

The Secret History of Zionism

The imperialist, anti-Jewish, fascist-enabling
fake national liberation movement



What is Zionism?

- The ideology behind Israel
- Settler-colonial movement and ideology aimed at establishing and maintaining a state for the Jewish people in Palestine
 - Settler-colonialism = stealing land, ridding it of native population
- Various strands (Revisionist Zionism, Christian Zionism, “Labor”/”Proletarian”/”Socialist” Zionism, “Liberal” Zionism)
- NOT a national liberation movement (despite what the propaganda wants us to believe)
 - You don’t go to another people’s country to liberate your nation
 - Jewish nation???

Key points/overview:

- 1) Zionism demands support from imperialist forces, and has always supported imperialism
- 2) Zionism is a bourgeois and anti-communist project
- 3) Zionism has always been supported by antisemitic regimes and movements (and Zionists have supported them back)
- 4) Zionism itself is antisemitic
- 5) Zionism does not protect the Jewish people – in fact, it has long posed a threat to Jews

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1) ZIONISM & IMPERIALISM

a love story <3

- Why does Zionism need imperialism?
- The Zionist project requires
 - ethnic cleansing
 - force
 - protection
- This was acknowledged by prominent Zionists themselves

Theodore Herzl

(ideological father of political Zionism)

“We shall try to spirit the penniless population across the border by procuring employment for it in the transit countries, while denying it any employment in our own country (...) Both the process of expropriation and the removal of the poor must be carried out discreetly and circumspectly.”

-Quoted from his 1895 diary in “The Expulsion of the Palestinians,” Nur Masalha

“We should there [in Palestine] form a part of a wall of defense for Europe in Asia, an outpost of civilization against barbarism... [Europe] would have to guarantee our existence.”

-Quoted from 1896’s “The Jewish State” in “Palestine: A Socialist Introduction” by Sumaya Awad and Brian Bean



Vladimir/Zeev Jabotinsky

(leader of the Revisionist Zionists - basically fascist Zionism)

“Zionism is a colonizing adventure and therefore it stands or falls by the question of armed force.”

“[T]hose who hold that an agreement with the natives is an essential condition for Zionism can now say “no” and depart from Zionism. Zionist colonization [must be] carried out in defiance of the will of the native population. This colonization can, therefore, continue and develop only under the protection of a force independent of the local population—an iron wall which the native population cannot break through. This is, in toto, our policy towards the Arabs. To formulate it in any other way would be hypocrisy.”

-Quoted from 1923's "The Iron Wall" in "Palestine: A Socialist Introduction"

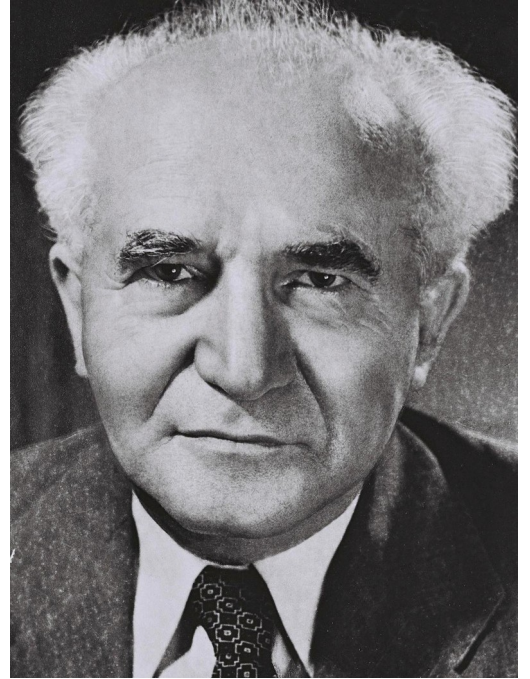


David Ben-Gurion

(the first Prime Minister of “Israel”)

*“I support compulsory transfer.
I don’t see anything immoral
in it.”*

-1937, quoted in “Ten Myths About Israel” by Ilan Pappé



1) ZIONISM & IMPERIALISM

a love story <3

- Herzl shopped around for imperialist support everywhere
- Zionist lobby in UK successful
 - 1917 Balfour declaration
 - After WW1, Palestine a British Mandate
- Why does imperialism favor Zionism?
- The Suez Canal: *“Palestine (...) lies at the very place where the Powers primarily responsible for the security of the Suez Canal would wish to place it.”* (memo from Balfour to the Cabinet, 1928, quoted in “Zionism During the Holocaust” by Tony Greenstein)
 - Chaim Weizmann: *“[Jewish Palestine] would be a safeguard to England, in particular in respect to the Suez Canal.”* (quoted in ibid)
- Oil
 - UK had oil-rich colonies nearby like Iraq, Iran and Egypt
 - Haifa port shipped oil
 - Oil pipeline going through Palestine from Iraq

Ronald Storrs

(British Military Governor of Jerusalem)

“the [Zionist] enterprise [would form] for England “a little loyal Jewish Ulster” in a sea of potentially hostile Arabism.”

-1937, in his memoirs “Orientations”



1) ZIONISM & IMPERIALISM

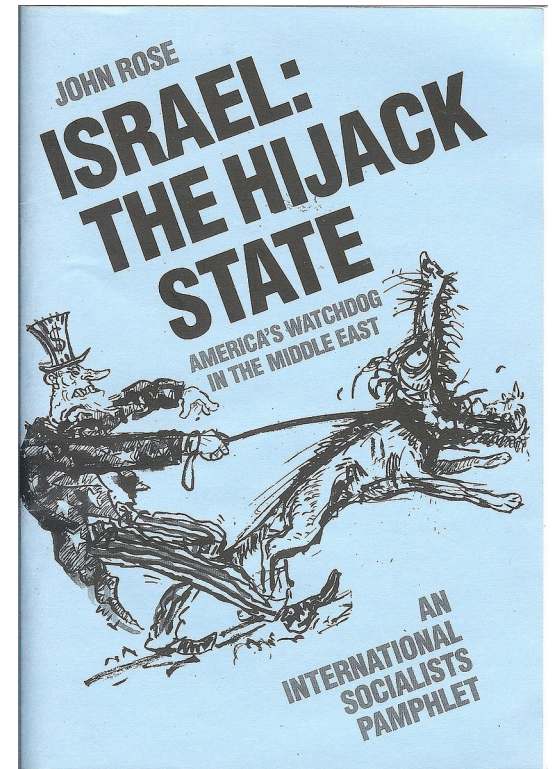
a love story <3

- UK trained Zionist forces
- UK & Zionist forces crushed the Great Arab Revolt, 1936-39
 - The Zionists learned a lot from the British
- The British left Palestine in 1948, did not try to stop the Nakba
- UK a close ally to “Israel” to this day, along with US

Journalist in Ha'aretz

“[S]trengthening Israel helps the Western powers maintain equilibrium and stability in the Middle East... Israel is to become the watchdog... Israel could be relied upon to punish one or several neighboring states whose discourtesy to the West went beyond the bounds of the permissible.”

-1951, quoted in “Palestine: A Socialist introduction”



1) ZIONISM & IMPERIALISM

a love story <3

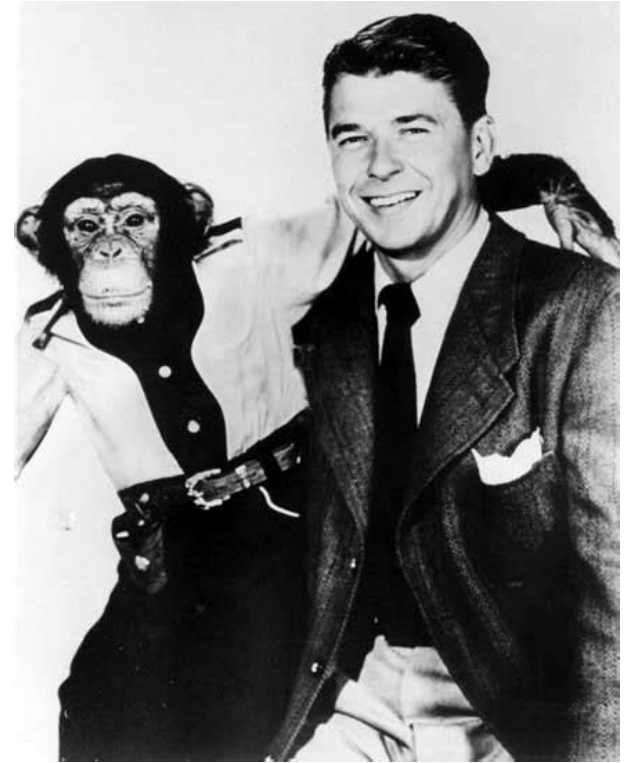
- 1967 war crushed Pan-Arabist project, displayed usefulness of Israel to imperialist interests
 - “special relationship” with the US
- Central in Reagan’s “War on Communism” in Latin-America in 1980s
 - Israel did US’s “dirty work”
 - Provided arms and training to right-wing death squads
 - Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Panama, Guatemala, among others
 - Sometimes outright genocidal regimes
- Key player in “War on Terror”
 - Israel has much experience in dealing with unwanted populations

Ronald Reagan

(US President 1981-9)

“If there were no Israel with that force, we’d have to supply that with our own, so this isn’t just altruism on our part.”

-1981, quoted in “Palestine: A Socialist Introduction”



Alexander M. Haig

(Secretary of State under Ronald Reagan)

“Israel is the largest American aircraft carrier in the world that cannot be sunk, does not carry even one American soldier, and is located in a critical region for American national security.”

-1982, quoted in “From the River to the Sea: Essays for a Free Palestine”



Joe Biden

(The Butcher of Gaza)

“Israel is the best \$3 billion investment we make. If Israel didn’t exist, the US would have to invent an Israel to protect our interests in the region.”

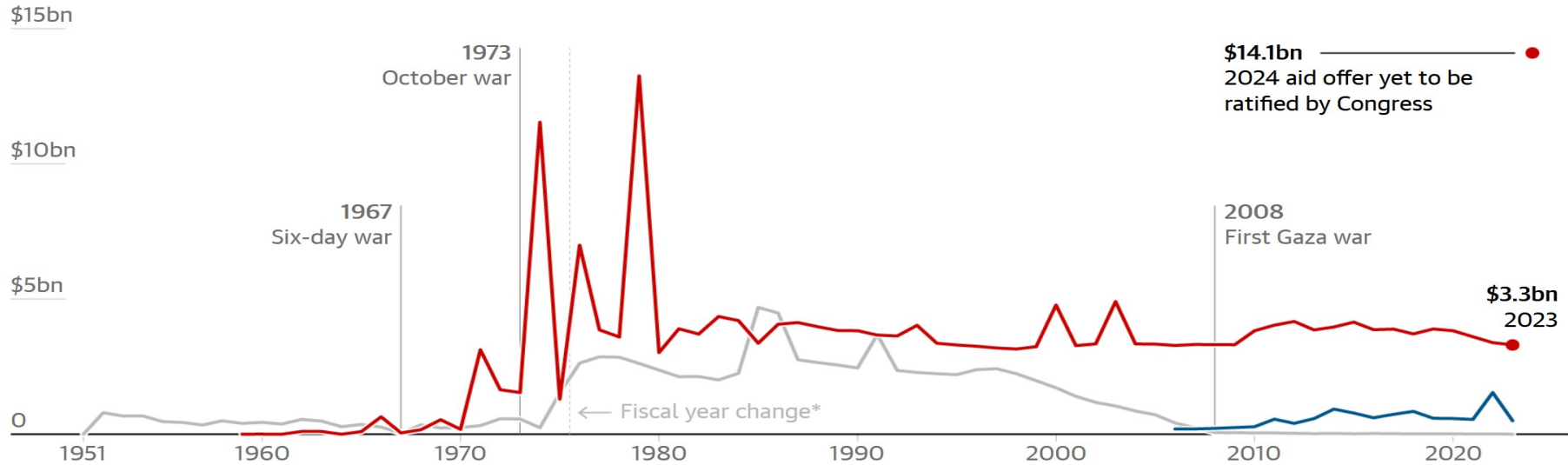
-1986, in address given at the Congress



US aid to Israel

Inflation-adjusted pledged annual aid, 2023 prices

■ Economic ■ Military ■ Missile defence systems



Guardian graphic. Source: USAID, Congressional research service. *Change in US fiscal year, figures from the 1976-77 transition period have been excluded (0.75bn in 2023 dollars). Note: missile defence systems funding is appropriated from the US defence budget

- Between Oct 7th 2023 and Oct 7th 2024: \$17.9 billion

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2) Zionism is bourgeois & anti-communist

- Colonialism an elite project; Zionism is a colonial project
- This reflects Zionism's class character
- Zionism very marginal movement among Jews until after WW2
 - Actively rejected by most Jews across social, religious and cultural divides
 - Efforts from Jews to distance themselves from Zionism
- Could never win support among Jewish masses
 - strategy instead to win over non-Jewish bourgeoisie

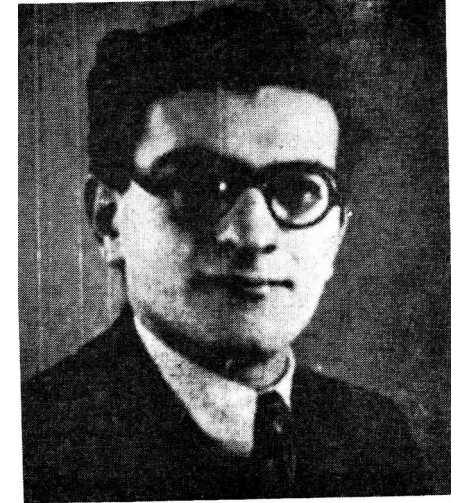
Abram Leon

(NOT a Zionist; based dude)

“[Zionism] is the ideology of the petty Jewish bourgeoisie, suffocating between feudalism in ruins and capitalism in decay.”

-quoted from “*The Jewish Question: A Marxist Interpretation*” in Instagram post from @zionistsspeakingforthemselves

- Materialist explanation of antisemitism, rooted in social relations
- In contrast to Zionist explanation of antisemitism as something eternal, something impossible to get rid of
- Most Jews believed that antisemitism was possible to overcome
- Many Jews saw antisemitism as an effect of capitalism



Abram Leon
(born, Warsaw 1918 — died, Auschwitz 1944)

2) Zionism is bourgeois & anti-communist

- Jews prominent on the radical left
 - Trotsky, Luxemburg, Marx
 - The Bund (the General Jewish Workers' League in Russia and Poland), biggest Jewish party in the Pale of settlements
 - anti-Zionist
- Herzl used threat of Jewish radicals as argument for Zionism
 - “[O]ur movement (...) has everywhere to fight an embittered battle with the revolutionary parties which rightly sense an adversary in it.”
(letter to the Kaiser, early 1900s, quoted in “Zionism During the Holocaust”)
- David Ben-Gurion: Zionism is “a bulwark against (...) communism”
(1935, quoted in *ibid*)
-

2) Zionism is bourgeois & anti-communist

- The connection between working-class Jews and revolutionary politics a key reason for antisemitism
 - Hitler was anti-communist first, antisemite second
 - “Judeobolshevism”

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3) Zionism is supported by antisemites (and Zionists support them back)

- Sounds odd until you realize Zionists and antisemites have a common goal: to get all the Jews out of Europe
- Initially a Christian idea
- Antisemites admired Herzl, he admired them back
- Herzl: *“The anti-Semites will become our most dependable friends, the anti-Semitic countries our allies.”* (quoted in “Zionism During the Holocaust”)
- Arthur Balfour, as prime minister of UK, introduced a 1905 bill (“Aliens Act”) blocking Jewish immigration (at a time of pogroms in Russia)
 - Herzl supported restricting entry to Jewish refugees, which helped Aliens Act

William Stanley Shaw

(president of the British Brothers League, precursor to the British Union of Fascists)

“I am a firm believer in the Zionist movement, which the British Brothers League will do much incidentally to foster.”

-1901, quoted in “Zionism During the Holocaust”

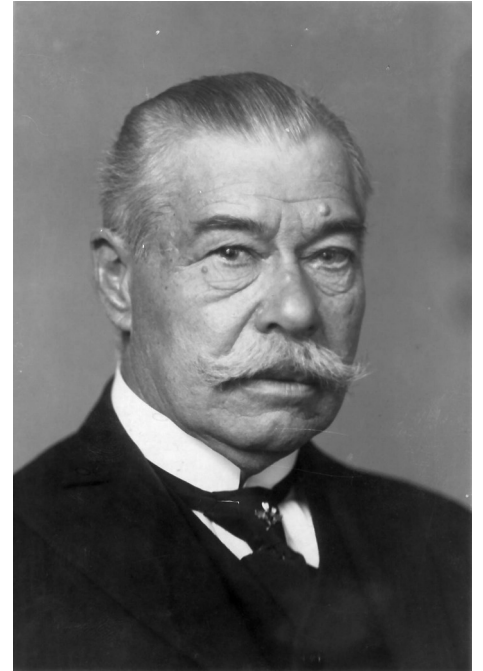


Heinrich Claß

(president of the Pan-German League, made honorary member of the Reichstag by Hitler)

“[The Zionists] declare openly that a true assimilation of the Jewish aliens to the host nations would be impossible... the Zionists confirm what the enemies of the Jews... have always asserted.”

-1912, quoted in “Zionism During the Holocaust”



Alfred Rosenberg

(Nazi theorist and ideologue, head of NSDAP Office of Foreign Affairs, Amt Rosenberg and Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories)

- “Zionism must be vigorously supported in order to encourage a significant number of German Jews to leave for Palestine or other destinations.”

-1919, quoted in “Zionism During the Holocaust”



Reinhard Heydrich

(High-ranking SS and police official, “a principal architect of the Holocaust”)

“[T]he activity of the Zionist-oriented youth organizations (...) lies in the interest of the National Socialist state’s leadership”

-1935, quoted in “Zionism During the Holocaust”



Adolf Hitler

(didn't like Jews very much)

“a great movement called Zionism arose among them.”

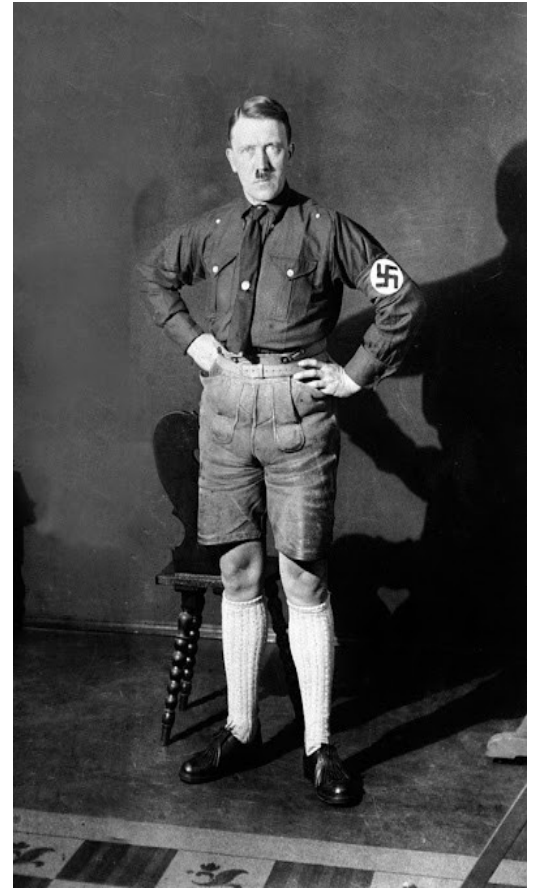
-1924 (Mein Kampf), quoted in “Zionism During the Holocaust”

Jewish emigration to Palestine would create
“only one trouble in the world.”

-undated, quoted in “Zionism During the Holocaust”

“Let him [the Jew] look for his human rights
where he belongs in his own state of Palestine.”

-1920, responding to a heckler (quoted in *ibid*)



Zionist Lawyer at trial against Brit Habiryonim (Union of Thugs)

(pictured: Founder of BH, Aba Ahimeir)

“Yes, we Revisionists have a great admiration for Hitler. Hitler has saved Germany... And if he had given up his anti-Semitism we would go with him.”

-1932, quoted in “The Idea of Israel”



Revisionist Zionist columnist

(pictured: Founder of BH, Aba Ahimeir)

“Social democrats of all stripes believe that Hitler’s movement is an empty shell [but] we believe that there is both a shell and a kernel. The antisemitic shell is to be discarded, but not the anti-Marxist kernel.”

-1933, from the column “From the Notebook of a Fascist,” quoted in “Palestine: A Socialist Introduction”



Emil Ludwig

(biographer)

“Hitler will be forgotten in a few years, but he will have a beautiful monument in Palestine. You know, the coming of the Nazis was rather a welcome thing... Thousands who seemed to be completely lost to Judaism were brought back to the fold by Hitler, and for that I am personally very grateful to him.”

-undated, quoted in “Zionism During the Holocaust”



Richard Spencer

(White supremacist, neo-nazi, advocate for a White ethnostate)

Israel is “the most important ethno-state, the one I turn to for guidance”

-2017, quoted in “Palestine: A Socialist Introduction”

“[Y]ou could say I am a white Zionist—in the sense that I care about my people, I want us to have a secure homeland for us and ourselves. Just like you want a secure homeland in Israel.”

-2017, quoted in “Greater than the Sum of Our Parts”



3) Zionism is supported by antisemites

- Allied with Apartheid South Africa
- Sold weapons and provided training for Military Junta in Argentina
- Israel today allied with Hungary, Poland and the US under Trump

Further reading:

