

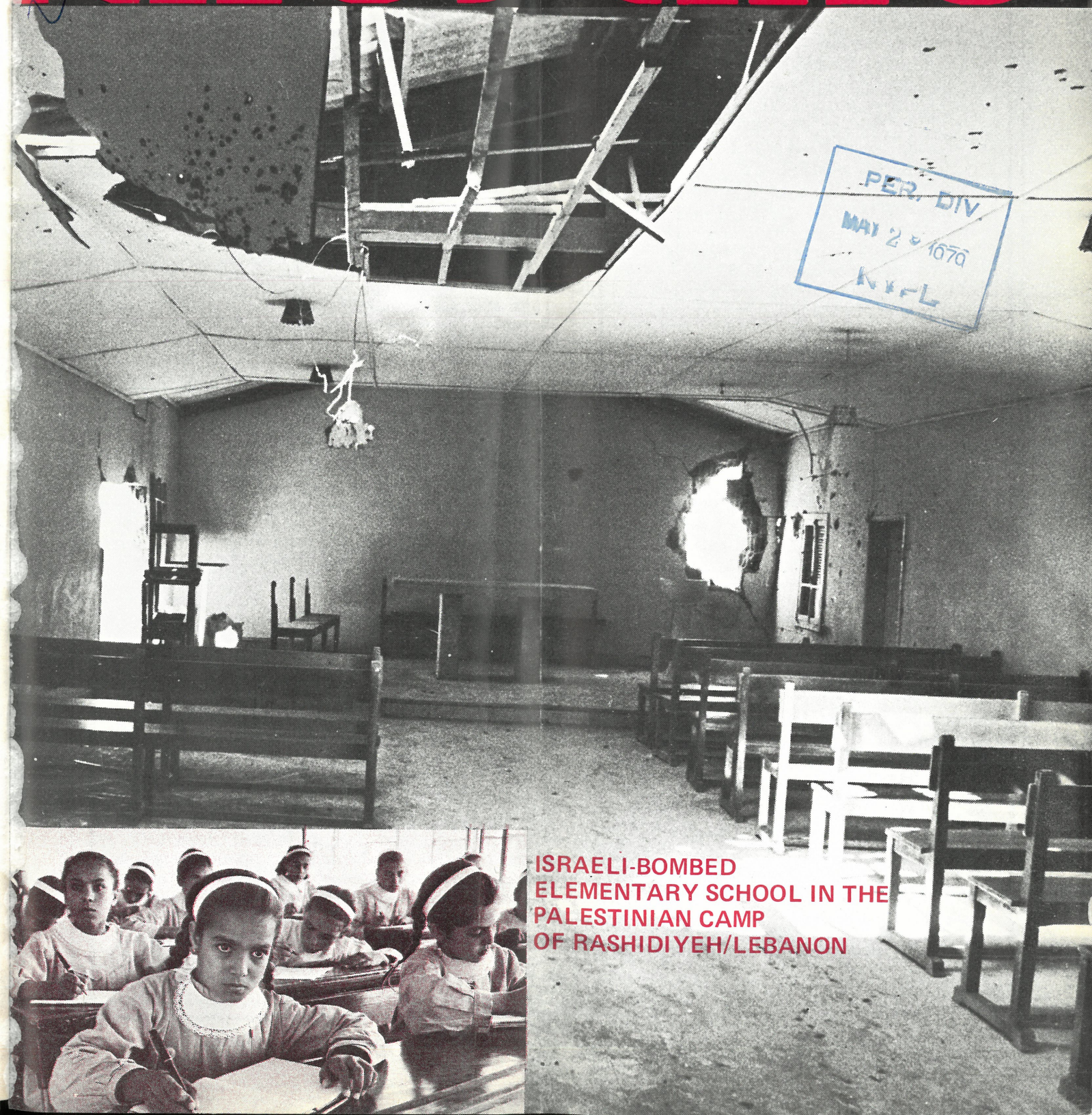


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Palestine

P.L.O.
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ISRAELI-BOMBED
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN THE
PALESTINIAN CAMP
OF RASHIDIYEH/LEBANON

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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EDITORIAL

ISRAEL'S WAR AGAINST THE PALESTINIANS

Israel's war against the Palestinians is the longest war in modern history. It started a long time ago, with the institutionalization of European Zionism in Basel in 1897. Since then the Zionist Movement has never stopped its war of using all means to colonize Palestine and to annihilate its inhabitants. European Zionism crowned its efforts with the creation of the State of Israel in Palestine in May 1948. Threats and massacres against the Palestinians, culminated in the Deir Yassin massacre of April 1948, shortly before the proclamation of the Zionist state. This massacre consequently led to the eviction of the Palestinians from their homeland.

The Zionist Movement temporarily succeeded in denying the existence of the Palestinian people. Due to their European origin, Western connections and alliances, the Zionists succeeded in distorting all the facts relating to the Palestinian people. The Western press acted — and continues to act, though not at the same level — as an instrument to blind the European and American peoples to reality, and to make them favor the Zionist-Israeli adventure in the Middle East.

The emergence of the Palestinian resistance movement unmasked false Israeli claims. The Palestinians are constantly emerging as a political factor which cannot be easily neglected or denied. The PLO is winning international recognition and more and more PLO representations are being granted full diplomatic status. The number of independent states in the world which recognize the PLO exceed the number of those who recognize Israel.

However, backed by US material, political and moral support, the Israelis are still far from seeing the facts in the Middle East. The Israelis and their US ally hope to find new Sadate in the Arab world willing to kneel to their arrogance and stubbornness. Israeli conceptions and declarations about the Palestinians are worse than

those of Ian Smith about the Zimbabweans or of the Pretoria regime about black South Africans.

The Israelis offer the Palestinians in the occupied territories a "self-rule" administration without authority over their properties or water resources. To the Palestinians in Lebanon they offer daily bombardments and raids from their heavy artillery, gunboats and Phantoms. They make daily attacks against Palestinian refugee camps in the South and are making civilian life almost impossible.

Lebanese towns and villages in southern Lebanon, such as Nabatieh and Tyre, are 60 per cent deserted. Thousands of refugees are quitting their homes to find refuge in the schools, mosques, and churches in the more secure North. Israeli planes arrogantly attack even Palestinian refugee camps in the far North, near Tripoli. Last week they hit a wedding ceremony, killing six members of one family. Almost every day they arrogantly overfly Palestinian refugee camps around Beirut, trying to hit civilian targets but being driven away by determined Palestinian air defenses.

A full-scale Israeli terror campaign, using sophisticated techniques, is being waged against the Palestinian people. The Israelis want the Palestinians to be everywhere but in their original country. They carry on their colonization policy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. New (so-called) "authorized" and "unauthorized" settlements are built every day, regardless of world public opinion and Arab sentiments.

Taking into consideration all these facts, the Palestinian people, who have been suffering from the continuous Israeli war of attrition and annihilation, have no other choice but to carry on the armed resistance. Zionism and Israel started the war against the Palestinians a long time ago, and the Palestinians can only survive if they resist.

PALESTINE NOTES

WEST GERMAN PARLIAMENTARIAN VISITS PLO

A West German member of Parliament from the Social Democratic Party (SPD), Klaus Thuesing, visited the PLO on a fact-finding tour in mid April. He had talks with Chairman Arafat, Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department, and other PLO representatives. After his return to the Federal Republic of Germany, Thuesing declared that, in his view, only the PLO can speak on behalf of the Palestinian people, even if one did not approve of the PLO's policy on every point. He also called for increase help for the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.



Chairman Arafat welcoming Turkish delegation

BOLIVIAN MIR DELEGATION

Abu Jihad, member of the Fateh Central Council and the General Command of the Assifa Forces, Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO's Political Department, as well as Abu Hatem, Director of the Fateh Foreign Relations Office, received in late April a delegation of the Bolivian Leftist Movement M.I.R., headed by a member of the three-man Executive Committee of the Movement. The meeting reviewed the current political situation in the Middle East, in light of Sadat's agreement with Israel; the political situation in Bolivia; and bilateral relations between Fateh and the Bolivian Movement. The Bolivian delegation confirmed its complete support for the just Palestinian struggle against imperialism, Zionism and their agents, and invited a Fateh delegation to visit Bolivia.

PLO RECEIVES CUBAN INVITATION FOR NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT

Chairman Arafat received the

Cuban Minister of Foreign Trade and the delegation accompanying him on April 24. The Cuban Minister delivered to Arafat an invitation from Cuban Premier Fidel Castro to attend the Non-Aligned Summit Conference which will be held in the Cuban capital, Havana, next September. He also delivered a personal letter from Castro to Arafat and another letter from the Non-Aligned Conference.

During the meeting, Arafat briefed the Cuban delegation on the latest developments in Lebanon, particularly the continuous Israeli raids against Palestinian camps and Lebanese villages. Arafat affirmed that in spite of the unequal military balance, the Palestinian Revolution and the Palestinian people possess a strong will and determination to remain steadfast and defy the enemy.

TURKISH DELEGATION WELCOMED

Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the

PLO Political Department, received a Turkish delegation on April 25. The delegation included the head of the Syndicate of Physicians; the head of the University Professors Syndicate, and a number of University professors.

Kaddoumi briefed the delegation on the situation in the Middle East, taking into consideration the ongoing Zionist aggressions against Palestinian refugee camps and Lebanese villages, and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. The Turkish delegation condemned the Israeli aggressions and expressed support for the Palestinian struggle under the leadership of the PLO. The delegation visited various institutions of the Palestinian Revolution.

FATEH REPRESENTATIVES HOLD TALKS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Abu Mazen and Abu Said, members of the Fateh Central Committee, met in Prague on April 26 with the Czechoslovak National Front representative and with the Afro-

Asian Solidarity Committee, in the first meeting of this kind between Fateh and Czechoslovak officials. A friendly atmosphere prevailed during the meeting, which dealt with developments in the Middle East after the signature of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. The following day, Fateh representatives met with the Editorial Board of the magazine *Issues of Peace and Socialism* and agreed to organise a seminar on Zionist settlements in all its forms next November.

ARAFAT RECEIVES SOMALI DELEGATION

Chairman Yasser Arafat, on 29 April 1979, received a Somali delegation composed of Brig. Mohammad al-Sheikh Othman, member of the Central Committee of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party and Minister of Industry; Brig. Abdel Rahman Idi Hussein, member of the Central Committee and Commander of Somali militias, and the Somali Charge d'Affaires in Damascus. The delegation handed Arafat a letter from the Somali President while Arafat briefed them on the situation in the region and transmitted to them a letter and a verbal message to President Siad Barre.

SYRIAN-PALESTINIAN- LIBANESE MEETINGS

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, headed the Palestinian delegation to the Palestinian-Syrian-Lebanese meeting in Damascus on April 26 to discuss developments in South Lebanon and the overall situation.

The Palestinian delegation included Abdel Muhsin Abu Maizar, Zuheir Muhsin, Yasser Abd Rabbo and Talat Naji, all members of the PLO Executive Committee. It also included Abu al-Abbas, the military

commander of the Palestinian Liberation Front. The Syrian delegation included Abdel Halim Khaddam, Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Brigadier Hikmat al-Shahabi and Ali Douba. The Lebanese National Movement delegation included Walid Jumblatt, Abdallah Saadeh, George Hawi,

Muhsin Ibrahim, Albert Mansour, Samir Sabbagh, Issam Ni'maan, Rafiq Abu Younis, Muhammad Qabbani, Daoud Samed and Salim Shatila. The representatives of the National Front included 'Asim Qanso, Talal al-Miri'ibi, Suheil Hamadeh and Abdallah al-Amin.



Chairman Arafat and Abu Iyad inaugurating exhibition, together with Ismael Shammout, President of Palestinian Artist Association/Lebanon Branch

SECOND EXHIBITION OF PALESTINIAN PLASTIC ARTS IN BEIRUT

On April 27, 1979, Chairman Arafat inaugurated the Second Palestinian Exhibition of Plastic Arts in the presence of participating artists and a large Palestinian and Lebanese audience. The exhibition includes works of about 19 Palestinian artists and will remain open until May 15. Afterwards, the exhibition will be shown in Arab countries and at various places the world over. The paintings on display come from Palestinian artists who belong to the pioneers among contemporary Arab artists. Compared with the works of other Arab artists, Palestinian paintings are mainly tied

up with a conscience influenced by permanent conflict; their major target is always to declare, demonstrate and stress the rights of the Palestinian people.

The Palestinian plastic arts work, whatever style it may follow, always tries to bind itself to a political subject of the Palestinian people: Its roots, legacy and folklore; its social and human upheavals, the symbols of the Palestinian Resistance; the conscience of its culture; the identity of the Palestinians as human beings. Palestinian art tries to exert an educational influence: to rise and influence the building of the man of the future.

In his opening address, Chairman

PALESTINE NOTES

Arafat referred to the current military escalation between the Palestinian resistance and the Zionist forces whose planes were raiding refugee camps in Lebanon: "What takes place is actually complemented by the inauguration of this exhibition. The artist commits himself to the Palestinian Revolution. His work reinforces the mili-

tant identity of every revolutionary, artist and fighter during this period, when our Arab Nation is confronting the plot and the plotters." Chairman Arafat concluded: "The rifle and the brush of the Palestinian artist thus together inscribe on the pages of history the ultimate victory of the Palestinian Revolution."

ON 1 MAY:

G.U.P.W. CALLS FOR BOYCOTT OF IMPERIALIST INTERESTS

1 مايو
يوم العمال العالمي
INTERNATIONAL LABOUR DAY



الشورة بندقية ويدعامة
THE REVOLUTION A GUN & WORKER'S ARM

The General Union of Palestinian Workers (G.U.P.W.) in Lebanon issued the following statement on the occasion of 1 May, the International Labour Day:

"The working class observes today, the world over, the International Labour Day which represents our incessant unity in the struggle to destroy greed and exploitation for the sake of a better future.

"Above all, 1 May means to the Palestinian workers a continuation on the way of the Palestinian Revolution, furnishing it with more sacrifices, efforts and devotion until all the national soil is liberated.

"1 May this year comes in a most crucial time, when a knife has been stabbed into the heart of our nation by the traitor Sadat. He signed a shameful and capitulationist treaty with our Zionist enemy and consequently encouraged U.S. imperialism to isolate Egypt, though temporarily, from its Arab environment, and turned his country into a policeman in the service of imperialist and Zionist interests and their expansionist ambitions. He also distorted the heroic Egyptian army, which has given thousands of martyrs for the Arab cause, into an instrument of suppression against the national forces inside Egypt and against the liberation movements in the area.

BOYCOTT OF ALL IMPERIALIST INTERESTS

"The Palestinian workers, on this solemn occasion, appeal to the Arab working class to establish firmly the basis of their unity to confront and cope with the conspiracy, and then work to implement the resolutions already adopted during the emergency session of the Central Congress of the International Unions of the Arab Trade Unions, convened on 6 April 1979 in Damascus. These resolutions call for:

1. Boycott of planes, ships and all other means of transportation in addition to all companies and esta-

blishments as well as goods belonging to the Sadat regime and its personnel who deal with the Zionist enemy.

2. Boycott of all American imperialist air and maritime means of transportation.

3. A strike against vital and strategic American interests, especially petroleum interests.

4. Giving all kinds of support to Syria and the Palestinian Revolution under the leadership of the PLO, who stood in the main line of confrontation with the Zionist enemy.

5. Support of the Egyptian national and progressive movement, which in its political and unionist role underlines and expresses the will of the Egyptian people inside Egypt against the treacherous Sadat policy.

6. The Palestinian workers who are joined with the international workers in a common joint struggle against imperialism and capitalism, appeal to all their comrades today to give more solidarity and exert more efforts to expose all kinds of conspiracies brewed against our people, as well as to denounce all plotters.

"The General Union of Palestinian Workers sends its greetings today to all socialist and progressive forces and to all Arab and international liberation movements. It also greets our workers inside occupied territories who struggle with all available means against the Zionist usurpation and the self-rule conspiracy.

"Greetings to all our detainees wherever they are.

"Our Palestinian Revolution pledges, under the leadership of the PLO and our leader, Chairman Arafat, to remain the fuel of our triumphant Revolution until our people realize their complete aims."

THE FALSE 'PEACE':

CHAIRMAN ARAFAT:

"WE WILL FIGHT ON"



While the Zionist launched their recent savage air, sea and land attacks on Palestinian and Lebanese targets, Chairman Arafat, on 20 April 1979, at a graduation ceremony of a political instruction course named after the martyr Captain Salman Ngheimesh referred to the U.S.-Israeli-Sadat 'peace' treaty. He stressed that Sadat's treason can neither destroy the Arab Nation nor restrain the struggle of the Egyptian people itself. He drew a parallel with the fact that Hitler's army reached the gates of Moscow, but the Soviet people fought and won, and Hitler's fascist regime collapsed.

Arafat then warned that "though the tightening of the conspiracy against us is not dangerous, nevertheless it imposes on us great responsibilities within the framework of the Palestinian and Arab struggle and as part of the world liberation movement." He stressed that the Palestinian Revolution is ready to bear these responsibilities, and said that "the Revolution's experiences since 1965 have taught us to confront all threats and conspiracies however huge.

"They think that the liquidation of the Palestinian Revolution will facilitate the unfolding of

THE FALSE 'PEACE':

the conspiracy, and that is why the battle during the Conference of Arab Foreign and Economic Ministers was fierce. We were in fact not confronting this or that Arab Minister, but Carter himself."

Arafat then expressed pride in the fact that Palestinian rifles and guns have not ceased to fire at the Zionist enemy ever since Carter visited the region, "an action which emerged from our decision to fight until victory."

Arafat concluded that the Egyptian-Israeli treaty will eventually be replaced by a treaty imposing Palestinian conditions and those of the Arab Nation on the Zionists.

"HOW CAN THIS BE CALLED A 'PEACE TREATY'?"

The same day, Chairman Arafat briefly addressed the Arab Medical Conference convened in Beirut, where he said:

"Whereas some felt desperate when they saw Egypt sign a treaty of humiliation and treason, I am not desperate, for Egypt has only walked out temporarily and the great Egyptian people will rise again to defend their existence and that of the whole region against the current offensives which are aimed at humiliating our Arab Nation and forcing it to submit."

Arafat went on: "I am not waging a battle against Begin, the Hebrew-speaking American agent, nor against Sadat, the Arabic-speaking one; we are not confronting Begin or Sadat, we are confronting an imperialist — Zionist offensive. How can this be called a peace treaty when it is accompanied by \$ 5 billion worth of sophisticated weapons? All this is meant to boost Sadat's role as a policeman in Africa and the Arab world. Sadat will take the F-4s and Israel will take 83.10% of the billions attached to the treaty. And thus the Egyptian army will become an agent of the American plan in Africa, while American aid to Israel will allow the Israeli army to safeguard interests of the international monopolies, protect the oil, and ensure its regular flow to the USA and the West in general."



Begin: "I am signing this on behalf of the Israelis."

Sadat: "I am signing in spite of the the Arabs."

Al Qabas, Kuwait, 26 March

PLO DENOUNCES U.S. APPOINTEE FOR 'SELF RULE' NEGOTIATIONS

The PLO has strongly denounced US. President Carter's recent appointment of Robert Strauss as special ambassador to represent the U.S. at the fraudulent Israeli-Egyptian 'negotiations' on the Palestinian question and the 'self-rule' scheme. PLO representatives again have it made clear that nobody is allowed to speak for and 'determine' on behalf of the Palestinian people except the Palestinian people themselves and their sole legitimate representative, the PLO.

The head of the Palestine Information Office in Washington, Dr. Hatem Hussein, declared on 25 April 1979 that Strauss is an American Jew and Zionist who always seeks to serve Israeli interests. "President Carter's assignment is a provocative act against all the Arab countries", he added. "You will find no Palestinian who will cooperate in negotiations with the continued occupation of the West Bank and Gaza." He stressed that the current U.S. policy towards the Middle East could neither impose peace nor security on the Palestinians.

ARAB WORLD AND IRAN BREAK OFF TIES WITH EGYPT: SADAT COMPLETELY ISOLATED

In accordance with the resolutions agreed

upon at the Arab Summits in Baghdad, 16 Arab states and the PLO have broken diplomatic relations with the Sadat regime in Egypt, as one of the sanctions against the U.S.-Israeli-Sadat separate pact. Among this overwhelming Arab majority are such 'moderate' states as Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, North Yemen and Mauritania. The revolutionary government of Iran joined this united front on 30 April 1979 following a statement issued by Ayatullah Khomeiny. A statement by the Iranian foreign ministry also described the treaty as "treason to Moslems throughout the world and Palestine". The national "Voice of the Islamic Revolution" called the decision "a positive answer to the demands of the heroic nation of Iran and an expression of Iranian foreign policy." It also described the Egyptian-Israeli treaty as a "blow to the body of the Iranian people in its first moments of victory."

ECONOMIC, MONETARY, INFORMATION LINKS SEVERED

Meanwhile, the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) voted, on 18 April 1979, to suspend Egypt's membership. The decision came at the Fund's annual meeting attended by Arab finance and economic and central bank governors. In Kuwait, the 10-nation Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPAPEC) also suspended Egypt on 17 April, and imposed an Arab oil embargo. The Federation of Arab Banks, on 25 April 1979, suspended Egypt's membership and decided to ban all financial, technical and administrative aid from the Federation to the Egyptian government, institutions and banks.

The Conference of Arab and European News Agencies at Vienna had to be postponed on 25 April 1979 following the withdrawal of the delegations of 16 Arab news agencies which demanded the expulsion of the Egyptian delegation in accordance with the Baghdad resolutions. Likewise the General Assembly of the Union of Arab Radio Stations froze the membership of Egypt on 18 April 1979 and decided to boycott all Egyptian media cooperating with the Zionist state.

PALESTINE SOLIDARITY WEEK IN ALGERIA

A solidarity week organized by Palestinian and Algerian Engineers started on 23 April 1979 in all Algerian cities, patronized by the Algerian National Liberation Front (FLN). The basic slogan of the week is "No to the Sadat treaty of surrender. Yes to steadfastness and confrontation". A series of seminars and lectures will explain the dangerous effects of the treaty on Palestinian and Arab struggle.



Sadat-puppet on the gallow in Baghdad demonstration

Algerian Foreign Minister Seddik Ben Yahia, at the end of a visit to Tunisia on 27 April 1979, declared that the U.S.-Israeli-Sadat accords were "the greatest political disaster the Arab world has witnessed in its contemporary history." He added that "it is imperative for us to unite all forces of the Arab nation so as to thwart this attempt to crush the struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their rights, and the efforts of the other Arab countries to regain their occupied territories."

EGYPT THREATENS PALESTINIAN RESIDENTS

The Egyptian authorities have threatened all Palestinian citizens residing in Egypt with severe punitive measures, including the confiscation of their property, if they express their rejection of the so-called peace treaty.

The Egyptian authorities called on all Palestinian merchants to publish in Egyptian papers a communique supporting the treaty, under threats of arrest and expulsion. The Egyptian authorities have apparently taken a census of all Palestinian citizens residing in Egypt in anticipation of these measures. Informed sources said that the Egyptian authorities also threatened to expel around 12,000 Palestinian students in Egyptian Universities if they ever express their rejection of the treaty.



Begin touring South Lebanon during Israeli aggression

ISRAELI TERROR AND EXPANSIONISM IN LEBANON

In the wake of the signing of the U.S.-Israeli-Sadat separate 'peace' pact, Israel has stepped up its massive aggression against South Lebanon. For days on end Israeli air, naval and ground forces attacked Lebanese villages, Palestinian refugee camps and United Nations positions all across southern Lebanon. Moreover, in the border strip controlled by rightist gangs armed and payed by Israel, where also a complete Israeli military and logistic infrastructure has been built up and Israeli troops are roaming freely, the Zionist masters pushed their agent Saad Haddad to declare the zone, at a press conference on 18 April 1979, in Israel, an 'independent Free Lebanon'.

AN OLD ZIONIST DESIGN

Some might wonder why Israel, despite its public assurances to respect the sovereignty of

Lebanon and cooperate with the UN's efforts to restore its sovereignty over the South, is in practice executing such criminal acts. The answer is found in the essence of Zionism and its designs on South Lebanon.

The early leaders of political Zionism laid claim to South Lebanon as early as the 1919 Paris Peace Conference where they proposed boundaries for a Jewish state to be created for European Zionist immigrants. The Zionist advisory committee on Palestine drafted a document showing proposed boundaries on 6 November 1919 which was based on what the committee said were "historical, economic and geographical grounds". The northern boundaries of the projected Jewish state were defined as being "in the North, the Litani River (Lebanon) to Banias, close to and north of the sources of the River Jordan" (H.P. Frishwasser, "The Frontiers of a Nation" p. 101).

Regarding Palestine, Zionist dreams were realized with the help of the British, who were given the Palestine Mandate in 1922, and by the creation of Zionist terrorist gangs like Menahem Begin's Irgun. A combination of terrorism and acts of genocide, under British auspices, enabled the Zionists to occupy most of Palestine by 1948 and drive away a greater part of the indigenous Arab population. With more backing from the U.S., the Zionists were able to occupy the whole of Palestine in 1967, by incorporating the West Bank and Gaza, together with the Golan and the Sinai.

As for South Lebanon, the Zionist state could not move in immediately, taking international developments, world public opinion and other considerations into account. But the dream of occupying that piece of territory remained. In 1970 Moshe Dayan pointed out that "the same devastation that exists on the canal front and the East Bank of the River Jordan will exist also on our northern border, and the enemy will get what is coming to him" "The Times", 11 May 1970).

THE MARCH '78 AGGRESSION

As soon as U.S. imperialism had succeeded in pulling and pushing Sadat out of the Arab national camp and neutralizing the Sinai front, the Zionist felt the time ripe to expand to the north.

Under Begin's slogan of "cutting the arms of the PLO" and creating a 'security belt', Israel launched an all out offensive against Lebanon on 15 March 1978. Israeli forces moved into South Lebanon and fought a pitched battle for seven days against the joint forces of the Palestinian revolution and Lebanese patriots. The Israeli military adventure was neither a victory nor was it tolerated by the world public. The UN, which had witnessed the incorporation of Arab land into the Zionist state under the same pretext being used in southern Lebanon, met in an emergency session and demanded the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces.

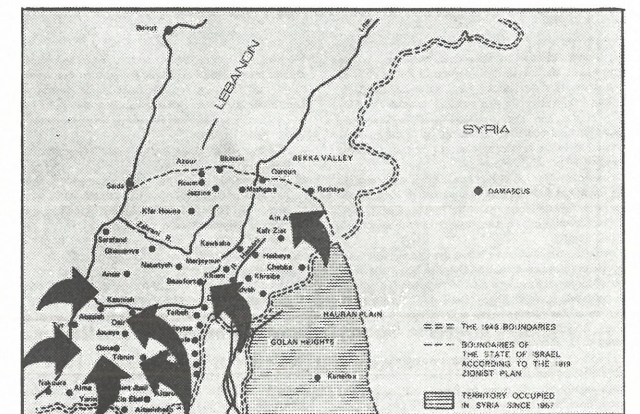
Thus the Zionist aggressors, who had originally moved in with no intention of withdrawing, had to change their direct form of occupation into a more discreet form.

THE 'NEO-ZIONIST' OPTION: EXPANSION THROUGH AGENTS

Instead of withdrawing from South Lebanon, as stipulated by UN resolution 425, Israeli forces handed over advanced positions to Lebanese Rightist forces which they had earlier trained and armed, while retaining control over rear positions.



The two 'peace' prize winners turning against the Palestinians



March '78 aggression: Israel has not stopped to strive for the 'Greater Israel' of the 1919 Zionist Plan

This second Zionist option for South Lebanon had been brewing since the outbreak of the Lebanese civil war. First, it had taken the form of the so-called "good fence" policy. At the time Israel, opening its fence along the Lebanese border under a humanitarian guise, funneled in arms and funds to recruit renegade soldiers of the Lebanese army stationed in South Lebanon.

The Zionist recruits of South Lebanon, under the 'leadership' of Haddad, a defected 'Lebanese' major, were declared by the imperialist media and Israel to be 'Christian' militias and were propped up along the Lebanese-Israeli border. The Israeli newspaper "Maariv" on 18 November 1977, expressing Israeli strategy, wrote: "The Christians of South Lebanon have asked to be annexed to Israel and to change the demarcation line on the frontiers of the two states in such a way as to include their villages in our frontiers... as revealed yesterday by the Chief of Staff, General Rafael Eytan, during a conference on military history at the university of Tel Aviv."

It was only natural for the stooges of Israel to obstruct the functioning of UN forces in South Lebanon by taking over advanced Israeli positions when Israel announced its "withdrawal" in June 1978. But the UN had demanded not just

ISRAELI TERROR AND EXPANSIONISM IN LEBANON



'Military' targets in South Lebanon bombed by Israeli planes

the withdrawal of Israeli forces from South Lebanon, but also the restoration of legitimate Lebanese authority and sovereignty over the region.

After the moves toward blunt occupation and annexation met so much international resistance, Israel has turned to its other neo-Zionist option:

Israeli Defence Minister Weizman stated that Israel does not need to occupy South Lebanon directly since "there is no question that he (Haddad) is a partner to our goals" ("Associated Press", 20 April 1979). Within this framework Israel moved its pawns in South Lebanon into shelling Lebanese government troops which were being deployed in the South in coordination with UNIFIL, and declaring the secession of the southern Lebanese border strip.

DIRECT ISRAELI BOMBARDMENT OF UN TROOPS

Amidst the smokescreen of American assurances and Israeli promises that the Lebanese Army battalion deployed in UNIFIL's area of operations would not be attacked, UN and Lebanese Army positions came under heavy bombardment on April 20 from what the imperialist media called "Christian militia positions." The next day American experts working with the UN presented irrefutable proof that Israeli troops were involved in the bombardment.



The victims: dead children at Sidon hospital/South Lebanon

In a statement to the Beirut daily "Ike" on April 23, UN officials said "The Israelis used weapons supplied by the US." Moreover, the American shells "had been fired from Israel, despite assurances at the highest level that Israeli troops would not fire on the Lebanese." The two American army officers examining shell craters at the village of Dardghaya pointed out that the bearings "went back 17 kilometers at 119 degrees to a known Israeli artillery position just south of the Ramin reservoir." The experts pointed out that even though Haddad's militias have been supplied "with Sherman tanks and 122mm field guns and 120mm mortars by the Israelis, they could not have organized the bombardment. They don't have the capability to lay the sights, elevation, or interval declination."

The UN sources went on: "A total of 311 shells fell within the operational area of the Irish battalion, 111 landed on or within 20 meters of positions manned by UN troops. The remaining 200 all landed on villages... The Dutch battalion was hit by 48 shells."

ANNEXATION IN DISGUISE

Regarding the so-called 'Free Lebanon' of Haddad, UN officials have pointed out that "whenever UN officials hold talks with Haddad, there is always an Israeli army officer, Col. Yoram, standing next to him. Haddad constantly confers with him and the UN believes he defers to his judgement." ("Ike," April 25)

The UN also pointed out that, in addition to seeing Israeli officers in the enclave, UN officials frequently see regular Israeli troops there. Last but not least, the UN officials said, "Israelis have been seen giving orders to the militias."

Under the guise of "Free Lebanon" and its puppet leader, Major Haddad, the Zionists have taken over the southern strip of Lebanon and are openly obstructing the functions of UNIFIL by resorting to direct aggression. This is because UNIFIL's functions contradict the neo-Zionist dream of discreet expansion and occupation.

"ISRAEL USES U.S. FRAGMENTATION SHELLS"

UN officials, based on a report by American experts, have pointed out that Israel in its renewed aggression against Lebanon is using U.S. supplied weapons which it had allegedly promised would only be used for self defence. Among these were "firecrackers" — shells similar to the "cluster bombs" Israel used in its invasion of the South last year, again in violation of its arms agreement with the U.S.

This lethal artillery shell is fired by 175 and 155mm heavy artillery and explodes in mid-air to shower the area below with thousands of shell fragments. The shell, also known as a "fragmentation shell", is an anti-personnel weapon sup-

plied to Israel recently by the US. Its heavy Israeli usage accompanied the deployment of the Lebanese battalion attached to UNIFIL, and direct Israeli bombardment of U.N. positions. The shells are being used in violation of the Geneva conventions and the principles of international law, since the U.N. itself has become a victim of direct Zionist aggression.

Civilian targets, particularly the civilian refugee camp of Rshidyeh and Burj- al-Shemali, as well as Ras al-Ain, south of Tyre, Nabatiyeh, Kafar Tibnit, and other localities inside the UNIFIL area of deployment, have become victims of this weapon. Defenseless civilians

CHAIRMAN ARAFAT ADDRESSES LETTERS TO BREZHNEV AND WALDHEIM

As Palestinians confronted the savage Zionist air, naval and land attacks against Lebanon, Chairman Arafat addressed a message to the Secretary General of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Leonid Brezhnev:

"As the date for the exchange of the 'peace' treaty documents drew nearer, the Israeli enemy escalated his attacks into overall air, sea and land aggression directed against the defenceless Palestinian and Lebanese civilians. The apex of these aggressions coincided with the very day the documents were exchanged in Sinai. The US spokesman, as usual, failed to comment on these barbaric attacks against Lebanese and Palestinian civilians.

"Facts prove our joint conclusions that the peace treaty will not lead to peace, as they claimed, but will rather increase tension in the area and lead to war. The imperialist plot is clear and aims at splitting the anti-imperialist, anti-Zionist, anti-racist and anti-fascist front in the Arab countries, as well encircling and liquidating the Palestinian Revolution and people. It also

aims at consolidating the Zionist entity, strengthening U.S. imperialist influences in the area, and isolating our Arab Nation from its friends and all the forces and peoples striving for freedom, progress and peace.

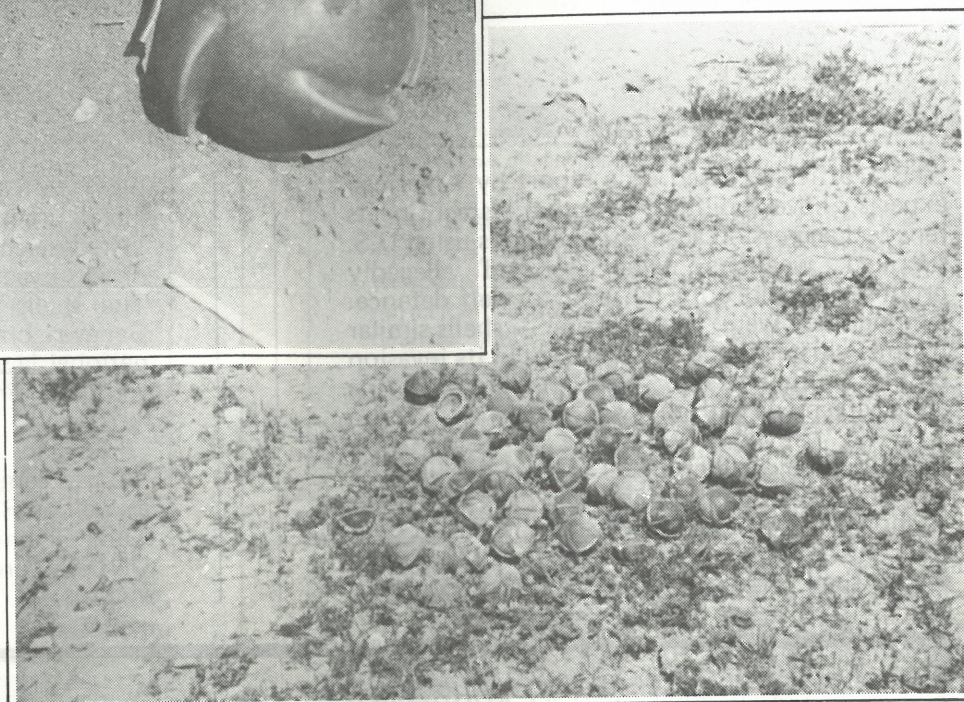
"The incessant war proves that there will be no peace in this region without the realization of the Palestinian people's aspirations and their inalienable rights of return, self-determination, and establishing an independent state in their homeland.

"The steadfastness of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples in the face of this barbaric aggression which enters its sixth day, will foil all the colonialist plots, expose the treason of capitulationists and reveal the barbarism of the racist Zionists. The strong unity between the forces of the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese National Movement, and the sincere support of all friendly peoples and the Socialist Countries, led by the USSR and Leonid Brezhnev, the friend of the Palestinian people, will inevitably defeat this attack and achieve victory."

Chairman Arafat also sent an urgent message to UN Secretary General Dr. Kurt Waldheim and to the UN Secretary Council.



"ISRAEL USES U.S.
FRAGMENTATION SHELLS"



U.S.-made fragmentation bombs used by Israel in South Lebanon

mainly the elderly who were out sunbathing and the children in playgrounds have been the victims of the "firecrackers."

"LONG-RANGE AIMS; DANGERS FOR WORLD PEACE"

The current armed provocations carried out by Israel initiate the application of a new plot against Lebanon, the official organ of the Soviet Communist Party "Pravda", wrote on 25 April 1979. As an instrument for it, an Israeli puppet, Haddad, is used, just after his proclamation of an 'independent Lebanon', observed the paper. "It is completely clear", said "Pravda", "that by pushing forward its pawn, Israel is pursuing long-range aims. Last year, Tel Aviv already intended to overrun South Lebanon, but had to withdraw its troops under the pressure of world public opinion and the UN Security Council, for this attempt against a foreign territory was too shameless and clear. Now it prepares for the same operation, but under a 'Lebanese' screen. Last year, the Israeli troops reached up to the Litani river, now it is Beirut which is envisaged.

"The independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon are threatened. Obviously a plan is underway to dismember this Arab state, to sabotage the Palestinian Resistance, and to aggravate the situation in the entire Middle East.

"One cannot close his eyes to the fact that the machinations of the Israeli militarists come as the direct result of US connivance with the aggressor. We witness a kind of second stage of the 'peace a la Camp David'. The separate arrangement with Cairo, realized under the patronage of the USA, gives Tel-Aviv a free hand to continue its policy of aggression and expansion. Imperialism and Zionism now seek to hit the Palestinian Resistance and the interests of the Arab people.

"By arming Tel-Aviv and supporting its policy, the U.S. in practice becomes the accomplice of the latter's acts. The alarming situation emerging in Lebanon and around it demonstrates the dangers such a policy brings about for peace and detente in the Middle East and in the world."

OCCUPATION DIARY

ZIONISTS MURDER PALESTINIAN IN NEGEV

A 22-year old Palestinian inhabitant of the Negev region, Ibrahim Azani, was killed on April 21 when a guard from the Rishlen settlement in the Negev shot at him. The Israeli police covered up the circumstance of the murder, which represents yet another incident in a series of Zionist attacks against the Arabs of the region. Such crimes are perpetrated by the Zionist authorities with the intention of forcing the inhabitants to flee their homes and land in preparation for the Judaization of the area. This latest crime has provoked a wave of anger among the Negev's inhabitants, who see this action as a continuation of their harassment by the Israeli authorities through expulsions, land expropriations and physical attacks.

ISRAELI AUTHORITIES PROHIBIT SHAKAA FROM TRAVELLING

On April 23, the Israeli Military Governor of Nablus informed the Mayor of Nablus, Bassam al Shaka'a, of the occupation authorities' renewed refusal to grant him permission to leave for Switzerland to attend the Peace Conference in Solidarity with the Palestinian people, to be held by the World Peace Council in the City of Basle. The authorities also informed him of their refusal to allow him to leave for Jordan to undertake activities related to the business of the municipality.

ISLAMIC COUNCIL CALLS FOR HALT TO ISRAEL VIOLATIONS

In Jedda, the Islamic Conference



Israeli occupation patrol in Jerusalem

Organization issued a communique on April 20 in which it called on all the Islamic states to take serious steps towards stopping the Israeli desecrations of Jerusalem. The communique also stated that the Conference strongly condemns the break-in carried out by the Israeli army and settlers into the Islamic Committee headquarters in Jerusalem and the destruction of several Qurans, historic files and documents found in the library of the Awqaf Department. The communique described these acts as barbaric crimes.

JERUSALEM WEEK

On April 23, the Islamic Supreme Council of Jerusalem started a campaign, named "Jerusalem Week" to counteract the Israeli settlement policy and Judaization of the Holy City. The Jerusalem Week included political and cultural activities, an exhibition of religious and historical books affirming Jerusalem's inalienable Arab character and describing its historical and religious monuments, and lectures on the importance of Jerusalem to the Arab and the Islamic World.

OCCUPATION

DIARY

DEMONSTRATION AT HEBREW UNIVERSITY

On April 23, Palestinian students at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem demonstrated to protest the expulsion of six students from the University and the recent Israeli attacks on South Lebanon. Several progressive Jewish students joined them and shouted slogans against the Israeli authorities. In a related development, the University administration decided to form a committee to investigate recent demonstrations, and to take repressive measures against those who take part in such forms of protest.



West Bank mayors (from left to right: Karim Khalaf, Ramallah, Fahed Kawasmeh, Hebron, Bassam Shaka'a, Nablus), at patriotic rally

MORE POLITICAL PRISONERS

The Zionist occupation authorities are escalating their mass arrests:

On April 20, Khaled Soweylem (16), Abdel Soubhi Abu Hantash (16), Bassam Danmati (16), Khaled Habash (16) and Ibrahim Mezaj (15) were sentenced to nine years imprisonment by the Israeli military court in Nablus. They were charged with 22 offenses.

On April 24, the Israeli Military Court in Ramallah sentenced five Palestinians to life imprisonment, on the charge of assassinating four Zionist collaborators in the West Bank. Those sentenced are: Abdel Rahman Al-Nisr (25), Abdel Hamid Hamad (21), Mahmoud Hamad (23), Akram Abdel Fattah (24) and Mustafa Ayyad (22).

On April 25, An Israeli Military Court in Haifa sentenced Shaykh Nadim Dua'aqui, from Shafa Amr, to two months imprisonment and a suspended five-month jail term. Another Druze, Mufid Kuwiton, was sentenced to a similar prison term for refusing compulsory military service.

The Druze committee held a press conference on Sunday 22 April in Haifa to protest the arrest and torture of Shaykh Nadim Dua'aqui. Poet Samih al Qassem, a member of the committee, said at the press conference that the majority of Druze refuse to serve in the Israeli army for ideological and religious reasons. He summarized Israel's policy towards the Druze as being based on land confiscation and interference in the internal religious and political affairs of the Druze community. A previous communique issued by the Druze initiative committee denounced the Israeli authorities' ill treatment of the Druze community, and called on world opinion to support the community's basic rights.

PALESTINIAN YOUTH SHOT IN THE CHEST

Zionist provocateurs marched through the occupied West Bank on 5 May 1979, to celebrate the memory of the usurpation of Palestine 31 years ago, as Begin said that the Jews have the right to settle everywhere in occupied Palestine.

The Zionist Gush Emunim march sparked protests by West Bank Palestinians. A Palestinian

youth suffered a gunshot wound in a demonstration in Bir Zeit, and West Bank mayors also marched peacefully through the city of Nablus to demand an end to Jewish settlement in the West Bank.

A Zionist Gush Emunim demonstration, centered in the new settlement of Tapuah 25 miles north of Jerusalem, was called "march for Eretz Israel," and it drew at least 10,000 Israelis who came in scores of buses and hundreds of private cars.

The Israelis, some from other West Bank settlements, sang Hebrew songs, chanted chauvinist slogans and carried banners as they walked a dusty eight-mile course near Tapuah, most of it on a half-completed road connecting settlements in the Palestinian West Bank.

The march was organized by Gush Emunim, an extremist organization whose name means "bloc of the faithful."

SHOOTING

Trouble erupted in the town of Bir Zeit, 15 miles north of Jerusalem, when about 100 Palestinian youths barricaded the road and threw stones at Israeli cars.

Naib Nahleh, 18, was hit in the chest by a bullet, and Israeli military sources said Israeli soldiers apparently were not in the area at the time, indicating that an armed Israeli civilian may have fired to

break up the demonstration. Nahleh was reported in good condition after surgery.

Israeli military authorities imposed a curfew on a section of Bir Zeit.

West Bank mayors were forbidden to meet in the Palestinian village of Salfeet, near Tapuah, and they moved to Nablus, 10 miles further north, to draft a statement condemning the Israeli settlement activity.

There, led by Nablus Mayor Bassam Shaka'a, officials from 10 West Bank towns resolved to call a general strike on May 15 against the settlements, against the autonomy plan and against the Israel-Egypt peace treaty, which they regard as a sellout of the Palestinian national cause.

Fahed Kawasmeh, mayor of Hebron, denounced Egyptian President Anwar Sadat for saying the day before that the West Bank and Gaza do not belong to the Palestine Liberation Organization.

"PLO FOREVER"

The 100 people in the City Hall rose to their feet as Kawasmeh said, "We are of one mind that the PLO is our representative — in the past, now, in the future and forever."

With that, Palestinian leaders, marching five abreast, left the hall and walked a mile to the Israeli military government headquarters. An Israeli officer agreed to receive the mayors' written protest against the Gush Emunim march, and the demonstration ended peacefully.

Among the marchers was Mahmoud Afani of Salfeet, who said that Israeli military authorities two weeks ago had, without warning, requisitioned 20 acres of his cropland for Ariel, a new settlement near Tapuah. "Soon they will want all the land around Ariel," Afani said. "You can use my name. I am not afraid of the military government, and I want to keep my land."

MILITARY OPERATIONS



Zionist Israel will never find security

EXPLOSION IN JERUSALEM KILLS THREE ISRAELIS

Among the increasing number of military operations, which prove our people's and fighters' unbending determination to resist, are the following:

In the evening of April 21, despite tight Israeli security measures in the city of Jerusalem, a commando unit placed a timed explosive charge in a parking lot for military and civilian vehicles near the Jaffa Gate.

At 8:30 p.m. an Israeli discovered the charge and notified a police patrol, which immediately arrived on the scene with an explosives expert. But the charge went off while an attempt was being made to transport it to a nearby square, killing the explosives expert and two members of the police patrol.

PALESTINIAN COMMANDOS ATTACK NAHARIYA

Commandos of the Palestine Liberation Front belonging to the "Martyr Nayef Dudin" unit carried out an operation on April 22 in the settlement of Nahariya in occupied Palestine.

The unit managed to infiltrate into the settlement at dawn on April 22, and clashed with Israeli

police and security forces, killing or injuring a large number of them.

After a fierce battle involving machine guns and B-7 rockets, the commandos captured three Israelis.

A large number of enemy army units were immediately called to the scene while two members of the commando unit dragged their hostages to the boat and the two others fought on with the Israelis.

Two Palestinians commandos and four Israelis were killed, and four other Israelis were injured as a result of the fighting. Vague and confused communiquees were issued by the Israelis regarding the operation.

PALESTINIAN COMMANDOS BLOW UP TRAIN NEAR JERUSALEM

Acting on orders of the General Command of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, the "Said Hamami" unit infiltrated into Beit Safafa village near Jerusalem on April 26 and placed timed explosive charges on the Jerusalem Tel-Aviv railway tracks.

At 6:00 p.m., as a military train transporting troops from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem was passing, the charges went off under the first wagon, destroying a large section of

MILITARY OPERATIONS

track, derailing the train, and killing or injuring all those aboard.

All rail traffic was immediately stopped, and the Israeli authorities sealed off the region to conceal their human and material losses. Israeli troops immediately combed the area, and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on charges of involvement in the operation.

Our commandos, however, returned safely to base.

INCENDIARY CHARGES INSIDE ENEMY TRAINING CAMP

Acting on orders from the General Command of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, a commando unit operating inside occupied Palestine on April 27 planted a number of timed incendiary charges inside an Israeli army training camp between the regions of Ahuza and Damia in the Mount Carmel forests in the Haifa region. At 11.45 a.m., the charges exploded, starting a huge fire which destroyed the camp and spread to other military positions and installations in the region.

All settlers in the area were meanwhile ordered to evacuate homes which were close to the fire.

COMMANDO OPERATION IN RAMAT TEV

Acting on orders from the General Command of the Palestinian Revolution, the martyr Abdallah Kashur commando unit placed timed explosive and incendiary charges on April 27 in a factory which produces Israeli army uniforms in the Ramat Tev industrial area of Petah Tikva, in the Tel Aviv suburbs.

The charges exploded at 5:00 p.m., starting a fire in the factory and in nearby stores, inflicting

serious material damage and other losses. These included the killing and wounding of a number of Israelis who were in the factory at the time, the destruction of several of the factory's machines, fire damage to the factory's contents, in addition to a nearby store of raw materials, impairment of the factory's electricity network, as well as the cutting off of electricity in the vicinity.

OPERATION AGAINST MILITARY TRANSPORT

A special commando unit on April 28 placed a timed explosive charge in a military transport station in the settlement of Kfar Saba, northeast of Tel Aviv. At 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 29, the charge exploded, and the blast was heard throughout the settlement. A number of enemy soldiers and other persons in the station were killed or wounded by the explosion and the station was badly damaged. Immediately after the blast, Israeli police and civil defence patrols rushed to the area, encircled it and began an extensive search of neighbouring buildings, including the nearby central bus station, on the lookout for other unexploded charges.

OPERATION IN ASQALAN

Acting on orders from the General Command of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, the Martyr "Abdul Rahman Hassan Abdul Rahman" commando unit infiltrated into the city of Asqalan at noon on April 28, despite the intensive security measures adopted by the Israeli authorities.

The commando unit at 2:00 p.m. placed incendiary charges under the pumps and the main pipeline of the Israel Oil Company. The charges went off on schedule, seriously damaging the pumps and pipelines and starting a fire after the petroleum leaked due to the blast. The fire went on for over five hours despite attempts to put it out by the Israeli fire brigade. The damage caused by the operation has been estimated at millions of Israeli pounds. The commando unit returned

safely to base.

COMMANDO OPERATION IN DIMONA

On May 1 commandos from special unit "G" operating in the occupied territories reached Dimona, in the Negev, despite intensive Israeli security measures in the area on the occasion of the 31st anniversary of the establishment of Israel. The unit planted booby-trapped timed explosive charges inside the main square of the city. The charges were discovered at 9:00 p.m., a short time before they were due to explode.

An explosives expert, who could not dismantle the charges, exploded them inside the square, causing serious damage. Our commandos returned safely to base.

OPERATION IN TEL AVIV

Special unit "B" operating in occupied Palestine planted timed explosive charges under an Israeli police vehicle in the al-Sharon area of Tel Aviv.

The charges were discovered at 8:05 a.m. on May 1, and several explosives experts were called in after the area was encircled and all roads leading to it were blocked. The experts could not dismantle the charges, and were forced to explode them on the spot, shattering windows in the neighboring buildings.

LAND MINE ON KIBBUTZ YAD HANNA ROAD

At dawn on May 1, the "Martyr Harb Jamjoum" unit, operating inside the occupied territories, planted a land mine on the road which leads to Kibbutz Yad Hanna, north of Tel Aviv. The mine exploded under a military truck at 6:15 a.m., completely destroying the truck and injuring six soldiers therein. Israeli army and security forces immediately rushed to the area and began searching for the commandos, while engineering units combed the road searching for other mines. The commandos nevertheless returned safely to base.

'AUTONOMY' & 'SELF-RULE': OLD WINE IN A NEW BOTTLE

Palestinian "autonomy" (or "self-rule") was an ingredient of last fall's Camp David agreements, and more recently was written into the "peace" treaty signed by the Sadat regime and Israel under the watchful eye of the United States. This talk of "autonomy," however, is nothing but a fig leaf to cover Sadat's surrender to Zionism and American imperialism. Far from providing a just solution to the Palestinian issue and guaranteeing the implementation of inalienable Palestinian rights, Palestinian "autonomy" is nothing but an attempt to further Zionist occupation and colonization of Palestinian land.

The Israelis have spoken at length about how they envision Palestinian "self-rule." They have made it clear that "self-rule" will amount to nothing more than a legitimization of the status quo in the occupied territories. The salient points of Palestinian "autonomy" as conceived of by the Israeli government are as follows:

SALIENT POINTS

First, the Israeli military occupation will continue. The Zionists will continue to use their army to crush any Palestinians who attempt to assert their rights. General Sharon, the Israeli Minister of Agriculture, has said: "We intend to increase the numbers of the Israeli army in the occupied territories. Furthermore, we shall not give up, within the framework of autonomy, the right of the Shin Beth (the Israeli secret police) to be responsible for the fight against terrorism." Prime Minister Begin has said that Israel will retain the right "to block roads on the West Bank and in Gaza as it needs and as it sees fit. The Israeli forces will fight terrorism anywhere and by any methods."

Second, Zionist colonization will continue. Already existing settlements have been expanded, and preparations are being made for the construction of a new town between Jerusalem and Jericho. New land has recently been seized in several West Bank districts. Under "self-rule," Zionist colonies will continue to be directly governed by Israel via municipality councils.

Third, state land, amounting to one-fifth of



the total area of the West Bank, will remain under direct Israeli control and the "self-rule" authorities will have no jurisdiction over it.

Fourth, Arab Jerusalem will remain annexed to the Zionist state, and Israel will continue to claim sovereignty over the occupied territories.

Fifth, water resources will remain under direct Israeli control. Israel presently uses her control of water resources as a weapon to further Zionist colonization in such places as the Jordan Valley, where Arab farmers have been

'AUTONOMY' & 'SELF-RULE':

OLD WINE IN A NEW BOTTLE

ruined by the diversion of their water to new Israeli farms. In the West Bank, where agriculture is the mainstay of the economy, whoever controls the water resources can shape the economic and demographic future of the area.

In light of the above, it is obvious that any Palestinian council set up for the alleged purpose of "self-rule" will merely be a facade behind which the Israeli occupation will go on as before. Hebron Mayor Fahd Kawasmeh spoke to the heart of the matter when he explained why he and other Palestinians have refused to accept the Sadat-Begin-Carter "autonomy" plan. "It would," he said, "amount to giving our support for legal Israeli occupation of our land. I say it's better to stay occupied without our permission."

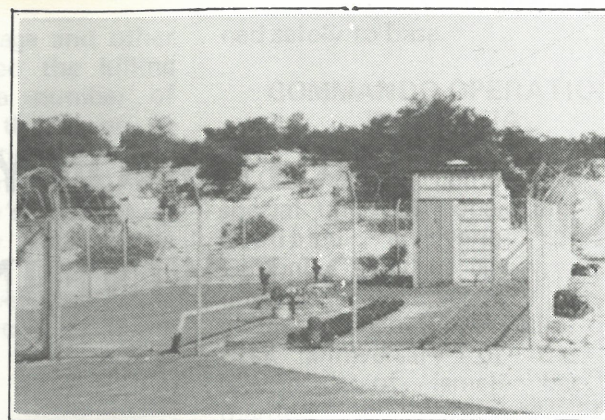
THE SCRIPT OF JABOTINSKI

Begin has explained this farcial scheme by saying that under it "the people, not the land" will be given autonomy. This formulation is entirely in keeping with the ideology of Zionism, as is the plan itself. Begin's "self-rule" concept can precisely be traced back to his spiritual father Jabotinski, one of the most reactionary pre-fascist Zionist ideologists. Since its



BEGIN: NO MORE WITHDRAWALS, EVEN FOR OVERALL PEACE

On the occasion of the 31st anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine, Begin said in an hour-long interview that he will undertake no more major withdrawals from the occupied Arab territories in return for an overall Middle East peace.



Israel pumps water from occupied Gaza

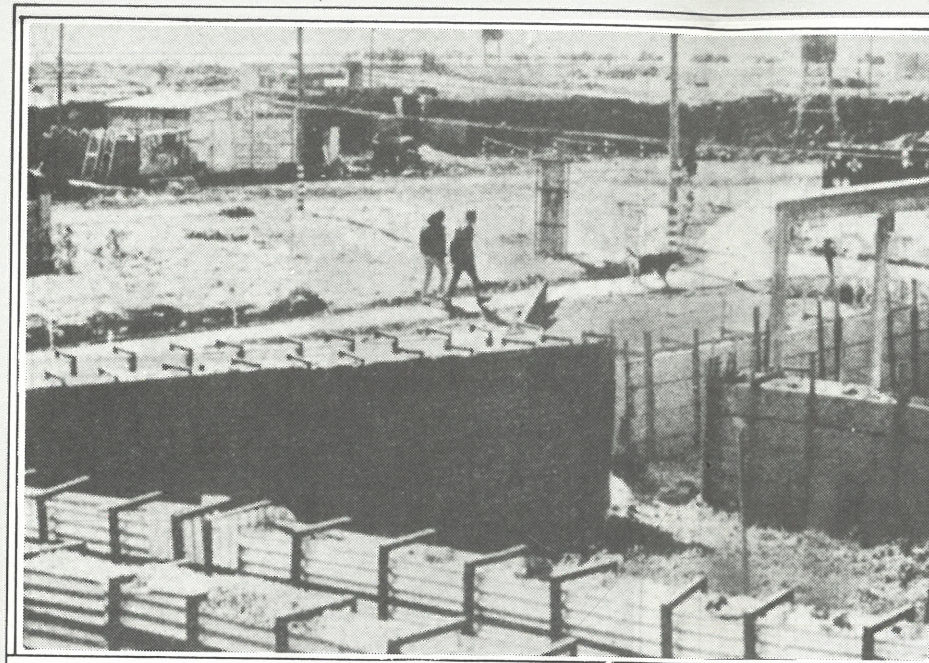
early days the Zionist movement has sought to annex the land of Palestine and deny it to its own people. According to Zionism, only Jews have a right to the land of Palestine; non-Jews can exist there only on sufferance. Thus, by Zionism's twisted logic, Jews from America, Brazil, the Soviet Union, Morocco, etc. belong in Palestine by the mere fact of their being Jews, while the native Palestinians are at best "guests" who really "belong" somewhere else. The plan for Palestinian "self-rule" or "autonomy" is designed to carry forward the work begun in the last years of the 19th century and continued ever since, i.e., the dispossession of the Palestinian people of their land and the suppression of their national identity.

The Palestinians absolutely refuse to accept this. Under the leadership of their legitimate representative, the PLO, they will continue their struggle against the "self-rule" plan and all other Zionist schemes designed to turn them into foreigners in their own homeland.

To an interviewer who asked him if, in return for peace with Syria, Israel would hand back the Syrian Golan Heights, Begin said. "There is no such a thing as sacrificing security in return for peace...Without the Golan Heights there is no security. We shall therefore make peace while we are on the Golan Heights."

WEST BANK: "GOD-GIVEN TO ISRAEL"!

Similarly, Begin reiterated that he would never agree to yield Israeli control over the West Bank — a region he regards as a "God-given" part of the Zionist entity. Begin alleged that he will give the West Bank and Gaza residents a "self-rule" council, providing "it will have no legislative powers, while affording Israel security and maintaining the right of the Jews to settle everywhere in the West Bank."



Sharon: "We intend to increase..."
Zionist settlement

SHAMELESS EXPANSION OF SETTLEMENTS

On April 18, the Israeli military governor of Tulkarm stated to the Mayor of Salfit and the Mukhtars of the villages of Iskaka, Marda and Farkha, that his government will confiscate 3500 dunums of their lands to expand the Eriel Settlement. The Israeli authorities have also decided to confiscate 900 dunums from the Assira village's lands north of Nablus to build two new settlements there.

The decision was taken by the Israeli Cabinet on April 22. After the meeting, Yigal Yadin, Israeli Deputy Prime Minister, said that the Committee for Security Affairs had decided to announce the forthcoming establishment of new settlements without the secret procedures usually followed.

The Israeli authorities have recently decided to confiscate 442 dunums of land in the Kawkab Abu Al-Haijaa village in Galilee to establish four new Israeli settlements.

The Zionist authorities had already confiscated 50% of the land of Kawkab Abu Al-Haijaa in 1959.

CONFISCATION OF ARAB LANDS

In another development, a number of villagers of Yarka received written notices from the Zionist authorities saying that 150 dunums of their land will be confiscated. Meanwhile, in the villages of Al-Makr and Al-Jadida, landowners were taken to court by Finance Minister Simha Ehrlich, and were prohibited from using their land which was confiscated by the Ministry of Finance in 1976. The Palestinian villagers refused to leave their land and continued farming it.

PROVOCATION IN HEBRON

On April 30, an armed group of Zionist settlers from Qiryat Arba' took over by force for the third time the Al-Dibwiya building in the city of Hebron, and the Israeli occupation authorities made no effort to stop them. On the contrary, Ariel Sharon, Agriculture Minister and President of the Ministerial Committee for Settlements, asked those settlers occupying the building to remain there, and promised to transmit their demands to the Government. The military authorities in Hebron allowed food to reach the settlers, and connected electricity lines to the building.

ZIONISM IN PRACTICE

ELECTION OF 'LOCAL COUNCILS' IN WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS: A DANGEROUS NEW PHASE

On April 19, the first local Israeli settlement council was established at Alon Moreh settlement, established on land belonging to Kafr Qadoun village near Nablus.

The formation of this new council, which includes representatives of seven settlements of the Gush Emunim settlement movement, was announced during a celebration which was attended by Yusef Burg, Israeli Interior Minister and the Israeli Military Governor-General of the West Bank.

YEDIOT AHARONOT: "JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM ISRAEL CONTINUES"

A report which appeared in "Yediot Aharonot" on April 20 said that the Jewish Agency has failed in its efforts to halt the emigration of Jews from Israel, or to convince Soviet Jews to immigrate to Israel instead of choosing to stay in various European countries and in U.S.A. The report said that the refusal of many Soviet Jews to go to Israel as well as the decline of immigration from other parts of the world constitute major obstacles in overcoming the problem caused by the increase in emigration.

"Yediot Aharonot" also mentioned that the propaganda campaign conducted by Yusef Shapira to urge Jewish youth throughout the world to immigrate to Israel has failed, and that the Jewish Agency is now planning to organize special programs to urge all Jewish youths living in the U.S.A. and Europe to immigrate to Israel.

ZIONISM IN PRACTICE

ISRAEL TO MURDER PALESTINIAN PRISONERS OF WAR

On April 30, the Israeli Cabinet adopted a proposal to apply the death sentence to our Palestinian militants who are captured alive, thus cancelling previous resolutions taken by the last Labour government in 1967, 1974 and 1976 against implementing the death penalty against our militants.

Seven ministers voted for the proposal, which was submitted to the Cabinet by Crime Minister Begin the "hero" of the Deir Yassin massacre. Five ministers voted against it, out of fear that "we cannot face world public opinion after the execution of death sentences."

The Zionist state has applied the death penalty so far only once, against Nazi criminal Adolf Eichmann. Anyhow, emergency regulations inherited from the British mandate and introduced to deal with Zionist terrorism do offer the option of a death sentence.

At the same time as Mr. Begin was stiffening his laws against our Palestinian militants, his Chief of Staff, General Rafael Eitan, had reduced the sentence on an Israeli who killed an innocent Palestinian. The man, Israel Lederman, shot a Jerusalem Arab who happened to be passing in the street, and later said that he killed him in revenge for the death of a soldier friend of his in a Palestinian military operation.

"A NEW FORM OF ZIONIST FASCISM"

On May 2, Abd al-Muhsin Abu Maizar, P.L.O. official spokesman, issued the following statement regarding the Israeli authorities' decision:

"The Israeli occupation authorities' decision to implement the death sentence against our militants is but a legal declaration of crimes long practiced by the Israeli authorities, who often



murdered Palestinian militants during interrogation and who are now carrying out mass murder of innocent Palestinian and Lebanese civilians. We consider this Israeli declaration a new form of Israeli fascism, and it is no coincidence that this decision has come after the Israeli-Egyptian-U.S.A. agreement. It is only one of the numerous negative repercussions of this treaty against the Palestinian Arab people.

"It also confirms the Israeli refusal to recognize the Palestinian people and Palestinian national rights, and therefore a refusal to recognize our militants' rights, the first of which is to be treated as prisoners of war when captured.

"This Israeli declaration adds a new resolution to the file of official terrorist resolutions adopted by the enemy, a new proof of the Israeli insistence on ignoring international laws, norms and the Human Rights Charter."

The Palestinian military resistance is a legitimate one, legalized also by all international conventions and explicit U.N. resolutions. The Israeli decision is but a desperate move that reveals not only the real fascist face of Zionism but also the fact, that the Zionist state no longer knows how to suppress the growing resistance against occupation of our people.

The murder of Palestinian prisoners of war to be "legalized" now in Israel is one further example of what our people suffer. The dead and wounded children in South Lebanon are other examples. Facing death in exile or death in their homeland, do our people have a choice?

EGYPT:

BANKRUPTCY OF 'OPEN DOORS' POLICY

A new era in Egyptian political history commenced with the revolution of 23 July 1952, conducted by Jamal Abdel Nasser and the Free Officers group. We shall mention here the broad outlines of the socio-economic achievements of Nasser's regime in the period 1952-1970.

Nasser played an important role in the non-Aligned bloc and was strongly opposed to the Baghdad Pact inspired by Britain and the U.S.. He concluded an arms agreement with Czechoslovakia and then nationalized the Suez Canal Company in response to the refusal of the Western countries to finance the High Dam at Aswan. The tripartite aggression which France, Britain and Israel waged against Egypt and the Gaza Strip in 1956 failed and Egypt emerged victorious. Nasser adopted the National Charter, stressing the need to eliminate all imperialist and feudal influences from Egypt and to establish state control of finance and industry. Land reform laws were implemented in 1961, aimed partly at tackling rural poverty through land redistribution, the limitation of land ownership to 50 feddans (acres) per person, the setting up of the public sector as the backbone of state financial and economic activity. Even after the defeat of the June War of 1967, Egypt was headed towards an advanced social transformation through transferring to the state the means of production of the economy's modern sector.

THE COUP OF 13 MAY 1971 AND THE "OPEN DOOR" POLICY

On 13 May 1971, Sadat put an end to the conflict between him and the other leaders of political, constitutional and executive institutions by putting them in jail, claiming that he had eliminated the "power centers". It was an important turning point for Sadat's regime, and heralded a ruling coalition consisting of the "new class" of technocrats and high ranking officers which was formed in the previous two decades. It included the parasitical capitalists and the leaders of the public sector and state institutions who allied themselves with the new regime to protect their private interests. The well-informed U.S. journalist Jim Hoagland, in a



report in the "International Herald Tribune" (from "Washington Post") of 25 February 1977, said that Sadat was favoured and even indirectly paid by the CIA.

The basic target of this regime in its internal and external policy is to shift the Egyptian socio-economic situation by launching an attack against all progressive achievements that had been carried out by Nasser, especially those achievements dating from the social laws of July 1961. This policy was presented, as usual, under deceptive slogans such as "for socialism of wealth, not socialism of poverty" and "for an open door, not a closed door".

DISMANTLING OF NATIONAL ECONOMY; INFLATION

Practically, the open-door policy led to a halt in development and created the domination of the parasitical caste. In addition, the door has been opened to foreign capital and investments in every sector, which can bring them profits, and with political, economic, financial and fiscal guarantees and privileges. On the other hand, the public sector was deprived of centralized coordi-

EGYPT BANKRUPTCY OF OPEN DOORS' POLICY

nation and sufficient investment, which makes it unable to compete with foreign investors. Thus, the public sector fell victim to a sellout to the multinational monopolies. "The case of the large fertilizer factory KIMA of Aswan, currently working at 25 per cent of capacity, is far from being an exception. The Aswan Dam itself has only three of its twelve turbines working". (See *MERIP Reports*, No. 72, November 1978).

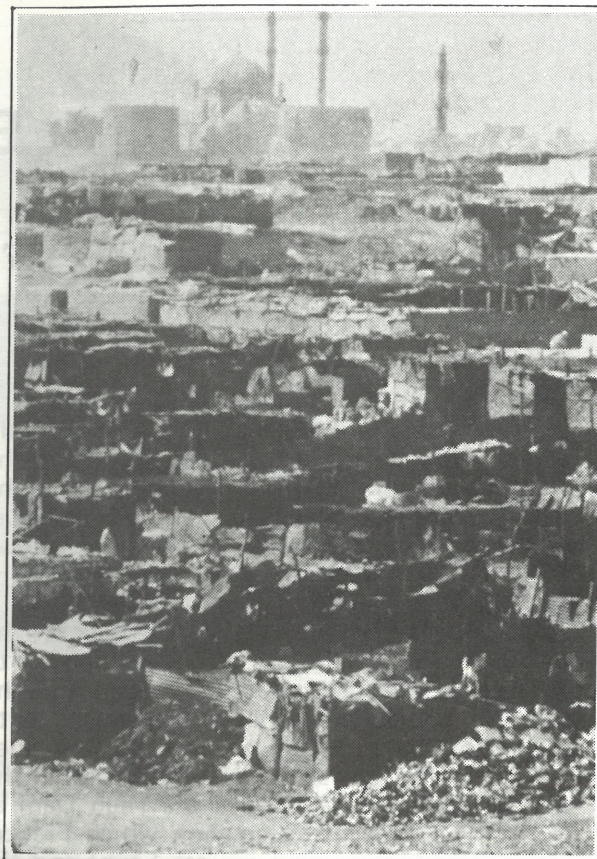
Due to the "open door" policy, free zones and a lack of national planning, many socio-economic diseases and crises have emerged, and then crystalized in the years following the 1973 war. They include:

1 — Dismantling Egyptian industry for the benefit of imported foreign commodities. This calamity affects both the private and public sectors. Mamdouh Salem, a former Egyptian prime minister, said in the government report for the People's Council in December 1976 that the production of the public sector has almost halted. At the same time, the report of a workers' union confirmed that there are nearly 300 factories employing 10,000 families about to close their doors as a result of restrictions in their dealing with socialist countries.

2 — High prices: The cost of living rose by 42 percent between 1973 and 1976. In the same period, the prices of foodstuffs jumped by 122 percent. "These high prices of commodities are conducted by a limited category of big farmers and agents and who are protected by government policy" (Hussein Abdel Razek "Egypt in January 18 and 19").

FOREIGN DEBTS TRAP; UNEMPLOYMENT

3 — With the failure of the open door policy to revitalize the Egyptian economy, Egypt joins the ranks of those Third World nations caught in the debt trap. Egypt's trade deficit reached £E2.596 million in 1975, and £E2.408 million in 1976. Meanwhile the external debts "amounting to \$12 billion at the end of 1976 were restructured from long term credit facilities into short term debt." (*MERIP Reports* No. 72).



Slums in Cairo

What is more dangerous is that these debts are contracted to pay for consumer goods, not to invest in productive activities.

4 — This policy increased the army of jobless and unemployed people who are pushed to poverty and starvation day after day. At the same time, wealthy people are growing richer. In the field of agriculture, for example, 5,5 % of the landlords own 40 % of all agricultural land, while 94,5 % of the land owners own only 55 % of the total land.

The miserable situation of the Egyptian citizen makes him seek for individual solutions as long as the government is incapable of solving them. The black market is becoming common. Law no longer exists, except as applied to few scapegoats. So thousands of thousands of skilled workers and even peasants have migrated to work in the Arab countries to make living for their families in Egypt. More than 20% of Egypt's working people are scattered throughout neighbouring Arab countries.

THE MASSES COUNTER SADAT'S CONSPIRACY

The Egyptian masses have been subjected to a great lie propagated by colonialism and its culture, that is the claim that the Egyptian people are "by their nature" docile, naive, and



Egyptian Progressive Movement commemorating January '77 protests: "Struggle For The Overthrow Of The Treacherous Sadat Regime!" non-violent; and that the phenomenon of resistance is alien to Egypt.

In fact, however, the history of the Egyptian people is one of the longest among the peoples of our globe in resisting and revolting against all forms of repression and exploitation, by both external and internal powers.

After Sadat's coup in 1971, the masses' opposition grew up and overwhelmed most active sectors of the population. In January 1972, the students' and workers' movement demonstrated and held sit-ins in Cairo and Alexandria universities, followed by mass demonstrations in the heart of Cairo. Towards the end of the same year, the Egyptian authorities arrested about 100 student leaders. As a result, demonstrations exploded between January and April 1973, despite the closing of universities. 1973 also witnessed many workers' strikes in factories. The same demonstration and strikes were repeated in January 1975, calling for freedom, democracy, a solution to the national questions (the occupation of Sinai and Arab land by Zionist forces). The year 1976 was marked by the development of organized trade unions. Students, women and working people demonstrated and protested. Every quarter of the major cities, including factories, colleges, and lower-class neighbourhoods witnessed various forms of struggle against the regime and its executive organs.

Then the day of the explosion came. In reaction to the government's decision to reduce its subsidies of major foodstuffs, the workers' committees in the Halwan industrial sites announced strikes and demonstrations. The next morning, on 18 January 1977, waves of workers marched towards Cairo. Hundreds of them succeeded in penetrating the blockades of the internal security forces and joined the demonstrations of students and workers in the major streets and squares of Cairo. It was a great mass uprising that controlled the streets for two days, emphasizing the inability of the Egyptian regime to confront the masses whenever the latter expressed their determination to stand up for their rights.

ATTACKING CAPITULATION TOWARDS ZIONISM

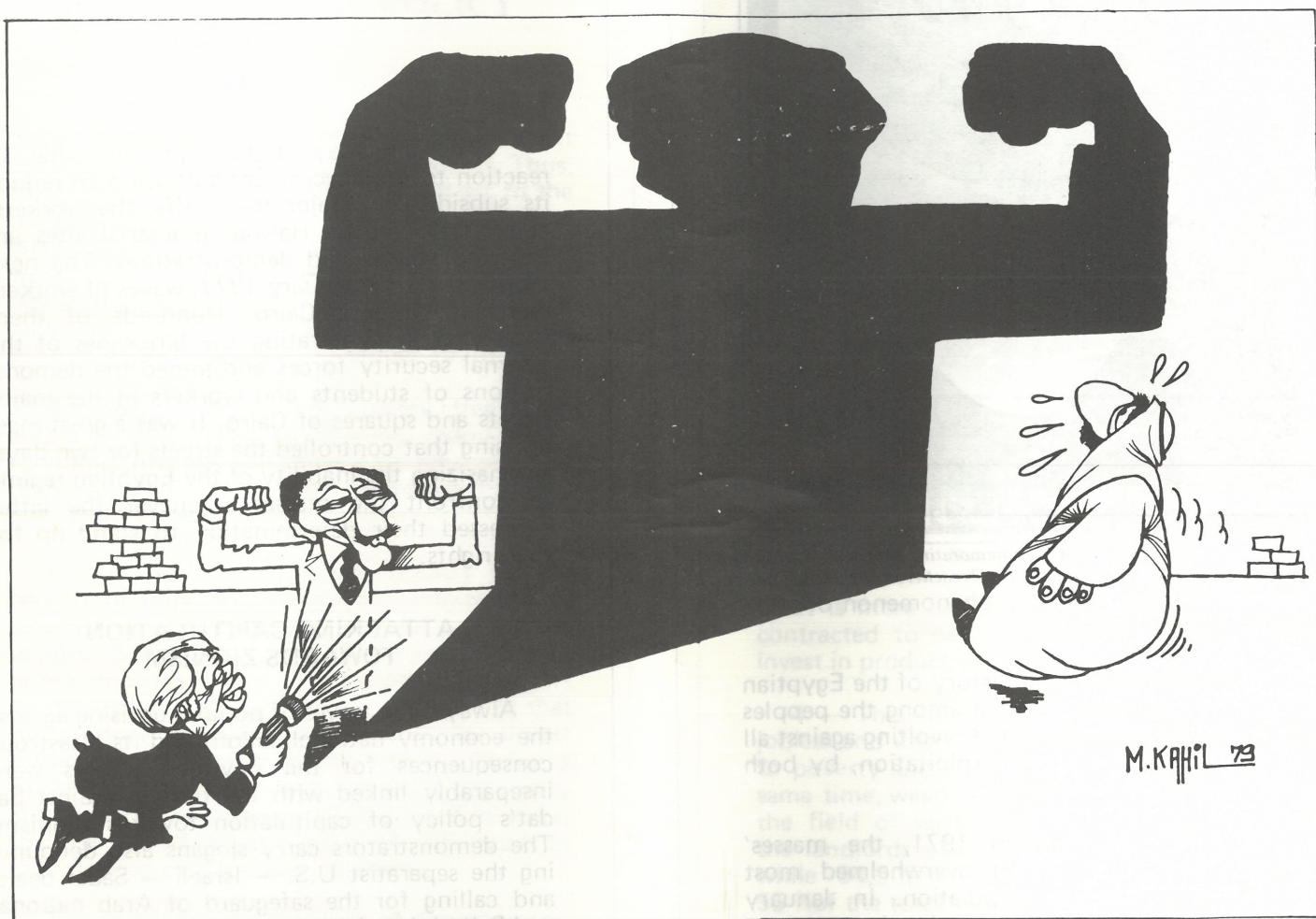
Always, the waves of popular uprising against the economy national sellout and its disastrous consequences for the Egyptian masses were inseparably linked with the protest against Sadat's policy of capitulation towards Zionism. The demonstrators carry slogans also denouncing the separatist U.S. — Israeli — Sadat deals, and calling for the safeguard of Arab national and Palestinian rights.

The national and progressive movement is growing increasingly strong. The communist, progressive and nationalist organizations are recruiting more supporters and followers. They are organizing their ranks, and are involved in setting up programs for the unity of all national and progressive organizations and parties to form a popular united front, with the aim of overthrowing the Sadat regime and setting up a new democratic progressive one which will insure democracy, social progress and an honorable life for the masses of Egypt.

All progressive and socialist organizations throughout the world must give moral and material support to the Egyptian people under their progressive leadership. We appeal to progressive and socialist organizations to express their opposition to the agent Sadat's regime.

EGYPT, CYPRUS, OMAN, LIBYA, SUDAN:

U.S. PLANS TO PROVOKE REGIONAL CONFLICTS



by Our Diplomatic Correspondent

Following the signature of the treaty between the Sadat regime and the Zionists — and, no less important, the military co-operation arrangements which each of these two parties have concluded with the United States — the Middle East and Africa are now exposed to the grave danger of a whole series of regional conflagrations.

The signature of the Sadat-Begin treaty and the accompanying documents has created a new triangular relationship between the United States, the Sadat regime and Israel, which will form the basis for US strategy in this region for the

foreseeable future. The United States forms the apex of this triangle, and two sides of the triangle are marked by the clearly-defined lines of US strategic relations with the Sadat regime and Israel. The base of the triangle, relations between the Egyptian rulers and the Zionists, is still in the form of a "dotted line" whose finer details have yet to be filled in. It is the newest and most sensitive relationship in the triangle, and will be developed in the coming months with as much secrecy as possible.

The United States, it appears, has adopted the proposal of Senator Henry Jackson and decided that the Sadat regime and Israel should share the major roles of being the "policemen" who defend US interests in the region (see article on US Middle East Strategy after the Iranian

Revolution in *Palestine*, Vol. 5, No. 6).

The US special relationship with Israel will continue and will be developed further, with Israel acting as the chief "policeman" in the eastern part of the Arab World. But the Carter administration sees the Sadat regime as vital for US interests in both the Middle East and Africa, and President Carter gave Mr. Sadat a firm commitment to protect his regime before the signature of the treaty with the Zionists. The US expects the Egyptian armed forces to assist it in "preserving order" in the Arabian Peninsula, and to play the leading role in combating liberation movements and subverting and destroying progressive and democratic governments in Africa.

Plans are underway for joint US-Egyptian and US-Israeli military and naval manoeuvres in the regions adjoining the Arabian Peninsula. Joint Egyptian-Israeli manoeuvres are likely to be undertaken at a later stage, once the new relationship has been consolidated.

THE PENTAGON PLAN

The Sadat regime's role in the Arabian Peninsula is illustrated by an oral agreement reached last month between Sultan Qabus of Oman and Egyptian Vice-President Husni Mubarak, whereby Egyptian troops are replacing those sent by the former Shah of Iran to prop up Qabus' throne. According to the *Arab Press Service* of 2 May, this oral agreement will be confirmed by a formal Egyptian-Omani defence pact, and the first phase involves the despatch of 1,500 Egyptian troops, including military trainers and some 15 pilots with their support crews.

APS said not more than 5,000 Egyptian troops are likely to be stationed in Oman this year, but up to 15,000 men may be sent to Oman in "extreme emergencies". This would presumably be in the event of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman succeeding in launching a major guerrilla offensive.

Diplomatic sources informed *Palestine* that this Egyptian military presence in Oman is part of plan worked out recently by the US Defence Department (the Pentagon). This calls for regional military co-operation between the Sadat and Qabus regimes and Saudi Arabia, with the US regularly using the facilities of Oman's massive Masira Island base. During a visit to Washington in December 1974, Sultan Qabus concluded a secret military agreement with President Ford, allowing US forces to use Masira.

The main aims of the Pentagon plan are to ensure continued US control of the Gulf oil reservoir, the uninterrupted flow of oil to the United States and Western Europe and the protection of pro-US regimes in the region from any attempted uprisings by their subjects.

The Pentagon plan also involves the US navy, air force and marines using two bases in Saudi Arabia (one naval and one air) in emergency situations. The Saudi reaction to this part of the plan is not yet clear. When US Defence Secretary Harold Brown visited Riyadh in February and demanded the right to use these two bases, the Saudi government refused. Since then, there have been further discussions on bilateral military issues, with the visit of a US military delegation to Saudi Arabia in early April, followed by a visit to Washington by Prince Bandar Ibn Sultan, the son of the Saudi Defence and Aviation Minister.

US PRESENCE IN AKROTIRI

In fact, the United States is working energetically to build up a chain of military bases around the whole Arab oil-producing region. Apart from Masira, US forces have facilities on the British-held island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean, and the United States will lease one of the bases from which the Israelis will withdraw in Sinai, under a secret agreement reached between Presidents Carter and Sadat.

The most recent acquisition in the United States' collection of military bases is Akrotiri in Cyprus. The Beirut daily *Al Safir* of 22 April quoted diplomatic sources in Nicosia as saying that the British base at Akrotiri is currently being expanded and a new barracks to accommodate some 700 men has been built, to enable the stationing of a large American force there. The sources estimated that about 400 US military personnel had already arrived at the base.

Akrotiri military airfield is being expanded so it can receive large supersonic military and reconnaissance aircraft, according to the newspaper, and the main runway has been covered with a rubber strip (this slows down the speed of landing aircraft, thus enabling larger planes to land on the runway.) The number of workers and technicians at the base has doubled in the past six months. The expansion works have been carried out under air cover provided by Lightning, Harrier and Phantom aircraft of the British Royal Air Force.

Al Safir said the diplomatic sources confirmed Cypriot press reports that the US transferred large quantities of military equipment from Iran to Akrotiri, shortly before the Bakhitar government fell. This equipment includes electronic espionage devices used to monitor Soviet missile tests. The equipment was airlifted to Akrotiri early this year by British Hercules transport planes, which were landing at the rate of between four and six aircraft per day. Their cargoes were placed in heavily guarded stores at the base.

U.S. PLANS TO PROVOKE REGIONAL CONFLICTS

It is not yet known, according to *Al Safir*, whether two Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) systems previously stationed in Iran have been transferred to Akrotiri. The US government has sounded the Turkish government on the possibility of stationing these ICBMs in Turkey, but did not receive a positive reply. However, the diplomatic sources said nuclear weapons which can be delivered by Vulcan bombers are stored at Akrotiri.

Al Safir reported that there is speculation that the United States may use Akrotiri for reconnaissance flights by the large and sophisticated supersonic SR-71 aircraft, of which the US Air Force is believed to possess no more than 20. These fly at a very high altitude and require special landing facilities and maintenance skills. This speculation derives from the provision in the Sadat-Begin treaty for US reconnaissance flights to supervise the treaty's implementation. American U-2A reconnaissance planes have been using Akrotiri since 1975 to observe the implementation of the second Sinai disengagement agreement — and, incidentally, to spy on Soviet naval movements in the Eastern Mediterranean. This use of the British base facilities remained secret until a U-2A crashed at Akrotiri in April 1978.

CYPRIOT PROTEST AGAINST IMPERIALIST BASES

The legal basis for the US presence at Akrotiri is highly dubious. According to the 1960 agreement granting Cyprus independence, British forces retain control of 99 square miles of sovereign base areas. These are required to be restored to Cypriot sovereignty in the event of a British withdrawal, and Britain has no right to hand them over to a third party.

Every effort has been made to keep the presence of US forces in Akrotiri a secret. It is open to debate whether the presence of American troops there as "guests" of the British is actually a breach of the letter of the 1960 agreement, but it clearly violates its spirit, which meant these bases to be for the use of the British alone.

This question is causing grave concern to the people of Cyprus. The Cypriot Peace Council is organising a protest march and mass rally on 3 June to demand the abolition of foreign military bases and the demilitarisation of the island.

A source close to the Cypriot Peace Council told *Palestine* that this protest campaign will contribute to the Palestinian and Arab struggle, against which the British bases in Cyprus have often been used. The 1956 tripartite aggression against Egypt was launched from Akrotiri. Both Akrotiri and Dhekelia bases have been used against the Arabs in the 1967 and 1973 wars, to provide the Israelis with an air umbrella and to airlift arms and reserve pilots to them.

The source added that this campaign will assist in completing the independence of Cyprus and contribute to the world-wide demand for disarmament and peace. The abolition of foreign military bases is seen as the first step towards turning the Mediterranean into a sea of peace.

The Secretary-General of the AKEL Party, Comrade Exekias Papaioannou, has also campaigned vigorously against the US military presence in Akrotiri.

SADAT PLANS TO INVADE LIBYA

However, the days when the Mediterranean may become a sea of peace appear remote, and the southern shore of the Mediterranean seems likely to become the arena of a serious conflict in the near future. This is because of the plan President Sadat has formulated for the invasion of Libya.

The central part of this plan, according to reliable diplomatic sources, is Sadat's aim of establishing a federation of Egypt, Sudan and Libya, which would constitute a political, economic and military union between the three countries. Sadat envisages this as the nucleus for an alliance of pro-US regimes extending across Arab North Africa to the Arabian Peninsula.

This alliance would be directed against the leftist governments of Ethiopia and Democratic Yemen, with the aim of overthrowing them. Eventually, Sadat hopes, the tripartite union could serve as the nucleus of an even wider alliance embracing pro-US regimes as far east as Bangladesh, which could include Israel and join forces with NATO.

Thus, according to the diplomats, the Sadat regime is at present working to build up organisation of right-wing Libyan dissidents, which is likely to be called the "Corrective Movement" (the same name that Sadat used for his action in May 1971 to purge many of the leading personalities in the Egyptian administration who has served under President Nasser). The headquarters of this dissident organisation would be in Cairo, but it would work to build up opposition cells within the Libyan armed forces and governmental apparatus as well as among the public.



U.S. troops training for imperialist Middle East adventures

The plan is that the leadership of this organisation would reach a formal agreement with Egypt and Sudan to join the federal union of those countries after its seizure of power in Libya. This would give the Egyptian and Sudanese regimes the excuse to assist it in overthrowing the Libyan government. The Libyan dissidents would carry out acts of terrorism and stir up disturbances inside Libya, simultaneously with the concentration of Egyptian and Sudanese troops along Libya's borders. As the dissidents' actions escalate, an invasion would be launched from Egypt, Sudan and possibly Chad, with the aim of occupying Libya and installing a puppet regime that would announce its adherence to the Egypt-Sudan federation.

SADAT'S RACE AGAINST TIME

This would be followed by the reinstatement of capitalism in Libya with the restoration of worker-controlled enterprises to the private capital sector. At the same time, the diplomatic sources expect, Libya's present oil production of around 2 million barrels/day would be boosted to 3.5 m b/d. This would provide the Sadat regime with a badly-needed injection of funds to rescue its ailing economy and also further the US aim of relieving the present tight supply situation in the world's oil markets.

The seizure of Libya's oil wealth is of vital importance to Sadat, following the devastation that his open-door policy has caused to the Egyptian economy. The greatest threat to his regime lies in the fact that the Egyptian people's standards of living are dropping while a handful of people close to him are making vast fortunes. But any moves to ensure a more equitable distribution of wealth and raise comprador bourgeoisie of import merchants and commission agents who have flourished under his policies. The acquisition of Libya's oil revenues could help escape this dilemma for a while.

The problem facing Sadat now is whether he can carry through his schemes of military

aggrandisement quickly enough, before the economic crisis in Egypt deteriorates to the point where the people see no course open to them but to revolt. The creation of a puppet Libyan dissident movement capable of carrying out sabotage actions inside the Jamahiriya would require time, particularly since the Libyan government's socialist measures have undoubtedly won it popular support.

It is vital for patriotic Arab circles to be alert to the danger posed by Sadat's plans. His seizure of Libya with its oil resources would greatly strengthen his regime and thus increase the danger it represents for all democratic and patriotic forces in the Arab World and Africa.

PLANS FOR FURTHER AGGRESSION

Indeed, Sadat's plans for aggression against other countries, if and when his designs against Libya reach fruition, are already far advanced. The diplomatic sources believe the aggression against Libya is likely to be followed by a campaign to help President Numeiry assert his authority fully in Southern Sudan, where there is considerable opposition to the planned federation with Egypt. Since the majority of Southern Sudanese are non-Muslims, Sadat and Numeiry might well portray this campaign as being "in defence of Islam" in order to silence Islamic opponents of their regimes. This would be totally cynical, since Sadat has shown that he could not care less about Zionism when it comes to the question of the Zionist seizure of Muslim holy places in Palestine.

In order to fulfill his role of "policeman" on behalf of the United States, Sadat's aims encompass nothing less than the destruction of any government in the region which is not subservient to US dictates. This is expected to include a drive against Democratic Yemen and Ethiopia.

A similar military strategy, involving a two-pronged attack with the assistance of neighbouring countries, is likely to be used in both instances. Thus, Egyptian forces are being sent to Oman not only to prop up the unpopular Sultan Qabus against internal revolt, but also to be used as an invasion army against Democratic Yemen from the east. These forces would launch their attack simultaneously with other forces from North Yemen, to which Egyptian and US military advisers have been sent. The eventual aim of this would be to reunify the two Yemens under a right-wing regime. Sadat is also likely to use South Yemeni dissidents to provide a legal cover for the invasion. One right-wing South Yemeni leader living in Cairo, Abdul Qawi Mak-kawi, is being encouraged by the United States and the Sadat regime to establish a terrorist organisation to carry out sabotage actions against Democratic Yemen.

U.S. PLANS TO PROVOKE REGIONAL CONFLICTS

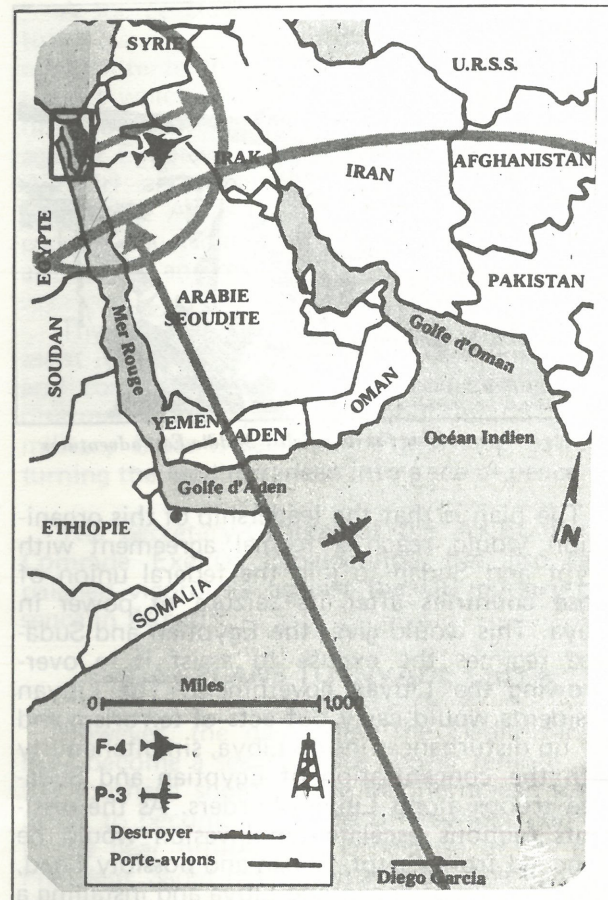
The intention behind these plans is to place both sides of the strategic southern entrance of the Red Sea, Bab Al Mandab, under the control of US client regimes. What is still not clear is the timing: it is possible that the United States may intend Sadat and his allies to accomplish this mission before the planned subjugation of Libya.

SUPPRESSING THE EGYPTIAN OPPOSITION

In the meantime, Sadat is proceeding with a necessary preliminary to the implementation of his plans for military conquest by suppressing all internal opposition to his policies. The aim behind the dissolution of parliament under last month's "referendum" (in which, as in similar farces in the past, over 99% of the population "approved" the policy dictated by the Sadat regime) and the holding of new "elections" is to ensure a parliament which contains no dissenting voice. A main reason behind Sadat's decision to dissolve the previous parliament was the formation of a 25-member bloc in it opposed to his treaty with Israel.

Sadat is concentrating his repressive moves against the leading opposition party, the Unionist Progressive National Group (UPNG). The aim now is to put the leader of this party, Khalid Muhieddin, on trial on trumped-up charges of contact with foreign quarters hostile to the regime — an offence which could carry the death penalty. As preliminary moves, Muhieddin's secretary has been arrested and Muhieddin himself has been summoned to be interrogated by the Public Prosecutor's office.

The evidence that the authorities have against him appears very tenuous, and reportedly consists of notes of introduction that Khalid Muhieddin wrote for some of his constituents who were forced by Egypt's declining economic situation to seek employment abroad. These notes were addressed to people in other countries, but were purely humanitarian in nature and were written for the purpose of helping people to find employment. They thus had no political character, but reliable Egyptian sources told *Palestine*



Egypt — a base for a U.S. strategy of regional aggression and destabilization?

that the authorities will try to present them as evidence in such a way as to show that Muhieddin was in contact with foreign political circles opposed to the Sadat regime.

In addition, Sadat is working to establish a bogus left-wing party loyal to his regime, a "loyal opposition", to borrow a term from one of Peter Sellers' films. This is likely to contain a number of older politicians formerly known for their left-wing views, who have now decided that their political careers can best be served by collaborating with the regime.

The purpose of this manoeuvre is twofold: to make it appear that the Sadat regime allows an opposition party and is therefore a democracy, and to attract members away from the real opposition, the UPNG, into the new bogus one which will render them impotent.

The suppression of all real forms of dissent at home and the launching of armed aggression against other countries whose governments are not subservient to the United States are two sides of the same coin. Both are designed to make the Sadat regime into an effective "policeman" to serve US interests and eliminate democratic and patriotic forces in the Arab World and Africa.

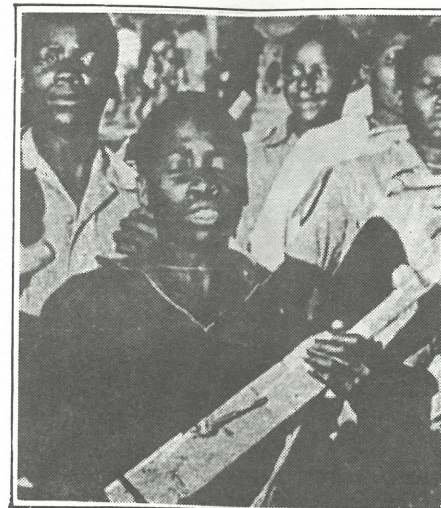
WORLD EVENTS

"DEMOCRACY" RHODESIAN STYLE

The so-called "internal settlement" farce of the illegal minority regime of Ian Smith has been taken a step further by the sham elections organized by Ian Smith and his African puppets. The sham elections, in which 63 per cent of eligible Zimbabwean voters are alleged to have participated, was "won" by the United African National Council with 51 per cent of the vote. The UANC's leader, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, is now slated to be Rhodesia's first "black prime minister." However, if one merely wanted a "black" prime minister, one could just as easily have covered Ian Smith's face with shoe polish and allowed him to continue in office, for although Muzorewa has a black face he will continue to defend imperialist interests. He has said that his so-called "black majority government" will "take military aid from any source, including South Africa." He has also vowed to fight Zimbabwean freedom fighters and to escalate raids against neighboring African states once he assumes the "reins of power."

If and when Muzorewa assumes the title of prime minister, the army, the civil service, the police and other public institutions will remain in the hands of the white minority. Furthermore, this minority is guaranteed 28 seats in the 100-member parliament, and guaranteed a veto power over any constitutional and structural changes. In a separate, "whites-only" election held a week before the "black" election, Ian Smith's party gained control of all 28 white seats. In an interesting travesty of democracy, the principle of "one man, one vote" was transformed into "one white, two votes; one black, one vote," for the whites were allowed to vote *twice*, once in each of the two elections.

The other African contender for



The Zimbabwean people will thwart the swindle

Ian Smith's position, Rev. Ndabingi Sithole, has declared that he will not take the parliamentary seats his party won because he believes there were "widespread irregularities in the elections. He has asked the Rhodesian High Court" to declare the elections null and void. Why ask a Rhodesian court and not the Zimbabwean people?

It is clear that Muzorewa, Sithole and their ilk bear a strong resemblance to Oreo cookies: black on the outside, but white on the inside.

ISRAELI ARMS FOR LATIN AMERICAN DICTATORSHIPS

Zionist Israel is step by step becoming one of the most important arms suppliers for the fascist dictatorships in Chile, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Salvador, Guatemala and other Latin American countries. According to the Mexican National Bank for Foreign Trade, the value of Israeli arms exports to Latin America has reached a new record level.

The fascist Chilean regime of Pinochet has become one of the foremost clients of Israel, observed the Mexican magazine "Proceso." Tel Aviv is selling to Chile substantial quantities of missiles, tanks, artillery, armored troop carriers, helicopters and modern fighter aircraft. Tel Aviv, says the maga-

zine, is also about to send its "blitzkrieg" experts and military instructors to train the junta's officers.

NICARAGUAN SANDINISTAS START OFFENSIVE

The Sandinista Liberation Front (FSLN) has opened a large-scale offensive in several Nicaraguan regions. It was the heaviest fighting since the civil war-scale battles in September in which the liberation fighters occupied several towns for some weeks.

The current offensive began with the occupation of the town of Esteli in the north where the National Guard was encircled at the airports and the barracks.

At one point the town was almost entirely in the hands of the patriots who, according to eyewitness reports, were enthusiastically welcomed by the inhabitants. Hundreds of youths helped to dig trenches and asked to be admitted into the Sandinista Front.

Samoza's warplanes attacked Esteli, and National Guard tank and artillery units moved on the city.

URUGUAY REPRESSION STEPPED UP

In Uruguay the military regime has stepped up arrests of citizens who oppose a continuation of the military dictatorship. On April 20, 48 persons said to be members of the Uruguayan Communist Party were arrested, including Leon Levponiachik, the party's Secretary General.

1700 ARRESTED ON MAY DAY IN TURKEY

Turkish police arrested more than 1700 people on May Day for "attempting to stage May Day rallies." A 27-hour martial law curfew had been imposed a day earlier on Istanbul, and hundreds of students were arrested in Ankara. Reports from Turkey indicate that there is growing resentment at the American military presence there, especially since the Iranian Revolution.

"INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD": DEMAND HUMAN RIGHTS FOR PALESTINIAN CHILDREN!



1979 has been declared the International Year of the Child by the United Nations. On this occasion, one has to remember the cruel reality of the children of the Palestinian people. This reality is due to the basic and persistent denial on the part of Zionist Israel of the internationally sanctioned principles covering the needs and rights of children with regard to the Palestinians.

The United Nations Charter has clearly stated the fundamental human rights every child on earth should enjoy. These Principles are:

Principle 1:

The child shall enjoy all the rights set forth in this Declaration. All children, without any exception whatsoever, shall be entitled to these rights, without distinction or discrimination on account of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, whether of himself or of his family.

Palestinian reality: Zionist rule in occupied Palestine is founded on a policy of racist discrimination against the Palestinians in, among other things, housing, education, social welfare and freedom of movement.

Principle 2:

The child shall enjoy special protection, and shall be given opportunities and facilities, by law and by other means, to enable him to develop physically, mentally, morally, spiritually and socially in a

healthy and normal manner and in conditions of freedom and dignity. In the enactment of law of this purpose the best interests of the child shall be the paramount consideration.

Palestinian reality: Zionist politics essentially aim at suppressing and, if possible, eradicating the presence of the indigenous Palestinian population. Palestinian school-children already experience detention and torture. Under the system of "mass punishment", the children see the houses of their families demolished. Exiled Palestinian children live under the recurrent waves of Israeli air raids and bombardments, with many of them killed or being crippled.

Principle 3:

The child shall be entitled from his birth to a name and a nationality.

Palestinian reality: The Palestinian child is the only child in the world who is denied official recognition of his nationality and identity, and even a passport.

Principle 4:

The child shall enjoy the benefits of social security. He shall be entitled to grow and develop in health; to this end special care and protection shall be provided both to him and to his mother, including adequate pre-natal and post-natal care. The child shall have the right to adequate nutrition, housing, recreation and medical services.

Palestinian reality: Most Pales-

tinians in occupied Palestine live in deprived overpopulated districts in an environment of poverty, undernourishment and poor services. Conditions are equally bad in the refugee camps scattered abroad, where official UNRWA nations provide less than the minimum number of calories required for healthy growth.

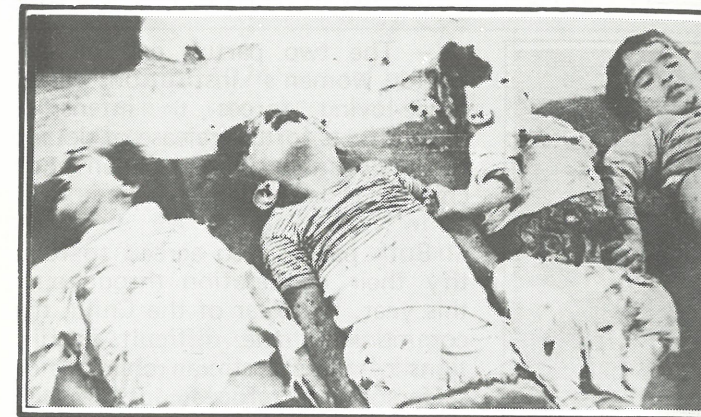
Principle 5:

The child who is physically, mentally or socially handicapped shall be given the special treatment, education and care required by his particular condition.

Palestinian reality: Every Palestinian child is socially and psychically handicapped by virtue of his unique condition. The Palestinian child, in occupied Palestine and in the refugee camps, is born in an environment where the survival of the fittest is the rule. Where health and education services are inadequate for the healthy child, the handicapped child has little hope for the special care needed for rehabilitation.

Principle 6:

The child, for the full and harmonious development of his personality, needs love and understanding. He shall, wherever possible, grow up in the care and under the responsibility of his parents, and in any case in an atmosphere of affection and of moral and material security; a child of tender years shall not, save in exceptional circumstances, be separated from his mother. Society and the public authorities shall have the duty to



Palestinian children murdered in Lebanon



Palestinian children surviving from Tal al-Zaatar massacre

extend particular care to children without a family and to those without adequate means of support. Payment of State and other assistance towards the maintenance of children of large families is desirable.

Palestinian reality: The establishment of the state of Israel on Palestinian territory, and the continuing of its indigenous population, resulted in the disintegration of many Palestinian families. They are, often for tens of years, unable to meet each other. Messages sent through broadcasting stations are sometimes the only possible means of communication.

Principle 7:

The child is entitled to receive education, which shall be free and compulsory, at least in the elementary stages. He shall be given an education which will promote his general culture, and enable him on a basis of equal opportunity to develop his abilities, his individual judgement, and his sense of moral and social responsibility, and to become a useful member of society.

The best interests of the child shall be the guiding principle of those responsible for his education and guidance; that responsibility lies in the first place with his parents.

The child shall have full opportunity for play and recreation, which should be directed to the same purposes as education; society and the public authorities shall endeavour to promote the enjoyment of this right.

Palestinian reality: More than one third of all the Palestinian children living in occupied Palestine and in refugee camps outside the homeland are forced to drop out of school before completing their basic studies.

Principle 8:

The child shall in all circumstances be among the first to receive protection and relief.

Palestinian reality: Next to physical injury, the most traumatic experience a child can undergo is the loss of his family and his home. The Palestinian child is the victim of all these traumatic upheavals as the direct result of Israel's attempt to wipe out the Palestinian presence.



Principle 9:

The child shall be protected against all forms of neglect, cruelty and exploitation. He shall not be the subject of traffic, in any form.

The child shall not be admitted to employment before an appropriate minimum age; he shall in no case be caused or permitted to engage in any occupation or employment which would prejudice his health or education, or interfere with his physical, mental or moral development.

Palestinian reality: A high percentage of Palestinian children are forced to work in order to help their families survive. In the occupied territories, the exploitation of "cheap" Palestinian child labour by Zionist entrepreneurs is an everyday occurrence.

Principle 10:

The child shall be protected from practices which may foster racial, religious and any other form of discrimination. He shall be brought up in a spirit of understanding, tolerance, friendship among peoples, peace and universal brotherhood and in full consciousness that his energy and talents should be devoted to the service of his fellow men.

Palestinian reality: Curricula drawn up by the Israeli authorities for Arab schools distort Arab history, deny any Palestinian history and substitute a fabricated Zionist folklore intended to make Arab children feel inferior to Jewish children.

SOLIDARITY



Soviet women delegation visiting Kindergarden run by Palestinian Women's Union

FRIENDSHIP VISIT OF SOVIET WOMEN'S DELEGATION

A delegation from the General Union of Soviet Women arrived in Beirut on April 16 at the invitation of the General Union of Palestinian Women. Members of the Executive Committee of the General Union of Palestinian Women, representatives of the Soviet Embassy in Beirut and a number of children from Beit al-Summoud Orphanage received the visiting delegation at the airport.

The Soviet Women's delegation led by Comrade Zinaida Verdrova visited the Fateh Foreign Relations and the PLO Unified Information offices, and were introduced to the PLO's various social, productive, political and information institutions and activities.

On 21 April, the delegation visited Beit Atfal al-Soumoud, the orphanage for children from Tal al-Zaatar, where they watched Palestinian folklore dances performed by the children. A number of the recently released Palestinian detainees also attended the show, and then reported on torture practices in Israeli jails.

On 24 April, the delegation was received by Chairman Arafat. During the 90-minute meeting, Arafat briefed the visitors on the latest developments in the region, as well as on the recurrent Israeli aggressions against South Lebanon.

Comrade Verdrova expressed the admiration of the Soviet people for the steadfastness and heroism of the Palestinian people and the patriotic Lebanese people in their confrontation of the Israeli attacks and the Carter-Begin-Sadat conspiracy. She also confirmed the support of the Soviet women for the Palestinian people's struggle under PLO leadership.

The delegation then visited the family of the martyr Dalal al-Mugh-rabi as an expression of the Soviet women's admiration for the martyr, and the role of Palestinian women in the struggle.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

At the end of the visit, the General Union of Palestinian Women and the Soviet Women's Committee issued a joint communique, underlining the following points:

- Complete rejection of the Sadat-Israeli-U.S. agreement which is a betrayal of the Arab liberation movement and a consolidation of the Israeli occupation of Arab territories.

- The importance of increasing solidarity with the Palestinian people's heroic struggle under the PLO's leadership as their sole legitimate representative. Both parties also saluted the popular uprising of the West Bank against Israeli occupation.

— The two parties call on all world women's institutions and peace-loving forces to intensify their efforts for the release of detained Palestinian women, men and children in Israeli jails.

Both parties also agreed to fortify their cooperation throughout this year, the Year of the Child, to communicate the difficult conditions of the Palestinian child, who suffers as a refugee outside his occupied homeland and from racism and Israeli aggression inside and to intensify cooperation in forthcoming meetings and conferences, particularly the solidarity meeting to be held in Lebanon and the International Child Conference to be held in Moscow.

Finally, the communique saluted the Lebanese National Movement, condemned the recurrent Israeli aggressions on South Lebanon and demanded an immediate Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory.

JAZA FIGHTING ZIONISM IN AUSTRALIA

The group "Jews Against Zionism and Anti-Semitism (JAZA)" based in Carlton, Australia, is an organisation of people of Jewish origin and background who oppose political Zionism and other forms of racism, including anti-Semitism, and support the just Palestinian cause. Some of its members have been associated with the radio "3CR" programs, "Palestine Voice" and "Arab Liberation News", and have written and spoken publicly on various occasions.

There have recently been concentrated Zionist attacks on "3CR" programs and a frenzied campaign to close down its broadcasting station. But many supporters, including a number of anti-Zionist Jews, contacted the station and offered their assistance, at the same time opposing the manipulation of the Australian Jewish community by Zionist pressure groups.

JAZA has existed informally in

Australia since 1974 and its members have ever since been active in combating anti-semitic activities there. Some of its members are of Australian Anglo-Jewish origin, and some are even Israeli Jews who once served in the Israeli armed forces.

JAZA confirms that a wide range of Jewish opinion, coming from different ideological directions, agrees with the Palestinians that a Zionist exclusivist state in Palestine cannot bring peace to the region, does not serve the interests of either the Jews or the Arabs and can only cause more conflict and bloodshed.

JAZA also regards Israel as basically anti-semitic in its racial discrimination against Arabs and Oriental Jews, as well as in its support for the racist theory that Jews cannot and should not live among others, but should be segregated in a ghetto state.

"Israel is racist, not only in its anti-semitism, but also in its close alliance with other racist forces all over the world, including the white racist regimes in South Africa and Rhodesia," JAZA stressed in a report sent to "3CR". JAZA has also been providing "3CR" with some of the material which Zionists have complained about, especially material showing the connection between Zionists and Nazis and other racists.

"We submit that our programs have told and will tell the truth about the state of Israel... We regard the Zionist state as a racist regime founded on the denial of national rights to the original inhabitants of Palestine, and we support the Palestinian demand that Israel be replaced by a democratic secular state in which Jews and Arabs can live at peace", JAZA concluded.

BELGIAN-PALESTINIAN FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION

In mid April, a delegation of the Belgian-Palestinian Friendship

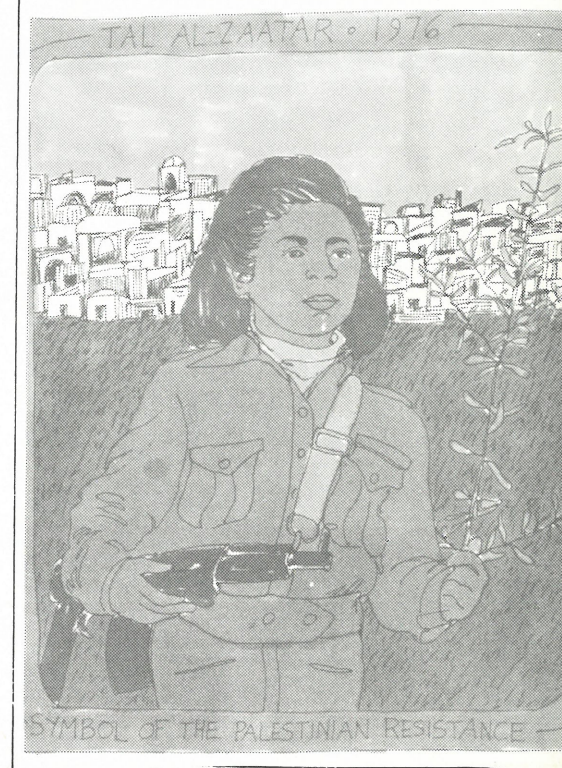
Society made a fact-finding visit to the PLO. The delegation headed by the editor of "La Revue Nouvelle", Jean Delfosse, had intensive talks with Palestinian leaders and visited Palestinian schools, kindergardens, orphanages, the Palestinian Red Crescent and other social institutions. On departure, the delegation underlined the impressive experiences it had during the visit and pledged to intensify the Friendship Society's information work on the Palestinian cause in Belgium.

PORTUGUESE PARLIAMENTARIANS CALL FOR TIES WITH PLO

Socialist, Social Democratic and Communist members of the Portuguese parliament have come out in favor of opening up a PLO office in Lisbon. The parliamentarians' statement was published on 4 April 1979 in Lisbon by the Portuguese "Association of the Friends of the Arab countries". It also stressed the need for a well-defined, unambiguous Portuguese foreign policy towards the Arab countries. Meanwhile Cavalheira Antunes, a Communist member of parliament, declared that Portugal's establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel was a great error.

TUDEH DELEGATION VISITS PLO OFFICE IN TEHRAN

A delegation of the Iranian Communist Party (Tudeh) visited the PLO office in Tehran on 20 April, 1979 and met with the PLO representative, Hani al-Hassan. The delegation confirmed the Party's full support for the Palestinian people's struggle against imperialism and Zionism to regain their legitimate national rights. The delegation also confirmed that consolidation of the joint struggle between the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO and the Iranian people under the leadership of Ayatollah al-Khomeini will have a positive effect on all people's liberation movements in their confrontation of imperialist and Zionist conspiracies.



Drawing for the people of Damour from San Francisco Committee

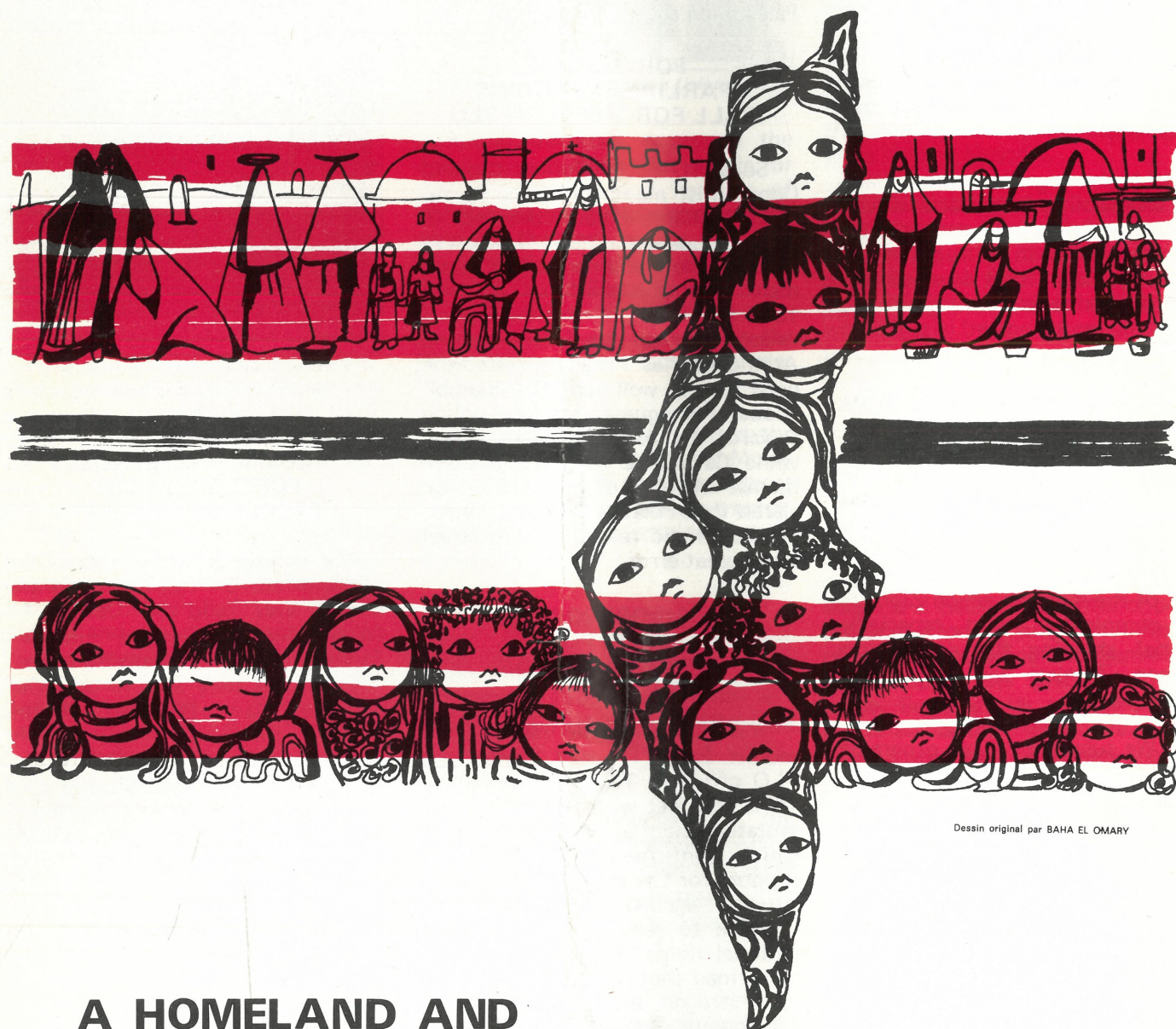
SAN FRANCISCO COMMITTEE SENDS POSTER FOR THE PEOPLE OF DAMOUR

We wholeheartedly thank the "Committee on Palestine and the Middle East" and the "Jewish Alliance Against Zionism" in San Francisco for the following encouraging letter they sent to us: "Our activities have centered around exposing the 'peace' treaty, mainly through media, public forums and demonstrations. The photographs are from a demonstration we had in San Francisco outside the Egyptian consulate to protest the signing, which was of course part of the international day of protest and mourning. We are also planning an event to celebrate May 15th as International Day of Solidarity with Palestine, and to raise money for the Red Crescent.

"The drawing is for the people of Damour; we just read of the recent Israeli bombings there, and our solidarity and support goes out to them, as it does to freedom-loving people everywhere."



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD



Dessin original par BAHÁ EL OMAR

**A HOMELAND AND
HAPPINESS FOR THE PALESTINIAN CHILDREN**

Editeur responsable Jean Delfosse — 1, rue H. Simons — 1160 Bruxelles.

POSTER ISSUED BY THE BELGIAN COMMITTEE
FOR SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINE

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"PEACE" GIFTS FOR THE PALESTINIANS

