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This paper advances comparative studies of empire and settler colonialism through the unlikely connection of the Zionist fantasy of Israel-Palestine as "a land without people for a people without a land" and a less known but no less fantastic construction of Antarctica (a territory in fact lacking natives) as a desert of ice turned into a "laboratory for science" under the 1959 Antarctic Treaty. Both Israel-Palestine and Antarctica were post-WWII territorial solutions to the limits of capital and to contestations within the global North and West; both territories are governed and contested within the terms of international law in which desert or deserted lands are produced only to be occupied. I offer a visual history of exchangeable deserts of ice and sand, or the Orientalist citational practices through which contemporary Anglo-European science programs elaborate their claims in Antarctica through reference to "Arabia" while Israeli expropriation and occupation of Palestine in turn develops through an exemplary techno-scientific control society. And yet this reference to modernity through science and extra-terrestrial ambition is also available to Middle Eastern actors and perspectives. Documentary and art projects such as "The Lebanese Rocket Society" (2013) reviving the history of the early 1960s space missile development program and Swiss artist Gilles Fontillon's "The Palestinian Space Program" (2010) evince complicated engagements with technoscience, territoriality, and claim/occupation as resistance or alternative historicity for Palestine and the globe.