

**PUBLISHED:**

Preliminary Volume – December 1947-May 1948  
Vol. 1 – May-September 1948  
Vol. 2 – October 1948-April 1949  
Vol. 3 – Armistice Negotiations 1949  
Vol. 4 – May-December 1949  
Vol. 5 – 1950  
Vol. 6 – 1951  
Vol. 7 – 1952  
Vol. 8 – 1953  
Vol. 9 – 1954  
Vol. 11 – January-October 1956  
Vol. 12 – The Sinai Campaign October 1956-March 1957  
Vol. 13 – 1958-1959  
Vol. 14 – 1960

**In preparation:**

Vol. 10 – 1955

**New series: 1961-1967**

**Electronic publications:**

Vol. E-1: Israel's Relations with Iran and the Eastern Mediterranean States, 1961-1967  
Part 1- Israel-Greece Relations, 1961-1967, available now on-line

**See the website of the Israel State Archives**

**[www.archives.gov.il/ArchiveGov\\_Eng/Publications](http://www.archives.gov.il/ArchiveGov_Eng/Publications)**

**In preparation:**

Israel-Cyprus Relations, 1961-1967

Israel-Turkey Relations, 1961-1967

Vol. E-2: Israel's Relations with Western Europe, 1961-1967

Part 1- Israel's Relations with the German Federal Republic, 1961-1967

**For orders and information please apply to:**

Leya Ben-Tsvi  
Israel State Archives,  
Prime Minister's Office,  
Jerusalem 91919 Israel  
Tel: 972-2-5680633 Fax: 972-2-6793375  
e-mail: leya@archives.gov.il

-----  
Price per volume (Companion Volume included): \$80  
(Postage and packing included)  
Usual trade discounts

**PRIME MINISTER'S  
OFFICE**



**ISRAEL STATE  
ARCHIVES**

**NEW**

**Documents on the Foreign Policy of Israel**

**Volume 12**

**The Sinai Campaign: The Political  
Struggle, October 1956–March 1957**

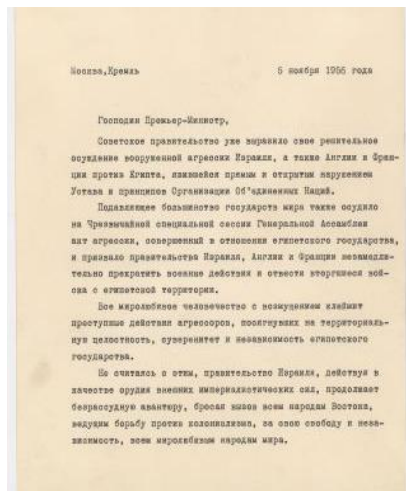


**Editor: Nana Sagi**

## About the Volume

Volume 12 in the series "Documents on the Foreign policy of Israel" is devoted to the political and diplomatic struggle waged by Israel in order to preserve as many as possible of the achievements of the Sinai Campaign, the war it waged against Egypt in the autumn of 1956. The volume opens where the previous one, Vol. 11, left off – with the preparations for the military campaign against Egypt according to the agreement with Great Britain and France signed at Sèvres on 24 October 1956.

The 588 documents published here for the first time trace the development of Israel's foreign policy, which underwent a number of dramatic upheavals. Serious differences of opinion emerged between Israel and the United Nations and its secretary-general, Dag Hammarskjöld; between Israel and the United States and between Israel and the Soviet Union. These pressures found expression in the sharp transition from David Ben-Gurion's victory speech to the decision on Israeli withdrawal and its implementation.



*Note sent by Soviet Premier Bulganin to Prime Minister Ben-Gurion, condemning Israel's operation against Egypt, 5 November 1956. See No. 61*

The political campaign began with the convening of the Security Council almost immediately after the fighting began on 29 October 1956 and ended with the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Sharm el-Sheikh in March 1957 and its aftermath. Israel's aims changed gradually over these five months, focusing on the protection of its navigation rights in the Gulf of Aqaba and prevention of the restoration of Egyptian rule in the Gaza Strip. Though the results of the political campaign were not as clear cut and unambiguous as those of the battles, they proved, in the long run, to be more enduring and solid.



*Evacuation of Israeli forces from the Gaza Strip, 7 March 1957. Israel State Archives*

## About the Series

The "Documents on the Foreign Policy of Israel" series has been published by the Israel State Archives since 1979. This series, which is modeled on similar foreign publications, such as the US "Foreign Relations of the United States", presents a selection of the political and diplomatic correspondence of the State of Israel. The documents derive mainly from the files of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other government

ministries kept at the Israel State Archives, and from other archival sources in Israel and abroad. They are accompanied by editorial notes, footnotes, introductions and indexes and a detailed biographical index.

The editorial section is intended to cast light on the principal events that shaped Israeli foreign policy. The documents selected also serve as an introduction to the rich collections stored in the Israel State Archives.

The documents are selected and edited by a team of professional historians, who are entirely free to use their discretion in selecting and annotating the manuscript. They have free access to material that has not yet been declassified.

The documents appear in the language of the original. A special Companion Volume in English contains abstracts of the Hebrew documents and a full translation of the notes, the introduction and the indexes.

In 2009 the Israel State Archives began a new series covering the 1961-1967 period. Most of the volumes in this series will be published in electronic form. For further details, see the website of the Israel State Archives, [www.archives.gov.il](http://www.archives.gov.il)

The editorial team will gladly assist researchers in Israel and abroad with biographical enquiries, archival guidance and any information relating to our publications.

