrian border.

and

b) «that the Arabs removed from the demilitarized zone by the Government of Israel should be permitted to return forthwith.»

This resolution was ignored by Israel.

24. Resolution No. 997 (ES-I) of November 2, 1956 urging Israel to «promptly withdraw all forces behind the armistice lines,» after its invasion of Egypt on October 29, 1956.

* These reaffirmations were put into independent resolutions.

This resolution was ignored by Israel.

25. Resolution No. 1002 (ES-I) of November 6, 1956 calling «once again upon Israel immediately to withdraw all its forces behind the armistice lines.»

This resolution was ignored by Israel.

26. Resolution No. 1120 (XI) of November 24, 1956 noting «with regret that... no Israeli forces have been withdrawn behind the armistice line although a considerable time has elapsed since the adoption of the relevant General Assembly resolutions.»

This resolution was ignored by Israel.

27. Resolution No. 1123 (XI) of January 19, 1957 noting «with regret and concern the failure of Israel to comply with the terms» of the three above-mentioned resolutions.

This resolution was ignored by Israel.

28. Resolutions No. 1124 (XI) of February 2, 1957.

a) deploring «the non-compliance of Israel to complete its withdrawal behind the armistice demarcation line despite the repeated requests of the General Assembly.

and

b) calling upon Israel « to complete its withdrawal behind the armistice demarcation lines without further delay.»

In all the General Assembly had to call upon it to withdraw five times, and even so Israel withdrew only after five months of procrastination in the hope of gaining more advantages from its aggression.

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In the period between the war of June 1967 and May 1968 the U.N. has condemned or deplored Israeli actions on several occasions.

On 4 July and 14 July, 1967, the Ge-

neral Assembly passed Resolutions 2253 and 2254, which asked Israel: « To rescind all measures taken and to desist forthwith from taking any action which would alter the status of Jerusalem ».

Israel has continued to defy this resolution and the Israeli Minister, Levi Eshkol, the Foreign Minister, Abba Ebban, and the Defense Minister, Moshe Dayan, have stated many times that Jerusalem has been annexed to Israel and will remain so.

Israel has recently expropriated large areas of land in the Arab sector of Jerusalem for the settlement of Jews. Mosques and churches in the old city of Jerusalem have been desecrated.

Since June 1967, the Security Council has passed the following resolutions which have both strongly commented on past Israeli actions and recommended more clement behaviour.

On 15 June, 1967, the Security Council unanimously passed Resolution 237 (S/RES/237) which called upon the Israeli Government : 1. «To ensure the safety, welfare and security of the areas where military operations have taken place and to facilitate the return of those inhabitants who have fled the areas since the outbreak of hostilities. 2. Recommended to the governments concerned the scrupulous respect of the humanitarian principles governing the treatment of prisoners of war and the protection of civilian persons in time of war, contained in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949».

Israel has so far shown complete contempt of these resolutions and of the Geneva Conventions as witnessed by the many occasions on which the International Red Cross, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency and the United Nations Committee For Human Rights had to call upon the Israeli Government to desist from acts of repression in the occupied territories. The U.N. Conference on Human Rights meeting in Teheran on the 8th May 1968 adopted a resolution condemning Israeli actions in occupied Arab territories.

Finally (and for the third time)

On 21 May 1968, the Security Council passed a resolution which urgently requested Israel to annul all measures directed towards the annexation of Jerusalem.

(AU Agencies, 22 May 1968, L'Orient)

U.N. RESOLUTIONS IN DISAPPROVAL OR CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL.

No less honourable is Israel's record of condemnations by the United Nations. No country in the world has been condemned by the UN as often and as strongly as has Israel. The following is a list of the resolutions censuring Israel passed by the Security Council and the General Assembly:

1. **Resolution No. 57** of September 18, 1948 condemns «the cowardly act of the assassination of Count Folke Bernadotte», the U.N. Mediator.

2. **Resolution No. 93** of May 18, 1951 finds that «the aerial action taken by the Government of Israel on 5 April 1951 constitutes a violation of the cease-fire».

3. **Resolution No. 101** of November 1953 «expresses the strongest censure of Israeli armed forces for their attack on the Jordanian village of Qibya».

4. **Resolution No. 61** of 29 March 1955 «condemns Israel's attack on Egyptian regular armed forces» in the Gaza strip.

5. **Resolution No. 111 (1956)** of the 19th January 1956 condemns Israel's attack on Syria in the Lake Tiberias area as a «flagrant violation of the cease-fire agreement» and «expresses its grave concern at the failure of the Government of Israel to comply with its obligations.»

6. **Resolution No. 171 (1962)** of 9th April 1962 condemns Israel again for its «flagrant violation of the truce in its military attack against Syria on the 16-17 March 1962».

7. **Resolution No. S 228 (1966)** of 25 Nov. 1966 «censures Israel for its large scale military action in violation of the U.N. Charter in attacking the Jordanian

village of Sammu, and emphasizes to Israel that «action of military reprisals cannot be tolerated and that if they are repeated the Security Council will have to consider further and more effective steps... to ensure against the repetition of such acts».

8. **Resolution No. 248 (1968)** of the 22 March, 1968. 1. «Deplores the loss of life and heavy damage to property. 2. Condemns the military action launched by Israel in flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter and the cease-fire resolutions. 3. Deplores all violent incidents in violation of the cease-fire and declares that such actions of military reprisal and other grave violations of the cease-fire cannot be tolerated and that the Security Council would have to consider further and more effective steps as envisaged in the Charter to ensure against repetition of such acts.»

On 2 May, 1968, the Security Council approved unanimously a resolution which «deeply deplores» Israel's holding an independence day parade in Jerusalem in defiance of a previous council resolution.

(New York Herald Tribune, 4 May, 1968)

This list does not include the scores of occasions on which Israel was condemned by the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization for its premeditated military violations of the borders with the Arab States between 1948-1968. Contrary to widespread belief in the West, no Arab country has ever been condemned either by the U.N. or by U.N.T.S.O. for an armed aggression by its military forces against Israel.

Such is the record of a country that was created by the U.N. and was accepted as a member conditional upon its acceptance of the resolutions of the United Nations.

Thirty-two Resolutions ignored and over 30 condemnations.

A WORLD RECORD OF CENSURE AND DEFIANCE.
SHOULD ANY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD BE ALLOWED TO GET AWAY WITH SO MUCH.