

Mahal – The Third International Brigade When Israel Was the Darling of the Left

by Norman Berdichevsky (June 2015)

For the third time in the mid-twentieth-century, an international cohort of idealistic volunteers without thought of personal compensation, or safety formed an International Brigade in an unequal battle. These were the volunteers of those who rushed to the aid of the embattled State of Israel in the face of seven invading Arab armies in 1948-49. Known as Mahal [Hebrew: מְחַל, an acronym for Mitnadvei Hutz LaAretz (Hebrew: מִתְנַדְּוֵי חוּצַ לְאֶרֶץ)], literally, Volunteers from Outside the Land of Israel]. [more>>>](#)