

palestine perspectives

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A Needed Look Back at Camp David

The United States, Israel and the Egyptian government continue to be possessed, two years after the fact, by what they do not possess: a settlement of the Palestine conflict along lines set forth by the Camp David agreement. It is relevant today to ask why their agreement has disintegrated the way it did, as indeed it was inevitable for it to do. Why did everything, from their naive expectation that "moderate Palestinians" outside the P.L.O. would join the autonomy negotiations to their confidence that the other Arab governments would in time go along with Egypt, seem to go so awry? Why did virtually everyone, from European governments to influential voices here, come to look at the accords as wanton and absurd? Why did they fail so drastically, so dramatically, so helplessly, when the whole weight of the United States government, the whole weight of this country's media hype, went behind the agreement? For surely President Carter must have assumed that the Camp David agreement would work, otherwise the prestige, power and influence of the U.S. presidency would not have been brought to bear in support of an accord suspected of failure.

Indeed, it is the assumption, the very premise, upon which the Camp David agreement was built that was its ultimate, and inevitable, undoing. The three men of Camp David had based their facile assumptions on the premise that conflict resolution in the Middle East is possible in isolation of the national rights of the Palestinians. To be sure, they came out with something called "autonomy" — a cruelly trivialized version of Palestinian rights — but for all intents and for all purposes, the men of Camp David showed themselves unschooled in what constitutes the historical imperatives in the Middle East and the role that Palestine plays, so intimately, so pressingly, in the forward motion of these imperatives.

A backward glance at the last two years, since the inception of the accords, shows how Palestinian nationalism, with the P.L.O. as its outward structural expression, has been at the core of every ebb and flow in the tenor of political life in the Middle East. The missile crisis, the Lebanon conflict, the Baghdad bombing, the isolation of Sadat in the Arab world, the dissent movement in Egypt, major Security Council debates and polarizations in the Arab world, all are seen by way of Palestine, all lead back to where they are rooted in Palestine. It requires no act of strenuous extrapolation to see the Palestine dimension in rifts (where they

exist) between the Arab governments and the United States. It requires no act of stepping outside one's skin of normal, everyday logic to see that instability in the entire Middle East (where it exists) is directly correlated to the unnatural conditions that Palestine belabors under. One need not stretch one's memory far to recollect that Haig, while on his recent trip to Arab capitals to sell his "strategic consensus" at the cost of putting Palestine on the back burner, was told by Arab leaders that his ideas were cocoo. Palestine, he was told, is not a game. Palestinian rights are not negotiable. Both are an issue of profound spiritual, cultural, historical and national import to the whole Arab world and its peoples.

Arab culture, Arab politics, Arab society, would have been different — indeed diminished — without Palestine's contribution these last eight decades, without the leading positional value that Palestinian nationalism has had in them all the time. Virtually all the region's major theoreticians, ideologues, intellectuals and poets of the day found their material in their original encounter with the Palestinian struggle. Most major transformations in the Middle East, from wars, upheavals and revolutions, to civil strife and instability, have evolved through and with the tragedy of Palestine. Continuing tensions — and there have been many since the Camp David agreement — are certainly the function of the absence of an adequate, creative redress of this tragedy in Palestine. Indeed, what the world has come to know as Israel is in Palestine.

Were the U.S. government to throw a backward glance at the last two years, since it engineered, packaged and tried to sell the Camp David fantasy to the Palestinians and

the Arab world, it would see how it had erred, and erred drastically, in attempting to reduce the Palestine question to a fragment by defining it, and trivializing it, as "autonomy."

No one can prohibit that which he can not name. Officials in the American government can call the P.L.O. "terrorist" till everyone is blue in the face, till everyone's eyeballs pop out, but the Palestine Liberation Organization will continue on being an organization for the liberation of Palestine, just as Palestinian land will continue on being land and men who are not free will continue to struggle till they are free. These are immutable laws in the Middle East, in the world, in history and in nature.

At Camp David, the American, Israeli and Egyptian governments pursued a policy grounded in fiction. Now they are shown to have been outright optimists or gifted with self-deception. More than two years after the accords were signed, they have not been able to agree on a "definition" of autonomy. They have nothing. We say let them eat autonomy. Sadat cracks on dissent to save his regime from collapse. Reagan chases after his phantom "strategic consensus." And Begin is left with his violence and his violent rhetoric about "the terrorists in Lebanon," projecting on other human beings his savage and brutal self. (Begin of the Ugun Gang and the Deir Yassein massacre makes a comic, though scurrilous, figure as he pontificates about Palestinian violence.)

We say again that the United States government can not continue being possessed, like the Israelis are, by what they do not possess, and will never possess: the permanent alienation of the Palestinians from their historically inalienable right to freedom, statehood and human dignity.



Chairman Arafat at Solidarity Conference

credit AKMAL

NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THIRD WORLD JOURNALISTS U.S. Middle East Policy: A Threat to Peace, A Signal of War

A nine member delegation of journalists who toured the devastated areas of Beirut and Southern Lebanon has concluded that the United States government's one-sided policy fosters Israeli aggression and continued conflict in the Middle East. The eight day fact-finding mission, including observations, interviews and first-hand information, revealed a perspective on the region's crisis seldom presented in the American press.

We found no evidence to support the Zionist charge that the Palestine Liberation Organization is a terrorist group. However, it is clear that the P.L.O. represents the will and aspirations of the Palestinian people, determined to gain a free and independent homeland. The P.L.O. also directly addresses the social and economic needs of the displaced Palestinians and other people in the Arab world who seek health care, employment and education.

Tours of P.L.O. hospitals, schools, factories and bombed out refugee camps confirmed that Zionist aggression extends far beyond "military targets". It is, in fact, defenseless children and civilians who suffer from Israel's relentless attacks and untold atrocities.

One crystal example is the Rashadiyah refugee camp in the South of Lebanon, ten miles from the occupied territory. Rashadiyah, once the settlement for 17,000 Palestinians and other Arabs, now houses only 7,000 people. Since 1973, the civilian settlement has been shelled 703 times from air, sea and land. Its most recent bombing was during the Zionist initiated July war which claimed approximately 2,800 casualties in Beirut and Southern Lebanon. These strikes were carried out with a wide array of U.S. made weapons, including 3,000 pound cluster bombs which are internationally banned.

As American citizens, we are concerned that this government's strengthened military alliance with Israel will lay the burden of blame on Americans for escalating aggression, conflict and war. The Begin-Regan talks this week signal the sure termination of a cease fire and the disintegration of constructive peace initiatives. Furthermore, renewed ties with the Israeli government represents a push for an active U.S. military presence in a region that has withstood more than its share of strife and foreign intervention.

As U.S. tax payers, we are aware that President Reagan's budget cutting measures that severely slash social programs, will present a dismal future for poor, the elderly and the ailing cities of our nation. While human services are cut and relegated to the bottom of the government's spending priority list, Israel will this year enjoy 2.9 billion dollars in direct aid, more than half the aid given by the U.S. world wide.

During several interviews and discussions with Palestinians, ranging from P.L.O.

Chairman Yasser Arafat to a teenage soft-drink vendor in a crowded refugee camp, they all expressed a common bitterness and contempt for Israel's intransigence. More forcefully, however, they condemned the U.S. as the Israeli's major supplier of arms. While the U.S. government is virtually issuing death certificates in the Middle East, the Palestinians insist, the U.S. people hold the key to a solution. In simplistic terms they urged us to rectify the injustices perpetrated against their people and tell the American people the truth.



Chairman Arafat with Black delegation

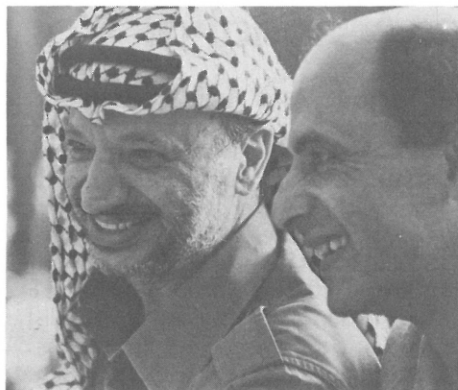
credit AKMAL



Sister Bernawi with delegation

credit AKMAL

Arafat: The Americans Are Testing Us



credit AKMAL

Arafat with Lebanese leader

In an exclusive interview with Christ'l Leclercq, of Middle East magazine, PLO leader Yasser Arafat speaks frankly about US policy, the role of the UN and the limits of the European initiative.

Leclercq: In agreeing to a ceasefire through the UN you avoided the recognition of Israel. But isn't the reverse also true?

Arafat: What I did was accept an appeal from the Chairman of the UN Security Council and from the UN Secretary-General Dr. Waldheim through General Callaghan, Commander of Unifil. Simple and easy. Without any complications.

Q. Do you think that the last confrontation has brought the hostile parties closer together?

A. You have to take into consideration that we are engaged in a dialogue through weapons. The Americans and their tools have to understand that they were not fighting ghosts but Palestinian freedom-fighters determined to recover their national rights.

Q. Was there only one mediation effort or were there two parallel efforts by the UN and the USA — one directed towards Israel, the other towards the PLO?

A. The only party which negotiated a ceasefire agreement with me was the UN. But we can also say that Saudi Arabia, according to our information, was doing its best to help to obtain a ceasefire, especially King Khaled and Crown Prince Fahd.

Q. The last confrontation, which you call the sixth Israeli-Palestinian war, has also been baptized the Palestinian Ramadan war. The 1973 Ramadan war was aimed at reactivating the diplomatic front. Do you think this one will have the same effect?

A. I doubt it, because I am not building sand-castles. Let me explain. The

Palestinian victory in this confrontation is a fact which will be translated into the political field. We were victorious in the sense that the Israeli strategy to destroy the Palestinian infrastructure and to weaken the Lebanese in their relationship with the Palestinians has failed twice in three years (in 1978 and now).

In spite of this, the Americans might try to pursue the Camp David approach with some cosmetic modifications, an approach that has already been recognized to have come to an end because of the Palestinian refusal which catalyzed Arab opposition to Camp David. Therefore it is imperative that a new political initiative takes into account the core of the question, the Palestinian question and the PLO's leading role in realizing the solution. I have always said no peace in the Middle East without taking into account the Palestinian factor. The last war has confirmed this Palestinian factor more than ever before.

Q. It seems that every new American President feels like measuring and testing the PLO. What do you think were the American conclusions drawn from the last 15 days of hostilities?

A. Yes, I think the last confrontation was meant that way. Our people, in their struggle for independence, sovereignty and a state of their own, have so far survived eight American Presidents, starting with Truman and hopefully ending with Reagan. In the last decade, Nixon and Carter also tested us. I wonder when President Reagan will admit that our people are determined and that the PLO is an irreversible phenomenon. I am confident that we have crossed the bridge.

Q. Whether President Reagan does or does not have a Middle East policy is a subject of controversy in the USA. What is your opinion?

A. Let me tell you something; Reagan went to Ottawa with many obsessions, but the one factor he discarded dominated the whole conference, namely the question of Palestine.

A. Brzezinski once said, "Bye-bye, PLO". Yet you seem reluctant to retaliate by saying bye-bye to American interests in the Arab world. Why?

A. I prefer to let actions speak. Actions speak louder than words. They have to understand that we have a reply for any move they will make. On all levels. This is our area and it is our nation. We know how to lead our camels through the quicksand here, how to manoeuvre in this minefield.

Q. There were several rumours about official and direct contacts between the

PLO and the United States, and also of direct yet unofficial contacts between you. What are the conditions for direct and official contacts?

A. I have one condition; they have to recognize our rights according to international law. They are a superpower and they have to respect the United Nations organization, its charter and all the resolutions relevant to the Palestine question. Nothing more.

Q. And what are the American conditions?

A. I don't know because I don't have any direct contact.

Q. Yet it seems you once received a letter from Henry Kissinger addressed to you in his and your official capacity.

A. In fact, during the Lebanese crisis (1975-1976) I received two letters from Kissinger thanking me because we helped with the evacuation of the American citizens from Lebanon, once by sea and the second time through the mountains to Damascus. They were transmitted to me by the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Q. What role do you see the United Nations assuming?

A. After I was invited to address the UN General Assembly a resolution was adopted in 1974, Resolution 3236, which called for sovereignty and national independence in Palestine. The search for these has to pass through the United Nations. We are in favour of the UN playing an essential role, namely in the interim period between Israeli occupation and Palestinian sovereignty.

Q. For how long?

A. We can accept between three to six months but not more.

Q. How do you propose to take advantage of the turnaround of Western public opinion now?

A. Traditionally the media have been one-sided. As I said before, new facts impose themselves and reflect themselves from the military to the political field. I would say that the media reported and commented with a qualitative change. All I demand is objectivity in reporting and analyzing the events in our region.

Q. Don't you think that the violations of the ceasefire by certain Palestinian factions undermine the image of the PLO as a credible and responsible interlocutor?

A. Our adherence to the agreement has demonstrated and reflected the authority of the PLO. There have been attempts to violate the ceasefire agreement, which we expected as part of the test we have been

(cont. on page 10)

Why Persecute Archbishop Capucci?

Why did the American government refuse a visa for Archbishop Helarion Capucci to visit the United States? This denial of the Archbishop's most basic human right shows clearly the American government submission to Israeli blackmail pressures and in the Archbishops own words, it shows that the U.S. government has no "decency", since it was Archbishop Capucci who, upon American request, helped rescue some of the American hostages in Iran. The Archbishop visited the hostages and prayed with them during Christmas, and he also helped release the bodies of the American soldiers who died in Iran. His role was for "humanitarian reasons" and he sought to help the American hostages who had suffered as human beings. yet the U.S. government denied him the right to visit the U.S., to meet with American church leaders and to speak for the suffering Palestinian people.

Archbishop Capucci, the spiritual Archbishop of Jerusalem, has a reason to be angry. He said at his press conference in Rome that the U.S. government has no morality. We add it has no freedom of speech for honest church voices that seek real peace. The Archbishop has been denied the right to speak in the U.S. because he wrote an honest letter to President Reagan, when the latter referred to the Palestinians as simply refugees. he defended the Palestinian people and spoke about their past struggle for freedom and human dignity. For that, President Reagan denied him the visa to speak in America. The U.S. government allowed the terrorist Begin the right to visit the U.S., while his government is destroying churches and mosques in Jerusalem.

It denied the man of peace, Archbishop Capucci, the right to visit and pray in the U.S. with church leaders, and it allowed

terrorist Begin to visit and meet with American generals to ask for more weapons to kill in the Middle East.

The U.S. government does not want Palestinian voices to be heard in Washington, D.C..

This clearly shows that in America there is no real democracy and freedom of speech for Palestinians. It shows that the U.S. government supports war and not peace in the Middle East, and supplies the terrorist Begin with bombs and warplanes, while it denies the man of the church and of peace, Archbishop Capucci the right to speak about peace to the American people.

It is the duty of every American, especially Church leaders, to protest this grave American injustice, and to seek freedom of movement in the U.S. for Archbishop Capucci, the religious symbol of Jerusalem and its spiritual leader.

The American government's denial of another PLO representative, Mahmoud Labadi, the right to speak and appear on American newsmedia is another grave violation of the freedom of speech in this country. Mr. Labadi was invited by the United Holy Land Fund to address their annual convention, yet the U.S. government denied him the right to even speak to the convention.

Israeli newspapers, including Ha'aretz, criticized his visit the the U.S., because Zionists want total monopoly over American public opinion, and do not want the American people to hear the truth and know the facts from Palestinian leaders.



Chairman Arafat and Archbishop Cappuci

URGENT APPEAL

The U.S. Supreme Court has decided not to review Ziad Abu Ein's case.

Ziad is in danger of being surrendered to Israel, to be tortured and imprisoned.

Please send you appeal to free Ziad Abu Ein to:

Secretary of State Alexander Haig
Department of State
Washington, D.C.

Religious Jews Oppose Israel State

Thousands of Orthodox Jews have joined together under the leadership of Rabbi Amram Blau to oppose what they call "the so-called state of Israel", and the racist policies of that government.

According to Al Quds and Asha'ab newspapers and other sources, these groups of religious Jews are based in Europe, Israel and the United States. They are not concerned with political issues and are opposed to the state of Israel because it does not abide with the Torah and denies the "Divine Decree of Exile" which states that the Jews will never have their own homeland until the coming of the messiah.

One group called Bnei Yeshivos is based in New York. They described an incident which happened on March 7, 1981 after Israeli Border police and Jerusalem's local police surrounded and stormed the synagogue of Yeshiva Toldos Aharon.

"...12 tear gas bombs (that clearly state on each "warning may start fires. For outdoor use only-made in U.S.A.) were shot through the windows of the synagogue causing many children and old men to faint and lose consciousness... Suddenly at a pre-arranged signal, three hundred helmeted police stormed the Yeshiva and Synagogue, broke every window, door, table and bench in the four story edifice. They tore Bibles, prayer books and other religious texts trampling them with their feet and then threw them out windows...this was not the work of Palestinian "terrorists" but by a "state" that calls itself the only democracy in the Middle East."

Another group of Hasidic Jews, led by Shimon Eironberg, protested the visit of Menachem Begin to the White House on the eighth of September. They carried signs saying we support America not Israel and had their children hand out literature stating, "The real Jewish people have never had anything to do with the Zionist state and do not recognize it. They are loyal to the governments in the countries where they reside."

Eironberg said that while Begin pretends to be religious and carries out a few rituals for the sake of the public, Begin has never in his life been a religious man. In fact, Begin is harrassing those religious Jews inside Israel who are opposed to Zionism and the state of Israel.

Eironberg said that religious Jews are in favor of giving the Palestinians their land back and are opposed to the Nazi-like practices going on inside Israel.



Police chasing boy



Israeli police beating Orthodox Jews

אנו מודים לך על כל מה שעשית לנו

An Urgent Plea to all People of Good Will

On behalf of thousands of Orthodox Jews in Jerusalem, who beg you to please come to their rescue and save them from the Israeli Authorities that would want to destroy through their lawless police all and any peaceful opposition to their sacreligious state.

This past Saturday evening March 7, 1981 hundreds of Border police and Jerusalem's local police forces surrounded the Synagogue and Yeshiva Toldos Aharon while the Sabbath eve prayers were being recited. Police loudspeakers then demanded everyone in the building come out with hands raised. Police headquarters then demanded everyone in the building come out with hands raised. Close to one thousand men and children were in the Synagogue at the time. Within minutes after the police announcement, , twelve (12) tear gas bombs (that clearly state on each "warning may start fires for outdoor use only made in USA") were shot through the windows of the Synagogue causing many children and old men to faint and lose consciousness. When ambulances arrived to render first aid and take those children and elderly in need to hospitals, the Israeli police did not permit the first aid crews entry, nor did they allow anyone be carried out of the synagogue.

Suddenly, at a prearranged signal, three hundred helmeted police stormed the Yeshiva and Synagogue, broke every window, door, table and bench in the four story edifice. Tore Bibles, prayer books and other religious texts trampling them with their feet and then throwing them out of the windows.

This unprovoked completely prearranged attack continued until one o'clock in the morning. This was not an act by Palestinian "terrorists" but by a "state" that calls itself the only democracy in the Middle East.

Saturday nights pogrom in Jerusalem against hundreds of defenseless Orthodox Jews is but the epoch of months of harassment, jailings and the hospitalization of many victims injured by the club wielding hooligans of Jerusalem's Mayor Teddy Kollek.

These past few months have seen the water supply of thousands of men, women and children in Meah Shearim cut off. Teddy Kollek's municipality that continuously seeks to close ritual slaughterhouses with the excuse that it distracts from the beautification of the Holy City, refused for an entire month to collect the garbage in Meah-Shearim — Baten Ungarin causing disease and near epidemic.

Forty one people including Rabbi Uri Blau who was beaten severely between the legs and refused any medical attention and is suffering immensely were hauled off to Zionist dungeons.

A young man Yechezkel Yosef Kraus was dragged by his feet down the four flights while his skull split by the constant knocks on his head is among those that were hospitalized. Many others with broken arms and legs and other numerous bodily injuries are now in hospitals. The prisoners are not allowed food, nor the use of toilet facilities; they are forced to sleep on bare floors.

These latest actions leave no doubt as to the intentions of the Zionist regime. The Zionist state has clearly demonstrated their determination to abrogate the civil liberties and religious rights of the Orthodox Jews.

We fear that this is but the beginning of a reign of terror that the Zionists mean to implement against all those who reject their claim to the name of Israel, as demonstrated by the recent wanton destruction of the Yeshiva and Synagogues.

We beg all people of good will to come to the Aid of these persecuted people languishing in prison, and to warn the Zionist Authorities in the strongest terms against any repetition of the past disturbances.

Anyone wishing to help or in need of more information, please contact:

BNEI YESHIVOS
G.P.O.B. 2141
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11202
(212) 384-4174

"Fekhani"

Your gaze
fills me with despair,
my dead.

Sweet innocence
ought not to be used
in vain
for reasons of state,
as Prime Minister Begin
has done this July
in Fekhani.

Sweet innocence
is grain
from the hands of the Lord
to be cherished not wasted,
as a good reaper knows.

The weight of bombs,
as the weight of reason,
can be great enough
to crush a child
or the earth.
The sound of death
can confound the mind
as can reason.

In time,
some beautiful day,
the terrible visions
may fade,
and your gaze will no longer
fill me with despair,
my dead,
as it does now,
when your sweet regard
and your pain
still linger between us.

I cannot cross
the silence
that protects you now.
Even more so,
I wish that I could say
that we will love you always,
until the last July,
that we will never waste
your sweet innocence hating.

A man ought
not to hate Creation so
or use God-given life
to curse the universe,
as Prime Minister Begin
has done
in his blasphemous Kaddish
for Israel's dead
in Fekhani.

Roberto Iza



credit AKMAL



credit AKMAL

My Friend in Beirut

My friend in Beirut, there's so much grief
I worry for you, that the walls cave in,
that among the fingers and eyeballs torn out
on impact I will find yours.

Your last letter said, "When the planes
fly in low and drop bombs and strafe the
streets with
machine-gun fire, when you look up you see
the Star of David.
The jets proclaim: We are Jews and we are
killing you."

Star of David stolen from my heart, I feel
almost insane
Caged in a concentration camp of a sort I
never expected,
my Star of David is accomplice to the crime,
on trial, stuck to the cold metal of "Zion".

My friend in Beirut, I'm afraid that the
streets
have become open wounds, that
your smile can no longer be found, that
a gust of napalm has carried off your last
letter.

Even so I can still read your words,
the postage stamp remains uncanceled in
the hot wind
Unfortunately I am not insane, but can see
too clearly
So many of my people have been fooled,
so many.

I can only think how they can learn,
and even this is as bitter as the lesson is
basic:
They will learn faster when you yank
the wings of the Star from out of the skies.

Hilton Obenzinger

United Holy Land Convention

The United Holy Land Fund held its 13th annual convention in Washington, D.C. between 11-13 September 1981. The Palestine Information Office in Washington opened the convention with a reception which was attended by large number of Palestinians, Arabs and many ambassadors from the Arab and the friendly socialist countries. Also there was a Palestinian art exhibit which showed many Palestinian traditional dresses.

Dr. Hatem Hussaini, Director of the Palestine Information Office greeted the audience with a message from Chairman Arafat who congratulated the Palestinian Arabs and all peace loving people who support the Palestinian struggle and urged them to continue their work for the liberation of occupied Palestine.

Congressman Findley from Illinois, urged the Palestinian and Americans to increase their work to defeat the Zionist propaganda in the U.S.. Dr. Clovis Maksoud, the Ambassador to the Arab League affirmed that the Palestinian people must exercise the right for self-determination without any conciliation or compromise and that the Palestinian people will continue the struggle for the democratic secular Palestinian state.

The convention was also attended by representatives of the Lebanese National Movement, Mr. Fakhouri and Mr. Shatila, who brought greetings of the Lebanese Movement and criticized the Phalangist contacts with Israel. Mr. Mahmoud Labadi also attended the convention, but did not speak because of U.S. government restrictions.



Guests at United Holy Land Fund

Israeli Acts of Genocide

More than ninety innocent civilians, Lebanese and Palestinian men, women and children, have been killed and over three hundred wounded in the recent car explosions in the heart of Beirut. These criminal acts of mass murder are part of the Israeli campaign to eliminate the Palestinian people.

Last month, Israel used aerial bombardment to kill Palestinians and Lebanese. Over three thousand innocent civilians were wounded and eight hundred killed as Israeli warplanes bombed Beirut and South Lebanon. Due to the recent ceasefire, and International condemnations, Israel cannot bomb Palestinians directly, so it used the terrorist attacks through explosives in cars and offices. The Lebanese Prime Minister Chafik Wazzan said, "agents of Israel" are behind the recent series of car explosions and said "Israel is using cowardly tactics".

The Begin government hopes to disrupt attempts at reconciliation in Lebanon through these terrorist tactics. It also seeks to wipe out the Palestinian people through acts of mass murder and genocide. However, the Lebanese Nationalist organizations and movements will continue to strengthen unity with the Palestinians, and the Lebanese Palestinian people will survive and win despite the Israeli acts of genocide against them.

Letters to the Editor

I'm writing to thank you for the wonderful review of my book *"This Year or Next, I Will Never be in Jerusalem"*, that you published in *Palestine Perspectives*. It was truly gratifying. Unfortunately, despite the review's prediction of "many rave reviews" very few have actually appeared.

To even write a review of this book implies taking some kind of stand on Zionism, a thing many people would rather avoid. Naturally you've taken that stand, but you could have ignored the book because you had other, more important topics to cover. I'm glad that you didn't choose this path because I feel that the struggle to win over a sizeable segment of the American Jewish community to take a stand against Zionism is crucial — although so painfully slow.

Yours in struggle,

Hilton Obenzinger

If anyone writes for a copy of the book, you can pass on the information to Momo's Press, Box 14061, San Francisco, California 94114.

Plan to Install 150,000 Settlers In West Bank

The Israeli government has recently drawn up a plan to install 150,000 new settlers in the West Bank by building new settlements and enlarging existing ones according to Israeli radio.

The radio said that the new settlements will be in the Jerusalem area on Palestinian land seized before the recent Israeli elections.

It quoted Israeli economic circles as saying that the Histadrut's Solel Boneh Company has already begun the construction of a new residential colony north of Jerusalem.

According to the plan 30,000 apartments will be built for newly-married couples and 30,000 more for larger families. Among existing settlements to be expanded under the plan are Efrat near Bethlehem, Yuval Zeev north of Jerusalem, Areil and Alkana near Ramallah and Karnei Shomron near Nablus.

Congressional Photo Exhibit on Israeli Bombing

An exhibit of photos of Lebanese and Palestinian victims of Israel's bombing of Beirut on July 17 was opened at the United States Congress on Tuesday, September 8, 1981. The exhibit, prepared by "Concerned Americans Against the Use of U.S. Weapons", showed pictures of injured children and women and listed the names of the victims.

The exhibit coincided with Begin's visit to Washington, D.C., and reflected an obvious appeal to the U.S. Congress and the American public to stop sending offensive weapons to Israel that have caused massive death and injury to Arab civilians.

The exhibit was attended by a large number of Americans including aides to members of Congress, as well as Arab-Americans and Arab Ambassadors. The Ambassador of Lebanon, Nijati Kablani toured the exhibit and said that every American should see this exhibit to understand Lebanese and Palestinian suffering.

Ambassador Clovis Maksoud of the Arab League urged the U.S. government to ban all offensive weapons to Israel and to show equal concern for Arab civilian victims of Israeli raids.

Dr. Hatem Hussaini of the PLO said that despite these savage attacks the Palestinians will continue their struggle until they achieve their freedom and full rights.

(cont. from page 4)

undergoing concerning our ability, credibility and authority. Now we have the situation under control. but I should alert you to the continuing violation of the ceasefire agreement by the other side: the daily patrols of their navy in Lebanese territorial waters, the daily reconnaissance flights violating the air space of Lebanon.

Q. The Europeans have not yet produced an initiative in the Middle East. Do you think something will still come out of their moves or will they remain dormant?

A. First of all let me say that there is nothing that could be called an initiative. There was the Venice Declaration in which we have noticed a relative and positive change, but it must be further developed. In my opinion there is a European desire to play a role but they don't have the capacity yet to translate this into reality. We expect them to follow it up, for so many reasons, among them that they are, as Europeans, closer to the area, aware of its potential and history. I cannot but remind you of the role played by Great Britain in the Palestinian catastrophe.



At Art Exhibit



Palestinian child injured in Israeli bombing

credit AKMAL

Q. Britain denies this moral responsibility and affirms that the only responsibility it has with regard to the Palestine question is as a permanent member of the Security Council.

A. This is a travesty of history. The British government may try hopelessly to exonerate itself from its responsibility in the tragedy of the Palestinians. But I have noticed that individual Englishmen and organizations have been actively engaged in the process of restoration of Palestinian national rights. I expect that the latter will eventually prevail in Great Britain and that therefore the British government will take its responsibility in the Security Council and in the UN.

Q. Lord Carrington has often declared his willingness to meet you if such a meeting were to bring about progress in the peace process. How could such a meeting bring the area closer to peace?

A. Lord Carrington knows that war flared up in Palestine and peace starts in Palestine. Consequently peace and war revolve around the question of Palestine. Incidentally may I remind you that the

Europeans and the people of the Middle East have been historically linked, they to the north, we to the south of the Mediterranean. Whatever touches our side affects the other.

Q. Not only Israel but also certain circles in the West insist on considering the PLO and a future Palestinian state as Soviet satellites. What is your response?

A. We are a national liberation movement dedicated to the retrieval of our national rights and the establishment of a Palestinian national and democratic state. Our philosophy and national policy are determined by our people. As such we are a member of the movement of non-aligned countries and very active in the promotion of this policy in the world.

Q. During the last Palestinian National Council meeting in Damascus you extensively quoted Nahum Goldmann's last articles. Goldmann has often expressed the desire to meet you. Are you as willing as he is?

A. Yes, I am willing to meet him and I hope that I will have the opportunity to do so. □

Falestine al-Thawra on the Regan-Begin Strategy

An editorial appearing in Falastin al-Thawra, the official organ of the PLO, declared that the American-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement placed all Arab states either under Israel's protectorate, or under threat from its deterrent power, with the express approval of the USA.

The editorial stated that the alliance constitutes an official declaration that, within the context of American strategy, Israel is responsible for security in the Middle East. This applies to the sovereignty and security of several Arab states. The editorial explained this in light of Haig's statement that the US-Israel cooperation accords was beneficial to moderate Arab states.

The editorial points out that while the US-Israel strategic alliance makes some Arab countries subordinate to Israel, or in a position of having their security protected by Israel, so-called less moderate Arab states are under the lash of Israeli deterrence. This implies the liquidation or at least paralysis of these factions, so as to force them and others even closer into the US-Israeli embrace.

The editorial quoted Prince Khaled Ben Sultan Ben Abdel Aziz, Director of Projects and Planning in the Saudi Air Force Command, as describing as "continuous humiliation", US treatment of Saudi Arabia in its attempt to acquire US weapons.

It concluded by saying "The question is: Do the Arab countries want this continuous humiliation? And do they want to live under Israeli protection, or in fear of Israeli deterrence? The answer is needed quickly."

Palestine Arab Fund Holds Convention

The Palestine Arab Fund ended its annual convention in California by adopting a number of resolutions expressing full support for the PLO and calling on the U.S. government to end its military and economic aid to Israel.

It praised the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people, and called on all American progressive organizations to support the Palestinians who are facing a most brutal Israeli military occupation.

The convention was attended by a number of distinguished guests from occupied Palestine including Darwiesh Nizzal and a representative of the Student Council at Beir Zeit University.

The Convention received a message from Chairman Arafat which called on the Palestinian and Arab-American community to increase their work to defend the Palestinian and Lebanese people and to end American military aid to Israel which is used in aggressive attacks against civilians in Lebanon.

Help Ziad Abu Ein

On July 13, Ramsey Clark, former U.S. Attorney General, delivered his appeal on behalf of Ziad Abu Ein to the United States Supreme Court. The decision is not yet known and Ziad still needs your help.

Anyone wishing to support Ziad can send him letters to let him know that he is not alone and collect contributions to help defray the legal and media expenses of his case. Send letters and contributions to Ziad Abu Ein, P.O. Box 1347, 60690 MCC, 71 Van Buren, 60605.

Black Caucus Criticizes Veto

Leaders of the Congressional Black Caucus sharply criticized the American veto of the United Nations resolution of South Africa's invasion of Angola as "an all-time low in the morality of the Reagan administration's foreign policy".

U.S. Representatives Walter Fauntroy, William Gray and George Crockett issued a statement which said that the veto was a "tragic break with our allies in the United Nations, that it seriously endangers our relations and credibility with the nations of Africa on whom we depend for large amounts of natural resources, and that this action was both highly immoral and clearly not in the best interests of the United States."

It went on to say that the veto means that the U.S. has given South Africa a free hand to continue its military activity in the region.



Calendar of Events

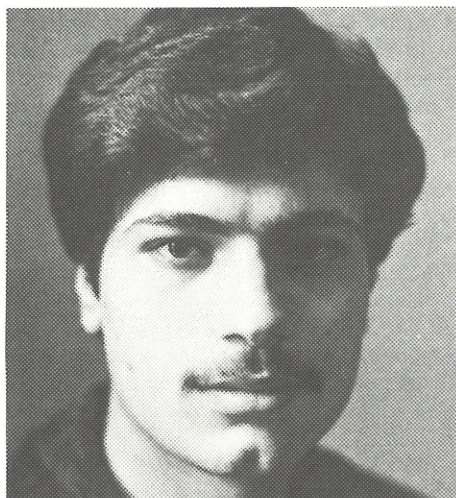
Sunday October 4 Fayrouz Concert at Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.

Thursday-Saturday North and South Arab American Convention, Sheraton Park, Washington, October 8-10 D.C. For Information call: 797-7757.

Thursday-Saturday Arab American Cultural Festival Ramallah Club, Jacksonville, Florida. October 15-17

Wednesday Film "Occupied Palestine" Castro Theater, San Francisco, California. October 21

Sat.—Sunday Film "Occupied Palestine" Biograph Theatre, Washington, D.C. November 28-29



URGENT APPEAL

Ziad Abu Ein's life is in danger.
Help save Ziad. Appeal for his freedom.

Send your telegrams to:
United Nations Secretary General
Kurt Waldheim
New York, New York
Secretary of State Alexander Haig
State Department
Washington, D.C.

Please order the following books from
PALESTINE INFORMATION OFFICE:

P.O. Box 57042

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Literature and Resources Available from the Palestine Information Office

Our Roots are Still Alive: The Story of the Palestinian People	\$5.45
The Palestinian Problem: An Annotated Bibliography of 1967-80	1.00
Toward Peace in Palestine	1.00
Zionist/Israeli Acts of Terrorism 1939-81	1.00
Palestine's Poet: Abu Salma	1.00
International Declarations, Zionism and Racism	1.00
Camp David and Palestine	1.00
Samed Handicrafts	write for details
Films on Palestine	write for details
Palestinian Posters	write for details
Tilji Menjo, Tears From Palestinian Children to God	2.00
Mona Saudi, In Time Of War: Children Testify	5.00
The Extradition of Ziad Abu Ein	1.00
Chairman Arafat's Speech at P.N.C. (In Arabic)	1.00
John Running and Sue Bennett, I'm From Palestine	2.00

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