

**TODAY IRAN**

**TOMORROW PALESTINE**

**P.L.O.  
information  
bulletin**

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# Palestine

**TWO REVOLUTIONS IN ONE**





## TO OUR READERS....

Solidarity is an important weapon in helping the oppressed peoples of the world win their struggles. Solidarity with the Palestinian people is an indispensable factor for the continuity of our just struggle and just cause. We are very grateful for the solidarity and support of all the honourable peoples of the world with the Palestinian cause. We have many friends all over the world, but our enemies are still strong and fierce. They have better weapons and equipment, their means are limitless.

The forces of liberation, on the other hand, possess limited means and equipment, but they have unlimited determination and will of continuous sacrifice for their just causes. However, we are the emerging forces and the forces of aggression are the declining ones. The future belongs to us for they have already had the past.

We thank all our friends all over the world for the letters of support and encouragement which you have sent to us.

We hope to continue on the road to victory.

# Palestine

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Welcomes its friends and  
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## EDITORIAL

# PRESIDENT CARTER'S PEACE INITIATIVE

President Carter's visit to the Middle East came as a surprise to all political observers and Middle East experts. US diplomacy has definitely suffered some setbacks in the region, including the stagnation of the Camp David plans for a separate Egyptian-Israeli peace, and the loss of Iran to the US as an oil producing country, a military base and a police force against regional liberation movements. As the US interprets it, this means a strengthening of Soviet influence in the region. However, the alleged "communist threat" to the Middle East means a setback for US interests. President Carter was prompted to start his unexpected visit by three motivations:

1) a desire to increase his standing in the polls, in preparation for the 1980 presidential elections;

2) to reorganize the region to bolster US interests after the fall of the Shah;

3) to get a separate Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty signed.

The Israelis are aware of President Carter's domestic headaches. They know that the US president needs Jewish votes and Zionist money to be re-elected. They exploit his weaknesses to impose their will on him and to avoid making concessions to Egyptian president Sadat. As for the Palestinians, the Israelis still deny the Palestinian reality, and the Palestinians' right to self-determination and statehood.

President Carter's statement urging representatives of the Palestinian people to take part in the negotiations cannot be taken seriously. His call for Palestinian representatives was not directed

at the Palestinians; it was directed at the Arabs, to pacify them and reduce their dissatisfaction with his initiative and the separate peace treaty. The American president is aware that the PLO is the only legal representative of the Palestinian people, so instead of abstractly addressing the Palestinians, he should talk directly with the PLO. On his trip, Carter got to hear from our people in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, that they refuse his call and advise him to talk to the PLO.

Whatever the outcome of his visit, the Israelis are continuing their policy of buying time. They believe that time is on their side, and they continue to build new settlements every day in the occupied territories. But they must learn a lesson from the Iranian earthquake! The peoples of the region cannot accept humiliation and oppression forever. The Khomeini winds may blow over the rest of the Middle East. The Israelis may be able to fool the US president for a long time, but the oppressed peoples of the region cannot be fooled, and will wake up.

Sadat would be happy to be assigned the role of regional policeman now that the Shah is gone. But even the Shah couldn't hold for ever, and Sadat will meet the same fate, when the Egyptian people rise up. Sadat knows well, that there will be no peace in the region even if he tries to deceive his people on the Palestinian issue. The Middle East conflict cannot be solved through a separate peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. It can only be settled if Palestinian demands are met, through the total withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied territories and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.



# PALESTINE NOTES



Chairman Arafat addressing rally in Iran

## ARAFAT CABLE TO KIM IL SUNG

Yasser Arafat sent a cable to the Korean leader Kim Il Sung on February 21, in which he reaffirmed the PLO's support for the Korean people's struggle for the peaceful unification of Korea, on the basis of the program issued by the National Front for the reunification of Korea on 23 January 1979. Arafat's cable was in response to Kim Il Sung's congratulations on the 14th anniversary of the Palestinian Revolution.

## ABU JIHAD MEETS WITH OFFICERS AND CADRES OF ASSIFA MILITARY UNITS

Abu Jihad, member of Fateh Central Committee and of the

General Command of the Assifa Forces, met on 23 February, with the commanders of the Assifa Forces in South Lebanon.

During the meeting, Abu Jihad spoke about developments in the Palestinian sphere, and the situation of the Palestinian Revolution on both the Arab and international levels. He also said that the Palestinian people both within and outside the occupied territories will reject the outcome of the second Camp David meeting, as they have rejected those of the first one.

Abu Jihad affirmed that Palestinian commandos will intensify their struggle against the Israeli occupation, "to fulfill our people's legitimate objectives."

He also hailed the Iranian Revolution, saying that the victory of the Iranian people is also that of the Palestinians, and reaffirmed the strong links which tie the Iranians and the Palestinians in their common struggle.

## ARAFAT SPEECH AT DFLP RALLY

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) held a mass rally in Beirut on February 25, the 10th anniversary of its founding. Yasser Arafat made a speech there in which he said:

"We will remain together, side by side until victory. I say this while we remember how a year ago US imperialism pushed its agent, Sadat, to make his treacherous visit to Jerusa-

lem, then to Camp David to sign the treacherous accords and to betray the the Palestinian Revolution and the Arab nation. Carter and Begin thought on that day that they had a firm hold on the Arab region, and had ousted Egypt from the battle of honour and transferred it to the side of the aggressive imperialist camp represented by Zionism.

"Now, as they are meeting in Camp David II to carry out their roles on the stage, we say to them, we are the difficult and essential factor in this region, and there can be no peace without the Palestinian people and the PLO."

The leader of the DFLP, Nayef Hawatmeh, recalled the history of the foundation of the Democratic Front. He underlined the importance of the victory of the Iranian revolution and called for national unity within the PLO.

## DECLARATION ON CHINESE - VIETNAMESE CONFLICT

Abu Lutf, Head of the PLO Political Department, made the following statement on February 25, 1979:

"The current war in south-east Asia between China and Vietnam is a dangerous setback to the high principles upon which relations between friendly and progressive states are based. Since we do not approve in principle of this war between two friendly neighbouring socialist states, how can we accept the intensification of the fighting and its extensions?

"With the war reaching such a level, we feel that all those in the world who believe in the cause of freedom and progress should concentrate all their efforts to end this escalating conflict, and bring about a Chinese withdrawal from Vietnamese territory, to be followed by peaceful negotiations to settle pro-



Abu Jihad greeting militants in the South Lebanon

blems between the two states.

"We praise specifically the Non-Aligned states for their efforts to do this, in view of the repercussions the continuation of the war may have on international peace and security, on all national liberation movements and on the international movement of Non-Aligned countries."

## SUDANESE-PALESTINIAN WORKERS COMMUNIQUE CONDEMNS SADAT

The General Union of Sudanese Workers, in a further step of condemnation of Sadat's policies, and support for the PLO, issued a joint communique together with the General Union of Palestinian Workers on 25 February 1979. The communique condemned Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and its repercussions which it described as a blow to Arab unity, facilitating the establishment of an imperialist and Zionist hold on the area. It also saluted the struggle of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories, and confirmed support for the Palestinian people's struggle for liberation, return and the establishment of an indepen-

dent state in their homeland under PLO leadership. It also called for unification of Arab capabilities to confront the capitulation and disintegration which followed Sadat's visit to Israel, and his negotiation with the Zionist enemy.

## GREEK PRIME MINISTER UNDERLINES NEED FOR INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE

In an interview, on 26 February, with the Saudi Arabian daily "Okadh" the Greek Prime Minister Constantin Caramanlis who recently toured several Arab countries underlined "the necessity to bring about a permanent and global solution of the Middle East crisis guaranteeing the right of the Palestinian People to decide its destiny and to establish an independent state". Caramanlis also demanded the "Israeli withdrawal from all territories occupied in 1967". The Greek Prime Minister mentioned that Greece has refused to recognize Israel despite the pressure exerted on it on the part of its Western allies, and finally stressed "the need of strengthening the ties of cooperation between Greece and the Arab countries"



## PALESTINE NOTES ●



Abu Lutf

### ABU LUTF HOLDS ARAB AND EUROPEAN TALKS

Abu Lutf (Farouk Kaddoumi), Head of the PLO Political Department, visited Switzerland, Tunisia, France and Italy in February to hold talks with government, party and other political officials. The talks concentrated on the bilateral relations between the PLO and these countries, and the developments in the Middle East as a whole.

During his two-day visit to Switzerland, Abu Lutf met with high-ranking UN personalities. He also spoke before University professors and journalists at the Development Institute in Geneva, where he gave an analysis of the political situation in the Middle East in the wake of the Iranian Revolution's victory. Abu Lutf also met with members of the Swiss Socialist Party in Berne to discuss possibilities of cooperation between the PLO and the Socialist Party.

In Tunisia, Abu Lutf met with the Tunisian Prime Minister Al-Hadi Noueira, with whom he discussed current Arab issues. During the meeting, Abu Lutf briefed the Tunisian Premier on the resolutions of the 14th session of the Palestinian National Congress, which furthered the unification of all factions of the Palestinian Revolution, and on the positive repercussions of the Iranian Revolution for the Palestine cause. He also stressed the necessity of strengthening Arab unity on the basis of the Baghdad and Rabat Summits.

Abu Lutf also communicated Yasser Arafat's greetings to President Bourguiba and to the Tunisian people, as well as his appreciation for the support they have given the Palestinian Revolution on all levels.

In Italy, Abu Lutf met with Italian Foreign Minister Arnaldo Forlani, with whom he discussed the PLO points of view concerning the latest developments in the

Middle East situation.

Earlier in the month, Abu Lutf had met with the Deputy Secretary-General of the Italian Communist Party, and discussed current problems in the area.

### MEETING WITH FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER

In Paris, Abu Lutf met with French Foreign Minister Jean François Poncet, with whom he reviewed current developments in the Middle East, specifically Lebanon and Iran. During his stay, he also met with several other French government officials.

In an interview with the French news agency *France Presse*, 20 February, Abu Lutf, referred to the recent press conference of President Giscard d'Estaing on 16 February, in which the latter called for the return from Camp David to a global Middle East settlement under the auspices of the U.N.. Abu Lutf asked the French government to call for a respective new resolution by the U.N.. Abu Lutf asked the French government to call for a respective new resolution by the Security Council. He added, that the declarations of the French President clearly show that the world is beginning to realize that the Sadat initiative and the Camp David accords which followed are fruitless and will not achieve any peaceful settlement.

At the end of the visit, the Franco-Palestinian Friendship Society gave a reception at the Sheraton Hotel in honor of Abu Lutf and members of the Palestinian delegation.

The reception was attended by several Ambassadors of Arab, Socialist and Friendly states in Paris; by high ranking officials of the French Foreign Ministry; and by several Deputies from the Communist Party, the Socialist Party and the Gaullist Party.



## "THE IRANIAN EARTHQUAKE":

### A FIRST PALESTINIAN EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT

No one can yet believe it. Iran is without a Shah. The Iranian people never imagined that the Shah could be ousted. "Even now, when I want to talk about the Shah, I feel compelled to look over my shoulder", a young Iranian told me and the Palestinian delegation when we visited Iran. We had arrived on 17 February 1979, only six days after the fall of prime minister Bakhtiar, which marked the victory of the Iranian Revolution.

The Palestinian delegation, headed by Chairman Arafat, took a chartered Syrian plane to Tehran. "I don't know whether I am dreaming or if this is reality", said Ayatullah Talkani,

when he received us for dinner in his modest house in Tehran. In fact, nobody could have imagined that a PLO delegation one day would visit the Iranian capital. And "Iran without a Shah is a dream", was the phrase repeated several times by many people from all levels of society.

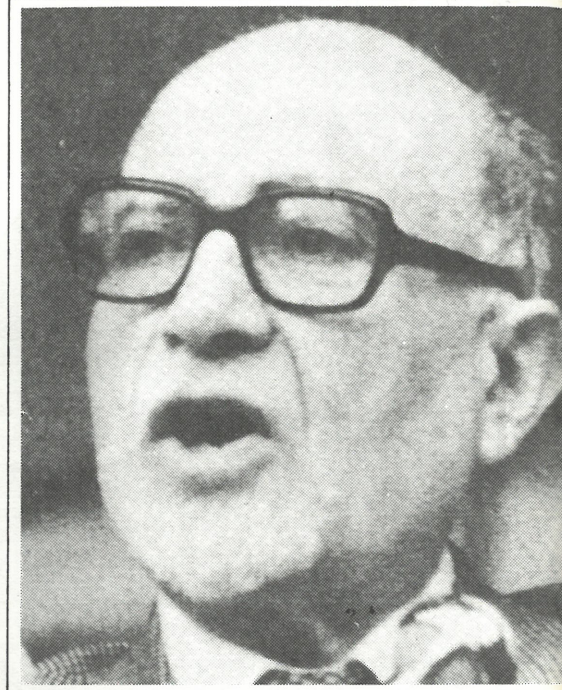
#### "THE CRASH OF 79"

General Dayan described the "crash of 79", the overthrow of the Shah, as an earthquake which would affect even Israel. Begin labelled it as the beginning of a dark age. Chairman Arafat, on the other hand, predicted a new dawn and a





Chairman Arafat meeting Foreign Minister Sanjabi....



Prime Minister Bazarghan....



Ayatullah Talkani

new era for the whole Middle Eastern region. Needless to say that the 'Khomeini winds' will blow over the neighbouring peoples.

The Iranian Revolution is an inspiration for all oppressed people, and especially those in the Middle East to rise up and fight for their freedom and dignity. The best and most sophisticated weapons could not stand up against the will and determination of the people. In spite of the huge number of human losses amongst the unarmed population, they continued their bare foot revolution against the Shah's regime. Ayatullah Khomeini, the unchallenged leader of the Iranian people, refused all compromises with the Shah. He pledged to continue strikes and demonstrations till the overthrow of the Shah-regime and the establishment of an Islamic Republic in Iran.

Ayatullah Khomeini, the spiritual and political leader of the Iranian Revolution, emerged as the symbol of the Iranian people's struggle for freedom and justice. The 78 year old man whose father was assassinated by the Shah's father Reza Pahlawi, and whose son was killed by the present Shah Mohamed Reza Pahlawi in 1963, is a stern but wise man. He was forced to live in exile in Iraq (since 1963), until Iran erupted against the Shah's regime in Quom, the most famous religious town in Iran. In Iraq, Ayatullah

Khomeini continued his struggle against the Shah. He met people from his homeland and was continuously informed about the latest developments in his country. He continued to organize his supporters and send them back to mobilize the people against the Shah. When activity against the Shah was stepped up, the Iraqi regime asked Ayatullah Khomeini to choose another place of exile. Iraq was scared of retaliation by the Shah. Consequently the Ayatullah Khomeini went to France and settled in Neufle le Chateau, one of the Parisian suburbs. In his new exile, the old man continued his political activities to liberate his country. His residence became a place of pilgrimage to all Iranian patriots and to the anti-Shah movement. The Paris exile benefited the Ayatullah and his movement and placed him in the center of all events concerning Iran. The French capital is an open city for mass media and information services which were used in full scale to the advantage of the Iranian upheaval.

#### THE SHAH OUSTED

The trouble in Iran continued against the hated Shah, and his resistance lowered continuously. Mass demonstrations were organized by the Khomeini people in all the cities of Iran, in Tehran, Mashhad, Tabriz, Quom, Abadan etc.

The economy was paralyzed and the oil export stopped. The oil rich country had to import some oil to meet necessary demands of the country. President Carter advised the Shah to leave the country at least temporarily, as he could no longer control the situation. According to the advice of his master, the Shah left Iran "with tears in his eyes", and with Farah Diba, his wife, to his old friend, Sadat of Egypt. But on 16 January, before he left, the Shah confided the state's burden to a loyal servant from the opposition, Dr. Shapur Bakhtiar, who was appointed as prime minister. In the hope of absorbing the rage of the people, Bakhtiar tried his best to cool the tempers of the rioting masses. Bakhtiar tried to contact Ayatullah Khomeini and to win his support for the newly appointed cabinet. But the Ayatullah would not meet him in Paris unless he resigned. The Iranian masses set forth their strikes and demonstrations and started attacking all public buildings of the Government. The Shah's busts were demolished, police offices were attacked and the most infamous offices of Savak, the Shah's security service, were occupied. Ayatullah Khomeini was preparing himself to leave the French capital to return home. Finally and after 15 years of exile the Ayatullah took a French Charter plane back to Iran. Seven millions, all the inhabitants of the Iranian capital went out to receive their hero and redeemer.

#### AYATULLAH KHOMEINY'S VICTORY

Arriving in Tehran, Ayatullah Khomeini started working. He formed a new cabinet headed by Dr. Mehdi Bazarghan, a 73 years old engineer. Simultaneously, he asked Bakhtiar to resign. But the Shah's man insisted on fighting against the people and refused to surrender. He ordered the army to suppress all moves of the people. As a result of his stubbornness, the air force joined the Khomeini mass movement. After clashes between the Shah's army and revolutionary air force supported by the Iranian masses, Bakhtiar fled. The 11th of February marked the victory of the Iranian people against the Shah.

A new era started in Iran, the Iranian people are free,... unbelievable. Iran without a Shah, it is a dream! The Iranians are fascinated, they are happy. "They did it", said a U.S. journalist who witnessed the Iranian events. "They are intoxicated", said a French lady journalist in Tehran.

#### ARAFAT IN TEHRAN

Nobody believed that Yasser Arafat himself would come so soon to Tehran, only six days later. When they at 5.45 woke me up in the



## A FIRST PALESTINIAN EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT



Chairman Arafat inaugurates PLO mission in presence of Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Yazdi (raising right)

morning of 17 February, and told me I was to go to Tehran, I did not imagine that Chairman Arafat would be on the plane. In Damascus, everybody was surprised to see Chairman Arafat on the plane. The Palestinian delegation included a medical team, an information staff and a political delegation, all of whom were carefully selected cadres of the Palestinian Revolution and well prepared for this mission. In the plane, Chairman Arafat gave his instructions to different cadres.

After a flight lasting almost two hours we saw two Phantom jets in the sky beside our plane. For about 15 minutes everyone was anxious about what happen. Our pilot, a Syrian, informed the two Phantoms that a friendly delegation was on board, a high-level Palestinian delegation coming to congratulate the Iranian people on the success of their revolution. A few moments later, the jet fighters drew nearer, and we could see their pilots waving their hands, saluting us. They waved the wings of their planes in greeting. Then, they disappeared, leaving the road to Tehran open.

It was shortly before sunset when we landed at Tehran airport. Two hours later, we were at the headquarters of Ayatullah Khomeini, in the Alawi school in the southern part of Tehran. It was among the warmest receptions we have ever received, and was not stifled by protocol. We

felt that we were at home. The Iranians themselves were surprised by our visit, but they were happy to see us among them. Our visit was proof that the Shah had no longer control over Iran, and Iran is free.

## IRAN CUTS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

The revolutionary government in Iran, announced on February 18 the final and total disruption of all diplomatic relations with Israel. The Iranian Revolution's Radio, which broadcast the news added that the provisional revolutionary government had officially asked the Israeli mission in Tehran to leave the country, and had asked the staff of the Iranian Embassy in Tel Aviv to return home immediately. The Radio also said that the El Al offices in the Iranian capital were also closed.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for Dr. Bazarghan said that "this step is in harmony with our policies, even before we assumed power, when we declared our intentions to cut all relations with the Zionist government." He added that the earlier order for Israeli diplomats to leave Iran was a first step in that direction.

## PLO EMBASSY

The Iranian people had attacked the Israeli trade mission long before the arrival of the Palestinian delegation. They had removed the Zionist brass emblem and demolished the contents of the two story building, and set some subterranean rooms on fire. The Iranian masses desired to destroy the Shah and all his allies and backers. Also we saw many slogans in Persian, English and Arabic reading "PLO Embassy" or "Viva PLO". It was according to the Iranian people's wish that Chairman Arafat went to inaugurate the PLO mission in Tehran on 19 February 1979. Masses gathered and cheered Arafat and Khomeini, when the PLO Chairman made a speech from the balcony of the new PLO office. Arafat said, "in this historic moment, I feel myself closer to Palestine." The PLO mission was assigned to comrade Hani al Hassan, the political adviser of Chairman Arafat and member of the Central Council of the PLO and the Revolutionary Council of al Fateh.

## HIGHEST LEVEL TALKS

Chairman Arafat and the accompanying delegation was received by the Iranian Government and Revolution on the highest level. He met Ayatullah Khomeini several times; he had talks with Prime Minister Bazarghan, with Foreign Minister Karim Sanjabi, and with Dr. Ibrahim Yazdi, the Deputy Prime Minister for the Revolution's affairs, as well as with many other Iranian officials.

## CHAIRMAN ARAFAT IN MASHHED AND AHWAZ

Taking the opportunity of his stay, the Iranian leaders proposed Arafat to a tour in the provinces. Accompanied by the son of Ayatullah Khomeini, Sayyed Ahmad, and Dr. Yazdi, and some other Iranian officials, he took a plane to the north, to the town of Mashhed where some Islamic Imams are buried. Mashhed is considered by the Shiite Moslems in Iran as a Holy City. The reception was triumphant and enthusiastic. The next day, Chairman Arafat took a plane to the south to Abadan where he spent one night. Wherever he went, the masses crowded around him and made it difficult to move. Everyone wanted to embrace us and to

## ARAFAT INTERVIEW WITH IRANIAN TELEVISION

Arafat was interviewed by Iranian Television on Wednesday night, 21 February. Among those present was Dr. Qutub Zadeh, Director of TV and Radio broadcasting. Arafat declared, in response to a question, that it has to be understood that Iranian militants fought with the Palestinian Revolution, and there have been Iranian martyrs who died fighting with the Palestinian Revolution, and Iranian prisoners in Israeli jails. Therefore, all the enemies should know that after their victory, Iranian militants will be able to do even more, because the Palestinian Revolution is theirs and its victory is their victory.

## TWO OPTIONS FOR U.S.

"This nation has for a long time not witnessed the dawn of such an era, and the USA has two alternatives: one is to say that after the events of Iran all calculations should be changed, and the USA should not push the Israelis and Egyptians to sign a peace treaty based on the Camp David accords, because they are now meaningless after the major changes imposed by the Iranian Revolution on the whole area, on the Islamic nation and on international strategy. The second White House point of view says that because of the loss of Iran, Sadat should be pushed to sign the treaty so as to give priority to mastering the Iranian Revolution."

Arafat added that these two opinions exist, but that he cannot judge which one is dominant. He added: "However, Sadat is among those who have a personal interest in speedily signing the agreement, and so do the Israelis, which is something that we have to take into consideration."



....greeted by the cheers of the Iranian people

shake our hands. Almost exhausted Chairman Arafat returned to the capital on 22 February. The next day the Palestinian delegation left Tehran to Abu Dhabi and then back to Damascus.

## TWO REVOLUTIONS IN ONE

Chairman Arafat's visit to Iran was considered by political observers as significant as his appearance at the U.N. in November 1974. A commentary published on the visit in the English Tehran Journal on 18 February said, "it changes the whole geo-strategic perspective of the struggle for national independence which Iranians and Palestinians have been waging for 30 years." The visit to Tehran shocked friends and enemies of the Palestinian People.

Certainly, the Zionists have now good reason to wary of the people of Iran. But this is the fate of all despotic regimes of the world. "Fascism has always been destined for defeat all over the world. It may succeed for a while, but final victory is always for freedom and democracy", said Chairman Arafat during the siege of Tal Al-Zaatar in 1976. The Israelis are still counting on despotic and autocratic regimes as allies in the suppression of the genuine will of the people. But one may ask: For how long?

The Palestinian people found among the Iranian people warmhearted feelings. Liberated Iran can be considered as providing strategic depth for the Palestinian liberation struggle. The Iranian people who suffered for the last decades understand well the suffering of the Palestinian people at the hands of Zionist Israel.



PLO representative  
to Iran  
Hani al-Hassan



## IRANIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY CONGRATULATES PLO

Hani Al-Hassan, the new PLO representative in Tehran, on 27 February, met with a delegation of Iranian Jews who congratulated him on the opening of the PLO office in Iran.

During the meeting, the Jewish community's representative said that they had come on behalf of the Progressive Jewish Organisation to congratulate the PLO on the opening of its new office in the capital of Iran, and to express their feelings towards the PLO and the Palestine cause before the Iranian people.

He added that Iranian Jews, who number around 60,000, had marched with the Iranian Revolution since its inception and had lost many martyrs on the revolutionary path. He went on: "We will be only too pleased to participate in the Palestinian Revolution, for we are Iranians first and foremost."

The representative then said that the message they are carrying will have a tremendous effect on the fear and terror created by Zionism, and break the wall of terror implanted in the minds of Jews ever since the establishment of Israel. The representative then expressed his hope that this message could be the first step towards better relations between the common struggle of the Iranian Jews and the PLO.

"We and the Iranian people share the same feelings, mainly the hope that the Palestinian people will realise victory and achieve their national rights. We have come here today to confirm to all that Jews, Muslims and Christians can live together, and that all the conflicts in the world today are the work of imperialism and Zionism. We stand strongly against both, and shall fight them, together with the Palestinian people and the PLO."

### PLO RESPONSE

In response, Hani Al-Hassan welcomed the Iranian Jews, stressing that their visit was the best event since he took over his post in Tehran, and adding: "As you all know, we, the PLO, have raised the flag of the Palestinian Democratic State as a solution to the Palestine question, and have called in our Charter for the co-existence in Palestine of Jews, Muslims and Christians without any discrimination whatsoever. We also differentiate between Jews and Zionists, and have always had good and militant relations with Jews. Hani al-Hassan then stressed that "Anti-semitism and Zionism work hand in hand and for each other's interests. The PLO has fought anti-semitism because it is our enemy as well as the enemy of the Jews."

He added: "I hope we will be able to cooperate in order to fight anti-semitism and confront Zionism, which is in essence against all Jewish, Muslim and Christian interests in the area and only benefits U.S imperialism and its lackeys"

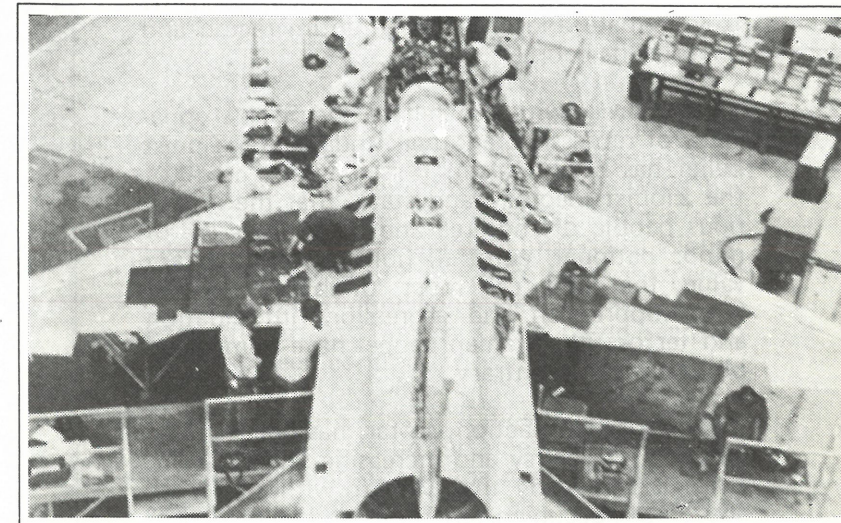
Hani Al-Hassan confirmed that "The problem was the creation of Zionism and imperialism and all Jews must know that we are on their side, and against Zionism that has killed so many of our people and threw us out of our land." He added by calling for Islamic-Jewish-Christian unity to oppose Zionism and imperialism.

## "THE IRANIAN EARTHQUAKE": THE INTERNATIONAL REPERCUSSIONS

The overthrow of the perverse Pahlavi dictatorship by the unanimous Iranian popular uprising is of both regional and world-wide significance. In fact, it has already triggered various international repercussions. It proves once again that nowhere in today's world, whether in Asia, Africa, or Latin America, can U.S. imperialism indefinitely continue to pursue its policy of neglecting and trampling on the rights and interests of the exploited and suppressed masses, and at the same time rely on a bunch of compliant, comprador agents to do imperialism's job for it.

No matter how many billions of dollars worth of arms are sold to these stooges to serve the interests of U.S. arms and other monopolies; no matter how many tens of thousands of 'advisers' are dispatched to prop up various terror regimes and intensify the physical and psychological warfare against the people; no matter how sophisticated the prison and torture apparatus; no matter how many 'internal' conflicts are instigated; no matter how many 'pacts' and power axes are established; — no people can tolerate forever being the punching bag for U.S. interests and U.S. agents. No people can go on accepting forever the deformation of their social life and national culture, the corruption of their leadership, the plundering of all their economic and human national resources, and the pauperization of their masses.

Events in Iran also teach a lesson to all those who aim to profit by making themselves the local and regional tools of U.S. imperialism. The Shah and his clique learned that, once a country has been sold out, its national interests count for nothing to U.S. imperialism. And as the Shah found out, not even the interests and golden toilets of the compliant stooges count for much! Arms sales, control over the country, waste of oil, and usurious trade and military bases have been the only matters of concern for the U.S. in the area.



"No matter how many U.S. arms are sold"  
(Iran has canceled \$3.6 billion for F-16 jets)

### NEW STRATEGIC DEPTH FOR PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE AND ARAB LIBERATION

No matter what problems and difficulties Iran will now have to face and to overcome, it has provided an example which has had a deep impact on all the peoples in the region. Open demonstrations and declarations of support for Iran's national uprising have occurred in many countries, including Algeria, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria, and the Sudan. Even deeper is the less visible impact on the masses. National and patriotic forces, on all levels and of various groupings and communities, feel the revolutionary currents, and the established governments have to reckon with the Iranian experience.

In occupied Palestine, the people now face their Zionist oppressors with doubled resolve. Hostility towards the U.S., which continues to bully the Palestinian people and their rights, is mounting. For the entire Palestinian Resistance and the PLO, as well as for all forces of national



liberation in the area, Iran now provides a new dimension of political and strategic backing in the face of the new waves of Zionist and imperialist aggressions which are foreseeable.

### SHOCK TO THE ZIONIST STATE

The Iranian revolution came as a shock to the Zionist state and its establishment. Zionist foreign minister Moshe Dayan admitted: "It is an earthquake." Not only had Iran provided 60% of Israeli oil needs, but under the Shah Iran had become the second largest buyer of Israeli military hardware and other exports. Iran, with scores of Zionist military and economic "advisers" working in it, had also become a 'model' of Zionist 'co-operation' with Middle Eastern states. The Iranian militarist dictatorship was an essential pillar in the imperialist-Zionist scheme to dominate and exploit the entire region and terrorize its peoples.

Moreover, with the fall of the Shah's apparatus of repression, another fundamental Zionist belief has been shaken. It is the basic credo of the Zionist ideology and state, that the indigenous people of the area and their elites are of minor national, cultural, political and military value, that they can most suitably be treated with suppression and aggression, intimidation and terror. The Iranian people have unmistakably proven the contrary.

The Zionist reaction, so far, has been one of violence, hypocrisy and increasing self-isolation. Israel is less ready than ever to withdraw from any of the occupied territories and to recognize the national rights of the Palestinian people. Instead, the Zionist leaders again have increased their demands for vast new amounts of ultra-

sophisticated U.S. military hardware, and have intensified their terror in the occupied territories. In competition with the present Egyptian regime, they are outbidding themselves in the wake of the Shah's downfall to prostitute themselves as the new U.S. "super-stooges" in the region. Israel is demanding an increase in U.S. military "aid," to \$1.5 billion annually, and plans to buy through the "Matmon" program \$10 billion worth of U.S. arms in the coming years. At the same time, Begin has entreated "the Free World" to understand "the value of Israel", and his war minister, Ezer Weizman, seconded him on February 13, claiming: "Israel has demonstrated that it is an island of stability and democracy on which the West can count."

### "THE POSITION AND VALUE OF THE PLO..."

The Iranian concussion has forced some Zionist brains to admit, if only for tactical reasons, a reality they so far have consistently tried to deny. The Israeli foreign minister, in a speech on 13 February 1979, said with regard to the PLO: "We cannot deny their position or their value in the conflict." However, the entire Zionist establishment rushed to assure that this by no means indicated a change in the Zionist policy of annihilation against the Palestinian people, and Begin reiterated that "we will never negotiate with the PLO".

### SADAT'S HYSTERIA

Sadat's regime, and its sell-out policy, felt most directly the impact of the Iranian upheaval. It destroyed the last illusions about a "Pax Americana" a la Camp David for the region, and



U.S. troops training for aggression in Middle East

about the people's reactions to it. Sadat, in fact, reacted in a most nervous fashion. On the one hand, he did not yet dare to capitulate and sign a separate Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. But on the other hand, apparently no longer able to retreat from his treason, he fell prostrate in front of the U.S., hysterically offering to become the new "Shah of Egypt", as the Beirut newspaper "Ike" put it (18 February 1979). While still unable to pay for the outdated F-5 fighter planes he ordered from the U.S. last year, he has now requested permission from the Pentagon to buy hundreds of F-16 fighters, 600 tanks, and 40,000 military vehicles. "Sadat has told (visiting U.S. defense secretary) Brown that he was anxious to take over Iran's role as the 'anti-communist' watch dog in the region" (Ike 23 February 1979). On 17 February, Sadat offered to send troops to any country in the region in order to safeguard Western interests "against any foreign intervention" - in fact, as a tool of U.S. intervention, as it became clear soon after from the arrogant statements uttered by U.S. defense secretary Brown, who said the U.S. would eventually use "military force" to safeguard 'its' oil supplies from the Gulf (25 February, 1979).

### OIL, DOLLAR

An immediate impact of the Iranian victory was the blow it dealt to the war economies of Zionist Israel and Racist South Africa (the latter got 90% of its oil from the Shah). Both regimes were forced to announce drastic increases in their domestic fuel prices, thus further contributing to their grave economic situations.

On the international level, however, a new

so-called 'oil crisis' was far from being precipitated by the Iranian events. As the Kuwaiti oil minister Al-Sabah observed, it was the work of U.S. and international oil multinationals which quickly seized the opportunity to spread panic about allegedly imminent oil shortages in order to realize excess profits in the international oil markets. Iran surely does not intend to stop oil sales to the West, though it may limit reckless exploitation and waste of Middle East oil, in its own national interest and in the interests of the entire world. Some other oil exporting countries have also already begun to readjust oil prices, which recently were falling due to international inflation and the decline of the U.S. dollar. The crisis of the dollar, of which the U.S. in recent years has printed hundreds of billions, continues to deepen.

### CAMP DAVID

The Iranian storm has finally torn down the last remaining scraps of the already decomposing 'peace' masquerade of Camp David. What has come into the open are the plans for a new separatist and most aggressive imperialist-Zionist axis. Just as events in Iran have sharpened existing contradictions on all levels in the Middle East, the effects on the Camp David scenario have also been contradictory:

The U.S., after losing a most compliant base, is feverishly searching for a new 'watchdog' for its exclusive interests in the region, and is more eager than ever to realize an Israeli-Egyptian political and military pact under U.S. tutelage. On the other hand, more reasonable and realistic U.S. circles feel that a sell-out on the part of Sadat to Israel would be politically too weak a basis with which to safeguard true U.S. interests in the area. Thus, these circles are striving to patch over Arab-Israeli problems on a broader basis.

Israel, too, is most anxious to break its growing isolation and confront the increasing resistance which Zionist arrogance faces in the whole area, by opening a new alliance with Sadat's Egypt. However, a Camp David pact with only the isolated Sadat regime increasingly appears unstable and even risky. On the other hand, attempts to broaden the political base of the accords would imply Zionist concessions, which would antagonize supremacist Zionist ideology and exclusiveness. The result is that Israel, while violently struggling for an Egyptian surrender, is at the same time clinging to the occupied territories and to its policy of force and violence.

Sadat, likewise, is increasingly worried, both about the consequences of a failure of his solo surrender effort, and about the eventual results of a sell-out: growing regional isolation and the

UNITED STATES MILITARY SALES TO IRAN, 1950-1979 (in thousands of dollars)

Fiscal Year	Government-to-Government (FMS)		Commercial
	Agreements	Deliveries	
1950-66	292,494	47,292	
1960-66			5,905
1967	143,873	38,866	2,022
1968	69,038	56,717	5,147
1969	251,573	94,881	10,084
1970	113,154	127,717	9,811
1971	396,841	79,352	27,059
1972	519,110	214,807	36,975
1973	2,157,355	238,633	19,421
1974	4,373,225	510,347	35,322
1975	3,020,979	956,372	49,410
1976	1,688,381	1,466,767	107,943
1977	5,803,079	2,245,899	121,500
1978 (est)	3,000,000	-----	131,000
1979 (est)	2,625,000	-----	141,000
TOTAL	24,454,102	6,718,270	702,599

Source: U.S. Department of Defense, Security Assistance Program, Congressional Presentation Document FY 1979





fury of the Egyptian and Arab people.

All this is reflected in the fruitless comings and goings of Camp David II, III, IV... etc. The 'historic aura' has long vanished from Camp David. If eventually a deal is signed, it will be a wretched and miserable plot, with every clause and article paving the way for new conflicts and more aggression.

#### OTHER INTERNATIONAL EFFECTS: CHINESE-VIETNAMESE CONFLICT

The national and popular takeover in Iran has had many far-reaching consequences, ranging from the delay of the execution of former Pakistani Prime Minister Bhutto to the cool reception U.S. President Carter experienced on his state visit to Mexico.

Even the invasion of Vietnam by Chinese troops must be seen in the context of events in Iran. This invasion came shortly after the upheaval of the U.S. hitherto strongest military outpost in Asia, and also after Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping's visit to the U.S. From a U.S. imperialist point of view, the U.S. might think that the opening of a new 'Eastern front' against the Soviet union and its allies could somewhat 'compensate' for the loss of the Iranian outpost, which had also been directed against the USSR and the socialist bloc. One also has to note that, on his return from the U.S. the Chinese Vice-Premier explicitly declared in Japan that "The measures the U.S. has taken in Iran are no good" (*Newsweek*, 19 February 1979).

#### U.S. REACTION

First U.S. reactions to the upheaval in Iran show that the U.S. is apparently unable to learn from its mistakes. Far from recognizing the true cause - the Iranian regime's criminal policy

against its own people, and U.S. and Zionist complicity in this policy - imperialist circles try now to blame 'lack of firmness', or even the fuzzy U.S. Human Rights policy for the tremendous uprising of a people against their imperialist oppressors.

#### BROWN'S TOUR: ESCALATION OF ARMS SALES

After Iran, the U.S. should realize the futility of establishing "allies" by mad arms sales to the regimes in the area, and the threat to world peace posed by this policy. Instead, the U.S. Government - obviously under pressure by the U.S. arms industry complex which wants to 'make good' for its 'losses' of tens of billions of arms sales to Iran - is trying to stuff even more arms down the throats of Middle Eastern countries.

U.S. Defense Secretary Brown rushed to the area in a feverish attempt to fit together the elements for a new U.S. imperialist frontline in the area. "How much I am honoured to be the first U.S. defense minister to visit Israel", he asserted on arrival in Zionist Israel, and promised favourable consideration for their new shameless arms demands; besides, F-16 fighter planes once ordered by the Shah are now to be bartered to Israel. In Egypt he agreed to send a U.S. Pentagon commission to 'study' Sadat's ludicrous arms request. He tried to incite the Saudi government to buy billions of dollars worth of new arms. The U.S. is to accelerate arms sales to North Yemen. And even Jordan was offered new fighter planes, under condition it joins the Camp David 'peace' front, so that it can afterwards - this was the U.S. argument - 'confront' those forces opposed to the 'peace'.

#### THE U.S. ANTAGONIZES ALL THE PEOPLES IN THE AREA

As for the Middle East as a whole, the need for a true, comprehensive and just settlement after Iran has become more urgent than ever. However, the Carter administration, which once itself rhetorically pledged to pursue such a settlement, the outlines of which were given in the famous U.S.-U.S.S.R. Middle East Declaration of October 1977, has broken this declaration and put itself on the dead-end road of Camp David. And to the Iranian debacle, the U.S. administration so far has reacted by preparing to repeat it on an even larger scale. In a foolish effort to 'replace' the Shah, the U.S. government hastily and doggedly presses on with the Camp David plot aiming at a U.S.-Zionist-Sadat military axis and antagonizing and scorning the true needs, rights, aspirations and the will of all the people in the area, especially the Palestinian people.

## "THE IRANIAN EARTHQUAKE":



*Iranian oil workers 1950 (at Abadan labour office)*

## THE ROOTS OF THE REVOLUTION

As one of the wealthiest countries in the world, Iran earns billions of dollars each year through oil exports. It earns millions more from natural gas (of which it holds the world's second largest reserves), copper and other huge mineral resources. Yet its people are among the world's poorest, and the vast majority of them get absolutely nothing from all their country's wealth.

This paradoxical state of affairs is the key to understanding present-day developments in Iran. The unbelievably lopsided socio-economic and political development of Iran in favor of the ruling dynasty and imperialist interests is deeply rooted in Iran's colonial past.

The 19th century imperialist rivalry between Russia and Britain over Iran culminated in the 1907 Anglo-Russian agreement, concluded in the face of ascendant German imperialism. Iran was divided into a Russian zone in the north, a British zone in the south, and a "neutral" zone in between.

The 1907 agreement gave Britain the opportunity to drill for oil in southern Iran. The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company (now British

Petroleum) was set up in 1908, and struck oil that same year. The company took the lion's share of Iran's oil revenues. Thus the stage was set for the exploitation of Iranian resources for the benefit of outside imperialist interests.

#### HISTORY OF ANTI-IMPERIALIST RESISTANCE

In 1917 a major blow was struck against British interests in Iran. As soon as the Bolsheviks seized power in the USSR, they withdrew Russian troops from Iran and terminated the 1907 agreement. This was followed in Iran by a mass movement in opposition to British imperialism. Britain, in a futile attempt to quell the movement, appointed Lord Curzon Foreign Secretary, and he drew up the 1919 Anglo-Persian agreement. It provided for a British loan of £2 million to Iran at an annual interest rate of seven percent, with which the Iranian government would pay for British "advisors" to carry out "reforms."

This agreement produced protests in Iran. The Iranian parliament, acting on the advice of Britain, locked up all opposition leaders and suspended individual rights. Nevertheless, mass



opposition to the agreement and to the presence of British troops in Iran continued. Anti-British demonstrations led by religious leaders took to the streets in all major cities. The government was toppled and a newly-appointed government refused to implement the agreement.

Britain then tried to set up a South Federation of Iran to divide the country and maintain Britain's grip over Iran's oil wells. This attempt failed, and was followed by a coup in 1921. Led by a colonel in the Iranian Cossack army named Reza Khan, the coup was backed by British troops, arms and money. It was followed by mass demonstrations, and the first strike ever seen in the oil fields. Workers' demands for wage increases were partially met, and radical reforms were promised by the new government.

In 1925 Reza Khan deposed the existing Shah and made himself the Shah of Iran, founding the Pahlavi dynasty. He ruthlessly crushed all opposition during his 20 years of dictatorial rule. He also declared his support for Hitler, and drew Iran closer to Germany. In 1941, during the Second World War, the Allies occupied Iran in order to secure their oil interests. The pro-Nazi Shah fled to South Africa, where he spent the rest of his days in Johannesburg with his son.

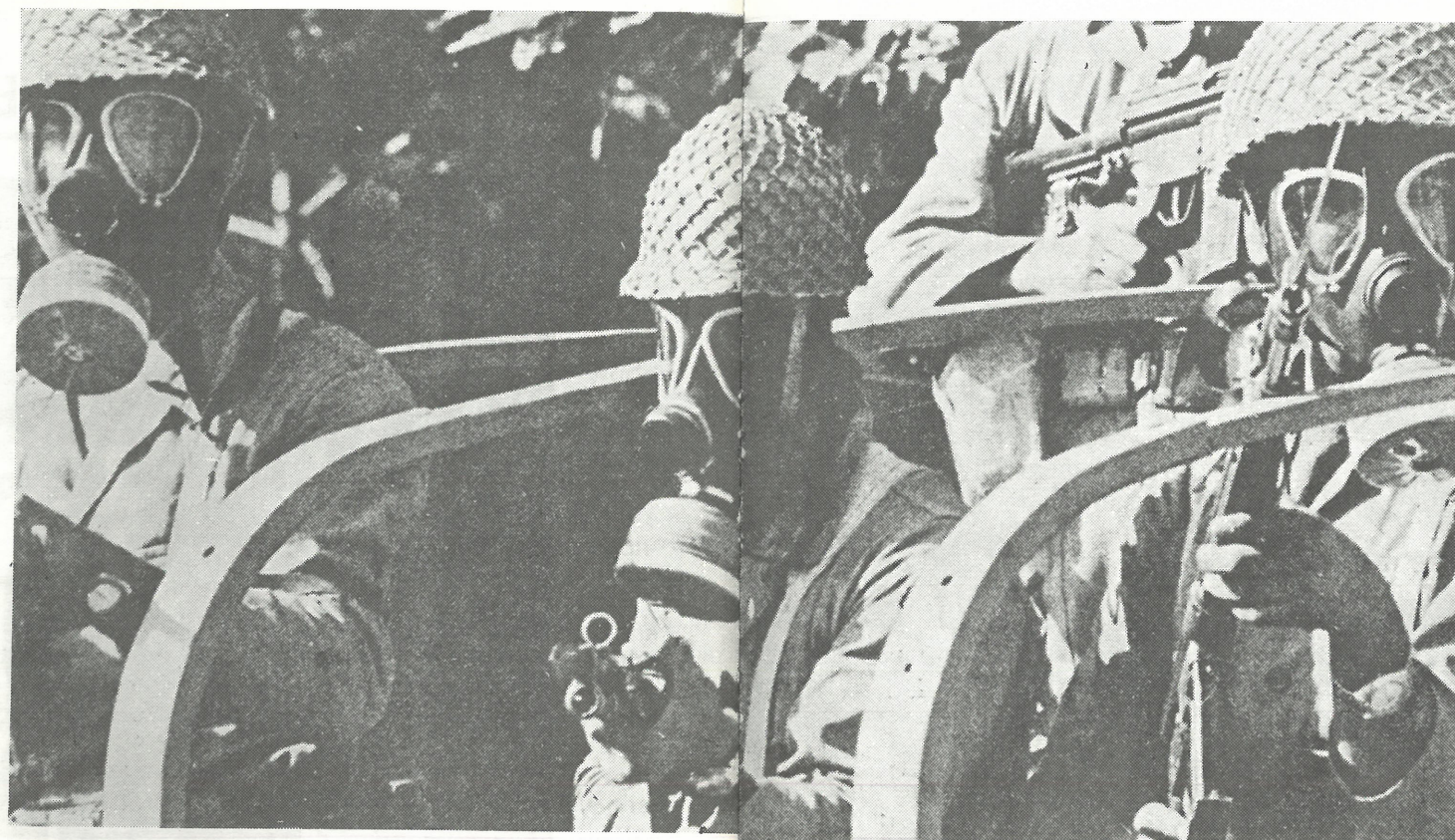
The Allied occupation of Iran was greeted by riots, protests, and demands for the withdrawal of foreign forces and interests. Opposition groups were formed, and trade unions and political parties set up. Nationalist movements flourished, raising the slogan "Iran for the Iranians."

After the Allies left Iran, a nationalist government was formed in 1950 under Dr. Mossadegh, leader of the liberal National Front. In response to popular demands, the government took steps to nationalize oil.

Negotiations with the British government over compensation failed, since Britain declared that it could not settle for anything less than everything. In 1951 the government nationalized oil, and Britain, in response, blockaded the Iranian coast for two years, enforcing a total blockade on all of Iran's exports. But neither the Iranian people nor the government gave in. Britain, unable to impose its will on Iran, handed the situation over to its rising imperialist partner, the United States.

#### CIA IMPORTS SHAH FROM SOUTH AFRICA

In 1953 the US Central Intelligence Agency organized a coup in Iran for \$1 million, and installed Reza Khan's son, Reza Shah Pahlavi, who was brought over from South Africa. The



Shah sends U.S. armed troops to suppress Iranian people

US took control of Iran's oil, superseding the British in Iran. Intense repression followed the CIA coup. Nationalist and progressive individuals were rounded up and imprisoned or executed. Ruthless political repression and torture reigned.

#### MOHAMMED REZA SHAH PAHLAVI VERSUS IRAN

The overthrow of the popular government of Dr. Mossadegh by the CIA, and the imposition of the Shah on Iran, was a turning point in the Iranian people's political life. Following the coup, all freedoms exercised in Mossadegh's time vanished. Thousands of arrests were made, and hundreds of the Shah's opponents were executed. People were banned from participation in political life.

To quell popular dissent, the US poured over \$250 million in aid into Iran in the three years following the coup. But this did not work. More had to be done to maintain in power a dictator with no popular base.

The solution was to set up SAVAK, the terrorist police of Iran, in 1956 "with the aid of the CIA and Israeli intelligence." (*Washington Post*, Sept. 4, 1976) SAVAK became the institutionalized tool of suppression and torture, intruding into all aspects of Iranian life.

According to the 1906 Iranian constitution, the Shah is solely a ceremonial figure, and should not possess legislative, executive or judicial powers. But every single article in the constitution was ignored, and the Shah with his secret police emerged as the supreme dictator of Iran.

#### THE 'WHITE REVOLUTION'

In 1963 the Shah announced his "White Revolution," which he claimed would modernize and develop Iran, creating a prosperous life for its people. By the year 2000, "in the era of Great Civilization," Iran was to become one of the most developed nations in the world. Millions of petrodollars were spent on industrialization. Huge new factories were built as monuments to the White Revolution. Highly advanced plants were bought at immense cost from Europe, America and Japan, with no thought of their suitability for the country, or the need to develop an infrastructure to service them.

The material processed in Iran's industries was imported, as was the skilled labor needed to operate the plants. Instead of reducing dependence on oil, the industries depended on oil to pay for their losses.

The goal of the Shah's industrialization projects has been to build up his prestige, rather than build up a sound industrial base. It is a

structure that will not be able to operate when Iran's oil runs out. "An oil-less Iran is going to be worse off than Bangladesh. At least they still know how to grow food for themselves. Iran has forgotten even how to do that." (*Observer Magazine*, 22 October 1978)

Land reform was also promoted by the Shah as a cornerstone of the "White Revolution." The peasants were to be freed from feudalism and big estates were to be redistributed. What happened in fact was that the landlords were transformed from feudal to bourgeois status. They mechanized their farms and employed casual farm labor. A tiny proportion of the peasants became small landowners, while the vast majority were left landless, and so many of them migrated to the cities looking for work. Thousands who migrated from the countryside to the big cities found no housing for themselves at all, and shanty towns of cardboard boxes and oil cans grew up around the big cities.

The "White Revolution" also promised education for everyone, but three-quarters of the population are still illiterate. Medical facilities are also bad. Good private hospitals in the cities are available only for those able to pay. There is only one doctor for every 3000 people, and of these nearly half practice in Tehran. Sick villagers have to travel for days by mule to reach a doctor.

Massive construction projects have been undertaken in the major cities, and office blocks, luxury hotels and skyscrapers have become common sights. But most urban dwellers cannot afford to live in such places, and are forced to crowd into already overcrowded housing.

A small stratum of the Iranian population has benefitted greatly from the "White Revolution." Iran's rich are millionaires. They have turned Iran into one big boom-town of shops crammed with expensive foreign luxury goods. Most spend their time in major Western cities, spending thousands of dollars on shopping sprees.

Billions have also been spent on arms, making Iran the largest arms importer in the world. Millions have been wasted on boosting the regime's prestige and feeding the U.S. armaments industry. For instance, in 1971 the Shah celebrated the 2500th anniversary of the Persian monarchy, and his foreign guests consumed 11 million dollars worth of food and drink in just two days!

The royal family has also squandered Iran's money on luxuries for itself. A "*Daily Telegraph*" report of February 6, 1976 reported that "Empress Farah of Persia left Paris for home by





*The Iranian people have ended the imperial dictatorship*

air yesterday with a second plane carrying her luggage, and three tons of pink marble for the new swimming pool." The new revolutionary government of Iran has recently disclosed that the plane which the Shah piloted into exile was equipped with a solid gold toilet.

Such was the reality of Iran after the "White Revolution": a tiny handful of people surrounded by splendor and wealth, for whom Iran was a paradise; and the vast majority subsisting in poverty and oppression.

### THE FINAL SHOWDOWN

Naturally, this situation could no longer be tolerated by the Iranian people, who resolved to act despite the dictatorial institutions of the Shah. Protests against the Shah's rule were not anew phenomenon in Iran, but they gained momentum in the 1970's.

The recession that followed the 1973 oil price boom hit Iran in 1975, because of its link with the capitalist economic order. Iran, a country which was investing billions of dollars in

the West, started borrowing money from the World Bank to maintain the Shah's prestige projects. The recession was followed by price increases, which severely hit the lower classes and made life for them unbearable.

The situation finally exploded in summer 1977, when the Shah's government tried to move more than a million people out of the shanty town around Tehran. Four months of rioting followed, as police attacked the shanty town dwellers, killing 50. But resistance continued, so the government attempted to cut off water and other essential services to the shanty town dwellers. However, the people found ways to provide these services for themselves. Finally, the Shah's forces had to back down in the face of this unwavering resistance.

This incident demonstrated to the public at large that unified resistance could overcome the seemingly absolute grip of the Shah and his secret police. Workers, who had been denied all forms of organization outside the government controlled unions, broke the law and declared strikes to protest the soaring cost of living. The

General Motors assembling plant in Tehran burnt to the ground, as police tried to force labourers back to work.

Students who had been voicing their concern joined in the nation-wide protest after police attacked the university of Tehran. University campuses all over the country became focal points of resistance, since gatherings were banned throughout the country.

The component needed to carry out a successful anti-imperialist, anti-monarchist revolution was a unifying leadership. There were no established political parties, and any attempt to form them was severely dealt with. The only two parties, the National Front and the Tudeh Communist Party, had been systematically weakened over the years by the Shah. Underground organizations, such as the Fedayeen Khalq and the Mujahideen, had declared armed struggle in the early 1970's, but had been savagely suppressed by the SAVAK.

### AYATULLAH KHOMEINY'S VOICE COULD NOT BE SILENCED

Shia Islam, which in Iran's history has played an anti-imperialist, anti-monarchist role, once again offered the framework within which opposition to the Shah could be organized. Its vigorous attack on imperialism in all its forms, and its call for guarantees of democratic rights and social justice, gained it the support of all popular anti-imperialist forces. Small businessmen of the Bazaars, peasants, workers, students, the unemployed - in short, the oppressed - rallied behind it, calling for the abolition of the monarchy and the setting up of an Islamic Republic in its place.

The leadership of the movement was provided by the exiled religious leader Ayatullah Khomeini, whose voice the Shah could not silence. Under Khomeini's guidance, the movement gained momentum. Until, in January 1979, it took the form of a nationwide popular uprising.

On 16 January, after appointing Shapur Bakhtiar as a caretaker premier, the Shah fled the country. Bakhtiar tried to contain the movement by promising minor concessions, but to no avail. From his place of exile in France, Khomeini pointed out to the Iranian public that "the departure of the Shah is not the final victory; it is the preface to our revolution", and he asked Bakhtiar to resign.

The struggle between Bakhtiar, backed by the units of the Imperial Guard on the one hand, and the Iranian people, on the other, reached its climax on 2 February, when Khomeini returned to Iran and received a hero's welcome. The third day after his arrival, Khomeini appointed Dr. Mehdi Bazargan as the provisional prime minister of Iran.

Units of the Imperial Guard, acting on Bakhtiar's orders, stepped up their attack on the revolutionary forces between 9 - 11 February. But by the 11th they were beaten by the popular armed resistance, and once again oppressed and subjugated people had proved that they will emerge triumphant, however great the imperialist-supplied arsenals of their oppressors.

The Iranian people, under the leadership of Ayatullah Khomeini, have ended an imperial dictatorship and all the evils of social inequality, oppression and imperialist domination that it stood for.





Iranian militants expressing Palestinian-Iranian unity in struggle

## JOY IN OCCUPIED PALESTINE

The British news agency *Reuter*, on 21 February 1979, reported from occupied Palestine on reactions to the revolution in Iran:

"The victory won in Iran by the people's militia of Ayatullah Ruhollah Khomeini inspired the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. A sharp rise of tension has been noted among Palestinians on the Israeli-occupied West Bank. The words 'Khomeini' and 'Iran' are heard frequently in impassioned talk in coffee shops. People eagerly discuss the pictures seen here on television showing the Ayatullah side by side with Yasser Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to which most West Bankers look for leadership.

"If the Ayatullah's people can go barefoot in the streets against the might of an army with tanks, then can we not day hope for the same thing?" said an East Jerusalem merchant.

Lounging Palestinians stare at Israeli soldiers patrolling watchfully through the towns and villages they have occupied ever since the 6-day war of 1967, and foreign businessmen working in the West Bank report fierce tension beneath the placid surface of everyday life.

### MAYORS THREATENED RELIGIOUS MEN ARRESTED

Israeli authorities fear an outburst of violence any time now. Several West Bank mayors and other Palestinian personalities who normally talk freely to foreign reporters say they have now been told not to make hostile political statements to the media.

Israeli military sources admit that occupation forces recently arrested 12 Moslem religious men from East Jerusalem for allegedly delivering "anti-Israeli" sermons in their mosques.

### DEFENSE OF THE IBRAHIMI MOSQUE

The victory in Iran coincides with growing Arab resentment over a new Israeli move in Hebron, a West Bank town with deep Moslem traditions. Hebron contains a shrine holy to both Jews and Moslems. To the Jews it is known as the Tomb of the Patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. To the Moslems it is the Abraham Mosque.

During the centuries of Moslem rule, Jews were allowed to enter the shrine. Recently the Israelis gave way to Zionist pressure and permitted synagogue services in the inner sanctum of the mosque. This has enraged Hebron Arabs to a point which one foreign diplomat described as "potentially explosive."

On Friday, the Moslem day of worship, congregations at the mosque are bigger than ever. "The people are showing their feelings over what is happening to our mosques" Hebron Mayor Fahd Kawasme told reporters.

### "PLO WILL LEAD US"

Even noted "moderates" such as Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij have come round to the view that only the PLO can speak for the West Bank people. Previously Freij advocated a restoration of rule by King Hussein.

"In the end the PLO will lead us," said a West Bank lawyer who declined to be named. "One day we will bring Arafat to Jerusalem the way the people of Iran brought Ayatullah Khomeini to Tehran."

## OCCUPATION DIARY

### NEW REPRESSIVE MEASURES AGAINST POPULATION OF GOLAN HEIGHTS

Israeli troops have recently intensified their patrols in the villages of the Syrian Golan Heights, occupied in 1967, and increased their pressure on the local population, due to their resistance to the Israeli occupation. Among the latest measures adopted is a threat to impose house arrest on twelve Arab citizens. In addition, on 27 January 1979, the Israeli Military Governor of the Golan Heights issued a house arrest order against two Arab citizens, Sheikh Kamal Abu Saleh (65 years old) and As'ad Faris Qadamani, who were forbidden to leave their village, Majdal Shams, for a year.

Similar penalties were imposed on Sheikh Ahmad Qadamani, and Munir Farid Abu Saleh last July. Ever since, the Israeli authorities have not refrained from harassing them, by surrounding and entering their homes in the middle of the

night, on the pretext of checking that they have not slept outside the village.

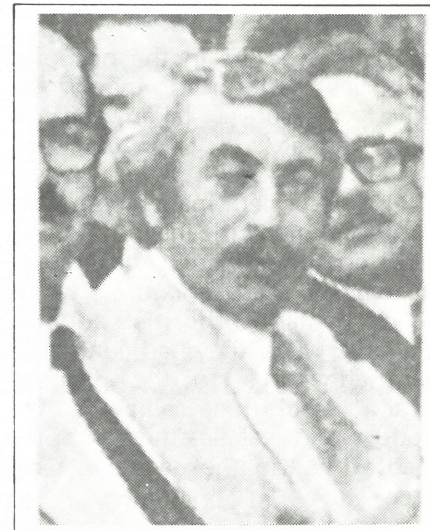
### ANNEXATION MEASURES

Meanwhile, the Israeli Military Governor of the occupied Syrian Golan Heights, together with his deputy and some officers, visited all the region's schools on February 6 and 7. On these occasions he threatened the teachers with suspension from work, if a strike takes place. The Governor met with the teachers in one of the schools, and told them that they should from now on remember that they are employees of the Israeli state, which they should serve loyally 24 hours a day. He also added that if any teacher has an objection, he can submit his resignation.

In a related development, the Israeli newspaper *"Davar"* reported, on 19 February, that Zionist Prime Minister Begin is expected to give instructions to the Minister of the Interior to issue "Israeli" identity cards for the Arab inhabitants of the occupied Golan Heights.



Zionist occupation officer in Golan Heights



Karim Khalaf

### JORDANIAN INTELLIGENCE CONFISCATES RAMALLAH MAYOR'S PASSPORT

On 11 February 1979, the Jordanian authorities prevented Karim Khalaf, Mayor of Ramallah, from going to Amman.

Jordanian intelligence confiscated Khalaf's passport while he was in the village of Al-Shunah, on his way from the Israeli-occupied West Bank to the Jordanian capital, where he was supposed to head for Algiers to congratulate newly elected Algerian President Al-Shadhly Ben Jadid, and collect the remaining donations granted by the Algerian government to the municipality of Ramallah. Ramallah is the twin city of Algiers, according to a recent agreement between the two municipalities.

Khalaf protested against his detention, and asked for his passport to be returned so that he could continue his voyage to Amman, but he was ordered by the Jordanian authorities to return to Ramallah, along with three other members of the municipality.

Nationalist institutions and organizations representing the different



# OCCUPATION DIARY

Palestinian sectors in the occupied territories denounced the provocative measures taken against Mayor Khalaf.

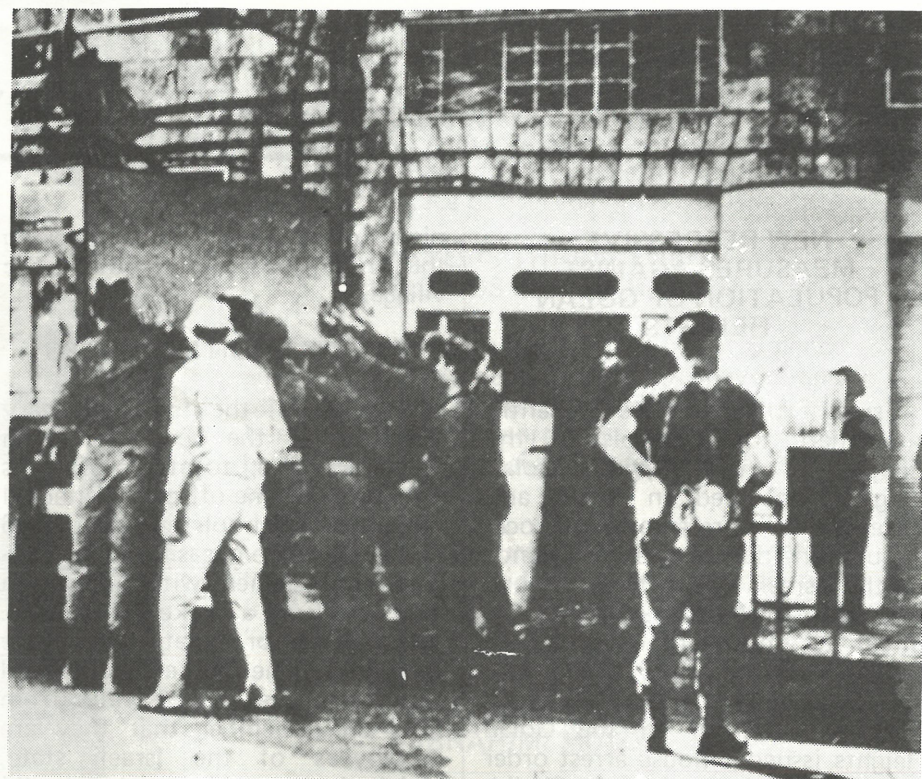
The Jerusalem papers reported that Palestinian citizens in the occupied territories were shocked and angered by these measures, which the Jordanian authorities adopted at a time when they had confirmed their adherence to the Baghdad Summit resolutions calling for the support of the Palestinian people's steadfastness in the occupied territories.

The papers added that this contradicted the Jordanian regime's apparent intention to continue its dialogue with the PLO towards the settlement of all the differences between them which date back to the September 1970 massacres and the "United Kingdom" plan.

## NEWSPAPERS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES COMMENT ON DAYAN'S STATEMENT ON PLO

On 15 February 1979, "Al-Fajr", a daily newspaper published in Jerusalem, commented in its editorial on Israeli Foreign Minister Dayan's recent statement made on the PLO's "position and value in the conflict". The paper stated that this was not a slip of a tongue but rather a calculated move aimed at covering up for Sadat's separate 'peace' with Israel, and at strengthening the latter's position in the Arab world. The paper added that Dayan was trying to attract other reluctant Arab parties to join in the negotiations on the basis of the Camp David agreement.

For its part, "Al-Ittihad", the daily of the Rakah Party, concluded that Dayan's statements are not a dramatic change in the Israeli stand, but rather part of a conspiracy which however would fail.



Zionist soldiers arrest Palestinian demonstrators

## WEST BANK DEMONSTRATIONS RESUME

During the middle of February, popular demonstrations resumed in numerous cities and villages of the occupied West Bank, condemning Israeli policies of land seizure, and other arbitrary measures against Palestinian citizens.

In Jerusalem, demonstrators marched in the city's streets and public squares, shouting slogans in support of the PLO, and condemning the Israeli occupation. Palestinian students barricaded several streets with burning tyres to halt the advance of Israeli security forces.

In Ramallah, Palestinian students refused to attend classes, and joined a big demonstration to protest the Israeli occupation, while traffic came to a stand-still and shops closed down.

In Jericho, slogans covered the city, demanding the withdrawal of Israeli troops and confirming their support for the PLO.

In Shu'fat, students closed off the main streets with barricades, and burned car tyres to halt the movement of Israeli forces.

## NAZARETH CONFERENCE NO PEACE WITHOUT PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

On 18 February 1979, another popular conference was held in Nazareth in 1948-occupied Palestine under the slogan, "Defence of Land and Shelter". It was called for by the Regional Committee in Defence of Arab Land to discuss means of confronting the policies of racism and seizures and destruction of houses which the Israeli authorities are undertaking against the Arab citizens of Galilee, the Triangle and the Naqab. The participants represented all the popular Palestinian sectors in the above three areas. Speeches were delivered by the Secretary of the Regional Committee in Defence of Arab Land, the President of the Committee of Heads of Local Arab Councils, members of the Communist Rakah Party and several others.

The conference passed various resolutions, and stressed that a just peace was impossible without complete Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories occupied in 1967, and recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian people, according to UN resolutions.

## ISRAELIS ADMIT INCREASE OF CRIMES AGAINST ARAB CITIZENS

The Israeli paper "Haaretz" admitted, in an investigative report published on 20 February 1979, the increase in Israeli crimes against Arab citizens in the occupied territories.

The paper reported that five youths from the Israeli National Guard last month brutally tortured two citizens of the West Bank.

The paper added that after the Israelis raided the homes of the two citizens, they took them to the sea-shore facing the Hilton Hotel in Tel Aviv, brutally attacked them, forced them to swim in the cold sea, stoned them and finally beat them with the butts of their rifles.

When the two victims tried to complain to the Israeli authorities, the latter ignored the whole affair and expressed surprise at the concern of some democratic Israeli circles over the incident, especially since dozens of similar complaints are filed.



## MILITARY OPERATIONS

### ISRAEL ADMITS GROWING SOPHISTICATION OF PALESTINIAN COMMANDO OPERATIONS

Israeli troops carried out a wide-scale campaign of collective arrests in Nablus. The Israeli military spokesman stated in a communique on 16 February that the Israeli army had arrested 20 Palestinian citizens who had planned the execution of commando operations against vital Israeli military installations.

The Israeli authorities also admitted on 16 February that the level of training of Palestinian commandos inside the occupied territories has greatly improved, and that Israeli explosives experts have frequently failed in dismantling many explosive charges, which proves the sophistication of these explosives.

The statistics of the Israeli security forces also state that 20% of those affiliated to the Palestinian Revolution hold university degrees and that 70% have completed their high school education.

### CURFEW IMPOSED ON QALANDIA AFTER COMMANDO ATTACK

The Israeli authorities, on 17 February 1979, imposed a curfew on Qalandia Camp after an incen-

diary bomb was thrown by a Palestinian commando at an Egged Company bus transporting Israeli soldiers.

Following this incident, Israeli forces encircled the camp, imposed a curfew, searched all houses and arrested several citizens of the camp, some of whom are still under arrest.

The Israeli authorities also set up road blocks at which they arrested several citizens.

No. 19/79:

Our fighters from special unit "G", operating in occupied Palestine, placed a powerful explosive charge inside the Zionist settlement Movement's office - the Meshavim - in Lenardo street in Tel Aviv. The charges exploded at 3.15 A.M., on February 19, and the blast was heard in the whole area. Consequently, police and frontier guard forces, which were rushed to the area, closed off all the streets and began to search for other charges. The explosion resulted in a number of casualties among the guards of the building and damaged the first floor. Our fighters returned safely to base.

No. 20/79:

Special commando unit "A", on February 20, placed timed explo-





## MILITARY OPERATIONS



sive charges at an Egged company bus stop on the Hebron-Jerusalem line. The next day, the charges exploded while the station was crowded with settlers, creating a state of terror and confusion. Several settlers were wounded, the bus stop was destroyed, and neighbouring buildings seriously damaged.

Zionist security forces consequently closed off the area, and began a search for other explosives and for our commandos, arresting dozens of Palestinian citizens in the process.

### No. 21/79:

Acting on orders, one of our combat units on February 20 placed timed explosive charges inside the central bus station in the Petah Tikva settlements. The charges exploded at 7:25 A.M., as the station was crowded with passengers and buses. The station was consequently evacuated, and buses were prevented entering it, while ambulances were seen carrying the

wounded to neighbouring hospitals.

Israeli police and security men rushed to the station, began to search for other charges, and arrested Palestinian citizens who happened to be nearby, setting up dozens of check-points inside the settlement. Our fighters nevertheless returned safely to base.

### COMMANDO OPERATIONS IN JERUSALEM AND GAZA

#### No. 22/79:

Acting on orders, one of our commando units on 27 February placed incendiary charges inside a bus belonging to the Egged Company, while the bus was operating on the Deir al Balah-Khan Yunis line in the Gaza Strip. The charges exploded at 9:15 A.M., while the bus was parked at the Khan Yunis central station, destroying a large part of the bus and damaging another one parked nearby.

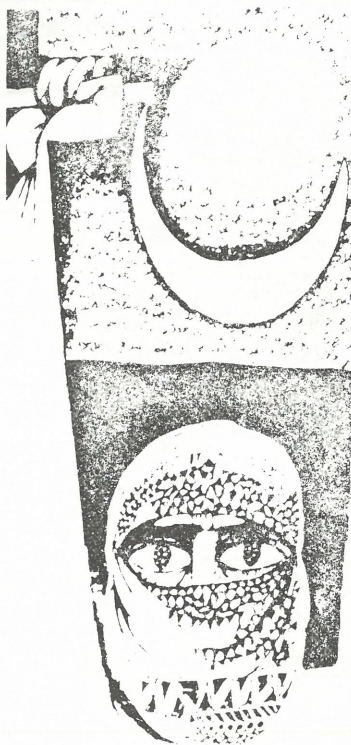
The Israeli forces consequently encircled the region and arrested

dozens of Palestinian citizens, on suspicion that they were connected with the operation. Our commandos nevertheless returned safely to base.

### PALESTINIAN WOMAN COURT-MARTIALED

On 18 February 1979, the Israeli military court in Lydda charged Fatima Musa al-Daqaq, a 19-year old Palestinian woman from al-Aisawiya village in the district of Jerusalem. According to the charges, Fatima, whose husband Kashur is a Palestinian martyr, placed a bomb in a bus heading from Ain Gedi to Jerusalem.

Fatima was also accused of attempting to prepare a bomb in her house at the beginning of last month. The bomb exploded while it was being manufactured, killing her husband, Kashur, and a friend of his.



## "WE RULE BY VIOLENT MEANS"

Amos Elon, author of "The Israelis: Founders and sons," is one of Israel's best-known writers and social critics. In a recent interview with the U.S. magazine "Newsweek", Elon took aim at the deceptive vocabulary which is used by Zionist officials to distort the truth about Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. Following are the main excerpts:

**Question:** You have been critical of what you call "laundered" words used by the government to describe conditions in the occupied territories. What are these terms?

**Elon:** They are whitewash words, cover-up words, corrupt words with a silver lining that are used to make ugly things look nicer and immoral things seem more moral. For instance, the authorities insist on talking not about "occupied territories," but about "Judea and Samaria" or about "liberated territories." It's sort of a soul music for those who need it. The fact is that, whatever our claims on the West Bank and Gaza, those areas are occupied — their population is conquered, and we rule the people against their will by violent means.

### Q. Who invented these words?

**A.** The first culprits were a bunch of nationalist Israeli poets and, I am sorry to say, journalists who, right after the Six Day War in 1967, conscripted a whole army of phony words in order to change political realities. For instance, up until three or four years ago, one major Israeli newspaper did not tolerate the word "Palestinian" on its literary pages, and the "correct" name for the country was "the Land of Israel." This led to such absurdities as a book review that said, "The medieval invasion of the



Amos Elon

Mamelukes was welcomed by the Arabs of The Land of Israel." The same people tried to hide the annexation of East Jerusalem behind the laundered phrase "unification of the city". There is more corrupted language in use now because of the euphemistic tendencies of the government.

### Q. What is the government trying to hide?

**A.** Various things. When the army destroys a Bedouin tent-camp and expels the nomads from lands on which they grazed their herds for hundreds of years, the officials speak of "relocation." Another famous "clean" term, which is used by Moshe Dayan, is "coexistence" of Jews and Arabs in the occupied areas. But it's the same coexistence as between a rider and his horse. Dayan's "living together" means the rule of one people over another.

### Q. What about the official description of Jewish settlements?

**A.** It's full of laundered words.

## ZIONISM IN PRACTICE

The term "settling" itself is a cover-up for invading someone else's property. "Expropriation" has all but vanished from the official vocabulary. Land is invariably "closed" or "fenced off" for "security reasons." It's hard to object to the "closing" of land for "security reasons." The trouble is, one bright morning tractors appear and a settlement rises on the "closed" land. That's what happened in the case of Kiryat Arba, the biggest West Bank settlement. It stands on land that was never "expropriated."

### Q. What does the latest official term — "thickening" of settlements — mean?

**A.** It seems to imply the addition of a few houses to existing outposts. But in the case of a settlement called "Ma'aleh Adumim," "thickening" has led to housing construction in an area stretching 10 miles — almost half the distance from Jerusalem to Jericho.

### Q. Who is the main contributor to this language?

**A.** The military government in the occupied areas. At the start of every school year, the military government reports "malfunctions" or "disruptions" in Arab schools — the same sort of language you would use to describe a shortage of chairs or textbooks. What's actually happening of course, is that the students are demonstrating in the streets against the occupation. And the distortions work the other way as well. Just as there is an army of laundered words, there are terms charged with negative meaning. Those who criticize the occupation system do not have an "opinion,"



they are "provocateurs." They never convince others, they "mislead" them. And, of course, any reported Arab demonstration is a "riot."

**Q. Is there a way to get rid of the malady?**

**A.** I think the only chance for cure is to have peace. That would bring us back to our senses as a people living in a small country and make us turn our attention to the obvious social, economic and cultural shortcomings from which we're suffering. During the debate in the Parliament, practically every one of the 80 speakers expounded on "risks" and the "painful price" of peace, meaning the return of occupied lands to the Arabs. What is so painful about giving up land that is not ours, and that we've held as a bargaining card to be used at the negotiating table?

## ISRAEL WORRIED ABOUT REVOLUTIONARY WAVE IN ISRAELI UNIVERSITIES

On 11 February 1979, Israeli Minister of Culture Zevulun Hammer expressed deep anxiety over the increase in the number of progressive students in Israeli Universities, all of whom are expressing their support for the PLO.

In a meeting with the committee of Israeli University Presidents, the Israeli Minister said that this increasing support for the PLO among Palestinian and Israeli progressive students constitutes a great danger for the future of the state of Israel. He called on all University Presidents to separate the Palestinian students from the Israeli ones, and to impose stricter punishment on all students expressing support for the PLO and calling for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories.

## JDL INTENSIFIES CAMPAIGN AGAINST ARAB UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

On 15 February 1979, the head

of the Jewish Defence League, Meir Kahane, and other members of his gang, are reported to have gone around the Jerusalem University's halls under police protection, calling for the expulsion of the Palestinian and Israeli students sympathetic to the PLO and hostile to the Israeli occupation.

The Palestinian and Israeli progressive students confronted Kahane and his clique, and prevented them from going ahead with the harassment of students inside the University campus.

Police units interfered and began attacking the Palestinian and progressive Israeli students with their rifle butts, injuring several students. The University administration contended itself with expressing regret over the incident, and presented its apologies to members of the Knesset. Meanwhile, the Democratic Student Committee issued a communique in which it condemned Kahane's chauvinistic measures, and the intervention of the police in Kahane's favour.

## KAHANE FORMS NEW RACIST MOVEMENT

The head of the Jewish Defence League, Meir Kahane, has announced the formation of a new movement, called "Alil," which is a Hebrew acronym for "Arabs for the Arab states and Jews for Israel."

Kahane announced the formation of this movement at a press conference held on February 20 in Beit Agharon in Jerusalem, and said that the movement's objective is to expel all Arabs to the Arab states.

## GOSH IMONIM TO ESTABLISH 15 NEW SETTLEMENTS IN WEST BANK

The head of the Jewish Agency's settlement department recently declared that skeleton maps for 15 new settlements to be established in the occupied West Bank by the

Gosh Imonim Movement have already been approved. These settlements are expected to include thousands of residential units.

The Head of the Agency's Settlement Department added that preparations were underway for one of the largest settlement moves in the occupied West Bank ever witnessed in the history of Israel. He also said that the nuclei of 30 settlements, the surfaces of which range between 200 and 300 dunums, were to be established in the Galilee region occupied in 1948.

He added that each year four of the nuclei would be transformed into permanent settlements.

The Israeli authorities also have recently started the fortification of Israeli settlements in the upper Galilee by building high walls topped with barbed wire. These activities are being done by soldiers and settlers after the increase in Palestinian commando operations against these settlements.

## PLANS FOR TWO NEW SETTLEMENTS IN JORDAN VALLEY

The Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* reported on Friday 23 February 1979, that the Israeli authorities plan to establish two para-military settlements, similar to Nahals, in the Jordan River Valley within the coming few weeks. In addition, the on-going establishment of two settlements in the Northern and Southern parts of the Jordan River Valley and the Gaza Strip will continue.

Meanwhile, the daily newspaper *Davar* confirmed that the Israeli authorities have seized approximately 1400 heads of cattle belonging to the Naqab tribes, because they refused to evacuate their land for the establishment of a military air-base.

The paper added that four youths were arrested for attempting to release the cattle from the trucks which carried the cattle away after their seizure.



## STOPPAGE OF ISRAELI EXPORTS TO IRAN A DISASTER

The Israeli daily *Yediot Aharanot* reported on February 21 that the stoppage of all Israeli exports to Iran might result in disastrous losses to numerous Israeli factories which were exporting the majority of their products to Iran.

The debts of Iranian clients to the Israeli factories are estimated around \$20 million, while Israeli exports to Iran last year were valued at \$150 million.





# ISRAEL CONTINUES SYSTEMATIC TORTURE

The Committee for the Defense of Palestinian Prisoners and Detainees in Israeli Jails gave an account on the latest situation of political prisoners in Israeli jails at a press conference in Beirut in February 17, 1979. Following are excerpts from the Committee's communique:

"World Condemnation against practices of torture of Palestinian prisoners by Israeli authorities has been largely expanded.

"Despite these widespread protests and the continuous campaigns of condemnation launched locally and internationally, Israeli authorities still persist in following their policy of torture and abuse against militant Palestinian prisoners.

"This policy forbids access by lawyers, doctors and Human Rights committees to jails, and hinders them from inspecting the circumstances in which Palestinian prisoners live. The Israeli authorities continue to consider campaigns of protest against torture to be political campaigns directed against Israel. Likewise, Israel considered the hunger strike of early 1978 carried out by prisoners for 45 days as being aimed at defaming Israel's reputation.

"Persisting in its brutal policy,



the Israeli occupation authorities continued their practices, of aggression against Palestinian Arabs in the occupied territories. These practices involve the destruction of houses, the confiscation of land, the desecration of holy places, the leveling of threats against mayors, and the abuse of prisoners. All these measures aim at the suppression of West Bank Palestinians, to force them to accept the Camp David accords and the proposed "autonomy plan". In the period following the Camp David accords, two Palestinians died under torture in Israeli jails, Isam Joudeh in the Gaza Strip and Yousif Abdel-Kareem in Ashkelon prison.

## AISHA AUDEH RELEASED

"Another prisoner is Nader Afouri, who has lost his mental

abilities and his senses due to brutal torture. Rasmieh Audeh also lost her sight due to torture and poor prison conditions. Writer Adel Samara and Journalist Ismael Ajwa were also exposed to maltreatment because of their political stand and their rejection of the Camp David accords. Aisha Audeh was recently released as a result of local and international pressure, but only after her health had deteriorated seriously."

## PALESTINIAN DEPORTEE DESCRIBES ISRAELI TORTURE

At a press conference held in Amman on February 10, the Palestinian militant Mahmoud al-Faqih, who was recently deported by the Israeli authorities, exposed the torture of Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails.

Faqih confirmed that he himself had been subjected to systematic psychological and physical torture, giving as examples the use of electric shocks, and attacks by police dogs.

He added that loss of memory and general weakness as a result of torture is a common symptom among Palestinian prisoners, some of whom are in a critical nervous state.

Faqih also gave the names of seven Palestinian prisoners who are gravely ill as a result of torture: Nader al-Afour, Ahmad al-Khatib, Yahia Abu Samra, Hassan Dahshan, Riad al-Mala'ibi, and Ziad al-Duwaik.

## APPEALS TO SAVE RASMIEH AUDEH

The Palestinian Organization for the Blind has appealed to world public opinion to save the life of the Palestinian militant Rasmieh Audeh, who has lost her eyesight as a result of torture in Israeli prisons.

In cables sent to UN Secretary General Dr. Kurt Waldheim, to the International Red Cross and the International Commission on Human Rights, the organization demanded the release of Rasmieh



Two former prisoners (left and right) report at press conference of Committee for the Defense of Palestinian Prisoners

Audeh for treatment. The cables also asked these international bodies to expose Israeli torture of Palestinian prisoners, stressing that several Palestinian prisoners suffer from chronic diseases, serious fractures, blindness, and mental disorders as a result of torture.

## PROTESTS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

In related news, the progressive lawyer Felicia Langer and several national institutions and personalities in the occupied territories have called on International Public opinion to ask for the immediate release of Rasmieh Audeh and several other prisoners so that they may undergo medical treatment.

A press conference was held at Beir-Zeit University to reveal practices of brutal torture to which students are exposed due to their political activities. In addition, a committee including lawyers, journalists and representatives of Human Rights committees was formed in Israel for the defence of Palestinian political prisoners. Arab students and democratic Jews at Jerusalem University staged a sit-in and marched in a demonstration to protest Israeli torture against Palestinian prisoners.

# INTERNATIONAL CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL TORTURE



Alexandra Johnson

Israeli torture practices and systematic violations of Human Rights have reached such an extent that even circles in the U.S. which for years tried to present Israel as the "model of democracy" in the Middle East, can no longer hide the facts. The — still very restricted — admission of Israeli mass terror and

torture in the U.S. media also shows increasing political isolation of the Zionist settlers state. However, the disclosure in the U.S. of Israeli torture remains hypocritical and bears all signs of a public relations alibi: In fact, it is the U.S. which continues to escalate the financing and arming of the Israeli repression system.

Alexandra Johnson, the former US Foreign Service Consular Officer in Jerusalem, reported to the US State Department of how the Israelis conduct systematic torture of Arab prisoners, the "Washington Post" reported recently. Her report described the brutality of the interrogation of Arab political prisoners "as systematic practice... backed up by the Israeli administrative authorities' using many kinds of severe





Thousands of Palestinian political prisoners suffer in Zionist jails

torture, including refrigeration, the use of electricity, hanging by hands and feet, extreme forms of sexual sadism, and interrogation accompanied by starvation and enforced sleeplessness." Johnson's report conforms with a careful study of Israeli torture which was published in the British "Sunday Times" on June 19, 1977.

Nevertheless, the US State Department refused to endorse the report, and denied its most important assertion, namely, that Israeli torture of Arab prisoners is systematic. Indeed, the State Department has responded by punishing Johnson and refusing to grant her tenure after her six-year probationary period ended. She said: "It is my own belief that I was fired because of my human rights reporting." Once more the duplicity of Carter's "Human Rights campaign" has been exposed.

#### U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CONDEMNS ISRAEL

The Jordanian mission to the United Nations recently presented a report which was circulated in the UN about Israeli harassment and torture of arrested Palestinian students from Bir Zeit University in the occupied West Bank. A week later, on February 14, 1979, the UN Human Rights Commission voted to send a telegram of censure to Israel, expressing its deep concern over the systematic torture of Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails.

On February 21, the Commission passed a resolution condemning Israeli policies and practices in the occupied territories. Only the United States and other Western countries opposed the resolution. Israel was charged with expulsion, ill-treatment and torture of Palestinian detainees, confiscation of their property, destruction of dwellings and illegal exploitation of the occupied territories' natural wealth. Meanwhile, a large majority of the 32-nation Commission urged support for the PLO, and called on Israel to release all Palestinians detained as a consequence of their struggle for self-determination. In another resolution, the Commission reaffirmed "the right of the Palestinians people to regain their rights by all means," and called for the establishment of a fully independent and sovereign state of Palestine.

#### ISRAELI REPORT ON ILL-TREATMENT OF PALESTINIAN PRISONERS

"Al-Ittihad", organ of the Israeli communist party Rakah, on 9 February 1979 published a report which included a number of accounts of ill-treatment of Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons.

As an illustration, the report said that three Palestinian students, Azzam Zakana, Hamza Abdel Hamid Samawi, and Imad Mustafa Ibrahim, from Qabatiya village in the Jenin area, were arrested recently

because they wrote slogans on the walls of their school. During their interrogation, the students were severely beaten on sensitive parts of their bodies, and one of the students, Imad, was seriously injured in his right eye. Traces of the injuries remained for a month.

In another example given by "Al-Ittihad", attorney Walid al-Fahoum reported about a client of his, Hashim Abu Kishk, a prominent unionist from Nablus who was sentenced to two years in prison in 1974 for membership in the National Front and the Democratic Front. He spent the last fourteen months in prison without being tried. Following his rejection of an offer by the security forces to leave the West Bank for good, an administrative detention order was issued against Kishk.

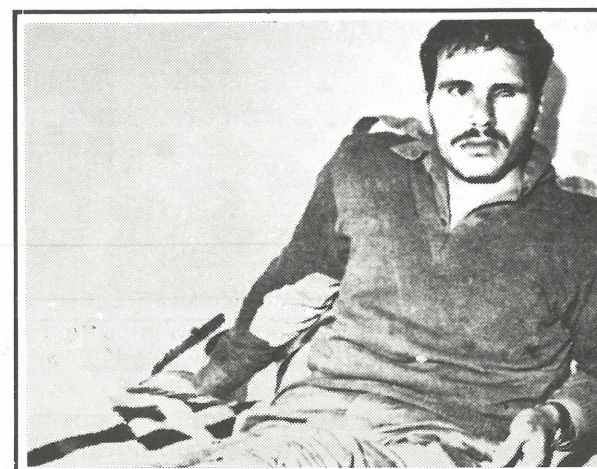
Al-Fahoum also sent a memorandum to the governor of the West Bank complaining against an Israeli intelligence official, "Abu Yousuf," who threatened several Arab prisoners, including Salim Hassan Helou and Akram Zayd, with severe arbitrary punishment if they refuse to collaborate with Israeli intelligence.

The report also said that political prisoner Usama Muhammad Jarrar, who was sentenced to life imprisonment, currently suffers from many chronic diseases, such as bronchitis, convulsions in the left part of his body, blindness in his left eye, and inability to concentrate. Usama was arrested at the age of seventeen following a battle with the Israeli forces in the River Jordan Valley in 1970, and has been in jail ever since.

#### ISRAELI HUMAN RIGHTS

"There is no country where human rights are respected more than in Israel" (Israeli Minister of Justice Shmuel Tamir, quoted by "Al-Ittihad", Arabic newspaper of the Israeli Rakah Party, on 9 February 1979).

## TESTIMONY OF AN IRANIAN MILITANT: ORDEAL IN ISRAELI JAILS



Comrade Ibrahim Kharaji is a fighter in the Fateh movement, whose steadfastness and struggle inside Israeli jails is a courageous example for all freedom fighters in Israeli jails, whatever their nationality. Comrade Kharaji, an Iranian who nevertheless insists on his militant Palestinian identity, spoke, in an interview with "Falestin Muhtallah", 26 February 1979, about his capture and torture inside Zionist jails. He said:

"I joined al-Fateh after finishing studies in West Germany. I went to military operations against the Israeli enemy. Once, on our way to attack an Israeli military target, Israeli jets discovered us, attacked us, and rained fire down upon us. We scattered into nearby hills. I was separated from the others, and when I tried to crawl towards a comrade, I failed due to the heavy fire coming at me from all directions. After an hour of struggling against death, I was spotted by the enemy and they directed their fire against me. I managed to reach a rocky hill, and sheltered myself behind a boulder. When hunger and thirst tormented me, I tried to crawl towards a village, but the enemy once again spotted me and laid siege to the area. A shell

exploded very close, and my head was hit by a piece of shrapnel. I was knocked unconscious, and woke up after a while to find three Israeli tanks and 30 soldiers at my feet.

"They captured me, handcuffed me, and threw me into one of the tanks after kicking and hitting me severely. My agony had begun.

"In prison, they tore the bandages off my eyes and pushed me into the interrogation room. They brought an Israeli soldier who spoke Persian, and tried to get information from me about why I had come to Lebanon, and they demanded the names of Palestinian commandos I know. But I did not tell them anything. They brought me a mirror, and ordered me to cut my face with a razor. I protested, so they slashed my right hand many times. A plainclothes officer came and extinguished cigarettes in the wounds of my left hand, threatening me with more severe torture. They tried to get me to talk, in exchange for a cup of water, but in vain. Finally, they closed me up in a canvas bag, and hit me with a wire-edged stick until blood sprinkled from my skin. This torture continued day and night.

#### COMPLICITY OF IRANIAN AND WEST GERMAN SECRET POLICE

"In Haifa prison, they brought three SAVAK men from the Iranian secret police to interrogate me. The SAVAK agents alleged that they knew everything about me and that I had to confess. But I refused to say anything, with the result that I was even more brutally tortured.

"Once, they brought a West German officer called "Dolich" to interrogate me, but he failed like all the others. So they pressed an apparatus over my testicles that made me numb. My eyes and face became swollen, and I lost strength. They repeated this torture many times. My body was bleeding, and they made me drink my own blood.

"The torture continued... I was not able to distinguish between day and night... They drowned me with cold water, while no part of my body was free of wounds or safe from a blow. They pushed me into a cell full of dirty water and ordered me to sleep in it."

Comrade Kharaji's inhuman treatment went on and on. But, he said, even after long months of torture, he refused to talk. Thus, the Zionists threw him out of occupied Palestine at Ras Naqura, on the Lebanese border... but only after the International Committee of the Red Cross had intervened to save his life.





Iranian revolutionaries present captured Savak agent

## CIA INTRIGUES AGAINST IRAN

by Our Diplomatic Correspondent

General Robert Huyser, Deputy Commander of US forces in Europe and a senior official of the US Central Intelligence Agency, arrived in Tehran on 4 January 1979 on a special mission. He was sent by the Carter Administration, specifically by President Carter's National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, initially to bolster the authority of the Shah's newly-appointed Prime Minister, Dr. Shapur Bakhtiar.

The US had received information that a number of extreme rightwing military leaders, unhappy with Bakhtiar's reformist line, were planning a coup, to be followed by an all-out attempt to crush popular opposition to the Shah. Immediately on arrival, Huyser began conferring with these military leaders in the US Embassy in Tehran and persuaded them to postpone their coup and "give Bakhtiar a chance", since the Carter Administration hoped his reforms might reduce some of the discontent and so draw support away from the revolutionary opposition.

Huyser was an envoy with very high authority. He sent daily reports directly to Carter and Brzezinski, bypassing US Ambassador William Sullivan and the State Department, apparently because of differences between Brzezinski and US Secretary of State Cyrus Vance over how to handle the Iran crisis. It was only after a month in Tehran that Huyser was instructed to co-ordinate with Sullivan; before that, the Ambassador was not aware of what precisely the General was doing.

### US CHANGES PLANS

Following the triumphant return from exile of Imam Ayatullah Khomeiny, the leader of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Movement, it became clear at the beginning of February that Bakhtiar's position was crumbling. At the same time, increasing numbers of the armed forces, particularly air force units, were siding with the revolution, thus rendering a coup increasingly unlikely to succeed.

At this point, Huyser's mission changed in character, and involved three main tasks:

1) Evacuating US nationals safely from Iran. Huyser began implementing the State Department plans for full-scale evacuation.

2) Safeguarding advanced-technology US-made weapons in Iran, including two Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) systems, some 80 F-14 aircraft, Phoenix missiles and equipment such as radar which could detect up to 30 targets and fire missiles at six of them simultaneously. One of the ICBM systems was dismantled, and contacts were started to persuade the Turkish government to allow the stationing of the ICBMs on its territory. But the bulk of the weapons could not be removed before Bakhtiar's collapse.

3) Preventing the triumph of the Iranian revolution or, failing that, undermining the revolution after its victory in order to pave the way for a counterrevolution.

The Imperial Guard went into action in an attempt to crush air force units which had joined the revolution at a base near Tehran. But this action, which may have been intended as the start of a military coup, instead became a signal for a massive popular insurrection. By midday on 12 February 1979, after some 48 hours of fighting, the Imperial Guard surrendered. The revolution was in power.

### THE LEGACY OF HUYSER

Huyser managed to leave the country in time and return to Europe. But he left behind him carefully planted seeds of chaos designed to cause upheavals in Iran for months or maybe years to come. He laid the groundwork for the contingency plan devised by Brzezinski and CIA planners for causing a counterrevolution.

The basis of this plan was to foment civil war in Iran after the installation of a revolutionary government, in order to weaken that government and induce a war-weariness among the general public so that eventually they would accept any government that could impose law and order. Brzezinski hoped that this would eventually make a military coup, or even the return of the Shah, possible. His view was shared by the Shah's Ambassador in Washington, Ardeshir Zahedi, who played a major role in restoring the Shah in 1953 and has had close links with the CIA since before that time.

The "divide and rule" plan launched by Huyser was two-pronged. First, it involved inciting secessionist revolts by national minorities in Iran, such as Kurds, Arabs, Baluchis and Azerbaijanis, in an effort to transform the conflict

from one between the masses of the people and their oppressors into a series of racial conflicts, quite the same, as the CIA and Israeli secret services did in Lebanon, in order to kindle the civil war there. Secondly, it involved splitting the ranks of the revolution itself by stirring up conflicts between the Islamic Revolutionary Movement and Marxist organisations.

### CIA AGENTS INFILTRATED

The provocation of these internal conflicts has been entrusted to a large number of CIA agents, most of whom are believed to be former SAVAK (Iranian secret police) personnel. An estimated 2,000 of these agents have been given the task of infiltrating the Iranian left and conducting anti-Islamic propaganda, while also stirring up ill-feeling between the Islamic Movement and the Marxists, and to provoke armed clashes between the two wings of the revolution.

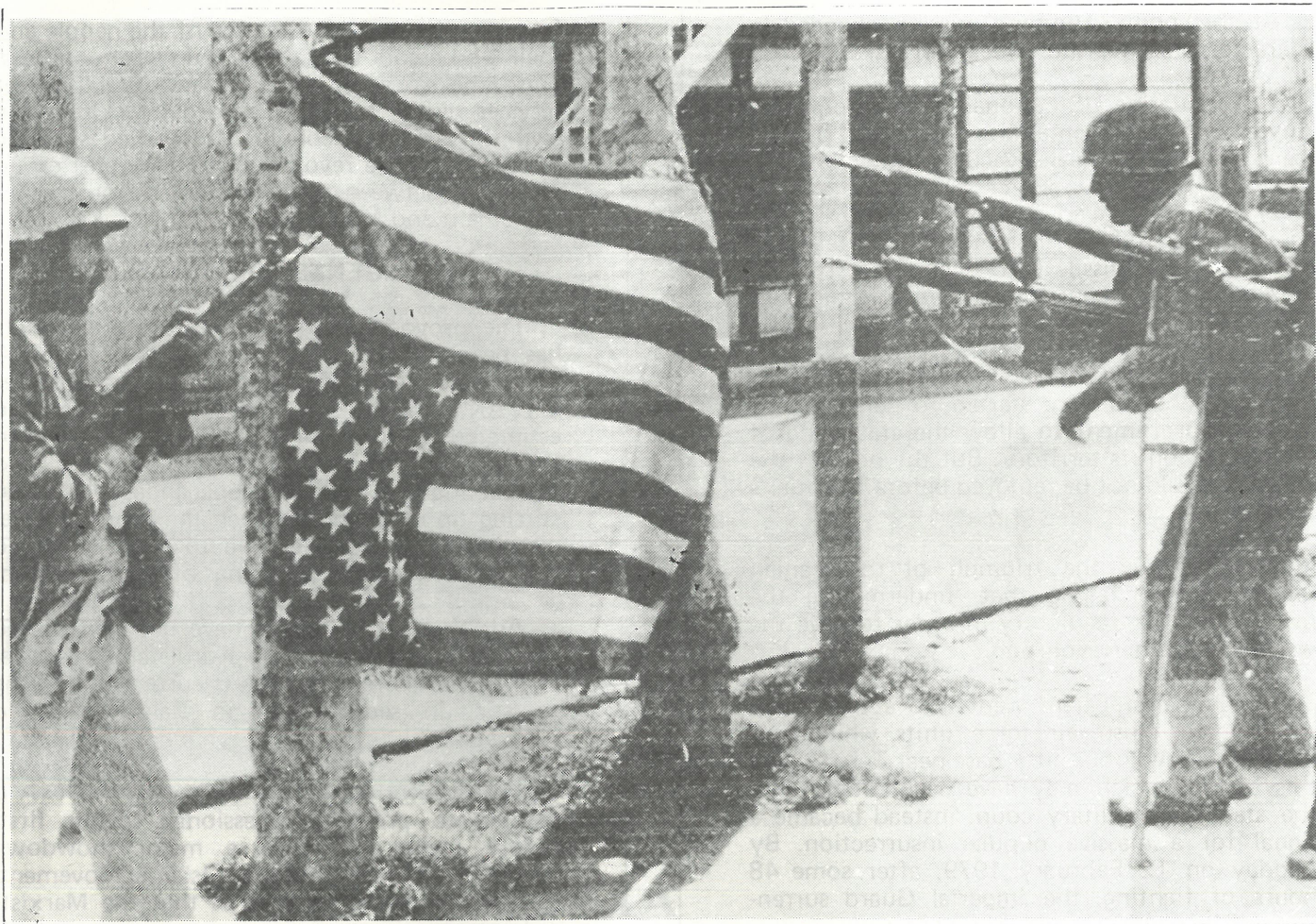
Additional CIA agents have been infiltrated through Turkey to Iranian Kurdistan, to instigate a revolt there. The CIA is currently working to stir up secessionism in Baluchistan and Arabistan.

Latest information indicates that the CIA is seeking to promote secessionist revolts first, before trying to cause a major showdown between the Marxists and the Islamic Movement. The reasoning behind this is that the Marxists



What is the legacy of the departing Shah?





Iranian militia men in front of U.S. flag affixed upside down

are not in a position at present to do serious damage to the Islamic Movement or to destroy the existing government, in view of the massive popular support that Ayatullah Khomeiny can muster.

The CIA is accordingly hoping that it can weaken the new government with a series of secessionist revolts, and then activate its *agents provocateurs* to provoke a major conflict between the Marxists and the Islamic Movement so as to deal a death-blow to the revolution. After the two wings of the revolution have bled each other, American planners hope, the situation will then be ripe for counterrevolution.

#### ACTS OF PROVOCATION

On 14 February 1979, a battle flared in Tehran between Marine guards in the US Embassy and a large force of armed men described as "leftists". Exactly how the clash occurred is somewhat obscure. According to one version, the "leftists" attempted to storm the Embassy whose guards fired back in self-defence.

*Reuter*, however, quoted officials from Ayatullah Khomeiny's office who investigated

the incident as saying that the firing started from within the Embassy compound. A photographer pointed out a small building by the Embassy gate from which the first shots were fired, according to *Reuter*, and these shots were apparently fired at unarmed passers-by.

Be that as it may, the government acted promptly to contain the incident. Deputy Premier for Revolutionary Affairs Dr. Ibrahim Yazdi, Foreign Minister Dr. Karim Sanjabi and Labour Minister Darius Farouhar went personally to the Embassy to ensure the safety of its employees and police reinforcements and ambulances were rushed to the scene. The government's decisiveness managed to save the situation and avert a serious bloodbath.

At the same time, indeed virtually at the very same hour, gunmen described as "Muslim extremists" kidnapped the American Ambassador in Kabul. The Ambassador and the gunmen were killed in a shoot-out with Afghan security forces.

It seems more than a mere coincidence that "Muslim extremists" should stage a provocative act against an American target in the leftist

revolutionary state of Afghanistan, while *simultaneously* "leftists" launch a provocative attack on the US Embassy in the Muslim revolutionary state of Iran. Does this not suggest a co-ordinated campaign to cause friction between Muslims and leftists in more than one country?

The CIA has never been squeamish about the toll of human lives, even American lives, that its plans exact. In view of the very reliable evidence that has come to light in recent years about the CIA involvement in the assassinations of President John Kennedy and Senator Robert Kennedy, can we doubt that it would be willing also to sacrifice an Ambassador or two for the sake of its grand designs?

At any rate, it was after the US Embassy incident, and probably partly because of the Iranian government's prompt and responsible action to deal with it, which demonstrated its ability to maintain order in Tehran, that the CIA decided to concentrate first on organising secessionist revolts. A few days later, there were reports that Kurdish secessionists had seized an army barracks at Mahabad.

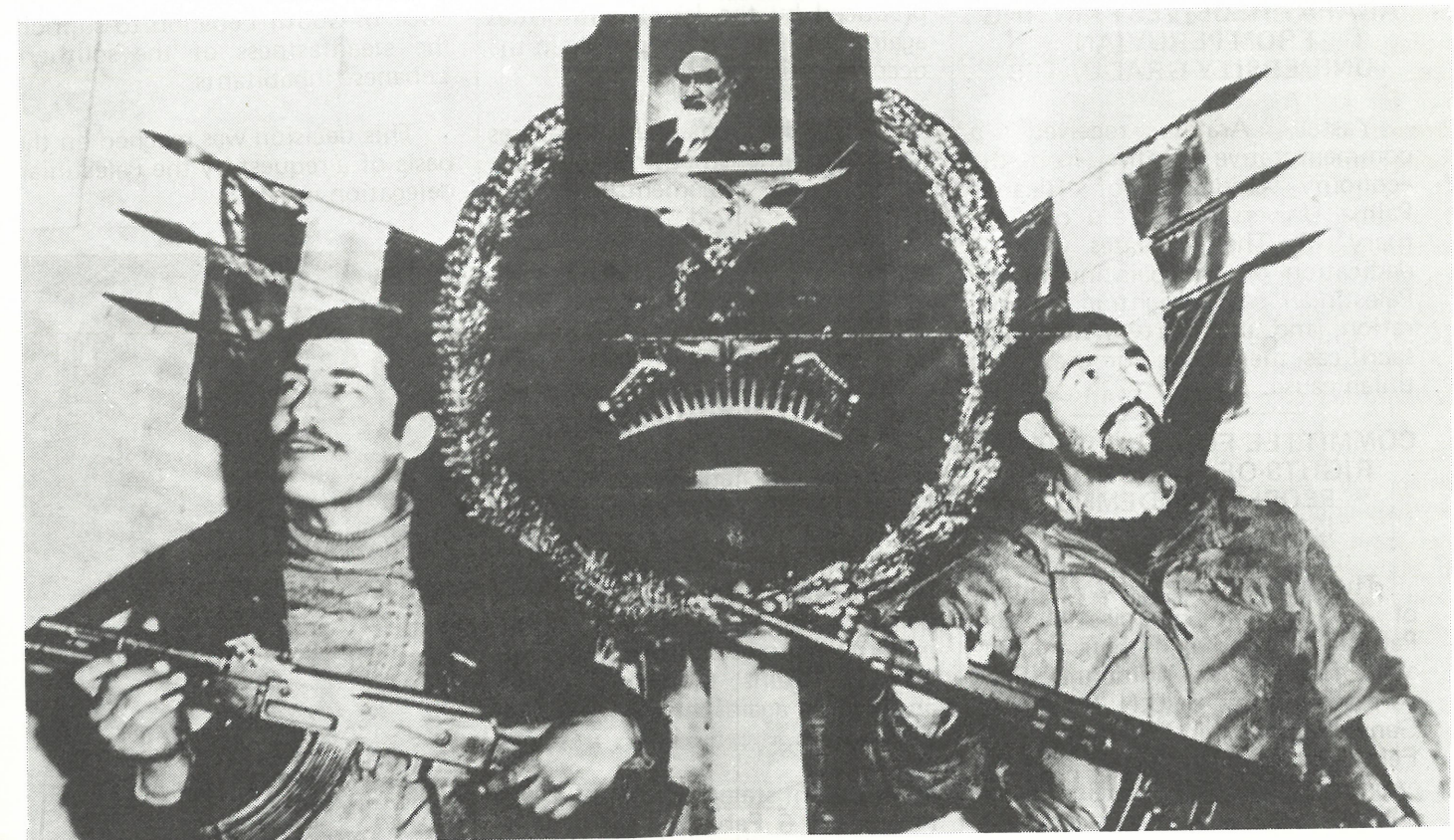
The dangers which the CIA intrigues against Iran contain for the whole region are plain for all to see. If the CIA succeeds in causing secessionist revolts, can it be sure that these will stay confined to Iran and will not spread, say, to

the Kurds in Turkey or the Baluchis in Pakistan? Countries adjoining Iran should think very carefully whether it is in their interest to co-operate with the CIA in this venture.

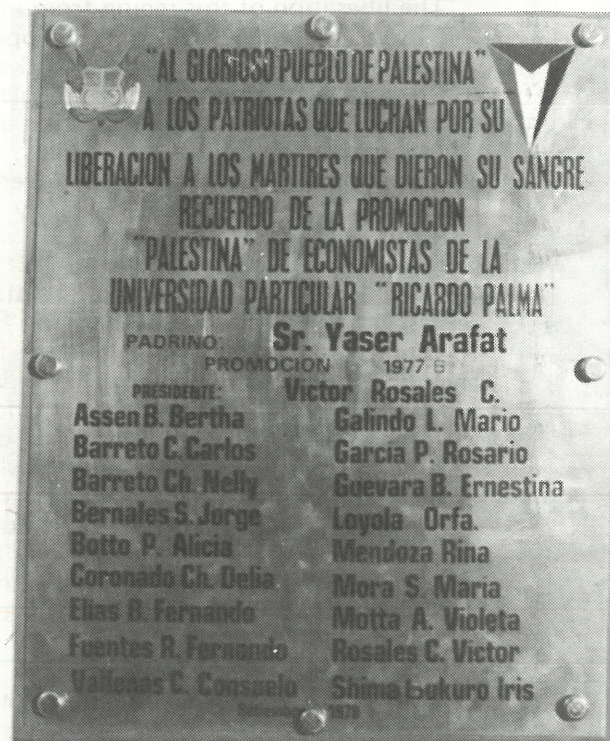
The liberation of this region from imperialism and Zionism requires the close co-operation of all its peoples — Arabs, Kurds, Turks, Persians and others — in the common struggle against a common enemy. If all these peoples are incited against each other, imperialism will maintain its grip over them, as Nazism did over parts of Eastern Europe for many years by the same methods.

Furthermore, many of the liberation movements of this region, including the Palestinian Resistance, the Lebanese National Movement and the Egyptian opposition to President Sadat, are made up of broad front alliances which include both Muslims and Marxists, as was the case with the Iranian movement which overthrew the Shah. If the CIA succeeds in creating an internecine conflict between Muslims and Marxists in the Iranian opposition, its ramifications could spread well beyond Iran and split virtually all the anti-imperialist forces in the region.

To rephrase the words of a well-known thinker, the price of a successful liberation struggle is eternal vigilance.







## ARAFAT RECEIVES PAINTING FROM PERUVIAN UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

Yasser Arafat received a commemorative painting from the economy graduates of Ricardo Palma University in Peru on February 16. The graduates wrote a dedication on the painting to the Palestinian people fighting for liberation, and the martyrs who have sacrificed themselves for the Palestinian cause.

## COMMITTEE FOR INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE CONDEMNS ISRAELI MEASURES

The President of the Committee of 23 for the Exercise by the Palestinian People of their Inalienable Rights, Mr. Midoune Fall, addressed a letter to U.N. Secretary-General Dr. Kurt Waldheim on February 9th. In the letter, Fall expressed the Committee's grave concern regarding the systematic and arbitrary suppressive measures

practiced by the Israeli authorities against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

Fall added that these measures have been intensified following the Camp David agreements, and are particularly aimed against those Palestinians who declared their opposition to Camp David and their support for the PLO.

## TRADE UNION SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) and the permanent Congress of Trade Union Unity of the Latin America Working People (CPUSTAL) have resolutely condemned the recent plot of the imperialist powers, Israel and Arab reaction, against the Arab peoples, and mainly against the Arab people of Palestine.

In a joint statement published in Prague on 5 February 1979, both organizations reiterated their

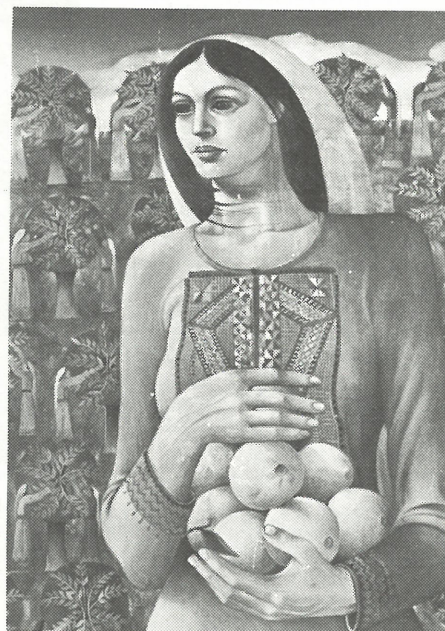
unreserved solidarity with the Palestinian people in their heroic struggle for the realization of their rights, and for the establishment of an independent state of their own. WFTU and CPUSTAL also declared their support for the forthcoming Third International Conference of Solidarity with the Workers and the People of Palestine, to be held in Damascus from 15 to 17 May 1979.

## IRANIAN GOVERNMENT TO BUY PALESTINIAN CITRUS FRUITS AND LEBANESE TOBACCO

On 20 February 1979, the Revolutionary Iranian Government decided to buy the citrus fruit crops of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as a token of support for the steadfastness of our people in the occupied territories.

The Iranian government has also decided to buy the tobacco produce of South Lebanon to support the steadfastness of the southern Lebanese inhabitants.

This decision was reached on the basis of a request by the Palestinian delegation in Iran.



## POEM

### THE DREAM

BY  
RASHED  
HUSSEIN

*To dream, you have to sleep,  
Even for a single moment,  
But some comrades  
Die from sleeping and dreaming  
And the base is wiped out.*

*To dream, you have to fill  
Your eyes with sun and love  
And if you sleep too much, the sun tells you:  
I have become an evening... spreading clouds,  
And love tells you:  
Arise, sleep...  
And plant your country with light and love.*

*To dream, your lips have to become rifles,  
Which you kiss...  
As if women have been cut off from the earth,  
They have become the lips of trenches.  
To dream, you have to sleep, even for a single  
moment,  
But remember, rising from sleep is the important thing.*

### AGAINST

*Against the revolutionaries of my country harming an  
ear of wheat,  
Against a child, any child, carrying a grenade,  
Against my sister learning about the muscles of a  
rifle,  
Against whatever you care to name... and yet  
What can even a prophet or a prophetess do  
When the steeds of murderers  
Gulp down their eyes?*

*Against a child becoming a hero at the age of ten,  
Against the heart of a tree bearing landmines as fruit,  
Against the branches of my gardens becoming gal-  
lows,  
Against flowerbeds on my land being transformed  
into gallows,  
Against whatever you care to name... and yet  
After the burning of my country,  
My comrades,  
And my youth,  
How can my poems not become rifles?*





# «CLOSER TO JERUSALEM»



YASSER ARAFAT  
IN IRAN

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# Palestine

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