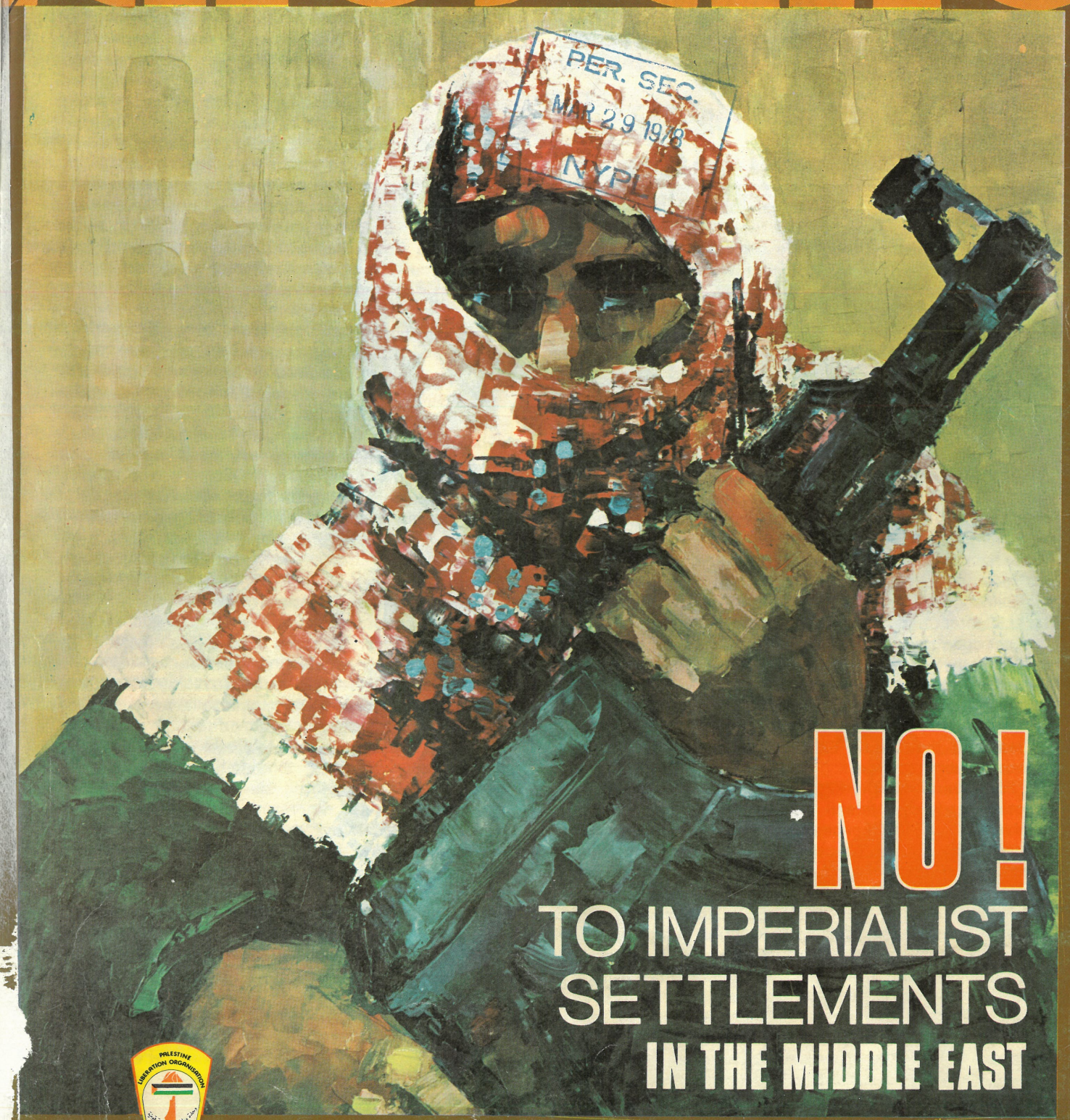


P.L.O.
information
bulletin

Palestine



NO!
TO IMPERIALIST
SETTLEMENTS
IN THE MIDDLE EAST



KISSINGER'S DIPLOMACY THE SMILE AND THE DAGGER

During the October War, as the USA poured into Israel massive quantities of arms and equipment to help it maintain its grip on the Arab land it had occupied in June 1967, not many people had the breadth of imagination to foresee that, shortly after the cease-fire, U.S. Secretary of State, Dr. Henry Kissinger would be welcomed in some of the Arab capitals as warmly as Mark Anthony was received in Cleopatra's bedroom. Since that day, Dr. Kissinger has been in the centre of the Middle East stage. With Dr. Kissinger's "shuttle diplomacy", expectations rose high in right-wing political circles in the Arab World. These circles expected that, through Dr. Kissinger, they would find solutions to their increasingly inevitable social dilemmas, as well as a way to avoid confrontation with the Zionist enemy. These hopes were reflected in the joyful expressions on the faces of some Arab leaders, who seem to have been captivated by the famous Kissinger smile. Yet, with each succeeding Kissinger tour, the broad smile began to fade. On March 23, Dr. Kissinger dramatically announced the failure of his Middle East mission and returned to Washington. On his return, a White House spokesman in Washington made a statement expressing the U.S. intention to reassess its policies towards the Middle East countries. The spokesman did, however, take pains to stress that the continuation of U.S. aid and arms shipments to Israel was a "matter of course". Thus the full dimension of the vicious imperialist role played by Dr. Kissinger—after his introduction to the world as the "dove of peace of the Middle East"—has finally been exposed to world public opinion.

For several months Kissinger continued to promise to Egyptian leadership Israeli withdrawals which would not involve any political concessions from the Egyptian side. Unfortunately, some Egyptian officials apparently swallowed the Kissinger bluff and defended his tactics—a reaction which has hurt Arab solidarity and shaken the unity of the Arab stand. The promises and pledges which Kissinger successfully sold to some Arab customers have proved as false as his smiles. But, at the most critical moment in the whole scenario, the secret of Kissinger's act was uncovered. When we look back over the last seventeen months or so since Kissinger started his magic circus in the area, we cannot help but recognize that Kissinger's entire tactical manoeuvres were deployed in

the service of the "buying time" policy of Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhaq Rabin. Israeli troops, which emerged seriously shaken from the October War, were in dire need of time to compensate their losses in arms and men. They also needed time to absorb the huge quantities of sophisticated American arms and equipment which Kissinger's Government was pouring into Israel.

In time, it has become apparent that Kissinger's cards are but a photo-copy of Israeli conditions and demands. For instance, in return for a partial Israeli withdrawal from the Abu-Rudeis oilfields and the strategic Mitla and Giddi passes in the Sinai peninsula, Kissinger presented Egyptian leadership with the Israeli pre-conditions—demands for an end to the state of belligerency between Egypt and Israel, and an Egyptian promise to abandon its dual commitment to stand by Syria and support the national rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland. Israel thus plans to charge a very high price in return for a very limited withdrawal from the Sinai: an Egyptian end to the state of belligerency will mean in effect Egypt relinquishing the rest of her occupied land; in addition, through compelling Egypt to abandon its commitment to Syria and the Palestinians, a wedge will be driven through Arab solidarity and unity. This would have the result of giving Israel the upper hand militarily over the Arab countries, and maintaining American domination of the sources of wealth in the Arab World.

It has become of vital importance that world public opinion and all peace-loving people of the world realize the true aims of the Kissinger mission which he has camouflaged with his repeated talk of peace. In this respect, the Palestinian Revolution, which has warned of the vicious aims of the Kissinger mission from the outset, considers it necessary to assert the following:

Firstly, the American administration is wholly committed to supporting Israel in its stand against the Palestinian people and their just cause. This commitment only confirms the invalidity of the thesis put forward in some right-wing Arab circles, which thought it possible to separate the American stand from the Israeli stand.

Secondly, the Palestinian cause is not a side issue. It is the central task of the Arab National Liberation Movement. Accordingly, no Arab ruler can afford to wash his hands off the Palestinian cause, because the Arab masses would never allow it. Egypt leadership's recent inability to respond to the joint Kissinger—Israeli demands and pre-conditions is further confirmation of this fact.

Thirdly, peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without fully satisfying the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland, Palestine, as these rights were expressed in the resolutions of the recent 29th Session of the U.N. General Assembly.

Fourthly, the United States' failure to recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and its continued denial of their national rights, conclusively demonstrates that Kissinger's mission is not, and never has been, a peaceful mission. Kissinger's mission was, on the contrary, carried out in the service of imperialism and aggression, and was by its very nature antagonistic to the peace sought for the area—the very pre-requisites of which were outlined last November by a vast majority of United Nations member states.

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P.L.O WARNS ARAB MASSES OF IMPE- RIALIST

The Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation issued on 26 February 1975, the following political statement warning the Arab masses of the grave consequences of the tricky manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists represented by the ill-famed Dr. Kissinger's step-by-step approach of the so-called partial, bilateral settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Following are large sections of the PLO statement.

The challenge faced by the Arab nation over since the Zionist colonialist invasion of Palestine has never been a challenge to one Arab country, nor did it threaten the people of Palestine alone. The Zionist conquest was essentially a challenge to the whole of the Arab nation, aimed at its existence and its civilization. For this reason, the Palestine question was, and remains, the primary and central cause of the Arabs in their just historic struggle against imperialist invasion and foreign domination.

The Algiers and Rabat Summits were a turning point in the Arab struggle against U.S. imperialist and Zionist plans to abort the Palestinian and Arab struggle. Their resolutions stressed the importance of protecting Arab unity, the Arabism of Jerusalem, and the necessity for joint Arab action as well as the development of Arab solidarity. The historic victory of the Palestinian Revolution at the U.N. was one of the most important fruits of this Arab solidarity, and a heavy blow to the Zionist enemy and its ally, U.S. imperialism.

The U.S. and the Zionist movement consequently multiplied their conspiracies to divest the Arabs of the means which enabled them to win the October War. This activity was characterized by persistent attempts to strike at Arab solidarity and unity, and to split the Arab cause through suspicious U.S. manoeuvres and initiatives. These find their expression in Kissinger's step-by-step policy, aiming at freezing the struggle against the enemy and

Kissinger «Step-by-Step» Settlement Plots

giving Zionist usurper a new opportunity to consolidate its posture and usurpation of Arab land.

From a patriotic and responsible nationalist stand, and in the light of our knowledge of the nature of the U.S.—Zionist conspiracy against the Arab cause, we stress that all U.S. settlement plans, as expressed in bilateral partial solutions, aim at exchanging part of the occupied Arab land for the nationalist cause as a whole, striking at the Palestinian Revolution and stabbing the Arab liberation movement step by step.

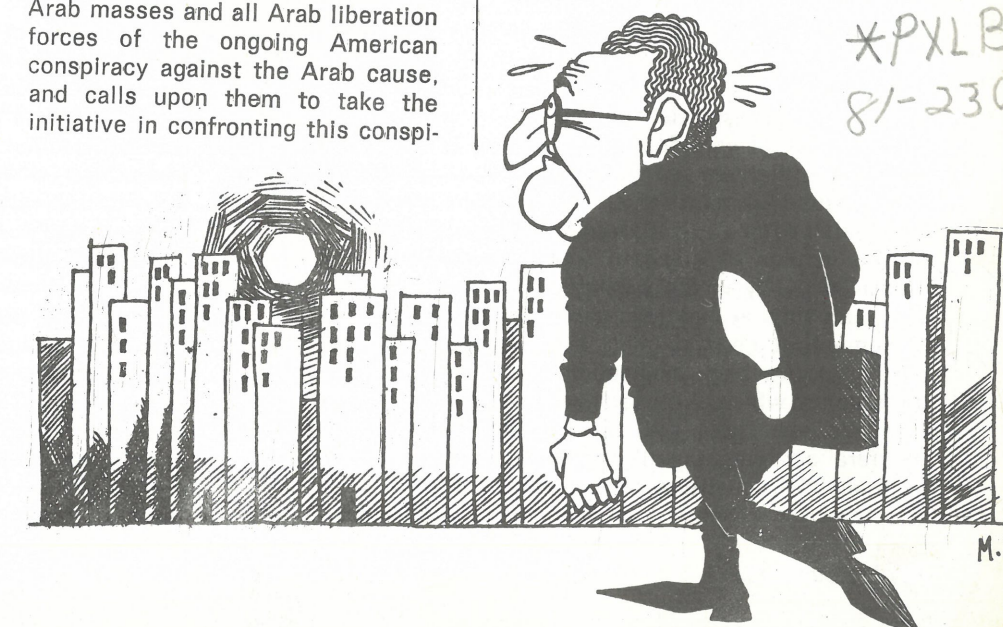
In its successive meetings, the PLO Executive Committee has discussed the political and military situation in the region in the light of the great dangers of American activity to realize joint U.S.-Zionist aims in the region. Accordingly, the Executive Committee warns the Arab masses and all Arab liberation forces of the ongoing American conspiracy against the Arab cause, and calls upon them to take the initiative in confronting this conspi-

racy and in foiling it by all means, and in all areas. The Executive Committee, moreover, in the light of its historic responsibility, confronts all Arab leaders with their national responsibility to foil the U.S. conspiracy and warns them of falling between its claws. It also warns that any Arab party's acceptance of the U.S. plans involves ignoring of the Arab national cause.

The Executive Committee, moreover, announces its non-recognition of, and its opposition to, any decisions or stands dealing with the Palestine cause and the future of the Palestinian people based on the U.S. conspiracy. It calls upon all Arab forces to be committed in word and in deed to the resolutions of both the Algiers and Rabat Arab Summits warning of attempts to ignore them. This should be realized by joint, unified and coordinated action in order to execute the Rabat resolutions in letter and in spirit, in all political and military fields.

The Executive Committee, in these critical circumstances, calls upon all Arab nationalist forces to unify their ranks in order to foil the U.S. conspiracy and its liquidationary projects. It moreover calls upon all Palestinian forces to double their alert and to work towards consolidating and deepening national unity within the framework of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of our people for the sake of escalating the struggle of our people, and our Revolution's potential to remain steadfast and to continue the armed popular struggle to realize our provisional and strategic objectives.

Revolution Until Victory.



An Exclusive Interview With:

FAROUQ QADDOUMI

«abu_lutuf»

HEAD OF THE POLITICAL DEPARTMENT P.L.O.

Head of the Political Department of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and member of the Central Committee of the FATEH movement, Farouq Qaddoumi (Abu-Lutuf) is in charge of PLO's foreign affairs. Last November, Farouq Qaddoumi headed the PLO delegation at the 29th Session of the U.N. General Assembly which adopted, by an overwhelming majority, two historic resolutions in favour of the national rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland, Palestine.

At this crucial stage in developments in the area, «Palestine» bulletin asked «Abu-Lutuf» to clarify the PLO stand to our readers and friends.

Q. Would you clarify the developments which prompted the PLO Executive Committee to issue its recent political statement warning the Arab masses of the grave consequences involved in Kissinger's so-called «step-by-step» partial and bi-lateral approach to a political settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict?

A. The political statement made by the PLO Executive Committee was issued only after comprehensive study of the broad current of developments in the area. It is well-known that we have no confidence in Kissinger's manoeuvres nor in his «shuttle diplomacy.»

Our lack of confidence stems from the fact that such American initiatives and manoeuvres constantly lead to the same results—massacres of, and conspiracies against, the Palestinian people. Dr. Kissinger's tactics are simply an improved version of standard American policy in the Arab World—a policy which supports Israel and Israeli aggression, and aims at suppressing the Arab National Liberation Movement in general, and the Palestinian Revolution in particular. We have exposed the ultimate aims of Kissinger's policy which, with each «step», serves Israeli aggression. We have refused to agree to step-by-step, partial and bi-lateral settlements with the Zionist enemy, because such settlements constitute a violation of the resolutions adopted by the Rabat Arab Summit. In addition, Kissinger

aims to torpedo Arab unity so as to weaken the Arab stand in the face of the Zionist enemy. Unfortunately, it appears that Kissinger's step-by-step tactics are welcomed in some leading Arab circles. Alarmed by the grave consequences which could result from this attitude, the PLO Executive Committee found it necessary to clarify its stand to the Arab masses, warning them of the imperialist-Zionist and reactionary Arab conspiracies.

Q. What, in your opinion, is Kissinger seeking to achieve?

A. In his capacity as U.S. Secretary of State, Kissinger is simply the tool of American capitalist monopolies. The interests of these monopolies are, of course, reflected in America's global political strategy, including U.S. strategy in the Middle East. We, the Palestinians who, probably more than any other people, have had the chance to test American policy, can define the aims of American political strategy in our areas as follows:

Firstly, to secure the interests of U.S. imperialist monopolies in the Arab World, especially those of the American oil monopolies which control more than 60% of oil production in the Arab countries. This aim constitutes the core of American strategy and is reflected in other aspects of that strategy.

Secondly, to suppress the Arab Liberation Movement, or at least, to contain it in order to prevent its development. Kissinger's manoeuvres involved launching a counter-attack on the Arab Liberation Movement in order to minimise the gains it achieved as a result of the October War. One of Kissinger's main aims was to encourage Arab reactionary forces in the introduction of some basic changes in the political, economic and social structure of some Arab nationalist regimes. Kissinger further aims to exert pressure on these regimes to break off their relations with the Soviet Union and the Socialist Countries, in order to isolate these regimes and the Arab Nationalist Movement from their friends. In this way they would remain at the mercy of American imperialists and would continue to be exposed to Israeli threats and aggression.

Thirdly, to use Israel—which is an advanced base for American imperialism—as a spearhead against the Arab Liberation Movement. America's strategy is based on the principle that Israel, and Israel alone, should have sufficient military power to overcome the combined forces of Arab nationalist regimes.

Fourthly, to liquidate the Palestinian Revolution has been, since the Revolution's birth, one of the basic aims of American political strategy in the area. The Palestinian struggle, being one of the central tasks of the Arab Liberation Movement, has always been a target for American imperialist policy-makers, yet we have achieved successes in spite of Kissinger's intrigues. The resolutions of the Rabat Arab Summit meeting were one of our achievements and dealt a heavy blow to Kissinger's plans to liquidate the Palestinian Revolution as well as to the American puppet, King Hussein of Jordan.

Dr. Kissinger's present tour in the area represents the beginning of a new phase in the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy against the national rights of the Palestinian people. Yet, we have complete faith that, however successful Kissinger's plots seem to outsiders, he will not achieve his goals. Sooner or later, he will flounder on the rock of the principal issue, namely the Palestine Question, and this



will cancel out any progress made.

Q. Can we say that the recent political statement of the PLO Executive Committee came after the Palestinian Leadership became convinced that certain Arab circles had fallen into the Kissinger trap?

A. The PLO Executive Committee's statement was by no means merely a reaction to a particular Kissinger tour or visit; it was rather the result of a conclusive evaluation of the whole course of events in the area. The statement was a matter of principle. It clarified to the Arab masses the PLO stand on the Kissinger affair and the grave consequences it implied for the future of the Arab Liberation cause. The PLO is obliged to define its stand on current fateful developments to the Arab masses. The purpose of the PLO statement was achieved. Kissinger's true mission is increasingly apparent to the Arab masses, and the obstacles to his «shuttle diplomacy» are increasing. In spite of the slight progress Kissinger's manoeuvres have achieved to date, we believe that he and his plans are heading towards failure.

Q. How do you assess the Syrian President's call for the establishment of a joint Syrian-Palestinian political and military leadership at this particular time?

A. President Hafez El-Assad's initiative does, in fact, express Syria's deep commitment to the Arab cause. It illustrates the readiness of Syrian leadership and of the Syrian people to stand firmly, side by side, with the Palestinian Revolution in the face of the current imperialist offensive. It also indicates Syria's return to the leading role it used to play in the Arab world during the fifties.

President Assad's call is a call for solidarity and unity based on the oneness of the Arab struggle. It complies with the resolutions of the Algeria and the Rabat Arab Summit conferences. It responds to the requirements needed to achieve the provisional aims of the Palestinian national struggle, according to the Political Programme adopted by the Twelfth Session of the Palestinian National Council in July 1974. We recognise in President Assad's call an expression of deep feeling for the Palestinian national struggle and for Arab solidarity.

PALESTINIAN NATIONAL FRONT DEFINES CURRENT TASKS OF STRUGGLE IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

The Palestinian National Front distributed an all-inclusive political communiqué in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip at the end of last February.

The communiqué defined the relationship between the Palestinian national movement and the Palestinian National Front and also outlined the political perspectives as well as the international situation. It also analysed the present anti-imperialist world climate, and the PLO's role in developing and promoting this trend.

The communiqué said that the conception of Democratic Palestine as a strategic aim was the alternative put forward by the Palestinians in response to Israel's arrogance and obstinacy in denying the existence and national legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. It stressed that Israel's refusal of the PLO's conception of Democratic Palestine, and its failure to present any alternative which took into consideration the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, emphasized once more Israel's rejection of a peaceful settlement, and its reliance on oppression to continue its denial of the rights of our people.

The communiqué also said that the Palestinian National Front believes that the Palestine of the future will be able to absorb all its sons, whether Arab or Jew whatever their political or religious affiliations. It also referred to the road leading to the Palestine of the future as being the road of national unity and continued struggle, and said that among the most important elements for success were the need to rally around our objectives and support of the PLO and its various institutions.

The communiqué added: Notwithstanding the fact that armed struggle constitutes an advanced phase of struggle, yet political struggle among the masses forms an important part of our people's struggle as a whole, and its role should not be belittled.

The communiqué denounced the agents and traitors who are conspiring with the aid of the Occupation Authorities and the lackey Royal Jordanian regime to impose a fake leadership on the Palestinian people in occupied Palestine.

The communiqué stressed that the protection and development of agricultural land in Palestine is a basic national duty, and the Occupation Authorities' attempts to tempt farmers to leave their land must be foiled. The communiqué concluded by pointing out that mass organizations in occupied Palestine will form the backbone of future Palestine.





NEWS ANALYSIS

NEW FACES AND OLD POLICIES ON YITZHAQ RABIN'S «BUYING TIME» POLICY

Commenting on Rabin's «buying time» policy, the Israeli daily, 'Yediot Ahronot' said with a sarcastic note: «Little by little, Yitzhaq Rabin is coming to a halt where he stands. In the days of Meir and Dayan, such a state of affairs used to be known as the «status quo»; now they call it «buying time». What does «buying time» mean? It means waiting seven years while the world progresses steadily, and believing that, at the end of those seven years, some kind of a miracle will happen and the world, which had been advancing, will suddenly revert to being the unchanged world of yesterday...».

It is not with sarcasm alone, however, that Israel's policies hostile to a just peace may be exposed. In the light of current Israeli policies, it is justifiable to ask whether they are in fact so very different from those of Meir and Dayan which pushed the Middle East situation to explosion in October 1973.

Under Rabin's leadership, Israel in collusion with the United States, is refusing to employ its efforts to arrive at the proper political conclusions, the most important of which is realization of the bankruptcy of a continued policy of expansionism and militarism. Instead, Israel is concentrating on making the preparations necessary to enable it to preserve all, or at least most, of the gains made through aggression, especially the fruits of the aggression of June 1967. In this respect, the policies of Rabin's government do not differ substantially from those of the government of Meir and Dayan. Rabin has himself admitted on Radio Israel his preference for keeping the Golan Heights rather than making peace

with Syria. Furthermore, with regard to Israel's rumoured willingness to withdraw from the Sinai Peninsula, Rabin recently made it clear, in a January 8th interview with the Parisian daily, «Le Figaro», that he would insist on retaining a strip of land extending from Sharm-el-Sheikh to Eilat, along with other territorial gains. He has simply adopted the same old policy adverse to peace—partition of the Sinai Peninsula between Israel and Egypt—even expressing it in the words of the standard, pre-October 1973 Israeli policy statement: «The future boundaries between Egypt and Israel will lie on a line which falls between the present cease-fire line and the pre-1967 border line».

On another level, it is interesting to examine Rabin's attitude towards the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict i.e. the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland. Rabin has several times stated that the only meeting place for himself and the Palestine Liberation Organisation is the battlefield. He has also stated that Israel will not, under any circumstances, allow the institution of a Palestinian State in the Occupied Territories, and will never recognize the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Yet Israeli officials still claim to be seeking peace. In this respect, it is indicative to consider, for example, the statement made by Israeli Foreign Minister, Yigal Allon, in a February 15th interview with Radio Israel, in which he said: «We shall negotiate with every Arab state which is prepared for such negotiations. There are Arab states with which only a partial settlement could be reached, while there are others with

which a peace treaty could be negotiated. No agreement should be linked with any other, and each agreement should stand by itself with no place for pre-conditions.» Yet, Allon himself is dictating his pre-conditions: a part of the Sinai, all of the Golan Heights and 'no' to a Palestinian State. Having specified these pre-conditions, he then talks of peace and demands a written peace treaty.

The myth of Israel's peaceful intentions is further refuted by consideration of the Israeli attitude towards the Geneva Conference. Before the October War, Israeli leaders sabotaged every peace initiative by insisting that the Arab States meet to discuss their problems with Israel around the negotiation table.

After the October War, however, they exerted every possible effort to undermine the Geneva Conference. Moreover, last November 29th, on the anniversary of the adoption by the U.N. General Assembly of the resolution concerning the U.N. Partition Plan for Palestine of 1947, Rabin spoke on Radio Israel saying: «The Geneva Conference in its general framework is simply a prelude to the war option.» Israeli officials on the Rabin team continually repeat that the setting-up of a Palestinian State constitutes an act of aggression directed against Israel. Such an attitude is simply a propaganda variation on the traditional main theme of Zionist political strategy, as represented by the Zionist attitude towards the 1947-Partition Plan for Palestine. At that time, the Zionist leaders first pretended to accept the plan wholeheartedly, then subsequently launched a series of terrorist attacks against peaceful and unarmed Palestinian villages such as in Deir-Yassin in order to terrorise the population into leaving their land. The majority of the Palestinians were accordingly uprooted from their national homeland, and the Zionists expanded the territory allotted to them under the Partition Plan (56% of the area of Palestine) annexing in addition over 6,000 square kilometres of the most fertile parts of the land allotted to the projected Palestinian Arab State under the terms of the Partition Plan. Thus occupying about 78% of the area of Palestine. Having annexed this territory, the Zionist leaders then began to maintain that implementation of the Partition Plan was an act of aggression against the «State of Israel». Furthermore, after the Zionists succeeded in occupying the whole of Palestine in the wake of the June 1967 aggression, they began to contend that the establishment of a Palestinian State in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip constituted an act of aggression against the existence of Israel. In other words, on the one hand Israel wants the sole right to determine the extent of the territory it will occupy, while on the other hand wanting to seal the fate of the Palestinians and determine their national political will to its liking.

With regard to Egyptian and Syrian occupied territories, Rabin admitted in an interview with the Israeli daily «Haaretz» that in the American-Sponsored partial settlement manoeuvres with Egypt, Israel might have to pay a «reasonable price». It would be necessary to pay such a price, he added, to foil the results of the Rabat Arab Summit meeting which strongly supported the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and refuted the Jordanian King's claims to the Palestinian West Bank, occupied by Israel. He also admitted that his «buying time» policy will serve to freeze the current state of affairs for seven more years. Rabin explained that he has adopted a «buying time» policy due to his conviction that the world is demanding a solution to the Arab-Israeli

conflict not as a result of Israel's policies of aggression, occupation and expansion, but because of the impact of the energy crisis on world politics.

Current Israeli policy shows that Israeli leadership learnt nothing from the October War except for some limited military lessons. Israeli leadership certainly did not draw the conclusion that policies based on militarism, aggression, occupation, expansion and denial of the Palestinian Arab people's national rights could only lead to continuation of the conflict.

Since the October War, Israel has been making preparations for a new war of aggression by a vast increase in its aggressive capacity through more than doubling supplies of armaments and equipment. The value of arms orders made by Israel since the October War now exceeds \$5,000 million. Moreover, Israel's armament programmes involve a 20 to 85 percent increase in all armaments in 1976 over the 1975 level, as Rabin himself recently stated in the Knesset.

Rabin's «buying time» policy is no more than a re-issue of the standard Zionist tactic which has now become a classic, namely the policy of creating new «facts» and imposing de facto status, in accordance with the basic Zionist strategy to extend the boundaries of the Zionist State from the Nile to the Euphrates, to control and exploit the sources of wealth of the Arab World, and determine its political fate.

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ZIONIST BLACKMAIL

A few weeks ago, the Zionists invented a new way of causing problems for the PLO as part of their systematic policy of tarnishing the image of the PLO and the Palestinian national struggle.

Dozens of bailiffs in the Seine and Marne region of France were sent stencilled letters bearing the crest of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, which urged them to collect from industrialists and businessmen sums of money ranging from 500 FF to 1,000 FF. The sum of 500 FF was to be collected from businesses having less than 20 workers, and 1,000 FF from those with more than 20 workers.

In a second letter, the bailiffs were informed of the way in which the money should be delivered.

The PLO office in Paris, outraged with this dirty Zionist trick, angrily denounced this type of blackmail committed in its name and strongly denied any connection with these fraudulent activities in a communiqué of 14 March 1975.

In the communiqué, the PLO office castigated Zionist methods, saying: «Such methods of blackmail are used by the Zionists only in order to discredit the PLO and to do harm to the cause of the Palestinian people.»

PLO
ALSO FIGHTS FOR THE
«RIGHT OF RETURN»
FOR
ARAB JEWS
INDUCED TO
MIGRATE TO ISRAEL

THE RIGHT OF ARAB JEWS TO RETURN

The Jewish family of Dawoud Ishaq, which lived in Israel for many years, has recently returned to its country of origin—the Sudanese Republic—in response to the call of the Sudanese government to all Sudanese Jews who migrated to Israel over the past years to return to their homeland.

The Libyan and Iraqi governments have made similar announcements, calling on Jews of Libyan or Iraqi origin presently residing in Israel, or anywhere else in the world, to return to their homeland and enjoy the same rights and opportunities of other citizens. During the fifties, more than 600,000 Arab Jews were deceived by Zionist propaganda and left their Arab homelands for Israel.

Before 1948 only 650,000 Jews had migrated to Palestine from all over the world. The Zionist-Imperialist-reactionary Arab conspiracy of 1948 resulted not only in uprooting the Palestinians from their homeland and transforming them into refugees scattered all over the

world, but it also involved the displacement of most of the Arab Jews who were directed to settle in the newly-established Israel, set up on Palestinian soil. Zionist gangs carried-out several surprise raids on Jewish quarters in Baghdad and Basrah to terrorize Iraqi Jews into migrating to Israel. Several Zionist sources speak of what the Zionists call the «Izra and Nehemia» operation. This operation included throwing grenades and planting mines in cinemas, crowded market places and other social centres in the Jewish quarters of Baghdad and Basrah. Consequently, about 100,000 Iraqi Jews left Iraq and were flown from Baghdad directly to Lod airport in occupied Palestine.

The old Jewish community of Yemen was induced to migrate to Israel by what Zionist sources call the «Magic Carpet» operation. In this operation, national hostilities were aroused against local Jews through the use of Zionist tactics similar to those employed in the «Izra and Nehemia» operation in Iraq. Moreover, Zionist agents bribed some influential officials of the then feudal Yemeni regime to allow Zionist agents to arrange for the transportation of Yemeni Jews to Israel. 45,000 members of the old Yemeni Jewish Community were thus transported within a few weeks, from their ancient homeland to face the anxieties of racism and discrimination in the artificial Zionist state.

A variety of Zionist tactics were used in other Arab countries to induce the Jewish communities to migrate to Israel. Consequently, during the fifties Jewish migrants poured into Israel from Arab countries such as Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt. The Zionists needed the Arab Jews to provide their newly-established Israel with manpower, mainly to build a strong army to use in their expansionist plans. During 1948 and the few following years the reactionary Arab regimes, being under the influence of their Western Imperialist masters, indirectly assisted the Zionists to carry on their conspiracy of transplanting Jews from Arab countries into the homeland of the Palestinians. Zionist propagandists usually tend to present the crime of uprooting the Palestinians from their homeland in 1948 as a matter of exchanging the population, i.e.

exchanging Arab Jews for Arab Palestinians. The actual course of events shows that in 1948 a joint Zionist-Imperialist-reactionary Arab conspiracy was perpetrated on the Palestinian people, depriving them of their national homeland and handing it over to the Zionists to transform into a base for Zionist-Imperialist schemes against the rising Arab National Liberation Movement. The Arab Jews were just another group of victims in this joint conspiracy. Today, the Palestinian Revolution, in its drive to regain the national rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland, also, at the same time and with equal enthusiasm, defends the right of the Arab Jews who migrated to Israel to return to their respective countries of origin. The PLO stand in defending the «right of return» for Arab Jews, is directly in line with the PLO Political Programme for a future Palestine, namely the establishment of a Democratic Palestine in which Jews, Christians and Moslems can co-exist on the basis of equality, fraternity and peace. In other words, while the Arab Jews who migrated to Israel are considered as essential party in the future Democratic Palestine, they also have the option of returning to their countries of origin if they so desire.

In taking this stand, the PLO is guided by certain basic principles, among which is the sanctity of the «right of return» for those who were driven out of their homeland by force, or had to leave such a homeland under ambiguous circumstances which left them little choice. The PLO is guided by its belief in the need to liberate Jews from the evil effects of racist Zionism which creates polarisation between the Jews and their fellow human beings. The Palestinians are fighting for the right to self-determination on their national soil and the right of the Palestinian refugees to return from their diaspora to their national homeland—Palestine. At the same time, the struggle of the Palestinians to regain their national homeland necessarily entails their defending of the right of the Arab Jews who were induced to migrate to Israel to return to their Arab homelands, because the cause of freedom and justice is one and indivisible.

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ZIONIST TERRORISTS BOMB

FRANCO-ARAB SOLIDARITY ASSOCIATION OFFICES

During the night of 10-11 March a bomb exploded in the offices of the Franco-Arab Solidarity Association FASA (L'Association de Solidarité Franco-Arabe) in rue Augereau in Paris. Both the front of the building and the offices themselves were substantially damaged. In one of the rooms, police found the inscription «Israel will conquer», which was also written on one of the walls of the building.

FASA, which works to promote friendship between France and the Arab countries, publishes a monthly magazine «France-Arab World» (France-Pays Arabes) which each month devotes a number of pages to the Palestinian Question.

In a statement to the press after the attack, Louis Terrenoire, its president, said: «We hope to hear an official voice, by which I mean a government voice, joining with us in our indignation; and an announcement that the guilty parties, who are not difficult to trace, will not go unpunished.»

FASA, it may be remembered, has twice organised, in September 1974 and February 1975, the visit of «peace commandos» to Lebanon, headed respectively by Lucien Bitterlin, General Secretary of FASA, and Jean Munier, who spent several days living in South Lebanon in order to express their solidarity with the populations of the Palestinian camps and the Leb-

anese villages, who are victims of the blind violence of Zionist bombing.

After the assassination — as yet unpunished — of Mahmoud Al-Hamshari on December 8, 1972, Mohammed Boudia on June 28, 1973 — murdered by radio-controlled explosives — and Bassil Kubaissi, who died on the night of 5-6 April, 1973, from wounds caused by 8 bullets shot at close range, Israeli Secret Service agents continue to act with impunity, and have just committed another crime, in the very heart of Paris, against those who defend justice and friendship between peoples, in particular friendship between the people of France and the people of Palestine.

PERSECUTION OF ORIENTAL JEWS IN ISRAEL

Oriental Jews in Israel are increasingly rebelling against the racial discrimination practiced against them by the Zionist authorities in all domains particularly in education and housing.

Saul Simha, President of the Union of Moroccan Jews, said that his Union had established a fund to help Oriental Jewish communities

in the field of education, in view of the authorities neglect of them. He added that the continued cultural backwardness of Oriental Jewish communities is intolerable, and said that intelligent children may not continue their education, for the sole reason that their fathers were not born in Europe.

He further presented statistics showing that, while 60% of all primary school children are Oriental Jews, only 38% of the students in secondary schools are Oriental Jews, and the figure is only 8% for those in universities.

As for housing, Israel statistics show that most poor districts and suburbs, and nearly all remote development towns, are inhabited by Oriental Jews. Tens of thousands of those families live in unfit housing. Hundreds of such houses have been declared by the authorities as dangerous and liable to collapse.

In these poor districts around 250,000 Oriental Jewish children live in appalling housing conditions.

A JEWISH COMMUNITY RECOGNIZES PLO AND SUPPORTS PALESTINIAN RULE

The Neturi Karta Community—a Jewish anti-Zionist religious group, declared their recognition of the PLO as sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. They distributed a communiqué in Jerusalem on February 13, 1975, stressing their support for the rights of the Palestinian people and for the establishment of a Palestinian government, which, they said, they are ready to join. In their communiqué, they said that the declaration of the State of Israel by some Zionists contradicts Jewish religious principles and practices.

According to Al-Shaab (a daily published in occupied Jerusalem) on February 10, Shulamit Aloni, Israeli Knesset member and leader of the Civil Rights Movement, said that her movement admits the right of the Palestinians to self-determination and recognizes the Palestinian identity.



THE STRUGGLE GOES ON...

tel-aviv operation the palestinian answer to kissinger's plots

ISRAELI AUTHORITIES ALONE RESPONSIBLE FOR SLAUGHTER
OF CIVILIANS

The revolutionary zeal of our people, whether in occupied Palestine or in the diaspora, is limitless. Every day our fighters prove that they are determined to reach their goals despite all obstacles. All the highly sophisticated security measures and plans developed over the last ten years of our Revolution by the Zionist authorities have failed to halt the glorious march of our fighters.

Our people's yearning to return home has proved stronger than all Zionist, imperialist and reactionary obstacles, intrigues and conspiracies.

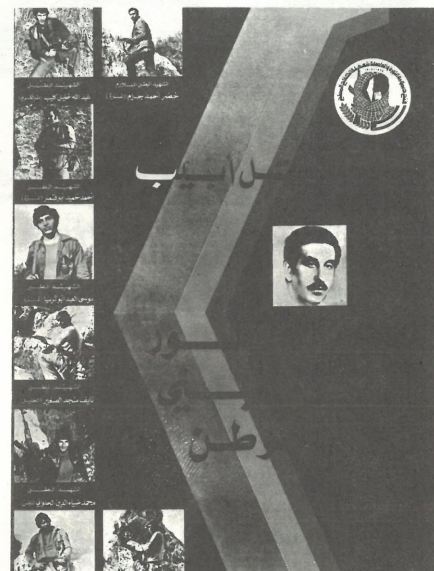
In Tel-Aviv, as in the 1972 Lud Airport Operation, as in Qiryat Shmona, Maalot and Beissan, the Israeli Authorities once again demonstrated their reckless disregard for human lives.

More than 5,000 of our men and women are at present subject to brutal torture in Israeli jails. Last February, they declared a hunger strike in protest at the inhuman conditions of their imprisonment. These 5,000 prisoners are only a fraction of more than 30,000 Palestinian men and women who have gone through the gruelling experience of torture and imprisonment in Israeli jails since the Israeli occupation of June 1967.

In the 5th March Tel-Aviv operation, as well as in several similar operations, the aim of our fighters was to obtain the release of only a few of our men and women from Israeli jails. Yet the Israeli Authorities consistently ignore such modest and noble demands; their response is to attack our men along with the civilian

hostages in their keeping. After massacring our men and the civilian hostages, the Israeli Authorities unleash a propaganda campaign directed against what they call «Palestinian terrorism». It is not difficult to recognize who the true terrorists are!

On the night of 5th March two of our special groups, both part of the «Martyr Abu Yussef Unit», fought a fierce battle in the heart of the city of Tel-Aviv. Starting around 10.30 p.m. the battle lasted for two hours, until fighters from the «Martyr Samer Eyouni» and the «Martyr Jadallah»



groups succeeded in taking the Savoy Hotel, together with a large number of Israeli hostages. Our fighters' aim was to obtain the release of only ten of their imprisoned comrades from Israeli jails where they are subject to brutal and inhuman treatment at the hands of the enemy.

Our revolutionaries later distributed a communiqué in Arabic and in Hebrew which outlined their demands, and stressed their humane objectives. The communiqué reads:

«We have always known your deceitfulness. Our request is direct and limited. If it is not met, we shall take decisive measures.

Firstly, we demand the immediate transport of the ten political prisoners listed below to Damascus or Cairo airport. Secondly, upon our being informed by radio of their arrival in Cairo or Damascus via a special plane, the Ambassadors of both France and the Vatican should be brought to us to agree on the way to terminate the incident. Thirdly, you have a per-

iod of only seven hours before you, which will not be extended.

The Palestinian Revolution wishes to realize the humane aim of releasing our militant comrades who are oppressed and inhumanly treated in your jails. May the whole world witness: Our objective is humane; may you protect the lives of your sons and people. We will not be responsible for any bloodshed. The ten political prisoners are:

Odi Adiv, Muhammad Ghayfat, Fawzi Nemr Ahmed, Fatma Bernawi, Aida Issa, Omar Qasim, Zake Mala'abi, Hisham Zeina, Zakiya Shammout and her daughter, Archbishop Hilarion Capucci.»

In their usual deceitful tactic Zionist leaders pretended willingness to negotiate. Then, revealing their true intentions, they staged three successive assaults on the Savoy Hotel, deploying large forces which were supported by covering fire and helicopters. At this point the enemy's reckless disregard for the lives of the hostages and for the avowed humane objectives of our fighters could no longer be camouflaged.

Zionist leaders proved once again—as they proved at Maalot, at Qiryat Shmona, at Beissan and at the Lud Airport that they care little for the lives of civilians. In this case the Israeli response to the modest demands of our fighters led finally to the tragic conclusion of the operation—a conclusion which could have been avoided had not Israeli Fascist tendencies once more intervened to provoke the loss of innocent lives. It is after criminal acts such as this, that the Israelis dare to talk of terrorism. But the question might well be asked, who are the terrorists? Are they those who uproot a people from their homeland, bomb refugees camps where ordinary men, women and children have their homes, kill innocent civilians?... or are they those who have made a sacred duty of their desire to live once more in their own land, founding a Democratic Palestine in which Christian, Moslem and Jew may co-exist peacefully?

Before their martyrdom, our revolutionaries distributed the following communiqué in Arabic and Hebrew which set out their belief in Democratic Palestine, and their will to struggle to liberate the oppressed Jews and Arabs of Palestine:

«The Palestinian National Liberation Movement FATEH Al Assifa Forces.

— For a Democratic State on the

land of Palestine we have taken up arms;

— So that Jews, Moslems and Christians may live in brotherhood and peace we fight;

— So that peace may return to the land of peace we offer our sacrifice and our blood;

— So that the militaristic Zionist rule, which had committed crimes against your rights and the rights of our people, may be destroyed;

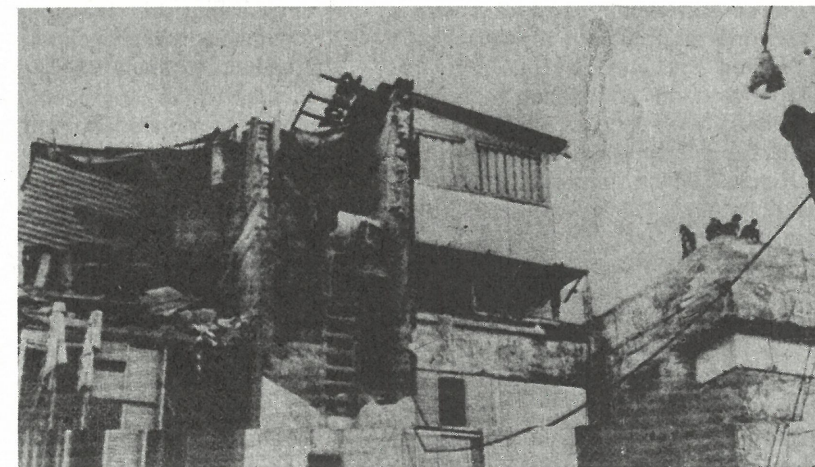
— For the liberation of the oppressed Jews and Arabs of Palestine we struggle and will continue to struggle until the flag of our aspirations and hopes flutters over the Democratic State of Palestine.»

FATEH

The 5th March operation is but one of hundreds of operations carried out by our fighters on the path to total liberation. This operation was the Palestinian answer to all the conspiracies planned against the Palestinian people, from the usurpation of Palestine and the uprooting of its people, to the present-day Kissinger imperialist plots which aim at eliminating the Palestinian people and the Palestinian cause through the so-called step-by-step Kissinger settlement approach.

Former French minister Terrenoire, had these comments to make on the operation:

«Any people deprived of their rights in their homeland will find themselves forced to defend their future and their land, and will do as the Palestinians do, struggling for their lives and for their rights to their land. An operation such as this points to the necessity of beginning real and serious negotiations for a settlement of the Middle East crises which takes into account the aspirations of the Palestinian people, who were deprived of their land and their homeland Palestine.»



Palestinian Military Spokesman:

41 OPERATIONS DURING JANUARY 1975

During the month of January 1975, the Palestinian military spokesman issued 39 communiqués reporting on 41 operations executed by our revolutionaries. Of these, 31 operations were in occupied Palestine, 2 in the occupied Syrian Heights, 1 in occupied Sinai, and 7 against Israeli forces in South Lebanon.

Among the most notable features of last month's attacks was the intensification of military operations in the Gaza Strip, after the enemy claimed that he had permanently «pacified» it.

In the course of last month's operations, our forces destroyed 12 enemy vehicles, among them 2 tanks, 3 armoured half-tracks and 5 buses; assaulted enemy forces and positions several times; and severely damaged 11 major economic targets, including the Sheraton Hotel in Tel-Aviv, a central telephone line, and a chemical storage depot.

The Israeli enemy's human losses, which included an intelligence officer of the rank of major and an explosives expert, were extremely high, particularly in the seven days of fierce fighting in the village of Kfar-Chouba in the Arqoub region, where our commando fighters repulsed numerous Israeli attempts to occupy the South Lebanese village.

תנועת השחרור הערבי העליונה
"פתח"
כוחות אצ"ל וא"פ
-למען מדינת דמוקרטיה על יסודות שלטון נאור: את נאקבו.
-למען יחזיקו היהודים;המסלמים והנוצרים כאחורה בשלום ובלי העלייה וסגוריון
למען זה יאנו לחיים.
-כדי ייבטל השלום הארץ השלום אנו מללים את קרבנותינו ואת דמנו.
-וכדי שיהיה הכוח הציוני הירוקי את פועל בדיוניותם ובדיון עמנו.
-למען שחרור יהודי וערבי השלטון מן העול...אנו נאבקים ולא נרפה
ממבקנו זה עד שיבנהבגל. הזקורה המוחל... על המדינה הפלסטינית
הדיקטטורית ..

حركة التحرير الوطني الفلسطيني
"فتح"
قوات الداعية
- من أجل دولة ديمقراطية على أرض فلسطين حرة ملاحقة...
- حتى يتسحق اليهود والمسلمين والمسيحيين في المهة. سلام وبلا صعب أو عنصرية
نحن نقاوم.
- حتى يعود السلام إلى أرض السلام نقدم تضامنا ودمنا...
- حتى تتحطم ظلمة المواقعة المكيبة الصهيونية التي أجريت في حكم
وحن شبيصا...
- من أجل تحرير الفلسطينيين من يهود فلسطين وعربها... نقوم بخفضنا ونستمر
حتى نحرط. راية الأثل المنقود فوق دولة فلسطين الديمقراطية.

Communiqué
distributed by the
FATEH Fedayeen
in Tel-Aviv.

THE STRUGGLE GOES ON...

ENEMY ADMITS INTENSIFICATION OF ARMED RESISTANCE IN OCCUPIED PALESTINE

It has been standard Israeli practice since the Israeli aggression of June 1967 to impose a black-out on news of the operations of Palestinian armed resistance in occupied Palestine. The enemy only admits to those operations which take place in public places and involve many witnesses to the action. In such cases, the Israeli authorities announce a distorted account of the action in which Israeli losses are minimized and Palestinian losses exaggerated.

Since the beginning of 1973, there has been a remarkable increase in Palestinian commando operations in occupied Palestine, the planning and execution of which have improved along with their growth in number. Moreover, military operations have now spread to all parts of occupied Palestine particularly to those parts occupied in 1948. The intensification of Palestinian commando operations is linked with increasing political activity, and consolidation of the mass struggle which culminated in the setting-up of the Palestinian National Front in mid-1973. The mass struggle reached its peak in last November's mass uprising, in which all social classes took part.

Whenever a commando operation takes place, Israelis who have been brought-up according to the racist teachings of Zionism, frequent-

ly take the opportunity of giving vent to their racist tendencies by attacking any Palestinian who happens to be in that vicinity—most of the time the victims of these attacks are Palestinian workers from the West Bank or the Gaza Strip.

Commando operations are manipulated by the occupying power to justify launching a premeditated campaign of mass arrests in order to stem increasing political activity and silence political activists. On February 7, 1975, for example, the enemy forces of occupation waged a widespread campaign of arrests in the Gaza strip, in the wake of commando operations carried out on January 25th and subsequently. More than 400 young men and women were arrested and subjected to brutal torture.

The rising tide of Palestinian armed resistance in the occupied territories, however, is compelling Israeli officials to admit the increasing frequency of our commando operations. On February 4, 1975, for example, after several of these attacks, the Israeli Minister of Police, Shlomo Hillel, admitted that «6 commando operations had taken place in the last 36 hours.» On February 16, 1975, the Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhaq Rabin, admitted to the Worker's Council of the Tel-Aviv Municipality that Palestinian commando operations had increased, at the same time as Israel's ability to

Palestinian Military Spokesman:

50 COMMANDO OPERATIONS DURING FEBRUARY

According to a summary prepared by the Palestinian military spokesman, Palestinian commandos executed a total of 50 military operations during the month of February. These commando attacks represent concrete and direct response of the Palestinian Resistance to Kissinger's schemes to blow up Arab solidarity by means of a partial settlement in the interest of imperialism and Zionism.

Among the main targets of these attacks were enemy factories, 7 of which were destroyed or damaged, including 2 military workshops and a factory producing pre-fabricated housing; and commercial establishments, 14 of which were destroyed, including a bank, a gas station, a hotel and an entire commercial center in Asdud. Moreover, 14 other enemy vehicles, most of them military, were destroyed.

Of 50 attacks in February, 17 were carried out in the first 10 days of the month, with a wave of 17 more taking place from the 24th to the 28th. In response to these attacks, the enemy occupation forces detained more than 1450 Palestinian citizens. In addition to arrests immediately following Palestinian commando attacks, the enemy continued the trials of Palestinians previously detained. During February, reports were received of the trials of 48 Palestinian militants. Of these, 43 were sentenced to jail—2 of them to life imprisonment.

confront them had decreased. Yitzhaq Rabin was right for a change. During January of this year, our freedom-fighters carried out 41 operations in occupied Palestine, while in February the number of operations rose to 50. The most remarkable feature of the February operations was that several of them were directed against the enemy's intelligence officers, aiming at punishing them for crimes they had committed against our masses.



Kfar-Choubans returning back to their village.

REBUILDING KFAR-CHOUBA

For Lebānese nationals, Kfar-Chouba, the South Lebanese village in the Arqoub region, has become a symbol of the heroic resistance of the Palestinian fighters and Lebanese villagers to the Israeli aggressor, and at the same time as a symbol of Israeli brutality and defeat. The devastated village which last January was the scene of a fierce six-day confrontation between fighters of the Palestinian Revolution and invading Israeli troops, lost more than 80% of its houses under heavy Israeli shelling.

During the fighting, the people of Kfar-Chouba had to leave their village, but when the fighting was over, the majority of them returned to live in tents set-up on the ruins of their homes. In this way they foiled the main aim of the incessant Israeli attacks against South Lebanese villages i.e. to evacuate South Lebanon of its inhabitants as a first step towards Israeli annexation of that well-watered territory adjacent to the Israeli borders.

The Lebanese Democratic and Progressive Forces supported strongly the Kfar-Choubans's determination to return to their village, and started a campaign to collect donations for its reconstruction.

On Friday, March 21, 1975, the people of Kfar-Chouba celebrated the ground-breaking ceremony for construction of their new village. The reconstruction plan is sponsored by the National Council for support of the South. Imam Moussa Sadr, the Shiite Moslem Spiritual leader, who also heads the National Council, laid the foundation stone for the house of Maarouf Nabaa—one of the villagers. Work is soon to begin on a model school. Fighters of the Palestinian Revolution took part in the rebuilding of the village.

(The reconstruction ceremony was interrupted by a nearby clash between Palestinian fighters and an attacking unit of Israeli forces.)

Speaking at the ceremony, Imam Moussa Sadr, said that the villagers would remain on their land, working, praying and fighting. «We have taken the Palestinian Resistance Movement into our hearts and minds. We do not separate ourselves from them and they do not separate themselves from us, though it must be made clear that the defense of South Lebanon is not related to the presence or otherwise of the Palestinian commandos,» he said.

The Lebanese Shiite leader added that the Kfar-Chouba question did not concern just a single village. It involved the whole of Lebanon, because Israel hoped that by forcing the evacuation of the people of one village, a pattern would be set for other villages and consequently for the whole of South Lebanon.

Sadr also warned that «Israel was attempting to drive a wedge between the villagers and the Palestinian Resistance Movement, but the link between the South Lebanese people and the Palestinians was unbreakable,» he added.

The Lebanese spiritual leader also warned the Kfar-Choumans against heeding advice to remain outside their village and promises of an easier life. «This is the land of your fathers and grandfathers,» he said, «and here you must remain.»

In addition to the Imam, the ceremony was attended by local religious and political leaders, including Nureddin Nureddin, a left-wing lawyer, who pledged that the Kfar-Choubans would never leave their land.





Clinic b'own-up by Israeli attackers in al-Karameh.

ON THE 7TH ANNIVERSARY OF...

The Battle Of al Karameh

THE TRIUMPH OF SACRIFICE

Al-Karameh, originally a small village on the east bank of the River Jordan, was transformed by the influx of Palestinian refugees in 1948 and 1967 into a gigantic refugee camp. By early 1968, Palestinian refugees in the Jordan Valley, in Karameh and around it, had started to join the ranks of the fighters of the Palestinian Revolution.

From the Karameh area, Palestinian fighters used to cross the River Jordan to carry out operations in occupied Palestine.

Although still intoxicated with the striking victory of June 1967, the Israelis were, however, quick to comprehend the potential threat represented by these young revolu-

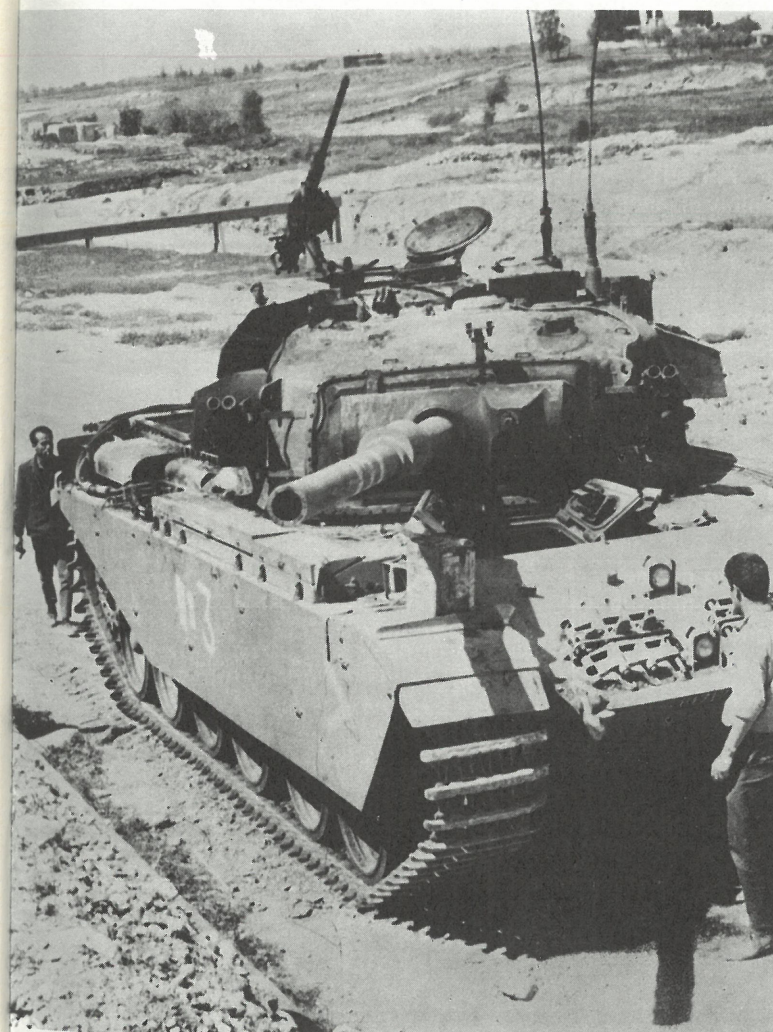
tionaries.

In the dark days which followed the humiliating defeat of June 1967, Palestinian and Arab masses saw in the brave devotion of the small numbers of revolutionary fighters—later to become known as the Palestinian Fedayeen—a gleam of hope for the renewal of Arab dignity. As a consequence, increasing numbers of young Palestinian and Arab men and women were drawn to the Revolution and started to join the ranks of the Palestinian fedayeen. Israeli leadership, in line with its Zionist expansionist projects, was determined to make of the June 1967 victory a final defeat for the Arab nation as a whole. But the still

young Palestinian Revolution began to grow, spreading among the Arab masses new hopes for the fulfillment of their national independence and Arab unity, as well as dreams of a renewal of Arab national dignity and progress after centuries of foreign subjugation and backwardness.

The Israelis understood both the strategic and symbolic value of al-Karameh, where a new revolutionary spirit was flourishing. It became imperative in their eyes to deprive the still budding Palestinian Revolution of the potential represented by the masses of Palestinian refugees. In the several months preceeding the launching of their massive ground attack on al-Karameh on 21 March, 1968, they made it their policy to shell the refugee camps and the adjacent area in order to terrorise the population into abandoning their homes. The territory thus evacuated would be open to Israeli occupation at any time the Israelis chose. The continuing growth of the Revolution and the escalation of commando operations carried out in occupied Palestine led to the Israeli decision to attack al-Karameh refugee camp and nip the flower of the Palestinian Revolution in the bud.

At dawn on 21 March, 1968, large numbers of Israeli ground forces equipped with an impressive array of tanks and sophisticated armaments, moved towards al-Karameh. Moshe Dayan called the expedition a «hunting trip in the



Arab desert». Two days later, however, burnt-out Israeli tanks were exhibited in the streets of Amman, the Jordanian capital. The whole world learned: «The Palestinians defeated the Israelis in al-Karameh». An American report later estimated Israeli losses at over 1,200 dead and wounded. The extent of the defeat shocked the Israelis; since that day, the word «Fidai» has become a source of terror to the enemy's troops.

Today, on the seventh anniversary of the battle of al-Karameh, it is more than ever evident that the battle represented a turning point in the course of events in the area. The heroic bravery and determination shown by our fighters in repelling the Israeli attack were an inspiration to the Palestinian and Arab masses, and large numbers of volunteers came forward to join the ranks of the Revolution. Since the battle of al-Karameh, the Palestinian revolutionaries have become one of the basic factors determining the course of events in the area, while the Palestinian Revolution has become the centre of Arab national aspirations.

A vital question which was asked and answered at al-Karameh was to have a decisive effect on the future of the Revolution... When, early in March 1968, the Revolution received information of Israel's intentions to invade the village, a choice lay open: either to withdraw the fedayeen



Israeli tank captured by Pa'estinian fidayeen at al-Karameh.

from al-Karameh where they faced almost certain extermination, thus leaving the Palestinian masses in that area without defence, as the Royal Jordanian Army was unlikely to intervene to defend its national soil; or to stand and defend al-Karameh and the Palestinian masses, thereby sacrificing the very precious nucleus of our trained fighters. The Revolution's respect and concern for the Palestinian masses meant that the latter choice was inevitable, regardless of the tremendous sacrifice that this would entail.

In the battle of al-Karameh, over one hundred heroic revolutionary fighters sacrificed their lives; but the revolutionary zeal and devoted bravery of our fighters sparked off the enthusiasm and respect of the Palestinian and Arab masses, and drew them to our Revolution and its commitment to armed struggle and people's war as a strategy to liberate Palestine.



ARAFAT INVITED TO SPEAK BEFORE AFRICAN SUMMIT

The Ministerial Council of the Organization of African Unity decided on February 18, 1975, to invite Yasser Arafat to speak before the African Summit Conference to be held in Kampala next July. The invitation was included in the Council's resolution entitled «The Palestine Question in the Middle East», which was passed unanimously. In its resolution, the Council strongly condemned Israel's continued occupation of Arab land and its denial of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland, and called upon the countries of the world to stop all forms of military and economic support to the Zionist state. The Council further stressed the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination, and condemned Israeli aggression on South Lebanon.

ARAFAT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM ARAB-AUSTRIAN FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

Yasser Arafat received a message from the President of the Arab-Austrian Friendship Association which was established in Austria in August 1974. The President of

the Association, his deputy and the members, in their message, hoped for the establishment of friendly relations between the PLO and the Association to the benefit of both the Arab and Austrian peoples. The message was accompanied by the Programme and Charter of the Association, as well as news on the press conference and festivities at the opening of the Association's headquarters, which were attended by a number of Arab diplomats and Austrian personalities. The message added that the beginning of an Arabic language course at the People's Higher College was met with a positive response in the press and in cultural circles.

PALESTINIAN-DEMOCRATIC GERMAN MEDICAL BODIES EXPRESS FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY

The Democratic German Red Cross and the Palestinian Red Crescent Associations expressed deep friendship and solidarity in a joint communiqué issued on February 13, 1975, at the conclusion of a visit by a GDR Red Cross delegation to the Palestinian Red Crescent Association's medical facilities in the Palestinian refugee camps and to villages in South Lebanon exposed to continued Israeli aggression.

The German delegation was headed by Dr. Peter Kohl, Director

of the GDR Red Cross.

In their talks, the two delegations stressed the following:

1 — Full cooperation to serve the aims and principles of the International Red Cross and Crescent Associations.

2 — The promotion of friendship between the Palestinian and Democratic German peoples, and the consolidation of relations between the two peoples.

3 — The GDR Red Cross Association's support for the just rights of the Palestinian people in their struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

4 — The GDR Red Cross's support for the Palestinian Red Crescent on the international level, to ensure its full membership in international bodies, its support of the latter to enable it to provide medical and social services to the Palestinian people and the Revolution.

5 — Both associations' cooperation with, and support for, all peoples of the world in their struggle for self-determination.

6 — Both organizations' firm mutual cooperation, and their call for cooperation with Red Cross associations in the Socialist countries, encouraging them to support the Palestinian Red Crescent.

7 — Both associations' denunciation of Israel's continued violation of the Geneva Convention by its repeated aggression against Palestinian refugee camps and South Lebanon, and by its inhuman treatment of prisoners and detainees in the occupied territories.



PLO'S HEAD OF POLITICAL DEPARTMENT DENOUNCES WEST GERMANY'S ALLIANCE WITH ISRAEL

West Germany's continuing policy of alliance with enemies of the Palestinian people—Israel and the USA—prompted Farouq Qaddoumi, member of the PLO's Executive Committee and Head of its Political Department, to denounce Bonn's stance toward Israel. Qaddoumi, on February 13, 1975, said:

«Federal Germany, since 1952, in keeping with an agreement between its then—Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and David Ben Gourion—has offered Israel compensation amounting to almost 6,000 million US dollars; and in 1965 it offered more than \$700 million as additional compensation.

«On January 17, 1975, the German Minister of Information announced that West Germany will pay Israel an extra 600 million German new marks, in compensation to Jews for Nazi crimes. West Germany had earlier pledged not to pay this additional amount, but has broken its promise, and is still taking a stand hostile to Arab questions in general and to the Palestine question in particular.

«This West German stand constitutes aggression against the Palestinian people and the PLO, particularly in view of Chancellor Schmidt's statement that 'The PLO should recognize Israel and define its stand regarding terrorism before any dialogue could start between Arab and European Common Market states.'

«This hostile German stand has led the PLO to make an in-depth study of suitable measures for the protection of Palestinian interests, and to undertake widespread contacts with Arab states to study the hostile West German position.

«The PLO cannot ignore this continued hostile stand, and the Arab nation cannot allow its continuation. The PLO therefore concludes that a forceful Arab measure must be taken to put an end to these compensations given to Israel.»

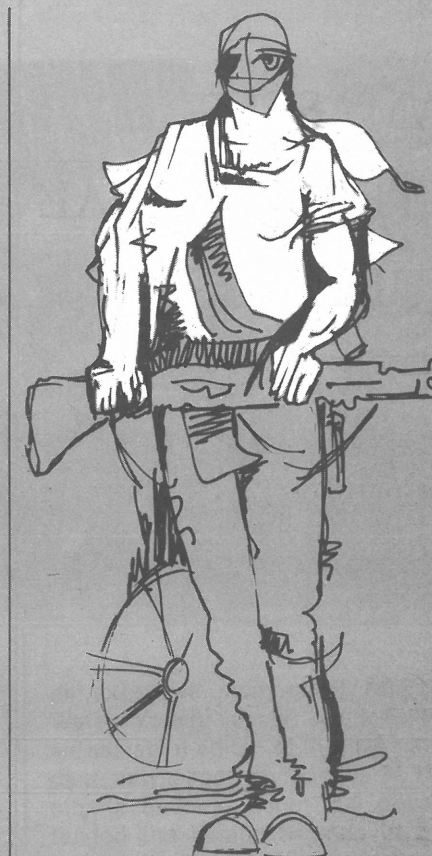
PLO HEAD OF POLITICAL DEPARTMENT: «U.S.A. EXERTS PRESSURES AT U.N. TO BLOCK PLO'S PARTICIPATION»

Farouq Qaddoumi, member of the PLO's Executive Committee and Head of its Political Department on February 28, 1975, denounced the destructive role the U.S. Government playing within the United Nations Organisation by exerting very strong pressures on the U.N. Secretary-General and U.N. member states in an effort to foil the international will expressed in the recent various U.N. resolutions in favour of the rights of the Palestinian people adopted by the 29th Session of the U.N. General Assembly.

Qaddoumi said: «The U.S.A. continues to exert political pressure on the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to prevent the PLO from acquiring its legal and political status as observer-member of the U.N.

«The PLO sees in these U.S. actions a violation of the U.N. Charter and the Declaration of Human Rights. It calls upon the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to execute U.N. resolution 3237 which calls for the invitation of the PLO to participate as an observer-member in the meetings of the General Assembly and in all activities of the United Nations Organisation and its organs.»

Abu Lutf revealed further that the PLO, on December 21, 1974, sent an official letter for the accreditation of a PLO delegation to the U.N., but that it had received no reply so far.



ROYAL JORDANIAN OPPRESSION OF PALESTINIAN REVOLUTIONARIES CONTINUES

Various developments in Jordan indicate that there has been no let-up in the oppression of Palestinians by the Royal Hashemite ruling clique.

Reports from Amman state that on February 16, 1975, Palestinian detainees in al-Mahatta Central jail in Amman declared an open hunger strike. The strike was staged following the subjection of two Palestinian detainees, Munzer Ershed and Fuad al-Safadi, to savage physical torture by Royal Jordanian intelligence officers in the prison. The striking detainees are demanding better treatment, improved living and health conditions, and an end to the torture of prisoners in solitary confinement cells.

DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MEETING

FOR SOLIDARITY WITH ARAB STRUGGLE

AN INTERNATIONAL DEMONSTRATION IN SUPPORT OF THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION

The current objectives of the struggle of the Palestinian people were the focal point of the discussions of the International student meeting for Solidarity with the Arab Struggle held in Damascus, Syria, 23-25 February, 1975.

The meeting was jointly organised by the Secretariat of the International Union of Students (IUS), and the National Union of Syrian students (NUSS), within the context of the international student campaign to increase international solidarity with the just struggle of the Arab Liberation Movement, the representatives of 55 national and international student and youth organisations attended the Damascus meeting which was a democratic

forum basing its discussions on the following three reports:

1. «The Arab National Liberation Movement in the struggle against Imperialism and Zionism,» presented by NUSS.

2. «The struggle of the masses in the occupied Arab territories,» presented by the General Union of Palestine students (GUPS).

3. «The International Student Movement and solidarity with the Arab Liberation Movement,» presented by the IUS.

The participants considered that the Arab Liberation Movement is an active component of the World anti-Imperialist Front, composed of the Socialist countries, the World Liberation Movement and the Working Class Movement in the capitalist countries. The participants also considered that «the Arab Liberation Movement is passing through a critical phase, as world imperialism and Zionism are attempting to deal a heavy blow to its unity of action, aimed at weakening and aborting it, as well as isolating it from its genuine friends, in particular the Soviet Union. Imperialist actions are also aiming at the liquidation of the Palestinian Revolution.»

On the current phase of the struggle of the Palestinian people, the participants concluded that the Palestinian Resistance Movement, under the leadership of the PLO, was continuing to intensify its heroic struggle, thus victoriously confronting all imperialist conspiracies, and was increasingly consolidating its position as an active component of the World Liberation Movement. The participants also declared that the attainment of a just and durable peace in the area could only be achieved by the complete liberation of the Arab occupied territories, and the safeguarding of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, most particularly their right to self-determination in the entirety of their homeland, as well as the recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Furthermore, the participants declared their full support of the right of the Arab Liberation Move-



ment to use all methods and means of struggle, be they military, economic or political, for the realisation of its noble goals.

The participants also expressed their complete solidarity with all the peoples and students struggling for national independence, democracy and social progress, especially the peoples and students of Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Chile, South Africa, Cyprus and Eritrea. Additionally, the participants hailed the brilliant successes achieved by the liberation movements in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Participants in the Damascus International Student Meeting for Solidarity with the Arab struggle concluded their democratic discussions with concrete plans to increase their solidarity with the Arab Liberation Movement by various means and actions, including the following: **Firstly**, to declare an international day of solidarity with the Arab students, **secondly**, to cooperate with student organisations in European capitalist countries in order to initiate actions in solidarity with the struggle of the Arab Liberation Movement, to expose the falsifications of Zionist propaganda. **Thirdly**, to launch an international campaign in solidarity with the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied territories, demanding the immediate release of all prisoners and detainees in Israeli prisons. **Fourthly**, to actively participate in preparations for the 11th World Festival of Youth and Students to be held in Cuba in 1978.



AUSTRALIA:

ENTRY BAN ON P.L.O. DELEGATION

MASSES PROTEST FORCES GOVERNMENT REVERSE DECISION

Last February, a delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation was met with an angry reception throughout the Arab World. The news also gave rise to a storm of protest from all the progressive and justice-loving forces in Australia itself, a reaction which was strong enough to make the Australian Government reverse its decision.

On 13 February 1975, demonstrators in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Brisbane—four major cities in Australia—protested against the Australian government's refusal to grant visas to a delegation from the PLO. The delegation had been invited to visit Australia by Bill Hartley, a member of the Australian Labour Party Federal Executive, on behalf of groups of supporters of the Palestinian Revolution. Committees had been established in each state to organise the tour. The committees were comprised of representatives of Arab community groups, student organisations, left-wing trade unions, and leftist political groups. The national president of the committees



was George Peterson, a leftist Labour Party member of the New South Wales state parliament. The national committee appointed Sol Salby as national coordinator of the tour. Salby is a 25-year old Jewish (born in Tel-Aviv) editor of DIRECT ACTION, a revolutionary socialist fortnightly newspaper published in Sydney, and is one of the strongest supporters of the Palestinian cause in Australia.

When the government refused to allow the PLO delegation to enter Australia, the committees organised demonstrations in protest. Of particular importance was the participation of large numbers of the Arab community. Anthony Maron, secretary-general of the friends of Palestine in Sydney and editor of PALESTINE FORUM, said that the demonstration in Sydney was the «greatest display of unity in the history of the Arab community in Australia.» Other speakers at the Sydney demonstration were John Bechara, president of the friends of Palestine, Emie Boatswain, secretary of the Building Workers' Industrial Union, George Petersen, Sol Salby, and Eve Petersen,

an executive member of New South Wales Young Labour Association and an assistant-editor of ARENA, the student newspaper at Macquarie University in Sydney. About 800 people attended the demonstrations in Sydney and Melbourne. In Sydney they marched through the Streets shouting «PLO! PLO! PLO!» and «Palestine Yes! Israel No.» They carried placards saying «Let the Palestinians Return», «Let the PLO Be Heard», «Israel Is the Stolen Land», «Towards a Democratic Secular Palestine for Arabs and Strations seen in Sydney for several years.

Meanwhile, the Australian Union of Students, which represents 239,000 students in Australia, has invited a delegation from the General Union of Palestinian Students to visit Australia as soon as possible. The invitation was conveyed to GUPS by Rod Webb, national executive member of AUS, and editor of ARENA, during a recent visit to an international student conference in Damascus. Webb said that AUS «has every hope that the Australian government will allow GUPS to put its case to Australian students». AUS will be organising a series of forums and debates on every campus in Australia during April to June around the demand for a free, democratic secular Palestine, and recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.





FPMA delegation posing with Yasser Arafat, Leader of the Palestinian Revolution.



FPMA delegation during their press conference.



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SOLIDARITY NEWS

FRENCH-PALESTINIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION VISITS

COMMENDS PRC'S MEDICAL
SERVICES—AFFIRMS

FULL SUPPORT OF PALESTINIAN STRUGGLE

A distinguished delegation from the French-Palestinian Medical Association (FPMA) visited Lebanon from 14-23 February, in response to an invitation from the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRC). The delegation was composed of six personalities prominent in their fields. Four were doctors of medicine, one an architect and one a statistician. They were: Professor Larivière, specialist in Parasitology and Tropical Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Paris; Dr. Roubier, specialist in Hospital Planning in France and the Third World; Dr. Olszycki, a surgeon at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Paris; Dr. Abbeys, anaesthetist; Bruno Delinguas, architect and Talal Rifae, statistician.

During their visit, the Delegation held several rounds of friendly talks with PRC officials. They also paid a good

will visit to Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestinian Revolution. On February 22nd, the Delegation held a press conference at the Palestinian Cultural Exhibition Centre, at which they defined the aims and purposes of the French-Palestinian Medical Association, and gave their impressions of the PRC's medical facilities. At the press conference, the Delegation circulated a written statement, selections from it are quoted below:

«The French-Palestinian Medical Association was set up in December, 1974, by a number of French societies which are active in solidarity with just causes. This Association was established so that the societies could pool their resources in order to increase the efficiency of their support of the national legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The Association's membership includes doctors and personalities of diverse political attitudes that embrace a wide range of political horizons in France. Some of the most active members of the Association are French doctors of Jewish origin.

One of the aims of (FPMA) is to convey to the French people a clear picture of the suffering of the Palestinian people, whether under Israeli occupation or in the refugee camps of the diaspora, at the hands of American Imperialists and their tool, the racist Zionist State. FPMA also seeks to offer medical aid to the Palestinian people, in order to help them improve their poor health conditions, which are due both to the vicious policies of Israeli occupation, and to the repeated and brutal Israeli air-raids against Palestinian communities everywhere, particularly in Lebanon. In this respect, the Association is currently campaigning among the French people to obtain donations for the construction of a modern hospital in South Lebanon, which will bear the name of the martyr, Mahmoud Hamshari the first PLO representative in France who was assassinated in Paris by Zionist agents on December 8, 1972.

The Association, moreover, seeks to bring about full cooperation between itself and the PRC by offering it all forms of medical help. In this respect, the Association pledges to extend help to the PRC in the following ways: **Firstly**, by training Palestinian medical cadres, **secondly**, by providing French medical cadres to work in the field of preventive medicine in the Palestinian refugee camps, and **thirdly**, by providing medicines and medical equipment.

In the course of answering questions put by the journalists present, the Delegation re-affirmed their full belief in the Palestinian Revolution's political programme for the institution of a Democratic, Secular State on the entirety of Palestinian national soil, as a substitute for the racist project of the World Zionist Movement, i.e. the so-called «State of Israel». The Delegation further stated: «The PLO plan is the surest way to achieve a lasting and durable peace in Palestine.»

In response to another question, the Delegation said that they reached the conclusion during their tour of the PRC's hospitals and clinics in the refugee camps and in South Lebanon, that the standard of medical services offered by the PRC is high. Moreover, the Delegation was particularly impressed by the fact that the PRC offers its services to both Palestinian and Lebanese patients on equal basis. One more thing made a deep impression on them, the Head of the Delegation Professor Larivière pointed at, and this was the importance given by the PRC to preventive medicine.

On another level, Professor Larivière denounced Israel's manipulation of «Solomon's Red Star Society» (equivalent to the Red Cross) for inhuman ends, as had been the case during the Palestinian commando operation at Lud Airport on May 9, 1972. On that day, the ill-famed Moshe Dayan, instead of meeting Palestinian Fedayeen demands to free only 100 of the more than 5,000 Palestinian political prisoners held in Israeli jails, chose to

attack a civilian aircraft—which was carrying about 100 passengers—with paratroopers wearing the emblem of «Solomon's Red Star Society» to disguise their true identity. «This type of manipulation and abuse which is particularly abhorrent, has become standard Israeli practice», Professor Larivière said. He went on to compare this attitude on the part of the Israelis with that which the Delegation had seen and felt in the medical centres run by the Palestinian Red Crescent Society. «The delegation spent the night in a number of PRC hospitals and clinics, yet we saw no arms whatsoever in any of them. Our experience totally contradicts Israeli allegations to the effect that PRC facilities are merely a cover for commando bases. Such allegations are fabricated by the Israelis to justify their savage attacks against the PRC's hospitals and clinics in Lebanon which are among the favourite targets of Israeli air, sea and ground forces.» «Even the PRC's medical centres within the area which borders Israel are empty of arms or any other type of military equipment», the Head of the Delegation added.

Giving their impressions of the Palestinian people, Professor Larivière said: «The Delegation toured Palestinian refugee camps and the Palestinian community centres and saw a strong, united people worthy of living. It was heartening indeed to see the Palestinian people sharing their life fully with the Lebanese people, and in total harmony, as one united people. For this reason, the Zionists will never be able to plant a wedge between them.» The Head of the FPMA Delegation concluded the press conference with the assertion: «Traces of Israeli shelling and air-raids against the villages of South Lebanon, and Rashidieh and Nabatieh Palestinian refugee camps are sufficient indication alone of the savage and barbaric character of the Zionist state.»



PARIS

DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINIAN CHILDREN

IT WAS A MEETING OF HEARTS ON THE DAY OF THE GENERATION OF TRIUMPH...

On February 2nd, the Committee for Palestinian Children's Day, in collaboration with the Association of Algerian Workers in France, organised a day of solidarity with the Palestinian children at the «Mutualité» hall in Paris, from 4-10 p.m.

The Children of the Palestinian Martyr's Troupe and several other artists took part in the most exciting and moving Palestinian cultural event ever seen in France. Ezzedine Qalak, PLO representative in France, opened the evening's proceedings.

Attending the event were a number of Arab diplomats and diplomatic representatives of other countries which support the Palestinian cause, a French Communist Party delegation, as well as members of progressive groups which support the Palestinian people in their struggle against imperialism and Zionism.



The opening words of welcome came from the children of Arab immigrant workers who sang the magnificent revolutionary hymn of the Algerian Mujahiddine, (freedom fighters) «Kassaman». The show then opened with «Kalachnikov», danced in battle dress, and dedicated to the glory of the Fedayeen and to the rifle which has become the symbol of our defence of our national rights. It is also a tribute from children to their fathers who died as martyrs for their people. This was followed by many other songs which expressed both the sadness and melancholy felt for the lost land and occasioned by the dismal life in the camps, as well as hope in the future. The Troupe also sang in honour of the new-found dignity, and about the path of return to beloved Palestine, to which the Parisian audience reacted with emotion.

The audience then had the chance to admire several «Dabkeh» dances—the national Palestinian dance

—performed in traditional hand-embroidered and richly-coloured dresses. The different steps of the Dabkeh expressed the diversity of the popular arts which used to flourish in Palestine. Both children and mothers in the audience were captivated by the show.

The children of the Troupe then invited Rabbi Levyne, the well-known anti-Zionist, to come onto the stage. They presented him with a «Koffieh»,—the black-and-white-squared headdress worn by the Palestinian men—as a sign of their friendship.

Other Palestinian artists were the singer, Zeinab Shaath, and the poet, Abou Al-Sadek, who recited the most beautiful lines praising the land of Palestine, so prodigal with its sunlight, its fruits and its flowers.

An Algerian-Tunisian Music group, which sang a number of songs composed by the Egyptian revolutionary singer, Sheikh Imam, also took part in the evening's entertainment, as did the Occitanian poet, Marty, who sang some Occitanian folk songs from his native province, thus illustrating the kind of international solidarity occasioned by the struggle of the Palestinian people.

The show ended with an enthusiastic reception from the public, and when the diplomats representing friendly countries present, in particular those from the USSR and North Vietnam, warmly embraced the children of the Troupe who had come forward to greet them, wild applause broke out. All met later at a Palestinian supper at which a number of specialities were served

and greatly appreciated. Then the public visited and admired an exhibition of Palestinian crafts in which the hand-embroidered articles rivalled one another in beauty and the brightness of their colours, next to the drawings, paintings and photos of the children of the camps. A slide-show concluded this Palestinian evening.

The organisers' aim had been to focus the attention of the French people on the life of the Palestinian children; these are the children who are daily attacked by Zionist Phantom bombers, children deprived of their land, born in the camps where their parents were driven to, out of their homeland, in 1948 and 1967. But these children, who were born in poverty, have learned the history of their people and of their land, and they know

who their enemy is. These children want to determine their own future in their own homeland; and so they receive training in fighting skills in the camps for Lion-cubs (Al-Ashbal) or Flowers (Al-Zahrat). These children are also those of the children of the Martyrs' Troupe, who are fighting on another front, the cultural front.

They showed, to those who came to see and hear them, that the Palestinian people is not only rich in its revolutionary ideals, but also in its spiritual and cultural ideals, and in its faith in its future. «The generation of exile is the generation of victory» was the slogan of the evening. The children showed even more: as a spectator said «Usually it is a meeting of minds. Today it is a meeting of hearts.»

□ □





SOLIDARITY NEWS

HAMBURG:

MOST SUCCESSFUL PRO-PALESTINIAN CELEBRATION

The 10th Anniversary of the Palestinian Revolution was successfully celebrated in Hamburg and in other major West German cities. Supporters of the Palestinian national struggle defied the West German authorities hostile stand towards the Palestinian cause and organised a series of events in celebration of the anniversary and in support of the Palestinian armed struggle.

In Hamburg, two celebrations were held to commemorate the occasion. The first which was largely an inter-Arab event, took place on January 1, 1975.

Another and more important celebration of the occasion was held on the evening of February 8, 1975. The most successful pro-Palestinian celebration held in Hamburg to date; it was sponsored by the Palestine Committee in Hamburg. Some 1,000 people attended the event which took place in a large hall in the University of Hamburg. During the celebration,

which lasted for some six hours, Palestinian national dances (Dabkeh) and songs were presented and Palestinian dishes were widely enjoyed. Books on the Palestine Question were on sale, as well as a variety of products made in the workshops of the Sons of the Martyrs for Palestine «SAMED». Donations collected during the celebra-

tion, and including proceeds from the sale of lottery tickets, amounted to 5,000 Marks. It was decided to donate this sum for the reconstruction of Nabatiyah—Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon—which was totally destroyed by Israeli bombers in May, 1974.

The great success of the event was due to the tremendous efforts made by members and friends of the Palestine Committee in Hamburg, who received devoted help from the Hamburg branches of both the Union of Turkish Students and the Union of Iranian Students in West Germany, as well as from the Communist Party of Germany (Marxist-Leninist) «KPD» and other supporters of the Palestinian cause.

All those concerned were greatly encouraged by the success of the event and expressed their determination to continue the struggle to compel the West German authorities to change their hostile attitude towards the Palestinian national struggle, and to legalise the activities of both the General Union of Palestine Students (GUPS), and the General Union of Palestinian Workers (GUPA), the activities of which were banned and their members deported in 1972.

A week before the February celebration, the Palestine Committee in Hamburg also organised a comprehensive information campaign as part of its drive to exert pressure on the West German authorities to recognise the national legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and to recognize the PLO as their sole and legitimate representative. The campaign included the distribution of pamphlets and the collection of signatures for that purpose.



MOSCOW:

KOMSOMOL SPONSORS. CELEBRATION OF 10th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION



On February 12th, the 10th Anniversary of the Palestinian Revolution was celebrated in the Main Hall of the KOMSOMOL School of Higher Studies in Moscow. In addition to Arab students and KOMSOMOL (Soviet Communist Youth Organisation) and other Soviet representatives, the celebration was attended by representatives of more than 50 national liberation movements, political parties and progressive forces from all over the world.

The celebration, which was held under the slogans «Glory and Triumph

for the Palestinian Revolution» and «Long Live Palestinian Friendship with the Soviet Union and Socialist Countries», included an exhibition of photos on Palestinian themes and on exhibition of Palestinian traditional costume.

The Deputy-Director of the KOMSOMOL School of Higher Studies opened the celebration with a speech in which he expressed his admiration of the sacrifices made by the Palestinian people, and their devotion to their homeland. He also expressed his satisfaction with the close and friendly ties which exist between the Pales-

tinian Revolution and the Soviet Union and Socialist countries, and wished the Palestinian people triumph and success in their struggle.

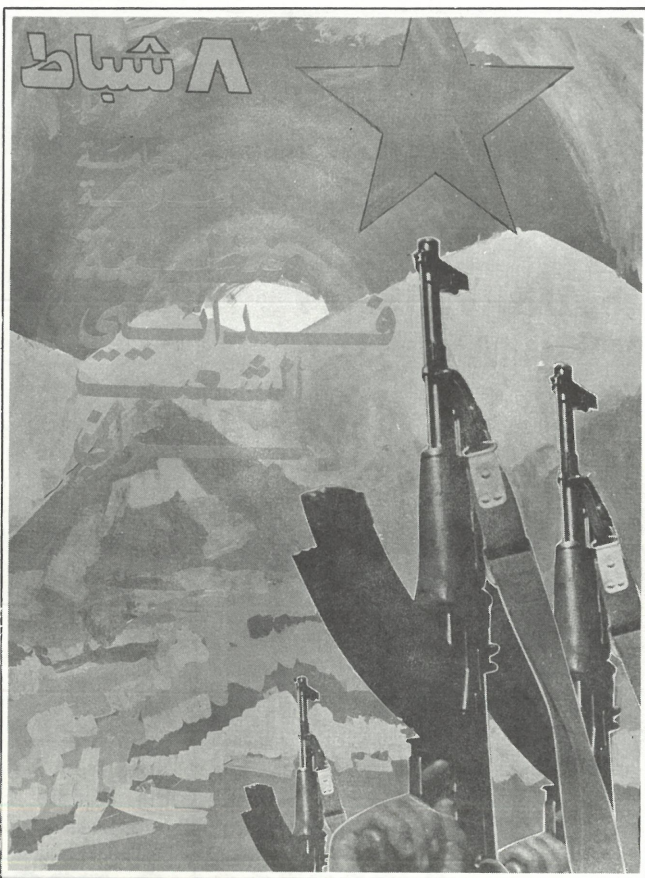
The second speaker at the celebration ceremony was a representative of the Palestinian students and trainees in Moscow. In his speech he described the organic ties which have existed since the 19th century between the World Zionist Movement and international imperialism. He also analysed Israel's policies based on racism, expansionism, aggression and militarism. The Palestinian representative went on to analyse the position of the Palestinian Revolution as an inseparable part of the World Liberation Movement, outlining its strategic aim in setting-up a Democratic Palestinian State on the entirety of the Palestinian national soil, in which all people who belong to Palestine—whether Christian, Moslem or Jew—can co-exist.

Several other speakers from delegations from Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and the Socialist countries also expressed their strong

support of the struggle of our Palestinian people.

A speaker for the Central Committee of the KOMSOMOL concluded the celebration by outlining the various aspects of our people's struggle, and expressing his heartfelt wishes for a glorious victory for the Palestinian people's heroic struggle.





LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

5th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FEDAI OF THE IRANIAN PEOPLE

Last February 8th marked the fifth anniversary of the launching of military operations by the Fedai of the Iranian People (1970-1975). The story of the formation of this organisation crystallizes the story of the Iranian national movement after the Second World War.

The case of Iran is an eloquent example of one particular method used by imperialism to guarantee the protection of its interests and the furtherance of its aims.

In 1953 the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency engineered the overthrow of the progressive Mossadegh government, which, in 1951,

nationalised the mammoth Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, thus unleashing a bloodbath against the Toudah party and other progressive and national democratic forces. It was considered important for the U.S. to win Iran because of its very important strategic location and its enormous oil resources. Since that time the Shah has imposed a brutal, tyrannical rule, working hand in hand with Zionist and imperialist circles in the area. He has also shown his willingness to serve as imperialism's policeman in the region, as witness the Iranian invasion of Oman.

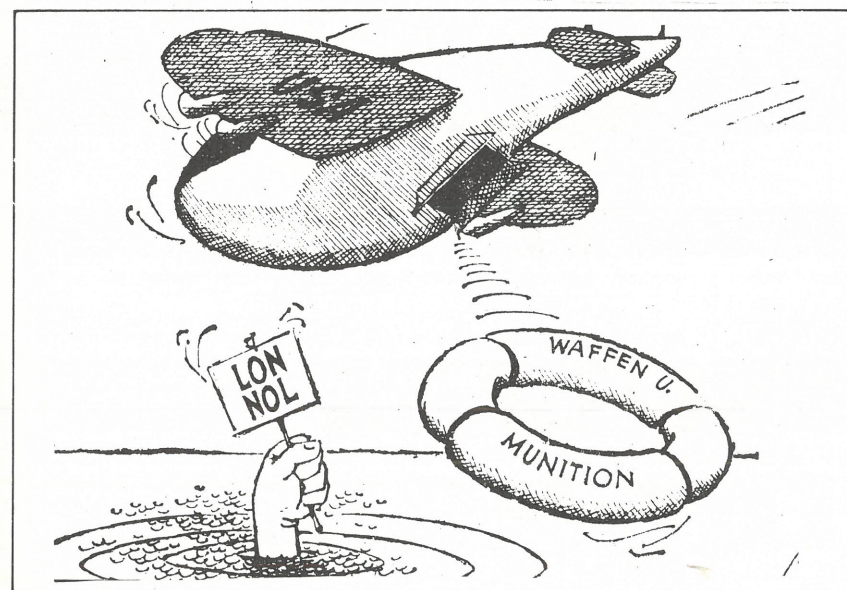
None of the political organisations which had operated openly during the Mossadegh period could withstand the reactionary wave unleashed by the Shah. Some of them began forming small clandestine groups to initiate armed struggle. Conditions were, however, unfavourable and the activities of these groups were promptly repressed. The remnants regrouped, evaluated the situation, and finally united under the banner of the Fedai of the Iranian People in 1970. They began recruiting among workers and intellectuals in the cities and training them in warfare. From a study of previous liberation attempts and an analysis of the prevailing conditions in Iran, the Fedai movement concluded that the project of all revolutionary organisations and groups was the immediate initiation of armed struggle to do away with the corrupt reactionary régime and to replace it with a progressive, democratic Iran. They decided on a strategy of rural guerilla warfare, complemented by urban guerilla warfare. The nucleus of an armed battalion was established in the forests of northern Iran, under the leadership of comrade Ali Akbar Farahani (Abu Abbar), but before preparations had been completed, the Shah's mercenary forces took the battalion by surprise, forcing it to retreat to the area of Siahkel. The battalion was then surrounded by overwhelming forces and all were killed. This defeat was not, however, considered catastrophic for the liberation movement, because the battalion's courageous stand had a profound effect on the masses and the revolutionary elements, illustrating to them the nature of armed struggle, and moving them to join that movement.

On the fifth anniversary of the launching of the armed struggle the revolutionaries are more confident of their strategy and are preparing themselves for a hard, long-term war to shift the balance of power in their favour. The revolutionaries are gaining the confidence of the masses, who are increasingly joining the armed revolution. The Iranian progressive forces, armed with their revolutionary beliefs, aims and strategies, will be able to achieve victory over the Shah's tyrannical régime and time is on their side.



CAMBODIA:

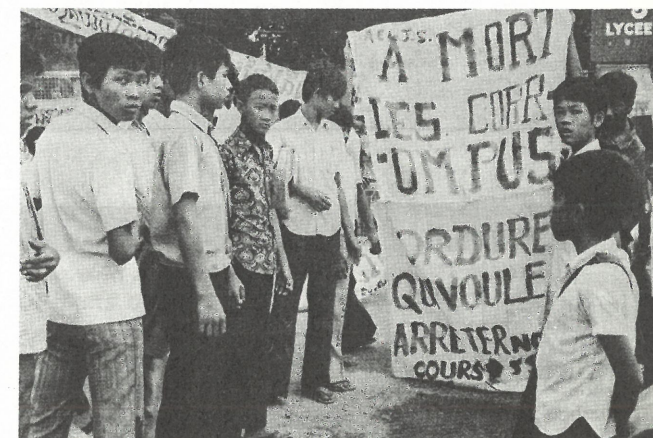
GREAT TRIUMPH FOR THE REVOLUTIONARY FORCES



Pnom Penh, the Cambodian capital, is now besieged by the revolutionary forces of the Cambodian Front of National Unity. This marks the climax of four years of successful and arduous armed struggle during which the revolutionary forces foiled massive military campaigns launched by the American and South Vietnamese forces. Six consecutive months of heavy American air-raids, day and night, totally failed to halt the progress of the revolutionary forces who now control more than 90% of the Cambodian territories. The Cambodian People's Armed Forces for National Liberation at present control the Mekong River—the strategic water communication line to Pnom Penh—from «Neak Luong» to the Cambodian-Vietnamese border. They are also maintaining a constant siege on the area around the capital. Their frontline is only a few miles away from downtown Pnom Penh which leaves most of the vital installations in the capital, including the airport, within reach of their shells.

The remarkable successes of the Cambodian revolutionary forces came after the powerful offensives launched on New Year's Day against the Lon Nol puppet regime's troops around the city.

The American imperialists have extended an air-lift of arms and equipment to Pnom Penh in an effort to rescue the puppet regime. Lately, the American president, Gerald Ford, has even urged Congress to approve additional military aid to the Lon Nol military regime, saying «time is running out». Such imperialist American demonstration of power, however, cannot save the Lon Nol régime. Cambodia, after Vietnam, is giving a clear example that a small people, armed with simple arms and revolutionary determination, and adopting the strategy and tactics of people's war, can overcome the even greater numbers of reactionary and imperialist forces, supplied with overwhelming quantities of sophisticated arms and equipment.





OCCUPIED PALESTINE

JERUSALEM DEFORMED

THE «GUARDIAN» OF LONDON PUBLISHED ON MARCH 1, 1975, THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE WRITTEN BY DAVID HIRST, THE «GUARDIAN'S» MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT STATIONED IN BEIRUT FOR MANY YEARS. THE WRITER WHO RECENTLY WAS ON HIS THIRD VISIT TO JERUSALEM SINCE THE ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF 1967, SUMS-UP IN HIS ARTICLE AN ACCOUNT OF THE ISRAELI PLANS, CARRIED-OUT SO FAR, TO STRANGLE THE HOLY CITY AND DEFORM ITS HISTORICAL PALESTINIAN ARAB CHARACTER.

«The Turks came and we stayed; then the British and then the Jordanians, but with the Israelis we have to go.» In the end, this relentless Judaisation of Jerusalem, as seen through the eyes of one of its Arab victims, may well turn out to be the main obstacle to a peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

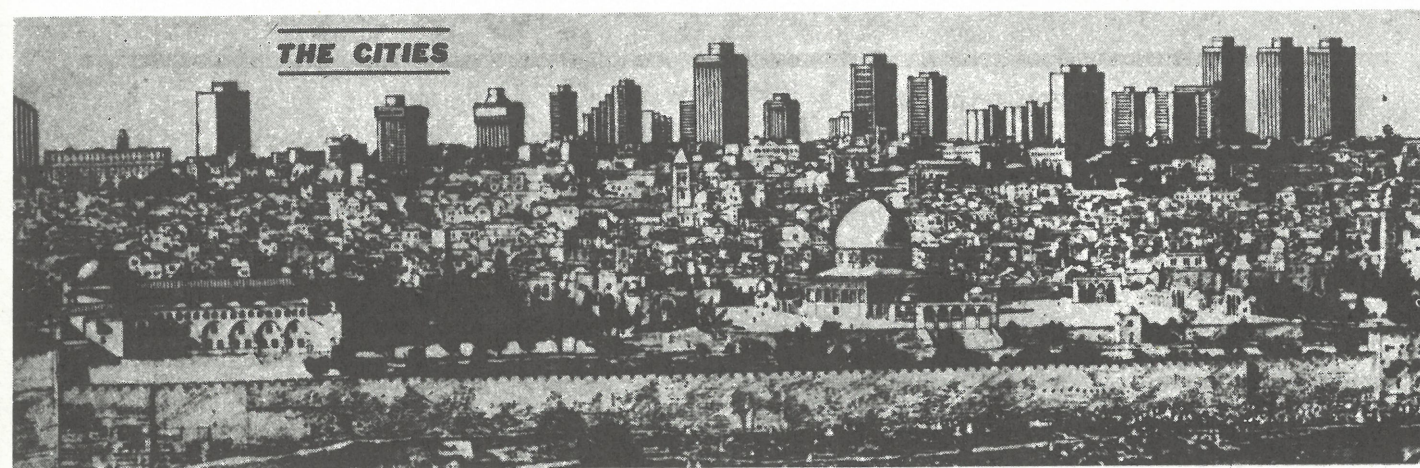
Nevertheless, the Israelis are pressing on with it at an almost frantic pace and in a world-defying spirit. They are apt to respond to diplomatic setbacks with the unveiling of ever-more extravagant plans for turning Jerusalem into what the Housing Minister once described as an «**emphatically Jewish city**».

The latest such disclosure, November's announcement of a project for a Jerusalem industrial zone some nine miles inside Arab territory, was described as purely coincidental; it was not, the Information Minister said, «Israel's answer» to the Rabat summit, PLO successes at the UN and Unesco's anti-Israeli resolution. But the history of

town-planning decisions since 1967 strongly suggests that it was.

There are of course many ways in which the Judaisation of Jerusalem affects the city's Arab inhabitants. There is, nothing—the way they educate their children, run their businesses, pay their taxes, elect representatives—which escapes the all-invading process. But the most obvious and detested changes are the physical and demographic ones which eating into the Arab character of the city, are almost impossible to undo.

It is more and more openly admitted that the great new housing estates going up round the city are not merely «geopolitical» in purpose—designed to ensure that Jews encircle and far outnumber the Arabs they are strictly military in conception, too. As the «Jerusalem Post» put it recently, «A new city wall is taking visible shape around Jerusalem—a ring of huge housing developments binding the city in a giant arc. In spite of its residential character, this new wall is not far removed in purpose from the battlements of the Old City.» The Housing Ministry has recently announced plans to fill a major gap in the wall with what is described as probably the largest single project of its kind yet undertaken in Israel—a housing development for some 25,000 to 40,000 families in the north-east corner of the city, between Neve Yaacov and French Hill. Its object, to «fortify» the city with continuous Jewish settlement. Some 9,000 families have now settled in the housing estates that have already arisen on the Arab side of the city. In all of Jewish Jerusalem before 1967, there were



some 49,000 flats. By the end of this decade—which by no means marks the end of settlement projections—there will already be some 40,000 families living across the former border.

Aesthetics have gone out of the window. Arthur Kutcher, the former Planning Officer for the Old City, wrote in his indignant book published in 1973: «The fundamental, commonly-shared awareness that Jerusalem's spiritual essence is inextricably bound up with her visual, tangible qualities, an awareness evidenced by 4,000 years of building in the city, is now not simply ignored, it is not even recognised.

«Instead, a new way of thinking about Jerusalem has sprung up the city is a resource to be exploited, its spiritual and visual qualities are commodities to be bought and sold in the matchless, delicate, poignant land-scape, the 'joy of the whole earth, is utterly without defence, and is today being randomly bulldozed throughout its length and breadth.»

The Jewish Quarter was never more than 20 percent Jewish-owned according to Rouhi Khatib, the former mayor of East Jerusalem. Jews owned 105 out of 700 buildings—even if the proportion of Jewish residents, renting homes from Arab owners, was higher than that. Since 1967, the Israelis have been busy taking over the lot from some 5,500 Arabs who live there many of them in houses that have been handed down from generation to generation.

According to official Israeli sources, 900 Arab families have so far been evicted from the Jewish Quarter. Another 70 are on the list to go. They were all served with notices in 1968, seven years ago, and negotiations have been in process with each family.

On my third visit to Jerusalem since 1967, I found no change in the methods the Israelis were employing in 1970 and 1972. It is all being done, officials still insist, according to the law. «The Arabs know they get justice in Israel,» says Zwi Ron, Advisor to the Mayor on Arab Affairs.

The legislation in question is indeed of British Mandate origin. This is the Land Acquisition for Public Purposes Ordinance of 1943. After 1967, the Israelis adapted it for the «reconstruction» of the Jewish Quarter.

Many Arabs do take their cases to the courts, but I have yet to come across one who has won his case. Nor could Zwi Ron recall one for me. This is not surprising, however, since the beauty of the law—though not its draftsman's

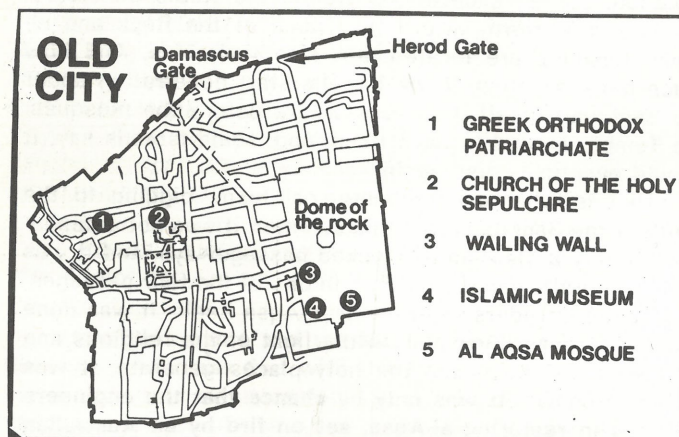
intention—is that it can be put to any «public purpose» the Israelis see fit, and in this case it is to turn out the Arabs and replace them with Jews. When I asked Zwi Ron whether the 1,000 inhabitants of the ancient Mograbi Quarter, who were turned out of their homes at few minutes' notice in 1967, benefited from Israeli law, he replied: «I don't know.»

Inside the walls too, there is another aspect of the Judaisation of Jerusalem that is still taking its toll. Ever since 1967, the Moslem authorities have continually protested against Israeli violations of what is known as the «status quo», the repertoire of age-old agreements and mutual adjustments, endorsed by the League of Nations in 1930, that govern relations between the three great faiths.

The demolition of the Mograbi Quarter, making way for the Wailing Wall esplanade, was the first and most drastic violation. But all excavations around the Noble Sanctuary, the raised platform where the Dome of the Rock and al-Aqsa mosques are located, are also violations. And how much more so, then, if the Israelis start penetrating under the Sanctuary itself, the place where before the mosques, the Temple is said to have risen, and, some Israelis say, it should eventually rise again.

That is what one archeological team, digging to the south of the Sanctuary, did this summer. It was not a tunnelling, merely a clearing of blocked passageways, and it was not structurally dangerous. But, in one of the four passages, it took the intruders right under al-Aqsa itself; it was done secretly; it was illicit and, in the light of the religious and national passions which the holy places generate, it was highly offensive. It was only by chance that the engineers engaged in restoring al-Aqsa, set on fire by an Australian (Christian) religious fanatic six years ago, discovered the intrusion. They immediately blocked the four entrances with concrete—and the Moslem authorities hushed up the whole affair.

Then there is the tunnel which the Ministry of Religious Affairs has been digging to trace the northerly extension of the Wailing Wall. In 1971, the Ribat al-Kurdi, an ancient structure under which the tunnel ran, threatened to collapse. The government said that the tunnelling would cease and the municipality took steps to prop the building up. It drilled four sockets in the Wall. Israeli religious leaders protested against this «desecration» of what they now call the Little Wailing Wall, and one of them took the opportunity to proclaim that the Wall should be exposed, from



summit to base, and along its entire length.

That would mean, of course, the destruction of all the historic Moslem buildings that enclose the Noble Sanctuary. It is not clear whether the unsightly—and, Arab engineers say, structurally inadequate—scaffolding which the municipality was obliged to use to preserve the Ribat al-Kurdi is to remain for good—although the authorities insist that it is only a temporary expedient.

Then, early last year, another, adjoining structure, the

Jawhriyah School, began to disintegrate too so dangerously that the municipality ordered the evacuation of four of its rooms. Notices were posted with the warning: «Dangerous Building, Entry Forbidden.» In another part of the building, Raja Khatib, pressed to leave too, told the Israelis: «I shall stay here even if it collapses over my head.» He is the cousin of Rouhi Khatib, the mayor of East Jerusalem deported in 1967, whose family have lived in the Jawhriyah for generations. Throughout the year, the municipality has been in correspondence with the Moslem authorities. The correspondence betrays one unmistakable, if tortuously expressed, purpose: to get the Arabs to take on the responsibility of restoring the building and, by implication, the responsibility for what has already happened to it and might happen in future.

According to the Mayor Teddy Kollek and his colleagues, it was last winter's heavy rains that caused the trouble. That is what they tell the Arabs—and what they told me—but it is an opinion they only express verbally. It does not appear in their voluminous correspondences; we are not responsible—that is all they will say there. They are characteristically reluctant, the Arabs presume, to commit such a specious opinion to print. No doubt the rains did cause the disintegration—but only because the tunnelling, weakening the subsoil, enabled the rain to have any effect.

The Jawhriyah, built in 1440, has withstood a fair number of harsh winters by now, and the Ribat al-Kurdi, dating from the 1290s, has withstood even more. In December, the municipality finally appeared to climb down; workmen suddenly appeared on the scene; the municipality will do the repairs itself; for it would be embarrassing if, because of this winter's rain, the Jawhriyah School really did collapse over the Khatib family's head. The municipal authorities for their part blame the Moslem religious council for the delay, saying that a decision kept being put off. According to the officials, it was the visit of a Unesco expert last year, who insisted that the job be done quickly, that led the municipality to put the work in hand. A municipal spokesman also insisted that no inhabitant of the building had been ordered to quit, one tenant had left of his own free will.

But it is not necessarily the end of the tunnelling—of what Dame Kathleen Kenyon, of the British School of Archaeology, calls the «criminal» behaviour and «vandalism» of exposing some of the finest buildings of their kind outside Cairo to such risks.

The Moslem authorities have always been sceptical of the assurance that it had already stopped. None of them has been down the tunnel for two-and-a-half years. Rabbi Perla, Director, Department of Sacred Sites, in the Religious Affairs Ministry, and responsible for the excavations, took me down, and agreed, at my request, that Ibrahim Daqqaq the resident engineer of al-Aqsa, should come too. This appeared to initiate a «no secrets» policy. Daqqaq, however, emerged little the wiser since it was difficult to establish, whether the tunnel really ended where it appeared to do, or not. In any case, according to one of Rabbi Perla's hand-outs, dated August 1974, it is the official intention to continue the tunnelling beyond the end of the Wall as far as the Via Dolorosa, where it will come to the surface.

The Israeli's dilemma is that they want to reconcile the hopelessly irreconcilable. They want to turn Jerusalem into an «emphatically Jewish city» and make out at the same time that they are not harming a hair of the Arabs' heads.



ZIONIST POUCH

SOCIAL PROBLEMS IN ISRAEL EXACERBATE

Israel Katz, an Israeli expert in social affairs, has revealed numerous serious deficiencies in social conditions in Israel.

In an interview recently published by *Davar*, the Israeli daily, he said that more than half the children in Israel do not receive sufficient care, and that more than half of all parents did not complete their primary education. The local councils and municipalities, which are supposed to deal with the people's demands, have been transformed into poor branches of the central government, and cannot carry out any major or minor projects. Moreover, he said, there are around 300,000 employees who do not have retirement insurance commensurate with their incomes, because of the absence of a graduated general retirement scheme.

FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN ISRAEL DECLINES

Foreign investment in Israel was 51% less last year than in 1973. Moshe Goren, Director of the Israeli Investment Authority, said that the lack of clarity of vision in the economic sphere, as well as the security situation, have greatly contributed to the discouragement of investors. He said that the economic measures recently announced were a negative incentive to investors, and that new taxes and dues, and the rise in the prices of raw materials, oil and electricity, had decreased the profits on investment.

ZIONIST ANXIETY AT DECLINE IN IMMIGRATION TO ISRAEL

The number of Jewish immigrants to Israel has greatly decreased in the past months, according to Menahim Sherman, Director-General of the Israeli Ministry of Immigration. The Zionist official said in an inter-

view with the Israeli radio on February 16, 1975, that during January 1975 immigration had decreased by 58%, as compared with the month of December.

The causes for the startling decline in Jewish immigration to occupied Palestine, and for the increase in Jewish emigration from the country, are—as defined by most observers—the deteriorating security situation, particularly after the October War, the intensification of Palestinian commando action, and the deep-seated social problems—the by-product of the racist attitudes of Zionism.

EXCHANGE OF VISITS BETWEEN ISRAELI AND SOUTH AFRICAN OFFICIALS

Usef al-Muji, Mayor of Haifa paid a good-will visit early in February 1975 to Cape Town, capital of the racist state of South Africa, at the invitation of David Bloomberger, Mayor of Cape Town. Al-Muji in turn invited the Cape Town Mayor to visit Haifa and occupied Palestine. Enemy sources said that the visit aimed at consolidating relations between the Zionist state and South Africa in the political, economic and military fields.

ISRAELI WAR PREPARATIONS

Haim Chadok, the Israeli Minister of Justice, who was a member of the Agranat Commission, spoke on February 4, 1975, over Israeli radio, discussing the nature of the new security committee formed by the Israeli government the week before. He said that the security committee, formed as a result of the Agranat Commission's recommendations, is a war Cabinet, and that it will effectively direct military operations in wartime.

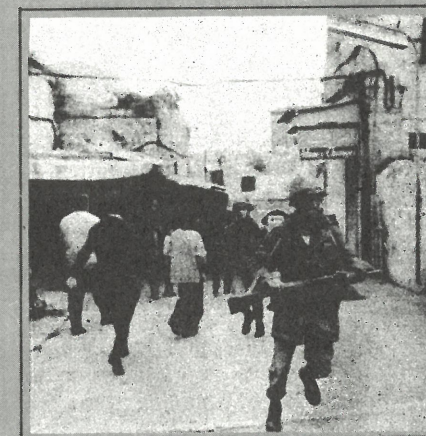
GOLDMANN: ISRAEL'S WORLD HONEYMOON OVER

Nahum Goldmann, the president of the world Jewish Congress, said recently that Israel's honeymoon with the non-Jewish world had ended, and that the countries which used to feel obliged to support Israel do not hesitate today to criticize and even oppose it. He added that Jews all over the world face traumatic experiences in the countries in which they live because of the Middle East conflict.

ISRAELI AUTHORITIES PLAN TO DESTROY JAFFA MOSQUE

The Islamic Maqassid Association in occupied Palestine exposed on February 14, 1975, plans of the Israeli Ministry of Religion to pull down the Hassan Bey Mosque in the al-Manshiya quarter of Jaffa, with the justification that it is in danger of collapse.

In related news, the occupation authorities in Gaza refuse to reconstruct the walls around the tomb of Shaykh Shaaban which they destroyed 5 years ago «for security reasons.» A large number of citizens have presented the Gaza custodian of Wakfs with requests to reconstruct the walls of the cemetery, which is in the center of the city and includes a large number of tombs.



5,000 PALESTINIAN MILITANTS ON HUNGER STRIKE IN ISRAELI JAILS

The Israeli authorities admitted on February 24, 1975, that Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails had commenced a hunger strike, and confirmed that the strike had begun in Nablus prison and then spread to the rest.

A large number of Palestinian prisoners in various occupation jails went on a hunger strike at the beginning of this year in solidarity with the hunger strike of Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, who last year was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment by the Zionist authorities.

The striking Palestinian prisoners are demanding an end to physical and psychological torture and to solitary confinement, an improvement in the quality of food, permission to read books and magazines and to listen to the radio, as well as permission for their relations to visit them, and finally a daily period of sunshine and fresh air.

News agencies reports said that around 5,000 Palestinians detained in Zionist occupation jails in Hebron, Ramallah, Nablus, Tulkarm, Ashkelon, Beir-Sheba and Gaza, had decided to go on hunger strike for an indefinite period; and that among them were 130 administrative detainees, jailed 9 months ago and held since then without trial, as well as many hundreds of those arrested months ago and still under interrogation.

TORTURE AND HUMILIATION ARE DAILY OFFERING TO PALESTINIAN CAPTIVES IN ISRAELI JAILS

Lebanese captives returning to Lebanon, on February 1, from Israeli jails said that Archbishop Hilarion Capucci was being subjected to torture and ill-treatment by his Israeli captors. They added that the prison authorities remove the Archbishop from his cell daily for interrogation. In spite of that, the Lebanese ex-captives said, Capucci's morale was very high and he was extremely optimistic about future victory. He always raises his hand in a V-sign to Israeli soldiers, and whenever he meets other Palestinian captives, he tells them: «I want you to stay real

men. We want peace, not surrender.»

One of the Lebanese captives said that Capucci had often spoken to Zionist officers and soldiers about the weakness of their government, adding that Capucci had gone on a hunger strike for 18 days and refused visits by Israeli officials.

Lebanese ex-captives also said they had met 50 Palestinian political prisoners in Kfar Youna prison, most of whom were students under 18 years of age, and all of whom were subjected to torture. The Lebanese ex-captives themselves were also tortured to force them to confess their cooperation with the Palestinian Resistance, but to no avail.

ISRAEL CONDEMNED BY U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

On February 21, 1975, the UN Human Rights Commission condemned Israel for its violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, and demanded the immediate release of Greek Catholic Archbishop, Hilarion Capucci.

The commission also condemned Israel premeditated destruction of the Syrian town of Quneitra, as well as its continued measures aimed at changing the historical and religious character of the Holy City of Jerusalem.

ZIONIST PLANS TO STRANGLE JERUSALEM

The city of Jerusalem is currently witnessing extensive Zionist efforts to colonize the greater part of the land belonging to the Holy City, as well as the establishment of new projects to Judaize it.

Shimon Peres, the Israeli Minister of War, announced on February 19, 1975, that the regional development of Jerusalem and the establishment of new factories there, are considered top priority for Israel. Peres, talking to members of the Economic Club in Jerusalem, called upon Zionist settlers to multiply their efforts in confronting the Arabs' dynamism in the regions surrounding Jerusalem, in order to encircle Jerusalem with an entire Zionist industrial region. Peres con-

cluded that similar efforts should be exerted in Galilee and Rafah.

JERUSALEM DEMONSTRATION IN SUPPORT OF PALESTINIAN DETAINEES

A demonstration was staged before the Knesset in Jerusalem on February 3, 1975, in answer to a call by the Israeli Communist Party «Rakah» to protest against the trial of militants of the Palestinian National Front.

Hundreds of people participated in the demonstration through the streets of Jerusalem, carrying banners on which were written in both English and Hebrew:

— «Release Imprisoned Militants».

— «Put an End to Suppression in the Occupied Territories».

62 NEW ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES SINCE 1967

Abraham Ofar, the Israeli Minister of Housing said on February 9, 1975, that the occupation authorities have established 62 settlements in Arab land occupied in 1967.

Ofar added that his ministry has decided to confiscate a piece of land near Rafah for the construction of a new settlement there next month, and that another new settlement will be built in the occupied Syrian Heights.

He further said that tens of settlements will be established in the coming months in the Syrian Heights, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Sinai.

He underlined that the occupation authorities will also seize thousands of dunums of land from the Bedouins in the Naqab (Negev) desert.

80 NEW ZIONIST SETTLEMENTS PLANNED IN OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES

The Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency has put forward a plan for the establishment of 80 new settlements all over the Arab territories occupied in 1967. A

large number of these settlements have already received official approval.

The Zionist newspaper **Haaretz** said that 20 settlements will be built in the Jordan River Valley and the Jenin, Latroun and Kfar Asyoun regions; 19 settlements in the Gaza Strip at the entrance to Rafah; 8 settlements in the Syrian Heights; 9 other settlements in the Negev and Wadi Araba regions.

Details were published regarding these 65 settlements only, since the locations of the remaining 15 have not yet been revealed.

PALESTINIAN STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST ISRAELI SETTLEMENT POLICY

On February 4, 1975, Palestinian students of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem staged a demonstration before the Knesset in Jerusalem, in protest against the huge number of Israeli settlement schemes in the occupied territories, especially in the Khan al-Ahmar area in the Jordan valley. A great number of anti-Zionist Jewish students took part in the demonstration.

DISPOSSESSION OF THE RAFAH BEDOUINS

The Soviet News Agency «TASS» reported from occupied Palestine that the occupation authorities are forcing thousands of Palestinian Bedouins to move from the Rafah region, destroying their homes and schools, and building Zionist military settlements in their place. The Israeli authorities are at the same time damaging plantations and trees, «TASS» added.

NEGEV BEDOUINS REFUSE TO SURRENDER THEIR LAND TO THE ZIONISTS

About 150 Palestinian Bedouin village-heads met on February 9, 1975, in the town of Beir Sabe' (Beir Sheba) to discuss the Israeli authorities' seizure of their land. This was the second such meeting in two weeks.

The land belonging to the Be-

douins in the Negev, on which they have been living for hundreds of years, and for which they have proof of ownership, has an area of some 1.5 million Dunums. During the meeting it was decided to form a committee of 30 elders, 5 of whom will be elected to hold contacts with Zionist officials, including the Prime Minister and his advisor for Arab affairs. The Bedouin have completely rejected Zionist suggestion of payment of compensation for their lands.

INCREASING HARASSMENT OF PALESTINIAN STUDENTS IN TEL-AVIV

Israeli police forces have begun to carry out large-scale searches of homes, hotels and other places inhabited by Palestinian students in Tel-Aviv.

Shlomo Hillel, the Minister of Police, made a statement to the Knesset on February 5, 1975, saying that these search operations fall within the framework of routine police searches of Arab students' living quarters, alleging that they are not based on any discrimination, and that their only aim is the protection of the security of the settlers.



CALL FOR WORLD CAMPAIGN FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF DRUZE COMMUNITY UNDER ISRAELI OCCUPATION

Al-Ittihad newspaper appearing in Haifa in occupied Palestine, called upon world public opinion to save the Druze inhabitants of occupied Palestine, who are subjected to the worst kinds of suppression by the Zionist authorities.

The newspaper said that, at a time when the Israeli authorities

and world Zionism are waging a large-scale campaign to «save» Jews in the Soviet Union, in Syria and other Arab states, these same authorities are taking measures to suppress the national and cultural awareness of the Druze community in their own homeland, in Galilee and the Carmel.

The Druze, the paper added in its call, have suffered under Israeli occupation as much as other Palestinians. They suffered even more when the Israeli authorities appointed their agents as heads of the Druze community without any pretence of democracy. They have mainly suffered because of 2 factors:

1 — The imposition of compulsory military service on Arab Druzes, the Druze opposition was repressed by the use of military and police violence and terror. Hundreds of Druze young men have been imprisoned, and their families terrorized day and night by Israeli civilian and military police.

2 — The policy of «divide and conquer» inherited from British colonialism. The Israeli authorities have decided to separate Palestinian Arab Druze schools from other Arab schools in occupied Palestine, in order to facilitate the execution of their plan to destroy the morale of the Arab Druzes.

Al-Ittihad's call further said that the torture suffered by the Palestinian Arab Druzes at the hands of the occupiers was incomparable in our day and age, and that death itself is easier than being forcibly driven to become a soldier against one's own people and one's homeland.

CLASHES IN TEL-AVIV UNIVERSITY BETWEEN PALESTINIAN AND ZIONIST STUDENTS

Clashes that included fistfights and stone throwing, broke out between Palestinian and Zionist students at Tel-Aviv University, during a meeting to discuss the Palestine Question held on Jan. 27, 1975.

Newspapers in occupied Palestine said that Palestinian students expressed their support for the PLO, following which a number of Zionist students assaulted the Palestinian speakers. The incident escalated, and there were several later clashes.

TORTURES IN

TRANSLATION FROM THE HEBREW «PI-HAATON»
OF JULY 1, 1974. [PI-HAATON IS THE ORGAN OF
THE STUDENTS OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF
JERUSALEM.]

AN EDITORIAL INTRODUCTION

«The excerpts in the article below, taken from «Zu Haderech» of June 12th 1974, arrived at our editorial offices on Tuesday June 25, 1974. Soon after we read them and were shocked by their content, we decided to publish them. Alongside this, the editorial staff decided to turn to the authorities to find out the truth and to see what they would say. On Wednesday morning, we turned to B. Leshem, the Assistant to the Police Minister. His office told us to contact the Police spokesman, Deputy Inspector N. Bosmi. This person was not in his office and we were told that the matter was not being dealt with by the Police, but was the responsibility of Army Headquarters in Judea and Samaria. We immediately called the spokesman there. He too was not present. We spoke to one Chaya who, we were told, was his assistant. We told her, in outline, what the excerpts reported and asked her: 1. What was Souliman Najab arrested for? 2. Why was he being detained in keeping with the Emergency Regulations? 3. Why was not S. Najab given a Court hearing before being detained? 4. Were the facts and particularly the torture claim as reported by the article true? 5. Was it possible to visit S. Najab in order to clarify the matter? The spokesman's assistant promised to give us a reply not later than Friday morning, June 28, 1974:

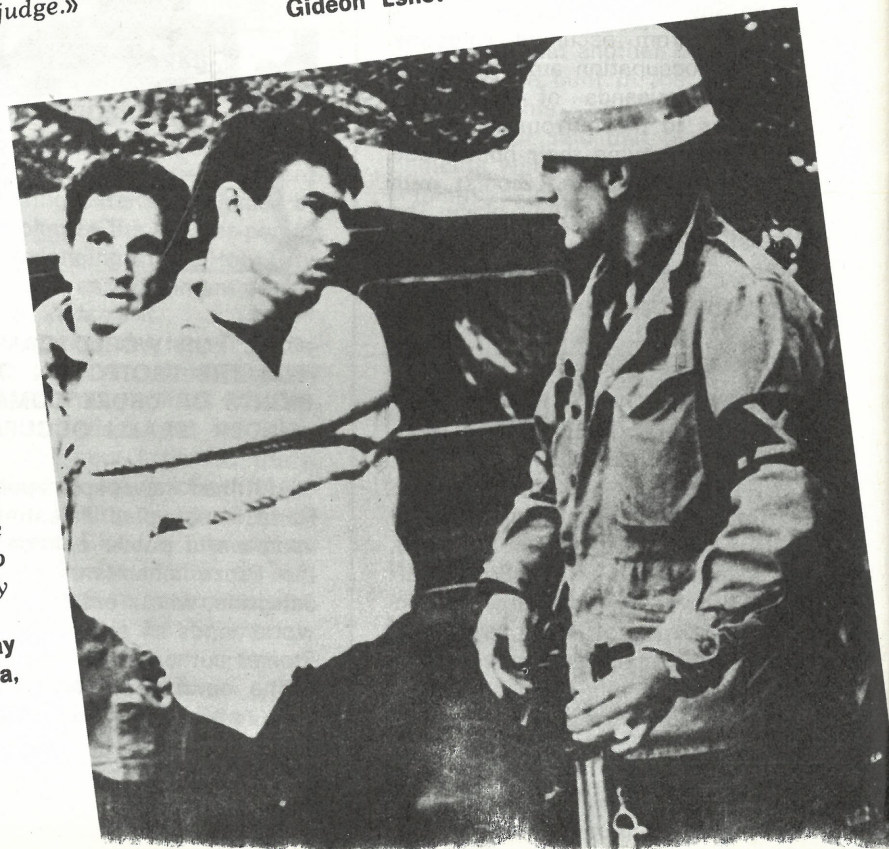
After a further chat with Army Headquarters in Judea and Samaria,

we were told that the matter is «delicate and political and therefore we are not dealing with it. Please turn to the spokesman of the Defence Ministry.»

«On Friday, June 28th, 1974, we called Mr. N. Lavie, the spokesman. When we informed him of the above, Mr. Lavie claimed he knew nothing about the matter nor did he hear of S. Najab. He added that the information was conveyed to the members of the detainee's family in the district in which he was arrested and that information will perhaps also be given to the press. We have not heard a word and the reader is invited to judge.»

Gideon Eshet

THUS WAS SOULIMAN NAJAB
TORTURED IN THE RAMALLAH
PRISON



«The signal was given on April 22nd of this year. Claiming they were carrying out «preventive arrests» on the eve of Independence Day events, a wide campaign of night arrests was started. All those arrested, some 150 persons, most of whom were detained by administrative orders (in keeping with the Emergency Defence Regulations of 1945) are well-known figures in the Palestinian community: public functionaries, trade union activists, working intellectuals, workers and students.

«The occupation authorities did not give out any information on the fate of the detainees, did not reveal where they were imprisoned and what their crimes were. The authorities rejected the requests of the family members and lawyers to meet with the detainees. They imposed a conspiracy of silence on the fate of the 150 men. No doubt remained that, by keeping the detainees isolated from their families and lawyers, the authorities wish to continue their questioning, under torture, of the detainees.

«Following the pleas of the families to the Supreme Court and after a tiresome procedure, a number of the detainees were allowed to meet with their lawyers but not with their families. This is the situation down to the writing of these lines.

A CRY FROM WITHIN THE BARS

«Among the detainees is one Souliman Rashid El-Najab. I will here present what was revealed to me by his lawyer, whom we met a week ago:

«I learned of the arrest of Souliman Najab purely by accident. Lawyer Felicia Langer visited the Ramallah prison on April 30, 1974 in order to meet a number of her clients imprisoned there, and Souliman El-Najab identified her from a distance. From within the bars of his cell, he called her by name and waved to her. He asked her where he was and she told him he was at the Ramallah prison. The policeman and jailers immediately halted the conversation. It was in this manner that the arrest of El-Najab first became known and till I met him at the end of May, no one saw him and none knew of his fate.

«I believe that were it not for this accidental meeting at the Ramallah prison, the authorities would have hidden the matter of the arrest and the whereabouts of El-Najab and might have treated him with even greater brutality. The authorities would have

ISRAEL

hidden him and his fate would have been cruel and bitter.»

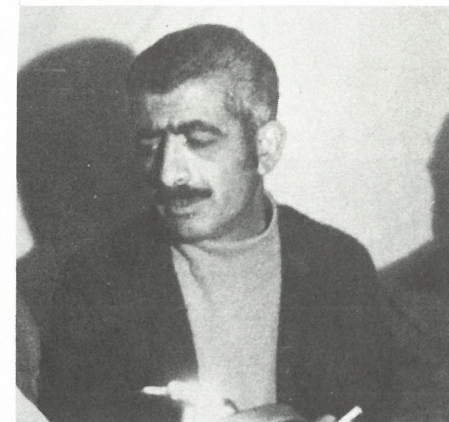
THE TORTURES DID NOT BREAK HIM

To my question: How long did they question you, he answered: «Eternally». To my question, what did he reveal to his investigators, he answered: «I have nothing to reveal, I will answer all their questions at Court only. All I have to tell them is my name, my I.D. number and my place of birth—everything that is recorded in my birth-certificate.»

«El-Najab also said that for 5 days he saw no light. All this time he was blindfold. His right leg was chained to the iron door of his cell with a 30 centimetre chain. When compelled to stand, he had to do so with body on the door and, when between tortures, he napped, he did so with his body on the door. His questioning was accompanied by torture. He was beaten at regular intervals, mostly when stripped completely naked, so as to make the beatings most effective. He was beaten with a long and thick rod. At times, one of his feet was bound to the floor and the other suspended in midair.

«He underwent another kind of torture. How was this torture perpetrated? One is made to sit on a chair with feet and hands bound. The chair is then arranged so that one's feet juts out vertically. The soles of the feet are then subjected to the beatings of a rod. Every time a rod is so applied, the head, which lies near a wall, is knocked on the wall. After the terrible beating on his soles, he was compelled to walk in the corridor and while so doing was incessantly pushed. In the Nablus prison, I was told that after the beatings on soles, the tortured prisoner is compelled to put on shoes into which salt water is poured, a terrifyingly painful experience.

«El-Najab underwent yet another kind of torture. Stripped naked, he was bound to a chair with his hands chained behind to manacles. One of



SOULIMAN NAJAB

the torturing team would step on the manacles with the entire weight of his body. This had the effect, because of his need to ease the pressure of the manacles on his hands, of raising his entire body. At this point other torturers hit his sex organ. The hitting of the sex organ till it bled and the crushing of testicles has become a common method of torture in the prisons under Israeli occupation. The torturers hope that the method will strike at the virility of tortured. When the torturers tired, they were replaced by others.»

WHAT HE LEARNT FROM NAZIM HIKHMET

«Fist blows and slaps were applied as a matter of course by the torturers. These were the conditions he was subjected to in the course of two weeks. To my question: What food he received in the prison he said: «I learned something from Nazim Hikhmet: to begin eating from the end. I ate in order to endure the investigations and tortures. I hope you will never know this kind of food. I was offered some kind of mix, some kind of dough consisting of ingredients I couldn't separate.»

«On May 17th, Souliman El-Najab was transferred from the Ramallah prison to the torture basements of a jail in West Jerusalem. He was brought there blindfolded. Though he saw

TORTURES IN ISRAEL



following 3 days of torture, his legs continued to be bound to chains. On May 25th, they took him out of his cell and transferred him to corridor in the cell area. Here too his right leg was chained to an iron door.

"To my question: What charges were brought against you, he said: 'They claim that I am the top man in the Jordanian Communist Party, that I am No. 2 in the Palestinian National Front and No. 3 in an armed organization which was supposedly put up by the former two groups. I made no reply. During the entire course of the torture, I did not once open my mouth. Eight years at the El-Jaffar prison of the Royal Hashemite House of Jordan,

nothing, he knew that there were two more tortured detainees with him: Adel Bargutti and Khalil Hejazi. All the way, they were beaten and their heads knocked on one another. He does not know what happened to the other two. He told me that here too, he was beaten and tortured so that he fainted. He had apparently lost consciousness for it was only when cold water was thrown on his face that he regained it."

THE IMMUNITY OF THE EL-JAFFAR PRISON

"The tortures and questionings ceased on May 20th. Even after having been returned to the Ramallah prison

between 1956 and 1965 had immunized me."

"When I took leave of him, he asked me to give his regards to his wife, his two daughters and the rest of his family. He also requested that they send him underclothes and shirts. Till today, the authorities have not allowed his family to visit him or to send him the things he requested."

THE HARMFUL MOTIVES

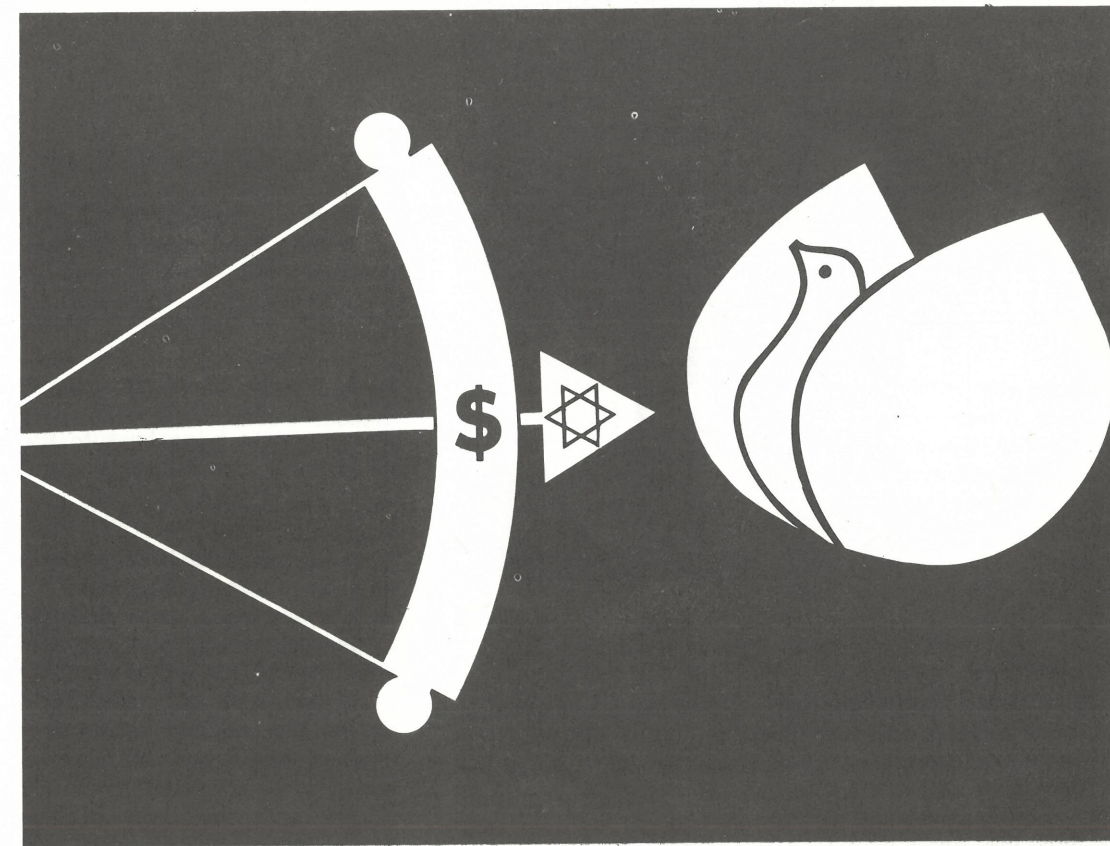
"The very fact that the authorities filed no charges against the detainees, but arrested them under administrative orders (in accordance with the Emergency Defence Regulations of 1945) for a period of 3-6 months, is an indirect confession on their part that the arrests were of political figures whose political positions and struggle are not to their liking.

"For a time, the authorities maintained a conspiracy of silence, but later, they embarked on a publicity campaign in which all the detainees were described as members of the Jordanian Communist Party, as members of the Palestinian National Front in the West Bank and supposedly as members of an armed body set up by the two former organizations.

"The authorities and the establishment press are not telling the people in Israel that the Jordanian Communist Party and the Palestinian National Front in West Bank both of whom enjoy wide popular support, call, in their platforms, for opposing the continuation of Israel's occupation of the Arab occupied territories and for their support of a just and durable peace based on the recognition of the national rights of the Arab Palestinian people; for their right to set up a Palestinian state in the areas from which Israel will withdraw.

"The recent campaign of administrative arrests and the tortures in prisons of the detainees is in direct contravention of the Geneva Convention which the government of Israel has also signed. The administrative arrests and the tortures sabotage the prospects of peace. It is therefore the duty of every person in Israel to do all to halt it immediately. It behooves us to tell of the atrocities of the occupation to every person. We should not remain silent. Those who know and remain silent will by their silence share in those outrageous acts."

(Emphasis in the original).



ZIONISM FASCIST & RACIST

REACTIONARY

On commenting on this subject Lenin said: "Absolutely untenable scientifically, the idea that the Jews form a separate nation is reactionary politically." (Iskra, No. 51, October 1903). Lenin goes on to say: "That is precisely what the Jewish problem amounts to—assimilation or isolation?—and the idea of Jewish «nationality» is definitely reactionary not only when expounded by its consistent advocates, the Zionists, but likewise on the lips of those who try to combine it with the ideas of Social Democracy—the Bundists. The idea of a Jewish nationality runs counter to the interests of a Jewish proletariat for it fosters among them directly or indirectly a spirit hostile to assimilation, the spirit of the 'ghetto'." (Iskra, No. 51).

The concept of a Jewish nation or people has always been used by the Zionists and anti-Semites to isolate Jews, to make them identifiable as a separate entity.

The Zionists fostered anti-Semitism for if anti-Semitism ceased to exist the Zionists claim that anti-Semitism was inherent in human nature and hence the need for a separate Jewish state would lose its validity; e.g., it was the Zionists who first urged German Jews to wear the yellow star, several years before Hitler's government made it compulsory.

ANTI-SOCIALIST

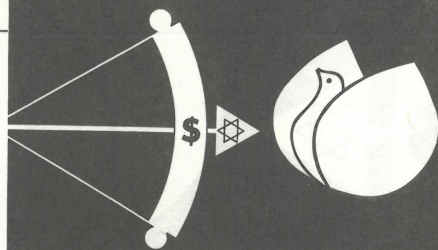
The Zionists always maintained a good working relationship with anti-Semites. Herzl (the founding father of Zionism) went to Russia and held talks with minister Von Plevé—who was at that time carrying out pogroms against Russian Jews. Herzl told Von Plevé that it was in his interests to support Jewish colonization of Palestine as this would rid Russia of her Jewish problem, and since so many Jews were involved in the growing Socialist movement this would be of particular benefit to the Tsar's government.

Several months ago a jailed fighter in Israel smuggled a letter to «Free Palestine» in London. In it he said that «very few people really understand Zionism.» In my experience this is a true statement.

Perhaps we should look at some of the aspects of Zionism. Firstly, is there a Jewish nation? The Zionists claim that all Jews, no matter where they were born, no matter how many generations were born there, are an entirely separate entity from the other people living in the area. No matter whether a Jew is a fifth generation Australian, a twentieth generation Russian or a fifth generation Spaniard, they all constitute one people and are part of one dispersed nation.

Once one accepts this tenet the next step is quite logical: i.e. that this dispersed nation can come together and has the right to its own state.

ZIONISM FASCIST & RACIST



In 1938 two Zionist emissaries, one named Pero Ginsberg, went to Nazi Germany to set up, under the auspices of Eichmann's Immigration agency, the Jewish Agency for Palestine. This served two manias—the Nazi's for getting Jews out of Germany and the Zionists' for getting them into Palestine. The Nazis were able to use the Zionists—they could be relied upon to compile lists of Jewish people and their property. It was the Zionists who formed the Jewish police to aid the Nazis. Fighting anti-Semitism, rescuing German Jews, was never considered by the Zionists. They had only one goal—the Jewish state in Palestine.

When in 1938, in the light of Nazi terror against German Jews, people in Britain and America sought to have their governments accept Jewish refugees into their countries, Ben Gurion said: «Britain is trying to separate the issue of the refugees from that of Palestine. It is assisted by anti-Zionist Jews. Zionism is endangered. If Jews will have to choose between the refugees, saving Jews from concentration camps, and assisting a national museum in Palestine, mercy will have the upper hand and the whole energy of the people will be channelled into saving Jews from various countries. Zionism will be struck off the agenda not only in world public opinion, in Britain and the United States, but elsewhere in Jewish public opinion. If we allow a separation between the refugee problem and the Palestine problem, we are risking the existence of Zionism.» (Letter to the Zionist Executive, December 7, 1938). Due to the influential positions held by Zionists in Britain and America, Ben Gurion's wishes were fulfilled. Jewish refugees were not offered asylum in Britain or America.

In 1943 Zionist Rudolph Kastner withheld from 800,000 Hungarian Jews the knowledge that they were being shipped to the extermination camp at Auschwitz. Kastner told them they were going to be resettled in a new village in the North for the duration of the war. This was done with the full knowledge and approval of the Zionist agencies in Palestine including Ben Gurion and Chaim Weizmann. Why you may ask. The answer is simple. In return for their treachery, Kastner and 108 loyal Zionist families were allowed to go to Palestine.

In this light it is easier to understand what British Zionist leader Norman Bentwich was getting at when he

said on page 106 of his book «The Promised Land»: «Seen with the eyes of providence Hitler was like Cyrus, a divine instrument to bring back to their land western Jews who could make a contribution of order and method.»

THE MYTH OF «LEFT» ZIONISM

«Germany for Hitler, Italy for Mussolini, Palestine for us.» So shouted Jabotinsky's brownshirts in the 1930s. They would not compromise. Their goal by terror, by force, by persecution—a totally Jewish state «from the Nile to the Euphrates.» This group produced the Stern Gang and the Irgun and such infamous leaders as Menachem Beigin—the butcher of Deir Yassin where, according to the International Red Cross, 254 unarmed Palestinian men, women and children were butchered in cold blood.

How did this brand of Zionism differ from the other more «acceptable» Zionism? In one way and one way only—tactics. Ben Gurion and Weizmann thought that the tactics of the Stern Gang and the Irgun would alienate the British on whom they were relying to allow increased Jewish immigration to Palestine, and the United States on whom the more astute Zionists had already placed their faith in as their most influential supporter in their goal for a Jewish state. While the official Zionist group was prepared to wait until the end of the Second World War to launch a military campaign—firstly concentrating on the political one—the Jabotinsky group were not. However they all had the same goal in mind: the expulsion of the Arab population of Palestine from their homes. Ben Gurion, on becoming Israel's first Prime Minister, even used the old Jabotinsky catchcry: «The present map of Israel was drawn by the British mandate. The Jewish people have another map which our youth and adults should strive to fulfill From the Nile to the Euphrates.»

The two strains of Zionism merely complemented each other. While Weizmann's group was busy with the political struggle the others were busy making life unpleasant for the British and the Arabs. Of course Weizmann's group was quick to dissociate itself from the terrorist actions of its brother organisation, and as the Western press never tired of pointing out, the official Zionist movement could not be blamed for the actions of a minority.

At the time of the partition the Irgun and the Stern Gang worked very well with the official Zionist army, the Haganah. As Menachem Beigin points out in his book «The Revolt (Story of the Irgun)», the Irgun and the Stern Gang were able to carry out operations that it would have been inopportune and politically unwise for the Haganah to overtly involve itself in, like Deir Yassin.

A quite recent phenomenon to come out of the Zionist movement is the left-wing rhetoric of some Zionist factions. This is merely a ploy—you can't have «left-wing Nazism or progressive Fascism.» The basic ideology of Zionism is

□ ZIONISM IS PART OF THE NEW BUILD-UP OF FASCISM — BASED ON MYTH AND RACISM

ZIONISM FOSTERS ANTI-SEMITISM

Fascist. No amount of rhetoric, cliches, etc. can change that. Zionism is based on a religious myth—i.e., a chosen people—in the same way that Hitler based Nazism on a genetic myth—i.e., a master race.

Some Zionists will tell you that the colonization of Palestine was a socialist revolution. That the Stern Gang and the Irgun were actually anti-imperialist people's armies. One only has to look at history to see how ludicrous this argument is. Some even claim that Zionism is a national liberation movement of the Jews. They are never able to explain, however, why not one liberation movement in the world, either in Africa, Asia, Latin America or anywhere else for that matter, supports their so-called «national liberation movement». Anyway a reading of Lenin's and Stalin's writings on the national question is enough to destroy that myth.

By far the most vicious and cunning Zionists are those who say: «I'm not a Zionist, I'm really against Zionism. I hate it. I just support the existence of Israel.» Israel is a state created by Imperialism and its lackey Zionism. It draws its justification from a religious myth. It is a Zionist state set up by Zionism and Imperialism. If you support the existence of Zionism, you are objectively a Zionist. Nothing on earth can change the fact.

The struggle of the Israeli Jewish workers is the same struggle as that of the Palestinian Arabs. The State of Israel does not represent them; it oppresses them. The Oriental



Jews in Israel for the most part live in slums only marginally better than the Palestinian Arabs. Only recently the Zionist leadership has introduced legislation which falls heavily on the Israeli worker. The reason for this is simple. Israel is an aggressor state serving U.S. imperialism. As such it does not care about the people it purports to represent; i.e., Jews. Rather it is concerned with pouring all monies into preparation for more aggression against the Arab peoples.

The Jewish workers in Israel are beginning to realise the true nature of the Israeli state. To quote from the «Jewish News» November 15, 1974. «Hundreds of workers and other citizens have demonstrated against the drastic austerity measures which doubled the price of bread, cooking oil and margarine, tripled the price of sugar, increased electricity rates by 70% and bus and taxi fares by 40%.

«In violent demonstrations at Shekhurat Hatikua, the Tel Aviv suburb housing mainly Oriental Jews, who are among the poorest in the city, rioters overturned ten buses, smashed government and municipality offices and looted shop windows.»

THE GROWTH OF FASCISM

«Vanguard» has consistently pointed out the growth of Fascism in this country. Fascism is pushed by the imperialists (C.I.A., etc.) in the service of the imperialist monopolies. In their promotion of Fascism the imperialists use many tactics. One is to promote overtly Fascist groups such as the Nazi Party and the League of Rights. Another is to promote groups based on appealing to a religious or national minority, like the National Civic Council (Catholics) and the Ustasha (Yugoslavs from Croatia). Still another way is by cloaking their operations with an air of respectability; e.g., the Country Party, the American Chamber of Commerce in Australia, and the Zionist organisations. In some cases these Zionist organisations will not even be called Zionist. They may be called Jewish community centres, Jewish youth groups, Australian Union of Jewish Students. It does not matter.

Also the so-called «left» Zionists will be promoted by the imperialists in the same way they promote the Mundays as Communists. This is done to confuse people, to make people think «well this chap might be a Zionist or a revisionist, but in reality he's not such a bad bloke.» It is essential that people go into the Jewish «ghetto» and confront Zionism, exposing it to people of Jewish background. Only by smashing Zionism can Jews be liberated from an ideology that has oppressed and isolated them just as much as the worst brands of anti-Semitism.

(A reprint from «VANGUARD», organ of the Communist Party of Australia (Marxist-Leninist) of Feb. 27, 1975).



POLITICAL PROGRAMME OF *the palestinian* *national front in the* *occupied territories*

MASSES OF OUR PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Our Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories are facing today an escalation in the Zionist and imperialist plotting and onslaught to strike their nationalist movement, obliterate their distinctive personality, liquidate their just cause and leave them in a state of uprooting, destitution and slavery.

The Zionist occupiers are freely indulging in acts of sacking and Judaization throughout our occupied lands. They are confiscating large tracts of Arab land, property and buildings, evicting their owners and, after razing them down, building over their ruins new Zionist quarters and settlements. They are adopting successive measures to attach our economy to the Zionist economy and make it dependent on Zionist companies which are making tremendous profits by exploiting our people and transforming them into a bunch of servants and low-salaried workers reeling under heavy taxation and exorbitant costs of living.

The invaders have not even refrained from desecrating our holy places, occupying and destroying them, fighting our Arab culture, humiliating our national dignity and denying us the simplest forms of liberty under the Human Rights Charter.

And while they deny hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees who lost their homes after the aggression of 1948 or the aggression of 1967 from returning home and rejoining their families, they open the doors wide open before Jews from all over the world to settle in Palestine. Towards this end, the Zionists rely on the bayonets of invasion and occupation and on utilizing the ugliest types of Nazi-like criminal terrorism. They have organized bloody repression campaigns against our Palestinian Arab people and their nationalist movement in the occupied territories

and in the diaspora, encouraged by limitless American political, economic and military support and the position of the forces of capitulation and defeat which are awaiting an American-promoted solution aimed at serving and protecting imperialist interests in the Arab homeland and implementing expansionist Zionist ambitions at the expense of our Arab nation, particularly the Palestine people and their sacred rights.

But vicious and dangerous as they are, the conspiracies and attacks have failed to subdue our struggling Palestinian people despite their massive sacrifices, ordeals and difficult conditions. This valiant people remains in the field, raising the banner of struggle and carrying out a leading role in the general Arab struggle against the Zionist-imperialist onslaught, in addition to confronting conspiracy and aggression by the Zionists, imperialists and their reactionary and lackey agents. Their heroic struggle has succeeded in promoting the Palestinian personality, reviving the Palestine cause and winning more international recognition and support. This has been demonstrated in the many resolutions of the United Nations, and statements by international conferences which stress that there can be no settlement and peace in the Middle East without the people of Palestine regaining their legitimate rights, on top of which their right to self-determination and to return to their homeland.

MASSES OF OUR PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES:

Our Palestinian people in the occupied territories realize the gravity of the situation because they stand face-to-face with the Zionist expansionist and Judaization schemes which are being implemented at the expense of their land and very existence. This has prompted the Pal-

estinians to confront and resist the Zionist plans and rally their ranks to defy the Zionist tide that is threatening to take everything in its way.

As a result, many sons of our people in the occupied territories have called for a confrontation with the existing dangers. After consultation and deliberation it has been agreed to form the Palestinian National Front in the Occupied Territories as a tested method of mobilizing and rallying the struggle capabilities of our people and in response to the appeal of the Palestine National Council which met in Cairo earlier this year (1973). Hence the Palestinian National Front is an integral part of the Palestinian national movement as represented by the Palestine Liberation Organization which, in turn, is part of the World Liberation Movement. The Palestinian National Front in the Occupied Territories adopts the following programme:

1. **Resisting** the Zionist occupation and struggling for the liberation of our occupied Arab territories.
2. **Securing** the legitimate rights of our Palestinian Arab people, foremost among which is the right to self-determination on their national soil and the return to their homeland.
3. **Rejection** of all conspiratorial plans aimed at liquidating the cause of our Palestinian Arab people and squandering their rights, whether the Zionist projects like the so-called Palestinian entity, civil administration, autonomy and the Allon Plan, or King Hussein's project as well as American solutions and similar liquidationist and capitulationist settlements.
4. **Defending** Arab lands and property against confiscation, and Judaization.
5. **Protection** of our Arab economy and preservation of Arab projects and Arab agricultural, industrial and commercial establishments in the face of attempts by the occupiers to crush and annex them to Zionist companies.
6. **Protection** of our Arab culture and history against Zionist deformation, especially in scholastic programmes.
7. **Defending** our holy places against Zionist insults and attempts to destroy and seize them.
8. **Revival** of our popular cultural heritage and resistance literature as they exemplify the attachment of our people to their land and their heroic struggle in defending it.
9. **Care** and attention for the struggling sons and daughters of our people in Zionist prisons and struggle to improve their lot and secure their release in addition to looking after their families, their wives and children.
10. **Support** for mass organizations like trade unions, professional associations, student and women's unions, clubs and religious and social societies as they defend the interests of the people they represent and in mobilizing their powers against the Israeli occupation, in addition to working with those organizations to protect them against Zionist attempts to infiltrate them and confronting the attempts of the occupiers to corrupt our youth.
11. **Assertion** of the unity of the brotherly peoples of Palestine and Jordan and the close bond with the Jordanian nationalist movement in the struggle to transform Jordan into a strong base of the Arab and Palestinian struggle against the Zionist and imperialist aggression.

12. **Assertion** that the national movement of our Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories is an integral part of the Arab liberation movement and insistence that the continued Zionist occupation does not threaten the interests and rights of the Palestinian people alone but also the rights and existence of other Arab peoples.

13. **Struggle** by the Front for the strengthening of the ties of friendship and cooperation with all the progressive and revolutionary forces in the world, particularly the socialist states, and work to win more friends on the international level to our just cause.

MASSES OF OUR PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES:

The creation of the Palestinian National Front in the Occupied Territories and its rallying of the masses of our people are an important step to cement our people's self-confidence and escalate their struggle against occupation in addition to refuting the allegations about the vacuum in the occupied territories. It also promotes Palestinian struggle outside and stresses the unity of struggle of the Palestinians inside and outside the occupied territories.

We call the Palestinian masses in our occupied territories—all classes and groups of peasants, workers, men of religion, professionals and national industrialists—to rally under the banner of the Palestinian National Front. We urge every citizen who cherishes the land of our fathers and forefathers, our national dignity and the sanctity of our holy places to rally under the Front. Our enemy is vicious and aims at uprooting us. To resist him successfully, all our people must take part in the resistance which must not be confined to one field but rather encompass all fields with every citizen taking the suitable position and doing his share.

Today is the age of liberation of the peoples and victory of the forces of liberation and progress against the racist forces of imperialism, invasion and aggression. Every determined and united people can achieve victory and win freedom and self-determination regardless of the power of its enemies and the brutal methods of repression and terrorism employed. Thus triumphed the people of Algeria and South Yemen after a long and bitter struggle fraught with sacrifices. Thus the world witnesses today the victory of the people of Vietnam against the most powerful of all the imperialists—the force of the American imperialists—the patrons and protectors of the Zionists. By treading the same path our people will be assured certain victory.

LONG LIVE OUR ARAB NATION.
LONG LIVE OUR PALESTINIAN ARAB PEOPLE AND
THEIR JUST STRUGGLE.
DEFEAT AND HUMILIATION FOR THE ZIONIST INVADERS
AND THEIR IMPERIALIST MASTERS.

The Palestinian National Front
Aug. 15, 1973



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LETTER FROM PRISON

Mother,

*It pains me, mother,
That you burst in tears
When friends knock
Asking about me.*

*But I believe, mother,
That the splendour of life
Is born in my prison,
And I believe that
My final visitor
Will not be
An eyeless bat.*

**It must be the day
It must be the day**

SAMEEH AL-QASSEM



Palestine

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**IN
1975
THE INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S YEAR**

**EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH
PALESTINIAN WOMEN
BRUTALLY TORTURED IN
ISRAELI OCCUPATION JAILS**

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**ESCALATION
OF ARMED STRUGGLE:
OUR ANSWER
TO ALL CONSPIRACIES**

