

MAY-JUNE 1980

VOL. III, NO. 1-2

.III 1 0 1980 NYPL



Freedom For Palestinian Mayors



Living Under Constant Terror in Palestine

Recent events in the occupied West Bank and Gaza show that Israel is out-doing itself in its practices of pathological violence, terror and contempt for humanity.

Last month, Israeli soldiers attacked a group of demonstrating Palestinian youths outside their high school. While grappling with a protesting 17 year old student, a soldier took out his gun and shot him dead. This incident was not uncharacteristic of the modus operandi of Israeli occupation soldiers in the West Bank/Gaza. Repeated brutalities of this kind have been taking place since 1967, that include deportations, collective punishment, land expropriation, torture and preventive detention of political activists.

The following day, guerillas belonging to the Palestinian resistance ambushed and killed six armed Israeli colonists in Hebron. The colonists, from the nearby colony of Kiryat Arba, had been notorious for their night sorties into the town of Hebron where they would smash windows, slash tires, attack homes, beat up whole families and destroy their furniture. Classical bullies, they belonged to the neo-fascist group of Gush Emunim which wanted Israeli to (Annex the whole of the West Bank/Gaza and expel all Arabs from there. On one of their night vigilante sorties, these thugs drove around Hebron shouting that "all Arabs should leave the land of biblical Israel". On other occasions, they would descend on the local refugee camps, also in the middle of the night, herd the people out of their homes and make them stand up in the cold for hours.

Israel's response to the Hebron guerilla operation was brutal. It sealed the whole town and imposed a 24-hour, indefinite curfew on it. It blew up three houses and evicted their occupants, on short notice, into the street, (Ironically, the three houses were owned by Idris Hirbawi, a Palestinian whose family had given refuge to 20 Jewish families during the 1929 uprising by the Palestinian masses in Hebron who were protesting Zionist attempts to occupy their town). The Israelis also deported two prominent mayors and one religious leader to Lebanon.

Now the Israelis are introducing a new twist to their terror tactics against the occupied population; the punishment of whole families and their banishment to what amounts to a concentration camp for acts of rock throwing committed by their children. The New York times has reported, (May 20) that the Israeli army "has also demolished several houses from which attacks have originated, held large numbers of Arabs for questioning and ordered Palestinian politicians to make no political statements. It has restricted Arab mayors to their towns and cities, and cut-off their telephones in some cases and told them not to talk to reporters."

That, however, was not the end of it. In the first week of June, Zionist settlers booby trapped the cars of three prominent Palestinian mayors, resulting in the maiming of two of them when their vehicles exploded. Mayor Bassam Shakaa, of Nablus, lost both his legs, and Mayor Karim Khalaf of Ramallah lost one foot and suffered extensive injuries to the rest of his body. Also a bomb was thrown, again by Jewish terrorists, into a market place in



Hebron that resulted in the injury of several innocent Palestinian civilians. In addition, two Palestinian children were shot at by Israeli soldiers and injured severely in the legs while protesting the attacks against the mayors.

Moreover, it was revealed that Zionist thugs, from the Jewish Defense League and the Gush Emunim neo-fascist movement, were planning earlier this month, to blow up the El Aqsa mosque on Friday while it was full of worshippers. The plotters included two Israeli soldiers. And the arms stock pile for the operation were discovered on the roof of a Jewish Yeshra, a religious school, in Jerusalem, a few blocks away from the mosque.

This terror, these barbarities can not go on. But they do tell us something about what the Palestinian people, as a nation, as a movement, as a people, are grappling with.

All this is not just telling us about the brutality of Israeli occupation but also about Israel's insecurity. Conditions such as the ones that exist in Palestine today, which represent the occupation of a people by another, cannot exist without triggering the emergence of forces antithetical to them. Where you have a occupier, you will have an occupied struggling against him. Where you have a colonizer, you will have a colonized engaged in struggle against him, and where you have a Zionist, defining his existence on the non-existence of the Palestinians, you will have a Palestinian liberation movement.

The Israelis are deceiving themselves if they believe that by accelerating their repression against the Palestinians in the West Bank/Gaza, they will silence the people's will to be free. They show how little they understand history if they do not realize that forces of repression will result in the emergence of forces of freedom.

The Israelis do not seem to realize that there are no set of circumstances, outside of the total elimination of *all* Palestinians, that could impede or block the Palestinian struggle for freedom: the right of the people of Palestine, those living in exile and under occupation, to exist in their country as an independent, sovereign nation, the only determining force in their destiny.







Mayor's March in Washington, D.C. June 15, 1980.

Palestinian Mayor's March to Return Home

On Sunday, June 15, more than two thousand Palestinians and their supporters marched through the streets of Washington, D.C. protesting the expulsion of West Bank Mayors Milhem and Kawaseme, and religious leader, Sheikh Tamimi. The "Mayors" March to Return Home" was sponsored by the Palestine Congress of North America and was held to draw attention to the violation of the Mayors' human rights by Israel and to demand that the Mayors be allowed to return home. the rally ending the march took place in Lafayette Park across the street from the White House, where speakers read messages of solidarity sent by several individuals and organizations. These included individual messages from Congressmen Fauntroy, Findley and Rahall, also from Chicano leader Frank Schafer Corona. Messages from Arab and Arab-American organizations included the Ramallah Federation, the National Association of Arab-Americans, the Lebanese National Movement and the Al-Ard Movement. Black and Chicano groups included the All African Peoples Revolutionary Party and the Raza Unida

Party. Other American organizations also sending messages were the National Lawyers Guild, the Womens International League for Peace and Freedom and the Communist Party. A message of support for the march was sent by Mayor Karim Khalaf from his hospital bed on the West Bank.

Speaking to the rally in the park, Mayor Fahad Kawaseme said "We challenge Israel in our land and we continue to challenge it in the backyard of the White House" In reference to the U.S. offer of medical treatment for injured mayors Shaka and Khalaf, Kawaseme said that maybe there was a feeling of "guilt" on the part of the United States, but if the U.S. wants to treat every Palestinian wounded by United States arms, there will not be enough beds.

Sheikh Tamami reaffirmed support for the P.L.O. and total rejection of the Camp David Accords and said in the name of the Palestinian people that "We shall return, there is no doubt".

Mayor Milhem, in a strong speech drawing an enthusiastic response, spoke of the strength of the Palestinian struggle saying "Our boys with stones in their hands are stronger than the cluster bombs and Phantoms sent to Israel". Speaking for the whole of the demonstration, Milhem said Carter should know that "We are the P.L.O.". And that if Carter will not hear the voice of the Palestinians from the park across from the White House, he will hear it from the occupied lands. the march ended with a taped message from political prisoner, Ziad Abu Ein, presently incarcerated in Chicago awaiting appeal of his extradition orders.

The march was the culmination of a thirteen week tour by the Mayors in which they presented their case to the American public in several cities across the country. The need for informing the public about the situation on the West Bank is clear, as the statement for the Palestine Congress states "Last weeks barbaric car bomb attacks which left two other Mayors, Karim Khalf and Bassam Shaka permanently maimed, is but the most recent attempt to brutally liquidate elected Palestinian officials. The expulsion of Mayors Milhem and Kawaseme and Sheikh Tamimi, as well as the terrorist attack against Mayors Khalaf and Shaka, attest to a calculated pattern of Israeli intimidation and persecution."



Israeli Government Behind Bombing of Palestinian Mayors





Injured mayors Shaka, Khalaf

Eyewitness reports from the occupied West Bank clearly indicate that the Israeli government and Israeli military authorities were accomplices in the horrible crime committed against the two Mayors of Ramallah and Nablus.

Mrs. Anaya Shaka, wife of Mayor Bassam Shaka, gave the following account which documents the involvement of Israeli government and intelligence agencies in the crime:

"Poisonous material was mixed with the explosives used in the Mayors' cars. Moreover the night before the explosion I saw an Israel military vehicle stop in front of our house and I saw Israeli men who I think were intelligence officers, move around the house. They have done that before.

In the morning at seven fifty-five, as my husband entered his car, I heard a huge explosion, so I ran to pull my husband's torn body from the car, and then I ran to the house to call the hospital, but the telephone was out. My thirteen year old son Haitham had to walk to the hospital to get an ambulance. The telephones at the hospital were also out and so doctors could not call for emergency help. This all indicates that the bombing was planned and executed by the Israeli military Governor and the Israeli intelligence and the Begin staff."

During his press conference in Washington, D.C., expelled Mayor Mohammad Milhem also indicated that the attempt to assassinate the two mayors was planned by Israeli government. He said that the Israeli military governor had warned Mayor Bassam Shaka that if he did not stop his political activities "you would be eliminated, physically eliminated." Moreover, Mayor Karim Khalaf of Ramallah had received threatening letters in Hebrew which he turned over to the Israeli military authorities.

Further documentation of Israeli government involvement was published in the Washington Post (June 4, 1980). It wrote that several Ramallah residents said they noticed an unusually large Israeli army presence in the town the night before the bombing and they said they suspected that "some kind of operation" was imminent. Mayor Shaka charged that when a high school student was shot to death in Anabta, near Nablus, last month, the governor Lt. Colonel Mutsafa Shalom told the dead youth's father, "I am sorry, it would have been much better if it had been the son of Shaka." On June 11, the Washington Post reported that Israeli lawyer Felicia Langer said at a news conference that the Israeli police have taken "no serious step" to investigate the attacks on the mayors'. She said the authorities have not interviewed members of the mayors families who were in the vicinity when the expolsion occured. Shaka's daughter

Hanna, called police about footprints she discovered at the house, but before anyone arrived to investigate, an Israeli army officer trampled over the area and obliterated the evidence.

Terrorist Begin said in an interview that "the most intensive investigation was being conducted, but that it is still unknown whether Arabs or Jews were responsible". General Abraham Orly, former coordinator of the occupied territories, suggested on Israeli radio that the "P.L.O. was responsible", and Captain Ishai Cohen spokesman for the occupation government denied any official Israeli complicity and said "I can't tell you whether it was Jews or Arabs, but I tell you that no security forces were involved". His statement was made before an investigation began.

Why are Israeli officials denying any official involvement, and attempting to blame the P.L.O. or Arabs? Because they were involved, not only in this horrible crime, but in many crimes of shooting, killing, wounding and torturing innocent Palestinians under occupation. Terrorist Begin did not change, he killed 254 innocent Palestinians in cold blood at Deir Yassin, and he has continued to do so since. Rabbi Meir Kahane was more frank when he told the Israeli Supreme Court that the bombings of Mayors Shaka and Khalaf were done by "good and talented Jews who took revenge "and that" this week was a holiday for us and all of Israel. "Moreover, the New



Expelled Mayors at the Security Council, May 3, 1980

Muhammad Milhem of Halhoul:

I am speaking to members of the Council not only as a father of nine, who was kidnapped, seized from home and family and thrown across borders, but also as a member of a people which has suffered so much harassment since the Balfour Declaration of 1917. Over the last 60 years Palestinians have resisted the denial of their inalienable right of national self-determination, and the colonization of their land by non-Palestinians.

In 1937 the Peel Commission reported that the continuous rise of Jewish immigration would "result in an intolerable prospect of Palestinian Arabs being ruled by

Jews". Now, in 1980, about 1.5 million Palestinians are ruled by Jews. Another 3 million or thereabouts dispossesed Palestinians are also subjugated by the extended striking arm of the Israeli army and the Israeli Mossad, both of which receive aid from the United States. The endless flow of billions of American dollars has enabled Israel to expropriate Palestinian land, to settle on it, to harass the Palestinians in the occupied territories and to raid in southern Lebanon.

In 1968 Israeli bulldozers levelled the old sector of my town of Halhoul, the Israelis have expelled thousands of Palestinian residents and have thrown thousands more into prisons. Many are detained, and I dare say not a single family in any town or village is without a member who has been detained or imprisoned for periods ranging fron life to a month or two. Why? The Israelis say it is for security reasons. They are imprisoned without trial, suffer inhuman conditions and are subjected to torture. On the day of may deportation the mother of a prisoner on my town—her name is Um Jehad—told me that her son, who was serving a life sentence in Ashkelon gaol, had difficulty sleeping because his cell was too small for him to even to stretch his legs. There are hundreds of such examples.

On 15 March 1979, in my town, Halhoul, a boy named Nasri Anani and a girl named Raba Shelaldi were killed. They said at the time that the soldiers had been shooting in the air and thought that the boy and girl were flying birds. The killers were identified and detained, but later released. The reason given for their release was—and it was published in Israeli newspapers—that they had killed the two students in self-defense? I am quoting the newspapers. Self-defense? Who was acting in self-defense? The killers carrying submachine-guns? Or the

young students with nothing in their hands but Palestinian flags? Moreover, after the two innocent students were killed, a curfew was imposed on our town of Halhoul. I ask here: Who should be put under curfew, the victims or the killers? What is the rationale for punishing the victims by imposing a curfew on them instead of on the killers? And one of the killers is a settler in Kiryat Arba.

During the curfew windows in scores of houses were smashed. Why? Because when a child or woman happened to cross the doorstep, the soldiers would come right to the house and smash every single piece of glass in that house. Israeli soldiers broke into three homes and helped themselves to jewelry and other valuables. The names in the cases are to be found in the police station in Hebron. They have cases; they have folders; and they have been investigating for the last 14 months or so.

We said no also to the destruction of our homes and property. Two months ago 150 cars were destroyed or smashed in Ramallah and abut 40 in Halhoul by the Gush Emunim and the Kahane followers. When the mayors of the towns concerned received telephone calls to the effect that someone was smashing the cars and so on, they got in touch with the Governor's office because the mayors under the occupation are not in charge of the police force. We have no police force. We have no authority at all, to keep order.

The police forces are under their control; their soldiers and settlers have submachineguns and they are roaming the streets indiscriminately killing and destroying. The Mayors of Bireh and Ramallah called the Governor in Ramallah and told him: "There is something wrong happening and cars are being smashed and we are receiving a flow of telephone calls." Do you know who was in the office? The secretary of the Governor, who was half asleep, and he told him: "Wait until the Governor comes in some 10 hours."

How can we keep order? Who has law and order in his hands? If a mayor cannot contact Jerusalem six days every week, where is the law, where is the order?

We said "No" to the conversion of the Holy Mosque of Abraham. And you see His Eminence the Sheikh, the Imam; he is the one who preaches in the Mosque. It is an Islamic mosque, and now it is almost changed into what looks like a synagogue.

We said "No" to Israeli torture, which has left some of our people in hospitals. Some



Mayors in Washington, D.C.

are paralyzed and in hospitals, and some are in insane asylums. There are 20 of them like Nadri al Afouri in the Bethlehem Mental Asylum. And others are in graveyards—from the prison to the graveyard.

We said "No" to the imposition of heavy taxation, not on merchants and traders but on municipal projects and services. I have a water project. I have to give the authority taxes. Instead of giving me money to help with the project, they take taxes from me as Mayor, and from the contractor too.

And above all we said "No", and we will continue to say "No", the entire world will continue to say "No", to occupation.

To all of this we said "No". And who among us would agree to the continued persecution of his people, of any people, by an occupying power? We said "Yes" in the meantime. We are not rejectionist forces who say "No, no", as it is put sometimes. We said "Yes" to self-determination for our people, "Yes" to control over our natural resources and land, and "Yes" to the security and the prosperity of our people to their ensured well-being. Who is it who needs the Governor of Tulkarm who killed the boy, who is still Governor? He is still there, in my land. We said "Yes" to the right of Palestinians to establish their sovereign State on their soil. We said "Yes" to repatriation.

What were Eli Hazeev—whose name was James Mahon Jr.—and his gang doing in the streets of Al-Khalil with submachine-guns? (Here Mayor Milhem refers to the six Israeli military-religious students who were killed May 2, 1980 in Hebron. Ed.) Were they praying, with no synagogues in Hebron? Who is Hazeev and what does his story mean for the inhabitants of Palestine and, in particular, for the inhabitants of Hebron? How does Hazeev's story

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

contribute to the horrors of our life under Israeli occupation? Here is a man, born in Virginia and raised as a Christian, Having developed a taste for violence and killing in Viet Nam, he travelled to Israel, became a convert to Judaism and was granted Israeli citizenship. The Israeli settlements on the occupied West Bank provided the perfect setting for this man, who valued violence and who was committed to war. He came to Israel expressly to fight Arabs and served as a sharpshooter in the Israeli elite corps. Last May he was jailed for breaking into Arab homes in Hebron, beating the residents and smashing their furniture and possessions. Shortly after his release he was arrested, but not charged, for smashing car windows in my town of Halhoul.

I ask the Council again: were such people, with such convictions and with submachineguns, praying? No; they were doing everything but worship. They were tearing the Holy Qur'an in the Abraham Mosque back in 1976. They were breaking into houses at midnight, terrorizing women and children. They were smashing private cars in Halhoul, Ramallah and Shufat, which is a village near Jerusalem. They were breaking into supermarkets, assaulting the shoppers and destroying the merchandise. They were cutting down vineyards around Kiryat Arba.

Once, a journalist asked me: "When did your forefathers come to Palestine?" I told him: "My forefathers came right after Adam. Waves of Greeks and Romans and Jews and others came and went, and I was sitting on my doorstep watching those waves come and go, and I stayed there."

Let us work for genuine peace under the umbrella of the United Nations and its resolutions. Let our wives and children live under the care of both parents. Incidentally, the wife of the Sheikh died two months ago, so that his four children are left without a father or mother, and when he wanted to call them—he has a telephone in his house—he could not because the telephones had been disconnected. He wanted to ask his sons whether they were provided for, how their health was, and so on, but he could not reach them; he could not talk to his sons. Their mother is dead and their father is expelled. Where is the law? This jungle law, in the twentieth century. Let us go back to the people who elected us and who are badly in need of our services. Let us return to our people so that we may attend to the ambitious projects we had in mind for them.

We have always voiced the aspirations of our people to all—and when I say "to all" I include the Israelis. Phantoms and sophisticated weapons do not bring peace. The only way to peace is through recognition of and respect for right of the



Sheik Tamimi in Washington, D.C.

Palestinian people to return to our homes and to exercise our inalienable right to self-determination and the establishment of our sovereign State in our homeland, Palestine.

We are not a people committed to war, nor do we value violence. The presence of our State would preserve peace, while its continued negation only threatens peace.

Israeli should abide by the relevant Security Council resolutions and the articles of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949. However, it violated those agreements, with grave consequences, and not it has again violated those agreements, first by expelling us and then by denying us re-entry. The Israelis expelled us without charging us and withoug giving us the right to defend ourselves. They did not take us to court, but told us falsely that we would be taken to the office of the Minister of Defense. We never saw anybody. We were masked and thrown across the border.

After we had been denied re-entry at the bridge—and members know about that—the only weapon we had was the United Nations Security Council resolution. We had it in writing, but the Israelis said "No", despite the almost unanimous decision of this Council.

Let us implement the resolution: Let us go hand in hand with the Security-General, let us go back to our homes. We need no guards. The Secretary-General and Council members have only to say the word of truth that will preserve peace in the world.

Fahd Kawasmeh of Hebron:

I come to this Council from Al-Khalil, the second oldest city in the history of mankind. Our Patriarch, Abraham, after several sojourns in Ur of the Chaldees, were hospitably received by the people of Al-Khalil. There, in the good city of Al-Khalil, Abraham chose to remain until his death. Throughout history Palestinians of all faiths have lived in Al-Khalil in amity.

Suliman Abdul Malik 1,300 years ago build Al-Ibrahimi Mosque to venerate the

memory of our Patriarch. Al-Ibrahimi Mosque stands as one of the holiest shrines toMoslems all over the world. Religious freedom in Al-Khalil weathered the storms of history—a tribute to our Patriarch, Abraham. It was not until the early part of this century that the encroachment of the Zionist movement wrought turmoil and division among the citizens of Al-Khalil.

In 1967, when the city fell under Israel occupation, the Israelis, in absolute defiance of all basic human and legal standards, violated the religious sanctity of the mosque by dividing the holy shrine and establishing a synagogue in it. And now Moslems may pray only in half of the Mosque, and then only under Israeli guns.

In 1968 the Zionist occupation forces, attempting to fortify their expansionist policy, approved the establishment of Jewish settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories. That was done in violation of article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which prohibits the occupying Power from transferring its own population into the occupied area.

On February 10, of this year the Israeli Cabinet approved the settlement of Jews in the midst of the city. At that time we protested about the illegal Israeli decision to the Security Council, which immediately convened to consider that illegal action.

Since the very first day the settlers arrived in our city they have been terrorizing our women and children. Just five days ago, the Israeli army entered my house; they went right into the house, after I had been deported. They have been terorizing our women and children, shooting at our houses and destroying our crops. This is continuing up to this very moment as the Council is in session. Only two days ago the Israeli authorities themselves announced the detention of Rabbi Meir Kahane and some of his followers because of his plans to commit heinous crimes against the citizens of the occupied Palestinian territories.

It is this context that I would like to call the attention of the members of the Council to the fact that those barbaric and brutal crimes have not been confined to our city of Al-Khalil: they have involved every single Palestinian town. Neither the Palestinian popultion nor the land has been spared violent mutilation by the occupying Power. The Palestinian land, the Palestinian people, were and are its victims.

We protested by peaceful means. We complained to the Israeli authorities, who, under international law, are obliged to guarantee our safety as citizens under occupation. But our complaints went unheard. On the contrary, the Israeli army offered protection to the perpetrators and in most cases were party to the crimes. And

(Continued on page 11)



Discrimination Against Arabs

James Abourezk

I can vividly recall full page ads in major American newspapers with the most racist overtones. Ads blanketing all Arabs in the worst kind of way—ads viciously defaming Arabs placed by the B'nai B'rith AntiDefamation League.

I can also recall that in spite of the fact that Arab countries provided only 6 per cent of our oil consumption in 1973, officials of the Nixon and Ford administrations repeated a thousand times over that the traumatic rise in oil prices here was due to the Arab oil countries solely. There was no question that those same politicians were busy giving the major oil companies the smoke screen they needed to raise their prices without public detection. The idea of "Arabs" as a convenient scapegoat caught on with every sector of our society. First OPEC was made to appear synonymous with the Arabs, then the two words became interchangeable. Stuart Eisenstat has advised President Carter to blame America's inflation on OPEC-read the "Arabs". Carter has dutifully followed that advice.

Journalists, television commentators, and film producers have gleefully joined in the fun. Like children in a school yard who when one falls down, everyone joins in kicking, they all smell someone who is down and who is unable to fight back.

"The Arabs are buying America" is the headline one can pick up almost any day of the week, although the story is likely to confess, toward the end, the Arabs, whoever they might be, really have very little investment in America.

I was called by a Washington Post reporter shortly after "ABSCAM" broke in the press. She asked me, "What did I think of the word ABSCAM?" My response was, "What do you think of JEWSCAM?" When she said she thought it was terrible, I responded by saying I thought the word "ABSCAM" was terrible as well. It is a test that everyone should apply. Substitute the word "Jew", or "Dago", or "Kike" or whatever racist word one wants to use for the word Arab and see if it is acceptable for ethnic groups. Who can deny the racism involved in reporting the Arab-Israeli conflict? Why is the Palestinian military called terrorist when the Israeli military is called freedom fighter? Why are we consistently treated to stories and films of Israeli civilian casualities in the goriest detail, while we are shown nothing of Arab civilians being killed and mutilated by Israeli napalm and phosporous bombs? Have we reached the point that the life of an Israeli child is worth more than the life of an Arab child?

In 1974, both Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger suggested to the world that if the Arabs didn't behave, the U.S. military might move to take control of their oil fields. That was followed by a highly publicized article in Commentary magazine written by Robert Tucker, detailing the precise military plan for the occupation of the oil fields by the United States Government. The implication was that the oil belonged to the United States and not to the people on whose land it was found, who in any event, did not seem to be able to handle the oil and its income fantasy—in fact one that is quite probable in the context of today's jingoism and insanity. Should the U.S. government decide it wants to go to war in the Middle East for whatever reason, chances are that the countries attacked would fight back, even helping out each other. Such an attack could come because of Iran, or because of Israel or whatever pretense might be needed.

The violent racism that lies just under the surface of American society needs only such an excuse to become visible. Is it fantasy to suppose that people of Arab descent-American citizens-will not be rounded up and put into camps? Ask the Japanese-Americans who spent world War II in camps. Ask Senator Hayakawa, who only a few weeks ago proposed rounding up all Iranians in America in order to place them into camps. Surely this must be one History's great bursts of irony. Ask the Jews what happened when the people are put into camps. And even without war we are witnessing a great deal of racism. Arab-Americans running for office are automatically accused of receiving "Arab money". Ziad Abu Ein is extradited to Israel on questionable evidence on a political charge while the United States government spends a great deal of its resources defending "Human Rights" in countries which are politically popular at home.

People are fired, Jobs are lost, children are humiliated and yes, on occasion, violence is committed because of the build-up of racist attitudes against people of Arab descent.



Abourezk with Fulbright at NAAA Convention

Bombing of Mayors

(Continued from page 4)

York Times reported on June 4, that Jewish settlers in Qiryat Arba expressed satisfaction at the attacks on the Mayors. Settler Mordichai Lapid said "They deserve it". The West Bank military commander Brig. General Benjamin Ben Elizer confirmed that the explosives used in the bombings were of Army issue, and the New York Times on June 9, wrote the laboratory tests "have established that all the explosives used in the attacks were Israeli-made and Israeli Army issue."

The worldwide condemnation of these Israeli brutal attacks against Palestinians continues. At the United Nations, the Security Council condemned these attempts at assassinating Palestinian leaders, and American, as well as Arab-American organizations sent protest telegrams and letters to President Carter, Terrorist Begin and other officials protesting the repression against Palestinians and calling for an end to American military and economic aid to Israel, which is allowing her to continue this brutal repressive occupation against Palestinians.





To The President of the United States

(Statement presented at White House, May 6, by Abdeen Jabara.)

Mr. President, I wish to take this opportunity to speak out on the policies of disaster that our government is following in the Middle East today. Their can be no doubt, given the facts and figures, that our government is subsidizing Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza strip and other Arab lands. And by extension our government, including your administration, has subsidized the massive internationally documented human rights violations by Israel in the territories it has occupied since 1967. Most recently Israel has recommenced the policy of collective punishment (blowing up of residences) and expulsion of Palestinian leaders and it is imperative to ask if our own government has clean hands in this matter. Are the American people being led, unwittingly, into another Iran for which we will be called upon to pay dearly in human, moral and material

1979 was the year Israel dropped its mask. With repeated violations of U.S. and international law last year it would not be too extreme to say that Israel has brought the world to the brink of another war, one that could be nuclear. Still, U.S. aid to Israel skyrocketed to \$4.8 billion in 1979, including 3 billion for an Egypt-Israeli peace treaty that did not include the indispensable core of the Middle-East crisis—the Palestinians. Aid to Israel in 1979 represented over half the total U.S. foreign aid, a favoritism that would be objectionable of given to the most benign of states. For FY '81, the Administration had the House of Representatives propose a \$400 million increase in military aid to Israel as if, in the words of Sen. Adlai Stevenson (D-ILL.), ". . . to signify (to Israel) that the way to our purse is through intransigence."

Based on 130 million American taxpayers, each individual taxpayer gave Israel \$37 in 1979, which translates to \$1371 per Israeli citizen (or almost \$700 for an Israeli family of five.) This represents a kind of welfare system unduplicated anywhere in the world, certainly not in the United States. It might interest an inner city dweller that a larger chunk of his tax dollar went to Israel than urban renewal; for the commuter, less money went from the Federal budget for mass transit than went to Israel; the environmentalist might be appalled that he gave Uncle Sam more money for Israel than for conservation and land management in the U.S.; or research and development of alternative sources of energy. Comparisons are endless.

We have decided not to pay the \$37 of our 1979 income tax which allows a global pariah—Israel—to be dangerously abusive of human rights and international and U.S. law. We find it degrading as American citizens to support on an increasing basis a country which flouts the very laws governing the aid we give.

Why? In 1979:

• Israel bombed and shelled Lebanon, killing over 300 civilians and injuring over 500 civilians. The Lebanese city of Tyre— 50,000 strong at the outset of 1979—is now a ghost town of less than 5,000. Over 300,000 Lebanese and Palestinian civilians were made refugees by Israel's attacks, a larger number of refugees than the 'boat people' fleeing Vietnam. Israel did not bomb in retaliation for guerilla operations, but in 'preemptive strikes' avowed by an Israeli military spokesman on June 5 ("Israel's policy is to hit anytime and any place to preempt terrorist attacks in Israel"). On July 2 Defense Minister Ezer Weizman said, "Israel will strike at Palestinian targets in Lebanon anytime it chooses."

According to the U.S. Arms Export Control ACT (AECA), no nation which we supply with weapons may use those weapons for such attacks. They are to be used for "defensive purposes only." On August 8, 1979 Secretary of State Cyrus Vance answered a House inquiry into possible violation of the AECA by conceding that Israel "may have violated" the AECA in the Lebanon bombings. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Michale Sterner stated categorically that Israel was in violation of the AECA. However, nothing was done.

If the AECA is being violated all military shipments to the violating country must be cut off. The Administration and Congress did not want to "grasp the nettle" by enforcing a law which would have cut off aid to Israel.

• Illegal settlements continued. Though President Carter supposed he had elicted a promise from Prime Minister Begin to halt settlement construction in the West Bank and Gaza while autonomy negotiations proceeded, it was evident either Carter was hard of hearing or Begin has a forked tongue. Since the Camp David summit, 14 new settlements have been erected in the West Bank, bringing the total of Israeli settlements in occupied territory to over

110. The settlements violated the Fourth Geneva Convention which states (Article 49-6), "The Occupying Power shall not deport or transfer parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies." (Israelis themselves seem to forget this provision of the Geneva Convention of 1949 was a response to transferral of so-called "Aryan" population by the Nazis into countries they conquered.)

U.S. aid either directly pays for settlements, or frees up other Israeli monev that pays for them. On January 31, 1980 Joseph Wheeler of AID testified that Israel will spend at least \$150 million on settlements in occupied territory this year. The World Zionist Organization is asking for \$330 million for settlements. Retired Israeli General Mattivahu Peled estimates the settlement expenditure will reach at least \$500 million. An indication of American opinion on settlements was revealed in a recent questionnaire Rep. Paul McCloskey (R-Cal.) sent constituents. McCloskey asked if Israel failed to halt its settlements policy, would they favor a \$500 million cut in aid to Israel? Of 2,000 respondents, 83.5% said "Yes."

Unfortuantely the U.S. Congress has shown itself to be running far behind American public opinion on the Middle East. Congress is making it easier for Israel to spurn us through relaxed terms of assistance. Economic aid to Israel (\$785 for FY '81) was recently converted from twothirds grant/one-third loan, to an outright grant. Couple this fact with the \$400 million increase in military aid and other "standard" breaks (Israel is the only country whose bonds may be sold without limit to Federal banks; Israli fundraising through the United Jewish Appeal has been tax exempt since 1936), and the U.S. taxpayer may well ask: what is the force of official U.S. policy that Israeli settlements are "illegal and an obstacle to peace"?

• Confiscation of Arab land intensified. Nine days after the March 1, U.N. Resolution 465 on settlements, to which the U.S. subscribed, Israel expropriated 1,000 acres of choice Arab land around East Jerusalem. The U.S. does not recognize Israel's unilateral annexation of East Jerusalem in 1967, and the Administration is particularly embarassed by this Beit Hania expropriation upon discovery that some of the landowners are actually U.S. citizens of Palestinian origin.

(Continued on page 10)



A new concentration camp in the Negev

A new Israeli prison, called "Nafha" has been built in the middle of the desert between Bir Sabe and Ilat. An addition to the already existing sixteen Israeli prisons, it is one of the worst, with the most intolerable conditions. It consists of a few temporary buildings and walls, and a large number of watch dogs that bark all night. It already has one hundred Palestinian political prisoners who live in the worst, inhuman conditions. Lawyers Leah Tsemel and Walid Fahoum described some of the prison's conditions: crowding in very small rooms, where ten prisoners have to stand together for twenty three hours, eating on the floor, no exercise and walking in a small yard only twice a week. There are no medical services, and hazardous health conditions due to sand storms, extreme cold at night and extreme heat during the day. Snakes and scorpions infest the prison rooms.

A number of prisoners suffer from heart ailments, including 44 year old Abdallah Ajramah and Abdelrazek Qutub. The prisoners have protested this inhuman treatment, and have appealed through lawyers for better living conditions. Their relatives have called for the closing down of this isolate, desert concentration camp and moving the prisoners to other prisons.

Palestinian women arrested in Nablus

The Israeli military authorities arrested, on May 29, seven Palestinian women in Nablus, including Mrs. Inaya Shaka, wife of the Mayor, Bassam Shaka. The women will be arraigned before the military court. They had participated in a sit-in near three houses in Nablus which the Israeli authorities had sealed up. Their sit-in was to protest these acts of collective punishment by the Israeli military government. Mayor Shaka and a number of civic and union organizations have protested the arrest of the women.

Nader Ahmad Abu Aliya, a seventeen year old Palestinian student, was shot in cold blood by Israeli soldiers in the village of Anabta, as he was leaving school with other students. The village Council and the people of Anabta eulogized Nader in Al-Shaab newspaper and appealed to world conscience and to all freedom loving peoples in the world to condemn this brutal murder of an innocent Palestinian child and to help defend the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation.



Congressman Fauntroy at NAAA convention.

Palestinian leader attends Arab-American Convention

Um-Jihad, head of the Palestinian Social Welfare Institution, and member of the Palestine National Council attended the annual convention of the National Association of Arab-Americans and delivered a key address at the banquet in which she stressed the Palestinian's determination to continue armed struggle until they achieve their freedom and self-determination. She condemned U.S. military aid to Israel and appealed to the large audience to protest President Carter's silence over the issue of human rights for the Palestinians, and his continued support of Israeli attempts to annex Palestinian lands.

The convention was also attended by a six member delegation from the occupied West Bank and Gaza who appealed for more support for the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation. The Convention adopted a number of resolutions; including the following; the National Association of Arab-Americans, "deplores the shortsightedness of the Camp David accords in dealing with the Palestinian issue." they urge "The Administration to support Palestinian self-determination and to enter into direct negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organization in the search for Middle East Peace". They "condemn Israeli manipulation of events in Lebanon through its surrogate, Saad Haddad."

The NAAA "condemns Israeli occupation of Arab territories," and "demands that Israel accept the right of Palestinian self-determination," and "calls upon peace-

loving Israelis to reject the annexationist policies of the Begin government."

Black-American delegations visit P.L.O.

A number of Black-American delegations visited the P.L.O. institutions during the months of May and June, 1980, and met with Chairman Yasser Arafat. Black Panther leader Huey Newton led a group of American activists who visited the destroyed villages and refugee camps in South Lebanon. Upon viewing the destruction, the group expressed disapproval of the use of American weapons against civilian targets in South Lebanon. The delegation met with Chairman Arafat and stated their full support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people and their right to self-determination.

A group of Black-American women activists also visited P.L.O. institutions by invitation from the General Union of Palestinian Women. They visited Palestinian schools, hospitals and clinics, small factories and other institutions and also met with Chairman Arafat and expressed their support of the struggle of the Palestinian people in an emotional gathering of solidarity and friendship.



Chairman Arafat with American delegation.

Demonstrations in New York, New Jersey and Minnesota

Palestinians and their supporters have been extremely active in past weeks demonstrating their solidarity with the Palestinian struggle and more recently, condemning the escalation of Zionist terror and repression which has left two West Bank Mayors permanently maimed and two (Continued on page 10)





New York demonstration.

(Continued from page 9)

others, along with a religious leader, illegally deported from their homes.

In New Jersey, more than one thousand gathered to celebrate Palestine Day and hear a speech from Zehdi Terzi, P.L.O. observer at the U.N.

In New York City on June 1, three hundred and fifty people marched in a counter-demonstration against the Zionist's annual Salute to Israel Parade held on the same day. The march terminated in front of the headquarters of the World Zionist Organization where speakers condemned the Zionist occupation and called for an end to U.S. aid to Israel. After the march dispersed, there was some harassment of Palestinians by members of the Jewish Defense League, armed with baseball bats. Later in New York, on June 3rd, demonstrators gathered outside the Israeli Consulate to protest the savage bombing of Mayors Shaka and Khalaf.

In Minnesota, protesters staged a demonstration at the Twin Cities Campus of the University against the University's awarding of its Distinguished Service Award to now former Israeli Defense Minister, Ezer Weizman. The demonstration, sponsored by the Muslim Students Association and the Arab-American Club denounced Weizman for his "gross violations of human rights" on the West Bank, and his authorization of the extensive bombing attacks on South Lebanon.

Text of U.N. Resolution on Mayor's Expulsion

United Nations, N.Y., May 8—The Security Council, Recalling the Geneva Convention of 1949, deeply concerned at the expulsion by the Israeli military occupation authorities of the Mayors of Hebron and Halhoul and the Sharia Judge of Hebron;

Calls upon the Government of Israel as occupying power to rescind these illegal measures and to facilitate the immediate return of the expelled Palestinian leaders so that they can resume the functions for which they were elected and appointed.

Requests the Secretary General to report upon the implementation of this resolution.

U.S. President

(Continued from page 8)

Israel has confiscated over 80% of Arab land in the pre-'67 borders and it is following the same pattern in occupied territory. Mr. Begin's concept of autonomy is a bald move toward annexation of the West Bank and Gaza (98% Arab). Annexation would be a clear violation of U.N. Resolution 242 which declares the "inadmissability of the acquisition of territory by war."

It is interesting to note a concern for property not unlike that of the Palestinians in the following statement of a key figure of the American Revolution:

We cannot be happy without being free. . . we cannot be free without being secure in our property, we cannot be secure in our property if, without consent, others may take it away. . ."

—John Dickenson, Letters from a Farmer in Penn., 1768

 Violations of human and civil rights continued. Israeli violations of human and civil rights in occupied territory are perhaps more documented than any other such violations in the world. Among the groups which have provided such documentation are Amnesty International (1970), Special U.N. Committee on Israeli Practices (issued annually since 1968), International Red Cross Department report (1968), the U.N. Human Rights Commission, the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, the Swiss League of Human Rights (1977), the London Sunday Times Report (1977), the National Lawyers Guild Report (1978), and the U.S. State Department (1978-79).

All such reports deal with various violations of the Fourth Geneva Convention by Israel in the occupied territories, such as:

- 1. Torture
- 2. Blowing up of houses (20,000 since 1967) and destruction of property
- 3. Administrative detention
- 4. Collective punishment
- 5. Expulsion and deportation (1500 Palestinian community leaders

expelled since 1967)

6. Interference with educational, cultural and religious sites.

Administrative Detention represents one of many grim ironies about Israeli society. The so-called Emergency Regulations of 1945 enacted by the British and hated by Jewish irregulars and terrorists are turned around and used by Israel against Palestinians. Under them a Palestinian may be arrested without charge and jailed without trial; he becomes an "administrative detainee."

What is the result of continual violation of human and civil rights by Israel in the occupied territories? A cable, a letter of protest, and massive U.S. aid. Our country is paying for its moral blindness in Iran; it will pay more heavily in the near future for such blindness over Israel.

- Atomic testing is confirmed.CBS correspondent Don Raviv was stripped of his press credentials by the Israel Military Censor for reporting that on September 22, 1979 Israel exploded an atomic bomb off the coast of South Africa. Washington has long known of Israel's possession of nuclear weapons. In November 1978, two Senators most supportive of Israel—Jacob Javits (R-NY) and Abraham Ribicoff (D-Conn.)were denied entry to the controversial Dimona nuclear reactor in Israel. An aide to Javits reported that Israel possesses enough high-grade plutonium to manufacture 20 nuclear bombs. The ingredients of a nuclear threat are terrible to contemplate but present in Israeli attitudes-adamant on holding territory seized by force, haughty and oppressive toward the overwhelmingly Arab population of the region and cavalier toward global recognition of the Palestinian right to selfdetermination. Yet U.S. aid to Israel shows no cognizance of this danger; when Pakistan, however, was suspected of even thinking of developing an atomic bomb with material it had not yet purchased, U.S. aid to Pakistan was cut.
- Israel supported dictatorial regimes. Israel sent armaments to Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza to the last moment of his regime. The electrified high barbed-wire fence between Namibia and Angola is being constructed by Israelis. Military ties between the apartheid state of South Africa and Israel are well-documented. 60% of Israel's oil was supplied by the Shah's regime in Iran. Somoza, South Africa, the Shah—the signs are clear. Israel supports dictatorships and it is immoral for the U.S. to use Israel as a military proxy in

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

propping up regimes that do not respect even a minimum interpretation of American principles of self-determination, liberty and human rights.

There appears no recourse for the American taxpayer within existing channels of his government to stem the blind tide of aid to Israel, and the movement toward renewed warfare in the Middle East with possible Super Power confrontation. When he sees his President calling a U.S. vote at the U.N. a "mistake" after meeting with the Israeli Ambassador and 30 Jewish-Americans, what is the American taxpayer to conclude? when he witnesses the resignation of a black U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. for speaking with a PLO official in the course of U.N. business, the American taxpaver wonders what additional 'tax' will be levied against him for Israel's benefit. The Arms Export Control Act, under whose terms arms were cut off to Turkey for its invasion of Cyprus, remains an "unenforceable law" toward Israel, which has belligerently occupied Arab land for 13 years.

The Congress runs even further behind the Administration in heeling Israel. When Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.) offered a first-ever amendment to cut aid to Israel by a symbolic 10% because of the bombing of Lebanon in 1979, his amendment was tabled by an overwhelming vote of 78-7.

Time is running out for Middle East peace and the individual U.S. taxpayer may be the last hope.

With little recourse in the Administration or Congress, eschewing violence, we have decided to withhold the part of our income tax that went to Israel in 1979—\$37. We do this out of complete loyalty to the principles of equality, social justice, freedom, and self-determination which this nation espouses. Though we may have gripes with other uses of our tax money, nothing now is more dangerous to the cause of world peace than the exorbitant and blind financial support our government continues to give Israel.

Until Israeli occupation ends and Palestinians are permitted to achieve their right to self-determination, the Middle-East will continue to be a tinder box threatening more war, more energy crisis, more inflation and hardship for the American people. Mr. President, I call upon



Israeli Repression

you to, even as you face election, to place the U.S. back into the path of the community of the world's nations to recognize the right of Palestinian selfdetermination, the creation of a Palestinian state and a cut-off of American assistance that allows a repressive Israeli occupation and encroachment to continue.

Peace with justice in the Middle-East is in the interest of the American people. The upheaval that present U.S. policy portents cannot but lead toward more human and economic suffering for both Americans and Middle Easterner alike.

Expelled Mayors...

(Continued from page 6)

when we came to this august body, which is entrusted with the maintenance of peace and security in the world, the Security Council adopted, on March 1, resolution 465 (1980), which strongly deplored those Israeli practices and declared them illegal and in violation of United Nations resolutions. With total contempt for the international will expressed in the resolution, the Israeli authorities intensified their oppression of our people by imposing curfews on the towns and cities, limiting the freedom of movement of the inhabitants. enforcing collective punishment, destroying houses and restricting the political activities of the elected officials and leaders of the community.

As is to be expected of any people that is subjected to alien and oppressive domination, our people continues its struggle by peaceful as well as by armed means. In the same way the French people fought against Nazism and the people of South Africa continue their struggle against racism, our people brought their struggle to its culmination with the events that took place on May 2, at the site of the designated location of the Jewish settlement in the heart of my city, Al-Khalil.

On that same day, despite the Israeli authorities' knowledge that we had no connection with that act of resistance, the Zionist expelled my colleagues and me from our homeland to Lebanon. Our expulsion was conducted in a very dramatic and brutal fashion. They kidnapped the three of us from our homes and from among our families in a despicable manner, similar to that of the Nazis. This was done without any respect for our position as elected officials, and this greatly insulted the integrity of our highest religious authority, Sharia Judge Sheikh Rajab Tamimi by putting canvas bags over our heads from the beginning of the journey until we arrived in southern Lebanon. This is exactly what was done not

only to me but also to my Sharia Judge, Sheikh Raiab Tamimi.

On May 8, the Security Council was convened once again to discuss our expulsion by the Israeli authorities on that occasion the Councl resolved to call upon Israeli to rescind its illegal action and permit our return to our homeland. Following the decision of this Council, my colleagues Mr. Milhem and Judge Tamimi, and I proceeded towards the King Hussein bridge carrying signs bearing the text of the Security Counci resolution. The Israeli officers, acting upon instructions from the military governor, prevented us from exercising this basic human right.

The Israeli Zionist authorities gave, as a justification for the expulsion of my colleagues and myself, the pretext that statements made by us created the environment for violence in my city, AlKhalil. This is sheer nonsense; this is a fallacy.

The decision to expel us was made long before the events of early May. The Zionists decided to expel us when we opposed the Camp David accords and the autonomy plan. Our people consider both as a declaration of war against our right to selfdetermination, against our right to live in freedom and against the right of the Palestinian to return to his homeland. Those accords are aimed at undermining the national unity of the Palestinian people and at perpetuating the occupation of our country and the subjugation of our people.

The Zionists decided to expel us before we fought against the Israeli policies of settlement of our lands. They decided to expel us because of our resistance to all the illegal measures and practices adopted by Israel, such as the demolishing of houses, the illegal detention of our people in prisons, the collective punishment imposed upon our people and the expulsion of community leaders.

They expelled us because we exposed the ugly face of Zionist policies and philosophies to world public opinion. They expelled us because we sent letters to the Council describing the inhuman and brutal realities of occupation. Those were the real reasons for our expulsion on May 2, and not those alleged by Isreal.

Allow me to ask you, Mr. President, and the other members of the Council, and through you to put a question the conscience of the entire world: who deserves to be expelled—the victims or the victimizers, the oppressed or the oppressors, the colonial settlers or the indigenous people? I ask the Council who should be expelled: Rabbi Kahane of Brooklyn or the Mayor of Halhoul? Who deserves to be expelled: Rabbi Levinger of Germany or Sheikh al-Tamimi, whose

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

family ties extend back 2,000 years in Hebron history? Who deserves to be expelled: those who enter Al-Khalil bearing machine-guns or those who are elected by the people of Al-Khalil?

In my closing words, I wish to address the representative of the United States and ask him: Sir, your Government claims that it is committed to human rights, democracy, equality and liberty-and to peace and security in the Middle East. And now, if on this moral issue, which is clearly one of basic human rights, your Government chooses to remain silent, then how can we, the Palestinian people, have any confidence or trust in you? How can we trust the United States when it announces in a clear way that the settlements are illegal and, at the same time, gives Israel \$3,000 million yearly to build settlements on our land? How can we trust the United States when we listen to it say that it wants peace in the Middle East and, at the same time, it is sending all kinds of weapons, tanks and aircraft to Israel to kill the Palestinian people on the West Bank, in the occupied territories, in Lebanon and elsewhere? How can we trust the United States when it speaks about human rights but now is silent and does not support our return as free persons to our homeland?

The Council has granted me an opportunity to express our plight. Mr. President, I wish to thank you and other members of the Council. I assure you that we are determined to return to our homes by all means. Freedom is indivisible and justice will prevail.

SUBSCRIBE NOW! HELP PALESTINE PERSPECTIVES SURVIVE.

This issue marks two years of publishing Palestine Perspectives, two critical years in the history of Palestine and the Middle East. Throughout this period, Palestine Perspectives has presented news and analyses difficult to find in other publications, drawing on Palestinian, international and Israeli sources, as well as direct investigative reporting on developments in Washington and U.S. policy, and reporting events in communities throughout the United States.

Many of our readers have been receiving complimentary copies of our magazine, a policy it is financially impossible to continue in our third year. To continue to receive **Palestine Perspectives**, we urge you to subscribe now. Don't miss the next issue of **Palestine Perspectives**—a crucial source of information about Palestine and its people!

PLEASE RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS

I enclose \$10 for	12 issues of Palestine Perspectives.	
Name		
Address:		
Zip:		
□ Renewal	□ New Subscriber	
Please send a cor Make checks pay	omplimentary copy to yable to Palestine Information Office.	

LITERATURE LIST

Kamal Boullata and Mireme Ghossein (ed.), The World of Rashid Hussein \$6.50 Moving collection of essays and poems about the late Palestinian poet.

Hatem Hussaini (ed), Towards Peace in Palestine\$2.00

This material has been written, produced and/or distributed by the Palestine Information Office, 1326, 18th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 which is registered under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, as an agent of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Beirut, Lebanon. Two copies of this material are being filed with the Department of Justice where the registration statement of the Palestine Information Office is available for public inspection. Registration does not indicate approval of the contents of this material by the United States Government.



BULK RATE U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Brentwood, MD Permit No. 3039