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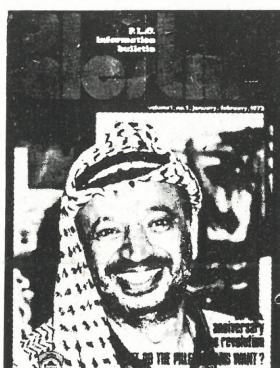
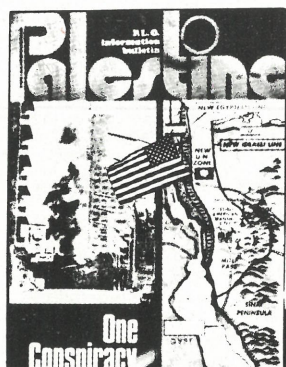
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Palestine

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**BEGIN'S
VICTORY**





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EDITORIAL

IRGOUN TERRORIST NEW WAR THREAT

Worldwide reaction is unanimous in saying that the election of the Likud will result in a deterioration of the situation in the Middle East, and will increase the possibilities of war there. This unanimity rises from the aggressive nature of the Likud bloc and the fascist character of its leader, the arch-terrorist Menachem Begin. The world recalls that the Herut party, the backbone of the Likud bloc, is the offspring of the Irgun terror gang, responsible for the Deir Yassin massacre of April, 1948. Directly after his triumph, Begin reinforced this worldwide anxiety by his intransigent declarations about an eventual withdrawal from the occupied territories. The West Bank (which Begin calls Judea and Samaria) is, to him, a « liberated » territory, where he pledges to establish « many, many settlements ».

Has Israeli society chosen war instead of peace? And for what reasons? Or was Begin's election an accidental event?

There is no doubt that there are some circles that are behind Begin's election, and especially those interest groups that benefit from perpetuating the state of tension in the Middle East. Those circles are in the United States as well as in Israel.

The Likud's election will certainly lead to repercussions on the Arab side, and will lead to the hardening of the Arab position. The Arab states, which have done their utmost to regain their occupied territories by political and diplomatic means, might see themselves forced to reassess their positions. They cannot accept Zionist arrogance and intransigence. How can the Arab leaders justify their current pro-American course to their peoples, who are longing for the liberation of their Arab territories?

Arab confidence in American promises might disappear and U.S. prestige could suffer greatly. President Carter's appeal, which gave the Arabs a new hope for a just and durable peace in the Middle East, might diminish. The U.S. president might fail to exert sufficient pressure on the Zionists, because he will be faced with the influential Zionist lobby in the United States. Continuous Zionist warmongering will lead to an arms race, and this would consequently lead to a new Middle East war.

With the Likud's election, the Palestinian homeland issue raised by President Carter in March has suffered a reverse. The PLO, although convinced of the intransigent nature of the Zionist entity and its prevailing mentality, has shown its good-will and taken considerable steps towards peace. But the Likud's election was a blow to all peace efforts in the region. The PLO has no other choice but to step up its armed resistance against Zionist colonization and occupation. Together with all peace-loving and anti-Zionist forces inside occupied Palestine and abroad, it will continue its just struggle against neo-fascism, neo-colonialism, and occupation.

Begin's election is not a setback for the Palestinians. On the contrary, it is a confirmation of the long-held PLO line that unmasks the fascist and aggressive nature of the Zionist entity. It proves the rightness of the PLO's attitude, that Zionist expansionism and aggression cannot be deterred by mere words.

It is now the historical responsibility of the U.S., Israel's patron, to prove its goodwill and to convince the Zionist leaders that their policy of intransigence will lead to more and more catastrophes in the Middle East. The Middle East and maybe the world will but remain untouched, because a new Middle Eastern war might lead the whole world to disaster.



BEGIN: A TURN FOR THE WORSE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

At a time of proliferating declarations about peace and political settlements in the Middle East, the world was surprised by the electoral victory of the Likud bloc in the Israeli elections. The Likud, known for its policies of annexation and warmongering, has become the strongest party in the Zionist entity. Its leader, Menachem Begin, was head of the notorious Zionist terror gang, Irgun Zvai Leumi. Begin is responsible for the deaths of thousands of innocent Palestinian citizens during the British Mandate in Palestine. His organization, along with others, was responsible for the Deir Yassin mas-

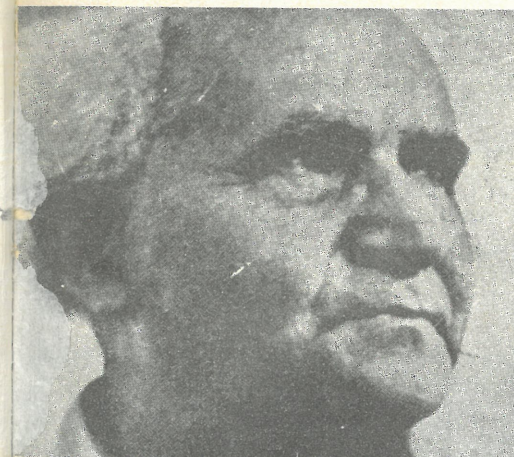
sacre in April, 1948, when 254 civilians were killed in cold blood. Begin justified this terrorist act as being necessary for the expulsion of the Palestinians into neighboring Arab countries, and for the creation of the Zionist state. The surviving Palestinians of Deir Yassin, captured women and girls, were brought in lorries to Jerusalem and paraded through the streets, where they were jeered and spat at. This brutal massacre committed by Begin's terrorist gang has gone unpunished to this day. After the Second World War Nazi criminals were tried and condemned by international tribunal, but Zionist crim-

inals such as Begin have yet to be tried. Instead, it is likely that he will become the chief policymaker of the Zionist settler-colonial state. He will most probably lead the Middle East into new wars and catastrophes.

The Likud bloc, with 43 deputies, is now the largest grouping in the Israeli Parliament, the Knesset. Likud's unexpected success is mainly due to the split within the Labor party (Mapai) and the Labor Alliance (Maarach bloc). Likud gained 4 seats over its previous standing in the Knesset, which was 39 seats. The Maarach bloc got only



A terrorist has become a Prime Minister.



David Ben Gourion: "Israel" has become a State.

32 seats out of 120 and became the second-largest grouping in parliament. The Likud has begun contacts with other, smaller factions with a view toward forming a cabinet. With the National Religious Party's 12 seats and the seats of other extreme right-wing parties, Likud can muster a 62-seat coalition in the 120-member Knesset. However, Labor leader Shimon Peres has officially rejected Begin's call for a government of « national unity », on the grounds that Likud's hard line on the occupied territories could harm US-Israeli relations.

Begin, a Polish-born Jew, immigr-

rated to Palestine at the age of 28 in 1942. He founded the underground terrorist gang Irgun Zvai Leumi, which declared total war against the Palestinian Arabs and the British Mandate. Begin does not feel the least bit guilty about his crimes. He is an unbending advocate of « Greater Israel », whose borders are movable depending on one's reading of the Bible, and he refuses to consider any withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

Immediately after his success in the elections, Begin visited the officially « unauthorized » colonial settlement at Kaddoum in the West Bank, from where he pledged that many more such settlements would be established, on the grounds that « a Jew has every right to settle in these territories ». Begin claims he will not annex the West Bank, because « you cannot annex your own country ». In a *Davar* interview, he hinted at *de facto* annexation by extending Israeli law to the area. He says: « This is an explicit juridical act which will be done at the right time ». Begin accuses the Arab states of « intransigence » for being unwilling to renounce their right to any of their land seized from them by Israel in the 1967 war. Instead, he argues that a state led by European immigrants has a historical right to retain such lands.

Although Begin's victory was very slim, he will be able to form an extremist right-wing government if he wishes. His intransigent attitude towards an eventual evacuation of the territories occupied in 1967 is not an encouragement to any of the peace efforts made by the two superpowers. Such hardlining on the Israeli side will inevitably lead to increasing radicalism on the Arab side. Arab moderation, an important contribution towards a just and durable peace in the Middle East, has not been rightly rewarded. Never in the history of the Arab-Zionist conflict have the Arabs taken such important steps towards peace as they have done recently.

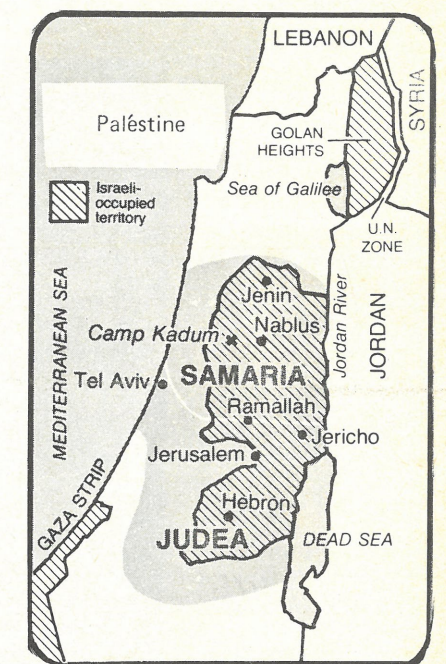
For Begin, the Palestinian issue does not exist. The West Bank is, to him, « Judea and Samaria », which at one time belonged to the Biblical Hebrews, and thus today are incon-

testable Israeli territories. « You cannot annex your own country », Begin explained to *Time* magazine recently. « You wouldn't annex Tel Aviv, would you? The same applies to Bethlehem ». Begin cannot conceive of a Palestinian state, because he believes such a state would be a mortal danger to Israel.

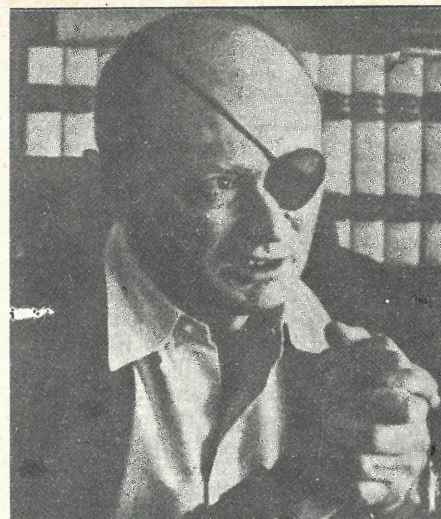
President Carter's promise of a « homeland » for the Palestinians is a new element in American Middle East policy, and gave the Palestinians a new glimmer of hope. However, Begin's extremist statements have dashed such hopes for now.

Begin's victory has created a new situation in the Middle East. It has definitely changed many calculations on both the Arab and international levels. The United States, Israel's main supplier and supporter, is today in a very crucial position. How will the United States cope with this new development in the Middle East? Can the United States exert enough pressure on its closest ally and protégé, Israel? Has Begin's election increased the prospects of new military confrontations?

There is no doubt that Begin's



election will increase tension in the Middle East. The probability of a new round of fighting has risen greatly. Moderate Arab leaders, like Presidents Sadat and Assad, cannot accept such a humiliation, because every delay in settling the Middle East dispute is to their disadvantage. They have shown their goodwill and have done their utmost to convince their peoples to support a political settlement based on justice. The Israelis, on the other hand, are not in a hurry, and with their delaying tactics they are trying to buy time for their expansionist policies. The Zionist lobby in the United States is expert at securing American support — moral, political, military, and financial — for Israel. It is also adept at coordinating Zionist ambitions in the Middle East with US interests, thus making them identical. The lobby also tries to widen the gap between the Arabs and the United States. However, the truth is that the Arabs have no interest in US hostility. Furthermore, the Palestinians also are not interested in adopting a hostile position towards the USA. But American policies have, since the beginning, cast the US in the role of the coldest supporter and ally of Zionist aggression and expansion. It was American weapons that caused the deaths of tens of thousands of



Dayan former Israeli minister of War.

Arabs and Palestinians. It is the United States which, since the beginning, has maneuvered to undermine the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland. It was American vetoes at the United Nations Security Council during the last 30 years that blocked any resolution condemning Israeli aggression and expansionism. It was the Rogers Plan and Kissinger's step-by-step diplomacy which totally ignored the legitimate rights of the Palestinians in their homeland, Palestine. Never in their history have the Palestinians or any other Arabs sought hostility with the United

States of America. But that does not mean that they should totally submit to American-Zionist pressure and influence.

With the emergence of Arab oil strength, which changed the balance of power in the Middle East, the US been forced to choose between the policy of continuous tension with the Arab world, and its real interests in the region. The continuation of America's traditional policy in the Middle East will definitely lead to the complete undermining of US interests in the region. If that were to happen, the US would lose its credibility as a peace mediator in the Middle East conflict.

The Palestine question will remain, as it always has, the core of the Middle East conflict, and without solving the Palestine questions there will be no peace in the region. President Carter's declarations concerning a Palestinian homeland are a step forward towards a just solution of the Middle East conflict. But can the Carter administration defy the Zionist lobby and bring the Zionists to their senses?

President Carter is not in an enviable position. Begin's election has hurt Carter's peace mission in the Middle East. Will he be able to prevent a new outbreak of war? □

WHO IS MENACHEM BEGIN ?



* He is the father of old and modern terrorism, a leader of the Irgun Zionist terrorist organization, the expected Zionist prime minister.

* He was born in Brest-Litovsk in Poland, 1913. He started his Zionist activities as a student while he was a member of Haschomer Hazair organization in Poland. This organization now is known as the Mapam party.

* Ideologically, Vladimir Jabotinsky was his teacher. This Jabotinsky, from Odessa, recruited a group of Jewish mercenaries to fight with the British against the Turks in World War I.

* Jabotinsky also formed the Hagana grouping in 1920, and he sanctioned Jewish militaristic behavior.

* Begin shared in organizing the Irgun in 1937, after the Palestinian revolt of 1936. Begin learned unconditional hatred from Jabotinsky, who considered the Arabs as « Rowdys and bastards »

* Begin got his B.A. in Law from Warsaw University. He was 26 years old when arrested by the Soviets in Lithuania. He was sentenced to eight years in prison, but he was released in 1942 as a Polish citizen.

* He joined the Anders army ranks later, and he left the army ranks, through Transjordan, and entered Palestine.

* In 1943, he became the leader of the Irgun terrorist gang, which was fighting against the Arabs in Palestine, and against the British mandatory authorities of the time. Throughout his terrorist career, he murdered without mercy or pity.

* Here are some of the Irgun gang's terrorist acts: 1) The assassination of the British State Minister Lord Moyne in Cairo on November 6, 1944. 2) The blowing up of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem on July 22, 1946, which resulted in the death of 91 persons, British, Arab, and Jewish.

* Begin headed the troops who destroyed the Arab village of Deir Yassin, where 240 people were killed, including women, children, and old people. This criminal act, committed on April 9, 1948, is still known as the barbaric massacre of Deir Yassin.

* The Irgun, in cooperation with the Stern terrorist group, assassinated the UN representative, Count Bernadotte, in September, 1948.

* The history of the Irgun terrorist gang, under the leadership of Begin, is full of criminal acts against Arab civilians, and they launched numerous savage attacks against the secure Arab villages, besides planting bombs in markets and coffee-houses frequented by Arabs in Jerusalem, Jaffa, Haifa and Lydda.

* In addition, Irgun looted from Arab banks, and stole from Arab individuals.

* The British mandatory government offered a reward of 10,000 to anyone who could capture Begin and hand him over to the authorities.

* Begin was arrested by the official Israeli army on June 21, 1948, after he had attempted was released later.

* From his terrorist gang members, he formed the Herut party, the largest party within the Likud grouping, and he went on to become a member of the Israeli parliament.

* From 1967, after the June war, until late 1969, he was a cabinet minister without portfolio.



Palestinians expelled in 1948 took refuge in camps such as this.

BEGIN IN HIS OWN WORDS

What follows are extracts from Menachem Begin's book, *The Revolt*. The words of the leader of the Irgun Zvai Leumi gang have been translated from Samir Sunber's Arabic edition of the book.

« I have written this book first to my Jewish people, in order that they not forget as they have done in the past. Also, it is directed at foreigners, in order that they might understand that the Jewish people have emerged out of fire, blood, and tears. There is a kind of person now which the world has not known for more than a 1800 years — the Jewish fighter ». (p. 12)

From his childhood, Begin was taught: « It is a must for all Jews to return to the land of Israel, which does not only mean the west side of the Jordan River but also the east side ». (p. 15)

« We used to accumulate weapons and train volunteers to open the way for the Jewish youth to be admitted into the land of Israel ». (p. 16)

« : 'As for you, either you are aware of the fact that you are one of the deceivers who works for the British and international bourgeoisie; or you are one of those fools who indirectly help to alter the masses' struggle

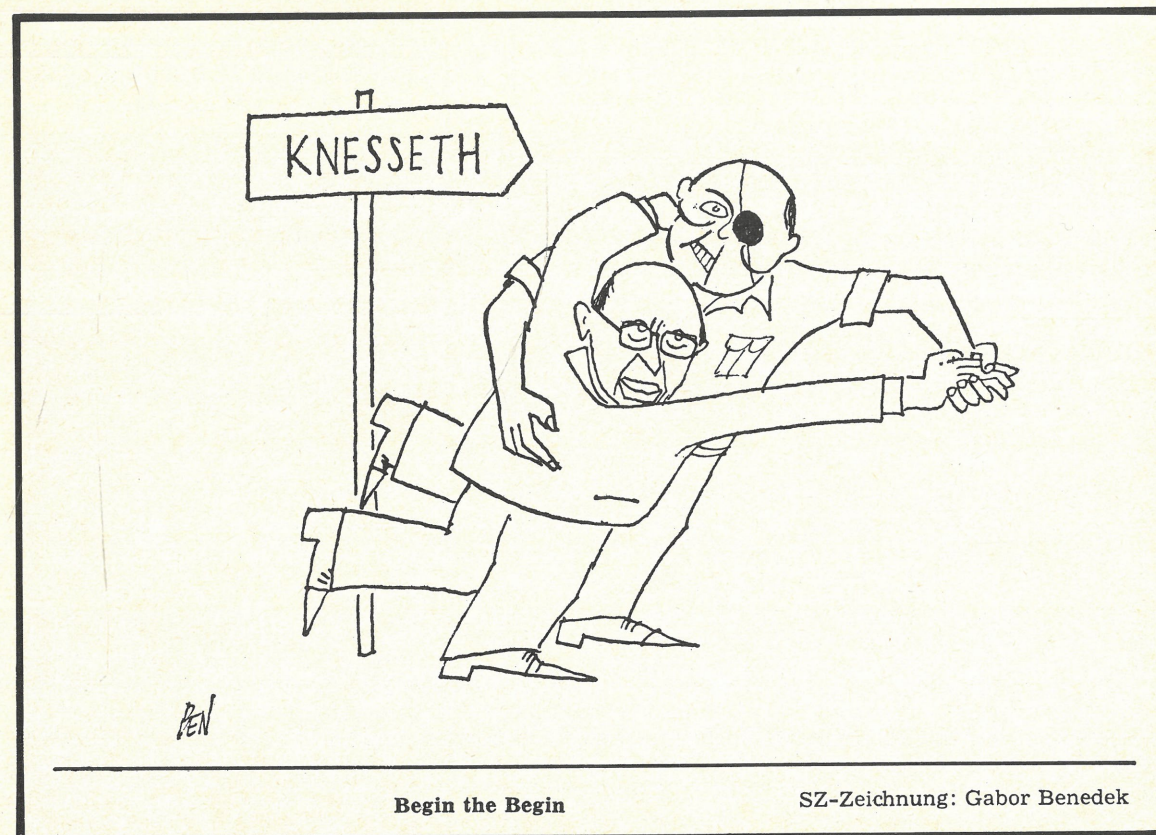
against exploitation... In either case, you are a big criminal. » (p. 17)

Regarding the massacre of the Arab villagers of Deir Yassin, Begin says: « International propaganda was directed against us, claiming that we had committed dreadful atrocities in Deir Yassin... We had lost plenty of our own men in previous battles... This thing forced us to use hand grenades, which resulted in the deaths of those civilians who refused to evacuate the village ». (p. 67) And: « The myth of Deir Yassin helped us conquer Haifa and other places ». (p. 68)

« Aliazar could manage two warships with the money we got from 'The American Jewish Liberation Movement' and the looting of a train that belong to the British Mandatory government ». (p. 84)

« The state of Israel was established by means of fire and blood... We have not finished yet... We have to fight on, for we still control only a part of our land... We have to strengthen ourselves, and our first main principle is to bring all Jews into Israel, regardless of restricting regulations ». (p. 121)

« Our state has been created, but we have to know that it has not yet been liberated. The battle is still going on, and the hands of the Jews will itself define the borders of our state ». (p. 222)



Begin the Begin

SZ-Zeichnung: Gabor Benedek

PALESTINE NOTES

ARAFAT: THE AIM OF THE CONSPIRACY IS TO CREATE NEW ISRAELS

Yasser Arafat, speaking on May 31 in South Lebanon, at a graduation ceremony for a new group of the Ajnadin forces of the Palestinian Revolution, declared that the Revolution has come out of the Lebanese war stronger than ever before, as a result of the formation of new units of the forces of the PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION.

He added that the aim of the conspiracy was to create new Israels in the Arab world. The ceremony

was attended by Abu Jihad, member of the Fateh Central Committee and the General Command of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, and Brig. Saed Sayel (Abu al-Walid).

Arafat declared: « It pleases me greatly to see this class of the Ajnadin Forces graduate. I recall that in 1970 and 1971, the forces of imperialism and Zionism, and their agents attempted to strike at the Revolution. At that time, the reserve forces of the Palestinian Revolution, as represented by the Yarmouk forces, we called upon to give new life to the Revolution, thus proving that this Force is stronger than the conspiracy and greater than the conspirators.

« Following the ugly conspiracy against the Revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement in Lebanon, the leadership of the Revolution decided to form the Ajnadin Forces, a decision that has special importance; for at a time when the conspirators thought that they would be able to cut the Revolution down to size, deal it a heavy blow or completely destroy it, a decision was taken to form the Ajnadin forces as a new support for the Revolution. In fact these forces are not strangers to the struggle, as

most of the members have played an effective and basic role in all previous battles. They emerged from the very suffering and the very experience of our people, and from amidst the challenges faced by our Revolution in order to say that this Revolution will remain and will be victorious ».

THE AIM OF THE CONSPIRACY: CREATION OF A NEW ISRAEL

Arafat continued :

« There are no revolutionaries without conspirators against them, and conspiracies are woven against every revolution. These conspiracies that we confront are not aimed against us alone, but against the whole Arab nation, for the object is to create the likes of Israel throughout the Arab region.

« Neither we, nor the free men in the Arab nation, will allow a new Israel in our nation, and therefore we stress the importance of unity ».

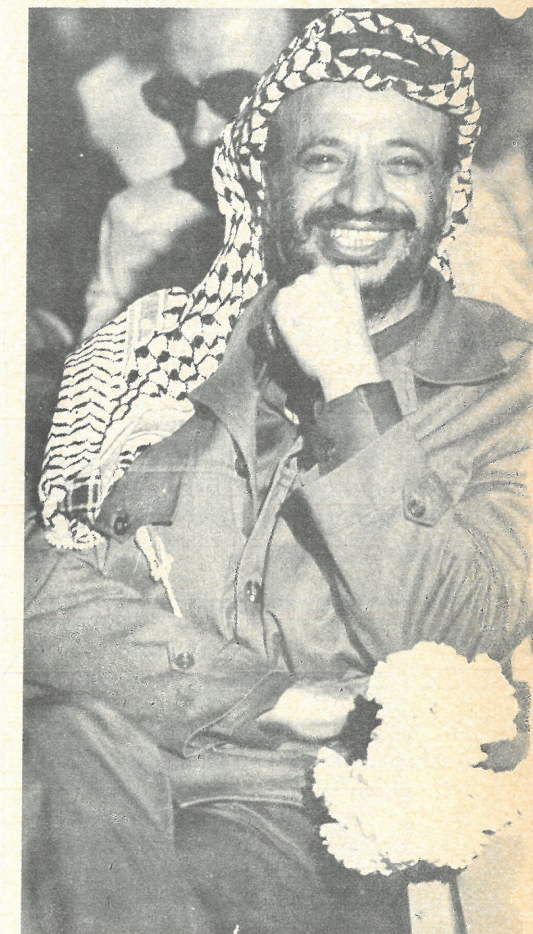
ON GENEVA AND A PEACE SETTLEMENT

Arafat continued :—

« Some talk about Geneva and the settlement as if they were things which do not interest the Arab nation... We in the Palestinian Revolution, as expressed by the Palestinian National Congress, say simply and quietly: 'We deal with all facts and givens in a revolutionary manner .. through our rifle, through our Revolution, and do not deal with it through slogans of rejection or acceptance.'

THE REVOLUTION AND THE MARATHON PASS

« I want to remind you of what I said in Amman in 1970: It is written that this Revolution should



stand in the Marathon Pass defending our nation, and we will continue to defend it with all the free men of the Arab nation. For it has been proved by experience that your Revolution represents the vanguard of the Arab region in defense of the entire Arab nation from the Atlantic to the Gulf, and this is the civilized mission of your Revolution.

« Therefore the importance of your revolutionary struggle, which defies all forces of conspiracy against your Revolution and your Arab nation; and this is the importance of the struggle you wage, and of this suffering you and your people endure. For your sufferings are not mere words, and your generation is not only the generation of suffering and sacrifices, but also the

PALESTINE NOTES

generation of glory, of dignity, because it records in the annals of history with letters of light and fire the procession of the Arab nation towards a new dawn.

« These things are important, and we must keep them before our eyes while we proceed on this difficult march. Since the very first instant we have said that the people's war of liberation is a long-term one. It is true that our path is long and harsh; however, every time I see a young cub, my belief in the ultimate victory of this Revolution increases, because I see in these cubs a series of victories which will crown our Arab nation generation after generation and year after year ».

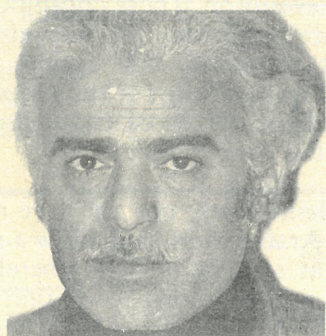


**ABU JIHAD:
ZIONIST FACE IS ONE
WHATEVER THE MASK**

Speaking to Palestinian military cadres on May 21th, Abu Jihad, member of the Fateh Central Committee and of the General Command of the Assifa forces, stressed the importance of political work and education among the Assifa forces.

In a talk to members of an educational course for officers, supervised by the Fateh mobilization and political guidance department, Abu Jihad also affirmed the necessity of work for the expansion of educational training sessions to include the largest possible number of the Assifa forces.

Abu Jihad then reviewed the current political situation and said that the Zionist face is one and the same whatever mask it wears. He added: « We in Fateh understood this long ago and have dealt with it through armed struggle. The determination of the revolutionaries to pursue the march of struggle will ultimately meet with victory ».



**ASSAD RECEIVES ABU IYYAD,
ABU SALEH**

Abu Iyyad and Abu Saleh, members of the Fateh Central Committee, met with Syrian President Hafez el-Assad for five and a half hours on May 16th. The meeting dealt with the current situation on the Palestinian and Arab levels and with the developments of the Palestine problem.

The Palestinian and Syrian parties reaffirmed the importance of the strategic relations between them and the necessity of consolidating and developing these relations. An atmosphere of frankness and understanding prevailed during the meeting.

Palestinian-Syrian talks will be resumed in the near future, in order to complete discussion of the various issues touched on by Abu Iyyad, Abu Saleh and the Syrian President in Monday's meeting.

PALESTINIAN DELEGATION DELIVERS LETTER FROM ARAFAT TO BHUTTO

The Pakistani Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, received on May 25 an important letter from Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, which deals with several Arab and international issues. The letter was delivered by the PLO delegation currently visiting Pakistan to help the Pakistani people overcome their crises, headed by Hani al-Hasan.

The Palestinian delegation also met with Mufti Mahmoud, leader of the opposition. During the meeting, both parties expressed their wish to negotiate, and solve the crisis for the good of Pakistan and its independence.



ARAFAT MEETS WITH U.A.E. PRESIDENT

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, met on May 22nd with Shaykh Zayed Ben Sultan al-Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, with whom he discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian Revolution and the results of the Israeli elections. During the meeting, Shaykh Zayed reaffirmed his country's material and moral support for the Palestinian Revolution.

On May 23rd, Arafat met with Shaykh Rashed Ben Said al-Maktoum, Vice-President of the United Arab Emirates, and informed him of the latest developments of the current situation on the Arab and Palestinian levels, and the stand of the Palestinian Revolution in light of the latest Israeli elections.

Arafat had arrived in Abu Dhabi May 23rd as part of a tour of a number of Arab countries.

Upon his arrival there, Arafat met with the Palestinian community in the United Arab Emirates, and confirmed to them the continuity of the Palestinian Revolution until victory. He said: « We have struggled for the right to carry weapons, and we will not allow anyone to deprive us of our life and of our path towards victory ».

Arafat then spoke about the situation in South Lebanon, and said that the fighting there will not end because the Zionist enemy stands behind the isolationist forces.

Concerning the victory of the Likud bloc in the Israeli elections, Arafat said that this success confirms the ugly face of the Zionist enemy, and means that Israeli society is one which calls for murder, terror and expansion, and rejects peace.

ARAFAT MEETS WITH RULER OF SHARJAH

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, met on May 23rd with Shaykh Sultan Ben Muhammed al-Qasbi, ruler of the Emirate of Sharjah. The meeting

dealt with the latest developments of the Palestinian problem in the Arab and international arenas, and the stand of the Palestinian Revolution regarding the latest Israeli elections.



ABU LUTF PRAISES STAND OF ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

In a press interview upon his arrival to the Libyan capital, Tripoli, Abu Lutf, Head of the PLO Political Department, praised the Islamic conference because it placed the problems of Palestine and Jerusalem at the head of its working agenda.

Abu Lutf added that the conference — which is currently being held in Tripoli — is very important. He said it expresses the full solidarity of the Islamic peoples and represents a huge step in serving the Palestine cause.

Meanwhile, in his speech before the Islamic conference, currently



meeting in Tripoli, Libyan leader Muammar al-Qadhafi said that « both peace and war in the region are in the hands of the Palestinian people ». He called upon all Islamic and peace-loving countries and forces to support Palestinian struggle, so as to enable the Palestinian people to recover their rights in their homeland and liberate their holy places.

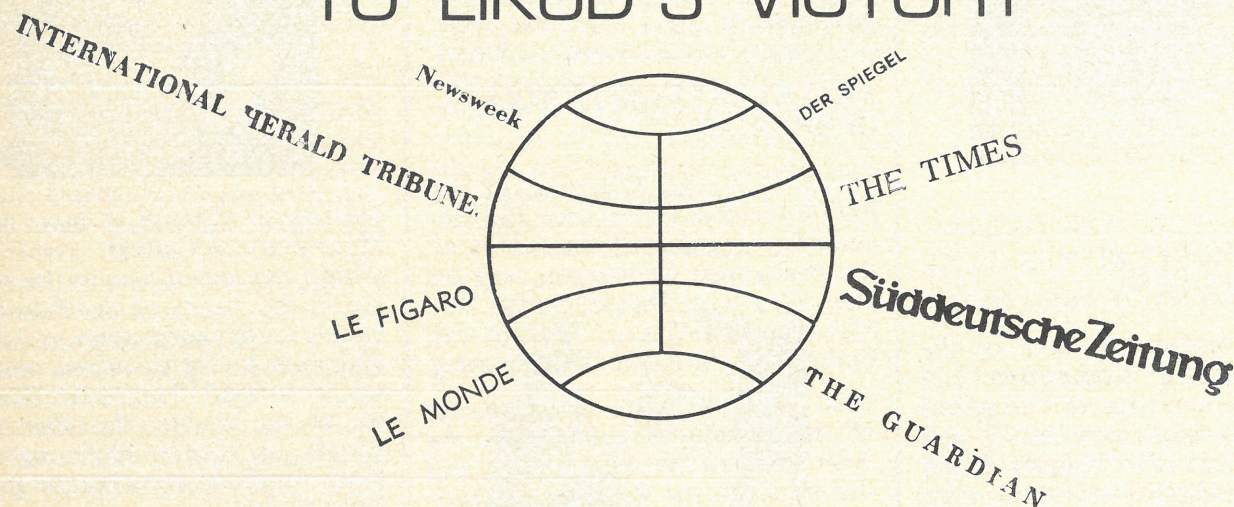
PLO REPRESENTATIVE IN PEKING MEETS CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER

The PLO representative in the People's Republic of China held a meeting on May 24th with the Chinese Foreign Minister, which dealt with the latest developments in the Middle East. During the meeting, the Chinese Foreign Minister reaffirmed the support of the Chinese Communist Party, government and people for the just struggle of the Palestinian people.

ARAFAT MEETS WALID JUNBLATT,

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, on May 16th received Walid Junblatt, Head of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party. The hour-long meeting dealt with the latest political developments on the local and Arab levels. After the meeting, Junblatt said that « developments were discussed generally, and this visit is a confirmation of the unity and solidarity between the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese National Movement, because their aims are common, the struggle is one, and the danger is threatening all ».

INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS TO LIKUD'S VICTORY



In the wake of the victory of Manachem Begin and his Likud bloc in the Israeli parliamentary elections, there were many reactions from individuals and newspapers around the world. Here are some of them.

Times (19-5-77)

« If the gods wished perdition on the Israelis, they would drive them mad: and what more suicidal folly could they inflict on them than that of choosing leaders committed to holding on at any price to territories which their neighbors will not renounce, in defiance of the one world power on whom they depend for weapons, for financial aid, and for diplomatic support? »

« There is no doubt that, internationally, Begin would be a liability as prime minister, both because of his terrorist past and because of his simplistic, if sincerely held, views on the key issues of territory and peace. »

« The victory of Likud is, a fortiori, a snub to moderate Arab leaders, and liable to endanger their political position in their own countries and in the Arab world at large. »

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE (20-5-77) — from « International Opinion »

« For those who care for and respect Israel, this is very grave news. Mr. Begin is one of the fathers of modern terrorism... »

« U.S. diplomacy now has on its hands not

only a former leader of the Irgun Zvai Leumi, but an Israeli national policy which is spelled out in those three Hebrew words. They mean 'both sides of the Jordan' ». »

International Herald Tribune (20-5-77) — by William E. Farrel

« The Likud could probably obtain the seat won by Samuel Flatto-Sharoun, a millionaire who ran as a one-man party because he felt a seat in the Knesset would aid his fight against being extradited to France, where he is wanted on fraud and embezzlement charges. »

The Guardian (19-5-77) — by Eric Silver

« Will Begin really show his promised land? The general elections have tabled an agenda of uncertainties. After nearly three decades, Israeli democracy has come of age. »

« It is conceivable that Begin could command a nationalistic coalition of the theocrats and the Right... to absorb the whole of the 'land of Israel' west of river Jordan. »

« Begin's triumph must be a bitter disappointment for President Carter, who has staked his reputation on making progress towards a Middle East solution by 1978. »

The Guardian (21-5-77)

« A certain lack of clarity hung over the Middle East with the eruption onto that troubled stage of Mr. Menachem Begin. After 29 years in the wilderness, more Israelis voted for his

hawkish Likud party than for any of its rivals... The Arab world was stirred but not shaken, and has decided to keep its powder very dry. »

Dr. Kurt Waldheim (quoted in the Times, 21-5-77)

« The many talks that have taken place will have to be renewed with the new (Israeli) authorities. The negotiation process will inevitably be affected. I expect delay in reconvening the Geneva Conference. Certainly the situation will be more complicated. »

Farouk Kaddumi, PLO (quoted in the Guardian, 19-5-77)

« The plans for a Middle East settlement, which President Carter has been hatching so carefully, have been seriously derailed. »

The Times (20-5-77) — by Robert Fisk

« A terrorist is becoming a prime minister. He was in charge of the Zvai Leumi and he was the 'hero' of the Deir Yassin massacre. He is the one who is leading the terrorist operations in Israel. This means that he will direct all his activities towards war. »

The Times (15-5-77) — by Eric Marsden

« Whatever the result of the elections, hopes of progress may prove illusory. »

International Herald Tribune (19-5-77)

« Mr. Begin's opposition to any withdrawal from the occupied West Bank could dampen U.S. hopes for a Mideast peace soon. His most famous exploit was the blowing up of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, which killed 91 persons. An attack on the Arab village of Deir Yassin, in which 250 Arabs died at the hands of Mr. Begin's troops, is believed to have sparked the Arab exodus from Palestine in 1948. »

The Times (19-5-77) — by Louis Heren

« Whatever Begin decides, his victory at the polls proves that terrorism does pay. »

The Times (21-5-77)

« Mr. Begin's statement that the West Bank is a part of the land of Israel and will not be returned merely makes impossible what was in any case barely possible. This may serve to put an end to President Carter's illusions that he can reconcile his determination to make progress to a Middle East peace with his pledge that the United States will never try to impose a settlement. »

The Guardian (23-5-77)

« The former commander of the Irgun Zvai Leumi, which killed and injured hundreds of civilians in the King David Hotel and the Arab village of Deir Yassin; and which hanged two British sergeants between 1946 and 1948, insists that his men always tried to avoid civilian casualties. »

Die Zeit (11-1-1974)

« Begin is the other Jew, the enthusiastic man of the Old Testament... He is the angel of vengeance. Begin used to work by the slogan: 'I fight, therefore I am.' His other principle: 'He who is not with me is against me.' He is a man known for his paradoxes. Israel's first Prime Minister, Ben-Gurion, did not escape Begin's attacks. He described Ben-Gurion as 'a mad dictator' when Ben-Gurion swore to cooperate with all the parties except Begin's and the Communists. »

Der Spiegel (23-5-77)

« The election of Begin is a disaster for the Middle East, and for world peace. Despite his old age, Begin still thinks the same way he used to think in his first terrorist years. He considers the Arab territories occupied by Israel in 1967 as 'liberated' territories, and he believes in the idea of a 'Greater Israel', stretching from the Nile to the Euphrates. »

ONLY SOUTH AFRICAN RACISTS APPLAUD AFP, 19-5-77, from Johannesburg

Following the election victory of Menachem Begin in Israel, a significant reinforcement of Israeli-South African links can be expected, according to circles close to the South African government.

The Israeli ambassador to South Africa, Mr. Unna, has described Begin as a « good friend of South Africa with a positive attitude towards this country ». The South Africa pro-government daily, *The Citizen*, observes: « The Pretoria-Jerusalem axis is solid; the alliance will become more open and stronger with Begin taking over in Israel. »

Time May 30 1977

In its May 30 edition, *Time* magazine discusses the possibility that « a Begin government would announce the annexation to Israel of occupied territory, thereby triggering an Arab mobilization... A new war, in this most dangerous of the world's potential trouble spots, would be far more deadly than all the previous

ones combined... Although another Middle East war is far from inevitable, it cannot be ruled out if Begin sticks to his uncompromising stance on negotiations (particularly over the future of the West Bank and Gaza) and if the Arabs give up hope that the U.S. can maneuver the next Israeli government into meaningful concessions ». Time goes on to quote a woman « who lost a brother in the Six-Day War and her husband in the October War: 'All I can see is a long line of husbands whose wives will become widows.' » And a trade-union leader is quoted as saying: « The Likud will force us into another war ».

OBSERVERS REACT TO BEGIN'S VICTORY News week May 30 1977.

The May 30 issue of Newsweek included comments by Middle Eastern observers on the electoral victory of Menachem Begin's Likud bloc. Here are some excerpts:

Edward R.F. Sheehan, Research Fellow at Harvard's Center for International Affairs:

« The victory of the Likud is exactly what the U.S. deserves. For ten years, we have been fatuously maneuvering to buy time in the Middle East, manipulating the Arab-Israeli conflict for votes in American elections, making Israel so militarily strong that she can wield that power almost independently of U.S. constraint...

Norman Podhoretz, Editor of Commentary magazine:

« Certainly Begin differs from former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres in being committed to retention of the West Bank ».

Joseph J. Sisco, Former Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs:

« The turn for the worse in Israel need not be irreparable... The role of the U.S. becomes even more crucial as a moderating influence. President Carter's strategy to get Arab-Israeli talks started will be more difficult to achieve, but it is essential that the U.S. not be diverted by the change in leadership in Israel ».

Mohammed Haykal, former Editor of Cairo's Al-Ahram newspaper:

« By making Likud the leading party, Israeli public opinion has opted for a clear-cut direction. But the real catastrophe is that this clear-cut direction is toward escapism, because Likud embodies the will to perpetuate the fait accompli at the expense of a complete denial of tomorrow. The result: an escape from reality and from the course of history ».

Nadav Safran, at Harvard's Center for Middle Eastern Studies, and former resident of Palestine/Israel from 1946-1950:

« (Begin's) record shows him to have acted at times as a statesman, at others as a fanatic. He is convinced that American support is vital, but he believes he can convince the U.S. that it is in its vital interest to support Israel's retention of the West Bank and Gaza... In the meantime he could drag (Israel) into confrontation with its best friend, as well as with the Arab countries... After suffering the resultant tribulations, Israel's people might remove him from power ».

ISRAELI COMMUNIST PARTY ON ELECTION RESULTS (VIA TASS)

Commenting on the results of the Israeli general elections, Meir Vilner, Secretary-General of the Israeli Communist Party, stated on May 18: « The results point to a notable and dangerous consolidation of right-wing forces. For the first time in the history of Israel, the extreme rightist Likud bloc has become the largest parliamentary formation in the country. The formation of a government led by the Likud leaders, or with their decisive participation, is to be feared.

« The situation that has been created puts into jeopardy the democratic liberties, interests, and rights of the workers. It will contribute to an increase in chauvinism and the renewal of reprisals in the occupied Arab territories, and increase the danger of a new war. A government led by the Likud bloc will follow a policy aimed at checking efforts for realizing peace. In this context, it is necessary to reinforce the cohesion of the labor movement, and of all democratic forces.

« The preliminary results of the Knesset elections show that the list presented by the democratic front for peace and justice, of which the Israeli Communist Party is the driving force, is supported by many voters. Examination of the results shows a change in the attitude of the Arabs (more than 60 % of whom voted for the front's list), as well of the Jewish voters. Indeed, the number of the latter voting for the program of peace and equality has doubled.

« The election results confirm that the absolute majority of Israel's Arab population have pronounced themselves in favor of the common struggle led by the Communist Party of Israel, by the Black Panther organization (grouping the nationals of non-Western lands), and by other Jewish and Arab democratic movements. This, our common struggle, works for peace, for the rights of workers, and for equality and democracy ».

MENACHEM BEGIN THE MAN OF DAIR YASIN

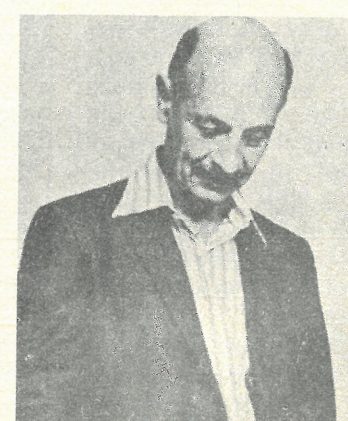
By Faris Glubb



Menachem Begin.



Adolf Hitler.



Yigal Yadin.

The man who emerged as the victor of the Israeli parliamentary elections of 17 May, the Likud group's leader Menachem Begin, is considered likely by many observers to prove an obstruction to efforts for a political settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. In order to understand what sort of a man he is, it is useful to examine the past history of his life. And it is important to understand him, since his election victory may prove to be as important to the course of events in the Israeli state as Adolf Hitler's electoral success in 1933 was to the history of Germany.

Like many of the more fanatical Zionist immigrants from Eastern Europe, Begin was attracted in his youth to Vladimir Jabotinsky's ideas, which were part of the wave of right-wing extremism that swept through Europe in the 1930s. Jabotinsky took the same basic concepts that were advocated by other leaders such as Hitler, Mussolini, Mosley or the ideologists of movements like the Arrow Cross in Hungary, and imbued them with his own distinctively Zionist flavour. He established a faction within the Zionist movement known as the Revisionists.

Jabotinsky strongly advocated the establishment of a Zionist state in Palestine and was one of the earliest ideologists to call for this in a concrete form. In the early days, many other Zionists tried to give the impression that all they wanted was a home for persecuted Jews, so as to camouflage their desire for statehood until they were strong enough to attain it. As the distinguished scholar Dr. Judah Magnes pointed out, Jabotinsky « saw that the only way to get a state was through force. He said in his early writings: 'Has it ever been known that a people would willingly give up its soil? No more would the Palestine Arabs yield their sovereignty without force.' » (1) Among other things, Jabotinsky believed that the Zionist state should include Jordan as well as Palestine. In his many speeches to European Jewish audiences in the later years of his life, he urged that the Jews should leave Europe (an aim that Hitler also wanted to achieve) in order to colonise Palestine.

From the Revisionists, a paramilitary group developed known as the Irgun Zvai Leumi, which in 1944 began launching armed attacks on both the civilian popula-

tion of Palestine and the British Mandate administration that was then controlling the country. With regard to the Irgun campaign amounted to an indirect form of help to the Nazis. Secondly, it was the British Government's policy, through the Balfour Declaration and the exercise of the Mandate, which made the Zionist colonisation possible, so the Irgun was showing extreme ingratitude towards Zionism's main patron at that time. And thirdly, the methods used by the Irgun were often contrary to the rules of warfare, involving the kidnapping followed by the flogging or brutal murder of British troops, rather than killing them in combat. Thus, in July 1947, the Irgun kidnapped two British Army sergeants and hanged them in cold blood.

In fact, of course, it was Palestinian civilians who suffered the worst atrocities at the hands of the Irgun. For the British Mandate administration at least had a powerful army to protect it, whereas the population of Palestine had been disarmed by the Mandate authorities and so was denied the means of self-defence. The Irgun was often indiscriminate in its ter-

rorism. On 22 July 1946, its terrorists blew up the King David Hotel in Jerusalem and killed 91 people — British, Arab and Jewish alike.

The worst atrocity committed by the Irgun during this period was the massacre of Dair Yasin. « The village Dair Yasin lies a few miles west of Jerusalem and, according to the United Nations partition plan, which the Israelis accepted then — although they reject it now — belonged to the Jerusalem International Zone in which the Israelis had no jurisdiction. The inhabitants of the village had lived in an especially friendly relationship with the old (Jewish) settlers... and they were supposed to have been an example of the possibility of amicable coexistence between Arabs and Palestinian Jews...

« The Irgun and the Stern Group were assigned to look after Dair Yasin. When they ran into trouble, they asked Haganah for help. With its help the village was occupied. After the Haganah men had withdrawn, members of the Irgun and Stern Group perpetuated the most revolting atrocities: 254 Arab men, and women and children were butchered in cold blood and their mutilated bodies were thrown into a well; captured Arab women and girls were brought in lorries to Jerusalem and paraded through the streets, where they were jeered and spat at. On the same day, the Irgunists called a press conference at which they pronounced the wholesale murder a « victory » in the war of conquest of Palestine and Transjordania.

« Dair Yasin struck panic into the hearts of the Arab villagers, and a large scale exodus began ». (2)

Subsequently, Begin boasted of the Irgun's achievement at Dair Yasin. In his book « The Revolt », a literary work which deserves to be considered in the same rank as « Mein Kampf », he wrote: « Panic overwhelmed the Arabs of Eretz Israel. In the rest of the country Arabs began to flee in terror, even before they clashed with Jewish forces... Meanwhile Haganah was carrying out successful attacks on other fronts. All the Jewish forces



proceeded to advance through Haifa like a knife through butter. The Arabs began to flee in panic shouting: 'Dair Yasin'. (3)

This massacre proved psychologically decisive in creating the Palestinian refugee problem. Those few Palestinian men who could obtain arms stood and fought. But Dair Yasin demonstrated that the Zionists did not respect the lives of women and children. It was a calculated move to force the population out, based on the knowledge of the protective feeling Arab men traditionally hold towards women and children. « Jewish terrorism, not only by the Irgun, in such savage massacres as Dair Yasin, but in milder form by the Haganah, itself 'encouraged' Arabs to leave the areas the Jews wished to take over for strategic or demographic reasons. They tried to make as much of Israel as free of Arabs as possible. » (4)

Haganah was then « the official

'legal' army of the coming state of Israel, and Irgun was the 'dissident' branch of the army that generally did the dirty work for and with Haganah ». (5)

An interesting eyewitness account of the massacre was provided by the Chief Delegate of the International Red Cross, Jacques de Reynier, in his book *A Jerusalem un Drapeau flottait sur la Ligne du Feu*. He wrote: « Three hundred persons were massacred... without any military reason nor provocation of any kind, old men, women, children, newly-born were savagely assassinated with grenades and knives by Jewish troops of the Irgun, perfectly under the direction and control of their chiefs ». He recalled meeting Zionist troops on the scene after the massacre, armed with pistols, submachine guns, grenades and « large knives most of which were still bloodstained ». He inspected houses in the village and found inside them mutilated bodies of the victims, including a ten-



egin: a "good" student of International terrorist groups

year-old girl and two old women who were still alive despite their wounds. Mr. de Reynier said that the Zionist leadership did everything possible to prevent him from investigating the massacre.

Dair Yasin was not an isolated case. It was the most glaring example of its kind because it represented the greatest number of civilians killed by the Irgun in one single day. In the city of Jaffa, for example, the Irgun committed numerous atrocities against the civilian population in a series of terrorist attacks, each of which resulted in the deaths of a number of innocent people. For all these acts Menachem Begin, as the Commander of the Irgun, was directly responsible. During a visit to Britain in 1972, he declared that he was proud of all the actions of the Irgun. (6) Even Adolf Eichmann, at the end of his life, felt something akin to a sense of shame at his part in massacres, but not Menachem Begin.

Now it appears that the new Führer of Israel will be awarded respectability and accepted among the ranks of world statesmen, at least by the governments of some countries. It is reported that he will shortly be invited to pay an official visit to the United States for talks with President Carter. And almost immediately after the Likud group (the political and spiritual successor to the Irgun) emerged top in the Knesset elections, US officials from Mr. Carter downwards stressed that their policy towards Israel is unchanged. And if the Geneva conference is reconvened, the Arab side will presumably be required to negotiate with terrorists.

International law lays down a somewhat different rule of conduct with regard to people like Menachem Begin. For instance, the London Agreement for the Prosecution and Punishment of the Major War Criminals of the European Axis (1945), which formed the basis for the Charter of the Nuremberg International War Crimes Tribunal, defined offences which deserve trial by an international tribunal. Among these are Crimes against Humanity, including « murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation, and other inhumane acts committed against any civilian population ». The Agreement specifies that « leaders, organisers, instigators and accomplices participating in the formulation or execution of a common plan or conspiracy to commit any of the foregoing crimes are responsible for all acts performed by any persons in execution of such a plan ». (7) Acts like Dair Yasin and other Irgun attacks on civilians clearly come under the definition of Crimes against Humanity, and Mr. Begin, as Commander of the Irgun, is clearly responsible for them and should be put on trial according to the terms of the London Agreement.

The UN's Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide includes the following offences among those defined as genocide: « (a) Killing members of (a national, ethnic or religious) group; « (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; « (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group

conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part ».

These offences were clearly committed by the Irgun in their slaughter of Palestinian civilians with the aim of uprooting the Palestinian people and destroying them as a national group in their own country.

The Irgun also committed a number of violations of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, which provides for the protection of civilians in time of war. Article 49 states: « Individual or mass forcible transfers, as well as deportations of protected persons from occupied territory... are prohibited »; and this, as we have noted, was the whole purpose of the Dair Yasin massacre. Article 33 specifies that « collective penalties and likewise all measures of intimidation or of terrorism are prohibited, » and according to Article 27, « protected persons are entitled, in all circumstances, to respect for their persons, their honour, their family rights, their religious convictions and practices, and their manners and customs. They shall at all times be humanely treated, and shall be protected especially against all acts of violence or threats thereof and against insults and public curiosity. Women shall be specially protected against any attack on their honour ». (This latter clause was violated by the Irgun's degrading public parade of the surviving women and girls of Dair Yasin, one of the many acts of which Mr. Begin says he is so proud). Among the grave breaches of the Geneva convention listed in Article 147 are « wilful killing, torture or inhuman treatment... wilfully causing great suffering or serious injury to body or health, unlawful deportation or transfer » of the civilian population. The High Contracting Parties to the Convention undertake, in Article 146, « to enact any legislation necessary to provide effective penal sanctions for persons committing, or ordering to be committed, any of the grave breaches of the present Convention. Each High Contracting Party shall be under the obligation to search for persons



alleged to have committed, or to have ordered to be committed, such grave breaches, and shall bring such persons, regardless of nationality, before its own courts ».

This means that all the states in the world which are signatories to the Fourth Geneva Convention have a legal obligation to apprehend Menachem Begin and bring him to trial if it is in their power to do so. It remains to be seen whether any state fulfills its obligation in this way. At any rate, international law makes it very clear that the apprehension, trial and punishment of war criminals like Mr. Begin is an international responsibility and a duty incumbent on all states.

All too often this duty has been neglected, and far too many war criminals have not been made to account for their deeds. If the world we live in is to become a more civilised place, it is high time to give the principles of international law the respect they deserve.

REFERENCES:

- (1) Quoted by Ner magazine September-October 1955.
- (2) Jewish Newsletter, 3 October 1960.
- (3) Menachem Begin, *The Revolt, Story of the Irgun* (New York & London, 1951) p. 165.
- (4) I.F. Stone in *New York Review of Books*, 3 August 1967.
- (5) Moshe Menuhin, *The Decadence of Judaism in Our Time*, (Institute for Palestine Studies reprint, Beirut, 1969), p. 97.
- (6) *Die Zeit*, 11 January 1974.
- (7) Original text of this Agreement is in: [International Conference on Military Trials] London, 1945 (US State Department Publication 3080, Washington, DC).

ENEMY NEWS

LIKUD WINS SURPRISE VICTORY IN ISRAELI ELECTIONS

In a surprise election upset, the Likud bloc headed by Menachem Begin has become the largest party in the Israeli Knesset, according to official election results announced on May 18. Likud won 41 seats, thus de-throning the Labour alignment from the position of largest Israeli party which it has held since the state of Israel was founded.

The results of the elections were as follows:

Likud	41 seats
Labour	32 seats
Democratic Movement for Change	14 seats
National Religious Party	12 seats
Rakah	6 seats
Agudat Israel	5 seats
Other parties	10 seats

Following the announcement of the results, Begin announced his willingness to form a national

unity coalition government, but this was ruled out by several leaders of the defeated Labour alignment, including Abba Eban and Shimon Peres. The offer was accepted by the National Religious party, which the Agudat Israel party and perhaps the Democratic Movement for Change headed by Yigal Yadin, are expected to join in a coalition with Likud. The negotiations for the formation of such a government are expected by observers to go on for days and perhaps weeks.

NEW ZIONIST SETTLEMENT PLANNED NEAR NABLUS

Nablus, May 27

According to reports from occupied Palestine, the members of the nucleus of a new Zionist settlement, to be called Sophine, are planning to begin work in the area of Abu Qarnain near Nablus.

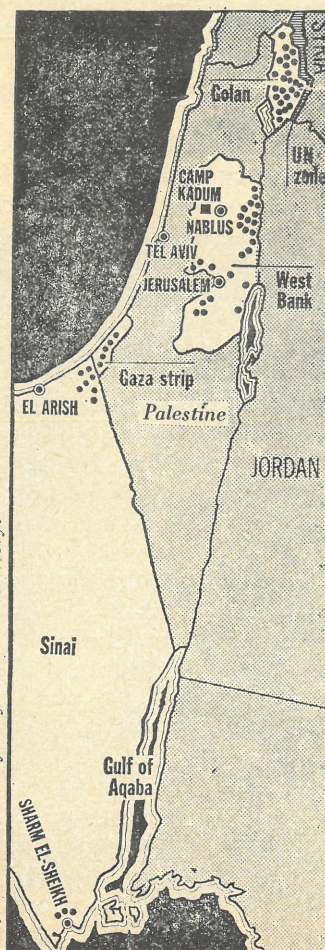


THE COST OF ZIONISM:

Shumel Marcovitch, member of the Secretariat of the Gosh Imonim group, declared that preparations are being made to equip the 'Sophine' nucleus to settle in the area of Abu Sarnain. The report added that this nucleus includes more than 15 families and several youths.

Meanwhile, the Gosh Imonim group has postponed the celebration in the settlement of Mesha, near Qalqilia, because of Menachem Begin's inability to attend it due to his hospitalization.

On the other hand, one of the settlement groups connected to the Herut movement, headed by Menachem Begin, has laid the corner stone to establish 40 houses in the area of Nablus to absorb new settlers. During the laying of the corner stone, the head of this group said that 40 houses were as good as a village and that during the next five years another village would be established.



GAME-PLAN: the latest pastime for Middle East-watchers is to join the dots marking Israeli settlements in occupied Arab lands. The resulting lines are said to define the future borders that Israel will finally settle on. In a row over the latest settlement, at Camp Kadum, critics say the last Arab tract previously free, from colonisers may now be nailed firmly as Israeli territory.

AMERICAN ZIONIST FORM SETTLEMENT NUCLEUS IN US

According to reports from occupied Palestine, a large number of American Zionists who intend to immigrate to Israel, and who already formed a settlement nucleus in the USA six months ago, plan to settle in the Jordan River Valley in an area which they call Betsael.

The reports clarified that the occupation authorities are encouraging the formation of settlement nuclei before the immigrants' arrival to Israel, in order to alleviate the difficulties which new Zionist settlers encounter when they reach Israel.

Meanwhile, the occupation authorities are planning to build a military road between Tel Aviv and the Jordan Valley.

In related news, the Gosh Imonim group is planning to establish a new Zionist settlement in the Detan Valley, between Nablus and Jenin in the occupied West Bank.

BRITISH ZIONISTS FIGHT ARAB BOYCOTT

The Zionist movement in Britain began a campaign against the Arab boycott imposed on the companies and institutions which cooperate with Israel.

Three Zionist organizations recently called upon the British Government to intervene against the Arab boycott on the pretext that the boycott costs Britain 40 million annually.

The three Zionist organizations accused the car manufacturer British Leyland of having submitted to the pressures of the Arab countries and cut their relations with the Zionist entity.

It is to be recalled that the above-mentioned British company was last year removed from the Arab boycott list.

20 NEW ZIONIST SETTLEMENTS PLANNED IN WEST BANK

According to reports from occupied Palestine, the Zionists occupation authorities are planning to establish 20 new settlements in the occupied West Bank. Meanwhile, a member of the Secretariat of the fanatic Gosh Imonim bloc declared, during a celebration of the arrival of the Torah at the new Masha settlement, that Begin's declarations provide a suitable basis for the establishment of 20 more settlements in the occupied West Bank, and urged Zionist settlers to seize this opportunity.

Israel's Chief Rabbi, Shlomo Goren, who attended the celebration, declared that this period is suitable for the « unification of the Israeli people ». He added that Masha is considered the first fixed Zionist settlement in the West Bank, and hoped for more to be established in the future. Begin was not able to attend the celebration, due to his being in hospital.

In related news, the Zionist terrorist, Meir Kahane, declared that he intends to travel to the USA in order to organize a group of financial backers for a settlement nucleus in Nablus.

It is to be recalled in this context, that the Gosh Imonim group building equipment to Masha on March 27, and they were not seriously opposed by the Zionist police, in spite of the fact that the settlement was initially described as « illegal ». Following that incident, Israel Galili, Israeli Minister of Housing in the Rabin Cabinet, declared that the Zionist authorities would do their best to implement the resolution of the Israeli cabinet permitting the establishment of a Zionist settlement in the Masha region. It is to be noted further that the Likud bloc stood firm in support of Gosh Imonim at that time.

THE «PROMISED LAND» DECEIVES ITS CITIZENS



Leaving the "promised Land"

Paris, May 28 (TASS): « It is New York, not Tel Aviv, which is becoming the biggest Israeli city in the world », declared Israeli General Ariel Sharon after visiting the United States. General Sharon is a leader of right-wing Zionists and a deputy in Israel's Parliament, the Knesset. Overseas, it is apparent that the Zionist dream of massive immigration into Israel by the Jews of the « Diaspora » is not coming true, and there seems to be more emigration out of Israel than immigration into it. According to the French newspaper *Le Monde*, nearly 350,000 Israeli citizens (almost 10 per cent of the population) live overseas, mostly in New York. Some entire areas of New York and Los Angeles are populated by Jews. They teach in the universities, practice the liberal professions, and are also workers, street-savengers, and waiters.

Nearly 250,000 people left Israel before 1968, that is to say in the first twenty years of the state's existence, reports *Le Monde*. Since then, the tempo of emigration has

increased without let up. Currently, it runs at nearly 20,000 people per year, a figure slightly above the annual immigration rate. Educated persons, youths, highly-placed diplomats, and even military people are fleeing the « promised land ». Begin, the leader of the extreme right-wing Likud bloc, declared in the Knesset in 1976 that, after Israel's establishment, emigration « made us lose four divisions or twelve brigades ». The Minister of Transportation, Yacobi, has said that « many young people leave the country after completing their military service ».

« I don't want to relive all the horrors of war ». « It's better to be a live coward than a dead hero ». These statements, says *Le Monde*, reveal the deception of Zionism's ideals, and its militaristic society. Economic recession, high prices, inflation, and stiff taxes are also causes of emigration.

The « Zionist paradise » is lacking on the human level as much as on the material one. Many people

are deceived by Israeli society, and suffer from the social isolation, inequality, and racial discrimination that they find there. Some people leave Israel because of the religious fanaticism and provincial nationalism they see there. Others are indignant that Israel refuses to recognize the rights of another people: the Palestinians.

Le Monde reports the official Israeli declarations regarding the causes of emigration. For Minister Yacobi, « emigration results from the decline of values in Israeli society ». Echoes Minister of Foreign Affairs Allon: « The attractive power of Israeli society is dropping. Emigration is our greatest difficulty, in that through it we are hurting ourselves ». According to the head of the scientific department of the Ministry of Education, the principal cause of emigration is « the refusal to identify oneself with Zionism ».

TASS: LANGER AND PALESTINIANS DANGER TO ISRAELI SECURITY

The Zionist occupation authorities are exerting strong and continuous pressure on the progressive Jewish lawyer Felicia Langer in order to deprive her of her right to defend Palestinian detainees and to practice law, on the pretext that her stands threaten Israel's security.

The Soviet news agency Tass, commenting on the above, said that Langer is seen as a threat to Israeli security, not only because of her work as a lawyer, but mainly because she reveals the blatant crimes committed by the Israeli authorities, their violation of human rights, and particularly, their brutal torture of Palestinian prisoners — who in fact constitute the greatest threat to Israel's security.

Tass added that the whole question rests in the fact that Langer recently published a book entitled *With My own Eyes*, including documents which expose Israeli crimes

and which has become widely known outside Israel. This book has played a major role in revealing the true face of Zionism before progressive world public opinion, Tass said, adding that Israeli leaders are trying to convince the Israelis that all these facts are only intrigues propagated by hostile anti-semitic forces.

Last year, Langer published a second book entitled « *Those Are My Brothers* », in which she exposed scandals in the form of pictures or documents which reveal atrocities worse than those of World War II.

And it is not a coincidence that we should remember these war years, for in Israel there still live witnesses of them. The young people who did not experience the terrors of Nazism should ask their elders to tell them all about them and they will see a mirror image of the crimes perpetrated by the Nazis in Israeli jails.

In this situation, the Zionist regime and its lackeys are trying to suppress any conscious voice and any protest emerging from an 'Israeli'. However, they will not be able to keep the masses terrorized, nor will they be able to continue of twisting plus deforming the souls of the new generation.



Felicia Langer

LE MONDE ARTICLE ON ISRAELI EMIGRATION

In an article about emigration from Israel published on May 29, the French newspaper, *Le Monde*, said that around 350,000 Israelis, i.e. one tenth of the inhabitants of Israel, live outside Israel, mainly in the USA. The newspaper added that there are entire quarters in the cities of New York and Los Angeles which are inhabited by Israelis including professors, professionals and workers.

Le Monde added that those escaping from the Zionist 'Paradise' say that, having despaired of Israeli society, due to its religious and national fanaticism and from the denial of another people's rights, they decided to leave Israel.

The newspaper further said that Gad Yagobi, the Israeli Minister of Transportation, believes that the reason for stepped-up emigration is the decline of morals in Israeli society; while Yigal Allon says that the force of attraction in Israeli society has weakened and that emigration is the most dangerous problem currently facing Israel.

Meanwhile, Zionist Knesset member Ariel Sharon expressed his belief that « the increase in emigration simply means that the Zionist dream of establishing a 'greater Israel' extending from the Nile to the Euphrates on the verge of collapse ».

AL-ITTIHAD PRINTS LETTER REVEALING CONDITIONS OF GOLAN HEIGHTS INHABITANTS

The Arabic-Language newspaper *al-Ittihad* on May 27 published a letter sent by the Arab citizens of the occupied Syrian villages in the Golan Heights revealing the arbitrary measures of the Israeli occupation forces against the Arab population of the Golan Heights. The letter also revealed the Zionist attempts to efface the Arab national personality of the region's inhabitants.

It maintained that Israeli measures since the occupation in 1967 have always ignored the international conventions that regulate the relations between the occupying power and the people under occupation.

It added that the Zionist authorities are continuously attempting to forcibly cut the links of the Syrian citizens with their country so as to absorb them into the Zionist entity. The letter revealed the devious methods of the occupation authorities to link the Arab citizens to its institutions, through the imposition of unrepresentative members of Municipal Councils, and religious courts, and through forcing the Arab teachers, workers and employees to join the Histadrut. It added that all the Arab citizens were recently forced to join the Histadrut as the only means of receiving employees' medical benefits.

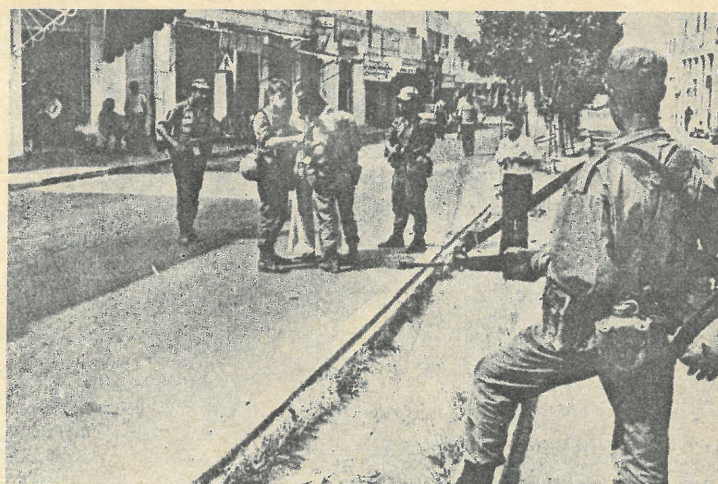
The letter also exposed the replacement of Syrian teaching programs with Israeli programs and Israeli books which ignore the national feelings of the Arab citizens. It added that the Syrian students under occupation were allowed to continue their higher education in their country, on condition that they would not return to their villages in the Golan Heights.

The letter also revealed the Zionist measures aimed at linking the economy of these villages to the Israeli economy.

It confirmed that the Arab population of the Golan Heights, who total 10,000 citizens in five villages, have never stopped struggling against the Zionists occupation since 1967 and will never do so until their liberation.



BEGIN AND THE «LIBERATED» WEST BANK



Imposing a curfew.

Following his electoral victory, the Israeli terrorist and leader of the Likud bloc, Menachem Begin, has once again reiterated his belief that the West Bank is a part of Israel, and that withdrawal from it is out of the question, since it has been « liberated ».

Begin, interviewed May 22nd by an American broadcasting network, made it clear that he categorically opposes the principle of Palestinian statehood and PLO participation in the Geneva Conference. He asked President Carter to be understanding vis-a-vis the Likud position on Israel's alleged « sacred right » to the West Bank.

In another development, a large number of American Zionists who intend to immigrate to Israel, and who formed a settlement nucleus in the U.S. six months ago, plan to settle in the Jordan River valley in an area that they call Betsael. The occupation authorities are encouraging the formation of settlement nuclei before immigrants arrive in Israel, in order to alleviate the difficulties which new Zionist settlers encounter when they reach there.

In other news, the Gosh Imonim group is planning to establish a new Zionist settlement in the Detan Valley, between Nablus and Jenin in the occupied West Bank.

WEST BANK REACTION TO LIKUD'S VICTORY

« The victory of the Likud in the Israeli general elections is considered, both by the Palestinian masses in the West Bank and their leading figures, to be an omen of sharp confrontations ahead between the masses in the West Bank and the Zionist occupation authorities there:

* Fahd al-Qawamsi, Mayor of Hebron

« Likud's victory is confusing, and we are sorry for this development; but Begin will learn that no ruling party can practice the policies he advocated when he was leading the Opposition ».

* Karim Khalaf, Mayor of Ramallah.

« The majority of the Israeli parties have ignored the rights of the Palestinian people, especially their right of self-determination and establishing their own independent state. Here I have to emphasize that Begin was the « hero » of the Deir Yassin massacre. I remind him that the West Bank is Palestinian land, and it belongs to its owners, the Palestinians, who struggle for peace. The victory of Likud spoils all peace chances, and Begin's declaration of his expansionist policy for a

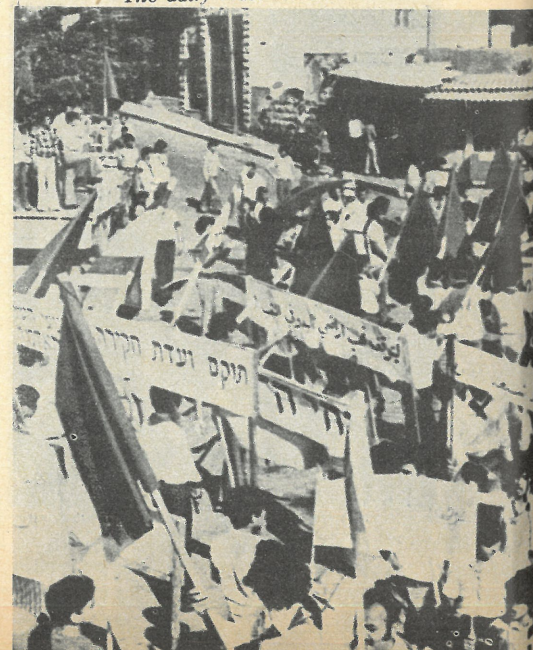
Greater Israel ('from the Nile to the Euphrates') will lead to a new round of war.

« I pity the sons of the Jewish population for the results of these elections ».

* Ibrahim Sulaiman, Mayor of Al-Bira

« Most of the Israeli parties have denied the Palestinian people their right of self-determination and statehood. They have not presented any real or acceptable plan for peace. For 29 years, Israel has occupied our Palestinian land, and throughout these years the succes-

The daily mass resistance.



sive Israeli governments have sought further territorial expansion. Begin's rise to power hurts the chances of peace, and points to a new and savage war ».

* Abdel-Aziz Sowaiti, Mayor of Jericho.

« The Palestinian problem has become more serious with the emergence of Likud, for Likud rejects any solution recognizing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people ».

ISRAEL CONTINUES REPRESSION AS PALESTINIANS CONTINUE TO RESIST

Zionist courts have continued to mete out fines and sentences aimed at repressing Palestinians engaged in their struggle for freedom from racism and military occupation. On May 19, a Zionist military tribunal in Ramallah fined five Palestinians from Jericho amounts ranging from IL 1000 to IL 5000, on charges of participating in anti-occupation demonstrations and threatening Israel's security. The same court also sentenced four other persons to prison, with terms ranging from three months to one year. On May 23, a similar tribunal in Haifa sentenced four Palestinians to prison terms ranging from seven to nine years, on charges of joining the Palestinian Revolution and resisting the Zionist occupation. Another military tribunal in Jenin sentenced a man to seven years' imprisonment on charges of affiliating with the

Palestinian Revolution, throwing a hand grenade at a military vehicle, and planting explosive charges in the Yarmouk school in 1972. The same tribunal sentenced three other persons to prison for shorter terms, on charges of joining the Palestinian Revolution, resisting Zionist occupation, and manufacturing explosive charges for use against Israeli military establishments.

Despite such measures, Palestinian resistance to Zionist occupation continues, taking many forms. In Hebron on May 19, several citizens visited the Municipality building to express their solidarity with the Municipal Council's stands in opposing the Israeli value-added tax. In addition, the mayors of all towns and villages in the Hebron district have agreed to meet to discuss ways of resisting Zionist settlement plans in the Beit Or area, on the Jerusalem-Hebron road.

Palestinian commando activity has continued, evoking sharp responses from the Israeli authorities. There were three commando attacks on May 16: one in Jaffa, another in Nablus, and another near Wadi al-Touffah, west of Nablus. The Jaffa attack was directed against the Local Zionist Youth Center, which was severely damaged by charges planted by the commandos. The Nablus attacks destroyed a military vehicle and injured two Israeli soldiers, and the attack near Wadi al-Touffah killed four soldiers, wounded two others, and resulted in the capture of two Usi machine guns. In all three attacks, the commandos involved were able to evade the Zionist authorities, and returned safely to their bases.

The next day, May 17, saw a successful attack against an Israeli post on the Nablus-Tulkarm road. One Israeli soldier was wounded, and the road was closed. The Israeli authorities arrested dozens of villagers in their search for the commandos responsible.

However much Israel tries, it cannot repress the Palestinian peoples in their struggle for their national rights. Zionist jails cannot imprison an entire nation.



Land counts.

« L'Humanite », the central organ of the French Communist Party, has commented on the current situation in the occupied territories, as follows: « The coming days will witness a wholesale revolution against Begin's ambitions in the Arab territories ».

The massive Palestinian demonstrations against the Zionist occupation authorities have escalated recently.

On May 15, despite the extraordinary measures of precaution taken by the Zionist authorities on the 29th anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine, the Palestinian citizens of the West Bank organized large anti-occupation demonstrations, the biggest being in Nablus, Ramallah, and al-Bira. The demonstrators marched through the streets waving Palestinian flags and holding aloft a picture of martyr Lina al-Nablusi, killed by Israeli soldiers during demonstrations in Nablus a year ago. The demonstrators clashed with and threw Molotov cocktails at Zionist soldiers.

Meanwhile, the Zionist occupation authorities have directed their atrocities and suppressive measures against the village of Deir Abu Mashaal, 15 kilometers north of the city of Ramallah in the occupied

West Bank. The villagers there have been subjected to constant harassment for more than 40 days by armed Zionist gangs acting with the full knowledge of Zionist authorities. Their aim is to make the villagers leave their lands and property, so that new Zionist settlements can be established. The members of these armed gangs wear military uniforms, and their attacks usually begin after midnight. These groups have been employed to infiltrate the village, shooting in the air and knocking on doors in order to terrorize the inhabitants. They also storm houses, destroying their contents and cutting electricity wires. During their attacks, the gangsters address the Palestinian citizens in the name of the Deputy Military Governor of Ramallah, announcing their intention to settle in the old part of the city and in the surroundings hills, demanding that the Palestinian population evacuate the village.

In order to defend themselves, the villagers have formed groups armed with sticks and rocks to resist the Zionist terror campaign. Consequently, the Zionist authorities have imposed an 8 P.M. curfew. The villagers sleep during the day and prepare themselves to confront any Zionist attack during the night.

The elementary school in the village has closed down. The children were not able to attend classes because they could not sleep at night for fear of renewed attacks.

As a first step toward exposing the Zionist practices there, the villagers have sent an invitation to the UN Secretary-General and the consuls of foreign countries represented in Jerusalem, inviting them to the village and acquaint themselves with the situation there.

'WHO CONDEMNS ISRAELI POLICIES AND PRACTICES

In its annual meeting in Geneva May 16th, the World Health Organization (WHO) condemned Israel's policies in the occupied territories.

The committee which emerged from the annual meeting of the WHO moreover condemned the occupation authorities' refusal to allow it to carry investigations in occupied Palestine. The Committee also revealed and condemned the deteriorating health conditions of detainees in Israeli prisons and reported the deaths of several prisoners. The WHO clarified that it will continue its cooperation with the PLO in this field.

66 delegations voted to condemn Israel, 23 opposed, 16 abstained while 36 did not attend the session. Israel, the USA, and the Common Market Countries, including France, were among the countries who opposed the resolution.

The text of the condemnation said that in the event of Israel's refusal to allow medical investigation, the member countries have the right to take the necessary measures authorized by the organization's charter, after the general director's presentation of a report on the issue at next year's session.

It is to be recalled that the WHO decided to send an investigation commission to the occupied territories in 1973, but that Israel refused to let the commission carry out its investigations, inviting instead only a few members on an individual basis.

SECURITY COUNCIL WARNED AGAINST SITUATION IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

In a letter to the Chairman of the current session of the Security Council, the PLO representative to the United Nations has requested that the Council take immediate and serious action, and undertake effective measures, to put an end to the inhumane Israeli practices in occupied Palestine, which are aggravating the explosive situation in the region. The letter pointed to the incidents which took place in the village of Qbatyeh on May 3rd, and the killing of Fatmeh Hamdi and Bilal Hassan al-Rab. It also emphasized the expansionist policy of Israel, the main aspects of which are continued expropriation of land

and the establishment of settlements, thus challenging the will of the international community and of the Palestinian population. The PLO representative affirmed that the inhabitants of the occupied territories did not stand idle in the face of these practices, despite the arbitrary oppressive measures of the occupation authorities, who tried to suppress the mass uprising. He finally warned against the continued Israeli occupation which, he said, is likely to re-set the time-bomb in the region.

GENEVA CONVENTION AMENDED TO DEFINE ANTI-COLONIAL, ANTI-OCCUPATION, ANTI-RACIST STRUGGLES AS INTERNATIONAL CONFLICTS

The Assembly of the Diplomatic Conference in Geneva, meeting in plenary session, on Monday, May 23rd — by a majority of 87 votes to one (that of Israel) with 11 abstentions — voted on the first article of the additional protocol to the Geneva conventions of 1949. This article defines all conflicts in which peoples struggle against colonial domination, foreign occupation and racist regimes in exercise their right to self-determination as « international conflicts ».

The PLO representative at the conference stressed the significance of this vote, and said that all three elements of this definition are present in the case of the Palestinian people. He added that the coming to power in Israel of the notorious terrorist Menahem Begin will only escalate the legitimate armed struggle of the Palestinian people against Zionist occupation and racism.



Report

10 YEARS OF PALESTINIAN CHILDREN'S RESISTANCE

PALESTINIAN CHILDREN IN THE CONQUERED TERRITORIES IN 1976
THE CASE OF POPULAR RESISTANCE AND OF REPRESSION.
REPORT TO THE LEAGUE FOR HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS,

BY ATTORNEY FELICIA LANGER,
MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE LEAGUE
JANUARY, 1977

The tenth year of the occupation can be appropriately named the year of children's resistance. The generation that « did not know Joseph », consisting of children who in 1967 could be as little as 3 or 5 years old, has not become reconciled with the conquest and is determined to put up resistance to the Israeli presence in their land. Their resistance manifests itself in the form of demonstrations, graffiti, improvised leaflets, sometimes scribbled in handwriting recognizable as coming from a schoolchild, on a sheet torn from a school copybook. Occasionally, however, the manifestations of resistance can be more violent, like burning of tires or throwing of stones upon the bearers of the « presence »; i.e., the IDF soldiers or the Border Guards. The « shots in the air » with the purpose of killing, as well as the numerous casualties of the last year have by and large failed to intimidate the youngsters. Anybody familiar with the behavior of children and adolescents under any foreign occupation is bound to realize that attempts at their intimidation will not work, when their hurt national rights are subject to a comparison with the news of liberation of other nations which reach the ears of the youngsters recurrently. What is going on is the ninth and the hugest of all the tides; so that anybody with feeling and conscience, in particular anybody who still remembers Jewish children as they matured in the struggle against the British, is bound to realize that there is no solution except to grant the legitimate rights for which the children are struggling.

In the course of the last year, I have followed this tide, as a professional and as a human being. I have been watching this generation brought en masse to courts and fined for hundreds of thousands of Israeli pounds. By law, it is the fathers, refugees themselves, who are responsible for delivery of the payments. But in the event of their failure, it is the children who go to jail.

On March 18, 1976, I saw a group of about



The struggle goes on. Palestinian children have become cubs.

20 youths in the military court of Hebron. The bruises on their faces and arms bore testimony to the treatment they had received from the guardians of the law. One of them had his hand in a cast; another had a badly swollen eye which he could hardly open. The same day in the vicinity of the Tomb of Patriarchs, I extricated from the hands of IDF soldiers a boy who lost consciousness as a result of blows he received at this own home in the course of a meal. We accompanied him to a local hospital. In that hospital, I learned that in demonstrations of March 17, dogs were let loose against the demonstrators. The doctors told me, not only of having had to treat people bitten by the dogs, but also of having been themselves beaten by the

soldiers while trying to provide medical care to the injured in the streets. About this they issued a special written statement.

I will never forget the swollen and bruised face of Jamil Abu-Gharbiyeh, with drops of blood falling from his eyes, as he came to my office right after having been released from detention at the site of a demonstration. Certainly, evidence was not missing when he made his appearance in the court.

In juvenile court trials in Jerusalem I was defending several thirteen years old girl students from the Kalandia refugee camp, as well as a boy with a hand in cast and head in bandage. The boy testified that his injuries had been caused by blows of the policeman. The police witness denied that any beatings had taken place. The boy was found guilty and fined, with a suspended sentence. The girls from the Kalandia camp looked downright grotesque in the setting of the court, when the judge was pontificating about threats which they pose to security and about necessities of deterrence. A boy tried on the same day, with whose family I am acquainted, was refused bail, due to which he could not see his gravely ill mother. She later died while he was still under lock. Finally, fined and with a suspended sentence, he went straight from jail to attend her funeral. There he saw her, as she was no longer alive.

These are the lucky ones, entitled to the assistance of a legal counsel. But most of the youths are being brought to what could be aptly called « field trials » which take place at night, in the atmosphere of terror, with no counsel present. Not even the representatives of the International Red Cross are able to monitor such trials.



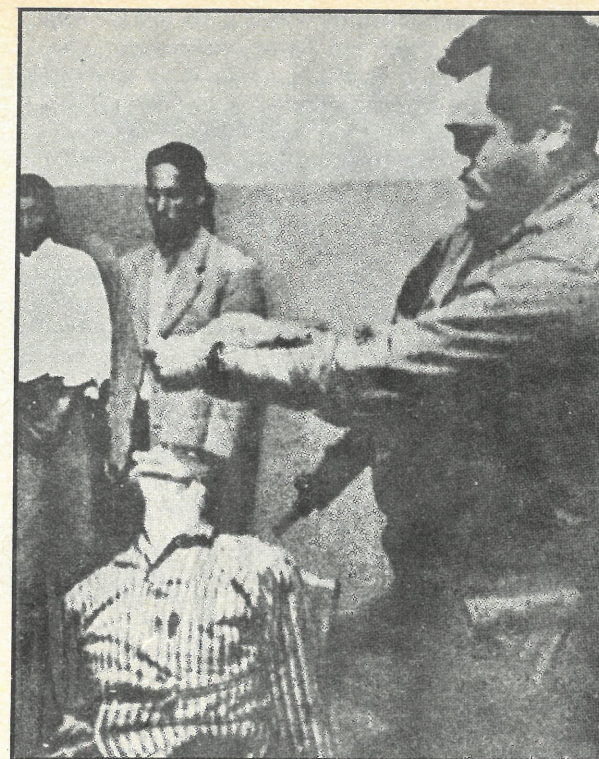
A scene from Israeli Prisons.

The youths are crowding the jails to full capacity. When no room is left, they are being transferred to a recently erected lock-up in the village of Khawarah in the city of Nablus. Thus we can see that all the jails combined together do not have sufficient space to accommodate all the protesters against the conquest, in particular the juvenile ones.

About a month ago in Nablus, I met a boy by the name of Franjih El-Massri who left the jail after three months of confinement. He told me about beatings to which he was subjected. He also told me that he was arrested not during a demonstration but at home. From him I learned about his friends Hassan Othman and Mahed Abdo, each of which also got three months of confinement and a fine of IL 8,000.

In Tul-Karem I defended two boys from Salfid accused of having pulled down the Israeli flag from the Salfid police station building, in retaliation against the desecration of the Koran in the tomb of the Patriarchs by the settlers from Kiriath Arba during the last year's Day of Atonement. The youths — Abd El-Fateh Nazmi, Abd El-Fateh and Muhammad Shahin — were lucky to find a considerate judge who sentenced each of them to two years of prison, thereof nine months effective, even though the prosecutor demanded three years. During the same session of the court, an orphan boy by the name of Kheiri Ghanem from the village of Deir El-Gabon was under trial for having raised, together with other boys from his village, the Palestinian flag during a demonstration. I submitted that the desire for a flag of one's own should be self-evident for anyone who has ever gone through the experience of a struggle for independence and freedom. This boy got — from the mentioned considerate judge — « only » !L 1.500 of a fine and three months of suspended sentence. The prosecuting attorney commented that had the boy been tried by a strict judge, as the majority are, he would receive a particularly severe punishment, in conformity with the attitude of the authorities towards the Palestinian flag.

Often the soldiers or the Border Guards, of whom some may have been hit by stones, work off their bad tempers upon Arab passers-by, even though the latter may not have the faintest idea that a demonstration is elsewhere taking place. Something like this I saw two months ago in Nablus. A Border Guard whom I met in the building of the military government, complained that his leg had been struck by a stone while he was dispersing a demonstration which took place on that day in Nablus. « I will smash the bones of anybody whom I see, » he screamed. An opportunity was not slow in coming. I watched him as he went onto the main street, stopped two young passer-by and escorted them to a



A symbol of Israeli torture.

small check-point cubicle. I was in the same cubicle, in the company of a Red Cross representative, awaiting the opening of court proceedings. The boys from a near-by village could not even understand what was demanded of them. He took their papers, and in response to their claim that they knew of no demonstration, he yelled, « They are all filthy liars ! » It was only due to my intervention and to the presence of the Red Cross representative that the boys were left alone.

Recently the authorities embarked upon new methods of repression designed to deter the refugee camp children and adolescents from participating in demonstrations and even from manifesting in any manner whatsoever their emotions about the occupation. The soldiers are now coming to refugee camps, gathering the children and youngsters together, hitting them with sticks up to the point of making them bleed, threatening the small children with snakes, calling on families in the middle of the night, and often arresting the children without any charge. This is what happened in the Balatta refugee camp, renamed « Tel El-Za'atar », located in the Nablus region. The names of some youths who were thus beaten, some of whom were subsequently also brought to trial, are: Mahmoud Abd-Alla, Khader Mahmoud, Abd El-Ghani Issah, 16, convicted to one year of prison and the fine of IL 10,000 and Ziyad Dajani who got nine months of prison or IL 10,000 of fine.

Included in the last wave of arrests that took

place in the proximity of this camp were dozens of students. A delegation of mothers came to my office to request help from me personally and from the Human Rights League. They described to me their children's and their own sufferings. They told me about Subhi Mahmoud Nimr Issah, arrested four times and badly beaten without being seen by a magistrate; about Mussa Halil Shariyeh, 12, arrested with the whole group of boys aged 11'13. The mothers also told me about how the students are being transferred from their schools to other schools in remote places, so as to intimidate and immobilize them.

The mothers appeal to our hearts and consciences. They represent thousands of mothers in the conquered territories. The list of youngsters from Nablus and Ramallah who have been arrested, beaten and tried is appended. Even though the list is neither complete nor updated, it is indicative of the scope of the problem. It is also indicative of the justice of the cause towards which nobody who is truly human can remain indifferent.

Signed:
Felicia Langer
January 15, 1977

Appendix

A list of some pupils, with their ages, who were arrested and put on trial in two towns only of the West Bank, Nablus and Ramallah. The first 47 pupils are from Nablus, the rest from Ramallah.

- 1) Abed Almana'am Ra'ab Tibawi, 15 years old.
- 2) Bal'al Alazizi, 15 years old.
- 3) Samar Muhammad Samaru, 16 years old.



No limits to Israeli aggression.

- 4) Imam Jusuf Dahar, 15 years old.
- 5) Nadal Hassan Zaki Asalan, 15 years old.
- 6) Khalil Abed Allatif Sa'ad Aldin, 14 years old.
- 7) Taisir Muhammad Qassem Shtubela, 16 years old.
- 8) Samar Kamhiya, 15 years old.
- 9) Jamal Istaniya, 16 years old.
- 10) Nagi Muhammad Jusuf Khaliliya, 16 years old.
- 11) Balal Hiron, 15 years old.
- 12) Maryan Makhluaf, 16 years old.
- 13) Majdi Alabar, 15 years old.
- 14) Saher Khamdi Sakef Alkhayat, 16 years old.
- 15) Ahmad Abed Alani Alafari, 16 years old.
- 16) Ahmad Fa'iz Khader, 16 years old.
- 17) Ibrahim Al'iwi, 15 years old.
- 18) Uar Mafid Abed Alkarim Umar, 16 years old.
- 19) Said Walid Mera'i, 16 years old.
- 20) Sa'adi Walid Mera'i, 14 years old.
- 21) Dawud Mustapha Alsaleibi, unknown.
- 22) Zi'ad Khumad Alshami, 15 years old.
- 23) Muhammad Nazar El Bazara, 15 years old.
- 24) Khal Zaheir Tabila, 15 years old.
- 25) Ju'ad Salim Alkhamad, 17 years old.
- 26) Balal Bakr Alkhanbali, 15 years old.
- 27) Khamdi Basal Kanafan, 16 years old.
- 28) Qassem Suleiman Alshanar, 15 years old.
- 29) Khalid Mera'i Ahmad Karkash, 15 years old.

- 30) Khamad Ibrahim Alqusa, 16 years old.
- 31) Maji Muhammad Jusuf, unknown.
- 32) Khani Zaki Alsallan Alafari, 15 years old.
- 33) Jamal Abed El-Ra'uf Ra'ab Fatian, 16 years old.
- 34) A'ataf Mustafa Fatian, 15 years old.
- 35) Jusuf Ahmad Jusuf Alasa, 15 years old.
- 36) Naziya Adal Daruza, 16 years old.
- 37) Bishar Bazi Alaskari, 17 years old.
- 38) Zuheir Ahmad Albahash, 14 years old.
- 39) Bassam Rashid Albahash, 16 years old.
- 40) Ma'azan Umar Mahmud Fartaldin, 18 years old.
- 41) Ahmad Abed Alani Alafari, 15 years old.
- 42) Muhammad Na'ayuf Riad Faher Naif, 15 years old.
- 43) Fathi Mahmud Ahmad, 16 years old.
- 44) Mahmud Darwish Alshashtri, 16 years old.
- 45) Mahdi Yatti Abed Alkhak, 16 years old.
- 46) Jusuf Ahmad Hassan, 17 years old.
- 47) Abed Alkarim Abed Alhalil, 17 years old.
- 48) Nur Aldabukh Basawi Sanduka.
- 49) Nahada Badawi Sanduka.
- 50) Fatkhiya Uda Shahada Muslakh.
- 51) Ataf Umar Iakub Abu Atiyeh.
- 52) Talal Abed Almalik Muhammad Hassan Uda.
- 53) Muhammad Iyub Iakub.
- 54) Khamad Kamal Khalil Khamad.
- 55) Anwar Munir Iakub Alkura.
- 56) Nabil Ibrahim Khalil Abu Ila.
- 57) Abed Alrahim Hassan Khamdan.
- 58) Muhammad Umar Alkhatib.
- 59) Khalil Jusuf Khalil Alsarati.
- 60) Jamal Mahmud Alkhamus.
- 61) Muhammad Iman Hassan Mussa Uda.
- 62) Jahar Hassni Khasin Al Jamal.
- 63) Jamal Hassan Ahmad Zaid.
- 64) Bassam Sa'adi Ab Qweik.
- 65) Ramadan Hassan Ibrahim.
- 66) As'ad Muhammad Ahmad Mustara.
- 67) Abdalla Hassan Muhammad Sulama.

Note: The particular ages of the Ramallah pupils could not be ascertained, but they are all in the age-group of 14-17 old. Most of the pupils mentioned in this list have been « sentenced » already, by the military courts (usually in batches of ten-twenty children at an hour session of the « court »). The usual « sentence » is 10,000 Israeli pounds fine. Those suspected of being « agitators » receive prison sentence in addition. For comparison the pay of a worker is about 1500-2000 IL a month, in the West Bank. Until the « sentence » the children can spend several weeks, and even months, in prison in the most atrocious conditions. Israel Shahak.

THE LEAGUE FOR HUMAN
AND CIVIL RIGHTS
P.O.B. 14192, TEL AVIV



U.S.-MADE PATTON TANKS OF THE ISRAELI ARMY



US SUPPORT AND BEGIN'S VICTORY:

HOW MUCH LONGER IS THE USA GOING TO PAY FOR
THE FASCIST SWELLING IN ISRAEL?

The « democratic » victory of the openly aggressive and fascist wing within the Zionist movement in the Israeli elections has caused concern and alarm in Western capitals even in the U.S.A. However, this concern — as far as it is a sincere one for peace — must not ignore the fact that Begin and his like would not exist without the support and the tools provided by the U.S.A. itself. The new wave of Zionist « paranoia » — as the former U.S. Undersecretary of State George Ball labelled it — is nothing but the cogent consequence of past U.S. Middle East « policy » of 29 years of blind and unlimited U.S. support for the perverse Zionist undertaking.

The USA has, since 1948 and even before not only tolerated but actively fomented by all means the Zionists' aggression, and their « liberation » of Palestine from its people, without being bothered much about Zionist terror and crimes, and about the destiny of the « refugees », fancying this would just run in line with its own imperialist interests. Now, after the

persisting resistance of the Palestinian people and the emergence of Arab power, the U.S.A. has become aware of, and frightened by, the fact that the Zionist brood might get out of hand, turn their colonialist « liberation » work against U.S. interests, and threaten world peace.

After all, the untimely « Begin-Dayan » syndrome now coming to the surface in Israel puts a harsh end to the myth of U.S. propaganda, nourished especially by the pro-Zionist faction within the U.S. establishment, that said « Israel had to be made strong in order to make it « secure » and ready for « concessions » and « peace ».

After the final chauvinist victory in Israel, the very contrary has now been proven true: The more money, planes, bombs and technology the U.S.A. supplies to the Zionist aggressors, the more intransigent and arrogant become the forces in Israel which seek an « offensive », a fascist way out of the present economic, political and security deadlock of Zionism. Fascism, in Israel

as elsewhere, cannot be bought off. It has to be confronted and fought. The U.S.A. can no longer try the deceit. Full game of bolstering Zionist fascists and their paranoia, while claiming in front of the U.S. people (who have to pay the bitter bill) and the world public that this was helpful and necessary, for peace in the Middle East.

NOT A SINGLE SETTLEMENT WITHOUT U.S. SUPPORT

It is a simple fact that Israel, in its continued form and function as racist entity suppressing the Palestinian people and attacking its Arab environment, would not exist and could not survive a single day without U.S. support in all areas — economic and financial collaboration, military and nuclear potential, intelligence, common citizenship, political protection.

During Israel's first 20-year period between 1948 and 1968, the U.S.A. funnelled \$ 11,000,000,000 in economic « aid » to the Zionist entity, and eased additional capital transfers

from private sources amounting to \$ 25,000,000,000 (see the British « Sunday Times », 5 February 1971). Numerous special U.S. regulations allow for fund raising, cash gifts and bond purchases from connected with the Zionist agencies. Under a U.S. law connected with the Zionist « Law Of Return », every U.S. Jew entering Israel is automatically given Israeli nationality without loss of U.S. citizenship (while the indigenous Palestinian population of the land is deprived of all rights, including the right of returning to their homes).

Not a single inch of Arab territory could have been occupied, not a single Palestinian family evicted, not a single racist settlement on Arab soil been established since 1948 without the active and vital assistance of the U.S.

The U.S. has flooded the Zionist bridgehead with its weapons and provided its latest military technology. Even more, the U.S.A. has laid the base for uncontrolled nuclear power in the hands of the Zionists, who meanwhile contaminate the area with their atomic bomb threats.

UNLIMITED BACKING FOR THE ZIONISTS

After the enlarged Zionist aggression in 1967 and the subsequent increase in Palestinian and Arab resistance, culminating in the October War, the U.S.A. has been misled to multiply its frantic efforts to bolster the Zionist militarists. Now, it has given them access to a whole new order of the latest U.S. destruction technology: all kinds of « smart » bomb, laser-guided missiles, Lance missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads, F-16 fighter bombers and even F-15 Eagles, a plane so far not even available to the U.S. Air Force itself.

In the wake of the October War, the U.S. has pumped \$ 2,000,000,000 in « emergency aid » to the Zionist regime, including \$ 1.5 billion in out-right grants. Yielding to the impertinent pressure of the pro-Zionist faction



Begin with a Torah in the West Bank's Camp. Kadum:

within the U.S. establishment, the U.S. government even repeated the supply of this astronomical sum in the financial year 1976, thus making good for over 1/5 of the entire Israeli budget. Hereby, the U.S.A. channelled more than half of its total « aid » for foreign countries to the Zionist bridgehead alone. No regime in the world, including the defunct Thieu-clique in South-Vietnam, has even been propped up by U.S. imperialism in a manner comparable to the way that the Zionist aggressors are being kept up today.

All this is at a time when the U.S.A. faces severe economic problems and financial deficits at home, cutting short numerous social, infrastructural, and employment projects.

THE SWINDLE OF « MAKING ZIONISM STRONG FOR PEACE »

Confronted with mounting criticism from the Arab and international arena, as well as growing indignation at home about the

never-ending chain of Zionist greed and blackmail, the U.S.A. has tried in recent years to present its unconditional support for the Zionist aggressors as a « contribution for peace ». The Zionists, so the propaganda says, have to be made strong and sure in order to prepare them for « moderation », to make them ready to end their occupation and suppression, and make them ready for « peace » with their Arab environment.

The result of the Israeli elections have finally torn apart this tissue of lies.

Sensing U.S. support, the Zionists react like addicts. Allowed to get away with an inch they want a mile.

To exploit the great military assistance and unlimited access to U.S. war technology furnished to it, Israel has built up its own armaments industry complex and, up to the end of 1976, increased its arms sales five-fold from the October War, exporting in 1976, according to Israeli official sources, \$ 350 million worth of weapons, foremost

to South Africa, Taiwan, Iran and similar reactionary regimes. Per capita, the Zionists produce already far more weapons than any other country in the world. The U.S. « Aviation Week » estimated, in early December 1976 in 1977 Israel will export, including secret deals, \$ 1 billion worth of arms. — Transferred to U.S. proportions this means that the U.S.A., (which with sales of about \$ 10 billion per year by far the world's biggest merchant of death), would have to export about \$ 60 billion worth of arms! Increasingly, the Zionists not only supply countries under official international arms embargo like South Africa with weapons and the latest U.S. technology, but also compete with the U.S. industry in other arms markets.

INSTEAD OF MODERATION, SWELLING ZIONIST ARROGANCE

Far from responding to Arab and Palestinian desires for a just and peaceful solution, the Zionists understand and use the apparently never-ending influx of U.S. capital and assistance as the basis to indulge in ever more shameless colonialist and expansionist adventures, for « the frantic acceleration of attempts to buy land, to lay infrastructures and set up nuclei of new settlements » (British « Times », 11 May 1977). According to the « International Herald Tribune », 28 December, 1976, there are at least 84 settlements, either built or in the planning stages, in the West Bank, the Golan Heights and the Gaza area.

Encouraged in their maniac illusions of Greater Zion by U.S. arms and funds, the Zionist extremists continue to expropriate and evict Palestinian families, to destroy villages, and to build concentration camps. According to the U.S. State Department's minimum estimates, the Zionist authorities are at present holding about 8,000 Palestinian political prisoners, most of them without trial, from the territories occupied in 1967 (« Agence France Press », 24 March 1977). One has to imagine that this figure, if transferred to the U.S. population ratio, would reach about 1,000,000 political prisoners.

The Zionist militarists mock the U.S. — supported United Nations Security Council resolution of 11 November 1976, expressing « grave anxiety and concern over the present serious situation in the occupied Arab territories as a result of continued Israeli occupation ». And while the security Council condemns « the measures taken by Israel that alter demographic composition and geographic nature, particularly the establishment of settlements, expropriation of land and properties, transfer of populations, and the change of legal status of Jerusalem », Begin and his accomplices, in full possession of continued U.S. material backing, proclaim the « liberation » of these territories.

NUCLEAR THREATS

The Zionists have become increasingly ruthless with their U.S. patrons.

In September, 1976, Israeli gunboats attacked the facilities of a U.S. oil company that was drilling under an Egyptian concession in the Gulf of Suez, in order to teach the U.S.A. the Zionist understanding of Greater Israeli sovereignty « International Herald Tribune », 29 January 1977. When the U.S.A. recently dared to supply engines for Israeli Kfir-fighters designed for sales to Latin American countries, the Zionist government, after violent protests, finally demanded « compensation » for the lost profit. (British « Guardian », 7 March 1977) ! One of the most frightening developments is the growing nuclear threat of the



« Come and settle the land ».

Zionist megalomaniacs, in close collaboration with their racist cohorts in South Africa (see « Palestine », January 1977). This threat is mainly used as an instrument to blackmail the U.S.A. by hinting at a possible Israeli triggering of a nuclear confrontation between the super-powers.

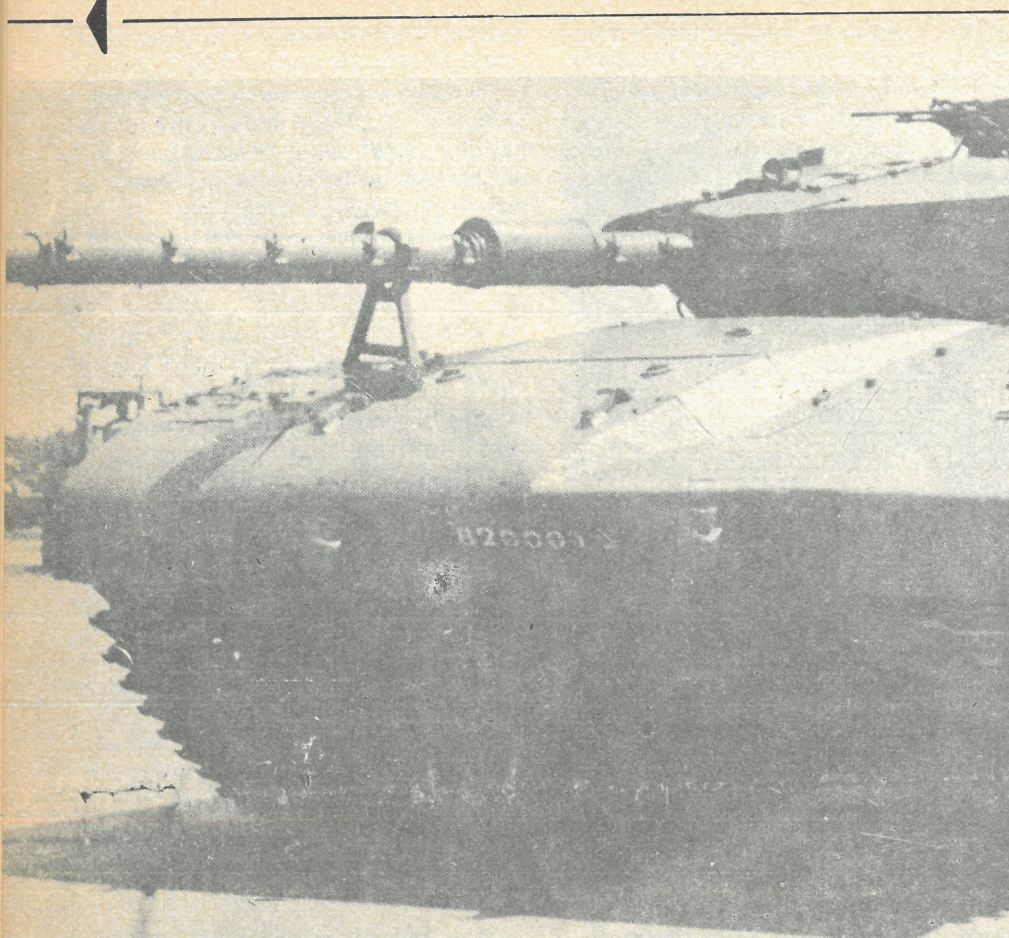
« Let the world worry about it », boasted Israeli President Katzir on 1 December 1974, while addressing a group of nuclear scientists, and admitting that Israel was « able to develop nuclear weapons, and that it would do so » (British « Times », 4 and 16 December 1974). Moshe Dayan, Begin's pet candidate for « peace negotiations », has put it even more bluntly. On a fund raising trip in France he declared: « I think we have now the capability to manufacture the bomb ». « The future must include the possibility of having weapons without any foreign control, free of American control » (French « Le Monde », 29 February, 14 March 1976).

The success of Begin, the Zionist options of open defiance of all serious peace efforts and of open terror and aggression against the Arabs, especially the Palestinian people, marks only the last consequence of a policy of Zionist illusions continuously nourished by U.S. support.

CARTER'S WEAKNESS; CREDIBILITY GAP

The Carter administration has, apart from euphonious words, so far done nothing to break the vicious circle of Zionist blackmail, U.S. compliance, and growth of the fascist faction inside Israel.

As a matter of fact, the reality of continued U.S. support for the Zionist aggressors gives the lie to all noble words about a generally « new » and more moral U.S. foreign policy. While President Carter enthuses about increased help for the poorer nations, he has just increased by \$ 285 million the aid allotted by the Ford administration for Israel during the financial year 1977/78, to the total of \$ 1,785,000,000, given without any



Merkava (Chariot): a sample of American Israeli cooperation.

political, military or humanitarian conditions of this, \$ 1 billion in military-linked pay-offs, half of which are given away as grants, the rest to be repaid, after 10 years grace, within another 20-year period.

Thus, the U.S. protagonists of human rights give, in fact, blank cheques to the Zionist fascists for their settlement projects, population transfers, terror, imprisonment and torture.

The U.S.A. continues to give more « aid » alone to the Zionist-dominated and exploited entity with its population of 3 million than to all the other 80 or so countries in the world receives U.S. assistance together. While lavishing billions on the Zionists marching for fascism, the U.S. administration and Congress have made in the frame-work of an allegedly new U.S. Africa policy, a fuss about a disputed loan of altogether \$ 100 million to all the African states

which suffer from the aggression by the racist Smith-clique.

Likewise, while the U.S. ambassador to the U.N., Mr. Young, is preaching gospels to the suppressed African people about the advantages of boycott measures and economic warfare against their suppressors, his President yielding to the pro-Zionist lobby at home, is just about to push a bill through the Congress, trying to make illegal the Arab trade boycott against Israel.

On 8 May 1977, President Carter pledged that the U.S.A. would limit further export of new sophisticated technology to those « preferred » countries in a major defence treaty with the U.S.A., thus excluding Israel. Only a few days later, Carter succumbed to the U.S. pro-Zionist lobby and agreed to write a letter to arch-Zionist Senator Humphrey confirming all the earlier far-reaching U.S. arms commitments to Israel; promising to give prompt

consideration to Israel's requests for advanced weapons and technology; and in particular, to deliver U.S. engines for the new Israeli — produced « Chariot » tanks, thus replacing the sale of U.S. M-60 tanks by a self-styled Zionist production; agreeing to grant Israel the right to « co-produce » large parts of the promised brand-new F-16 fighter bombers, and so to favour further the build up of an uncontrolled Israeli military — industrial complex and export potential.

This is the sad reality of America's Middle East « peace » policy which, far from curbing Zionist aggression, does in fact continue to give all our support to the development of Israeli fascism, in out-right contradiction of the very interests of the Arab people and the whole peace-loving world, as well as of the U.S.A. itself. The Begin take-over is only the latest consequence of it.

GROWING INDIGNATION IN THE U.S.A.

However, a wave of indignation is growing, even inside the U.S.A., over the dictatorship of the pro-Zionist faction, of all the Churches, Jacksons, Javits and Cases who permanently consider higher their devotion to Zionism, even when on the path of fascism, than the interests of their own people.

Recent polls show that the reputation of Israel has fallen in a public opinion, which has started for grumble about being manipulated and exploited by the Zionist colonizers and militarists.

The above-mentioned former Under secretary of State, George Ball, in his stirring article in the April issue of « U.S. Foreign Affairs » published on the eve of Begin's take-over, has exposed the unbearable situation, in which Israel, as an U.S. « ward », receives unconditional support amounting to over \$ 2 billion a year, while opposing any just peace. Ball asks: « It is not whether we should try to force an unpalatable peace on the Israeli people, but rather how much longer we should continue to pour assistance into Israel to support

policies that impede progress towards peace and thus accentuate the possibility of war, with all the dangers that holds not only for Israel but for the United States and the other industrialized democracies of Western Europe and Japan ».

NO ASSISTANCE FOR FASCISTS !

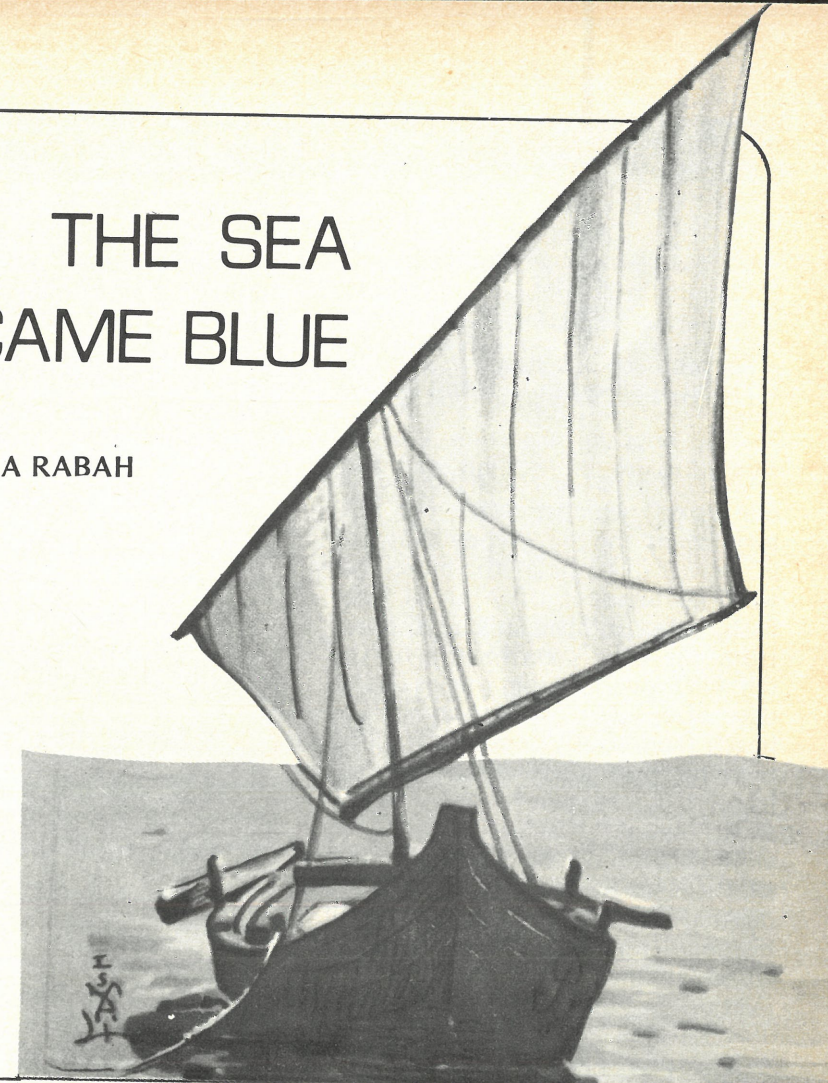
Ball also hints at the only realistic alternative to prevent the Israeli fascist faction from clinging to its maniac plans: The withdrawal of any U.S. official economic and military assistance and moreover, the elimination of all the essential tax and other administrative privileges allowing the Zionist agencies to exploit private donations and public treasures for Zionist expansionism.

Indeed, the U.S.A. must put an end to its illusive policy — if it is not a policy of deliberate deception of « paying Israeli fascism to make it ready for peace ». No one should be so stupid to believe that fascists like Begin or Dayan will become indulgent and peace-loving while being propped up with funds, bombs, planes and nuclear weapons. To prevent a Zionist-sponsored explosion of the Middle East conflict and to seek a just and lasting solution for the Palestinian people as well as for peaceful co-existence of all peoples in the area, needs a broad and resolute anti-fascist alliance. The people of the U.S.A. must participate in this alliance by vigorously stopping all the perverse and unparalleled support for the maniacs in Israel.

The U.S.A. will be responsible, politically and materially, — and the Palestinian people and every Arab leader will have to hold it responsible — for every single settlement Begin and his like are designing, for every Palestinian family being evicted, for every concentration camp being erected, for every measure of continued occupation and terror, for every military threat, for every act of Zionist paranoia and fascist madness.

THE SEA BECAME BLUE

BY YAHIA RABAH



*In the summer the colour of the sea is blue,
In the spring the colour of the sea is green,
In the autumn the colour of the sea is muddy,
In the winter the colour of the sea is foamy.*

Foamy, o sea, foamy... Your strong wind blows, the tall cliff collapses onto the beach, the ropes of the tents are snapped, the tents fly away and drown, the palm trees are smashed down, broken off from the middle of their long cylindrical trunks, and the branches of the tamarisk trees are torn off. And Abu Al Habbash, your ardent lover who rides the violent waves, spreads out his sail for the journey and goes westwards far, far away, not returning, his voice no longer heard... We hear nothing but your roaring, sea, and your white foam the colour of a funeral shroud, your foaming face the colour of death.

*Foaming, o sea, foaming,
How long is the journey,
How short is the journey,
God damn you, wind of our exile,
God damn you, wind of our exile.*

Our life has come to be between the sea and the desert, between justice and the impossible. Our life has come to be in the distance between death... and the will not to die.

There was nothing to distinguish our camp from the other refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, except its closeness to the sea. That year, when starvation descended on us, that same year the sea also attacked us. Its waves rose up riotously and surged against our camp, sweeping away two rows of tents. This event could have become historic, with the women, drowned in sorrow in front of the huts, saying in the afternoon hours:

THE SEA BECAME BLUE

« The day the sea swept us away »,
« The year the sea surged up against us ».

But another event occurred in our camp, which became the historic event for the women drowned in sorrow in front of the huts. This was the incident of Abu Al Habbash, who pitched his tent apart from the others at the top of the tall cliff overlooking the sea, and day after day would comb the beach from south to north. Walking with his bare chest, his wide black baggy trousers, barefooted, and the waves would wash his feet. He would snatch up the pieces of wood that the sea had thrown up from its depths, and pile them up in front of his small tent that he had pitched alone at the top of the tall cliff overlooking the sea.

Those days long ago...

Abu Al Habbash was a fisherman, or rather the chief fisherman. He had a broad chest sprinkled with pale thick hair like the spines of large fish, and traces of the white hair of his beard remained even

after he had been shaved by Jamil the barber. His eyes were red-rimmed, like the eyes of sharks.

Abu Al Habbash was alone, like a cautious fish that has escaped from the fishermen's nets. He had lost his family in the first year of the exodus, and he alone had remained, combing the beach south to north, taking shelter at night in his small tent overlooking the sea.

One day at the beginning of winter, Abu Al Habbash climbed from the beach up the high cliff, shouting like a legendary monster, sweat pouring from his body covered with hair like the spines of fish. The children of the refugee camp crowded round him, and at the sound of his shouts Jamil the barber and Abu Khalil the cham-

pion, and the Mukhtar Abu Al Abed jumped up from his sleep in alarm and ran towards the shouting. « Maryam the Mare », with her lanky build and her face with its prominent bones, came up with some of the women, and they all gathered round Abu Al Habbash, whose round eyes were filled with tears of emotion, the sweat still pouring from his massive, spine-covered body.

« For God's sake, Abu Al Habbash... What's happened to you man? »

Abu Al Habbash blurted out a stream of incoherent words, and then pointed to the sea.

« Speak, man. What's up? ».

His breath became somewhat calmer, he shook away the remaining sweat from his face with his hand, and his round eyes gazed around the faces.

« I saw him. I swear by God Almighty I saw him ». With a sign of his hand, Abu Al Abed the Mukhtar told everyone to be quiet, and then, in a tone of voice that exuded pity and disbelief, he asked:

« What was it you saw? Tell us, God help you ».

Amidst the astonishment that was holding everyone tongue-tied, Abu Al Habbash began to tell his amazing story. He said that he had been going along the beach as he did every day, looking for pieces of wood, seeing them out to sea and diving into the water and swimming towards them. While he was walking alongside the water, he noticed a black shape, which at first he thought was a piece of wood, or a barrel partly showing above the water. He stared at it closely to make sure, and saw him, saw him and recognised him, a large black dolphin playing in the water, coming closer to the shore, jumping up and then diving down again. And Abu Al Habbash said that he had recognised the dolphin... It was the same dolphin that used to swim around near his boat in the old days.

« I knew him from his head from his eyes, from the way he swam and played in the water. I knew him, and he knew me. He came to me, he came calling me. I swear to God that's what happened ».

As if the emotion had exhausted him, he lowered his hands to his sides, his features went slack, the gaze in his eyes dissolved and he stood looking at the crowd gathered around him like one in a daze. Abu Al Abed the Mukhtar went up to him and led him by the hand into the tent while « Maryam the Mare » rushed off to make him a glass of tea with miramiya. (2) The rumour spread through our camp at the time that the sea had stolen away poor Abu Al Habbash's senses.

The whole winter passed.
And the summer came.

The story of Abu Al Habbash almost became immersed in the world of forgetfulness, as the sand on the beach absorbs the drops of rain. Only when Abu Al Habbash went past the women as they drowned in sorrow in front of the huts, would they shake their heads sadly and suck their lips.

« Poor Abu Al Habbash ».
« The sea has stolen away his senses ».

At the beginning of summer, the pile of wood in front of Abu Al Habbash's tent was transformed into something that aroused everyone's astonishment: a small boat that he painted white with a blue line near its upper edge, and Abu Al Habbash again became a subject of conversation.

« Abu Al Habbash wants to go to sea again ».

« Fishing is forbidden », Abu Al Abed the Mukhtar said, « and hiring it out is forbidden. The authorities say the sea is a military zone ».

Abu Al Habbash took no notice of that. « Whoever can catch me, let him do what he likes », he said to

himself. Two hours before sunset, Abu Al Habbash took his boat down to the beach. The children were shouting to each other, in front of the women who watched Abu Al Habbash from the clifftop, tongue-tied with astonishment. The bows of the boat touched the surface of the water, it rocked when the waves struck it, but Abu Al Habbash pushed it forward. As soon as the boat rose above the crest of the waves, Abu Al Habbash jumped into it. The boat moved away, became a small spot at the edge of the horizon, and then finally disappeared. In the night, the wind raged violently, the waves heaved up and the people of the refugee camp stood like ghosts along the shore, the women like mythical figures on top of the cliff.

The winds howled as if in mourning, and the colour of the sea was changed. The waves came in breaking fiercely until the sands from the sea-bed appeared, and the women lit a large fire on the clifftop, to guide Abu Al Habbash to the shore, amidst the night and the heaving sea.

The men waited,
And the women waited,
And the small children waited even in their sleep. They all waited through the night, the wind howled as if in mourning, and the colour of the sea was changed. The sea boiled up until the sands of the sea-bed appeared, but Abu Al Habbash did not return. And when the sun rose, the waves retreated as if a hidden hand has taken hold of them, and the colour of the sea became blue. But Abu Al Habbash had gone away and did not return, and the people in our refugee camp are still waiting for him to return.

Dair Al Balah Refugee Camp —
Gaza Strip 1966.

SOLIDARITY NEWS

COMMUNIQUE ON THE VISIT OF THE PLO DELEGATION TO FINLAND

A delegation headed by the chief of the political department of the PLO, Farouk Kaddoumi, visited Finland between May 9-11.

During the visit, the delegation was received by the President of the Finnish Republic, Dr. Urho Kekkonen.

The PLO delegation met and held discussions with leaders of the Social Democratic Party, the Center Party, and the People's Democratic League, as well as the Communist Party of Finland. Friendly discussions were also held with representatives of the Central Organizations of Finnish Trade Unions (SAK) and the Society of Friendship with the Arab Peoples.

During the discussions between Kaddoumi and the leaders of the above-mentioned Finnish parties, opinions were exchanged concerning the situation in the Middle East, and the possibilities of a political solution of the crisis and conflict. It was emphasized that no lasting solution could be achieved without the restoration of the national rights of the Palestinian people, and the forming of an independent state of Palestine.

Kaddoumi expressed the gratitude of the PLO towards Finland, for the understanding and support shown for the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people.

The Social Democratic Party, the Center Party, the People's Democratic League, and the Communist Party of Finland all expressly state that they consider the PLO to be the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. They consider it important that Finland uphold and develop relations with the PLO. They support the right of the PLO to participate in all sessions of the UN and other official organizations, as well as in any other talks and negotiations, inclu-

ding the Geneva Conference concerning the Middle East question, and in any negotiations concerning Palestine or the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The PLO and the above-mentioned Finnish parties agree to further develop mutual relations and cooperation.

Helsinki, May 11, 1977

COMMUNIQUE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS

The International Association of Democratic Lawyers is pleased with the results gotten from the Diplomatic conference for the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian rights applicable to armed conflicts, and with the Conference's preparation of additional protocols to the Geneva Conventions of August 12, 1949.

The extension of the definition of armed international conflict to include armed conflicts against colonial domination, foreign occupation, and racist regimes, has been a constant concern of the IADL. Therefore, the IADL sees that its demands are on the point of being put into concrete form in the preparation of new Convention texts, through the work of the Diplomatic Conference.

The application of the prisoner-of-war statute to combatants corresponds with the interpretation of the Geneva Convention on the treatment of prisoners-of-war advocated by the IADL. A pioneer in this matter, the IADL advocated the extension of the prisoner-of-war statute in the past, notably to the fighters with the Algerian FLN, the fighters with the forces of peace in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, the fighters who struggled for liberation from Portuguese colonialism, those fighting against the racist regimes of South Africa and Zimbabwe, and who are fighting in Namibia, and the Palestinians.

SOLIDARITY NEWS

The IADL stresses that the fighters who fall into enemy hands every day, whether they are in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, or the occupied Arab territories, are placing much hope on the adoption and ratification of these new protocols by all States.

The IADL recalls, concerning civilian populations, that it has always advocated the greatest respect for measures protecting civilians during armed conflicts.

Brussels, April 28, 1977

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR PALESTINE ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF ITS USURPATION

Cairo

In a communique issued May 16th on the occasion of the 29th anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine, the Arab Lawyers Federation declared that « armed struggle is the only way to remove this foreign body from our country and recover the national legitimate rights of the Palestinian people ». The Federation then praised the Palestinian Revolution and the escalation of armed struggle in occupied Palestine and paid tribute to the martyrs of the Palestinian Revolution and Arab nations who died fighting imperialism and Zionism.

Aden

In a recent press interview, an official source in the Yemeni Foreign Ministry refuted the communique released by the USA State Department, which described any support for the Palestinian people as a terrorist act. The official source said that « the US — Zionist alliance, based on aggression, expansion and expropriation of land is itself terror ». The declaration was concluded by reaffirming Yemeni support for the just and legitimate struggle of the Palesti-

nian people to recover their national rights, including the right of self-determination.

New York

On Sunday May 15, Palestine Solidarity day was celebrated in New York by a mass demonstration in the Brooklyn sector of the city. Hundreds of Palestinians, Arabs, Negroes and Hispanic — American citizens, supporters of the struggle of the Palestinian people, joined the demonstration. Part of Atlantic Avenue was blocked to traffic for more than three and a half hours.

The participants send the following statement to Chairman Arafat :

« We, the organizations and individuals, that are gathered here in Brooklyn, New York, to celebrate the international day of solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people (May 15) salute the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people under its sole legitimate leadership, the Palestine Liberation Organization, we salute its confrontation with the schemes of American imperialism and reaction, and their spearhead, Israel. We resolutely promise to escalate our participation in supporting the Palestinian Revolution until the total liberation of Palestine and the establishment of the democratic state. We reaffirm our unwavering faith in its ability to achieve its national goals and victory ».

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR PALESTINE ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF ITS USURPATION

Nicosia

In its editorial yesterday on the occasion of the 29th anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine and the establishment of the Zionist entity, the Cypriot newspaper *Tania* praised the heroic struggle of the Palestinian Revolution and people to recover their legitimate national rights. *Tania* said that the imperialist — Zionist conspiracies to

which the Palestinian people are subjected inside and outside the occupied territories will only increase their determination to continue their armed struggle until victory.

Finally, the newspaper reaffirmed the support of the Cypriot people for the Palestinian people and their just and legitimate struggle for liberation.

Havana

Palestinian students and the Cuban people, with the cooperation of the Cuban institute for friend-

ship, held a rally in solidarity with the Palestinian people on May 17th, as a part of a « Palestine week » commemorating the 29th anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine. Speaking at the rally, the PLO representative in Cuba said that this bitter memory will only reinforce the determination of the Palestinian people to liberate their usurped land. He then praised the moral and material support given by Cuba and the socialist countries to the Palestinian people.

Other speeches delivered by Cuban officials hailed the just struggle of the Palestinian people against the Zionist occupation and con-

firmed their unlimited support for the Palestinian people.

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION IN TOKYO

Tokyo

The PLO and the Arab League offices in Tokyo will hold a photographic exhibition in Yokohama with the cooperation of the Tokyo municipality. The exhibition includes 100 pictures taken by Japanese photographers, representing the living conditions in Palestinian camps and the different stages of

development of the Palestinian Revolution.

Nicosia

The Cypriot committee for solidarity with the Arab peoples held a rally in Nicosia on the 23rd of May in solidarity with the just struggle of the Palestinian people. Representatives of diplomatic delegations accredited to the Cypriot Government and a large number of Cypriot people participated in the rally, during which the PLO representative in Nicosia and the Secretary of the Committee gave speeches. Several Palestinian poems which were translated into



Palestine Day Rally London.

SOLIDARITY NEWS

Greek by Cypriot poets were read, and a film about the Palestinian struggle was shown.

Berlin

In a communique issued following the end of the ninth conference of the Federations of G.D.R. Workers Unions, which was attended by 3,000 delegates, the German workers called for the withdrawal of Zionist forces from the occupied Arab territories and the recovery of the national rights of the Palestinian people.

SPANISH AND KOREAN RALLIES SUPPORT PLO

Madrid

On the occasion of the Day of Palestinian struggle of May 15th, mass rallies were held in the Spanish capital, Madrid, during which the speakers condemned the Zionist occupation of Arab land and declared their support for Palestinian struggle. The Spanish Labour Party, which participated in the rally, issued a joint communique with the Palestinian National Liberation Movement, Fateh, in which it stressed its support for the Palestinian

struggle, led by the PLO, for the recovery of Palestinian rights.

PyongYang

Similar celebrations were held on May 17th in the Korean capital, PyongYang, as part of a solidarity week with the Palestinian struggle. The rallies were attended by several Korean officials, who reaffirmed their country's support for the Palestinian struggle. Moreover, the General Union of Korean Writers and Journalists sent a cable to the General Union of Palestinian Writers and Journalists in which it affirmed its full support for the

struggle of the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the PLO, for the recovery of their national rights.

TURKEY, INDONESIA, AFGHANISTAN AGREE TO OPEN PLO OFFICES

Abu Lutf, Head of the PLO Political Department, has been informed by the Foreign Ministers of Turkey, Indonesia and Afghanistan during the conference of Islamic Foreign Ministers in the Libyan capital, Tripoli, of their request for PLO offices to be opened in their respective capitals.

TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE INVESTIGATE REPORTS ON OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

A tripartite international committee representing Sri Lanka, and Yugoslavia began its meetings in Geneva May 17th to investigate the terrorism of the Zionist authorities in occupied Palestine.

The committee is expected to interview two witnesses who visited the occupied territories and to report on the damages in the city of Quneitra, in the occupied Golan Heights, during the 1973 October War.

It is to be noted that the Israeli occupation authorities have denied this committee — which was formed by the UN General Assembly in 1968 — the right to visit the occupied territories because of its alleged « lack of objectivity ».

UN sources said that the committee will discuss, during its 10-days of meetings, several reports about the occupied territories received from a number of delegations, governments, and organizations, such as the Jewish League for Human Rights.

It is to be recalled that the World Health Organization (WHO) on May 19th strongly condemned Israeli practices against Palestinian citizens in the occupied territories, including the deportation of citizens, the destruction of their homes and the expropriation of their land for settlement purposes. The WHO also demanded that sanctions be imposed on Israel because of its inhumane measures in occupied Palestine.

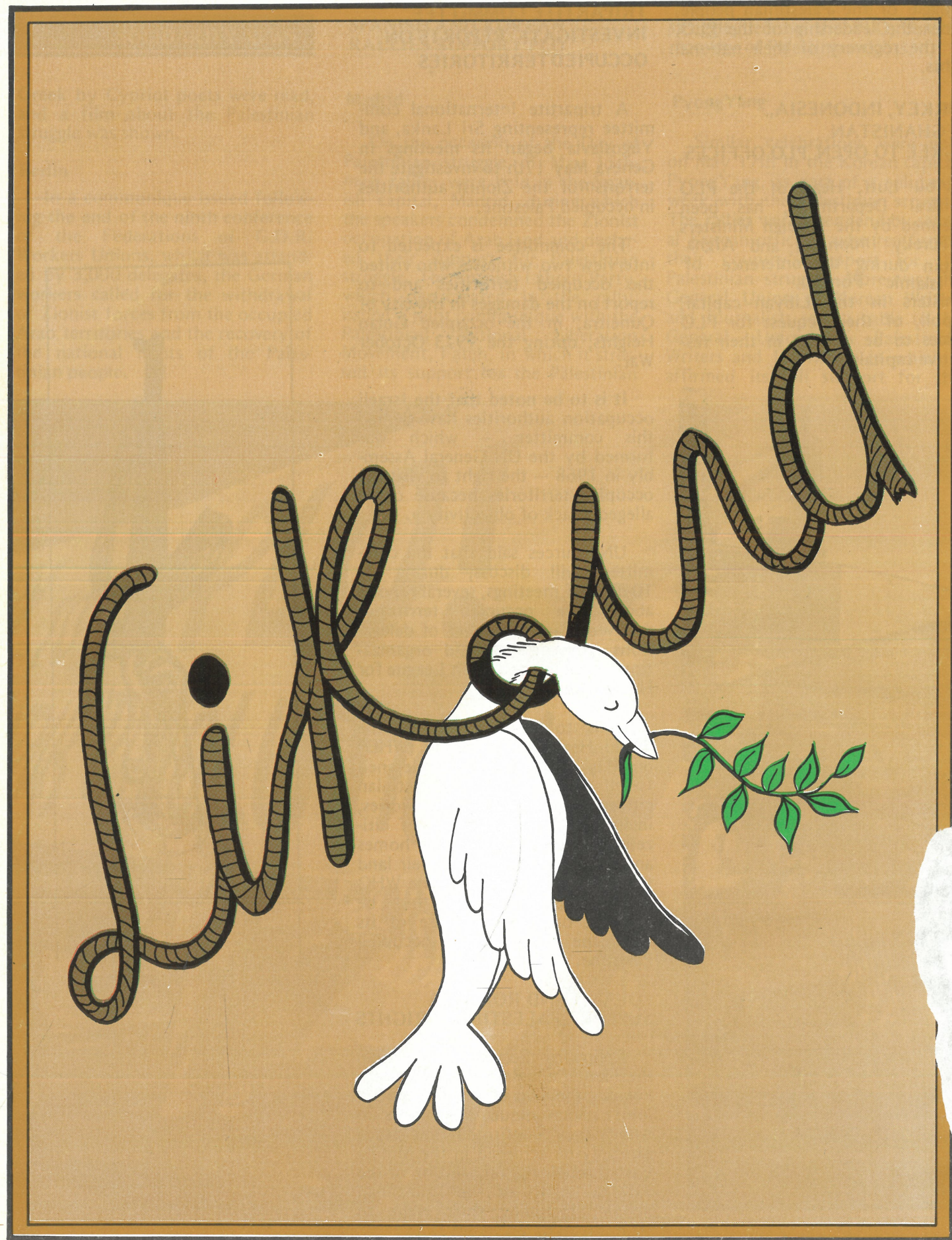
POLAND AND ROMANIA SUPPORT PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

Following the visit of Rumanian President Nicolai Ceausescu to Poland, the two countries issued a joint communique May 20th in which they confirmed that peace can only be achieved in the Middle East through the recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to establish an independent state.



Palestine Day Rally New York, May 15th





Palestine

P.L.O.
information
bulletin

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