The Birth of Israel: Myths and Realities
Simha Flapan (1988)
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Amazon reviews
An excellent book that debunks the "official" story of Israel's founding

Simha Flapan who is an Israeli of the MAPAM party debunks some of the most common spewed out myths of how the state of Israel was founded. Using the documentary record and declassified diaries of David Ben Gurion, the truth behind what really happened becomes clear. A must for anyone who wants to know the roots of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

A Valuable Primer on the Middle East

Flapan's book divulges a lot of material that either wasn't known before or was known only to a few. I'm not certain, but he may have been the first author to write about the Arab diplomatic initiatives in 1948-49. However, I don't think he proved his claim that Zionists didn't intend to abide by the 1947 partition. Apart from Ben-Gurion, he didn't quote any Zionists from the Mapai-Mapam camp who made expansionist statements before the Arab states invaded--the Zionists reasonably concluded that they weren't bound by partition once the Arabs went to war to destroy partition.