

UNRESTRICTED

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4 March 1948

UNITED NATIONS PALESTINE COMMISSION

DAILY NEWS SUMMARY

4 March 1948

Jerusalem, March 3: Coinciding with the arrival of the Palestine Commission's advance party, an explosion blasted a seven-story Arab building in Haifa today, killing 14 Arabs and wounding at least 26. The Stern Group claimed responsibility.

Other casualties for the day were 4 Arabs and 1 Jew killed, and 6 Arabs and 3 Jews wounded. (NY TIMES)

Jerusalem, March 3: Leaders of eleven Christian communities in Palestine urged that the partition plan be shelved, in the interest of peace. Among those signing the statement, which denounced partition as a "violation of the sacredness of the Holy Land...and an encroachment on the natural rights of the Arabs", were the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate, the Latin Patriarchate, the Armenian Patriarchate and the Arab Evangelical Episcopal Community. (NY HERALD TRIBUNE)

Jerusalem, March 2: DAVAR, organ of the right wing labor circles, condemning the train wreck in which 28 British soldiers were killed, said, "This is an abominable crime committed against people who had not been in the country recently and were returning from home leave".

HAARETZ also termed the bombing an "abominable crime" and warned that the Stern Group was creating new hostility toward the Jews.

HABOKER said that the "authors of the deed will not escape responsibility" and demanded the suppression of dissidents in favor of "fighting unity under unified authority". (NY TIMES)

Jerusalem, March 1 - THE PALESTINE POST declared in an editorial listing grievances against terrorist groups that "the terrorists...have repudiated authority. Hitherto, the Yishuv...has not wanted a struggle on three fronts. But the terrorists themselves, in their madness, are hastening the time when the additional struggle must be undertaken. The crimes are too foul to be pardoned, the issues too grave to be postponed".

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The Hebrew-language AL HAMISEMAR termed the terrorists "fascists" and said: "So long as they exist the Yishuv will be in danger of internecine war... The whole Yishuv is called upon to isolate the dissidents". (NY HERALD TRIBUNE)  
Jerusalem, March 1: It was announced that casualties for the past three months had reached a total of 1,378 dead, 1,134 seriously injured, and 900 slightly injured. Of the civilians killed 666 were Arabs and 546 Jews. Ninety-two British policemen and soldiers were killed during the period.  
(NY TIMES)