Comrade Hawatmeh, Secretary General of the DFLP, Comrades, and friends:

Allow me, in the name of the Communist Party of Lebanon, to salute the DFLP on the occasion of its 6th anniversary which our party joins in celebrating as we have a position of support for the Palestinian people's cause and are part of the common struggle development of the left trends based on a program of stages that would be capable of mobilizing the largest percent of the masses around the defined tasks and that would guarantee success. The DFLP was able to discern the new factors and from this define a precise scientific analysis and the appropriate tactics.

The program of stages and the democratic state

We give credit where credit is due in saying that the comradic of the Democratic Front gave life to a wide political struggle, carried on profound theoretical debates and have been able to develop an organized military practice with far reaching influences. The DFLP was the first group within the resistance to put forth, as an urgent and fundamental task, the program of stages, and was the first to raise the slogan of national authority. Fateh, the PNF in the occupied territory and all Palestinian national forces have agreed on this program — recognizing that there are progressive stages to reaching the final goal of creating a democratic state on the whole of Palestine's land.

The victories of the revolution

The Palestinian revolution has achieved many successes in this last period. These were above all a result of the boundless sacrifices of the Arab and Palestinian people in their resolve struggle against Zionism, Imperialism and Arab (mainly Jordanian) reaction. Due to the struggles led by the masses of the whole Arab homeland; to the October War; and to the firm support given by the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, and support from all forces of the world which care for freedom and progress we have witnessed the great strides made by the Palestinian revolution. These strides were concretized by the U.N. general assembly decision to recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and Palestinian national movement was the crystallization of those tendencies which are to the core hostile to imperialism. It constitutes the important faction within the Palestinian resistance; the positions on the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people testify to the correct line followed by the comradic of the DFLP on the matter of national unity.

The Palestinian revolution had found itself at a crossroad in a stage in which it had to correctly resolve the twofold task of escalating the armed struggle and escalating the political struggle. This based on a program of stages that would be capable of mobilizing the masses around the defined tasks and that would guarantee success. The DFLP able to discern the new factors and from this define a precise scientific analysis and the appropriate tactics.
encompass the total retreat from all occupied territories and the guarantee of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in a solution that will not last. The experience of the years following the Palestinian people’s 1948 tragedy proves this. Many Arab countries have since liberated themselves from the domination of colonialism and reaction. These masses have made important national, democratic, and social accomplishments which can not easily be reversed by antagonistic forces, and the Palestinian people have made their way out of a great prison which no force in the world can put them into a second time.

The support of the parties of the Solidarity Front

Comrades and Friends,

The matter of support for the Palestinian resistance is of prime importance in the struggle being waged by the Lebanese people — struggles for total national liberation, for democratic liberties, for a worthwhile life and a better future.

Our party takes part — side by side with the Progressive Socialist Party and all sectors of the Lebanese national liberation movement — in supporting through various ways the Palestinian cause which epitomizes the Arab cause of Arab liberation and the people’s destiny.

The Arab Solidarity Front constitutes for the Palestinian revolution the frameworks in which our party, along with all groups of the Arab national liberation movement cooperate together in a common struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

The masses of Kfar Shouba and South Lebanon have demonstrated the national consciousness of our people and their regard for their sovereignity. They struggled side by side with the Palestinian resistance against Zionist aggression and they condemned the policy of desertion followed by the bourgeois-feudal alliance which has been ruling in Lebanon for more than a quarter of a century.

Our party has persistently warned of the Zionist and imperialist dangers to southern Lebanon and of the Zionist obsession for its waters. We have called for a serious national defence policy that is in coordination with the Arab brother countries and has arms supplied by the friendly countries.

The martyrs of the Lebanese people constitute the most striking referendum

Those who plead for foreign protection and international guarantees and carry the myth that Lebanon’s strength from its weakness have totally opposed any real national defence policy in order to preserve their interests which are tied to imperialism.

These people have not lifted a finger in defending national sovereignty — not in 1958 when the U.S. 6th Fleet landed in Lebanon at the outbreak of the 14th of July revolution in Iraq nor when Zionist enemy forces have invaded Southern Lebanon costing us lives and much destruction. These people talk about espousing the cause of the Palestinian people and their struggle but their actions clearly show that they do not intend doing so. The Lebanese masses united with the Palestinian resistance in defending national dignity and Lebanese land.

The extreme right of the Lebanese bourgeoisie is gaining more and more isolated. Their fascist tactics attempting to scare what is, in fact, a determined sector of the Lebanese people or to inject the poisons of confessionalism, are ineffective. They have proved incapable of preventing the large democratic and syndical struggles through which the will for change from the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese people is being manifested.

From this rightwing come the voices trying to agitate the people against the Palestinian resistance, trying to light isolationist and sectarian fires. These are the voices calling for a Lebanese referendum on the question of the Palestinian resistance’s presence in Lebanon. To this we answer: the martyrs of the Palestinian people in the South who side by side with the Palestinians gave their blood for the homeland, and those martyrs who were killed in Beirut on April 22, 1969 are the most striking referendum to the Palestinian people’s national dignity and to the unity of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples’ destiny.

Attempts to create sectarian divisions and to undermine the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples’ unity will only again fail. This, due to the heightened patriotism of the Palestinian masses of the whole Arab world and to the real solidarity between the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. As in the past, our Party continues to stand with the Palestinian people and the Palestinian national democratic movement in confronting such attempts, and we will work even harder to ensure that this rightwing will harvest nothing but condemnation and defeat.

Comrades and Friends,

In closing I would like to affirm that our Lebanese Communist Party and the Democratic Front have relations founded upon a solid basis. The comrades in the Democratic Front to the cause of its people; its refusal of all and any form of tutelage over the Palestinian people and the experience of the revolution have provided the Democratic Front with the means to follow a correct line in its relations with other national and progressive Arab forces — to working in a way which benefits Palestinian national unity.

Due to its Marxist-Leninist comprehension, the Democratic Front does not present itself as an alternative to the other Marxist-Leninist organizations. Rather, it has established solid relations with the Lebanese Communist Party, the other Arab communist parties and with the international communist movement.

Salute to the 6th anniversary of the DFLP

Long live the Palestinian revolution.

*Pierre Gemayel, the Phalangist Party leader who was murdered by Islamic fundamentalists

ABRIDGEMENT OF THE SPEECH GIVEN BY THE COMRADE NAYEF HAWATMEH SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE D.F.L.P.

Comrades,

I extend my greetings to the leaders of the Lebanese national movement and to all our comrades of the Palestinian Revolution. In the name of the heroes of liberation and national independence from Tarshia to Bissar and the heroes with the sign of resistance whose leader died this morning — I salute our Front on its 6th anniversary and salute the Palestinian Revolution. I extend greetings from the Central Committee of our Front to the struggling fighters among the ranks of our people, the Revolution, our country and the Arab liberation movement.

Today we are celebrating the 6th anniversary of the Democratic Front, and a few days ago we celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Palestinian Revolution for which Fateh had taken the initiative in firing the first bullet.

That is why we are now celebrating our 6th anniversary and the celebration of this anniversary clearly shows that decisions on the Arab nation and Palestine do not rest in the hands of imperialism reaction, the rightwing and Israeli Zionism. For the prediction of these forces, giving the DFLP a lifespans of a few months, was unable to be realized.

We reaffirm at this 6th anniversary that the revolutionaries will triumph. No matter how cruel the atrocities; the bloody wars against us; the wars of starvation and siege; no matter what the obstacles — the revolutionaries will dig with their guns, their hands, with every ounce of strength, the road to the left — the road of the Palestinian Revolution's victory.

Today we celebrate and recall our national experience from a new position in comparison to the forces of imperialism, reaction, Zionism, and the Arab right. Our revolution now has a record of important victories which were achieved by surmounting the grimmest situations passed through by our revolution, and under the shadows of defeat of the Arab national liberation and states. The Palestinian revolution continued in its struggle proving that armed revolutionaries and patriots are able to overcome the most unfavorable conditions, develop and strengthen the forces of revolution and achieve victories.

Given our present situation — after the 10 year experience of the revolution and after the glorious patriotic October War — how can the enemy camp now be able to carry out its conspiracies? They failed to impose their liquidationist, surrenderist solution on our people, on our nation at the time when the Arab armies and states were defeated. The Palestinian fighter took up his gun — supported by the Arab masses and the forces of freedom, justice and peace in the world — and the enemy could not stifle the voice of the Palestinian and Arab liberation movement.

Now, in 1975 how can enemy plots be successfully executed? We say to them in the language of those who trust their guns, their goals, their cause and their organizations — your time has passed. Our struggle against you has gathered the cumulative points engendering a new, qualitatively different situation. It is too late and now beyond your capacity to deal us a fatal blow. Point by point we will defeat you and consequently it will be you who will receive the fatal blow.

To our comrades-in-arms who do not support the program of national authority, we stress the fact that the possession of power is not to the advantage of the enemy. To the theorizing that it is and that we can do nothing but wait, until the period after the enemy...