

## Israel's Narrow Waist (1949-1967)

Between the years 1949 and 1967, the Kingdom of Jordan ruled the Judea and Samaria highlands. Israel's 'waistline' in the Sharon region was extremely narrow, totaling a mere 15 km (9 mi.) between Tulkarm and Netanya.



These were cease-fire lines rather than permanent borders, considered to be militarily indefensible, especially in light of the area's topography, which left Israel in the plains while the Arab armies and terror factions, controlled the dominating high ground.

The Israeli Foreign Minister at that time, Abba Eban, used to describe these lines as 'Auschwitz boundaries' to illustrate their dangers.