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05.09.21

Rocket from Gaza & over 20 fires amid heightened tensions with Palestinians

05.09.21

Rocket sirens blare in southern Israel amid heightened tensions with Palestinians
Iron Dome set off, intercepts one of two projectiles fired from Gaza Strip over Ashkelon;
no immediate reports of injuries or damage; attack comes shortly after IDF closes seaside
enclave's fishing zone

Elior Levy, Matan Tzuri, Yoav Zitun | Published: 05.09.21 , 21:23

Rocket sirens blared in the southern city of Ashkelon Sunday night after projectiles were fired from the Gaza Strip into Israeli territory.

The Iron Dome missile defense system was set off and intercepted one of two projectiles launched. There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage.

The attack came shortly after the IDF announced it will close the Palestinian enclave's fishing zone "until further notice" due to renewed rocket fire and arson balloons launched from the Gaza Strip.

In response, Gaza militants threatened to escalate their attacks.

Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT) — the IDF's liaison unit to the Palestinian territories — said that the decision was made over "the rocket fire and continued launching of arson balloons from the Gaza Strip into Israeli territory, constituting a violation of Israeli sovereignty."

"The Hamas terror organization bears the full responsibility for all daily occurrences within the Gaza Strip towards Israel, and will be held accountable for any violent actions against Israel's citizens."

Over 20 fires broke out near the Gaza Strip border on Sunday as Palestinian militants have flown dozens of balloon-borne incendiary devices into Israeli soil since morning hours amid days of cross-border tensions.

The airborne attacks come amid heightened tensions in Jerusalem and the West Bank as Palestinians clashed with police and Jewish settlers for weeks. The fires were substantially exacerbated as Israel was hit by a searing heatwave.

Train traffic between Ashkelon and Netivot in southern Israel was disrupted due to a fire that broke out near the railway track but was gradually resumed around 4pm with the approval of the police and the fire brigade. Another suspicious device tied to a balloon was later spotted near the railway track outside Kibbutz Gevim near the city of Sderot.

05.09.21

Palestinians & cops clash outside Hebrew University in Jerusalem Mount Scopus

05.09.21

Clashes between Palestinians, cops outside Hebrew University in Jerusalem

Police say 3 cops injured from rocks thrown at them in incident a day before the controversial Jerusalem Day celebrations which security officials urged the government to reconsider

Gilad Cohen, Elior Levy | Published: 05.09.21 , 20:45

Clashes erupted Sunday between Palestinians and Police outside the entrance to the Hebrew University of Jerusalem campus on Mount Scopus.

The Palestinians, many of them from the nearby East Jerusalem neighborhood of Isawiya, hurled rocks at the cops, who responded with stun grenades. Police said three officers were injured.

"They would not let us get out of the university," said Prof. Avi Kluger, a lecturer at Hebrew University. "I was in my car and they rerouted us to other gateways. There were also people who could not leave on foot. They told us that the road leading to Hadassah Hospital is closed and so is the way to Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, where they were lobbing stones."

The capital city has been gripped by standoffs between Palestinians and police for the passing month.

Earlier Sunday, clashes erupted between Palestinian protesters and police officers in Jerusalem as Muslim worshipers left the al-Aqsa Mosque compound after all-night prayers on Laylat al-Qadr, Islam's holiest night.

At least 10 Palestinians were injured in the clashes at one of the entrances to the Temple Mount where the mosque is located, the Kan public broadcaster reported.

The incident outside Hebrew University occurred ahead of Monday's Jerusalem Day, which marks Israel's capture of the eastern part of the city from Jordan in the 1967 Six-Day War.

Security officials on Sunday urged the government to rethink the annual Jerusalem Day parade, a flag-waving display of Israeli claims to the contested city set to take place Monday, following days of unrest and Israeli-Palestinian clashes in the capital.

The officials called on the government to reconsider the route, the number of marchers and even the event itself.

The recommendation from security officials came after police on Sunday gave the go-ahead for the march, which was set to begin at 4pm Monday on King George Street and follow two routes.

One group of marchers was to enter the Old City via the Damascus Gate, the recent site of repeated clashes between police and Palestinians, go through the Muslim Quarter and end at the Western Wall.

05.09.21

Gaza arson balloons set southern Israel ablaze for 4th straight day

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Gaza arson balloons set southern Israel ablaze for 4th straight day

Amid heightened tensions in Jerusalem, West Bank, firefighters respond to **more than 20** reports of **fires** since morning hours which were substantially exacerbated by a **searing heatwave**

Matan Tzuri | Published: **05.09.21** , 17:29

Over 20 fires broke out near the Gaza Strip border on Sunday as Palestinian militants have flown dozens of balloon-borne incendiary devices into Israeli soil since morning hours amid days of cross-border tensions.

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Meanwhile, firefighters responded to reports of **several fires near Sderot** and the surrounding area which led to authorities blocking several roads. The blaze left dozens of acres of scorched land.

One fire broke out in a **wheat field** that has **not yet** been **harvested** and caused heavy financial damage to farmers in Sdot Negev Regional Council.

Several more arson balloons landed in Sha'ar HaNegev Regional Council and Eshkol Regional Council decimating entire acres of open fields.

A security coordinator for Hof Ashkelon Regional Council told Ynet that **firefighting teams and local farmers** have been **keeping vigilant** and reporting any **sighting of smoke** to prevent the fires from consuming large swaths of lands and potentially reaching population centers.

05.09.21

Supreme Court delays session 30 days on East Jerusalem evictions

05.09.21

Supreme Court delays session on Sheikh Jarrah evictions

Court grants **AG's request to postpone** Monday hearing on pending **removal of** several Palestinian **families from homes** claimed by Jewish settlers in predominantly Palestinian **East Jerusalem** neighborhood

Ynet, News Agencies | Published: **05.09.21** , 17:05

The Supreme Court on Sunday delayed a hearing on whether several Palestinian families in the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah would be evicted from their homes.

"In all the circumstances and in light of the attorney general's request, the regular hearing for tomorrow, May 10, 2021 (is) canceled," it said in a statement, adding it would schedule a new hearing within 30 days.

The hearing slated for Monday, which is also Jerusalem Day — a holiday commemorating Israel capturing the city from Jordan in the 1967 Six-Day War — was postponed at the request of Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit. Justice Yitzhak Amit ordered an injunction on the matter, putting a halt to evictions in the meantime.

The legal case centers around the homes of four Palestinian families residing on land claimed by Jews.

Earlier this year, the Jerusalem District Court ruled the homes legally belonged to the Jewish families, citing purchases made decades ago.

The Jewish plaintiffs claimed their families lost the land during Israel's 1948 War of Independence, a conflict that also saw hundreds of thousands of Palestinians displaced from their homes.

The Palestinian families implicated in the case have provided evidence that their homes were acquired from Jordanian authorities in the 1950s, who controlled East Jerusalem from 1948 to 1967.

The legal dispute has led to almost daily violence and standoffs between Palestinians and Jewish settlers, with dozens injured and arrested on both sides.

Israel captured East Jerusalem in the 1967 Six-Day War, along with the West Bank and Gaza. The Palestinians seek all three territories for a future state and consider East Jerusalem their capital.

East Jerusalem is home to some of the holiest sites for Jews, Christians and Muslims, and its fate is among the most divisive issues in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

05.08.21

200 Palestinians hurt in heavy police clashes on final night of Ramadan at Al-Aqsa

05.08.21

200 Palestinians hurt in night of heavy clashes on Temple Mount

At least 6 Israeli cops wounded as Jerusalem violence erupts after weeks of building tensions; protesters throw chairs and rocks at police, who fire stun grenades, rubber-coated bullets; U.S. says it is 'deeply concerned,' in contact with both sides

Associated Press| Published: 05.08.21 , 11:03

A night of heavy clashes between Palestinians and Israeli police at the Al-Aqsa mosque compound and elsewhere in Jerusalem, where tensions have soared in recent weeks, left more than 200 people wounded, the Palestinian emergency service said early Saturday.

Nightly protests broke out at the start of the holy month of Ramadan over police restrictions at a popular gathering place and have reignited in recent days over threatened eviction of dozens of Palestinians from their homes in east Jerusalem, which is claimed by both sides in the decades-old conflict.

Israelis and Palestinians are bracing for more unrest in the coming days. The Red Crescent said 88 of the wounded were hospitalized, many with wounds to their eyes and face inflicted by rubber-coated bullets and shrapnel from stun grenades. Israel said at least six police were wounded.

At the beginning of Ramadan in mid-April, Israel blocked off a popular gathering spot where Palestinians traditionally socialize at the end of their daylong fast. The move set off two weeks of clashes before Israel lifted the restrictions.

But in recent days, protests have grown over Israel's threatened eviction in Sheikh Jarrah in east Jerusalem of dozens of Palestinians embroiled in a long legal battle with Israeli settlers trying to acquire property in the neighborhood.

The United States said it was "deeply concerned" about both the violence and the threatened evictions, and was in contact with leaders on both sides to try and de-escalate tensions.

"It is critical to avoid steps that exacerbate tensions or take us farther away from peace," the U.S. State Department said in a statement.

"This includes evictions in East Jerusalem, settlement activity, home demolitions, and acts of terrorism."

The Al-Aqsa mosque compound, the third holiest site in Islam, stands on sprawling hilltop Temple Mount complex that is the holiest site for Jews, who believe it to be the location of the biblical Temples.

It has long been a flashpoint for Israeli-Palestinian violence and was the epicenter of the 2000 Palestinian intifada, or uprising.

Israeli police deployed in large numbers as Muslim worshippers were holding evening prayers at the site late Friday. It was unclear what sparked the violence, but videos circulating online showed worshippers throwing chairs, shoes and rocks at police, who fired stun grenades and rubber-coated bullets to disperse them. Smaller clashes broke out elsewhere in Jerusalem.

The Israeli police said protesters hurled stones, fireworks and other objects at them, wounding six officers who required medical treatment.

"We will respond with a heavy hand to all violent disturbances, riots and attacks on our forces," it said in a statement.

Some 70,000 worshippers had attended the final midday Friday prayers of Ramadan at Al-Aqsa, the Islamic endowment that oversees the site said. Thousands protested afterwards, waving the green flags of the Islamic militant group Hamas and chanting pro-Hamas slogans.

Earlier on Friday, Israeli troops shot and killed two Palestinians and wounded a third after the men opened fire on a base belonging to Israel's paramilitary Border Police force

in the occupied West Bank, according to police, who said the wounded man was taken to a hospital.

On Thursday, Israeli forces arrested a Palestinian suspected of carrying out a drive-by shooting earlier this week in the West Bank that killed an Israeli and wounded two others.

The day before, Israeli troops shot and killed a 16-year-old Palestinian near the West Bank city of Nablus. The military said several Palestinians had thrown firebombs toward soldiers.

Sunday night is "Laylat al-Qadr" or the "Night of Destiny," the most sacred in the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. Worshippers will gather for intense nighttime prayers at Al-Aqsa.

Sunday night is also the start of Jerusalem Day, a national holiday in which Israel celebrates its annexation of east Jerusalem and religious nationalists hold parades and other celebrations in the city. On Monday, an Israeli court is expected to issue a verdict on the evictions.

Israel captured East Jerusalem, along with the West Bank and Gaza -- territories the Palestinians want for their future state -- in the 1967 Six-Day War. Israel annexed East Jerusalem in a move not recognized internationally and views the entire city as its capital. The Palestinians view East Jerusalem as their capital, and its fate is one of the most sensitive issues in the conflict. In a call to Palestine TV late Friday, President Mahmoud Abbas praised the "courageous stand" of the protesters and said Israel bore full responsibility for the violence.

The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem had earlier accused the Palestinians of seizing on the threatened evictions, which it described as a "real-estate dispute between private parties," in order to incite violence.

The Islamic terror group Hamas, which rules the Gaza Strip and rejects Israel's existence, has egged on the violence, and Palestinian militants in Gaza have fired rockets in support of the protesters.

Earlier this week, the shadowy commander of Hamas' armed wing, Mohammed Deif, released his first public statement in seven years, in which he warned Israel it would pay a "heavy price" if it evicts Palestinians from their homes.

05.08.21

Saudi, UAE and Turkey condemn Israel over Palestinian clashes at Al-Aqsa

05.08.21

Saudi and UAE condemn Israel over Palestinian clashes at Al-Aqsa

Foreign ministries of the two countries say they 'strongly condemned' the clashes and potential evictions of Palestinians from Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood; Turkey, meanwhile, accused Israel of 'unleashing terror' on Palestinians

Reuters | Published: 05.08.21 , 18:56

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates on Saturday **condemned** Israel's **plans to evict** Palestinians from homes on land claimed by Jewish settlers, following a night of violence in Jerusalem.

Israeli police fired rubber bullets and stun grenades towards rock-hurling Palestinian youth at Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa mosque late on Friday.

The clashes at Islam's third holiest site and around East Jerusalem, which **injured 205 Palestinians and 17 police officers**, came amid mounting anger over the planned evictions.

"Saudi Arabia rejects Israel's plans and measures to evict dozens of Palestinians from their homes in Jerusalem and impose Israeli sovereignty over them," the kingdom's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement carried on Saudi-owned Al Arabiya. The UAE, which normalized relations with Israel last year, "strongly condemned" the clashes and the potential evictions, in a statement by the UAE's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Khalifa al-Marar, and urged Israeli authorities to reduce tensions.

In the statement, carried by state news agency WAM, Marar stressed "the need for Israeli authorities to assume their responsibilities - in line with international law - to provide necessary **protection to Palestinian civilians' right to practice their religion, and to prevent practices that violate the sanctity of the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque**".

The UAE and Israel agreed to normalize ties last year as part of a U.S.-brokered agreement.

Saudi Arabia, Islam's birthplace, has long championed the Palestinian cause and shunned official contacts with Israel. Riyadh quietly acquiesced to the so-called Abraham Accords, but stopped short of endorsing them.

In November, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu travelled to Saudi Arabia and met its crown prince, in the first publicly confirmed visit there by an Israeli leader.

In the meantime, several **Turkish officials also criticised Israel** and accused it of **unleashing "terror" on Palestinians**, while a Foreign Ministry statement urged Israel to "immediately end its provocative and hostile stance and act with reason".

"Shame on Israel and those who keep silent in the face of disgraceful attacks," **Turkish Presidential Spokesman Ibrahim Kalin** said on Twitter late on Friday. **"We call on everyone to stand up against the policies of occupation and aggression of this apartheid state,"** he said.

05.06.21

Palestinians, Israeli settlers scuffle in East Jerusalem hurling rocks and chairs

05.06.21

Palestinians, Israeli settlers scuffle in East Jerusalem

Videos from Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood appear to show protesters on both sides hurling rocks and chairs at each other, Palestinians setting a car on fire and Jewish residents walking around with guns

Associated Press, Ynet| Published: 05.06.21 , 23:32

Palestinians and Israeli settlers hurled rocks and chairs at each other and a car was set on fire in a tense East Jerusalem neighborhood on Thursday before Israeli police moved in to separate them, arresting at least seven people.

The violence broke out in Sheikh Jarrah, where dozens of Palestinians are at risk of being evicted following a long legal battle with Jewish settlers trying to acquire property in the neighborhood, which is just north of Jerusalem's Old City.

Pro-Palestinian protesters have been meeting for nightly iftars - the meal held after breaking the daylong fast during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan - at long tables set up outside. On Thursday, settlers set up a table and awning across the street. They were joined by Itamar Ben-Gvir, the leader of a far-right party with roots in a violent anti-Arab extremist group.

Video circulating online later showed protesters on both sides hurling rocks and chairs at each other, and Palestinians tearing down the awning, before Israeli police moved in. Some videos showed Jewish residents brandish handguns.

05.06.21

Yossi Cohen head of Mossad meets with Bahrain as tensions with Iran heighten

05.06.21

Israeli spymaster visits Bahrain to discuss Mideast security

Bahraini state-run news agency in a brief statement says Yossi Cohen met with Bahrain's heads of national intelligence and strategic security to discuss 'the most prominent security topics' as tensions with Iran heighten

Associated Press| Published: 05.06.21 , 22:22

The head of the Mossad intelligence agency visited Bahrain for talks with officials on Thursday, the Bahrain state-run news agency reported.

The trip came amid heightened tensions in the region over Iran and followed Israel's recent deal to normalize relations with the island kingdom.

The brief statement carried by the news agency said only that Yossi Cohen met with Bahrain's heads of national intelligence and strategic security to discuss "the most prominent security topics, regional developments and issues of common interest." It did not elaborate.

The two countries opened diplomatic ties last fall in a U.S.-brokered deal under the Trump administration and following the United Arab Emirates' decision to **normalize** relations.

The pacts, rejected by the Palestinians as a betrayal of their cause for statehood, signaled an **increasingly explicit alliance** between **Gulf Arab states and Israel** against mutual archenemy Iran.

05.06.21

Seven fires break out in southern Israel crops & forests by Gaza arson balloons

05.06.21

Seven fires break out in southern Israel as incendiary balloons return

After six months of quiet, **several airborne explosives from Gaza land in Eshkol Regional Council, causing mass conflagrations, scorching large swaths of agricultural land;** field owners say **balloons no less harmful than missiles**

Matan Tzuri | Published: **05.06.21** , 19:23

At least seven fires broke out Thursday afternoon **in forests located near the Gaza Strip** border due to incendiary balloons being launched into Israeli communities.

The **fires** broke out **in the Kissufim Forest** and the **Be'eri Forest** in the Eshkol Regional Council and were eventually put out thanks to the efforts of firemen from the National Fire and Rescue Authority and workers from KKL-JNF.

Fire and arson investigators determined the **fires** were **caused by incendiary balloons** flown by the **Palestinians from the Gaza Strip**.

On Monday, **two balloons attached to suspicious devices were located** in an agricultural area of Kibbutz Kfar Aza, which was the first incendiary balloons attack in six months. Avigdor Khalfa, owner of the fields that caught fire in the Eshkol Regional Council, told Ynet of his frustration. **"Unfortunately we are again troubled by arson attacks. The state encourages us to reap our crops early, and we do so at a loss just to avoid such fires breaking out and the dangers involved,"** said Khalfa.

"[These attack] absolutely kill our next generation's future. Today, large areas were set on fire, including a field of pea seeds meant for next year. The damage caused by the balloons is enormous and is no less harmful than missiles. It hurts to see all the crops burn, it's like a fire in your heart."

In the wake of the incendiary balloon attack, the UN's Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process Tor Wennesland expressed his concern about the growing tensions between Israel and the Palestinians.

"I am deeply concerned by the surge in tensions and violence," wrote Wennesland in a statement. **"I call on political, religious and community leaders on all sides to stand firmly against violence, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric."**

History Perspective 1921

Arab protests against the Balfour Declaration and Jewish immigration, May 1921

The British response to the pogroms encouraged the oppressors, rewarded violence, and penalized the victims - just like in Russia. Op-ed.

Tags: Balfour Declaration Arab Violence In Israel Dr. Alex Grobman British Mandate Dr. Alex Grobman , May 07 , 2021 9:22 AM

When Arabs protested the Balfour Declaration in 1921, Sir Herbert Samuel, the Jewish first High Commissioner in Palestine, the name given to the area by the Roman conquerors of Judea, responded that Jews were expected to immigrate to Palestine within certain fixed limits “to help with their resources and efforts to develop the country, to the advantage of all its inhabitants.” [1]

Jewish immigration, Winston Churchill assured them, was being monitored regarding the numbers and character of the people. The country was “greatly under-populated” and undeveloped, which allowed for more people to build a life there. The work already accomplished by the Jews during the last 20 to 30 years could not be “brutally and rudely overturned by fanatical attacks of the Arab population” launched against Jews in Jaffa, Rehovot, Petach Tikva and other Jewish areas in May 1921. [2]

Despite its initial pro-Zionist orientation, the British government gradually “whittled down” the Balfour Declaration, reflecting the hostility towards Zionism of many in the government. By 1921, immigration had practically ceased, the “bulk” of the British officers in Palestine were not sympathetic to Zionism, and the Zionists were not receiving the concessions needed to establish a national Jewish homeland.

Public hostility in Britain, Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen, General Allenby’s Chief Political Officer and later involved in the creation of the British Mandate, thought, was a result of the failure to understand the purpose of Zionism, fear of its potential financial cost and a general antisemitic British temperament that quickly translated into anti-Zionism. [3]

To pressure the British to end Jewish immigration, anti-Zionist riots broke out in Mandatory Palestine in 1920-1921, killing several Jews. In April 1920, during a religious festival (al-Nabi Musa) in Jerusalem, many Arabs, led by Al-Hajj Amin al-Husayni, the Mufti of Jerusalem, attacked Jews in the Old City.

On May 1, 1921, there was a riot in Jaffa, after which the Arabs attacked Jews in Petah Tikvah and Hadera, pillaging and destroying a significant amount of property. The disturbances, which shocked the Jews and the British, lasted several days and demonstrated the Arabs’ fierce opposition to continued Jewish immigration into the country, [4] and their insistence on remaining part of Syria. [5]

In view of the intensity of the attacks during which 88 people were killed and 238 injured, Sir Herbert Samuel [6] brought in the army to quell the disturbances. Many were arrested and heavy fines were levied against Arab villages involved in the riots. However, he also sought to ease Arab hostility and insisted that the Zionists demonstrate no ill-will toward the Arabs.

This had to be done through economic development and by making conciliatory declarations that would assuage Arab fears of Jewish immigration and Jewish political dominance. “Unless there [was] very careful steering, it [was] upon the Arab rock that the Zionist ship may be wrecked,” Samuel concluded. [7].

Another response to the riot was a meeting at the Colonial Office in London on November 29, 1921, arranged between Dr. Chaim Weizmann and members of the Arab Delegation from Palestine. This meeting, and others, ended in failure as the two groups were unable to reconcile their differences about the proposed Mandate and the future structure of Palestine. [8]

Jews saw Samuel’s capitulation to violence as appeasement and proof that their criticism of the British administration in Palestine and their disillusionment with the British were justified. Samuel further alienated the Jews of Palestine on June 3, 1921, in his first major address after the riots. Samuel tried to assure the Muslim and Christian inhabitants that he would implement whatever measures required to prove that their rights were “really safe.”

The British Government, he said, which is the “trustee under the Mandate for the happiness of the people of Palestine, would never impose on them a policy which that people had reason to think was contrary to their religious, their political, and their economic interests.” [9]

Chaim Weizmann had no illusions about Samuel. “He is meek and mild and timid. Still he is, with all that, the best we can have in the circumstances.” [10]

The Jewish press reflected the community’s anger toward the British, and their profound concern that these riots were like the ones they had experienced in Russia.

Berl Katznelson, a leading figure of the Zionist labor movement, declared, “The pogrom against Israel in Eretz Israel is still continuing.” Ben-Gurion concurred: “We who experienced the pogroms knew quite well that without the wish of the authorities and their open or clandestine backing, actively or passively, the task of the pogrom cannot succeed.” [11]

When the riots occurred in 1921, Samuel held the Jews responsible and brought them to trial. The British claimed this was a clash between communist and anti-communist Jewish demonstrators on May Day, which the Jews dismissed as absurd.

The British also sought to obscure the fact that the Arabs had been the sole aggressors. Arab policemen involved in the riots were not punished, while Jews attempting to defend themselves were arrested when they harmed their assailants. Stolen property was not returned, and those who killed Jews were not tried. Jewish immigration was halted, and those caught trying to enter the country were sent back to their ports of origin. This was another example of where the British encouraged the oppressors, rewarded violence, and penalized the victims. [12]

British reaction reminded Jews of the Russian government's response to pogroms. First, the British took their time in responding to the al-Nabi Musa riots and behaved with a combination of apathy and "criminal neglect." Then they arrested Ze'ev Jabotinsky, the Zionist activist, and his men who were attempting to organize their own self-defense in Jerusalem. Jabotinsky had established the Jewish Legion under British auspices during World War I. At the end of the riots, the British tried to reduce tensions by prohibiting the Jews from holding a public funeral for the victims.

Most of the rioters were not tried, whereas when Jews were apprehended with weapons, they were given substantial sentences. Eventually, the convictions were rescinded, but in the context of a general amnesty for the rioters and the Jews. This prompted Berl Katznelson to refer to the Jewish victims by the ancient Hebrew idiom *harugei malkhut* (those slain by the [non-Jewish] government), a term used for the Ten Martyrs who were tortured and executed by the Romans. [13]

Dr. Grobman is the resident scholar at the John C. Danforth Society and a member of the Council of Scholars for Scholars for Peace in the Middle East (SPME.)

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[3] Richard Colonel Meinertzhagen, *Middle East Diary 1917-1956*, (New York: Thomas Yoseloff, 1959), 101.

[4] *An Interim Report on the Civil Administration of Palestine During the Period 1st July 1920-30th June 1921*, op. cit.; Anita Shapira, *Land and Power: The Zionist Resort to Force 1881-1948* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1992), 110.

[5] Basheer M. Nafi, *Arabism, Islamism and the Palestine Question. 1908-1941: A Political History*, (Reading, England: Ithaca Press, 1998), 71.

[6] Bernard Wasserstein, *Herbert Samuel: A Political Life*, (Oxford, England: Clarendon Press, 1992), 230-245.

[7] Shapira, *Land and Power*, op. cit., 110-111; *An Interim Report on the Civil Administration of Palestine During the Period 1st July 1920-30th June 1921*, op. cit.; Neil Caplan, *Futile Diplomacy: Early Arab-Zionist Negotiation Attempts, 1913-1931*, vol. one, (London: Frank Cass, 1983), 48-49.

[8] *Ibid.*, 50-51.

[9] Wasserstein, *Herbert Samuel: A Political Life* op. cit., 256-260.

[10] Wasserstein argues that it was Samuel's ability to convince the Conservative British Government to remain in Palestine, adhere to the basic policies of the Balfour Declaration and support Samuel's plan to foster Zionist growth conditioned by "conciliation of Arab opposition," that enabled the Jews to establish a "a viable semi-autonomous economy, an underground army, and the embryonic institutions of a national state." Had Samuel not pursued this policy, the British might have been willing to abandon the Zionist experiment.

[11] *Ibid.*, 260-262.

[12] Shapira, *Land and Power*, op. cit., 112