

**THE VICTIMS OF THE
U.S. - BEGIN - SADAT PACT**

Rashidiyeh

Aishiyeh



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

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Palestine

**“SELF-RULE”
FOR WEST BANK
AND GAZA STRIP**

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.

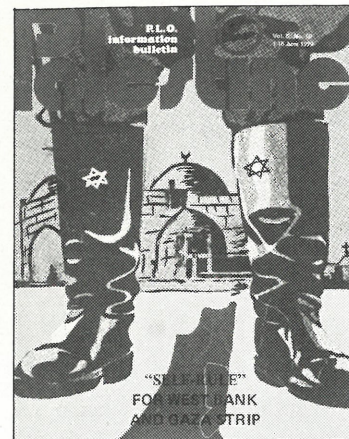
We hope to continue on the road to victory.

Palestine

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EDITORIAL

SALT II AND PALESTINE

The two giants will meet in Vienna in the second half of this month, and they will talk about the limitation of strategic weapons. Consequently they will sign a treaty which puts limits on the arms race between the two superpowers. The treaty between Brezhnev and Carter will set forth the policy of detente and the end of the cold war.

Needless to say the signing of the SALT II accord will be of great benefit to the two nations, the Soviet Union and the United States. It will also be of great benefit to Western Europe and the whole world.

But being a superpower is not only a privilege, it is also a responsibility towards mankind. The two leaders should have a look at the explosive Middle East region. They should not see it only as the region with the world's greatest oil reserves, they must also see it as the region with the greatest level of suffering, mainly the suffering of the Palestinian people.

There is no doubt that there is no comparison between the two superpowers concerning their attitudes towards the Palestinian cause and its revolution. While the Soviet Union is supporting the just cause of the Palestinian people and condemning Israeli aggression, the US is totally backing the aggressors. There is rarely an independent US position on the Middle East. The US either fully adopts Israel's position, or Israel imposes its expansionist policy on the US and consequently on the Middle Eastern region.

There is also no comparison between the Soviet support given to the Palestinian people and their legal representative, the PLO, and US political, financial and material aid given to Israel. The American taxpayers provide Israel with 5 billion dollars a year. The Israeli aggressors receive the most sophisticated weapons to kill the Palestinian and Arabs who oppose Israeli

expansion and aggression. They received new weapons as a prize for signing the so-called "peace" treaty with Egypt.

After the signing of the separate "peace" treaty with Egypt, the Israelis are getting more and more arrogant. Their superiority complex is growing every day. Their planes daily fly in Lebanese skies, their boats roam the shores of Lebanon and their artillery is active in bombing Lebanese towns and villages. Their raids and bombings have made civilian life in the south of Lebanon almost impossible. Hundreds of thousands of refugees have fled their homes and are housed in churches, schools and mosques further north around Beirut and Sidon. The towns of Nabatiyeh, Tyre and the Palestinian refugee camps in their vicinity are almost deserted.

The US is continuously filling the arsenals of the Israeli aggressors, which are the biggest in the Middle East. Israel possesses more weapons than some of the NATO countries. The more weapons they get the more arrogant they grow, and the more difficult it is to bring them to their senses.

The two superpowers are going to sign the SALT II treaty. But they have to shoulder their responsibility towards mankind. The aggressors should be punished, and the superpowers have to help the oppressed and persecuted all over the world. The Palestinian people have been suffering for the last 31 years without perpetrating any crime. Their "crime" was that their land was coveted by Zionists with colonialist and imperialist ambitions. The time has come to end the tragic situation of the Palestinian people, which is the origin of all evil in the Middle East. The Palestinian people require the right of self-determination and their right to a state of their own. The two superpowers have to work for this for the sake of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

PALESTINE NOTES

CHAIRMAN ARAFAT: "WE FIGHT FOR A JUST PEACE"

The Third International Unions Conference of Solidarity with the Palestinian people and workers ended its sessions on May 17 in Damascus. Chairman Arafat delivered a speech at the concluding session in which he said that U.S. tries to put pressure on PLO by moving the Seventh Fleet and the Sixth Fleet "nearer to our shores", and announcing that it has a strike force to occupy the oil fields. "But our land and our oil-fields are not public property." He added that Sadat has troops in ten African states, and that war continues in South Lebanon where "the enemy uses planes, tanks and internationally — banned bombs".

Arafat attacked the US Senate resolution cutting off U.S. contributions to any UN Committee which assists the Palestinians. He then referred to the Knesset decision to build more settlements on Palestinian land and even to take control of the sources of water, and wondered whether there is a single village in the world which does not control its water resources.

Arafat stressed that "we are fighting for a just peace.. We are for peace but against capitulation... They offer us self-rule which in fact consolidates occupation, usurpation of land, and expansion of settlements".

PLO DELEGATION VISITING CONGO

Yasser Arafat recently sent a letter to the President of the People's Republic of the Congo via the head of the PLO delegation currently visiting the Congo. The letter dealt with the latest developments in the Middle East, following the American-Zionist-Sadat treaty and the consequent Israeli military



Chairman Arafat at International Unions' Solidarity Conference

attacks against Palestinian camps and South Lebanese villages. The Congolese President in turn reaffirmed his country's solidarity with, and support for, the just struggle waged by the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, to restore their inalienable rights in Palestine.

PLO AT UNEP CONFERENCE IN NAIROBI

The Seventh Session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 18 April to 4 May 1979. It dealt mainly with the environmental problems and needs of developing countries, such as soil degradation in Africa and in the Middle East. The PLO representative in Kenya, Salah Zawawi, delivered a speech to the conference pointing out the specific problems of the Palestinian people's environment and living conditions. Among other things, he stated that Palesti-

nian lands are being confiscated either on the pretext of the security law or for the construction of settlements, to settle more immigrants from various parts of the world in place of the original inhabitants preparing for their final expulsion. The Judaization of the Palestinian land continues in order to cancel the national identity of our people. The Zionists are building more settlements and obliterating the Palestinian monumental and civilization land-marks which they sometimes burn down, as happened in the case of al-Aqsa Mosque.

People are stopped and then imprisoned and deprived of the simplest human rights... let alone the discrimination existing in jobs, education, political and cultural activities and the freedom of assembly... No more than 300 Arabs graduated from Zionist universities between 1961 and 1971. Two thirds of the Arab villages are deprived of electricity, and entire Palestinian villages have been erased

from the map. "The Law of Absentees" is one of the pretexts to confiscate Palestinian lands.

"In 1918 the Arabs in Palestine, both Christians and Muslims, totaled 64,000 people, while the Jews, living as brothers equal in rights and duties, numbered 56,000. Then came the Jewish immigration which reached its climax in 1948, when the number of Jews rose to 700,000. The Arabs at that date numbered 1,380,000. By 1979, the Jews numbered about 3,000,000 while only 400,000 Palestinians remained as aliens in their own land, the rest of our people wandered throughout different parts of the world in search of security and life. Our people who welcomed the Jews who fled into our country in 1918 came to suffer themselves the nazi-style killing and bombing, destruction, land confiscation, shelling of villages and burning of farms on historical and racial pretexts under whose banner the Palestinian's right of living was confiscated and his security in his own land was violated. In return for this, the Palestinian suffered expulsion and living in tents of humiliation. He suffered from malnutrition, atmospheric pollution, lack of health services and personal care. Ours is a tragic situation, the likes of which has not been heard of in history."

PRESIDENT KIM IL SUNG SENDS MESSAGE OF SUPPORT

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, received a cable of support on May 16 from Kim Il Sung, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, on the occasion of the international week of solidarity with the Palestinian people, in which he expressed the solidarity of the Korean people with the Palestinian Arab people who struggle against imperialism and Zionism in order to

restore their national rights. Kim Il Sung wished the Revolution further success towards the liberation of Palestine and expressed hope that relations between the Palestinians and Koreans will develop.

BRAZIL RECOGNIZES PLO

Brazil has officially recognised the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and said that a just and durable peace in the area can only be established after an Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Brazil's stand was expressed in a joint Iraqi-Brazilian communique which was released in both Iraq and Brazil on May 18 at the end of a visit to Brazil by an Iraqi delegation headed by the Iraqi Vice President, Taha Mohieddin Ma'aruf.

FAROUK KADDOUMI MEETS ALGERIAN AND TUNISIAN PRIME MINISTERS

Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department, met in Algiers on May 15, with Algerian Prime minister Ahmad Muhammed Abdel Ghani, member of the polit bureau of the Algerian National Liberation Front (FLN). The discussions included the latest developments in the Arab world, and the means of organizing bilateral cooperation in all fields, particularly on the international political level. The Algerian Prime Minister also confirmed his country's support for the Palestinian Revolution and the Palestinian people's struggle to regain their national rights, including the right of self-determination. Abu Lutf in turn expressed the Revolution's appreciation for Algeria's support.

Following his talks in Algiers, Farouk Kaddoumi had talks in Tunisia with the Tunisian Prime Minister Al-Hadi Nour, on May

17, 1979. The Tunisian Prime Minister confirmed Tunis' firm stand in support of the Palestinian people's struggle to regain their national rights under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. Farouk Kaddoumi also met with Ass'ad al-Ass'ad, Deputy Assistant Secretary-General of the Arab League and other Assistant Secretary-Generals at the Arab League's new headquarters in Tunisia. This meeting also dealt with the Arab situation in general and the Arab League's new headquarters in Tunis.



Chairman Arafat receives Swiss delegates Duvanel and Baechtold

SWISS PARLIAMENTARIANS MEET PLO

Two members of the Swiss National Council (the Swiss Parliament) and the Swiss Socialist Party, Gilbert Baechtold and Pierre Duvanel, visited the PLO in Lebanon at the end of May. The Swiss delegates had talks with PLO Chairman Arafat and other leaders of the PLO, and visited various institutions of the Palestinian Resistance. Accompanied by the Swiss television, they toured Southern Lebanon to get an impression of the destruction caused by the Israeli attacks, and became personal eyewitnesses to the barbaric Israeli bombardments.

AUSTRIAN SOCIALIST PARTY DELEGATION SEES CRUEL DESTRUCTIONS

A delegation of the Austrian

PALESTINE NOTES

Young Generation, the youth organisation of the Austrian Socialist Party, visited the PLO in mid-May. The delegation, led by the Chairman of the Young Generation, Albrecht Konecny, visited various institutions of the PLO, and met with Palestinian leaders and youth and student organisations. The delegation was also received by Chairman Arafat. During a visit to South Lebanon, the Austrian guests were shocked by the barbaric destructions caused by the recent Israeli raids.

JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION

A Japanese delegation with

members of the Japanese Socialist Party visited the PLO in late May. The delegation was led by Minoru Sonoda, President of the Japanese-Arab Friendship Association and Vice-chairman of the Osaka-branch of the Japanese Socialist Party, and Sadao Wada, Head of the Osaka-branch of the Japanese Socialist Party and Vice-president of the Japanese-Arab Friendship Association. The delegation was received by Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department, and visited the Palestinian Red Crescent and other institutions of the Palestinian Resistance.

PALESTINIAN-VIETNAMESE TALKS IN DAMASCUS

The Vietnamese Socialist Republic confirmed on May 22 its support for the Palestinian people's just struggle led by the PLO against imperialism and Zionism, and for the achievement of their national

rights. A meeting was held at the PLO office in Damascus between a Vietnamese delegation including the Minister of Culture and Information, the Head of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry's Political Affairs section and the Vietnamese Ambassador to Syria, and a Palestinian delegation grouping PLO Official Spokesman Abdel Muhsen Abu Maizer, PLO Executive Committee member Talal Naji and a number of Palestinian officials. The Vietnamese delegation reviewed the latest developments in Indo-China and condemned the imperialist-Zionist conspiracies in the Middle East, specifically the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreements. The two sides exchanged views on the Non-Aligned Summit Conference due to be held in Havana, and on the necessity for further cooperation to preserve the aims of the Non-Aligned Movement, which supports liberation and opposes the imperialist-Zionist Movement.

envoy reaffirmed the USSR's support for the Palestinian people and their armed Revolution with all means and in all forms, and stressed the Soviet Union's condemnation of the capitulationist treaty because it harms the interests of all the Arabs, and particularly those of the Palestinian people.

Comrade Grinovskiy then handed Arafat a letter from Leonid Brezhnev, President of the Supreme Soviet and Secretary-General of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, in response to Arafat's congratulations on his re-election as President of the Supreme Soviet. In his letter, Brezhnev also confirmed that the USSR will continue to support "the just struggle of the Palestinian Arab people, under the leadership of the PLO which is the recognized political vanguard, in order to restore your legitimate rights, including the right to establish your own state, in order to foil the pro-colonialist and anti-Arab separate deals, and to realize a just and lasting peace in the Middle East."



Chairman Arafat conferring with Soviet Middle East envoy Grinevsky, together with Farouk Kaddoumi (Abu Lutf), right, and Soviet ambassador Soldatov, left

ARAFAT RECEIVES SOVIET MIDDLE EAST ENVOY; BREZHNEV MESSAGE

Yasser Arafat received the Soviet envoy to the Middle East and Director of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Oleg Grinevsky, in the presence of the Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon, means to confront it. The Soviet

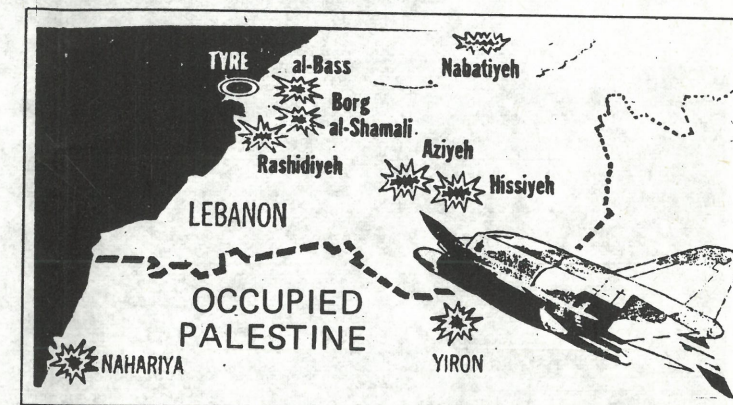
WEST BANK DELEGATION ENDS VISIT TO MOSCOW, PRAGUE AND BASLE CONFERENCE

The West Bank delegation consisting of Ramallah Mayor Karim Khalaf, Deputy Mayor of al Bireh, Jamil al Tarifi, and the chief editor of the Jerusalem paper "al Tali'a," returned to occupied Palestine on May 22 after participating in the International Conference for support of the Palestinian people, which was held in Basle, Switzerland, on the invitation of the World Peace Council. Karim Khalaf expressed his satisfaction with the tour which included, in addition to Basle, Moscow and Prague. He praised the resolutions issued by the Basle Conference, which support the rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people. He also praised the welcome given to the delegation in both Moscow and Prague. Tarifi stated that the resolutions of the Conference expressed solidarity with the Palestinian people and their just rights. Regarding the visit, he said that fruitful and friendly contacts were made with the heads of the Friendship Committees in the USSR and Czechoslovakia, and that the mass media in both countries gave extensive coverage to the visit.

ARAFAT MEETS HUSAK

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, met on May 23 in Damascus, Gustav Husak, Secretary General of the Czechoslovakia Communist Party and President of the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia. The meeting focused on the latest developments in the Arab arena, especially after the camp David accords, the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, the self-rule conspiracy, and the repeated Israeli military aggressions against the Palestinian and Lebanese people in South Lebanon. Both leaders also discussed bilateral relations between Czechoslovakia and the PLO and issues of concern. A spirit of friendship and solidarity prevailed during the meeting and full agreement was reached on all issues discussed.

LEBANON: ISRAEL'S WAR OF GENOCIDE



In the context of the Begin-Sadat accord backed by the U.S., Israel has escalated its war of aggression against the Palestinians and Southern Lebanese population. The U.S.-Israeli plot first aims at breaking down the steadfastness and courageous resistance of the two peoples in South Lebanon. The second long-range aim of the Israeli scorched earth policy in South Lebanon is to depopulate the area of its inhabitants in preparation for further Israeli expansion into Lebanon. As usual, the Israelis made full use of their agents in the area, Major Sa'ad Haddad in the South and the fascist forces in central Lebanon, as tools for achieving the aims of the conspiracy in Lebanon.

The major phases of this conspiracy consist of different political, military and psychological offensives. The Israelis ordered Haddad to declare the 'independence' of the border strip controlled by his men and their Israeli instructors. This area, the so-called "State of Free Lebanon," is to serve as a bridgehead for further expansion of the direct and indirect Israeli control over the whole South, and for eventual fascist takeover in central parts of the country.

ATTACK ON UNIFIL

Haddad issued continuous warnings and threats to all villages and towns bordering the frontier strip to submit to 'his' leadership. The majority of these villages and towns are located in the UNIFIL area of operations — and are supposed to make up a demilitarized area. Of course, the response of the villages to the



LEBANON:
ISRAELI WAR
OF GENOCIDE

Air raid destructions in Damour

Israeli-Haddad blackmail is "No", for the villagers refuse to surrender their properties and villages for the dominance of a Haddad-Israeli ghetto. Hence, a flood of fire and shells have poured over the heads of defenseless villagers under the observation of UNIFIL forces who are supposed to protect them. Nine of these villages received threats from Haddad to join his enclave. One of them is Chaqra, which was attacked and occupied briefly on May 11, 1979, by the Israeli troops and Haddad's gangs.

On May 18, 1979, Israeli forces and gun boats escalated the aggression with a seaborne commando attack in the Adloun region, north of the city of Tyre, in an attempt to strike at Palestinian positions in the region. The Lebanese-Palestinian Joint Forces confronted the attack and foiled it despite Israeli air and naval intervention. The aggressors suffered a number of casualties. On May 21, the Israelis shelled Ma'aliya and the Palestinian refugee camp of Rashidiyeh near Tyre in South Lebanon. The heavy land and sea bombardment was repeated and escalated by the Israelis and their puppets against Tyre and the surroundings throughout all the following days.

BRUTAL AIR RAIDS AGAINST DAMOUR AND NAAMEH

— On May 23, at 6:20 p.m., two squadrons of

Israeli fighter-bombers raided the Palestinian camp in Damour and the neighbouring village of Naameh. The raid, which lasted 25 minutes, killed ten civilians and injured 35 others, most of them women, old men and children, and also destroyed several houses in both Damour and Naameh. At 6:15 p.m., two squadrons of Israeli fighter — bombers raided al-Aichiyeh, but the anti — aircraft defences of the Joint Forces fired at the Israeli aircraft and prevented them from hitting their targets. On May 24, the Israeli planes raided the Rihan region for ten minutes, but the Palestinian anti-aircraft defences prevented them from achieving their aims. At the same time, Israeli border artillery heavily shelled the town of Nabatiyeh and its surroundings.

During the whole period, Israeli planes extended their daily provocative overflights and simulated attacks to the Lebanese capital Beirut and other areas.

In a flagrant act, an Israeli armored force crossed into Lebanon on May 25, surrounded the village of Shab'aa and threatened to shell it if its inhabitants did not submit to the control of the puppet Major Sa'ad Haddad. The same invasion force, accompanied by Haddad's militia, marched into the nearby village of Kfar-shouba and mounted a house-to-house search. The enemy troops withdrew the next day, taking a number of prisoners with them.



Victims of the "peace" in South Lebanon

THEY MURDER CHILDREN

The extensive barrage of Israeli-rightist shelling against South Lebanon resulted in killing children, women and old men. This kind of genocide war against the defenders of Palestinian and Lebanese civilians, terrorized the people and compelled them to evacuate their homes and villages. More than 40,000 of Tyre's 50,000 inhabitants fled the city over the past few weeks. This is a prelude to an attempt to expand the border enclave of Haddad to place the whole of South Lebanon under indirect Israeli control.

Like the massacre of the inhabitants of Deir Yassin in Palestine in 1948, conducted by the present Israeli prime minister, Menachem Begin, the same Zionist leader and his allies are now directing a new form of Deir Yassin in South Lebanon. Five family members were massacred on 30 May in the village of Siddiqin, among them an eight-year old daughter and an infant. This village is under the control of UN peace keeping forces which are not capable of protecting the civilians or deterring the aggressors. PLO officials said that 136 Palestinian and Lebanese civilians have been killed, most of them women and children, and about 360 wounded in air, sea and artillery attacks launched by Israel in Lebanon since the signature of the "peace" treaty with Egypt last March.



SADAT ALLOWS ISRAELI WARSHIPS PASSAGE THROUGH SUEZ CANAL

While Israel and its gunboats were pounding the villages and towns of South Lebanon, President Sadat of Egypt allowed Israeli warships to sail through the Suez Canal for the first time since the Zionist occupation of Palestine. Three Israeli landing crafts flying the Star of David, sailing towards the Mediterranean, were bound for the Israeli port of Ashdod from the Egyptian naval port of Sharm el-Sheikh, which is still Israeli-occupied.

LEBANON:



100,000 refugees fleeing recent Israeli bombardments

"BOYCOTT THE USA"

The Syrian semi-official daily "Al-Baath", has called on the Arab states to sever "diplomatic, economic and cultural" relations with the United States and impose an oil boycott on it. The newspaper's editorial, published on May 29, also urged the Arabs to put an end to all American military presence in their countries. The "Al-Baath" editorial accused the United States of trying to "balkanize" Lebanon with a view to imposing the Camp David 'peace' on the Arabs by force of arms. The newspaper called on "Syrian, Palestinian and Lebanese nationalists" and other Arab forces to take up arms, declaring that the U.S. conspiracy would fail.

LEBANESE NATIONAL MOVEMENT: "A THREAT TO NATIONAL EXISTENCE"

The Central Political Council of the Lebanese National and Progressive Parties and Forces (LNM) issued a communique on May 23 regarding the Israeli aggression and the political and security impacts on Lebanon. In its communique the LNM called for:

- the confrontation of the Zionist threat

against the South of the country, since it threatens the national existence of Lebanon;

- the foundation of Lebanese-Palestinian and Lebanese-Arab relations on the basis of Lebanon's affiliation to the Arab World;

- the abolition of all sectarian and separatist structures in Lebanon, the rebuilding of the army and its preparation for the confrontation with the enemy along the frontier.

100,000 REFUGEES

Lebanese Prime minister Selim Hoss meanwhile started a campaign to secure Arab support for Lebanon in the face of daily Israeli attacks. The Lebanese government also requested \$25 million dollars in aid for the nearly 100,000 refugees from the South.

ARAB SUMMIT PROPOSED

An Arab summit meeting was suggested by South Yemeni President Abdul Fattah Ismail in a letter to Libyan leader Moammar Qadhafi. "We suggest you take the initiative and call for an urgent Arab summit to discuss this matter. If this does not seem possible, we believe it is necessary to suggest holding a summit meeting of the Steadfastness (Arab) countries in Aden," he said. The Steadfastness Front comprising Syria, Algeria, Libya, South Yemen and the PLO was formed in Algiers last year to oppose Sadat's capitulationist 'initiative'.

The South Yemeni letter came in reply to an earlier call made by Libyan President Qadhafi to the Arab Heads of State. It described the Israeli attacks on Lebanon and the Palestinians as a humiliation for the Arab nation: "We cannot remain silent before what is happening in Lebanon. Death is more honorable than a life of humiliation, submission and silence."

U.N. CONDEMNS ISRAELI MISINFORMATION

The United Nations condemned, in a statement of May 15, 1979, what it called a "persistent campaign of misinformation" in Israeli news reports about the U.N. force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), particularly its Irish contingent. The statement released in New York and at UNIFIL headquarters in Naqoura, South Lebanon, said the reports were attributed to "de facto forces" — the U.N. term for Israeli-backed Lebanese rightist militias — and were apparently aimed at undermining relations between UNIFIL and the local population. "Attempts to intimidate the local population in the UNIFIL area of operations, for whatever purpose, will not affect the determination of UNIFIL to fulfill its mandate to the best of its ability," the statement concluded.

ARAFAT CALLS FOR SUPPORT FOR LEBANESE AND PALESTINIAN MASSES

Chairman Arafat addressed the following message to the Arab kings and Heads of State on May 28.

"The Zionist air force is launching consecutive savage air raids against the camps and villages of Lebanon, most notably the latest air raid on the villages of Damour and Naameh, South of Beirut, which resulted in a huge number of casualties among their Palestinian and Lebanese inhabitants, mainly women, children and old people. At the same time, the Zionist forces are pursuing their land and sea attacks against us, against residential areas in the camps and villages, and against economic installations and agricultural land, inflicting heavy losses in lives and property, and causing the population of these areas to flee as refugees.

"In these attacks, the Zionist forces have used the most modern U.S. weapons, including internationally-banned anti-personnel weapons, such as cluster bombs and fragmentation shells, and timed and incendiary shells. Their attacks moreover included UNIFIL positions, and even reached Lebanese territorial waters and the high seas, where the enemy carries out acts of piracy against ships heading for Lebanon or anchored in its ports. The Zionist enemy in fact blew up two ships in the ports of Sidon and Tyre, and intercepted another ship heading for Sidon carrying rescue material for other refugees of enemy attacks as well as medical equipment, transport vehicles and ambulances destined for SAMED — the Institution for the Sons of Palestinian Martyrs — an official civilian institution recognised by the Lebanese authorities.

"These offensives have been going on unceasingly for forty days, during which the Zionist enemy has repeatedly declared that these operations are part of their daily missions against the Palestinians. The enemy Chief of Staff frankly stated that he is waging a continuous war against the commandos and the Palestinians, which recognizes no laws or principles. The enemy



Minister of Defence similarly declared that this war will continue at all times, in all places and with all weapons, using the most modern methods, not used by the nemy army since it was formed.

"The matter has in fact surpassed the pretexts used by the Israeli aggressor to justify his past aggressions against the Palestinians and against Lebanon, and has become an officially declared war against the PLO and the Palestinian Arab people; as well as a war of aggression against the sovereignty, security and safety of the Lebanese Arab people. All this takes place while the steps of the Carter-Begin-Sadat agreement are being implemented and while Palestinian and Lebanese blood is being shed as proof of the baseness of the treasonous deal concluded at the expense of our people and nation.

"Our Arab people, who today bear the responsibility of confronting Zionist arrogance, U.S. conspiracies, and Sadat's treason, will, in spite of the difficulties facing them, continue their struggle in defence of the honour and dignity of the Arab Nation, in order to regain their usurped homeland and holy sites, notably Jerusalem. Meanwhile, our Palestinian Arab people are fully confident that their Arab brethren will stand with them in this vicious and on-going war, which the enemy boasts follows no laws or principles.

"From a position of national and pan-Arab responsibility, I call on you all to exert further efforts in supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian and Lebanese masses, increasing their ability to confront the Zionist enemy and deterring the criminal aggression. I am confident of your response to the requirements of our people's battle, and of our unified and closely knit stand against the cursed treaty which has let loose the Zionist enemy's hand to savagely attack our Palestinian and Lebanese people and to premeditatedly plot against them."

THE FALSE 'PEACE'

MIDDLE EAST TENSION MOUNTING

"CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR": ISRAEL HITS AT PEACE

In a report on May 14, 1979, the U.S. newspaper "Christian Science Monitor" said that the "Israeli offensive hits at peace and the Palestinians." The paper added:

"Israeli war planes went on the offensive against Palestinian Arabs in Lebanon again over the last week, breaking an informal cease-fire that has lasted from April 26 to May 6. The renewed Israeli offensive against the Palestinian Arabs in Lebanon and the holding of Israeli celebrations on the West Bank (where any Israeli advertising is inflammatory to the Arab population) have not softened the way toward the talks that are to begin late this month looking toward some form of Arab self-rule. Obviously, there can be no general and comprehensive peace between these peoples if the Israelis do continue to plant more Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, as they claim they will."

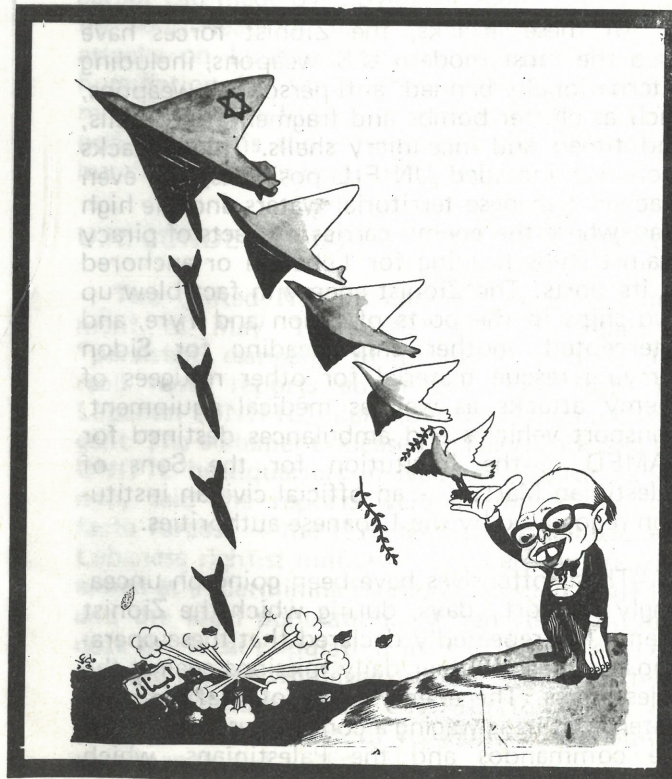
MEDITERRANEAN PROGRESSIVE PARTIES EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, DENOUNCE SADAT TREATY

200 delegates from 36 progressive parties and national liberation movements representing 24 countries around the Mediterranean basin expressed their full support for the Palestinian people's struggle under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, in a communique issued on May 21, 1979, during the final session of the recent four-day Conference of the Mediterranean Socialist Organisation held in Athens.

The communique confirmed that no just and lasting peace can be achieved in the Middle East without realizing the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, and expressed concern over the newly formed alliance between Israeli forces and the isolationists against Palestinian camps and Southern Lebanese villages. It also called for the denunciation of Israel's expansionist ambitions in South Lebanon. The communique further condemned the Israeli-Egyptian separate peace treaty, which it said will only be a source of destabilisation in the Middle East, enabling imperialism to exploit the region and its natural resources.

A representative for the "Front of Patriotic Egyptians", Fuad al-Touhami, in his address to the Conference, declared that all "democratic and patriotic forces are gathering now in one broad front under the leadership of the Unified Progressive Party led by Khaled Mohieddin against the Sadat-Begin-Carter pact. This pact not only denies the Palestinian cause, violates Egyptian sovereignty and places the Egyptian economy in the service of imperialism. It also exposes the whole region of the Mediterranean basin to danger and aims at firmly establishing the U.S. military presence in the Eastern side of the Mediterranean. So, while Israel discusses its 'security' with Sadat, we find that it increases aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian Resistance, while Sadat concentrates troops near the Libyan border.

Fuad al-Touhami also exposed the repression the treaty has caused in Egypt. Resistance against it is being subjected to different forms of suppression and terror. The Egyptian Government has promulgated a law and took certain measures by which it prevented candidates running for parliamentary elections from criti-



cizing the treaty. Mr. Touhami appealed to the participating parties in the conference for solidarity with Khaled Mohieddin who has been accused by the Egyptian authorities of "endangering the interests of the country."

"We promise to continue our struggle until we bring Egypt back to the Arab front and to the front of the Mediterranean peoples, in order to carry out its national role in the struggle against imperialism", he concluded.

It was decided that the fourth conference of the Mediterranean Socialist Organization will be held next year in Algiers.

SOVIET, SAUDI ARABIAN PRESS: OPEN FRONTIER SWINDLE

The Soviet Union and Arab newspapers from Syria to the Gulf have poured scorn on President Anwar Sadat for opening Egypt's border with Israel. "How can you talk about an open frontier so long as Israel continues to occupy a major portion of the Sinai Peninsula belonging to Egypt?" asked Radio Moscow, on 28 May 1979. The border opening, it added, was yet another concession wrung from Sadat. The Saudi newspaper "Al-Riyadh" used similar language, describing it as "another big concession" and saying, "These concessions come at a time when our enemy (Israel) steadfastly refuses to discuss the establishment of a Palestinian state or withdrawal from Jerusalem." Israel received more than it expected and "has cause to feel

PFLO: "6000 EGYPTIAN TROOPS IN SULTANATE OF OMAN"

Seven thousand Egyptian troops are presently stationed in Oman to protect the regime of Sultan Qabus Ben Said, following the withdrawal of Iranian troops. This was confirmed in an interview with "Agence France Presse" on 28 May 1979 by Ahmad Mohammed al-Ghassani, member of the Executive Committee of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman (PFLO). The Egyptian military has been sent to Oman on the orders of President Sadat, he said. Oman is one of the few Arab countries still maintaining diplomatic relations with Egypt. According to the PFLO official, Sultan Qabus has granted to the U.S. a strategic military base on the island of Masirah in the south east of the country, which poses a threat to the Arab nation in general and to the countries of the Gulf in particular. Ahmad al-Ghassani declared that the signing of the "capitulationist treaty" with Israel was done to transform "the Egyptian army into the gendarme of imperialism and Zionism".

great joy... especially after gaining Egypt's great concessions without giving anything in return", the daily said.

Kuwait's "Al-Rai Al-Aam" commented that "Sadat opened the Egyptian borders without war to the enemy who could not open it through war" and added that Sadat had "burned" all the stages of the peace treaty that had called for opening the borders only after normalizing relations between the two countries. Official newspapers in Syria and Iraq both attacked the move, with Baghdad's "Al-Thawra" describing it as a "scandalous stage on the road to treachery and shame" and Damascus' "Tishrin" saying in an editorial that "what Sadat did is not surprising after his surrender to Washington and Zionism."

Jordan's "Al-Dastour" said events in Sinai meant "Arab countries must strike from their accounts any hope that Sadat will repent or deal courageously with Israel."

U.S.-SOVIET MIDDLE EAST DECLARATION STILL BEST BASIS FOR PEACE

The Soviet news agency "Tass", on 27 May 1979, reproached President Sadat for having given his approval to Israeli Prime Minister Begin's plan concerning 'administrative self-rule' for the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. According to "Tass", the U.S.-Israeli-Sadat talks at el-Arish aimed essentially at stabilizing as quickly as possible relations between Cairo and Tel Aviv. "The Egyptian leaders would like to disguise the anti-Palestinian nature of the 'autonomy' plan by presenting it as a first step towards guaranteeing the rights of the Palestinian people."

According to statements made by the Jordanian Foreign minister, Hassan Ibrahim, following his return from a visit in mid-May to Moscow, the Soviet Union still considers that a return to the spirit of the joint U.S.-Soviet Middle East declaration and the reconvening of the Geneva Conference constitute the best means to come to global and lasting peace in the region. The U.S.-Soviet communique, issued in October 1977, on the occasion of a visit by Foreign Minister Gromyko to Washington, stipulates in particular that all parties concerned with the Middle East conflict have to take into consideration "the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people" whose representatives are to participate in all negotiations. The two big powers, on the other hand, pledged to "join efforts and to make use of their contacts with the parties concerned for facilitating the reconvening of the Geneva Conference".

THE FALSE 'PEACE'

MIDDLE EAST TENSION MOUNTING

INDIA EXPECTS EGYPT'S SUSPENSION FROM NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

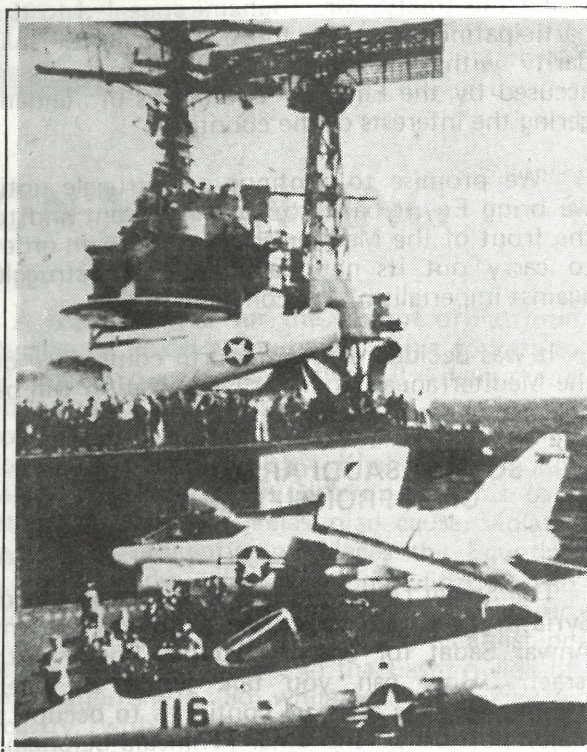
Indian Foreign Affairs Minister Atai Bihari Vajpayee returning from a trip to the Middle East, said on 29 May 1979, India would abide by the consensus within the non-aligned movement on Arab moves to suspend Egypt from the movement. A move seeking Egypt's suspension following the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty is likely to be made at the meeting in Colombo next month of the non-aligned coordinating bureau. The issue is expected to be referred to the non-aligned summit meeting in Havana in September. "Ultimately a decision will have to be taken by all non-aligned countries, keeping in mind the strong Arab feelings, traditions of the non-aligned movement and the necessity to maintain its unity and solidarity," Vajpayee said.

INDIRA GHANDI: "EGYPT HAS ISOLATED ITSELF"

In a recent interview with the Lebanese journalist Abu Nidal, former Indian prime minister Indira Gandhi was asked about her point of view on the U.S.-Begin-Sadat treaty. She answered:

"We feel that any treaty which is not acceptable to the majority of Arabs can never work out. Unfortunately, Egypt has isolated itself as a result of this treaty. What has been very strange is that both Egypt and Israel have signed different interpretations of this treaty. Therefore, I do not know how it could be called a treaty as long as they did not agree on the same thing. On the other hand, Egypt, in the past, played a significant role in the war. But it is said now that ordinary people in Egypt are suffering from an enormous economic crisis which has become a major factor in propping up the treaty. I don't know the extent of truth in this matter, but this is what has been said. Anyhow, the West resorted to means for creating dissension between Arabs and troubles in the area, as it did once between India and Pakistan."

Q: "As you know, on the 5th of June there will be a meeting at Colombo of the Coordination Committee of the non-aligned movement and the main problems to be discussed will be



"U.S. tries to create dissension and troubles in the area"

the dismissal of the Egyptian regime as proposed by Arab member states. What do you feel about Egypt's participation in this conference and the reaction of the Indian government?"

A: "I figure that many things will intermingle inside the non-aligned movement, and that differences will emerge as to who should side either with Egypt or with the other Arab states and the Soviet Union. All this will come to the surface. In my estimation, there will be a big process of polarization by the great powers inside the conference. There will be no recurrence of a parley about independence. Anyhow, let us wait and see what the coming days bring about."

Q: "What is the role you are taking now as an opposition leader regarding the Palestinian problem?"

A: "Our policy towards the Palestinian problem has always been at the side of the Palestinian people. Our attitude now, in the opposition as it was in the government, is firm and unchanged. We support the Palestinian cause wherever we get the opportunity, such as in Parliament, conference, demonstrations and general festivals, in addition to local and international newspapers and magazines."

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE CONDEMNS TREATY

The preparatory committee of the International Conference of Solidarity with the Arab

Peoples and with their major cause, Palestine, wound up its sessions in Athens on May 21 and held a press conference. The Secretary-General of the Committee, Omar al-Hamdi, made a statement in the name of the third session of the preparatory committee and announced some decisions which serve as a prelude to a meeting of a general congress, to be held in Lisbon next October. The statement condemned the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty because it denies and undermines the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. It also violates Egyptian sovereignty and removes Egypt from the arena of conflict with the Zionist enemy, and puts it into the sphere of co-existence and cooperation. At the same time it enables American imperialism to dominate the resources of the Egyptian people.

The statement added: "The treaty has led to a Zionist-Imperialist alliance in collaboration with the Sadat regime. The danger of this collaboration extends beyond the Arab world to reach Africa and the oil-rich states of the Arab Gulf, and includes the whole Mediterranean region." The statement condemned in particular the threats made by the tripartite Egyptian-Israeli-American alliance against Syria, Lebanon, Libya, Algeria and South Yemen. The statement referred chiefly to the Egyptian military concentrations near the Libyan borders.

The preparatory committee completed all preparations for the fourth session, to be held at Helsinki on June 2-3. Delegates from Scandinavian countries will participate. The topic of discussions in Helsinki will be "Aspects of Solidarity with the Palestinian People." The meeting will prepare a special document to be presented to the Lisbon General Congress.

14 organizations and parties from different continents participated in the third session. There are on the agenda two preparatory meetings preceding the Lisbon General Congress. One will be in Paris from July 7-9, and will discuss Zionist means of colonizing occupied Arab territories plus the self-rule conspiracy. Progressive and democratic forces in Europe will be invited to this meeting. The second meeting will be held in Tripoli, Libya from September 2-4. The topic of discussion will be "Zionist Plans in the Arab World, and their Effects on the Peace Movement and on the Interests of Nations." The preparatory committee has sent cables of support to PLO Chairman Arafat and to the central political council of the Lebanese National Movement (LNM), as well as to Syrian President Assad, in which it emphasized its solidarity with the Palestinian Resistance, the LNM and Syria in their firm stands against Zionist aggression. The committee also cabled the Libyan president, stressing its support for Libya's stand against the Egyptian military concentrations near the Libyan border.

OCCUPATION DIARY

ISRAEL ESCALATES ARREST CAMPAIGN

While daily demonstrations and mass protests continue, a wide-scale campaign of arrests is being carried out by the Israeli authorities in the West Bank and the Galilee region in a vain attempt to force Palestinian citizens into accepting the self-rule scheme, and to wipe out all traces of Palestinian nationalism.

Violent demonstrations took place in Ramallah on May 27 in protest against the Israeli occupation and the Egyptian regime's actions, which serve the interests of the Israeli enemy. The demonstrators hurled stones and empty bottles at Israeli cars, barricaded the roads, burned tires, and had fist-fights with Israeli soldiers. The reports added that Israeli troops and armoured vehicles suddenly entered most West Bank cities and villages, taking positions on rooftops and patrolling the streets.

The Israeli authorities warned the Mayors of the West Bank that they will adopt more severe measures if the demonstrations are escalated and impose curfew on any new region which witnesses demonstrations or resists the Israeli soldiers. The Israeli authorities at the same time launched a campaign of arrests among students and citizens in most parts of the West Bank.

In Bethlehem, the Israeli military court sentenced nine students from the Bethlehem University each to eight months imprisonment, three of them suspended, and made them pay a IL. 10,000 fine.

In the Aida camp, the Israeli authorities arrested five Palestinian students on the same day as the Israeli forces lifted the two-week

OCCUPATION DIARY



Mass arrests

curfew on the camp. The five students were preparing to sit for secondary school certificate examinations, which are now being held in the West Bank.

ARRESTS IN TEL AVIV AND GALILEE

The Israeli authorities arrested on May 24 three Palestinian students from Tel Aviv University: Mahmoud Salah Hassan Ahmad from Um al Fahm village, Abdel 'Amer from the village of Jit, and Khatib Jamil Kamel from 'Ar'ara', for planning activities threatening the security of Israel during Sadat's visit to Beersheba on May 27. They were also accused of setting up a new organization known as the "Secular Arab Union". In Nazareth, the Israeli authorities arrested four Palestinian citizens whose ages vary between 20 and 24 years on charges of affiliation to the Palestinian Revolution and resisting the Israeli occupation. The four are Adnan Abdel Halim Hammoudi, Ali Mahmoud al Soh, Nasser Salim Marwan and Saleh Nayet/Hammoud.

On May 22, the Israeli daily paper "Ma'ariv" reported that 15 Palestinians, most of them University students, had been arrested for interrogation. Ten of these citizens are from Galilee and the remaining five from the villages of the Triangle region. The paper added that the Israeli authorities charged the detainees with establishing secret cells which support the PLO and

the establishment of a Palestinian state.

WAVE OF PROTESTS AGAINST CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES

The occupied territories witnessed large-scale student protests on May 23 and 24 against Israel's latest repressive measures, which affected several Arab educational and cultural institutions. A number of press conferences were held to expose to world public opinion these measures adopted by the Israeli authorities against nationalist educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories, in an attempt to decrease the level of education in West Bank schools, colleges and universities. Details were given about the detention of dozens of students, and the closure of the Bethlehem and Bir Zeit Universities until further notice, of the Teachers' Training Colleges in Ramallah, and other West Bank institutions.

On Wednesday, May 23, lecturers from Bir Zeit, Jerusalem and Bethlehem universities held a meeting at Deir Mar Youssef in Jerusalem to discuss the deteriorating situation of the universities and schools of the West Bank, and decided to adopt several measures to restore a normal atmosphere. These measures include:

The formation of a joint delega-

tion of Arab and Jewish lecturers to call on the Israeli military governor of Ramallah and on Knesset members, and to contact other Academic institutions; the holding of additional classes for graduating Bir Zeit University students to compensate for the lost time as a result of its closure.

Dr. Wassof 'Abboushi, Professor of Politics, declared at a press conference at Bir Zeit University on 24 May 1979: "The Israeli military authorities want us to be professors and policemen at the same time." Dr. 'Abboushi added that the Israeli authorities have taken a hostile stand against the university because it is considered a bastion of Arab nationalism.

In Jerusalem, the Arab Student Committee of the Hebrew University on May 24 called for a press conference at the Press Club in Jerusalem. Dr. Wassof 'Abboushi, along with a number of students from Bir Zeit and Bethlehem Universities and the Teachers' Training Colleges of Ramallah, as well as representatives of the Democratic Students Movement, participated in the conference and exposed the brutal measures and crimes perpetrated by the Israeli authorities against Palestinian students.

In Tel Aviv, the Arab students of Bar Ilan University staged a strike on May 22, in protest against the

university's policy of suppressing freedom of expression, and issued a communique denouncing the University's administration, which has refused Arab students the right to hold any meetings, and recently objected to the holding of an art exhibition.

Meanwhile, Major General Danny Matt, coordinator of Military Affairs in the occupied territories, announced that Bir Zeit University will remain closed until further notice. The University was closed on May 3, following a student protest against a pro-settlement March in the town of Bir Zeit.

ISRAELI AUTHORITIES REFUSE TO REOPEN COLLEGE

The Israeli authorities have refused to reopen the governmental Teachers' Training College in Ramallah, which has been closed for a couple of weeks, and have decided to force the students to repeat the academic year, while refusing to register any new students. The school administration warned all students to remove their belongings from the school before May 24. The Bethlehem secondary school is also still closed and occupied by Israeli soldiers who have now established road blocks in front of it.

ISRAEL CLOSES HOSPITAL IN JERUSALEM

The Israeli Ministry of Health has decided to close down the 'Augusta Victoria' Hospital in the old city of Jerusalem by the end of July. The Ministry informed the hospital administration of this decision, which stipulates that no patients should be admitted to the hospital and no reservations should be made for surgery after this date. Arab doctors and the Chamber of Commerce in Jerusalem addressed a memorandum to the Israeli authorities protesting against this inhuman action. Palestinian national institutions are expected to demand the establishment of a new hospital in the old city of Jerusalem if the Israeli authorities insist on their decision to close down the hospital.

RED CROSS AND CRESCENT CONDEMN ISRAELI POLICY AGAINST PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

In its concluding communique issued on May 21 in the USSR, the international Conference of the Red Cross, Crescent, Sun and Lion Societies strongly condemned the Israeli authorities' arbitrary practices against Palestinian citizens in the occupied territories and the torture of detainees in occupation jails. The communique said that dozens of Palestinian militants in Israeli jails have died and others have contracted chronic and contagious diseases which threaten their lives, as a result of a premeditated lack of medical care by the prison authorities.

YWCA DELEGATIONS VISIT QALANDIA CAMP

Delegations From the Young Women's Christian Association branches in Korea, Canada, India, Ghana, Kenya and Australia visited the Qalandia camp near Ramallah on May 24. They saw the harsh living conditions in the camp and

were briefed by both the Director of Services there and the UNRWA commissioner for the Ramallah and Jerusalem regions, on the impact of the decrease of UNRWA aid. They declared that they will transmit their observations to their respective countries.

ISRAELI SOLDIERS SHOOT AT PALESTINIANS IN AL-BIREH

Israeli soldiers opened fire at a crowd of Palestinian citizens who were attending a Palestinian Folklore Show in the West Bank town of al-Bireh, injuring two of them. The Israeli authorities later said that the Palestinian citizens threw stones and empty bottles at Israeli army vehicles which were passing in the area during the show, which was held by a social club in al-Bireh.

ISRAELI MILITARY AUTHORITIES DENY SALFIT MAYOR PERMIT TO VISIT AMMAN

The Israeli Military authorities in the West Bank rejected the applica-



Israeli occupation troops in the West Bank town of Nablus

OCCUPATION DIARY



"We will confront the 'self-rule' conspiracy"

tion made by the Mayor of Salfit, Hassan al-Zir, for a permit to visit Amman. The authorities gave no reason for this rejection. It is worth mentioning in this context that the Israeli authorities have recently taken precautionary measures against West Bank Mayors who took part in the demonstrations against the Gosh Imonim gang's attempt to increase settlements in the West Bank.

The Israeli authorities have also turned back all Hebron citizens who were about to cross the Allenby Bridge into Jordan, refusing to allow any of them to continue their journey. The military authorities in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip prohibited all Palestinian citizens from entering the cities of Beersheba and al-Arish from 4 p.m. Friday, May 25th, until Monday, May 28th, as a further security measure during the Begin-Sadat talks.

AL-SHAKA'A: WE WILL CONFRONT SELF-RULE CONSPIRACY

Bassam al-Shaka'a, the Mayor of Nablus, confirmed that the Palestinian people will not participate in

the 'self-rule' talks due to begin this month between Egypt and Israel.

In an interview with the 'Israel and Palestine' newsletter published in Paris, Shaka'a said that Egypt and the USA will never find a single Palestinian ready to participate in any talks which do not respect the Palestinians' rights to independence and self-determination. He said that the Palestinian people in the occupied territories have already expressed their opinions on the subject, which are rejection of the Camp David accords and the self-rule project, in both local and international circles. He added that Begin decided to sign a separate peace treaty with Sadat and refused to negotiate with the Palestinian people, therefore it is the latter's right to answer as they see fit, stressing that all means of struggle are just and legal. Shaka'a then said that the aim of the Palestinian people is clear and is in contradiction with the self-rule project.

On May 22, Shaka'a met with the US Consul in Jerusalem, condemned the Sadat-Begin talks and said that the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories will never accept any alternative to the PLO. He also

confirmed the Palestinian people's determination to foil all attempts to implement the 'self-rule' plan and all currently proposed 'solutions'.

HALHOUL MAYOR: NO PALESTINIAN WILL COOPERATE IN SELF-RULE PLAN

In a press interview held in Amman on May 24, the Mayor of Halhoul, Muhammad Melhim, said that the Camp David triumvirate is going ahead with the conspiracy against the Palestinian people, and confirmed that they will never find a single Palestinian to cooperate with them in implementing the self-rule conspiracy. He further added that the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories, and the Arab Nation as a whole, have declared their rejection of the liquidationist agreements concluded against the interests of the Palestinian cause. Melhim also spoke about a new Israeli expansionist plan which is represented by a settlement wave inside the cities and villages of the West Bank.

MILITARY OPERATIONS



COMMANDO OPERATIONS IN JERUSALEM AND TEL AVIV

No 77/79:

Palestinian commandos of special unit "K" at 6:05 a.m. on May 20, 1979, set off charges inside a bus station in the industrial region of Beit Shaimesh, a Jerusalem suburb. The explosion damaged a few buses and injured several station guards. The unit returned safely to base.

No 76/79:

At dawn on Sunday, May 20, a commando unit planted an anti-vehicular mine along the road used by Israeli mobile patrols guarding the shores of Tel Aviv, and passing through the Country Club area. At 6:00 a.m. the mine was discovered by an Israeli patrol, which immediately called an explosives expert who detonated the charge on the spot.

No 78/79:

Acting on orders from the General Command of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, the "martyr Mahmoud Saleh al-Sharif" unit on May 22, planted timed explosive charges inside the Israeli military courts and offices used by the intelligence services in the West Bank city of Hebron. The charges went off at dawn, killing or injuring the building's guards and several persons who were inside these offices, and damaging the contents of these offices. Following the explo-

sion, dozens of Palestinian citizens of Hebron were arrested for interrogation. Radio Israel admitted the operation, and reported that three explosions had occurred in the city of Hebron and that three offices were completely destroyed. The commando unit returned safely to base.

No 79/79:

A unit of Palestinian commandos operating inside the occupied territories, on May 22 evening planted timed explosive charges near a night-club, usually frequented by Israeli officers and intelligence agents, in a Jerusalem suburb. The charges were however discovered at 11:15 p.m. just before they were due to explode. Their discovery created a state of panic among Zionist settlers of the region, which was immediately evacuated by Israeli security forces. Explosives experts were immediately called up but were unable to defuse the charges, so they had to detonate them on the spot which caused material damage to several neighbouring shops.

No 80/79:

Acting on orders to escalate military operations against Israeli military targets, the Palestinian commando group belonging to "The Martyr Abu Hassan Salameh" unit operating inside occupied Palestine, on May 23 were able to overcome intensive Israeli security measures, and placed several timed

explosive charges at the entrance of an Israeli army cooperative on the "Shtanfer" road in the Petah Tikva settlement, east of Tel Aviv. The charges exploded at 9:00 a.m. during rush hour at the cooperative, which was packed with Israeli soldiers and officers. The explosion killed or injured dozens of Israelis, damaged a large part of the cooperative and its contents, and destroyed a number of military vehicles parked in front of the building.

Israeli police erected checkpoints at the entrance to the settlements and in various streets, rounding up dozens of Palestinian citizens on charges of involvement in the operation. Radio Israel admitted the operation in its Hebrew language news bulletin, and said that two persons had been killed and 14 others injured, most of them seriously, as a result of the explosion.

TWO COMMANDO OPERATIONS NEAR GAZA AND IN TEL AVIV MARKET

No 82/79:

At 7:30 p.m. on May 24, a militant from special unit "B" attacked with a hand grenade an Israeli military bus belonging to the Dan Company while on its way from Gaza to the Nahal Oz Settlement. The front end of the bus was destroyed and several Israelis who were inside the bus were injured as a result of the grenade's explosion.

MILITARY OPERATIONS

The Israeli forces consequently closed the Gaza-Beersheba road, and arrested dozens of Palestinian citizens for their alleged connection with the attack.

No 83/79:

A Palestinian commando unit, on May 24 evening planted a powerful timed explosive charge inside the Karmel Market in the centre of Tel Aviv. At 10:30 p.m., the charge went off, killing or wounding an unspecified number of Israelis who guard the market at night, and causing material damage in several shops. Radio Israel admit-

ted the operation in its Hebrew language news bulletin but did not reveal the losses, and attributed the explosion to personal differences.

COMMANDO OPERATIONS IN JERUSALEM AND HAIFA

No 84/79:

Acting on orders from the General Command of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, the "Martyr Hani Abu Libdeh" unit, on May 27, booby-trapped timed explosive charges inside the central bus station in Jerusalem. At 10.00 p.m., the charges went off between the hands of an explosives expert who was trying to carry the charge to a neighbouring square to defuse it. The explosion of the charges fatally injured the expert, wounded two Israeli policemen, destroyed parts of the station, and damaged several buses parked in the station. Israeli security forces in Jerusalem immediately launched a campaign of

arrests of Palestinian citizens, on the pretext of their connection with the explosion. The unit nevertheless returned safely to base.

No. 85/79:

One of our special units operating inside the occupied territories on May 28, planted timed powerful explosive charges inside an Israeli military bus station in Beit Jalim street in Haifa. At 11:30 a.m. the charges exploded, resulting in an unspecified number of Israeli casualties and damaging the station and several nearby shops. Israeli police and civil guards immediately closed off the area to cars and pedestrians; and with the aid of explosives experts began an extensive search for other explosives. Road blocks were meanwhile erected and patrols run all over the city. Israeli Radio admitted the operation, and reported that the casualties from the explosion were transferred to Rambam Hospital in Haifa.



'PALESTINIAN AUTONOMY' TALKS:

"WAR WITH ALL WEAPONS AND NO RULES"

On May 25, 1979, as part of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty of last March, Israeli occupation forces withdrew from the Egyptian coastal town of El Arish. The whole scenario of Israeli withdrawal took place within the framework of the Camp David plot against the Palestinian and Arab people. Some Egyptian people were jubilant, for they were told that Israeli withdrawal from El Arish is only a step towards a complete Israeli withdrawal from all Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and will also lead to the setting up of a Palestinian state.

"Reuters" news agency reported from El Arish that "one item not seen during the Israeli rule popped up within hours of the Israeli withdrawal — Palestinian flags. The green, white and black banners fluttered from car antennas and buildings and several could be seen along Sadat's five-kilometer route from the war memorial to town." Moreover the jubilant crowd was carrying posters that read: "Today El Arish, Tomorrow Jerusalem."

In fact, Israel did not even actually withdraw from El Arish. What happened in reality was that Israel withdrew to rear positions. 5000 of the town's labor force, as part of the agreement, is to continue providing cheap labor inside



...their victims (in South Lebanon after Israeli air raid)



The enemies of the Palestinian people pretend to represent...

Israel. Zionist settlers are to continue working on land near El Arish and fish in the Bardawil Lagoon. Egypt will not be allowed to have its armed forces in the region, let alone inside El Arish. Moreover, the economic interaction of the town will be with the Zionist state and not with the central Egyptian government.

Only hours after the public rejoicing, Israeli, Egyptian and US delegates met in Beersheba to convene what they called "talks on Palestinian autonomy." The head of Israel's delegation, Interior Minister Josef Burg, declared, "What I must make clear and what must be understood from the outset is that autonomy does not and cannot imply sovereignty... Israel will not agree, and indeed totally rejects, the proposition, declaration or establishment of a Palestinian state in Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza district. The creation would be the certain prescription for violence and war. Indeed it would be a mortal danger to Israel and a grave peril to the whole free world."

The head of Egypt's delegation, Defense Minister Kamal Hassan Ali, declared, "We are not here to determine the future of the Palestinian people, for self-determination is their God-given right." But then, what was he doing there? The representative of the U.S. "free world", Vance, pointed out that he felt the tone of the speeches "on both sides was good. There was much common ground, and we shall have to build on that." What was labelled 'common ground' and 'good' was nothing but the discredited bungled work of their Camp David conspiracy.

ATTEMPTS TO LIQUIDATE THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND CAUSE

The talks of the representatives of the U.S., Israel and Sadat, on Palestinian 'self-rule' bring together the proven enemies of the Palestinian people and cause, which now claim the right to 'represent' their victim and to decide upon its future. While pretending to deal with the core

“WAR WITH ALL WEAPONS AND NO RULES”

issue of the Middle East, the Palestinian people's national cause, they, in fact, intend to liquidate it in the course and under the cover of allegedly 'intensive' but fruitless talks to be presumably protracted for years.

While launching a renewed bloody war of genocide against the Palestinian people, the share holders in the Camp David plot have also been issuing contradictory statements intended to lure the Palestinian and Arab people into carrying out capitulatory acts. Israeli officials, including Foreign Minister Dayan, have been leaking information to the press that the PLO is the representative of the Palestinian people and that there can be no peace without it. Lately, on May 26, Israeli Knesset member Moshe Shakhbol, said on Israel radio that the US will recognize the PLO "within the next few months." Sadat, echoing statements emanating from Washington on May 26, said that "Israeli annexation of East Jerusalem is null and void, and the Jewish settlements on the occupied West Bank have no legal validity." He added, "the talks with Israel are intended to clear the way for the establishment of a Palestinian state."

The US's Vance added, "For Egypt and the Arab world, the primary focus is upon the

BEGIN'S 'GOOD-WILL': 16 OUT OF 2,600 POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASED

The Israeli government, on 28 May 1979, set free 16 Palestinian prisoners "as a gesture to further peace". An official announcement said the release of the prisoners resulted from the meeting between Prime Minister Menahem Begin and President Anwar Sadat in the Sinai desert town of el-Arish.

"Reuter" reported that according to "official sources Israel still has about 2,600 prisoners in what is known as the security category. The Israeli spokesman said 10 of those released had been held under administrative detention — meaning prison without trial. The six others were in prison for minor security offenses.

legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, without whom there cannot be a lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict." It's needless to point out that all are empty slogans that are in no way matched by deeds.

At the same time, Israel has escalated its mass terror against the Palestinians and the Lebanese civilian population, not only killing and wounding scores of innocent people but also driving out waves of tens of thousands of new refugees and deliberately depopulating vast areas in South Lebanon. Israeli naval, air and ground forces for days on end are raiding refugee centers killing unarmed civilians in what could be understood only as a war of genocide. And the Israeli Chief of Staff, Raphael Eytan declared that "Israel is waging a war against the commandos and the Palestinians which knows no frontiers and no rules, a real war for our existence and for the survival of Israel." His statement was made only three days after Defence Minister Ezer Weizmann said that "The war against the Palestinians will continue everywhere, at all times, with all weapons and the most modern methods."

OCCUPATION TERROR AND MORE SETTLEMENTS

On the ground after the declaration of Jerusalem by Israeli Premier Begin as "Jerusalem D.C. the eternal capital of the state of Israel", many Zionist settlements are being constructed in and around it. Israeli daily "Ha'aretz", on 21 May, has summed it up that the occupation authorities are to establish 20 new settlements in the West Bank, seven in Jordan Valley and three in Golan before the end of 1980. "Ma'ariv" for its share on 23 May reported that the Israeli ministerial committee for security affairs has confiscated 350 dunums of land north of Hebron, which will be used for settlements. Many Palestinian schools and universities have been closed down in all the occupied territories and the Palestinian population is being intimidated by mass arrest and torture.

A CARROT AND STICK POLICY

The "peace" statements and the acts of war, genocide and continued occupation, force us to conclude that under the cover of "peace talks", "Palestinian autonomy talks" and the sort, a carrot and stick policy has been unleashed by the Camp David trio to destroy the Palestinian and Arab people's will to resist, and to consolidate Zionist occupation of Arab land.

This policy is doomed to failure, for no one can crush a 4 million people's struggle to retain its freedom and dignity. And last but not least, war and peace are in the hands of the Palestinian people and their cause, and nowhere else.

SETTLEMENT EXPANSION SHARON CALLS FOR INCREASE IN SETTLEMENTS

On May 17, the Israeli Minister of Agriculture and Head of the Ministerial Committee for Settlement, Ariel Sharon, called for the intensification of settlement activities. He said that settlement operations in the West Bank are as important as in Galilee, and are significant for the mobilization of settlers and for providing depth to the coast, while settlement in the Jordan River Valley is significant for the confrontation of the Eastern Front. The Israeli daily "Ma'ariv" reported also that the Ministerial Committee for Settlement has decided to destroy the forest which extends over 400 dunums in the Nabi Saleh area near Ramallah, for the establishment of a new settlement near the newly-constructed Nevi Tsuf colony.

The plan to establish 20 new settlements was further confirmed during a press conference held in the occupied territories on Friday May 18, by Matitiahu Drobless, co-chairman of the Settlement Department of the World Zionist Organization, who disclosed the above-mentioned plans and reported that the organization expects an in-flow of 58,000 Jewish families (over 200,000 settlers) in the coming five years.

On May 21, the Israeli daily newspaper "Ha'aretz" reported that the Israeli authorities plan to estab-

lish 20 new settlements in the West Bank: seven in the Jordan River Valley and three in the Golan Heights, before the end of 1980. The paper added that before the end of 1979, the Israeli authorities will establish three residential units in the Alon Moreh, Sfouh and the Beit Eil settlements, and a local center in the Ifrath settlement.

PROVOCATIONS IN HEBRON

"Ma'ariv" on May 20, reported that a large group of Qiryat Arba' settlers joined the Zionist settlers who are currently occupying the Dabwiyeh building in central Hebron. Some of the settlers also attempted to raid a pharmacy in Hebron on the grounds that it belonged to Israeli settlers.

On May 22, "Ma'ariv" reported that the Israeli Ministerial Committee for Security affairs has decided to confiscate 350 dunums of land north of Hebron, which will be used for the building of residential units and industrial centers after the Palestinian inhabitants are expelled.

ZIONISTS SETTLERS ATTACK HOMES

In the evening of May 26, an Israeli group broke into three Palestinian houses in Hebron. After beating the women, children and elderly people and firing a few bullets in the air from their Uzi machine guns to terrify the Palestinian citizens, the Israeli group robbed

the three houses. They also ordered their owners to evacuate them immediately, claiming that the houses had belonged to Jewish families in 1929. It is noteworthy that similar crimes have recently been committed throughout the villages and cities of the West Bank, by Israeli armed groups, who are believed to have links with the Israeli army.

Meanwhile, hundreds of women of the Qiryat Arba' settlement near Hebron demonstrated on May 27 in the settlement's streets as well as in those of Hebron itself, demanding the right to settle inside the Palestinian city of Hebron. The demonstrators went to the Ibrahim Mosque, then to some houses in the city which they claim on the pretext that they once belonged to Jewish citizens. Finally, they joined the Zionist women who have been occupying the Debwiyeh building in the center of Hebron for several weeks. The Israeli authorities had previous knowledge of this demonstration, as they provided the women demonstrators with the necessary protection while they were marching into Hebron.

JEWISH AGENCY PREPARES FOR NEW LAND THEFT

The Israeli newspaper "Ma'ariv" also recently revealed a new settlement plan prepared by the Jewish Agency in cooperation with the Israeli Agriculture Ministry. The newspaper reported that the Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency, together with Ariel Sharon, Agriculture Minister and Head of the Ministerial Settlement Committee, are presently investigating government-owned lands, and if they can not find any government land, they will search for



Zionist settlers bringing in portables near Ma'ia village in the Galilee

ZIONISM
IN PRACTICE

ZIONISM IN PRACTICE

suitable land belonging to 'absentee' citizens. If they can not find sufficient land in this category, they will return the issue to the Ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs. The newspaper said that this committee is due to meet on May 30, to discuss plans for establishing new settlements in the occupied West Bank.

ZIONIST PLAN TO EVICT AL-TIRA VILLAGERS

Recently, news reports from occupied Palestine referred to a Zionist plan to evict the inhabitants of al-Tira village in Galilee in 48-occupied Palestine once again. The inhabitants, however, announced their rejection of this measure and appealed to local and world public opinion to intervene in order to stop this eviction plan.

ISRAEL ARRESTS ANTI-ZIONIST ACTIVIST

Dr. Uri Davis, an Israeli senior research fellow at Bradford University (Britain), has been arrested in Israel with charge of having contact with PLO officials. Dr. Davis, 35 years old, is well-known for his public condemnation of Zionism, and has lectured against Zionist ideology inside and outside Israel. He is one of the prominent elements of the Israeli democratic forces calling for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied territories, recognizing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and the setting up of an independent state of Palestine on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Dr. Davis, arrested in appalling conditions, is kept in a cell with the light on all the time, and not allowed to wash or change

his clothes or take exercises, his wife Mrs. Tosje Maks said. A committee to campaign for the release of Dr. Davis was already set up in Bradford University.

ISRAELI AUTHORITIES ASSASSINATE MILITANTS IN BEERSHEBA PRISON

Meanwhile two Palestinian detainees in the Beersheba prison, Nasser Swaileh al-Heewa and Muhammed Hassan al-Warkeh, were killed and several others injured when the military commander of the prison ordered his men to fire at a demonstration staged inside the prison on the occasion of May 15. This crime has provoked a wave of condemnation among detainees in Beersheba prison and other jails, which culminated in a hunger strike by the prisoners.

SCORES OF PALESTINIAN YOUTH SENTENCED

The Israeli military court in Bethlehem on May 15 brought 17 students from Bethlehem University and Bethlehem Secondary School to trial. Eight of the students, Nassim Men'im, Rasem Obeidat, Hamad Alian, Ali Sawahri, Jamal Abed, Ibrahim Shuqeirat and Yasser Ayash, were sentenced to five months in jail and fined IL. 10,000. Four other students from Bethlehem Secondary School, Raed al-Malki, Jamal Safi, Nader Abu 'Amshe, and Yousef al-Shomari, were sentenced to three months imprisonment and a IL. 10,000 fine. The five remaining students were released, and testified that they had been severely beaten and insulted in prison. These are Elias Khreish, Nadim Suleiman, Mousa Hamdan, Abdallah Hamzeh and Ahmad Muhammed. Several

other students are still under detention at the Nablus Central jail awaiting trial.

The Israeli court in the town of Afouleh sentenced 12 Palestinian young men from Dabourieh village to pay fines of IL. 400 each plus other fines of IL. 1000, on charges of demonstrating on the Day of the Land.

ISRAELI OFFICIALS ADMIT FAILURE OF SECURITY MEASURES

After the Petah Tikva operation on May 24, the Israeli authorities admitted the failure of all security measures to prevent the escalation of Palestinian commando operations in the depth of occupied Palestine.

The statements of Israeli army and police officials and of radio correspondents about how the Palestinian commandos were able to overcome the intensified security measures, all contradicted each other.

The police commander in Petah Tikva blamed the success of the operation on the Israeli settlers' lack of alertness and caution, but Radion Israel held the police and the army responsible for not forestalling the operation. The radio reported that in spite of the fact that Petah Tikva was a target of Palestinian commandos, the police and army commanders had even failed to inform hospitals in the region about the explosion and thus delayed preparations to receive the casualties.

ISRAELI SEA PIRACY

The PLO delivered an urgent complaint to U.N. Secretary General Dr. Kurt Waldheim on May 22, against the numerous incidents of Israeli sea piracy, the latest being the interception of a ship transporting ambulances and vehicles destined for the SAMED workshop Institution, which takes care of the families of Palestinian martyrs and prisoners. The memorandum said that all such aggressions should be considered acts of piracy and a violation of international maritime laws.



Terre Fleener

PHRC APPEAL TO FREE AN AMERICAN CITIZEN FROM ISRAELI JAIL

On May 1, 1979, the Palestine Human Rights Campaign (PHRC) in Washington, in letters sent to President Carter, the US Department of State Human Rights Division, and the Israeli Embassy in Washington, made an urgent appeal to act on behalf of Terre Fleener, a US citizen in jail in Israel, with the aim of freeing her from prison.

The PHRC, the letter said, received reports from Terre's mother and her Jewish lawyer, Felicia Langer, that Terre was recently beaten up in prison. She was also attacked by a fellow prisoner and received a black eye, other facial injuries and a possible broken nose, as reported in the "New York Daily News" of April 29, 1979. The PHRC appealed to the free people of the world to call or telegram the US State Department, the White House and even the Israeli Embassy in Washington to communicate to them the following simple message:

"We urge you to act to free Terre Fleener, a US citizen in jail in Israel. She has been in prison too long and is in poor health. She should be freed and allowed to return to the United States."

Terre Fleener was sentenced in 1978 to five years' imprisonment on charges of taking pictures, which the court considered an act of espionage.

Her mother weeping in court in Tel Aviv



PALESTINIAN JOURNALIST TORTURED

The Zionist government's judicial counsellor, Isaac Zameir, ordered the reopening on May 3 of an investigation into the case of a Palestinian journalist, Ismail Ajweh who was tortured during his interrogation. Ajweh, still in detention by an administrative order after four months, is now undergoing medical treatment in a Jerusalem hospital.

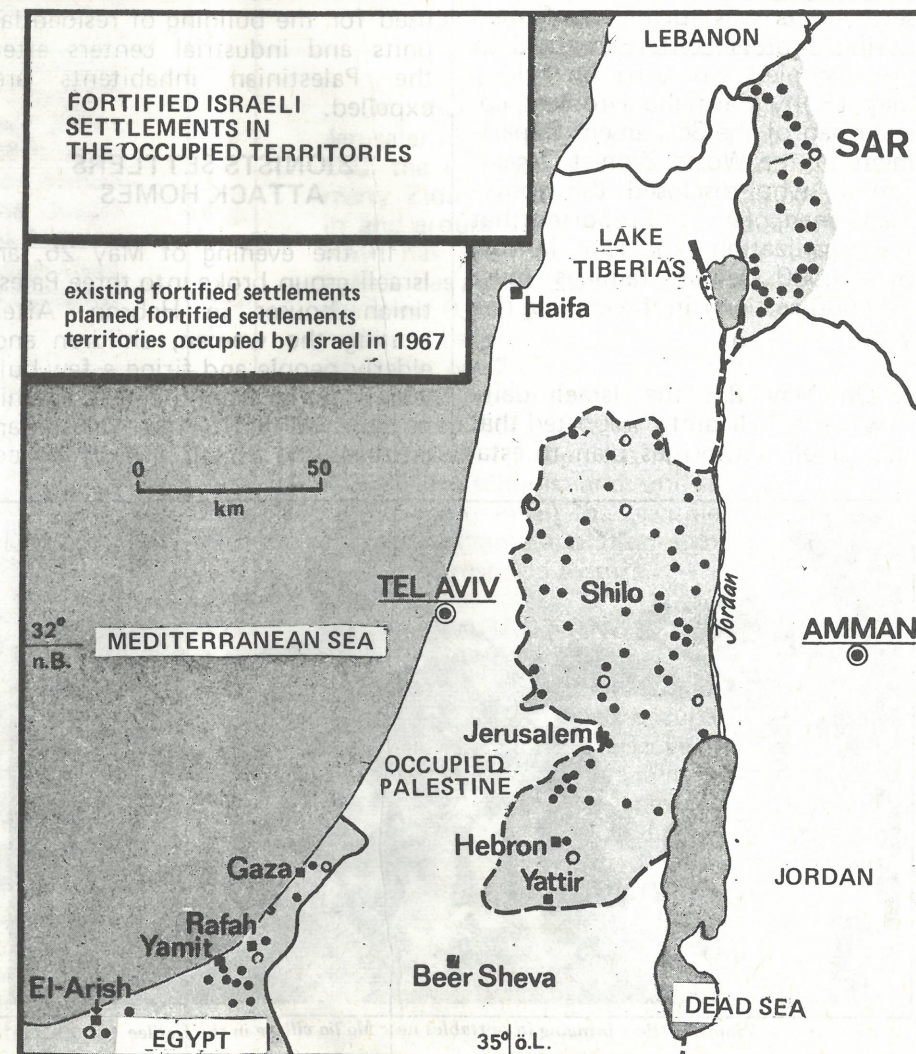
Zameir felt compelled to make this investigation after an article appeared recently in Ha'aretz, which admitted openly that the Palestinian journalist had been cruelly tortured by his Zionist interrogators.

The newspaper, "Ha'aretz" commissioned a polygraph test and the journalist, Ismail Ajweh, agreed to take it. Mordechai Gazit, who administered the test to Mr. Ajweh, was quoted in "Ha'aretz" on 25 May as saying, "On the basis of the findings of the polygraph examination, it seems to us that Mr. Ajweh told the truth and in fact was tortured during his investigation." For five years, Mr. Gazit was the chief examiner and acting head of the Israeli National Police Headquarters Polygraph Laboratory and chief trainer at the police polygraph school.

Mr. Ajweh has been in Al Maqas-Hospital since April 24, 1979 with injuries of the head, back, feet, legs and stomach. He walks with a limp, and he said in an interview that he had a continuous headache. He described himself as a sympathizer of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

INTERVIEWED AT HOSPITAL

Mr. Ajweh, 30 years old, was born near Hebron on the occupied West Bank and lives in East Jerusalem. He was a journalist and editor of "Al-Shaab", an Arab news-



PALESTINIAN JOURNALIST TORTURED

paper published in Jerusalem, and for the last four years has been publishing books on Arab-Israeli topics, including his own work, "The Revolution Will Not Die." He is married and has two children. In the interview, conducted at his hospital bed, Mr. Ajweh said Israeli soldiers surrounded his home at 1 A.M. on Dec. 18, 1978.

"Two detectives dressed as civilians knocked on the door," said Mr. Ajweh, "My wife opened, and I asked them what they wanted but they did not reply. They began to search the house and they took many books. They also found a rubber mask of Yasser Arafat and one of Moshe Dayan. I had bought them in Jerusalem for my son. They sell them to children." The detectives bundled Mr. Ajweh into a car and took him to police headquarters in western Jerusalem.

DESCRIPTION OF BEATINGS

"They put me in a cell called No. 10," said Mr. Ajweh. "It has no windows. The interrogation began at 8 in the morning. A man who called himself Uzi began the questioning," said Mr. Ajweh. "With every question, he beat me with his fists. He hit me again and again on my head. The interrogation with Uzi went on for 18 days. It would



Ismail Ajweh taking polygraph test following his release

start every morning at 8 and go on three, four times a day until 11 at night. And always, always, he beat me after every question — first with his fists, then when he got tired, with his feet."

Mr. Ajweh said the police repeatedly asked him three questions: Did he have any ties to the Palestine Liberation Organization? What ties did he have with the mayors on the West Bank? Which Israeli journalists was he friendly with? Mr. Ajweh said that at one point his arms were handcuffed behind his back to a pipe in the police courtyard and he was left in that position, unable to sit down, for 72 hours.

HOODING

"A bag was kept on my head

during all that time," he said. "They unchained me to eat for maybe half an hour a day. Sometimes, Uzi would sit on a table above me — I would be sitting on a chair — and he would press his feet hard on my lap and order me to stand up," said Mr. Ajweh. "Then he would get angry and drag me against the wall and start to strangle me until my tongue hung out. He would shout: 'Say yes or I'll kill you!' I did not even know what I was supposed to say yes about."

At another point, Mr. Ajweh said, Uzi made him put on the Arafat mask and stand on a table shouting: "The Revolution Will Never Die!" Mr. Ajweh said the beatings and interrogation by Uzi stopped after 18 days. For the next two weeks, he was questioned by a man who called himself Abu Nehad. Then he spent 60 days in complete isolation.

"Every few days, a guard would open a slit in the door and say something like: 'You smell bad — you'll have to stay in your cell,' or 'You will be released when peace comes' or 'You will stay here until you die,'" Mr. Ajweh said. His wife, Basmeh, who is eight months pregnant, wrote to Prime Minister Menachem Begin but the police told Mr. Ajweh he had not interceded.

Mr. Ajweh was released April 16. He said he felt so bad after a week that he went to a doctor who referred him to the hospital.

"INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD": ISRAEL'S 'CONTRIBUTION'

"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."

International Declaration
of the Rights of the Child
Principle 9

This year is the International Year of the Child. All throughout the world, we hear of the celebrations especially held for this occasion. However, the most conspicuous and inhumane "celebrations" are those held in our occupied land.

The place is Ashkelon junction at 3:50 a.m. Dilapidated vans come to unload their human cargo. People pour out of them, like sardines from a can. 400 working hands; 40 children — 40 pairs of working hands, cheap labor. It is the same everywhere: at Erez junction, on Aba-Hillel Street, in the illegal settlements all over Palestine.

Although evidence of child labor has continually been ignored since the June War of 1967, it was only in the past year that the Israeli authorities admitted its existence after a TV program showed hundreds of children, some only eight years old, being selected by Israeli farmers and herded into trucks to be taken to the fields.

The practice is so rampant that in the Rafah Salient district, 150 farmers in only six of the Zionist settlements are now employing about 1000 children. A farmer said to a "Ma'ariv" reporter: "Most of the owners are not eager to employ Arabs, but they have no other choice. Jews don't want to do these jobs. Without the

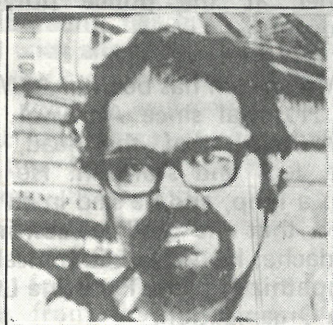


Arabs, Israel would be paralyzed."(1)

As far as the Israeli settlers in the occupied territories are concerned, employing Palestinian children gives them a cheap labor source — they pay each child laborer about LL 40, for "what can they possibly need? Beans for LL 2 and some bread, and they are fixed for the day!" (2) It also prevents our people from getting a decent education, thereby condemning them to the status of unskilled labor. Oded Ramat, the owner of a petrol station at Ashkelon, says that Arab children cannot go to school because "they are idiots."(3)

The children work under very hard conditions. In the Gaza Strip, for example, they have to start out at 2:00 or 3:00 a.m. so that they can begin work at 5:00 or 6:00 a.m. They live on bread and olives which they bring along with them. Israeli farmers use to lock up the Arabs working for them, and they often beat them. Says one farmer: "I would be ready to cut every Arab into small pieces with my own hands!" This does not stop him from employing Arab children, of course.(4)

Some of the children work regularly for the same farmer; others gather at certain stations until they are selected by the farmers. There, the Israelis treat them "like animals," as the manager of the Paz petrol station at the entrance of



WORK FOR THE RELEASE OF PANAYOTIS PASCHALIS!

After a series of long delays, the Israeli Supreme Court has turned

down the cassation appeal of Panayotis Paschalis, the progressive Cypriot journalist, correspondent of the newspaper "Haravghi". Paschalis was convicted last July by the Tel Aviv tribunal to five years imprisonment for having "violated the national security of Israel". In reality, the 'fault' committed by the Journalist was part of his professional activities. The articles and pictures presented by Paschalis denounced the policy of aggression of Tel-Aviv and the Zionist terror committed against the Palestinian people, in particular in the occupied territories.

**"INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD":
ISRAEL'S 'CONTRIBUTION'**

Ashkelon says. His partner, Shlomo Buskila, interrupts: "What do you mean like animals? They are animals! They don't deserve better treatment!" (5)

But there are even places where the workers, mostly old women and children, are assembled in a kind of prison compound, like that in Rishon Le-Zion, for example. There Israeli farmers select those they fancy to work for them. "The farmers choose us like cattle — They take the strong ones," says Hasan el-Abed from Gaza. (6)

Much of the work is sub-contracted out to a "rayyis" who supplies the required work force and gets a percentage on each head. "The price is fixed according to age, sex and other physical data." (7) This example is a favorite with many farms and kibbutzim. "The employers benefit very much (from employing children). They pay low wages, they provide no social benefits and exploit this cheap labor force to the utmost." (8)

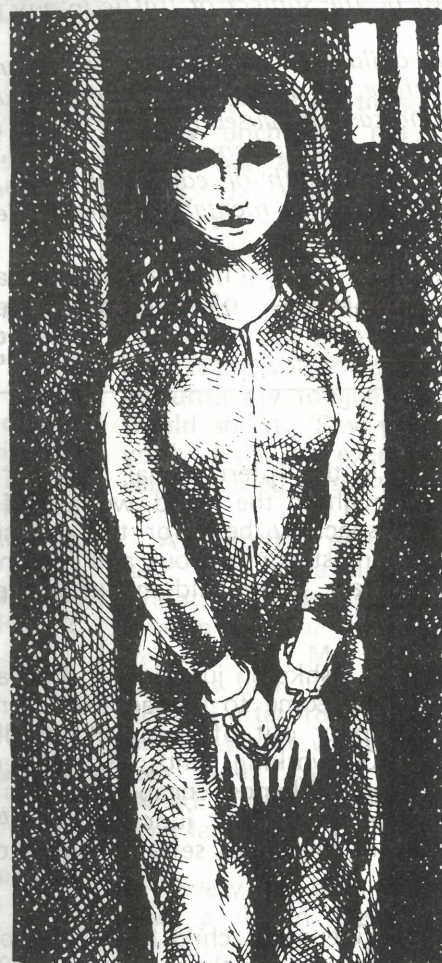
The angry opposition to exploitation of Arab children was not based on humanitarian considerations. Leading Labor party politician Yossi Sarid summed up widespread Israeli feelings when he said he would "rather have the tomatoes rot in the fields" than watch the Arab children who tomorrow night might return with grenades working in his field. One of the reporters reflected: "Does the child show us the future man? The child will grow up and pay us back with hand grenades." (9)

Many children are injured and even killed. Someone asked an Israeli security man: "Are these children insured against accidents?" He replied: "You must be joking, they are only kids." (10)

These children were born under the system of mass punishment pursued by the Israeli authorities to eradicate the Palestinian presence in the land of Palestine. They are denied official recognition of their nationality and are forced to drop out of school before completing their basic studies. They are forced to work in order to help their families survive. A sleepy child sitting in an old truck: his only means to defend himself is to strike back. He is our future man.

Sources

- (1) *Ma'ariv*: "We lock him up every night in the store, and that's that," by Nurit Baretzki (August 18, 1978)
- (2) *Ha'aretz*: "The market of child labor at the Ashkelon junction," by Elon (August 2, 1978)
- (3) *Ibid.*
- (4) *Ma'ariv*, op. cit.
- (5) *Haolam Haze*: "Gaza's Slave Market" (August 23, 1978)
- (6) *Ibid.*
- (7) *Ma'ariv*: "Settlers who employ children: 'I swear I'll take a gun and finish you off one by one'" (August 31, 1978)
- (8) *Ibid.*
- (9) *Ha'aretz*: "The market of child labor" (August 2, 1978)
- (10) *Al Hamishmar*: "The child market at Erez junction" (August 1, 1978).



**FIVE YEARS' IMPRISONMENT
FOR PALESTINIAN CHILD**

According to agencies reports from 10 May, 1979, an Israeli military court in Nablus sentenced a 13 year-old Palestinian child, Mohamed Abdul-Rahim Salem, to five years' imprisonment, because he allegedly was affiliated with the Palestinian Resistance, has resisted the Zionist occupation, caused instigations and distributed leaflets.

THE KINDERGARTEN OF THE CHILDREN FROM TAL AL-ZAATAR



Tenderness, affection and tranquillity are among the main characteristics of the education of the children in the Palestinian Revolution's kindergartens. In general, children whose ages are between 3 and 5 years old are brought up in devotion to their national cause, and in affection for the homeland. In addition, they are educated in a collective spirit. They have to overcome the quarrels dividing them. Above all, they learn how to take the initiative to resolve both their own problems and those of their nation. The kindergartens give priority to the care of orphans, and of children from poor families.

In Damour, a Lebanese town which was the scene of fierce fighting during the Lebanese civil war, we had a closer look at a special Palestinian kindergarten: the kindergarten which mainly has children who survived Tal Al Zaatar. These Palestinian children have lived through an unprecedented experience. The camp of Tal Al Zaatar, once inhabited by about 30,000 Palestinian and Lebanese refugees, became the target of an atrocious campaign perpetrated by the fascist agent forces in the course of their aggression against the Palestinian people and the national Arab forces in Lebanon.

For 19 months the camps was besieged. During 55 days of savage bombardment 55,000 shells were fired into the camp. At least 3000 defenseless civilians were slaughtered, more than 1000 of them in unspeakable acts of massacre during the evacuation of the camp on 12 August 1976, in which all males between the ages of 16 and 40 were indiscriminantly murdered, many of them heads of families. But Tal Al Zaatar has also become a torch of anti-fascist resistance. Cut off from supplies and water, the small group of defenders in the camp continued to resist even throughout the final assault, inflicting heavy losses on the attackers. Most of the fighters of the camp managed to break through the fascist lines. However, many of the surviving children of Tal Al Zaatar have lost their fathers, or even more members of their family.

"I KNOW PALESTINE"

In a ruined building, partially restored, with

panes of glass missing and walls unpainted, you find the kindergarten of the children of Tal Al Zaatar. A somber staircase leads to the entrance of the small room of the directorate. A cupboard full of toys, drawings and maps of Palestine occupy a greater part of the room.

Rawda, a young Palestinian kindergarten teacher, welcomes us. She introduces us to a class with children between the ages of 4 and 5. The classroom, decorated with photos and maps, holds about 22 children. A shelf containing some toys, drawing blocks, paint boxes, plasticine and some examples of manual work covers one wall. Photos of Jerusalem, of Salah Al Din Al Ayyoubi (Saladin — the hero who led the Arabs in their struggle to liberate Palestine from the Crusaders) and Amir Bashir Shahabi (a leader of the Lebanese independence struggle) cover the other walls.

The children greet us with the form of greeting of the Palestinian Revolution, and they sing the Palestinian national anthem, "Biladi, Biladi".

"Are you happy in kindergarten?" we ask Anwar, a 5 year old boy. "Yes I am," he says. "We learn nice songs and do paintings." "Do you know your homeland, Anwar?" "My homeland, Palestine, I don't know, but my parents used to live there. The foreigners came and drove them out." Huda, 4 years old, is a small girl with dark hair and wide eyes. She explains to us: "But me, I know Palestine. I've seen it in an illustrated book. I like the orange trees very much..." "What do you like more, Huda, being in kindergarten or staying at home?" "I prefer to be here every day. At home, I don't have these colored pieces of chalk or nice toys. I had a blond doll in Tal Al Zaatar, but the Kataeb (Phalangists) took it. I don't like the Kataeb — they also killed my father."

Khalil, 5 years old, tells us: "I like the garden and painting. I painted a ship with the Palestinian flag. On the day of the feast the teacher gave us toys. I chose a beautiful train."

THE KINDERGARTEN OF TAL AL ZAATAR CHILDREN

"WE BEAR A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY"

When the children begin to eat their breakfast, Rawda, the teacher, explains to us the situation of the kindergarten: "The kindergarten belongs to the PLO. Sometimes, however, we get donations from certain solidarity committees. This helps us meet the needs of the children and, to a certain extent, to assure their well-being."

"You know, most of our children come from poor families. We bear a great responsibility towards the 135 children registered in the kindergarten and divided among six classes. Seven teachers take care of them. Once a week we visit parents and we strive to overcome the difficulties together."

"What kind of difficulties do you face in your work?"

"Our difficulties are many. For instance, we have to convince the parents to send their children to us. But, I must say, the children become used to life in the kindergarten and encourage parents of other children around them to enroll their children. On the other hand, we have problems with feeding the children. UNRWA, which is supposed to send us food for the children every fortnight, at times neglects its duties. Thus, we are often in a precarious situation, although we overcome the problem."

BLOODY EXPERIENCES, EMOTIONAL SHOCKS

"To come to difficulties of quite another kind," she continued, "we are confronted with children who have lived through a bloody and painful experience. The emotional shock leaves traces and leads to trouble in the personality which becomes manifest in different forms."

"In general one can say, without forgetting



"We bear a great responsibility"



Children from Tal al-Zaatar after their escape
from the massacre in August 1976

the individual characteristics, that most of the children have become misanthropical. We strive to lead them out of their world of enforced solitude, of doubts and fears. I think I can positively say that we have partially succeeded in this, even concerning those most affected, the orphans of Tal Al Zaatar.

"As for our educational program, we give priority to manual work corresponding to the abilities of the children. We also stress children's games, activities which educate and entertain at the same time. We also see to it that the children love their homeland, Palestine, and know of their Palestinian heritage. The children participate in commemorative activities of the Palestinian Revolution, like the Day of the Land, the Day of the Martyrs, the anniversary of the start of the Revolution, and so on. For instance, on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the Palestinian Revolution, we organized a ceremony which was attended by the pupils' parents. The children performed folkloric dances, revolutionary songs and small patriotic scenes."

"What is the educational level of the teachers?"

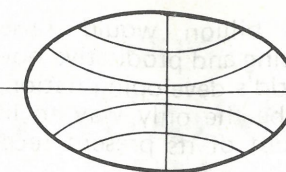
"Most of our teachers have Lebanese Baccalaureates. Some of them continue their studies at the university. In addition, we have all had special teaching courses. Every summer, the Planning and Education Center of the Revolution organizes courses in pedagogy and child psychology for all staff members of kindergartens. We participated in most of the courses."

ISRAELI RAIDS

"Are you protected against Israeli attacks?"

"No, we don't even have a shelter. When the Israeli warplanes overfly or bomb Damour, as they did for instance during the Israeli invasion of South Lebanon, we are forced to take the children quickly back to their homes. These aggressions, naturally, have repercussions on the minds of the children, who still feel themselves being threatened, since they are Palestinians."

WORLD



EVENTS

ATTEMPT TO 'AFRICANIZE' IMPERIALIST AGGRESSION IN ZIMBABWE

After the sham election of puppet prime minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who was sworn in on 29 May together with his president Josias Gumedze, the prime minister designate has announced the formation of a 17 member cabinet. Five whites have been appointed to key positions in the cabinet, far out of proportion to the number of whites in the country. The new cabinet includes the illegal Premier Ian Smith, who has been appointed minister of state. This executive branch of the "new" administration is responsible to the legislative body and controlled by it. In the legislature whites have a complete veto power over the African majority. The army, the police and the civil service will remain under the direct control of Ian Smith.

One might wonder why a black majority cabinet is being brought in without a transfer of power to the African majority. The answer is that imperialist powers and the white minority with the support of a "newly elected" puppet clique are attempting to "Africanize" the war, the way U.S. imperialism attempted to "Vietnamize" its dirty war in Vietnam. Because of this doomed attempt, peace in Zimbabwe is farther than ever. This view is supported by the white minority in Zimbabwe, who according to an official release by Ian Smith's regime on 28 May, have stepped up their "chicken run". 4500 whites have left the country in the past 4 months. When the figures are compared to immigration figures of last year for the same period, it means twice as many whites are now taking the "chicken run". Is there no settlement? They know better.

FRANCE PROPOSES AN 'AFRO-ARAB-EUROPEAN' SUMMIT

On 20 May, France's President Giscard d'Estaing proposed an Afro-Arab-European Summit to discuss "economic cooperation". He made this proposal while attending the Sixth Summit of 22 French-speaking African countries in Rwanda. The Summit, failing to agree on the essence of the proposed cooperation, was later disbanded after an argument broke out over the conduct of Summit participant Emperor Bokassa I of the Central African Empire. Emperor Bokassa, whose coronation was paid for by the French government, ordered the slaughter of 100 schoolchildren aged between 8 and 16 prior



to his departure to meet the French head of state, according to an Amnesty International report. Bokassa is being maintained in power by French troops who have been set in under the cover of Afro-French 'cooperation', in order to keep his country and others like it loyal to France and the West.

MEXICO BREAKS LINK WITH NICARAGUA AS SOMOZA UNLEASHES WAR OF GENOCIDE

Amidst reports of continued successes by the Sandinista Liberation Front against the forces of the Somoza dictatorship, Mexican president Jose Lopes Portillo has announced his country's decision to break off diplomatic relations with Nicaragua. The Mexican president said his country's move was taken because of the "Somoza government's horrendous genocide against the Nicaraguan people." The International Red Cross, for its part, has pointed out that Somoza's National Guard is turning its guns against unarmed civilians and Red Cross workers. In its radio broadcast monitored in Managua, the Red Cross reported that on 20 May "National Guardsmen shot and killed a Red Cross director as he evacuated children from a hospital in the town of Jinatega". The Somoza dictatorship, in a futile last minute attempt to save itself, has unleashed a war of genocide against the Nicaraguan people, and is backed by U.S. funds and Israeli arms. In an attempt to stop news of his massacres from reaching the outside world, Somoza on 30 May banned all radio and TV news except for "cultural information".



UNCTAD MEETS IN MANILA

The Fifth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has been meeting since early May in Manila, the Philippine capital. The meeting, which is expected to end in early June, is being attended by delegates from 159 nations amidst an increasing disparity between the world's rich and developing countries.

In February, ministers from the "Group of 77" had met in Tanzania to put the final touches on Third World demands. At that time, 117 members urged a massive transfer of resources to the world's poor. The "Group of 77" meeting indicated that there was an idle economic capacity in the West of some \$200 billion, and that a transfer of some

\$35-50 billion would raise the purchasing and productive power of the world's developing nations, and would be the only way to lift the world out of its present recession.

In Manila, different delegates from developing nations have demanded that the international economic order be changed on an equal and democratic basis, and that measures be taken against neo-colonialist practices of imperialist monopolies, which still take it for granted that parts of the world are there to be influenced and yield profits. The head of the delegation of the host country, Mrs. Imelda Marcos, protested in an opening speech the protectionist measures taken by capitalist states.

Speaking on behalf of the World Peace Council, Mrs. Jeanne Marticeuse, Minister of Social Affairs of Guinea, warned against international finance capital and described imperialist capital investment as a major cause of the economic dependence and great difficulties of the developing countries.

Arab delegates have pointed out the disruptive role being played by Israel in the economic development of the Middle East, by posing the threat of military aggression and maintaining the occupation of Arab land. Moreover, as pointed out by the Syrian delegate, Mustafa el-Bitar, the Egyptian-Israeli treaty is threatening the economic development of the Middle East, not only by accepting Israeli occupation of Arab territories, but also by introducing greater imperialist finance domination of the region. Observers have pointed out that the Sadat-Begin treaty calls for the expansion and domination of Zionist and imperialist finance in Egypt and the Arab region under the cover of "economic cooperation."

The majority of the participating members showed their resentment of Zionist aggression, the Sadat-Begin pact and the threat it poses to Middle East economic development, by staging a walkout on May 16. Members of 89 countries, including 20 Arab delegates walked out when the Israeli delegate rose to state his government's position.

BOOK REVIEW:

Sadat from Fascism to Zionism, Translated by Faris Glubb, Spartacus Publications, Beirut, 1979. LL12 — £2.

Egypt's President Sadat "is portrayed by the largely conservative Western news media as a man of peace who replaced the Nasser era of dictatorship with a democratic, liberal system that encourages free enterprise," as the preface to this book states.

The book, a compilation of documents on modern Egypt and the way in which it is governed by the Sadat regime, provides many facts of which Western readers have been kept blissfully unaware. How many people in the West know, for instance, that Sadat once spied for Nazi Germany, and was once arrested by the British authorities in Egypt for this? Or how many are aware that the Sadat regime's laws on the right of free speech and assembly are based largely on legislation from Mussolini's Italy and racist South Africa, or that political offenders can be detained without trial for renewable six-month periods for up to five years on end?

The documents in this book go into most detail on President Sadat's economic "open-door" policy, with particular emphasis on how it has led to the decline of the industrial sector and affected the living standards of the poorer classes, while allowing a few privileged people to build up large fortunes. They include a dramatic eyewitness description of the popular uprising against these policies in January 1977.

The human rights aspect of President Sadat's rule is touched on, particularly with respect to government attempts to interfere with the integrity of the judiciary in prosecuting political opponents on charges arising from the January 1977 uprising. Those facts presented in the book are useful, but provide only a sketchy general outline. There is a need for a much more detailed presentation of concentrated facts — including texts of legislation and specific case histories of political detainees — to enable Western readers to gain a full and accurate picture of the violations of human rights in Sadat's Egypt.

Since this book has appeared so soon after Sadat signed his treaty with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, it would perhaps be premature for it to contain a detailed assessment of the long-term implications of that treaty. But it does contain, in the translator's preface, a study of the comparison between President Sadat and another leader who was also at one time hailed as a "hero of peace", former British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain. The parallels between the Sadat-Begin treaty and Chamberlain's Munich pact with Hitler, and the circumstances in which they were both signed, are indeed striking, although few commentators have yet bothered to notice them.

The concluding part of the book contains interesting insights into the psychology of Egyptian public opinion, in an endeavour to assess how the Egyptian people are eventually likely to react to President Sadat's policies. The view is that, like the British people, they will come to realise that the "hero of peace" was in fact a traitor who sold out the higher interests of his country and all peace-loving people to a dangerous enemy.

BOLIVIA:

FIGHTING AGAINST FASCISM
AND FOR DEMOCRACY IN
LATIN AMERICA

Indian mine workers in Bolivia

Bolivia lies in the heart of Latin America, bordered by Brazil, Venezuela, Peru, Chile, Paraguay and Argentina. It has a surface area of 1.1 million square kilometres and a population of 5 million.

SPANISH, BRITISH, U.S. IMPERIALISM

After being part of the Aymara and Quecha civilisation (the Incas) for centuries, the region was colonised by Spain. Spanish domination continued until 1825, the date when the Spanish empire's colonies gained political independence. However, this independence was theoretical rather than real, since the country soon fell under the domination of British imperialism and then gradually, between 1920 and 1940, under that of American imperialism.

Since the 16th century, therefore, the Bolivian economy has been very much a dependent one. The country has been living from the export of its natural resources: minerals (particularly tin) and agricultural products (cotton, sugar and coffee).

Today, as a result of this long process, Bolivia is a dependent and under-industrialised capitalist country. Its exports of manufactured products represent no more than 3% of its foreign trade. Its foreign debt is large: \$3 billion.

In the course of the country's history, the Bolivian people's revolutionary movement which seeks to regain national independence has frequently come to the fore, causing profound changes in the country's political structure. The most important period for the popular national movement was the April 1952 revolution. Led by the Revolutionary National Movement (MNR), the masses of the people (workers, peasants and petty bourgeoisie) seized political and economic power from the Rosca (the owners of the mines and the large landowners, the allies of Anglo-American imperialism).

In power from 1952 onwards, the MNR nationalised the mines, established universal suffrage and carried out agrarian reform. The MNR's major political leaders, who still play a part in Bolivia political life today, were Victor Paz

FIGHTING AGAINST FASCISM AND FOR DEMOCRACY IN LATIN AMERICA

Estensoro, Hernan Siles Zuazo and Juan Lechin Oquendo.

The MNR remained in power from 1952 to 1964. During these 12 years, US imperialism made efforts to accentuate the divisions in the MNR. This in fact led to a deep contradiction between a plan to modernise the country within the framework of dependent capitalism (V. Paz Estensoro) and a move for genuinely regaining control over its resources and national independence. Thus the MNR gradually disintegrated from within, under the blows of imperialism, leading the country to very serious political and economic crises.

The result was the seizure of power by the army, through a military coup d'état led by General Barrientos in 1964, and the installation of a military regime which grew steadily harsher.

REBUILDING OF THE PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT

Since its political instrument of struggle had disintegrated, the people's movement took a long time to rebuild itself. Nevertheless it did so, and from 1969 to 1971 popular struggles brought political crises which led to the seizure of power by progressive officers (General Ovando, and then General Torres).

For a short period, the progressive military regimes enabled the popular movement to revive. But another coup d'état, this time an extreme rightist one, put an end to this in August 1971. The new regime, led by General Banzer, set up a fascist dictatorship which suppressed the people's national movement and its political organisations (parties and trade unions), forcing them to go into exile or underground.

FASCIST FAILURE

The Banzer dictatorship, in spite of outward Bolivian MIR delegation during recent visit to the PLO in Beirut



stability, led the country into a new economic and political crisis which erupted in 1977. The squandering of financial resources derived from the sales of tin and oil, combined with runaway indebtedness and inflation, brought the state to bankruptcy. The conduct of popular struggles resulting from the decline in living standards deprived the regime of any social base and isolated the dictatorship. In accordance with the Carter administration's attempts to safeguard U.S. interests by giving the regime a constitutional basis, Banzer announced in November 1977 an electoral procedure, involving elections in July 1978.

Banzer proposed a limited introduction of the political game, without leftist forces taking part in the electoral process, so as to ensure an easy victory which would give his regime a new legitimacy. But it did not work out that way.

The people's movement and its organisations demanded a complete political relaxation: a total amnesty, the return of the exiles and the re-establishment of trade unions and popular parties. In January 1978, after a hunger strike by more than a thousand people throughout the country, the dictator was compelled to accept the popular demands. The national left had only six months to prepare to take part in the elections after six years of repression, exile and clandestine work.

FORMATION OF THE UDP; ELECTIONS RIGGED

An alliance formed between the MNRI (a national leftist group from the old and divided MNR, led by H. Siles Zuazo) and the MIR led to the formation of a front, the Democratic and Popular Union (UDP). Apart from the MNRI and the MIR, the Bolivian Communist Party and about ten small political groups are members of this front.

Other leftist groups formed the Front of the Revolutionary Left (FRI), made up of Trotskyists, Maoists and the PRIN (a group from the MNR led by J. Lechin Oquendo).

The right put forward several candidates. The dictator Banzer put forward one of his own, General Pereda. The rightist MNR faction (the historical MNR) offered itself under the leadership of V. Paz Estensoro. The Christian Democrats came up with Rene Bernal as their candidate.

The 9 July 1978 elections were rigged. This fraud, confirmed by foreign observers, was so obvious that the Electoral Court had to invalidate them. Nevertheless, it is clear that the UDP came out best in these elections. We



estimate that it gained at least 600,000 votes, while Pereda had only 300,000, V. Paz Estensoro 200,000, Bernal 200,000 and the FRI 20,000. These elections were a shock for the right in Bolivia and the southern countries of Latin America, as well as for US imperialism.

Confronted by the masses of the people and the UDP demanding victory and immediate new elections, the dictatorship's candidate General Pereda seized power in a coup d'état on 21 July 1978. His aim was to restore the dictatorship. But the UDP continued to demand fresh elections and mobilise the masses of the people.

This situation aggravated the division in the army, a very large proportion of which wanted to return to the barracks, believing that the military establishment had lost its prestige by holding power for 15 years. The result was yet another coup d'état on 24 November 1978, led by General Padilla (the current President), with the aim of restoring the electoral process and holding elections in July 1979.

FOR FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY AND NATIONAL LIBERATION

A new electoral campaign was launched. The

UDP preserved its unity. It put forward H. Siles Zuazo of MNRI as its Presidential candidate, with Jaime Paz Zamora of MIR. The FRI, on the other hand, disintegrated, with the Maoists and some Trotskyist trends allying themselves with the right in Paz Estensoro's front. The right was unable to unite itself around Paz Estensoro's MNRH. It is still putting forward two other candidates, Banzer himself and Bernal.

If the electoral process is conducted properly, it is probable that the UDP will win. Even if it does not, it is clear today that the political vacuum opened up during the electoral campaign will ensure the UDP an important place in the country's political life.

The process through which Bolivia is now passing amounts to a very severe setback to the Bolivian right, the fascist regimes of Latin America and imperialism, since the Bolivian people and their political organisation the UDP are now consolidating a democratic anti-imperialist process at the very heart of Latin America. The Bolivian people's struggle against fascism keeps the flame of freedom, democracy and national liberation alive. It is allied to the struggle of all peoples who still live under the domination of imperialism.



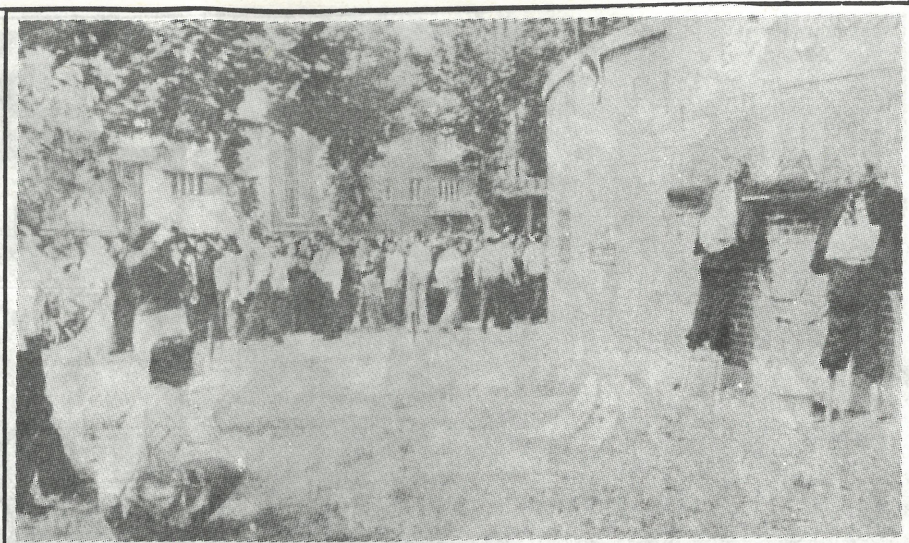
SOLIDARITY

50,000 IRANIANS DEMONSTRATE ON MAY 15

Around fifty thousand Iranians expressed their solidarity with the Palestinian people and condemned imperialism and Zionism in a popular rally held at Tehran University on May 15 to commemorate the 31st anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine.

In a letter sent to the rally, the Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini said that the Palestinian people have not forgotten the key to their homeland, and that he wishes to take that key and go to Palestine himself to open the gate of Nazareth. Khomeini added that if he is killed in Palestine he wishes to be buried there. Ayatollah Talaqani then addressed the meeting, and after reviewing the history of the Palestinian people and their sufferings at the hands of the Zionist terrorist gangs led by Menahem Begin, he stressed that Zionism is doomed to fail and that victory will be won by the militant peoples. Talaqani attacked the Sadat regime, and said that after imperialism failed to destroy the Palestinian Revolution, it resorted to Sadat who strives to isolate the Egyptian people and link them to imperialism.

Another rally, organized by the General Union of Palestinian students in Iran, was held in the city of Mashhad on May 22. After the delivery of several speeches, the participants marched in a demonstration.



Demonstrators burn effigies of U.S. President Carter and Israeli Prime minister Menachem Begin along wall of U.S. embassy in Tehran

PALESTINIAN AND IRANIAN WORKERS REJECT SADAT-ISRAELI AGREEMENT

The General Union of Palestinian workers and the General Union of Iranian Workers confirmed in a joint communique on May 23 their rejection of the so-called peace treaty signed by both Egypt and Israel under the sponsorship of the USA, and stressed their determination to foil such a capitulationist agreement.

SOLIDARITY RALLY IN CYPRUS

A rally was held on May 15 at the Soviet Cultural Center in Nicosia on the 31st anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine and the establishment of the State of Israel. The rally was organized by the Cypriot Committee of Solidarity with the Arab peoples and the PLO office in Cyprus.

Several officials and Ambassadors from Arab and Socialist States delivered speeches at the rally, stressing that the Palestinian cause has become an international one. Cypriot officials also confirmed their country's support for the Palestine cause and condemnation of Sadat's capitulation.

A DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINE AND AFRICA

On May 15, the anniversary of

the Zionist usurpation of Palestine, thousands of Americans showed their solidarity with the Palestinian Revolution and the PLO. Many of the demonstrators were black, testifying that the oppressed minorities in the US are natural allies of the Palestinian people.

At Harvard University, festivals and conferences were held and participants spoke about the people's struggle against racism and imperialism in South Africa. Americans also spoke about the struggle of black people in the US against racism and against American laws permitting persecution of black Americans.

On May 19, more than 6000 Americans staged a massive popular march in Washington, D.C. Stokely Carmichael, the black American leader and the daughter of Patrice Lumumba were at the head of the march. Arab and Palestinian demonstrators moved from the White House to join about 1500 black protestors who had begun a march nearby. The gathering was splendid and Palestinian flags and banners joined those of Africa. Americans shouted loudly "Victory for Palestine and Africa!"

SOLIDARITY MARCH IN BRITAIN

The PLO office in London, the General Union of Palestinian Students, and the General Union of

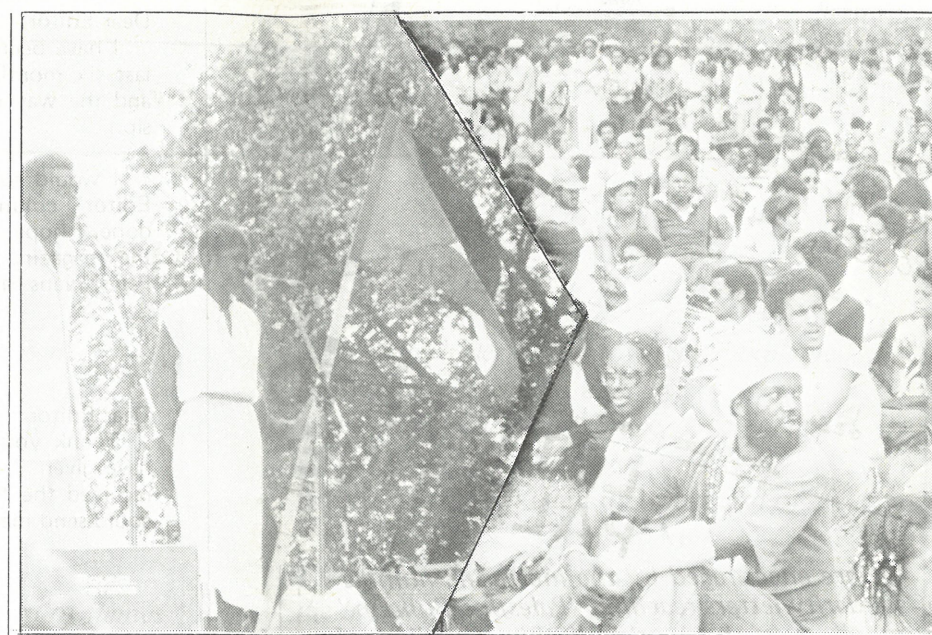
Arab Students/Britain and Ireland branches, organized a solidarity march with the Palestinian people to commemorate the 31st anniversary of the occupation of Palestine. More than 5000 people participated in the demonstration on May 21, watched with keen interest by crowds packing the pavements along the route. Demonstrators carried scores of banners heralding the struggle of the Palestinian Revolution and supporting the national struggle of the Palestinian people. The banners also denounced the Carter-Begin-Sadat conspiracy against the Palestinian people.

PLO representative Nabil Ramlawi addressed the rally, saying: "World imperialism and racist Zionism were able, 31 years ago, to detach a dear part of our homeland, Palestine, and to declare the establishment of the racist State of Israel, after uprooting the peaceful people of Palestine by means of terror, murder and conspiracy. Now, the United States, through its imperialist and aggressive policies, attempts to undermine our legitimate rights with a sham treaty based on the perpetuation of the occupation and the neglect of these rights. But the justice of our cause has become recognized world wide, and gained further support from peace loving peoples throughout the world."

HUNGARIAN MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO PRCS

A cargo plane arrived at Beirut Airport on May 28 carrying medicine and medical equipment donated by the Hungarian Red Cross to the Palestinian Red Crescent.

The President of the Hungarian Red Cross and the Deputy-President of the Hungarian Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee arrived on the same plane, and were received at the airport by Dr. Abdallah Abu Hassan, Deputy President of the Palestinian Red Crescent, Dr. Abdel Aziz Labadi, Abdallah Hijazi PLO representative in Hungary and members of the Hungarian Embassy staff in Beirut.



Solidarity rally in Washington with black activist Stokely Carmichael and Juliana Lumumba

MIDDLE EAST SYMPOSIUM IN ISTANBUL

The "First International Symposium on Middle East Issues" was held in Istanbul on May 25-26, in which Turkish and Iranian professors and scientists, as well as three delegates from the PLO participated. The Symposium dealt with such issues as the "New Political Balance in the Middle East", "The Palestinian Revolution", as well as health, cultural and arts matters.

Prof. Kuban spoke about the hardships incurred as a result of rapid and unplanned urbanization in the Third world countries. Prof. Fisek, in his criticism of the organization of the health system in Turkey, said that "the doctor must go to the people rather than the people to the hospital" and emphasized the importance of preventive and community medicine in developing countries. Professor Millani from Iran gave a sociological analysis of the Iranian revolution and spoke of how Islam had become a rallying point against imperialism in Iran.

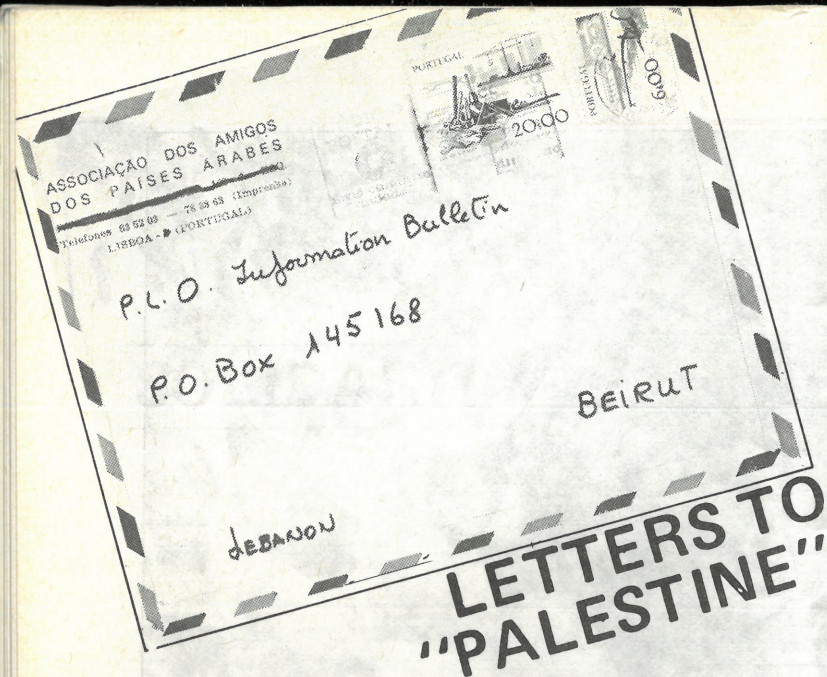
Abbas Abdel Fattah from the PLO emphasized the key role of the Palestinian revolution in the struggle against imperialism and Zionism, and stated that a country's position towards the Palesti-

nian revolution was an indicator for judging that country's foreign policy. Talking about the health services of the PLO, Dr. Abdullah Abu Hassan stated that in spite of the difficulties of working in refugee camps, the Palestinian Red Crescent had been able to organize a network to reach the people.

The first day was also Palestinian, marked by the showing of the "relying upon ourselves rather than on so-called experts from the West".

The Symposium ended with a statement by the President, Prof. Nuri Karcan, praising the struggle of the Palestinian and Iranian peoples against imperialism and Zionism. Efforts are already underway to organize a second Symposium on a wider scale next year.

film "The Key", which played to a full-capacity audience at the Ataturk Cultural Centre. The Symposium, sponsored by the Turkish Professors Organization (TUMOD), was widely attended and got extensive coverage in the Turkish press and radio. A spokesman for TUMOD stated that the aim of the conference was to seek ways of collaboration among Middle East scholars and specialists in helping to solve point problems of the area by



We are encouraged by the increasing number of solidarity letters reaching "Palestine Bulletin" from all over the world. Within our limited means we shall do our best to respond to them and to give them as much space in our pages as possible. In any case, we welcome contributions and suggestions from our readers, and hope to consolidate the ties of solidarity between our people and all of our friends throughout the world.

"Palestine" Bulletin

Comrade Thuyen, a captain in the Vietnamese People's Army, wrote a poem dedicated to Palestine. Here are some excerpts:

BY YOUR SIDE

Palestine — famous for her olive trees
Palestine — you should be free!
By the flesh, blood and sweat
Of the Palestinian people.

Palestine — we are standing by your side
The world's progressives must support your fight
Destiny — the same for Palestine and Vietnam
We share the common fight
Against the same enemy of our time.
Palestine — take pride
From your anti-US/Zionist fight
Palestine — total victory will surely be yours!

In our minds, Palestine
We are always by your side.

Dear Editor:

Thank you so much for your "Palestine" bulletin. It gives me a clear insight into the matters relating to the problems of the Palestinians and the dangers of Zionist aggression. If possible, kindly send me more books about Palestine and its major issues.

M.J. Hussain
Wellpenna, Sri Lanka

Dear Editor:

I have been receiving your fantastic magazine for the last six months. I have been fascinated by its contents and the way of life in Palestine vis-a-vis Israeli oppression.

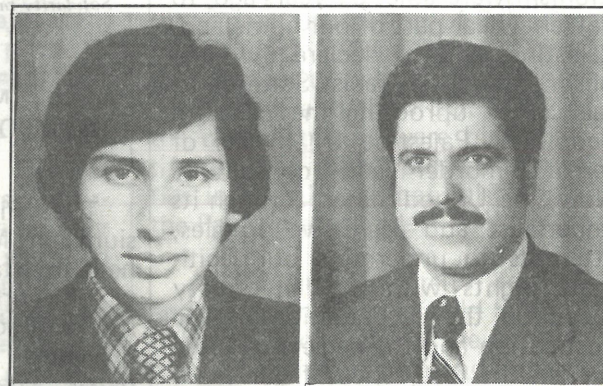
I would suggest that you open up a "Letters to the Editor" column as most magazines in the world have done. I hope this would improve not only the quality of the magazine, but also throw some light on how the Palestinians can combat the enemy.

Stephen Isabirye
Kampala, Uganda

Dear Editor:

Thank you very much for the gift subscription you have given. I cannot express the feelings I had when I received the first copy. It would be kind of you if you could send me a letter regarding this subscription.

Lokesh Sharma
Dei Hi, India



Kamal Kamran Masud,
Pakistani friend of late Saad

Hassan Abu Nasseh,
brother of late Saad

(Editor's Note: In "Palestine" No. 6 we published the letter of a Pakistani, Kamran Masud, commemorating his Palestinian friend, Saad Mohammed Abu Nasseh, who was murdered on 7 August 1978 in an attack on the PLO office in Islamabad. Now Saad's brother replies to the letter from Pakistan.)

Dear Friends:

While looking at "Palestine" Bulletin Vol. 5 No. 6 (1-15 April 1979), I read what Mr. Kamran Masud wrote concerning my martyred brother, Saad Abu Nasseh. To tell the truth, his letter moved me deeply and I find myself bound to thank him through your magazine. Thank you for your help.

Dear Mr. Kamran Masud:

What can I say after what you said about my late brother? Your words aroused my feelings and strengthened my faith and beliefs. You proved to be a true friend to us and to our revolution, and to all downtrodden peoples throughout the world.

In fact, by Saad's absence our number is increased. How? It is simple, for all my brother's friends become brothers to us. Among them is a Pakistani friend who declared his brotherhood. You are welcome to your new family. Of course it is not only our family, but the whole Palestinian family, the PLO.

Hassan Abu Nasseh

BY FADWA TOQUAN

"HAMZA"

Like others in my hometown
the salt of the earth
who toil with their hands for their bread
Hamza was
a simple man.

When we met that day
this land had been a harvest of flames
in a windless hush it had sunk
in a cloak of barren grief. I had been
swept by the daze of defeat.
Hamza said,
"This land, my sister, has a fertile heart
it throbs, doesn't wither, endures
for the secret of hills and wombs
is one
this earth that sprouts with spikes and
palms
is the same that gives birth to a warrior. This
land, my sister, is a woman,"
he said.

Days passed I did not see
Hamza
however, I could feel
that the belly of the land was heaving
in travail.

Hamza
was sixty-five
a burden deaf like a rock
saddled on his back.
"Demolish his house"
a command was ordained
"and tie his son in a cell"

the military ruler of our town later explained
the need for law and order
in the name of love and peace.

Armed soldiers rounded the courtyard of
his home

a serpent coiled in full circle
the banging at the door reverberated
the order "evacuate"
and generous they were with time
"in an hour or so."

Hamza opened the window
looking the sun in the eye
he howled. "this house, my children
and I
shall live and die
for Palestine."
The echo of Hamza propelled a tremor in
the nerve of town
A solemn silence fell.

In an hour the house burst apart
its rooms blew up to pieces in the sky
collapsed in a pile of stones burying
past dreams and a warmth that is no more
memories of a lifetime
of labor, of tears, of some
happy day.

Yesterday I saw
Hamza
he was walking down a street in town
as ever simple he was and assured
as ever dignified.

(The poem by Fadwa Toquan was published in "Palestine Perspectives", December 1978, and is taken from a valuable new anthology, *Women of the Fertile Crescent: Modern Poetry by Arab Women*, edited by Kamal Boulatta. Copies may be obtained from Three Continents Press, 1346 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20036.)



Vue Générale, JÉRUSALEM (PALESTINE). 18ème siècle.

Dear friends,

1979 is our special year and we must learn more about each other. I am sending you this card of our beautiful town JERUSALEM.

JERUSALEM is a very old ARAB town where ARAB Moslems and Christians and Jews have always lived together as brothers. The Zionists tried to make JERUSALEM not an ARAB town, but they can never do this because we love our town very much.

Please write and tell me your news.

Your friend,
A Palestinian child



INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF THE CHILD



JERUSALEM IS
AN ARAB TOWN!

COMITÉ NATIONAL PALESTINIEN de l'A.I.E. 1979

Palestine

P.L.O.
information
bulletin

Vol. 5, No. 11
16-30 June 1979

SETTLEMENTS SYMBOL OF ZIONIST EXPANSION

