

Ain El-Helwa Massacre

On the evening of May 16, 1948, on the eve of the anticipated Israeli withdrawal from the city of Sidon in southern Lebanon, Israel instructed one of its agents named "Hussein Akar" to infiltrate the nearby Palestinian Ain al-Hilweh refugee camp. Israeli forces, comprising 1500 soldiers and 150 vehicles, followed him. The attackers unleashed destruction and indiscriminate killing in the camp under the bright lights provided by the illuminating bombs in the camp's sky.

The killing and destruction continued from midnight until the next day when Israeli forces confronted a protest organized by the camp's residents in the morning. They imposed a blockade on the camp, preventing entry or exit, even for ambulances, until late in the day.

The massacre resulted in the fall of 15 Palestinians, including both martyrs and injured, including youth, adults, children, and women. Additionally, 140 homes were destroyed, and 150 individuals, including women, children, and the elderly, were arrested.