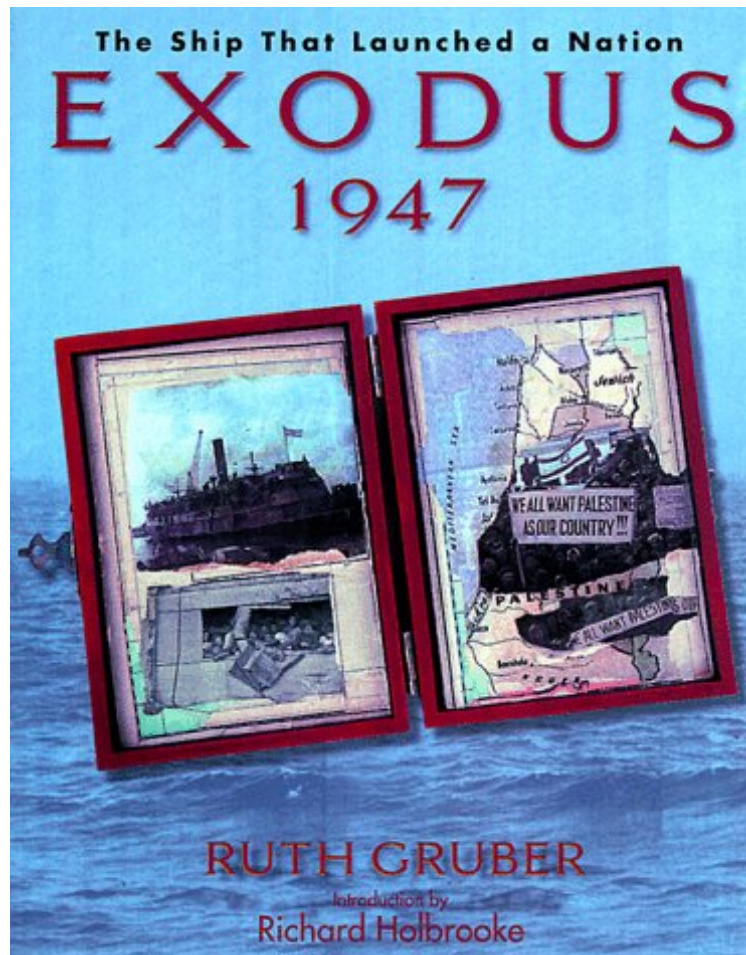


(Download pdf) Exodus 1947: The Ship That Launched a Nation

Exodus 1947: The Ship That Launched a Nation

Ruth Gruber

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#906487 in Books Crown 1999-10-01 1999-10-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.50 x 7.75 x .751,
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Ruth Gruber : Exodus 1947: The Ship That Launched a Nation before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Exodus 1947: The Ship That Launched a Nation:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Heard Ruth Gruber speak in 2001 and bought one of ...By JerryHeard Ruth Gruber speak in 2001 and bought one of her books which she autographed. Saw the Haven on TV concerning her efforts during WWII. Saw the movie Exodus. Exodus 1947 detailed the plight of the Jews trying to enter Palestine and the ruthless treatment given by the British to keep them out. Did not realize until I read this book that the people on the Exodus were not sent to Cypress, but back to Germany to former detention camps. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Excellent By D. Wollrich I first became acquainted with the story via Leon Uris's novel, Exodus. The actual story is much more dramatic than the fictional account. British behavior during and after World War II, whether under the Conservatives or Labour, was reprehensible. It was characterized by gross anti-semitism and pro-Arab bias (the US was not any better until the end of 1947). The captain of the Exodus was an American - and he was murdered by the Brits in international waters. People who survived Adolph Hitler and the

Nazis were shipped back to German concentration camps, only this time with British guards rather than Germans. The book is well written, originally published in 1947, and I would recommend it to all who are interested in how the current mess in the middle east developed. The Brits screwed up in every area they colonized, whether it was the United States, South Africa, the middle east, India, or Kenya (where about 500,000 Kenyans perished in British concentration camps). 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Glad I read it. By Weesel The "EXODUS" started life as a Chesapeake Bay steamer and that was my initial interest. The story is a LOT deeper than that.

With more than 100 photographs by the author "The ship looked like a matchbox that had been splintered by a nutcracker. In the torn, square hole, as big as an open, blitzed barn, we could see a muddle of bedding, possessions, plumbing, broken pipes, overflowing toilets, half-naked men, women looking for children. Cabins were bashed in; railings were ripped off; the lifesaving rafts were dangling at crazy angles." On July 18, 1947, Ruth Gruber, an American journalist, waited on a wharf in Haifa as the Exodus 1947 limped into harbor. The evening before, Gruber had learned that this unarmed ship, with more than 4,500 Holocaust survivors crammed into a former tourist vessel designed for 400 passengers, had been rammed and boarded by the British Navy, which was determined to keep her desperate human cargo from finding refuge in Palestine. Now, though soldiers blockaded both exit and entry to the weary vessel, Gruber was determined to meet the refugees and hear their tales. For the next several months she pursued the migrants' stories, from Haifa to the prison camps on Cyprus (where she was misled by the British to believe the DPs would land, though they never did), to southern France, and, appallingly, back to Hamburg, Germany, where they were ultimately sent by the intractable British authorities. As the lone journalist covering this story, Gruber sent riveting dispatches and vivid photographs back to the New York and Paris Herald Tribune, which in turn sent them out to the rest of the world press. Gruber's relentless reporting and striking photographs shaped perceptions worldwide as to the situation of postwar Jewish refugees and of the British Mandate in Palestine, and arguably influenced the United Nations decision to finally create the State of Israel in 1948. In 1948, Gruber assembled her dispatches and thirty of her pictures into *Destination Palestine*, the book that became the basis for Leon Uris's bestselling novel *Exodus* and the film of the same name. In this revised and expanded edition, Gruber has included a new opening chapter of never-before-published material on the wretched DP camps of Europe, where the refugees were living before boarding the Exodus 1947; updated the fate of many of the passengers, describing how they smuggled themselves into Palestine--despite the myriad obstacles thrown up by the British authorities--even before the State of Israel was born; and selected seventy additional photographs from her personal archives. Bartley Crum's introduction to the original edition, retained here, likened Gruber's achievement to John Hersey's *Hiroshima* for its powerful compression of a momentous event, its vivid reportage, and its capacity to change the way people think about contemporary history. *Exodus 1947* is an enormously moving account by one of the twentieth century's most remarkable women, stirring and shocking us more than fifty years after that battered ship entered Haifa harbor.

From School Library Journal YA-A revised and expanded edition of *Destination Palestine* (Current Books, 1948), this collection of Gruber's dispatches brings this exciting history to life for a new generation. Beginning with the displaced persons camps, the author provides readers with the background they need to understand the story of the Exodus, one of several Haganah ships that tried to run the British blockade of Palestine. As the only American reporter with the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine and the United Nations Special Committee, Gruber followed the story to Cyprus, France, and Germany. Her riveting eyewitness accounts describe the horrors of the camps and interviews with the people and politicians involved provide insight and telling detail. Even more eloquent are the photographs she took in the camps in Germany, in Cyprus, and on the prison ships. In this account, the author has updated what happened to many of the passengers, and has added 70 more photos to the original 30. Jane S. Drabkin, Potomac Community Library, Woodbridge, VA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. Praise for Ruth Gruber "It is one of the most moving books I have read this year . . . no other writer we know of has given [the story of these displaced persons] such compelling form and clarity."--The New York Times, September 28, 1948 "Ruth Gruber's classic, *Exodus 1947*, is one of the outstanding books to emerge from World War II. It should be in every Jewish library."--Leon Uris, author of *Exodus* "This updated edition of Ruth Gruber's classic is most welcome. The desperate yet successful struggle of the Jewish people in the aftermath of World War II remains one of the most compelling stories of modern history."--David Wyman, author of *The Abandonment of the Jews* From the Inside Flap With more than 100 photographs by the author "The ship looked like a matchbox that had been splintered by a nutcracker. In the torn, square hole, as big as an open, blitzed barn, we could see a muddle of bedding, possessions, plumbing, broken pipes, overflowing toilets, half-naked men, women looking for children. Cabins were bashed in; railings were ripped off; the lifesaving rafts were dangling at crazy angles." On July 18, 1947, Ruth Gruber, an American journalist, waited on a wharf in Haifa as the Exodus 1947 limped into harbor. The evening before, Gruber had learned that this unarmed ship, with more than 4,500 Holocaust survivors crammed into a former tourist vessel designed for 400 passengers, had been rammed and boarded by the British Navy, which was determined to keep her desperate human cargo from finding refuge in Palestine. Now, though soldiers blockaded both exit and entry to the

weary vessel, Gruber was determined to meet the refugees and hear their tales. For the next several months she pursued the migrants' stories, from Haifa to the prison camps on Cyprus (where she was misled by the British to believe the DPs would land, though they never did), to southern France, and, appallingly, back to Hamburg, Germany, where they were ultimately sent by the intractable British authorities. As the lone journalist covering this story, Gruber sent riveting dispatches and vivid photographs back to the New York and Paris Herald Tribune, which in turn sent them out to the rest of the world press. Gruber's relentless reporting and striking photographs shaped perceptions worldwide as to the situation of postwar Jewish refugees and of the British Mandate in Palestine, and arguably influenced the United Nations decision to finally create the State of Israel in 1948. In 1948, Gruber assembled her dispatches and thirty of her pictures into *Destination Palestine*, the book that became the basis for Leon Uris's bestselling novel *Exodus* and the film of the same name. In this revised and expanded edition, Gruber has included a new opening chapter of never-before-published material on the wretched DP camps of Europe, where the refugees were living before boarding the *Exodus* 1947; updated the fate of many of the passengers, describing how they smuggled themselves into Palestine--despite the myriad obstacles thrown up by the British authorities--even before the State of Israel was born; and selected seventy additional photographs from her personal archives. Bartley Crum's introduction to the original edition, retained here, likened Gruber's achievement to John Hersey's *Hiroshima* for its powerful compression of a momentous event, its vivid reportage, and its capacity to change the way people think about contemporary history. *Exodus 1947* is an enormously moving account by one of the twentieth century's most remarkable women, stirring and shocking us more than fifty years after that battered ship entered Haifa harbor.