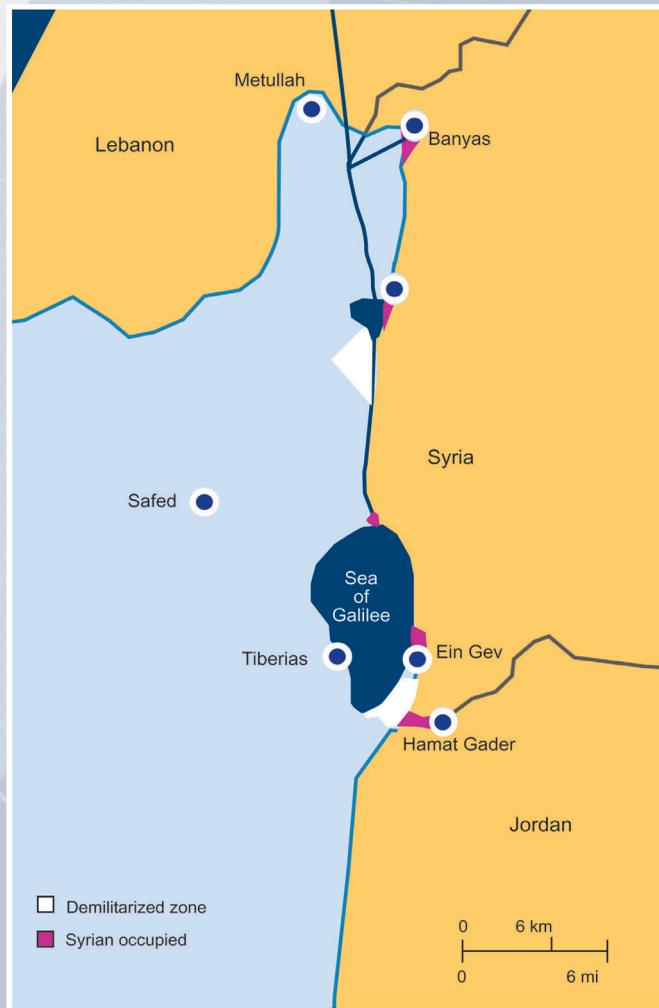
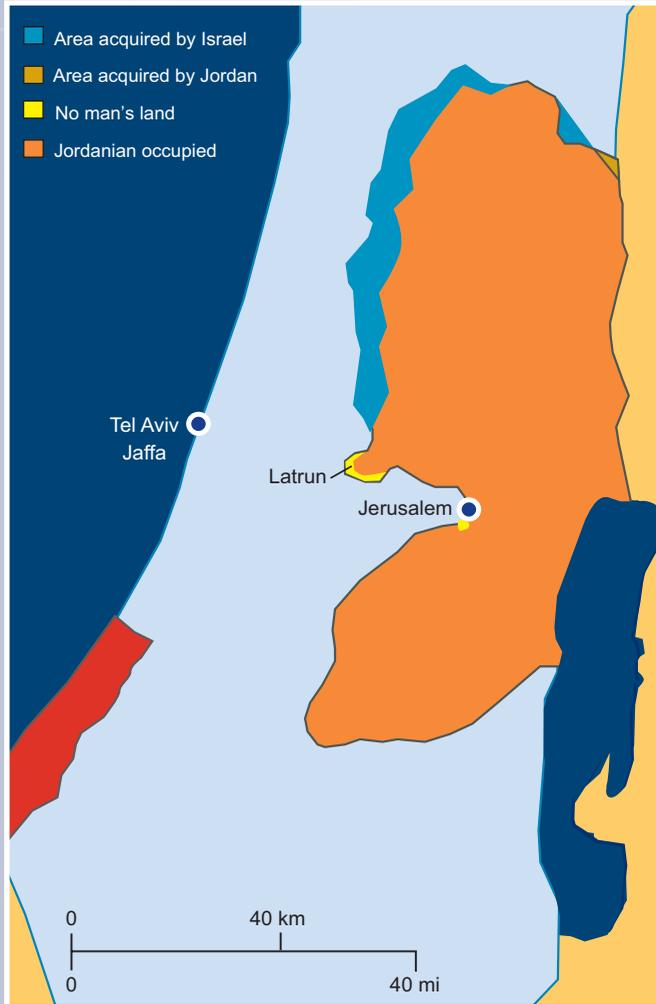


## THE FRONTIER WITH SYRIA

Syria became independent in 1946. When the State of Israel came into being in 1948, Syria invaded the new state, conquered the Banyas, the Mishmar Hayarden triangle, the Almagor triangle, the coast of Betiha, and the eastern bank of the Jordan River. In the armistice agreements of 1949, Syria agreed to withdraw its army from these areas and to turn them into demilitarized zones. In fact, Syria remained in the strips of territory that secured its hold on the banks of the Jordan River and the Sea of Galilee, and the Banyas. Later, Syria conquered Hamat Gader and Nuqeib, north of Ein Gev. These territories were under Syrian control until 1967 and facilitated its unceasing attacks against Israel.



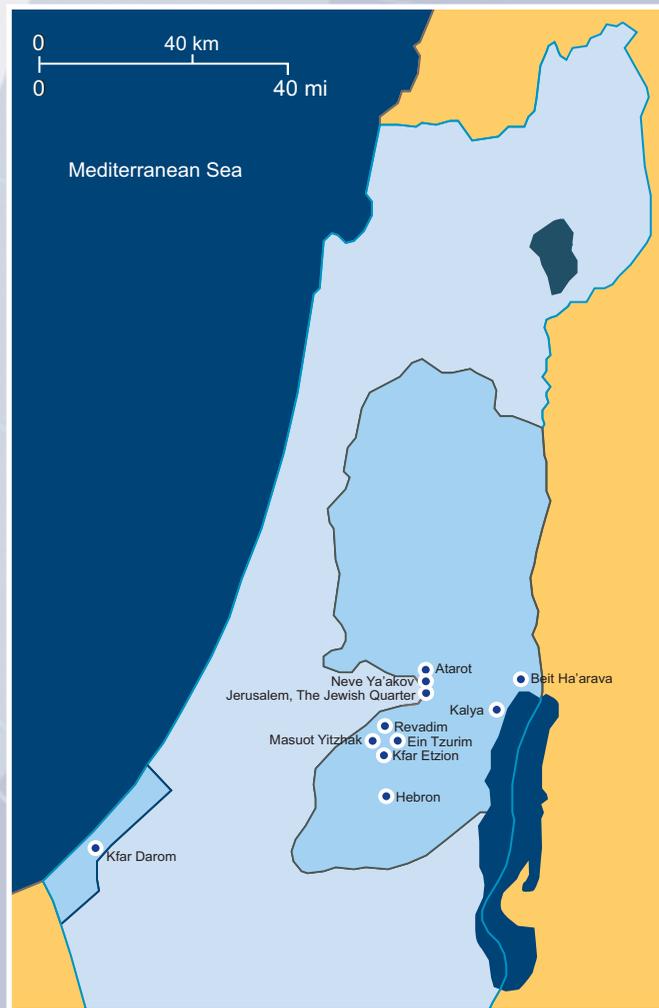


## ARMISTICE AGREEMENT WITH JORDAN (1949)

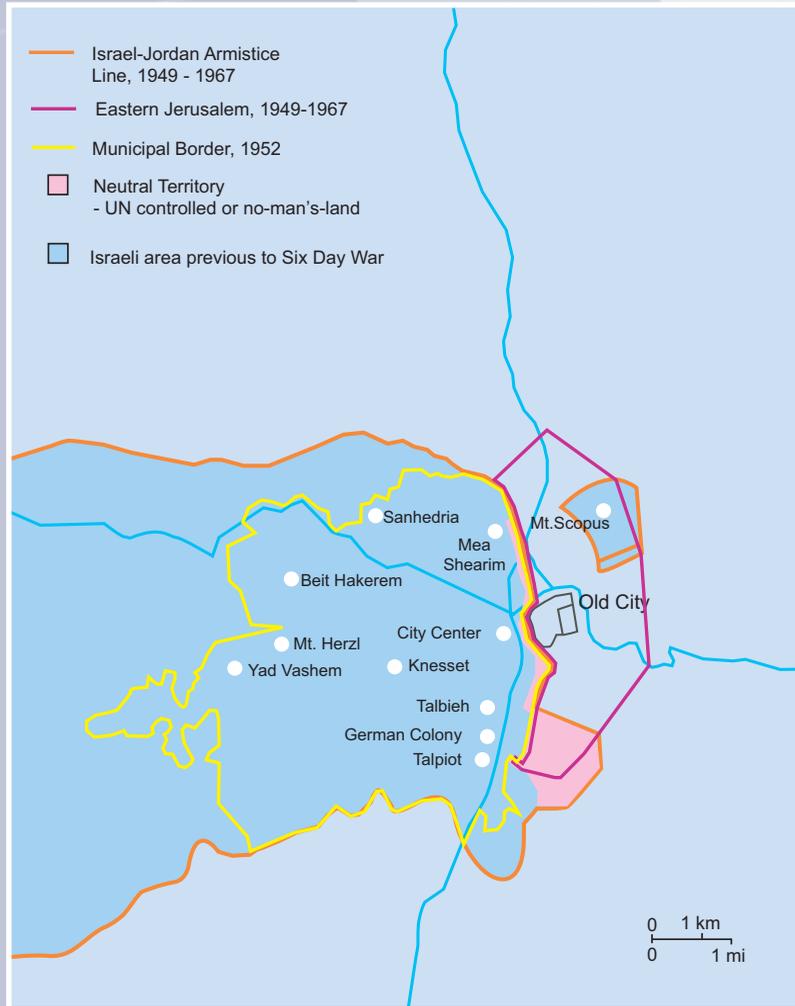
The armistice agreement with Jordan was signed in Rhodes with the help of UN mediation on April 4, 1949. The agreement states that this is a necessary step towards reestablishing peace in the Land of Israel, and emphasizes that in no way is the armistice line to be interpreted as a political or territorial border, nor does it constitute interference with the rights, claims, or positions of any side vis-à-vis the final settlement of the question of the Land of Israel. The agreement set the parameters for prisoner exchanges, demilitarized zones, no-man's land, and monitoring arrangements. In the framework of the agreement, Israel was given land in the Sharon and the Irone River areas, and sections of the Beit Shean Valley were exchanged.

## JEWISH COMMUNITIES LOST IN THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

During the War of Independence, a number of Jewish communities were captured, mostly by the Jordanian army – Kibbutz Beit Ha-arava and Kalya north of the Dead Sea, the four kibbutzim of Gush Etzion west of Bethlehem, Atarot and Neve Yaakov north of Jerusalem, and the Jewish Quarter in the Old City of Jerusalem. Kfar Darom, near Gaza, was captured by the Egyptian army. In addition, when the War of Independence broke out at the end of 1947, the remnant of the Jewish community of Hebron fled.



## JERUSALEM BEFORE THE SIX DAY WAR (1949-1967)

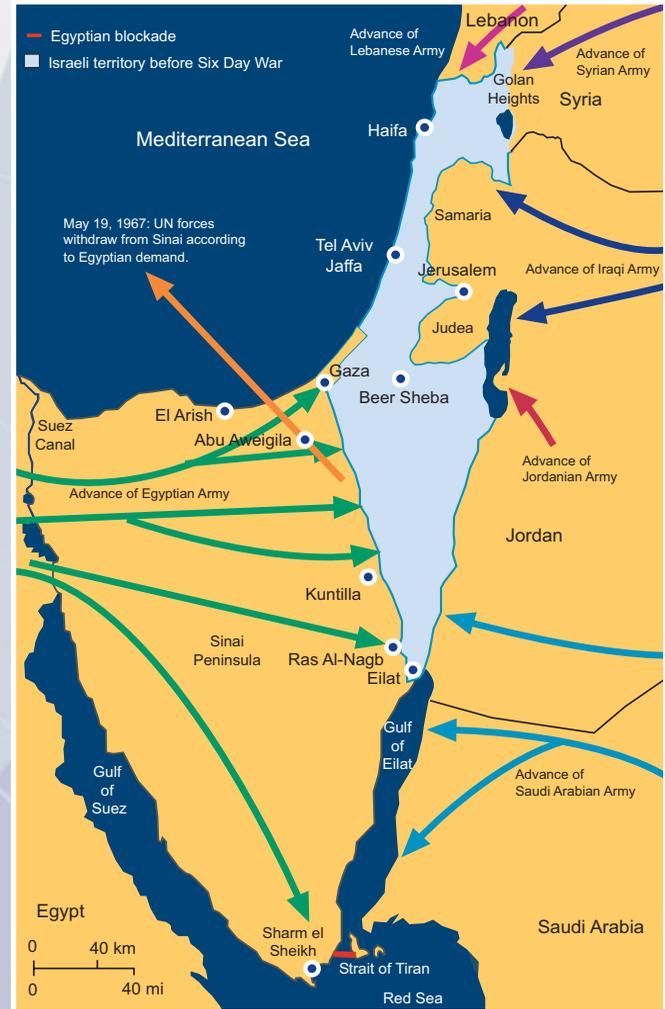


At the end of the War of Independence, Jerusalem was divided between Israel and Jordan. Armistice lines were determined in November 1948 by Moshe Dayan, Commander of the Jerusalem district, and Abdallah el-Tal, Legion Commander of the Jerusalem front. Between the lines drawn up by the two commanders, areas were left that were defined as no-man's-land. The area around Armon Hanatziv was used as UN territory, and Mount Scopus became an Israeli enclave that contained the Hebrew University, Hadassah Hospital and, officially, the village of Issawiyya. This map was adopted in April 1949 by the sides in an armistice agreement signed in Rhodes. The westernmost point between the two parts of the city was at the edge of the Musrara neighborhood, near the house of the Mandelbaum family, and thus was called "Mandelbaum Gate."

## EVENTS LEADING TO THE SIX DAY WAR (1967)

The Six Day War was the first major Arab attempt since 1948 to destroy Israel. In November 1966, an Egyptian-Syrian Defense Agreement was signed, encouraging the Syrians to escalate tensions, which reached a climax in the spring of 1967.

- May 14: Egypt mobilized its forces in and around the Suez Canal.
- May 16: Egypt moved its forces eastward across the Sinai desert towards the Israeli border, demanding the withdrawal of UN Emergency Force (UNEF) stationed along the frontier.
- May 19: The Egyptians expelled the UN Emergency Force (UNEF) from the Gaza Strip and Sinai, and continued pouring its military forces into these areas.
- May 22: Egypt closed the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping, constituting a casus belli for Israel.
- May 24-June 4: Answering the Egyptian call, the governments of Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Lebanon moved their forces toward the Israeli border. Israel mobilized its reserve forces, and launched a diplomatic campaign to win international support for ending the Egyptian blockade of Israeli shipping through the Strait of Tiran.

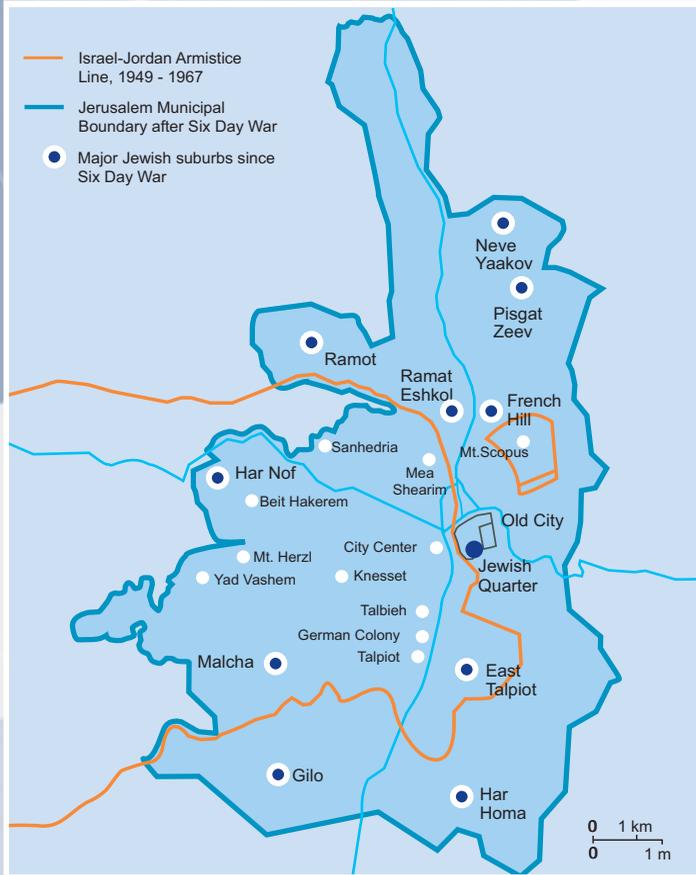


## ISRAEL AFTER THE SIX DAY WAR (JUNE 10, 1967)

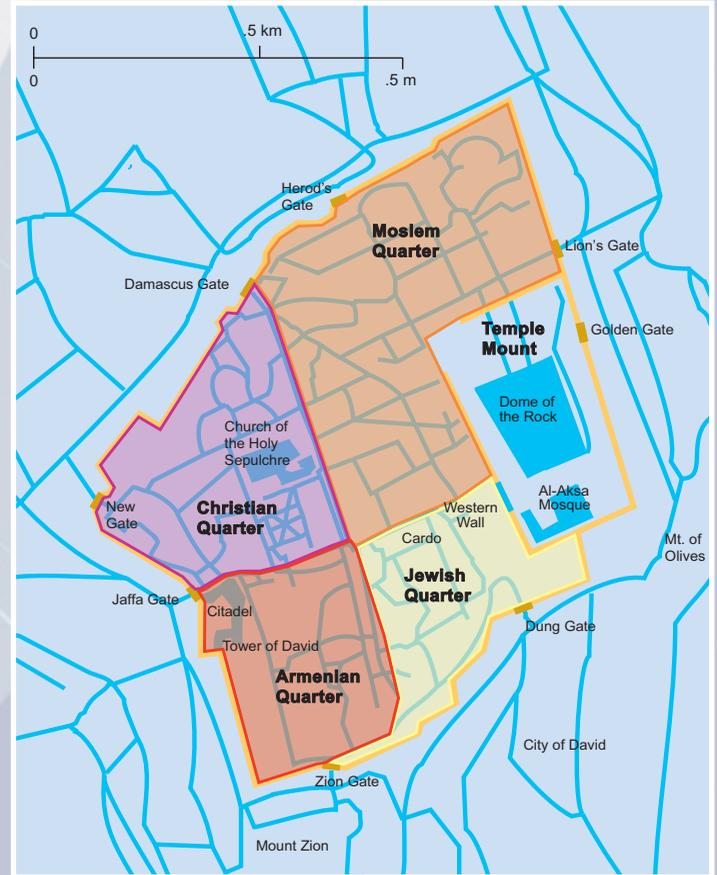
Once it became clear that the diplomatic campaign had failed, and following Jordan's participation in the Egyptian-Syrian alliance, Israel launched action in self-defense against the massing threat from Egypt on June 5, 1967. Once Jordan and Syria initiated the fighting against Israel, the war also included those countries. In the course of the war, the Israeli forces reached the Suez Canal, and captured the territories of Judea and Samaria, as well as the Golan Heights – from which the Syrians had shelled Israel.



JERUSALEM AFTER THE SIX DAY WAR  
(1967)



OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM



A few days after the end of the Six Day War, on June 27, 1967, the Israeli Parliament passed a law that Israeli administration and jurisdiction apply to all the territory of Jerusalem acquired in the war. The following day, the Jerusalem municipal boundaries were extended to include eastern Jerusalem, as well as Atarot and Neve Yaakov in the north, and Gilo in the south.

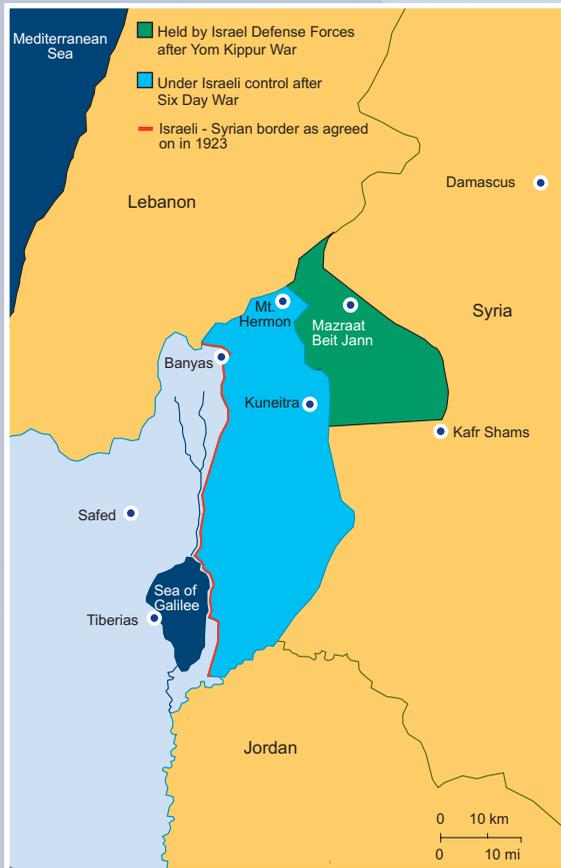
## YOM KIPPUR WAR CEASE-FIRE LINES (OCTOBER 24, 1973)

The Yom Kippur War began on October 6, 1973 when the combined armies of Egypt and Syria attacked Israel in the Suez Canal area and the Golan Heights. After a few days of hard fighting in which Egypt established itself on the eastern side of the Suez Canal and the Syrians captured most of the Golan Heights, the attack was halted and a counter-attack by IDF forces succeeded in pushing back some of the Egyptian forces, crossed the Canal and reached within 101 kilometers of Cairo. On the Golan Heights, the Syrian forces were repulsed completely and IDF forces captured an enclave in the northern Heights deep in Syrian territory, as well as recapturing Mount Hermon.

A cease-fire agreement was signed by Israel and Egypt on October 24, 1973. A separation-of-forces agreement was signed on January 18, 1974 in which the sides agreed to observe the cease-fire, made arrangements for the reduction of forces and established a UN emergency force in the demilitarized zone. Israeli forces withdrew to a distance of 20 kilometers east of the Suez Canal, and the Egyptian army withdrew most of its forces to the west of the Canal.

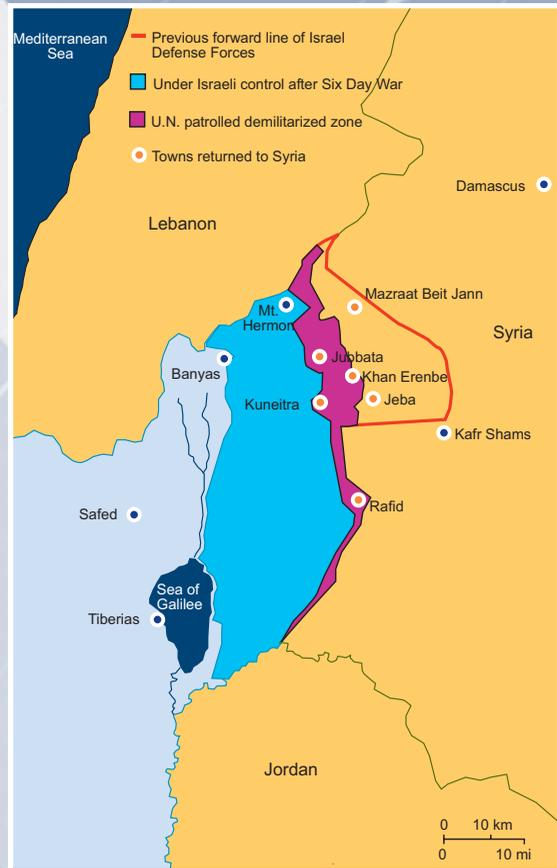


## GOLAN HEIGHTS CEASE-FIRE LINES (OCTOBER 1973)



A disengagement agreement with Syria was signed in Geneva on May 31, 1974, and included, inter alia, the establishment of UN observers in the demilitarized zone, arrangements for a prisoner exchange, and IDF evacuation of the territory it took in the Yom Kippur War, as well as the city of Kuneitra, which was captured in the Six Day War.

## ISRAEL-SYRIA DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT (MAY 1974)



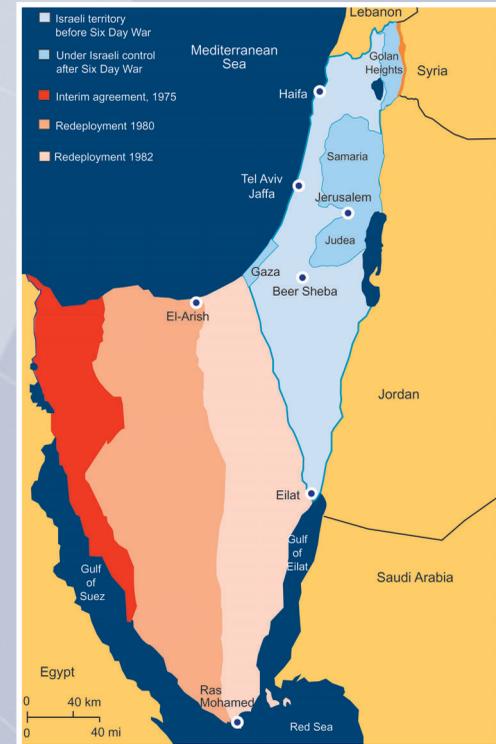
## INTERIM AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT (1975)



An agreement was signed in Geneva in September 1975 in addition to the 1974 separation-of-forces agreement following the Yom Kippur War. The main points of the agreement were: Israeli withdrawal in Sinai to the eastern ends of the Mitla and Gidi Passes; creation of a UN-monitored buffer zone in the evacuated area; turning the previous buffer zone into Egyptian territory; Israeli withdrawal from the oil fields at Abu Rudeis and Ras Sudar. It was also agreed to open the Suez Canal to Israeli non-military cargo ships and to establish American early-warning stations in the area of the passes. The agreement was perceived as an important step towards a just and sustainable peace.

The Israel-Egypt Peace Treaty was signed on March 26, 1979, following the Camp David Accords of September 18, 1978, which determined a framework for a peace treaty between both countries. The framework also set a timetable for establishing diplomatic relations and normalization between Israel and Egypt, as well as a timetable for IDF withdrawal from the line beginning east of El-Arish and extending to Ras Mohamed. The peace treaty tied up loose threads and included further Israeli withdrawal to the international border between the two states.

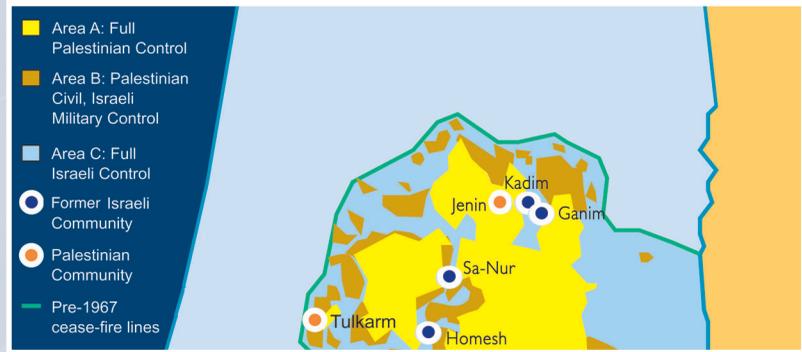
## PEACE TREATY WITH EGYPT AND SINAI REDEPLOYMENT (1980 – 1982)



## ISRAEL'S DISENGAGEMENT PLAN (2005)



GAZA STRIP



NORTHERN SAMARIA

In August 2005, Israel disengaged from the Gaza Strip, and from four settlements in northern Samaria. This action, initiated by Prime Minister Sharon and endorsed by the Knesset, was an Israeli initiative designed to end the stalemate in the peace process after more than four years of terrorist bloodshed. Altogether 25 settlements were removed. This entailed a considerable sacrifice on the part of the nearly 9000 residents who had to leave their homes and livelihoods that they had built over the course of several decades. It also demonstrated Israel's readiness to make major concessions for the sake of peace.

Following disengagement, the Gaza Strip is under Palestinian jurisdiction. This constitutes a practical test of the Palestinian Authority's intentions regarding peaceful coexistence. It could contribute to the renewal of peace talks and to the establishment of a Palestinian state alongside Israel as envisaged by the Roadmap, provided the Palestinians fulfill their obligations to end terrorism and incitement. However, the Hamas election victory in January 2006 undermines this possibility.

ISRAEL AND THE REGION

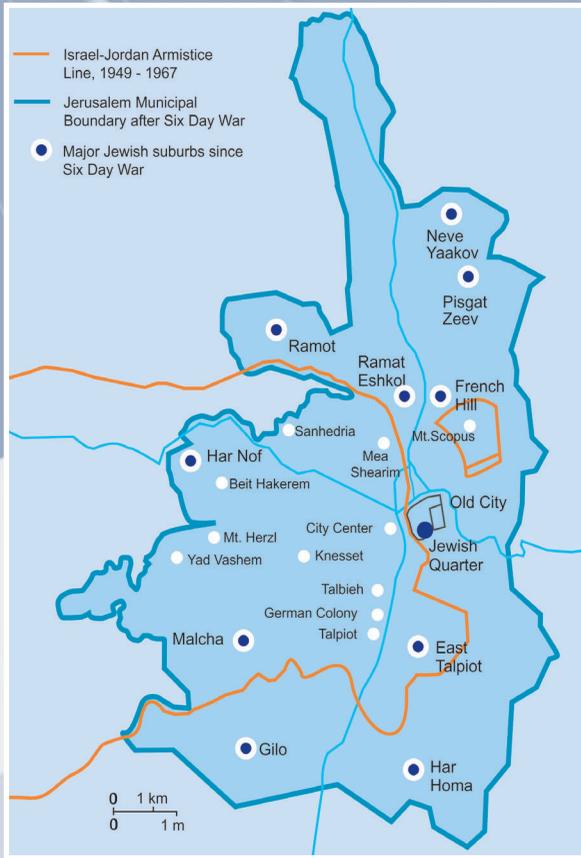




### ISRAEL (WITHIN BOUNDARIES AND CEASE-FIRE LINES)

Israel stands at the crossroads of Europe, Asia and Africa. Geographically, it belongs to the Asian continent. Its western border is the Mediterranean Sea. To the north it is bound by Lebanon and Syria, to the east by Jordan and to the south by the Red Sea and Egypt. Long and narrow in shape, Israel is about 290 miles (470 km.) long and 85 miles (135 km.) across at its widest point. The total area of the State of Israel is 22,145 sq. km., of which 21,671 sq. km. is land area.

JERUSALEM



Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, is located in the heart of the country, nestled among the Judean Hills. The city's ancient stones, imbued with millennia of history, and its numerous historical sites, shrines and places of worship attest to its meaning for Jews, Christians and Muslims.

OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

