

Military Operations



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MISSION: MILITARY OPERATIONS

You have now played Global Conflicts: Military Operations, and are expected to discuss and reflect on the experiences. Below you will first find questions related to the game and then questions of a more general nature. Finally, you can write an article drawing on the game experience.

ASSIGNMENT 1.

Game review

- 1. Please provide a short factual resume of the mission.**
- 2. Please explain the motivations, actions and perception of the key people you ran into (one line each).**
 - Roi
 - Omri
 - Mordechai
 - Khaled
 - Nabil
 - What is the basic conflict in the mission?
 - How would you have acted as an Israeli or Palestinian?
- 3. How do the different soldiers in the IDF (Roi, Omri & Mordechai) perceive the Palestinians?**
 - What is the basis for this perception?
 - Consider the role of culture, history, religion & ethnicity.
- 4. How does Khaled perceive the IDF?**
 - What is the basis for this perception?
 - Consider the role of culture, history, religion & ethnicity?

ASSIGNMENT 2.

Beyond the game

You may have a hard time answering the questions below if you were a sloppy and superficial journalist. Luckily, you can either go back and play the game or look for information online or at your local library.

- 1. What implications do the military operations have for the Israeli-Palestinian relations?**
- 2. What role does security play for the Israelis?**
 - How does security serve as an explanation for the raids? Is the Israeli perception of security threats reasonable?
 - What is it based on?
 - Consider both the current situation and historical roots.
- 3. How are the suspected terrorists treated and are their rights respected by the IDF?**
 - Try to consider what rights apply and why the international community has set them up.
 - What could the reasons be for violating a suspect's rights?
 - Would such violations be acceptable?
 - Why/why not?
- 4. How would you criticize the IDF's conduct?**
 - What arguments do you think are valid for such raids?
- 5. How would you criticize the Palestinians?**
 - Do you think the Palestinians are innocent victims?
 - Why/why not?
- 6. Choose two sources from the mission material.**
 - Discuss the background for the accounts and underlying agendas of the sources.
- 7. Do you think that Israelis & Palestinians are guilty of stereotyping each other?**
 - If so, why does this happen?
 - Why do we use stereotypes

ASSIGNMENT 3.

Write a better story

In the game you have a limited amount of time for writing and researching the story with access to only a few sources. Now you have a chance to pursue an even better researched story by using sources found online and from other places.

1. In general there are three different types of stories you can choose from:

- News story
- Feature story
- Opinion story

Use one of the three templates to help you make the best story.

2. Choose between the following subjects from the game world:

Palestine Today

Is interested in getting stories about the Israeli soldiers' abuse of prisoners. They would like for you to document the way suspects are treated and they want to hear about corruption and brutal interrogation methods, as well as the potentially innocent people who might be arrested.

Global News

Is interested in you covering the conflict up close. What events take place? What happens during this kind of military action? How are prisoners treated and how dangerous is it for the soldiers?

The Israeli Post

Is interested in a story about the way in which the IDF protects the Israeli citizens against terrorism. Talk with the soldiers and get their stories, try to get some incriminating statements from prisoners. Report about life on the border between life and death

GLOSSARY

Bias: This refers to a preference or inclination towards a point of view that inhibit impartial judgment.

Bar mitzvah: Jewish ceremony at the age of 13 marking manhood.

EU: Abbreviation for the European Union, which is a group of European countries that collaborate especially to further trade and economy of the European region.

Ethnicity: A term used to categorize people based on differences in national origin, language, and/or religion.

Expropriation: A government overtaking property by paying compensation but against the owner's will. The compensation is often limited when Israel takes over property due to security concerns.

Fatah: One of the major Palestinian political party, which remains the backbone in PLO.

Geneva convention: Four treaties that set the international law for humanitarian behavior.

Hamas: A religious/terrorist/political/social organization that is increasingly gaining power among Palestinian in favor of the previous dominating organization Fatah.

Hezbollah: An organization that controls most of Southern Lebanon and regularly attacks Northern Israel. It is described as a religious/terrorist/political/social organization supported strongly by Iran.

Humanitarian: The basic respect for and treatment of other people as human beings.

IDF: This is the abbreviation used for the Israeli Defense Forces.

Islamic state: This refers to a state which is built after the principles set down in the Koran that bring unity and leadership to the Muslim world.

Koran: Islam's sacred writings that were revealed by God to the prophet Muhammad.

Legitimate: Refer to whether something is justified.

Martyrs: People who die in the fight against Israeli occupation whether by choice or chance.

Moderate physical pressure: Often used to describe mild forms of torture that are sometimes argued to be within the law given extreme threats like imminent terror attacks.

Occupied territories: This is used to describe the areas Gaza and the West Bank.

Palestinian National Authority: Established after peace talks in 1992 to govern Palestinian affairs in the self-rule areas within the West Bank and Gaza.

PLO: The abbreviation for Palestinian Liberation Organization that for many years lead the struggle for a Palestinian state and the destruction of the state of Israel.

Separation barrier: Israel is currently constructing a wall to make it harder for unwanted Palestinians to cross into Israel. However, the barrier has cut off Palestinian villages, and in some regions built on Palestinian soil.

Shahid: The Arab word for martyrs, people who have died in the fight against (Israeli) occupation whether by choice or chance.

Torah: Refers to all Jewish religious literature, law and teaching that guides the right way of living.

UN: The abbreviation used for the United Nations. UN is an international organization whose stated aims are to facilitate cooperation on especially social development, international law, international security, and human rights issues.

Zionism: Zionism is an ideology from the late 19th century that seeks to establish a Jewish homeland.



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