



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



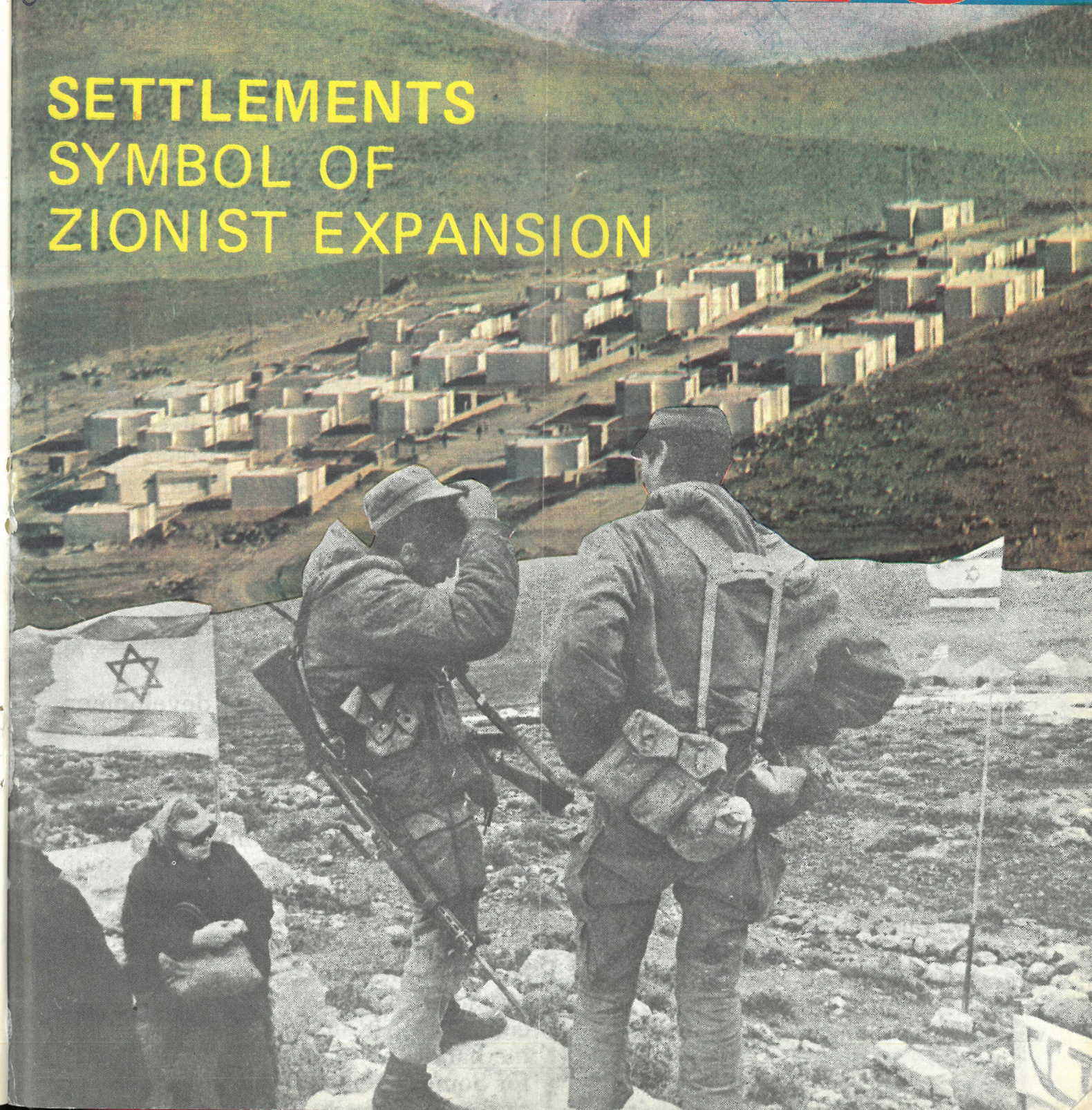
COMITÉ NATIONAL PALESTINIEN DE L'A.I.E. 1979

Palestine

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bulletin

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16-30 June 1979

SETTLEMENTS SYMBOL OF ZIONIST EXPANSION



TO OUR READERS

Solidarity is an important weapon for helping the peoples of the world overcome oppression and injustice. The support and solidarity which the Palestinian people receive helps us to continue our just struggle for our just cause. We are grateful for the solidarity and support we get, but although we have many friends around the world, our enemies are still strong and formidable. They are better armed, better equipped, and much wealthier than we.

Nevertheless, though we may possess limited means, our determination and willingness to sacrifice is unlimited. The world forces of liberation, of which we are proud to be a part, are the emerging forces, and it is to us that the future belongs. The forces of oppression have had their day, and shall be consigned to the dustbin of history.

We thank all of our friends throughout the world for the letters of support and encouragement you have sent to us. Surely, we and other liberation movements will continue on the road to victory.

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EDITORIAL

THE PALESTINIAN FACT

The current Egyptian-Israeli talks about the West Bank and Gaza are ridiculous. Both sides are negotiating over the heads of the people concerned and without their authorization. Sadat's regime is holding these talks only in order to justify his treason, which started with his infamous visit to Jerusalem in November 1977. He wants to prove to the Arabs and Palestinians that he will not content himself with the separate "peace" treaty. With these talks he wants to remove his new label of traitor to the Arab cause and shake off his isolation.

The Israelis, on the other hand, are not taking Sadat seriously. While they negotiate they make arrogant statements which show their determination to hold onto occupied Palestinian territories. They also set forth their settlement policy in these territories and continue to bring more and more Zionist settlers from all over the world to be implanted there. The land on which these settlements are constructed are private property belonging to Palestinian peasants. Israeli laws permit the government to confiscate Arab lands and property under the cover of "security" purposes.

The Israelis are making use of US inefficiency in this election period. They know well that the US presidency is vulnerable to the power of Jewish votes and Jewish capital. They are aware that no pressure can come from the United States at this moment, because of the American President's need for Jewish support. The Israelis make no secret of their opposition to total withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza. They

absolutely oppose the Palestinians' right of self-determination. Begin has even pledged to use violence if a Palestinian state is established.

The fact is that our people in the West Bank Gaza are against the proposed self-administration scheme. The Israelis, the Egyptians and the US will find no Palestinians who are willing to collaborate with them on this project. The Palestinian people will never confer legitimacy on the Israeli occupation of their homeland. There will be no Palestinian Sadats to serve Israel's expansion and arrogance.

Nowadays the Israelis are continuously shelling and raiding Palestinian refugee camps and southern Lebanese villages. With their daily bombardments they aim at intimidating the Palestinians and breaking their determination and perseverance. This war of annihilation coincides with Israeli allegations that there are no Palestinians, and that all Palestinians are terrorists, and that they deserve to be killed.

But the Israelis cannot fool all the people all the time. World public opinion, which has been misled by the Zionist propaganda machine, is becoming more and more conscious of Middle East realities. The emergence of the Palestinian liberation movement and the recognition of the PLO on the international level exceeded all Israeli expectations. They cannot carry on their manipulation of world public opinion and deny the existence of the Palestinian people. A fact has emerged in the Middle East, the Palestinian fact, and the Israelis have to live with it.

Palestine

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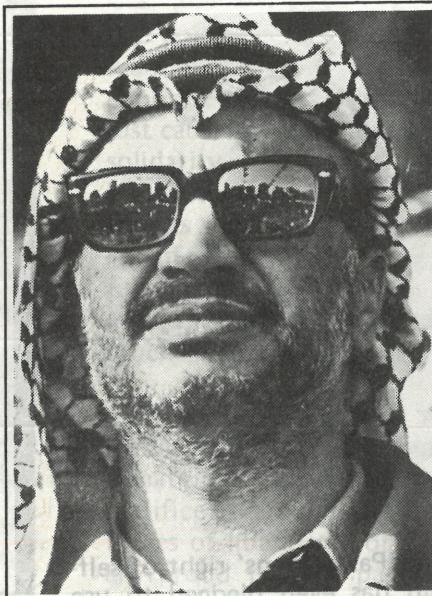
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NOTICE: "PALESTINE BULLETIN" welcomes contributions, letters and articles from its friends and readers.

PALESTINE NOTES



of this dangerous US-Israeli conspiracy, the US has become the Palestinian people's principal enemy.

FAROUK KADDOUMI MEETS DUTCH PARLIAMENTARIANS

Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department met on May 29 a member of the Netherlands Parliament and reviewed with him the situation in the area and continuous Israeli aggressions against Lebanon and the Palestinian camps.

ABU SALEH MEETS TUNISIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

Abu-Saleh, member of the Fateh Central Committee and the General Command of the Assifa Forces, met the Tunisian Foreign Minister Muhammed al-Faitoury, in the presence of the PLO representative in Tunis, on May 31. Discussions centered on the current situation in the Middle East, the vicious Israeli-isolationist shelling of the Lebanese and Palestinian masses in South Lebanon, and the results of these recurrent attacks. They also discussed the necessity of consolidating and developing the Arab League, following its transfer to Tunisia, and the need to implement the Baghdad Summit resolutions against Sadat's capitulation and the imperialist-Zionist-Sadat conspiracy. Abu Saleh also met the Director of the Tunisian Destour Socialist Party, Muhammed al-Sayah, who expressed his support for the Palestinian people's just struggle.

PLO DELEGATION FOR NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN SRI LANKA

PLO spokesman, Abdel Muhsin Abu Maizar received on June 3, the Foreign Minister of Cuba and his delegation, who were on a visit to Syria. The meeting centered on the dangers of the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, which was described as a military

pact that necessitates suspension of Egypt's membership in the Non-Aligned Movement.

Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department, arrived on June 6, in Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka, leading the PLO delegation to attend the conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned States. The Palestinian delegation included Abdel-Muhsin Abu Maizar, the PLO Official Spokesman, Basil 'Aql, the PLO representative at the UN Security Council, and Rasmi Haltoun, an official of the PLO Political Department. Palestine is a member of the Preparatory Committee of the Conference and a member of the Coordination Bureau of the Non-Aligned movement.

ARAFAT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM SAUDI MONARCH

Yasser Arafat on June 3, received a message from King Khaled Ben Abdel Aziz concerning the continuous Israeli aggressions of the past 50 days against Lebanese villages and Palestinian camps, which condemned the Israeli aggressions and expressed support for the Palestinian Revolution.

ARAFAT RECEIVES DELEGATION OF TURKISH PROFESSORS

Yasser Arafat received on June 4, a delegation of Turkish professors currently visiting the Palestinian Revolution. Arafat briefed them on the struggle of the Palestinian people and the conspiracy against their Revolution, confirming the continuation of struggle until victory. The delegation earlier visited the Palestinian Revolution's institutions, Palestinian camps and Lebanese villages in South Lebanon. The delegation moreover observed the damage inflicted by the Israeli aggression on South Lebanon.



Chairman Arafat receives Turkish delegation

ARAFAT VISITS LIBYA

Chairman Arafat paid a three-day visit to Libya from June 6-8, during which he met with the Libyan President, Col. Muammar al-Qaddafi. He also met with the Libyan Prime Minister, Abdel Salam Jalloud, and with Lt. Col. Abu Bakr Younis, Chief of Staff of the Libyan Armed Forces. Discussions centered on latest developments on the Arab and international levels, the negative repercussions of Sadat's capitulationist agreement with Israel and on continuous Israeli aggressions against South Lebanon.

ARAFAT RECEIVES CABLE OF SUPPORT FROM ISLAMIC WORLD LEAGUE

Yasser Arafat received on June 9, a cable from the Secretariat General of the Islamic World League

in Jedda, Saudi Arabia, reiterating their full support for the struggle of the Palestinian people, particularly the struggle to liberate Jerusalem.

POLISH CHILDREN'S CENTER RECEIVES GIFTS FROM PALESTINIAN CHILDREN

Gifts from Palestinian children to Polish children were delivered on the occasion of the opening of the Polish Children's Center in Beirut. The center was opened on the occasion of the International Year of the Child, to commemorate the two million Polish children who were martyred during the Nazi occupation of Poland.

In a speech, the Polish Ambassador to Lebanon expressed his gratitude and that of the Polish Children Center for the Palestinian gifts, and confirmed his country's solidarity with the Palestinian Revolution.

PLO OPPOSES UNRWA CUTS

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) denounced on June 11 planned cuts by a United Nations relief agency of services provided for Palestinian refugees.

The president of the Higher Political Committee for Palestinians in Lebanon, Tewfik Safadi, told reporters he had informed the commissioner-general of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA), Alan Brown, that the PLO opposed any cuts. He said "arbitrary measures planned by the agency" would deprive 93,000 refugee children of preparatory education "on the pretext" of a 36.5-million-dollar UNRWA budget deficit.

UNRWA, originally created by the U.N. General Assembly 30 years ago to care for Palestinians displaced when the Zionist state was created, estimated this year that its expenditure would reach 162.7 million dollars. Its income, from voluntary contributions by U.N. members, was estimated at 126.2 million dollars.

PLO MOURNS LATE PATRIARCH ELIAS IV

Yasser Arafat sent a cable of condolences on June 21 to the acting Patriarch at the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch and the East on the death of Patriarch Elias IV. The cable said that the deceased was "a prominent supporter of the just cause of the Palestinian people, and an ardent defender of their legitimate rights to return, to self-determination and to establish their independent state over their national soil. The deceased was also one of the Arab Nation's torches, defending its causes and struggling for its sake. His conscience was always moved by the pains, tragedies and a struggle of the Palestinian people, and his stands were always decisive and unhesitant."

WEEK OF PALESTINIAN CHILD

The Celebrations of the Week of the Palestinian Child organised by the General Union of Palestinian Women as a token of participation in the International Year of the Child, began on June 10. On this occasion, an exhibition of children's handicrafts was inaugurated at the Beirut Arab University on June 10, and will extend until June 18.



Exhibition of children's handicraft

MADAGASCAR'S FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS PLO JOINT COMMUNIQUE

A delegation headed by the Foreign Minister of Madagascar Remy Richard, arrived in Beirut on June 4, 1979, for an official visit to the PLO Chairman. Arafat welcomed the delegation and reviewed with them the latest political developments in the Arab region. The delegation in turn expressed its solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people. The delegation became acquainted with the social, economic and cultural achievements of the Palestinian Revolution, and with the latest developments in the Arab region.

"Palestine" is to publish an interview with Foreign Minister Remy Richard in its next issue.

The following is the full text of the Madagascar-PLO joint communique which was issued at the end of the visit on June 7, 1979.

"At the invitation of the PLO, a high-ranking delegation from the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, headed by Foreign Minister Mr. Remy Richard, paid an official visit to the PLO between 3 and 8 June, 1979. The delegation was received by Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, and conducted talks with officials of the PLO. The delegation

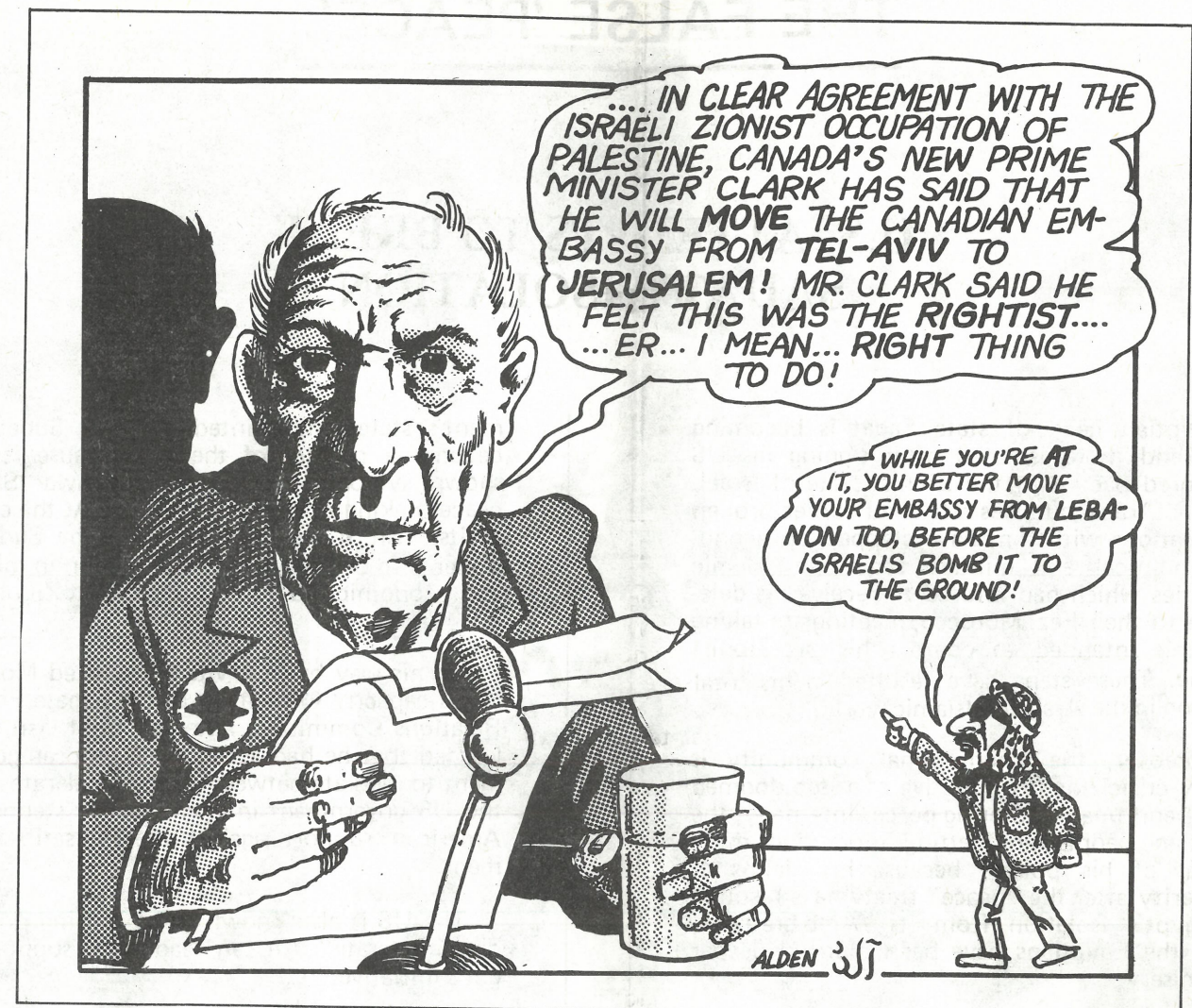
also visited several productive units of SAMED as well as various parts of South-Lebanon, where it was briefed on the conditions of the Lebanese and Palestinian people, who are a target of the savage aggressions of Israel and its agent, Saad Haddad.

"The two delegations exchanged points of view on various international issues, and were in full agreement. As regards the Palestine cause and the Middle East conflict, the head of the Madagascar delegation referred to the contents of the last message sent to Arafat by the President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar. He also confirmed the continuous support of the people of Madagascar for, and their solidarity with, the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, and for their rights of return, self determination and the establishment of an independent state over their national soils. He moreover stressed that Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, constitutes the only basis for a just peace in the region, and expressed Madagascar's rejection of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, describing it as a conspiracy against peace and an additional attempt to split the ranks of the militant Arab and African peoples' struggle against imperialism. He said that Madagascar's independence is

neither complete nor comprehensive, if there are any territories still under foreign occupation.

"The PLO in turn wished the Socialist Revolution in Madagascar full success under the leadership of President Ratsirake. The PLO expressed support for the Madagascar Government in its struggle to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace, free of nuclear weapons, and condemned the imperialist military presence in the region.

"The two sides agreed to intensify their struggle against imperialism, racism and Zionism, and confirmed their solidarity with, and support for, all liberation movements which struggle for self-determination, freedom, national independence and social progress. The two sides also confirmed their support for the Havana Non-Aligned Conference which will be held next September, and Madagascar promised to stand with the PLO in that conference. In order to develop relations of friendship between the two sides on a basis of mutual respect for sovereignty and Non-Intervention in internal affairs, the two sides decided to open a PLO diplomatic mission in Tananarive and to intensify cooperation in the way of political, diplomatic, economic, scientific, and cultural relations. The PLO accepted an invitation to visit the Madagascar Republic."



By E. Alden Prieve, Canada — see "Letters to 'Palestine'", page 42

ARAB WORLD WARNS CANADIAN GOVERNMENT

Arab states have unanimously protested plans hinted at by the new Canadian government led by the "Progressive Conservative Party" of Joe Clark to move the Canadian embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Clark's electoral campaign was heavily subsidized by Canadian Zionist capital.

The Arab League office in Canada, in a joint statement of the Arab ambassadors, warned the new Canadian government of the serious consequences which such a hostile action against the Arab world would bear: "The announcement of Mr. Clark does not contribute to the establishment of the desired just and durable peace in the Middle East. It contradicts and violates the basic principles of the UN Charter, the UN Resolutions

pertinent to Jerusalem and the Principles of Human Rights. It is of a nature that will affect the good relations existing between Canada and the Arab World."

The PLO, in a statement of June 6, 1979, warned Canada against "a dangerous step". It called the plan an "act of aggression violating international law" for which Canada would have to pay the price. It added that the Canadian decision would be a decision prompted "by the U.S. administration as part of the conspiracy against the Palestinian people."

The Arab and Muslim Communities in Ottawa, on June 9, 1979, staged a demonstration, to protest against the Canadian Government's intentions and to show their support for the Palestinian struggle. The demonstration started at the Ottawa Mosque and headed for the

Parliament building and then for the Prime Minister's official residence. Arab and Muslim organizations across Canada condemned the government's intentions and the Council of Muslim Communities declared June 23 and 24 as "Jerusalem Week-end" and asked all Muslims to express their disgust at the government's intentions and show their solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The Clark plan also has raised fears in the Canadian business community that dealings with Arab countries, estimated at about \$ billion annually, will be damaged seriously.

In a declaration made on June 7, 1979, by the new Canadian Foreign Minister, Flora MacDonald, the new government declared it would "take into account" the protests.

THE FALSE 'PEACE':

U.S. ATTEMPTS TO BREAK SADAT'S ISOLATION

Egyptian head of state Sadat is becoming more and more isolated after signing his US sponsored pact with the Zionist state of Israel. Twenty Arab countries who had earlier broken off relations with him have stepped up economic, political and military sanctions. Islamic countries which had refused to receive his delegation to their Fez, Morocco, meeting are taking measures intended to combat his pro-Zionist scheme. These steps have resulted in his total isolation in the Arab and Islamic world.

Moreover, the international community is openly criticizing his initiative as a step doomed to fail and unable to bring peace. Internally, the Egyptian people are getting more and more critical of his policy, because his claims of prosperity after the "peace" treaty have resulted in Egypt's isolation from its Arab brethren, while the Egyptians have been plunged deeper into misery.

In the wake of such developments the US government has resorted to desperate moves intended to break Sadat's isolation regionally and declining popularity internally. This comes within the US's intention declared time and again, of maintaining its hegemony over the Middle East by saving Sadat's capitulatory moves.

THE JAVITS MISSION

New York Senator Jacob Javits was sent to the Sudan in early June as a personal emissary of President Carter. The State Department on 28 May pointed out that Javits' mission was "to learn what assistance the government of President Gaafar Numeiri needs for its army and its economy. The Javits mission is a further indication of the importance the President attaches to our relations with Sudan."

President Carter's decision to send Javits, the strongest supporter of Israeli expansionism in the US Senate, who also recently sponsored a Senate resolution condemning the Iranian revolution, indicates the comprehensiveness of this seemingly bilateral mission. The State Depart-

ment's statement pointed out that Sudan had become a partner of the US because it "has shown sympathy for President Anwar Sadat's peace making efforts with Israel". At the end of Javits' visit it was disclosed that the Sudanese leader is to be rewarded \$ 187 million in military and economic aid for his imperialist-Zionist orbit.

On his way back, Javits also visited Morocco in his capacity as member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. After his brief visit it was learned that he had asked the Moroccan government to mediate between Arab "moderates" and the US government in exchange for stepped-up American support against the Polisario movement.

The US is also known to be putting pressure on "moderate" African leaders to support Sadat's initiative.

THE O.A.U. OPTION

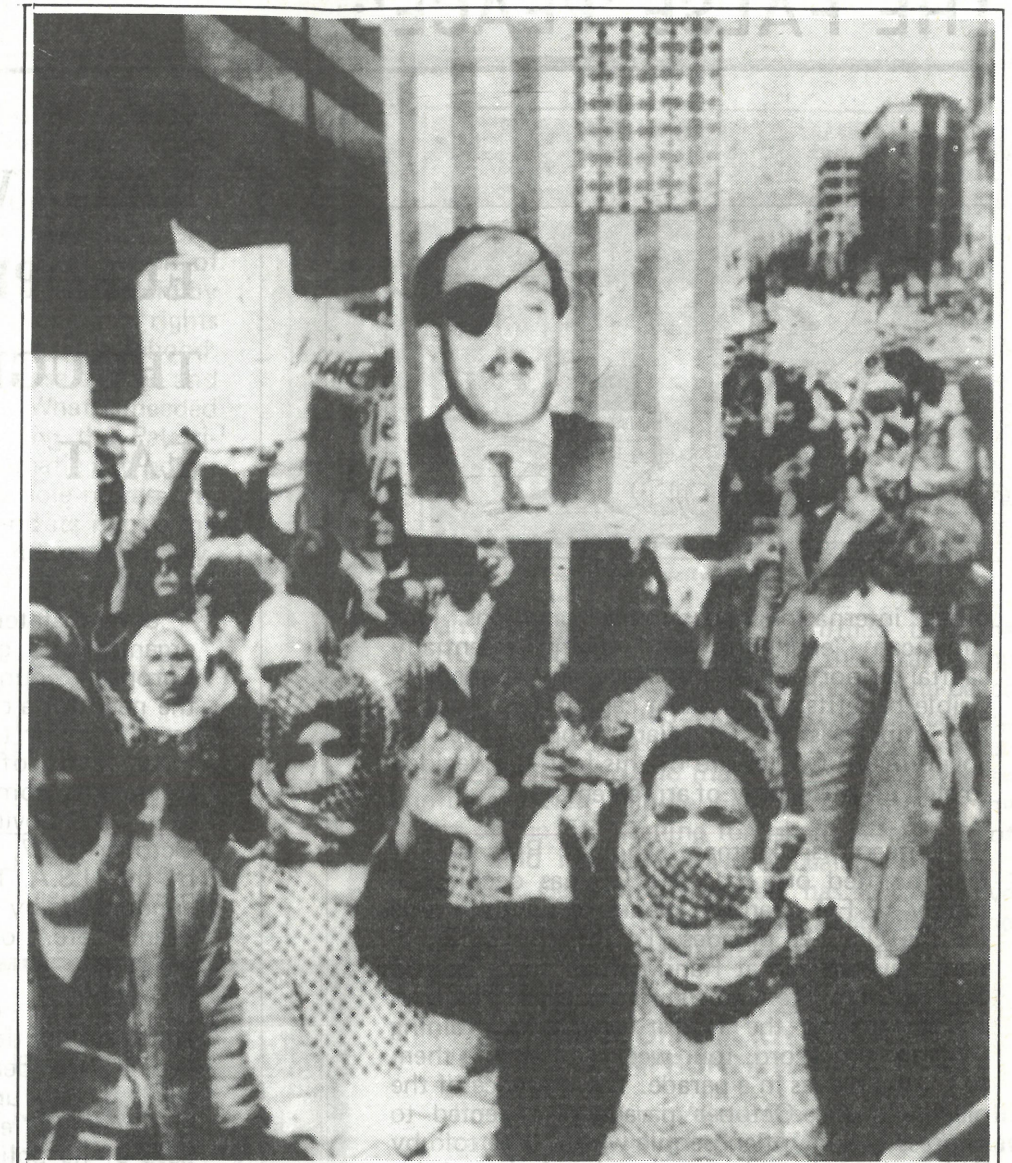
The US government and Sadat have not delayed to indicate to the world that the disen-

EGYPTIAN 'FRONTIER' GUARDS SHOOT ARABS IN SINAI

According to a report by "Tass" news agency based on informations from Tel Aviv on June 6, 1979, Egyptian border guards killed one Arab and wounded another in the northern Sinai, while they were crossing the new 'frontier' created when Israel restored the town of El Arish to Egypt. The Israeli authorities, for their part, have arrested 19 beduins who wanted to cross the 'border'. As a consequence of the separate Egyptian-Israeli deal, the Arab population finds itself trapped: Now, not only the Israeli authorities, but also those of Egypt, prevent the Arabs from moving through their land and meeting their relatives.



Sadat isolated



Demonstration in Los Angeles, U.S.A., against the 'peace' swindle

agement of Egyptian forces from the Sinai will enable them to play a more active role in Africa to combat "Communist aggression". African regimes that feel insecure, due to lack of popular support, are expected to be rallied behind "Sadat the Savior" by this make-believe slogan.

Regarding the mandate of the 4,000 man UN Sinai Truce Supervision Force, which is to come up for renewal at the Security Council in July, the US and Sadat have voiced their concern that the USSR might veto its renewal.

The official Egyptian daily "Al-Ahram" on 2 June reported that Egypt and the US are consulting several African countries about establishing an all-African military force to take over the truce supervision in the Sinai.

Egypt and the US expect to mobilize enough support prior to the coming O.A.U. summit in

Monrovia, Liberia. The argument to be presented at the summit is that the Sadat-Israeli treaty has ended foreign occupation of African territory and therefore in accordance with the charter of the O.A.U. it deserves the support of African leaders.

The motion, which will be supported from the start by the current chairman of the O.A.U. President Numeiri of Sudan, is being backed by US promises of economic aid and Egyptian military support.

The US is doing its almost not only to break Sadat's international isolation but also to boost his declining image internally.

THE MILITARY AID FARCE

Egypt is to receive additional economic aid from the US to help it recover from Arab and

THE FALSE 'PEACE':



other international economic sanctions. But American "economic aid", being essentially capital export, does not have any immediate visible benefits which Sadat can wave in front of the impoverished Egyptian people. The US government, well aware of this fact, has decided to step up the supply of armaments.

Pentagon spokesman Thomas Ross, on 31 May, pointed out that the US has decided to supply 12 F-4 phantom planes to Egypt in time for the October parades. To this end 56 Egyptians have arrived at Randolph air force base in San Antonio, Texas to study English. The men are to attend the fastest ever pilot training program on record, four weeks, to enable them to fly the planes in a parade. The presence of the planes in the October parade is expected to impress the Egyptian people who will be told by Sadat that the planes are the fruits of his initiative.

What neither the Pentagon nor Sadat will tell the Egyptian people is that Egyptian pilots need at least 2 years of training to be able to use the planes in combat, and even then they could not use them in a strategic sense because of their limited number.

The Egyptian Defence Minister, General Gamassy, spares no occasion to declare to the Egyptian people that "American planes are sophisticated and better equipped" than Soviet planes, while always mentioning at the same time Egypt's victory of October 1973, which was achieved with Soviet-made weapons. He also says that Egypt is not only to get modern US planes but has also concluded a deal with China to buy 60 Mig fighter aircraft. The creaky facade of military grandeur of the Nazi caliber is expected, both by the US and the Egyptian leader, to mobilize the Egyptian people on the side of Sadat.

NATO, WESTERN EUROPE: SECOND THOUGHTS ON MIDDLE EAST

Several statements issued recently by Western organizations grouping the U.S. and Western European countries recently have emphasized the need for a comprehensive Middle East settlement and for the implementation of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. These statements come close to the wording of the joint U.S.-Soviet Middle East declaration of October 1977, which was subsequently broken by the U.S.A. The recent statements and moves announced by NATO, EEC, West Germany, France etc., obviously serve several political purposes.

The U.S., on the one hand, facing the complete political isolation of the separate U.S.-Israeli-Sadat deal on the Arab and international level, merely undertakes and encourages verbal attempts to "extend", but not to change, the base of its policy. Therefore, the U.S. administration may even welcome Western European statements and 'initiatives' not completely in line with Camp David, which serve as a "buffer" to calm down Arab and international critics of the U.S. Middle East policy and especially to break the isolation of Sadat.

On the other hand, these statements indeed reflect the real deadlock and isolation of the U.S.-Israeli-Sadat separate 'peace' farce, and the internationally growing awareness of the fact, that without the implementation of the national rights of the Palestinian people, peace and even limited stability will never come to the Middle East. Besides, dissatisfaction is also growing in Western Europe, especially in France, about U.S. attempts to monopolize the Middle East economically and strategically especially vis-a-vis oil supplies, thereby increasing tension in the entire area and endangering peace, — a U.S. policy at the expenses of the rest of the world including Western Europe.

However, Western leaders should not deceive themselves that they can fool the Arab world

and the Palestinian people by issuing an endless stream of empty statements. The history of the Middle East shows that this kind of Western statements counts for nothing. Deeds are needed to stop Zionist aggression and expansion, and the continued occupation and colonization of Arab land, and to solve the Palestine problem by satisfying the Palestinian people's national rights of self-determination and democratic statehood. Empty statements will only increase tension and drive the region further to war. What is needed are clear-cut positions recognizing the Palestinians' right to a state; full diplomatic and political recognition of the PLO, the sole representative of the Palestinian people and its rights; the cancellation of all direct and indirect military, economic and financial aid to the settler and aggressor state of Israel.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY: ISRAELI POLICY "WRONG" PEACE MUST INCLUDE THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

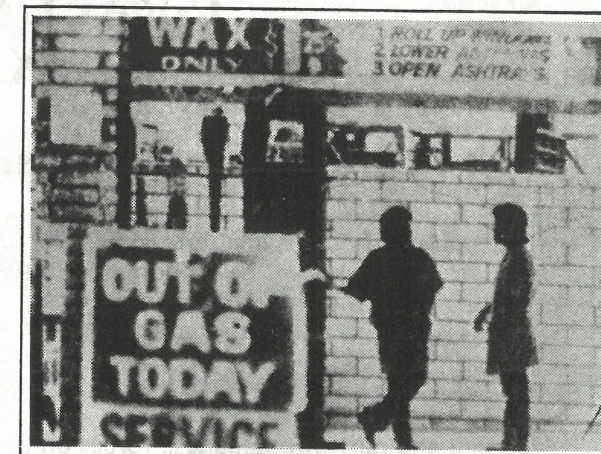
In a declaration made on June 5, 1979, West German Foreign minister Genscher criticized the renewed Israeli settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories. He called the decision by the Israeli government "wrong". The West Ger-

NATO COMMUNIQUE ON MIDDLE EAST

The NATO Council, following its ministerial session in Den Haag on May 30 and 31, 1979, in which the foreign ministers of the U.S., Canada and the Western European member countries participated, issued a communique in which it covered Middle East issues as follows:

"Concerning the Middle East, the ministers paid tribute to the efforts undertaken by President Carter, President Sadat, and Prime minister Begin. They underlined that for a lasting peace in the Middle East the participation of all parties concerned is necessary, including the representatives of the Palestinian people, for the elaboration and implementation of a comprehensive settlement of the conflict, based on U.N. resolutions 242 and 338 as well as on the respect of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people."

It was also reported from the session that France had allegedly prevented a special endorsement of the U.S.-Egyptian-Israeli treaty asked for by the U.S.



'The scarcity of oil'

man Foreign minister also affirmed that the FRG considered "the unity of the Arab camp necessary for a comprehensive and lasting peace for all the states and all the peoples concerned, including the Palestinian people." West German press reports also said that West Germany was to initiate a new Middle East declaration on the part of the EEC calling for Israeli evacuation of Arab land including East Jerusalem. However, the West German government has still to prove its claimed good intentions by recognizing the PLO officially and without conditions.

FRENCH PRESIDENT CRITICIZES U.S. OIL POLICY OF CONFRONTATION

French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, in a statement on June 6, 1979, declared that "there is no solution to the energy problems other than that based on solidarity and cooperation." President Giscard called for "solidarity and not competition among the consumer countries, and cooperation, not confrontation, with the oil producing countries. Any other attitude will lead to disorder and destabilization." The West German Chancellor Schomidt, in an interview with U.S. "Time" magazine, June 11, 1979, said that "the scarcity of oil can lead to war". He also "deplored utterances" that force, if necessary should be used to secure oil supplies for the West.

These statements came in the context of the aggressive announcement made by the U.S. administration that it would subsidize U.S. oil imports from the world market so as to uphold and boost further the already exorbitant U.S. energy consumption; and in response to various sabre-rattling and adventurous announcements and hints made by U.S. officials at the possibility of using military force to 'safe-guard' 'U.S.' oil supplies from the Middle East.

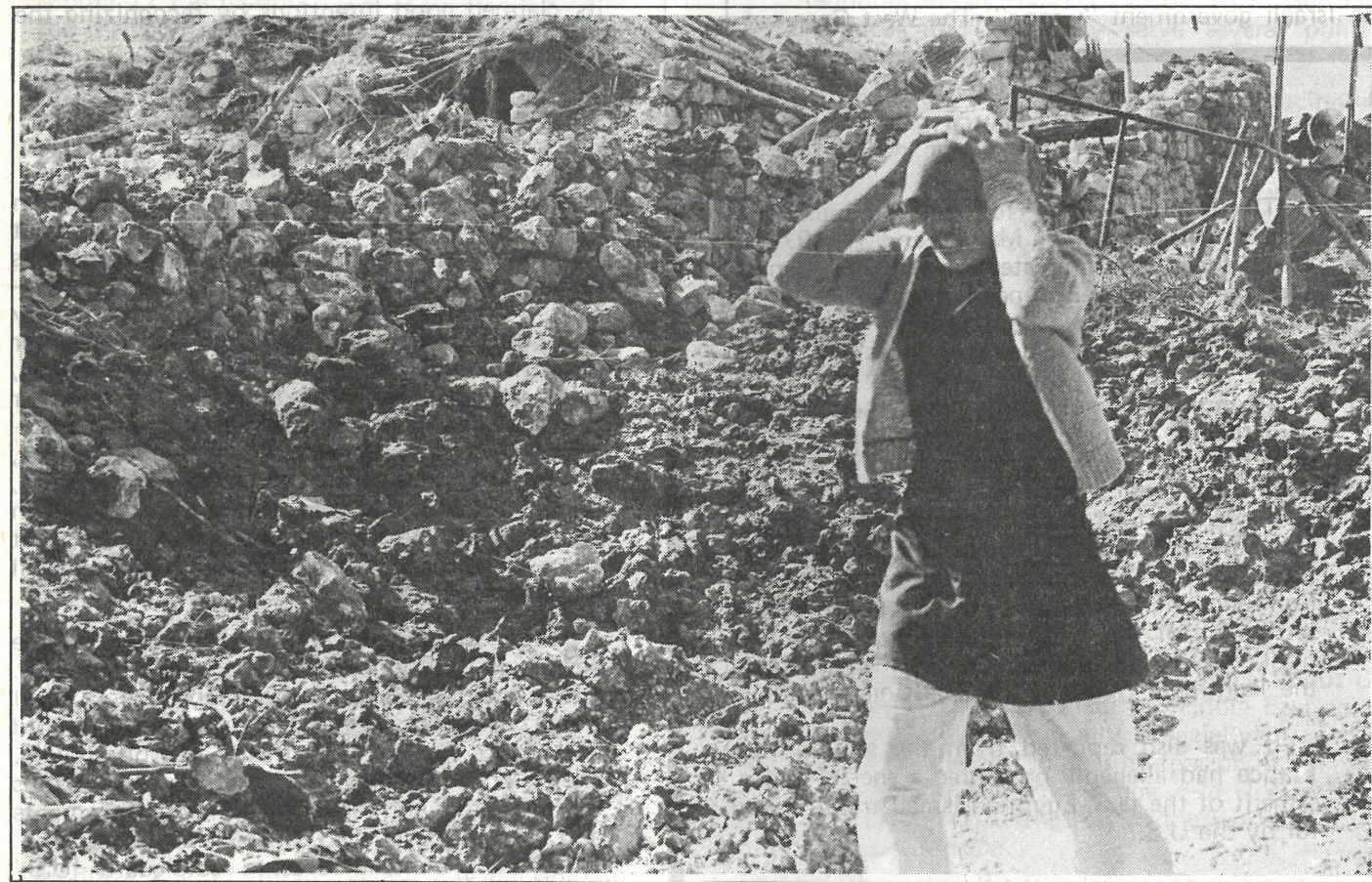
LEBANON: ISRAEL'S AGGRESSION EXPANDING

Israel, in an apparent attempt to drive a wedge between the Lebanese people and Palestinian refugees, has stepped up its bombardment of civilian areas of South Lebanon. Israeli artillery and war planes have been bombing the whole South, concentrating on Lebanese towns and villages, while its gunboats have been shelling Tyre and other coastal cities.

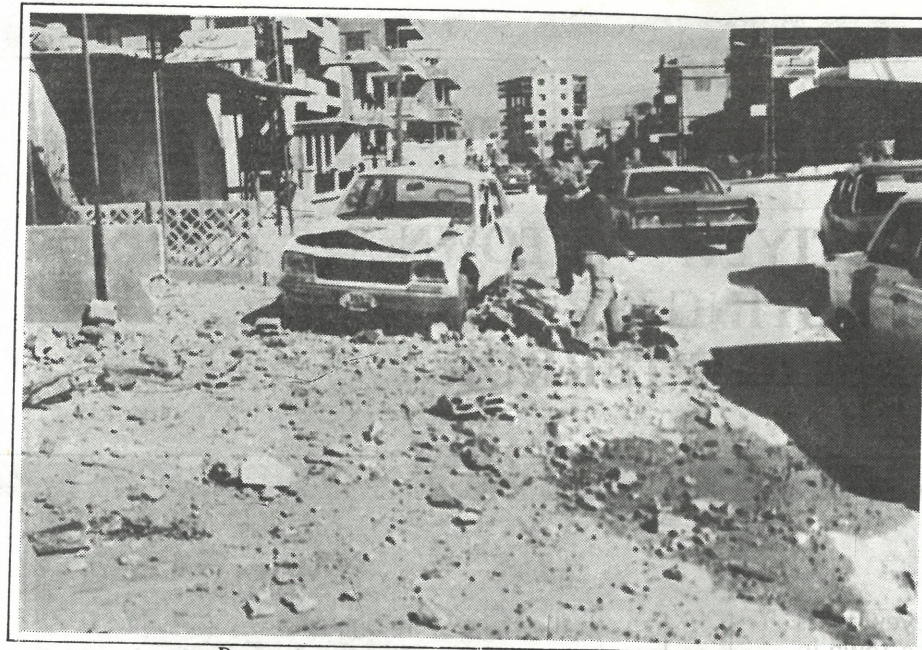
Palestinian and patriotic Lebanese forces on 6 and 7 June, aware of Zionist intentions, withdrew from civilian areas in South Lebanon to deprive Israel of the pretext it has been using to shell them. But this was to no avail, for Israel and its local Lebanese mercenaries led by renegade major Haddad stepped up heavy bombardment of Nabatiyeh and the surrounding area, while Israeli war planes raided Habbouch, Kfar Roumman, Jarmog and Wadi Alalehdor in the Nabatiyeh region for a number of consecutive days.

The escalation of Zionist aggression against South Lebanon is taking place under the watchful eyes of UN forces, who themselves have become victims of Israeli expansionism. In one incident on 9 June, Israeli-backed rightist militias attacked the Dutch contingent of UNIFIL.

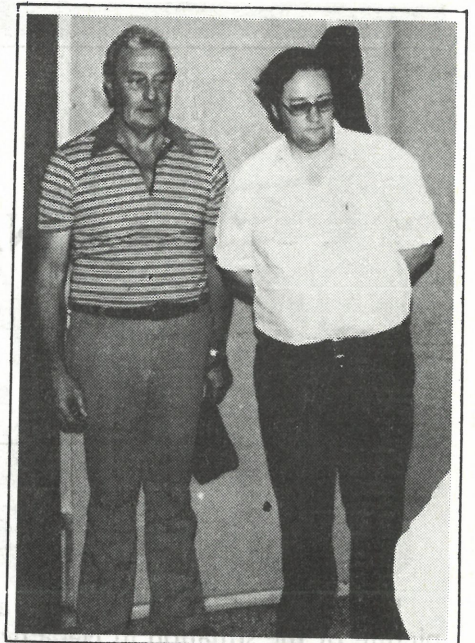
The attack took place at al-Mansouri, 10 kilometers south of Tyre. According to Corporal Edward of the Dutch contingent, after a fierce battle with Haddad's forces trying to take over al-Mansouri from UNIFIL, "rightist artillery positions at Tallet al-Bayada began shelling the village. Over 30 shells landed on the village and neighbouring areas, wounding two villagers, a married couple." Thousands of villagers are being made homeless, while hundreds are being killed or wounded. The UNIFIL, whose task is to facilitate Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon, is being daily harassed to force its withdrawal from Lebanon, paving the way for Zionist expansionist designs on Lebanon.



Fleeing after Israeli air raid on South Lebanese village



Destructions from Israeli artillery bombardment in Tyre



Trade union leaders Gilendening and Ryan

AUSTRALIAN TRADE UNION LEADERS SURVIVE ISRAELI AIR ATTACK:

'NOTHING BUT MURDERERS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE'

"An Australian trade union official, Mr. Tom Ryan, General Secretary of the Food Preservers Union of Australia, on Sunday survived an Israeli air attack in South Lebanon. At least twenty civilians were killed or injured in the thirty minute rocket attack which destroyed twenty shops and several houses. Six Israeli F-15 planes took part in the attack.

Mr. Ryan said today that, in company with Mr. K. Gilendening, General Secretary of the Brewery Workers Union of New Zealand, two Italian Journalists and one American journalist, he was visiting refugee camps for displaced Palestinians in South Lebanon. The party was returning to Beirut along the coast road when the first attack occurred. The vehicle stopped and the party took refuge in a lemon grove alongside the coast road less than one hundred metres from a small group of shops. During the thirty minute attack Israeli rockets landed within one hundred metres of where the party was taking refuge. The party was sprayed with debris as a rocket hit three of the shops less than one hundred metres from the group. Mr. Ryan added that the Palestinian refugee camp of Al-Baysariyeh was near the area bombed and that it was thought that this was the target of the attackers.

Mr. Ryan said that he was fortunate to have survived the attack, as a vehicle that did not stop as the first attack commenced but continued along the road was severely damaged. The fate of the occupants was not known, Mr. Ryan said,

as his party immediately left the area after the attack. Mr. Ryan said that he considered himself fortunate as the firstly survived the attack and secondly he was scheduled to leave Beirut in two days time. The unfortunate Lebanese and Palestinian civilians who have to remain behind to face almost daily attacks from Israeli aircraft, he said, "my heart goes out to them."

Mr. Ryan said that during the first two attacks he was too busy trying to find somewhere to shelter. But the worst of the experience was the fifteenth minute or so after the first attack, as they were sheltering in the lemon grove and could hear the Israeli fighters screaming in and the shock of the rockets landing around them. The group was lying in the dirt awaiting the next wave of attacks and hoping that they would survive that attack.

Mr. Ryan said that the Israeli pilots of American built planes were nothing but murderers of innocent people unable to protect themselves against the Israeli Air Force. The American Government which provides the aircraft for so-called Israeli defence are accomplices in the murders committed by the Israeli Air Force. Mr. Ryan said, that although the experience was very frightening, he was determined to continue to support the struggle of the Palestinian people to liberate their homeland from the Zionist entity.

("Reuter" News Agency, Sunday, June 24, 1979).

LEBANON:

NABATIYEH – A TOWN RESISTING ISRAELI BOMBING TERROR

In early June we went to get an eyewitness picture of the situation in Nabatiyeh, a town in the central part of South Lebanon, suffering from continuous Israeli bombardment and air raids. It looks like a ghost town, and when we were there Israeli warplanes were passing over the area. The few civilians who were around scattered from the scene. The tension was overwhelming. Wherever we looked, we saw burnt or damaged houses, bare trunks of trees and abandoned gardens covered with weeds and thorns. Weeds even grew through cracks in the pavement of the town's streets. The town's commercial center is almost abandoned. The enemy concentrates his shelling against this part of the city. Some remnants of cars, stones, sandbags and electric wires are scattered here and there.

For years the Lebanese state authorities were unable or unwilling to defend the South against escalating Israeli raids and the Zionist schemes of indirect or direct expansion into yet another portion of Arab territory. However, although the population has been decimated and has endured much suffering, it still holds out in heroic resistance, and the farmers are still out in their fields cultivating land despite the daily attacks. Patriotic forces from the Lebanese Arab Army and other progressive forces, side by side with the Palestinian resistance fighters, continue to defend the land and town with their limited means against the devastating military machine of the Zionist aggressor.

INTERVIEW WITH PLO MAJOR ALA'A

In the regional command of the Palestinian Resistance in Nabatiyeh we met Major Ala'a. He received us in a dim room. We sat on two benches around a small wooden table covered with a military map of the area, and we conducted this interview with him.

Q: Can you tell us about the general situation

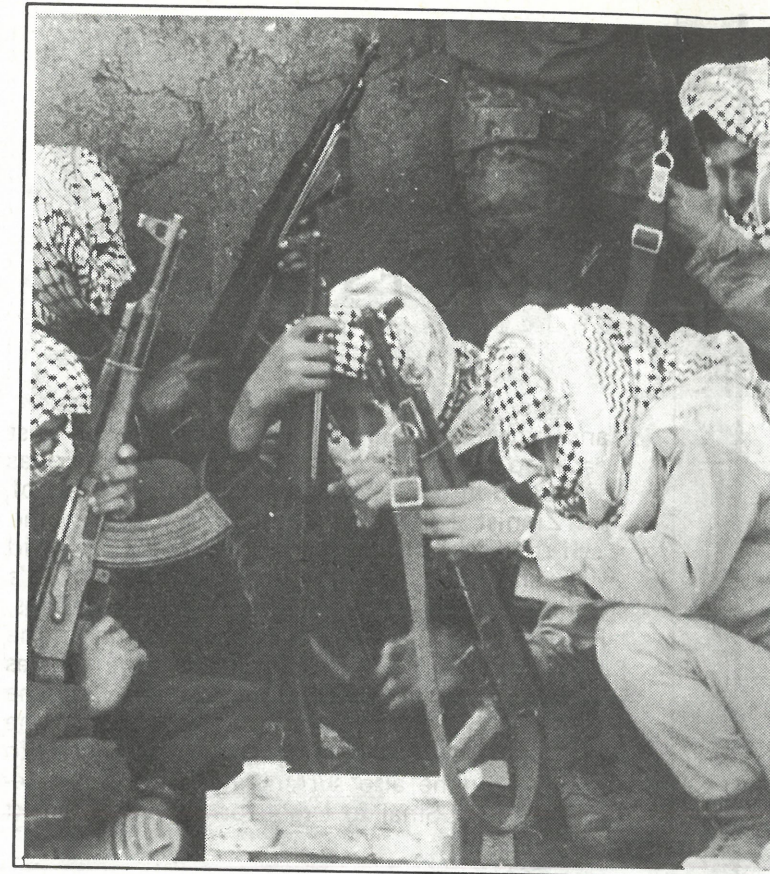
in the Nabatiyeh region?

A: The general situation here has been unstable since 1972 due to many things. The Israeli attacks against the region started in 1972. Meanwhile, PLO forces were deployed here in accordance with the Cairo accord reached between the Lebanese authorities and the PLO in 1969. The population of Nabatiyeh at that time was about 40,000. Now it has fallen to 4000 people, who live under continuous shelling and air raids from the Israelis and Saad Haddad's militiamen. There was a Palestinian refugee camp one kilometer from Nabatiyeh, inhabited by 15,000 Palestinians, which was completely destroyed by Israeli raids and evacuated in 1974.

The main economic resource of the people here is agriculture. The major cash crop is tobacco in addition to wheat and citrus. The aim of the current Israeli aggression is to force the population to leave. Nevertheless, we in the PLO and the Lebanese National Movement (LNM) regard Nabatiyeh as a thorn in the side of the Israelis and isolationist forces. This is because together we are foiling Israel's aggressive economic and military aspirations. The Israelis aim to control the sources of the Litani River, which is only 5 kilometers from the borders of Occupied Palestine, and then to divert its waters into the occupied territories for Israeli settlements and agriculture. Therefore Saad Haddad's militiamen, backed by the Israelis, are trying their best to control the areas surrounding the river, and then help Israel to secure it.

Q: The Nabatiyeh sector is still subjected to almost daily shelling by the enemy forces. What are the consequences of this shelling?

A: Since 1972 the Israelis have escalated their attacks against the area day after day, and now we have two or three air raids every week. The Israelis are trying even harder to liquidate people and usurp their land. They fire heavy artillery of



"We expect an upsurge in the military aggression"

different calibers, such as 175 mm, 155 mm, 160 mortars from the Israeli positions in Occupied Palestine or from Saad Haddad's enclave. The shelling causes great damage to people's property, but very few casualties because the people are experienced in the means of self-defense and they implement civil defense measures.

The highest rate of enemy shelling against the town was 1025 in one day. An old grocer writes in his sales notebook the daily number of shells fired by the enemy against the town. When I visit him he tells me the exact number, though sometimes there are so many shells in one day that he gives up and just stops counting.

Q: Do you see any connection between the Israeli aggressive escalation against the Palestinian and Lebanese people in South Lebanon and the new alliance of Carter, Begin and Sadat?

A: Everyone must regard the latest Israeli pressures against South Lebanon as directly arising from the Sadat-Begin 'peace' treaty. We can observe daily how the developments in the Middle East conflict as a whole reflect to the different phases of Israeli attacks. We expect an upsurge in the military aggression from the enemy. Therefore we have to be vigilant. On the



"The aim of the aggression is to force the population to leave"

political level, we think that the parties which signed the 'peace' treaty have become aware of the fallacy of their move. This confirms our stand that there will be no peace or stability in the Middle East without the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. We are determined to continue fighting until victory.

Q: We know that the Palestinian forces are fighting side by side with those of the Lebanese National Movement. Could you speak about the cooperation between the two?

A: Since the start of the Lebanese civil war in 1975, we have had a joint military command, which allows us to fully coordinate our actions. On the administrative level, we cooperate with the regional command of the LNM and the Lebanese Arab Army to provide the inhabitants with medical and food assistance. The shelling has caused great damage to water, telephone and electricity networks, and we have had to repair the damage and restore as many essential services as possible. We have two medical centers here. One is run by the Palestinian Red Crescent medical service and the other is run by the LNM. Both of them provide medical treatment free for everyone. Even those medical centers and their personnel have come under attack by Israeli shelling.

Our efforts in these fields are fruitful. The bonds between ourselves and the people of the area are strengthened, their morale is raised and they have a greater opportunity to continue living on their land in their villages.

A VISIT TO AN ANCIENT FORTRESS

About ten kilometers east of Nabatiyeh is the 12th century crusader castle, Beaufort. It is positioned on a ridge overlooking the Litani River and the whole area beyond. Across the river to the east one sees the Lebanese towns and villages of Marjeyoun, Kilayia, Deir Memas and Khiam, which are controlled by Saad Haddad's militiamen. Further east is Metullah, a town in Palestine occupied by the Zionists in 1948. The castle, built by crusaders and captured by Saladin, is now defended by the forces of the Palestinian Resistance and the Lebanese National Movement against Israeli and fascist attacks. Israeli troops have many times attempted to capture the castle, but they have always failed. One of these attempts occurred one month ago, when Israeli airborne troops landed and attacked the castle along with other Palestinian positions, but they were driven out and suffered many casualties.

We met the commander of the post, a young man about 25 years old, full of enthusiasm and vitality. He told us that the fighter's morale is very high, despite the hardships they face in their daily battles with the enemy. He said: "We feel happy here because we are very close to Palestine. We can smell the fragrance of the citrus groves there. Every hardship we face can be endured as long as we are attached to our homeland and our legitimate rights." He said that the fighters have a comradely relationship with the villagers in the area. Many times, fighters go down to the fields and help the farmers plant and harvest.

The youngest fighter at this frontline post is called Abu al-'Ez, 14, who joined the Palestinian Revolution three years ago. He was born in Bteyeha, in the occupied Syrian Golan Heights. He said that since his native village is occupied by the Israelis, he joined the Palestinian Revolution for the sake of liberating Palestine and other occupied territories. His relationship with the veteran fighters is very comradely.

We left the group, and passed other commando bases with feelings of admiration and respect for the fighters. Their courage is rooted in the coming of final victory. As one of them said: "Through the barrels of our guns we will attain victory."

"SELF-RULE" SCHEME FACES DEFEAT

Since Sadat put all his eggs in the US basket, and surrendered 99 per cent of the Middle East cards to the US administration, he no longer has any freedom and can only execute the orders of his Zionist and American masters. So when the 'self-rule' scheme was mapped out at Camp David II, and later endorsed during Carter's Middle East shuttle and at the El Arish meetings, President Sadat pretended to be a partner in the negotiations while advocating the same aims as Zionism and US imperialism. Not only did he forget all his old promises not to surrender "one piece of dirt of the occupied Arab territories to Israel," but he also surrendered Egyptian sovereignty over Sinai to Israel for at least the next three years.

Sadat said in one of his latest speeches that the PLO does not represent the Palestinians of occupied Palestine, and that only he can represent them in the negotiations with the Israelis. Of course, no one in the world will take his words seriously. 105 nations have recognized the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people wherever they are found. So Sadat has to turn to his old maneuvers and manufacture puppet elements, especially in the Gaza Strip, to play the role he cannot. He fabricated a Palestinian society in Cairo to receive letters and telegrams of support and approval for his capitulationist move. Dozens of Egyptian secret service agents entered the Gaza Strip, in coordination with the Israeli "Mossad", in order to terrorize the inhabitants and to bribe others into approving the "Self-rule" scheme. The result of all these desperate attempts was the rejection of the conspiracy through new demonstrations, military operations and the liquidation of enemy agents such as Sheikh Khuzindar on June 1, 1979. On the other hand, the people and notables of the Gaza Strip continuously declare their allegiance to the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, and they reject all plots which do not recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

THE ZIONIST MANEUVER

The present leadership of Israel is carrying out a practical plan to achieve the long-est-



On occasion of recent Israeli 'withdrawal': the inhabitants of El Arish demonstrating for Palestine and the liberation of all occupied territories

ablished aims of Zionism. In the past, the Israelis invented many different forms of 'self-rule' for the Palestinians under the occupation, starting from Yigal Allon's project in the late 1960's and ending with Begin's current plan. All of these plans have the same aims, which are:

1 — To maintain Israeli control over Palestinian land for a transitional period, and then to annex it to the "State of Israel" when the subjective and objective conditions are ripe. For the record, Israeli officials have said this about "self-rule":

BEGIN: OCCUPATION FOREVER

Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin told the closing session of his Herut Party convention on June 6, 1979: "We shall arrest the members of the (autonomy) council if they declare an independent Palestinian state and restore our military government in the area within 24 hours." Begin pledged to keep West Bank and Gaza Strip under Israeli control forever and continue Jewish settlements there, and added: "A Palestinian state will never be established in Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) and Gaza... Jerusalem will forever remain united as the capital of Israel".

Menahem Begin: "We never agreed to autonomy for the (occupied) territories, but only for the inhabitants." ("International Herald Tribune", 21-3-79)

Moshe Dayan: "One of the fundamental rights of Israel is to set up settlements everywhere in Judea and Samaria (West Bank) and the Gaza Strip."

2 — To drive a wedge between the Palestinian people and their sole representative, the PLO. The Israelis try to do this by creating alternative representatives for the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, who would attend negotiations over the "self-rule" scheme, and then play a puppet role under Israeli domination.

3 — Through their 'self-rule' scheme, the Israelis would maintain their control over the economy of the occupied territories, which would provide the faltering Israeli economy with a reservoir of cheap Arab manpower, help amend the balance of payments deficit through a 'policy of open bridges' with neighbouring Arab countries, and allow expansion of Israeli investment and settlements in the occupied territories. This is what Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan meant when he said, the moment he landed at Cairo airport on June 4, 1979, "No Palestinian state on the occupied West Bank and

"SELF-RULE" SCHEME FACES DEFEAT

the Gaza Strip; Jerusalem to remain the undivided capital of Israel; continued establishment of Jewish settlement in the West Bank and Gaza." For more Jewish settlements, in addition to the 48 settlements already set up, the Israelis plan to confiscate 1/4 of the land of the West Bank, and divert the water sources from Arab villages to the Israeli settlements and irrigate their agriculture fields. All these barbaric measures would prevent the Palestinian villagers and farmers from cultivating their lands, and consequently turn them into wage labourers for the Israeli labour market.

PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE

The 1.6 million Palestinians in occupied Palestine are regarded by the majority of Zionist officials as a "time bomb" which will one day explode and endanger the very existence of the Jewish state. Prime Minister Begin himself is thoroughly aware of this reality. He said on May 5, 1979, that the final status of the 'self-rule' scheme on the West Bank and Gaza will be determined by his successors. The Israelis will not find any prominent Palestinian group, whether inside or outside the occupied territories, to deal with in discussions on the 'self-rule' plot. Sadat cannot even represent the Egyptian people, so how can he present himself as the representative of the Palestinians?

Mass Palestinian rejection of the self-rule scheme, and the escalation of Palestinian resistance activities inside the occupied territories, will create an intolerable situation for the Israelis. The striking proof of the Arab refusal to accept any Zionist political body in the heart of the Arab world is what happened in El Arish during the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the city, ending 12 years of occupation. The inhabitants of El Arish, in spite of Egyptian and Israeli repression, attacked the remnants of the Israeli troops and chanted slogans for the liberation of Palestine and support of the PLO.

The "peace" accord between the Israelis and the Egyptian regime will be a "declaration of war" in the Middle East. It will inflame the area's internal contradictions, which might lead to the overthrow of many Arab reactionary regimes and so escalate the pan-Arab war of liberation against the Zionist state. These positive historical conditions will ultimately evolve to put an end to the illusions of the imperialists, Zionists and Arab reactionaries. They are all trying to defer the process of change, but how will they succeed?

JUNE 5: STRIKE AND DEMONSTRATIONS IN WEST BANK

A general strike was observed in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip on the twelfth anniversary of the June 5 War and the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The strike was called for by the West Bank and Gaza Strip Mayors, in a communique which also condemned the Carter-Begin-Sadat conspiracy against the Palestinians. The communique condemned the on-going Zionist aggressions against Palestinian camps and Lebanese villages in South Lebanon, and called for the termination of the occupation, and the implementation of UN resolution 3236 regarding the rights of the Palestinian people.

Meanwhile, the Israeli authorities have imposed strict security measures in the cities and towns of the occupied territories, in an attempt to frighten the Palestinians and prevent them from expressing their rejection of the occupation. But in spite of these precautions hundreds of Palestinians from Ramallah went to al-Janieh village where the Israeli authorities on June 4 blew up one house and sealed four others belonging to Palestinian citizens.

'ISRAELI DEMOCRACY'

The Ramallah and al-Bireh Municipalities are reported to have shut their offices in protest against this criminal action. The Mayor of Ramallah, Karim Khalaf, held a press conference on June 4 near the house that was blown up, in which he said, "This is Israeli democracy in practice".

On the other hand, hundreds of Palestinians and Progressive Jewish students demonstrated in front of

OCCUPATION DIARY



General strike (in Ramallah, occupied West Bank)

Begin's office in Jerusalem on the occasion of the 12th anniversary of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The demonstrators raised slogans condemning the Israeli occupation and its brutal activities against the Palestinians and calling for implementation of the Palestinian people's right to return and to self determination. The demonstrators asked for the re-opening of Bir Zeit University and the release of all imprisoned students. During the demonstration, the Israeli authorities arrested five Arab students, Elias Abu Wardeh, Hussein Kayyal, Muhammad al-Sah, Slim Atayneh and Ghanem Farghal.

"SAVE JERUSALEM" COMMITTEE: RESCUE HOLY CITY

In a communique issued on the anniversary of the June War, the "Save Jerusalem" Committee appealed to the Arab and Islamic Nations to rescue the holy city from the Zionist occupation, which is changing the historical and geographical character of the city. The

schools and universities, and the demolition of the homes of citizens proclaiming their rejection of the self-rule conspiracy and the Israeli occupation. It also added that Israeli settlers attacked and shot at Palestinian demonstrators in Hal-houl, killing two Palestinian students. The signatories finally called for the right of freedom of speech, a right of all students around the world.

NABLUS DEMONSTRATES AGAINST SETTLEMENTS, RENEWED STRIKE

A general strike was observed in the occupied city of Nablus on June 10 and several demonstrations were staged to protest the establishment of a new Zionist settlement, Alon Moreh, 1 1/2 kms South of the city. According to reports from Nablus, tension has been mounting since June 9, when the Zionist military authorities erected barricades inside the city and at its entrances, and warned the Palestinian citizens against approaching the site of the settlement.

Demonstrations nevertheless broke out on Sunday morning June 10, and thousands of demonstrators clashed with Israeli soldiers, throwing stones and empty bottles at them. The Israeli soldiers in turn attacked women and children taking part in the demonstrations, and arrested several Palestinians.

The strike was fully observed, according to news reports, in spite of the Nablus Military Governor's threat to break the strike and turn the city into a military area which no one would be allowed to enter. At a press conference held by the owners of land in the area confiscated by the Israeli authorities to establish the new settlement, the Nablus landowners announced their attachment to their land, their readiness to defend it, and their refusal to sell or rent it to the Zionist authorities because it is their only source of income.

Committee indicated that these measures were a natural result of the Camp David accords. It also condemned Israel's arbitrary practices, including the inhuman torture of Palestinian citizens, and the settlement campaign in the occupied territories, especially around Jerusalem.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, TRADE REPRESENTATIVES AND NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS DENOUNCE ISRAELI OPPRESSION

Palestinian personalities in the West Bank have strongly denounced the repressive Israeli measures against Palestinian citizens and students in the occupied territories during the latter's recent demonstrations, in a communique issued by dozens of university students, representatives of the liberal profession and nationalist organizations and institutions following a meeting which was held on June 7 in Jerusalem.

The communique denounced measures such as the closure of

OCCUPATION DIARY



The people of Nablus throw stones against Israeli armored personnel carriers

The Israeli Minister of Agriculture, Ariel Sharon, boldly announced that the land will not be confiscated and that its owners will keep the ownership deeds despite its occupation by settlers.

BETHLEHEM MAYOR MEETS POPE AND FRENCH OFFICIALS

Elias Freij, Mayor of Bethlehem, will meet Pope John Paul II at the Vatican during a planned West European tour in mid-June.

Freij will brief the Pope on the deteriorating situation in occupied Palestine, and the brutal measures practiced by the Israeli authorities against Palestinian citizens. Elias Freij left occupied Palestine on June 6 for France at the invitation of the French Government. In Paris he will meet with a number of French Officials to discuss the current situation in the occupied territories, the illegal settlement activities and the continuous Israeli harassment of Palestinian citizens.

"NO PALESTINIAN WILL TAKE PART IN 'SELF RULE'"

In an interview with the French

News Agency AFP published in Paris on June 12, 1979, Freij stated that the Palestinian people in the occupied territories will not participate in the self-rule negotiations and will fight, under PLO leadership, for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in their homeland. He further described the proposed 'self-rule' plan as aiming to establish a form of self-government which legalizes a permanent Israeli occupation of Palestinian land. Freij also condemned the negative stand of the European States regarding the Palestinian cause, and called on them to take a more active role for the achievement of a just solution to the Palestinian problem.

ILO DISCUSSES CONDITIONS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

The 65th Conference of the International Labour Organization started its sessions on June 6 in Geneva. A PLO delegation, including PLO official spokesman Abdel Muhsin Abu Maizar; and Abdel Rahim Ahmad, member of the PLO Executive Committee, is participating in the meeting, which will discuss the report of the mission

sent by the PLO Director — General to examine the conditions of Arab workers in the occupied Arab territories. On June 8, Abdel Muhsin Abu Maizar, delivered a statement to the I.L.O. Plenary meeting explaining the conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, the Israeli racist practices against Palestinian workers, the destruction of the Palestinian economy, as well as the Israeli war of annihilation launched against the Lebanese and Palestinian people in South Lebanon.

Maizar then briefed the meeting on the Palestinian Revolution's clear stand towards the so-called Sadat-Israeli peace treaty, the Camp David agreements and the self-rule conspiracy. He said these accords are an invitation for more wars and not for peace, adding that Palestine enjoys a very important strategic and geographical position, with important resources, especially oil, and that therefore the failure to achieve an acceptable solution for our people and nation will threaten world security as a whole. In conclusion, Abu Maizar warned Japan and West Germany against continuing their support for the Camp David agreement.

U.N. COMMISSION INVESTIGATES OCCUPATION

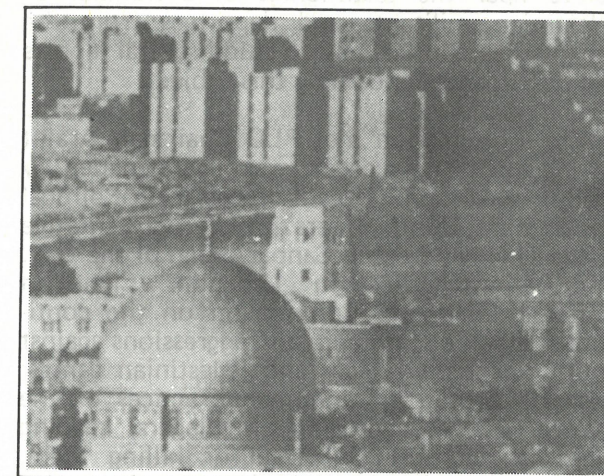
After being prohibited by the Israeli authorities from entering the occupied territories, the UN Investigation Commission arrived in Amman on May 20 to examine the situation inside the occupied territories. The committee was created by the Security Council in a resolution adopted March 22 by a vote of 12-0 with the U.S., Britain and Norway abstaining. It held eight private meetings in the U.N. and heard a delegation from the U.N. Committee on Palestinian Rights and another delegation from Jordan.

The Israeli authorities also prevented West Bank and Gaza Strip notables from leaving for Amman to report to the U.N. investigation commission on Israeli settlement policies in occupied Palestine, and on the negative repercussions of these settlements. The commission then left for Damascus.

UN COMMISSION IN DAMASCUS

On May 21, the three member Committee began listening to the testimonies of Palestinians who were able to leave West Bank to testify. It listened to five Palestinian citizens and to Shaykh Abdel Hamid al-Sayeh, President of the "Save Jerusalem Committee". Shaykh al-Sayeh gave his statement regarding the religious situation in the holy city before the occupation, and the Israeli measures to Judaize Jerusalem in an attempt to wipe out its historical Arab character. He also briefed the commission on Israeli desecration of Islamic Holy sites, particularly the al-Aqsa and Ibrahimi Mosques, on Israeli excavations around these sites, an aggressions against Islamic Waqf properties and the violation of religious laws.

Rouhi al-Khatib, the Arab Mayor of Jerusalem, delivered his statement of the committee and explained statistically the Israeli policy of construction around the city of Jerusalem, an attempt to encircle Palestinian quarters as a first step before forcing them to evacuate. He went



*A racist policy of annexation and Judaization
(Zionist settlements in Jerusalem)*

on to brief the delegates on the Israeli attempts to annex the electricity company in Jerusalem and replace it with an Israeli one. Khatib also talked about the Palestinian quarters demolished by the Israeli authorities to force their inhabitants to leave.

A RACIST POLICY VIOLATING INTERNATIONAL LAW

On May 28, the U.N. Commission listened to the testimony of Abdel Mohsen Abu Maizar, the PLO Official Spokesman. Abu Maizar discussed the practices of the Zionist movement before and after the establishment of the state of Israel, and pointed out the contradictions between Israeli policies, international legitimacy and a peace based on justice. Abu Maizar submitted several memoranda and studies about Israeli settlement policy vis-a-vis Palestinian land and citizens since 1948. He also presented a special study about Israeli detention and deportation policy, emphasising the racist nature of the Zionist entity. Abu Maizar then refuted Israel's claims to ownership of Palestinian land occupied since 1967. He also refuted Israel's pretext for not abiding by the Geneva Convention, which clearly prohibits annexation and settlement under clauses 2,4,27, 1,7, and 49.

Having established that settlement is an official policy of the Israeli government, Abu Maizar explained to the commission the objectives of such a policy and the illegitimacy of the annexation and Judaisation of Jerusalem, and the serious infringement by the Israeli authorities on the freedom of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. He also denounced the alteration of the demographic, historical and cultural character of Jerusalem and other sites in the West Bank.

COMMISSION MEETS ARAFAT IN BEIRUT

The UN Commission arrived in Beirut on May

29 to hear the testimonies of a number of Palestinian militants and deportees from the occupied territories, and to study several reports and documents concerning this subject.

The Commission met PLO Chairman Arafat on May 30. The meeting was also attended by Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department; Zuhdi al-Tarazi, PLO representative at the U.N., and Samir Sanbar, Head of the U.N. Information Office in Lebanon. Chairman Arafat briefed the Commission on the continuous Israeli air, sea and land aggressions against South Lebanese villages and Palestinian camps, and the brutal and inhuman practices of the enemy such as capturing of villagers, keeping them in detention in Israel or killing them. Arafat also spoke about the heroic resistance of the Palestinian citizens in the occupied territo-

ries and their struggle to regain their national rights. He also confirmed the PLO's confidence in the U.N.'s ability to find a just and lasting solution to the Middle East conflict.

COMMISSION IN CAIRO

Arriving in Cairo on May 30, the UN committee heard from Palestinians displaced from the Gaza Strip that the Israelis had razed whole Palestinian villages there, forcibly evicted their inhabitants and expropriated 12,000 acres on which they built settlements. The Head of the Commission announced that the committee expects the Security Council to take certain procedures against Israeli settlements on the basis of the report which the committee will present.



Israeli soldiers bar Bir Zeit officials from visiting wounded students in Ramallah hospital.

APPEAL FOR FREEDOM AT BIR ZEIT UNIVERSITY

The Washington-based Palestinian Human Rights Campaign (PHRC) in May 1979 published the following alarming account on the situation of Bir Zeit University together with an urgent appeal for support for this Palestinian university now closed down by the Israeli military authorities in the occupied West Bank:

"Bir Zeit University is a Palestinian university located about twenty miles northwest of Jerusalem in the Israeli occupied West Bank. During the past decade, the university has

suffered greatly from the military occupation. It has been denied the most basic academic freedom, and has frequently been the target of harassment and violent attacks meted out by the Israeli occupation army.

Since the signing of the Camp David Agreements in the Fall of 1978, the repression against Bir Zeit has intensified, often producing violence and even tragedy for the Bir Zeit community. On May 2, 1979, Riyadh Nakhleh Daoud, a twenty-year-old university student, was shot in the chest by an Israeli settler —

Here in exile in Oslo
Ici en exil à Oslo



1979

YEAR OF MORE
INJUSTICE FOR THE
PALESTINIAN CHILD
ANNEE DE PLUS
D'INJUSTICE POUR
L'ENFANT PALESTINIEN



Dr. Ezra Zohar, a Professor of Medicine and member of the Gush Emunim (the ultra-right wing "Band of Believers").

In the aftermath of the shooting and further demonstrations, the Military Governor of the West Bank ordered the closing of Bir Zeit University and other Palestinian educational institutions.

THE NEED FOR A PALESTINIAN UNIVERSITY

After the Israeli occupation of the West Bank in June of 1967, Bir Zeit College felt the pressing need to establish an Arab university in Palestine. Therefore, it developed B.A. and B.S. programs, and in 1975 was officially renamed Bir Zeit University. It currently has an enrollment of about 1000 students. By its very existence as a Palestinian university, Bir Zeit asserts that the Arabs of Palestine have a future in their own country. It enables them to acquire a university education without having to leave Palestine, and it trains them to work there. Thus, it helps to frustrate Israel's attempts, pursued by military, economic and political means, to force Palestinians to emigrate from their homeland. Consequently, Bir Zeit University has been subject to harassment and repression by the Israeli occupation authorities.

Its President, Dr. Hanna Nasir, and a member of its Board of Directors were expelled four years ago and since then have been forced to live in exile. "Three members of the Board of Directors were declared unacceptable by the Israeli Military Governor, including the Mayor of Ramallah, Karim Khalaf.

In late November 1978, eighteen students were arrested and roughly interrogated with regard to their political beliefs. At least seven of the students were brutally treated and injured during these "questioning sessions".

Military checkpoints have become a regular feature in the university community. Students are regularly stopped on their way to or from the university with their academic books and notes checked and sometimes destroyed during questioning."

APPEAL

Shortly after the closing, the Palestinian Human Rights Campaign received an urgent appeal from the university's Vice President, Dr. G. Baramki. In his appeal, Dr. Baramki said:

"We are an educational institution attempting to fulfill our role by educating our young people, under the extreme condition of military occupation.



"Under the extreme condition of military occupation"

"We are not violent. The students and the university community have been subjected to repeated provocations. When they have responded, they have done so in a mature and non-violent manner.

"In the recent past, three of our students have been shot and seriously wounded, our faculty and students have been subjected to arrest, harsh interrogation, and detention for prolonged periods. And now, our university is closed by the military.

"If this closing continues, one hundred seniors will not be able to complete their degrees. This will cause them great hardship. closing our university is shutting off a voice of reason and learning in the area — this is not to the advantage of anyone who is interested in peace.

"Please assist us in our effort to reopen Bir Zeit University."

The "COMMITTEE OF CONCERN FOR BIR ZEIT UNIVERSITY", 1322 18th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036, calls on all possible sponsors of its work and on those interested in further information on Bir Zeit to contact it.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR JOINS PALESTINIAN PROTEST

A Hebrew University professor joined on June 13 a Palestinian colleague from the occupied West Bank in protesting against the closing by Israeli military authorities of the West Bank's university at Bir Zeit.

Israeli Dr. Daniel Amit of Jerusalem's Hebrew University and Munir Fashi who teaches mathematics at Bir Zeit told a press conference that the closing of the Palestinian university would destroy the education process on the West Bank. Dr. Amit said the closure was unjustified since the Israeli authorities had never made accusations on security grounds against the university as a whole.



MILITARY OPERATIONS

MILITARY TRANSPORT STATION BLOWN UP ON JERUSALEM-HEBRON ROAD

No 86/79:

Acting on orders from the General Command of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, the "Martyr Osameh al-Hindi" unit at dawn on May 29, planted powerful timed explosive charges inside a military transport station in Kfar 'Asioun on the road between Bethlehem and Hebron. At noon the same day, when the station was full of soldiers, the charges exploded, killing and injuring several Israeli officers and soldiers, and damaging a military truck and the station building. Israeli security forces immediately blocked the Jerusalem-Hebron road and arrested dozens of Palestinians citizens on the pretext of checking their identities. In its Hebrew — language bulletin, Radio-Israel admitted the operation and reported that the station was completely destroyed, but claimed there were no casualties. The commando unit returned safely to base.

COMMANDO OPERATION IN SOUTH JERUSALEM

No 87/79:

Acting on orders from the General Command of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, the "Martyr Samir Abdeen" unit at 8:15 a.m. on May 31 shelled Israeli military

positions in South Jerusalem with heavy rockets. The rockets scored direct hits on their targets and fires were seen blazing from the positions. Ambulances were immediately rushed to the scene to remove the dead and injured.

Israeli forces, supported by helicopters, subsequently combed a large area of hills and the regions South of Jerusalem, and found another battery of heavy rockets, set to go off soon afterwards. In its Hebrew-language bulletin Radio Israel admitted that a Katyusha rocket landed near Pattir, South of Jerusalem. The Radio reported that the rocket was fired from the Hebron region, and claimed that there were no material losses or casualties. The radio reported that the army and the security forces found another rocket set to go off. The Israeli Military Spokesman said that a person was arrested on suspicion of involvement in the operation.

TWO COMMANDO OPERATIONS IN JERUSALEM

No 88/79:

Acting on orders from the General Command of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, a special commando unit at 10:30 p.m. on Friday, June 1st, launched a surprise attack with hand grenades on a group of Goush Imonim members who were passing through the Bab al-Asbat area near the Aqsa Mosque in the old city of Jerusalem. As a

result of the attack, most members of this group — who usually harass our people in the region — were killed or wounded. The Arab district of Jerusalem consequently witnessed a wide-scale search campaign which included a number of homes and led to the arrest of dozens of Palestinian citizens. Our unit nevertheless returned safely to base.

No 89/79:

The "Martyr Abu Hassan Salameh" Commando unit on June 2 planted timed explosive charges inside an Israeli shop at the cross roads between King George and Agrieposs street in the center of Jerusalem, despite intensive security measures and checkpoints in the streets, squares, bus stations, and public places of the city, put up in an attempt to prevent commando operations. The charges went off as scheduled at 11:40 a.m. injuring several Israelis and destroying the shop and several cars parked in front of it. Explosives experts immediately combed the area in search of other explosives while checkpoints were erected and the usual campaign of arrests was carried out, with dozens of Palestinian citizens detained on the pretext of their connection with the operation.

EXPLOSIVES DISCOVERED IN BEERSHEBA GARAGE

No 90/79:

Special commando unit "B"



State of siege in Jerusalem (near 'Zion' square)

operating inside occupied Palestine, on June 4 placed a timed explosive charge inside a garage for tractors belonging to the Israeli Agriculture Ministry in the Beersheba area. At 7:00 a.m. the charge was discovered and defused and the garage emptied, while explosives experts dismantled the charge and combed the area in search for other charges. Check-points were immediately erected in the streets leading to Beersheba, and several Palestinian citizens were arrested on the pretext of their involvement in the operation. The unit returned safely to base.

PALESTINIAN-ISRAELI SEA BATTLE

No 91/79:

While engaged in a reconnaissance mission along the Israeli coast, on Sunday, June 3, a Palestinian naval unit clashed with two Israeli vessels near the coastal town of Herzliya.

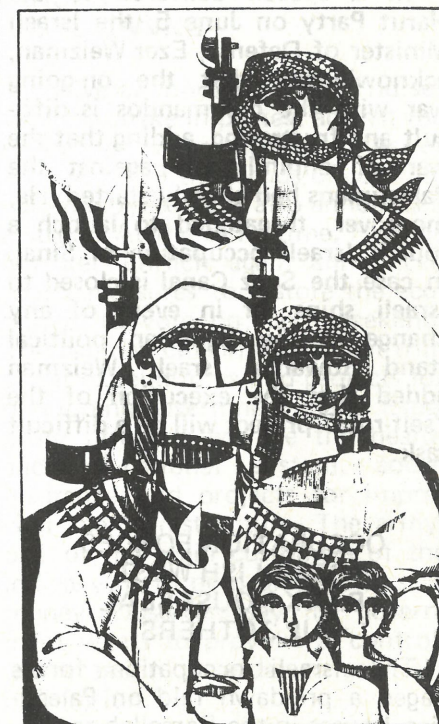
The Israeli vessels trapped the Palestinian vessel, firing at it with machine-guns and anti-ship missiles. The Palestinian vessel returned the fire, and managed to escape at top

speed, but was followed by Israeli vessels and helicopters. The boat was finally sunk North of Naharia after heavy air and sea attacks with rockets killing the entire crew.

The four crew members were: Mohammad Rajab Abou Issa, born in Gaza in 1952; Sa'adi Yousef Abul A'ysh, born in 1950 in Khan Younis; Attiyeh Ahmad Hussein Abu Sultan; Taha Bakr.

THE AGENT SHAYKH HASHEM AL-KHAZENDAR EXECUTED

At a time when our Palestinian people inside and outside occupied Palestine are unanimous in confronting the imperialist-Zionist-Sadat plots against them, and their Revolution, of which the self-rule project constitutes yet another link; and at a time when our forces in the occupied territories are uniting and rallying around the PLO to confront this conspiracy, a despicable agent took a stand in submission to the will of the enemy, thus becoming an obedient tool serving this enemy's objectives, plots and conspiratorial projects. This agent is Shaykh Hasehm Nu'man al-Khazendar, who undertook a series of moves in an attempt to serve the



ZIONISM IN PRACTICE



Weizman: "A war of annihilation"

WEIZMAN: WAR OF ANNIHILATION AGAINST PALESTINIANS HAS ALREADY STARTED

In a speech delivered to the Harut Party on June 5, the Israeli Minister of Defense, Ezer Weizman, acknowledged that the on-going war with the commandos is difficult and frustrating, adding that the war of annihilation against the Palestinians had already started. He, moreover, threatened to launch a fourth Israeli occupation of Sinai, in case the Suez Canal is closed to Israeli ships, or in event of any change in the Egyptian political stand towards Israel. Weizman added that the execution of the "self-rule" project will be a difficult task.

OCCUPATION FORCES DEMOLISH WEST BANK HOUSE SEAL UP 3 OTHERS

The Israeli occupation forces staged a pre-dawn raid on Palestinian houses in the Ramallah region.

One house in the village of Janieh was destroyed, while two houses were sealed up in Ramallah in addition to another one in the nearby village of el-Bireh. The Israeli authorities claimed that the houses had been used to harbor Palestinian commandos on the West Bank.

Ramallah Mayor Karim Khalaf tried to hold a news conference to protest the house-sealing, but Israeli troops came and ordered him to break up the session, calling it an unauthorized meeting. So, on Tuesday 5 June, municipal offices, in Ramallah and el-Bireh closed in protest against these oppressive measures.

ISRAELI SOLDIERS SHOOT AT FOUR PALESTINIANS

Israeli soldiers fired with automatic weapons on June 5 at four Palestinians who were passing near the settlement of Kfar Saba, North-East of Tel Aviv. Having failed to injure them, the soldiers immediately arrested the four Palestinians on charges of refusal to abide by the Israeli army regulation. On the same day, Israeli soldiers broke into the house of the Palestinian citizen Nayef Khaled Hammoud, in upper Galilee, without giving any reason for their action. Hammoud was arrested together with another Palestinian Walid Badran, 25, who was in the same house.

ISRAEL BOWS TO PRESSURE, FLEENER SENTENCE REDUCED

After the escalation of the international campaign to release U.S. citizen Terry Fleener, the Israeli government on 30 May, reduced her prison sentence from five years to 2 1/2. The government also reduced the sentence of Ludvina Janssen from six years to 4 1/2. Ludvina Janssen, a Dutch, was convicted in 1977 of aiding the PLO.

EXTENDING PRISON TERM OF CATHRINE RAOUL

In Jerusalem, the Israeli military tribunal has extended the prison

term of the French citizen Cathrine Raoul, who was arrested on May 21 on charges of contacting the PLO office in Spain and offering to work for them against Israel.

Another prisoner, Robert Falconneri, 24, a French citizen was arrested in late May on charges of photographing military installations between Tel Aviv and Ashkalan.

MORE POLITICAL PRISONERS

The Israeli military command announced on June 11, that the Israeli forces have arrested Palestinians in the occupied West Bank accused of membership in Palestinian commando cells of Fateh and the Popular Struggle guerilla organizations, and who were responsible for commando acts in Jerusalem and Lod. No identities were disclosed, but Israeli authorities said more arrests were expected.

In another development, the Israeli military court in Lydd, on June 7 sentenced a Palestinian Woman, Fatima al-Daqaq, 20, to eight years imprisonment and three other Palestinians to 10 years, on charges of affiliation to the Palestinian Revolution and resisting the occupation. The same court also sentenced two West Bankers to 18 years on charges of carrying out commando operations against Israeli military installations.

HA'ARETZ: ISRAELI OPPRESSION INCREASES PALESTINIAN UNITY

The Israeli daily newspaper "Ha'aretz" in a recent issue, commented on the report presented by the Israeli coordinator of the activities of the Military Governor General to the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee. The paper stated that the report does not explain the reasons and factors behind the increased tension in the West Bank, the West Bank uprising in the confrontation of the Israeli army and security forces, or the national awareness and unity of the West Bank Arabs and their allegiance to the PLO.

The paper added that the various forms of repression practiced by the Israeli authorities, serve to de-



Palestinian family in front of their house blown up by the Israeli occupation authorities

velop the awareness of the Arabs, and that the policies of dispersing demonstrations by force, imposing curfews and closing schools, only strengthen the internal unity and national awareness of the Arabs, even though they have led to a temporary calm. The paper added Israeli policies such as closing schools, imposing curfews, etc. only prove the weakness of the authorities, while the seizure of land and the establishment of settlements have led the people to unite against the common external enemy. Regarding the self-rule plan, the paper said that this has further irritated West Bank Arabs who would rather remain under direct Israeli occupation than accept the self-rule plan put forth by Israel.

P.L.O. lives in the hearts of the Arabs living in the 'controlled territories', and the Israeli authorities must remember that there is an end to every thing, especially 'big-stick' policy, the paper concluded.

ISRAEL'S FINANCIAL DEPENDENCY ON U.S. GROWING

Western news agencies reported on 22 May 1979 on the recent Knesset debate on a motion of no confidence brought forward against the Begin Government. The opposition denounced the intentions of the government to cut down the state budget for the sake of the salvation of the economy. By this estimate the rate of inflation was to be limited to 60 %, with the money spared to be used to cover the expenses for the withdrawal from the Sinai peninsula. Opposition leader Peres reproached the government that it had deceived the people in making them believe "everybody could live like in America". As a matter of fact, Israel was becoming even more dependent on financial aid from the U.S.

"Several thousand Israeli nurses went on strike in protest against the refusal of wage increases. As of June 7, 1979 thousands of communal employees have also announced a strike. At the same time, Finance Minister Ehrlich again announced tough measures to restore the economy, to vote on next weekend. The planned cuts in the budget trim social expenditures and projects for developing government plans. Especially affected will be the health and educational system, social insurance and projects for improving the infrastructure. The army, one of the main customers of the industry, is to be prompted to save money. Observers say the government wants to provoke a 'controlled recession' in order to get hold of inflation."

ZIONISM IN PRACTICE



Gush Emunim fanatics preparing for new provocation

ISRAELI COLONIZATION OF PALESTINIAN LAND INTENSIFIES

Despite increasing international dismay at the Israeli government's settlement policy, Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Minister of Agriculture and Head of the Knesset Settlement Committee, called on May 30 for intensive Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip over the next 20 to 30 years. He told the Knesset that under his plan a series of urban settlements would be set up in the heavily populated Arab northern sector of the West Bank, for this would help cooperation between Israeli settlers and the Palestinians, and will guarantee the continuation of the so-called 'Self-Rule'. The narrowness of the Israeli coastline (13-15 Kms.), which is difficult to defend, makes it necessary to establish "a series of urban settlements along the old frontiers of the West Bank", he said. Sharon proposed to double the number of Israeli settlements in the Jordan Valley (now numbering 25) to face the threats of the Eastern Front. He also called for the establishment of several satellite towns around Jerusalem which would bring the total Jewish settler population of the area to one million. There are now about 400,000 Israeli settlers there. He did not forget the Gaza Strip; he proposed that six to eight settlements should be constructed there "to help defend the Negev."

NEW SETTLEMENT NEAR NABLUS

On June 3, the Israeli cabinet approved plans to establish a new village at Alon Morei about 1 1/2 Kms east of Nablus. Israeli officials suddenly turned up at the 200 acre site during the same morning and handed out requisition orders to Palestinian owners of the land. Almost

immediately members of Gush Emunim moved in and started laying the settlement foundations. Tractors began transporting pre-fabricated houses to the new settlement, after bulldozers had levelled the land. It is to be recalled that a recent decision by the Israeli supreme court gave occupation forces power to seize Palestinian land provided it was required for security purposes. Also, the court ruled that establishment of settlements came within definition of a "security requirement." Sharon, on June 7, claimed that this new settlement has strategic importance.

'GOD - GIVEN RIGHT'

For his part, Israeli Prime Minister Begin claimed that Jews had a 'god-given' right to settle in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as they were part of biblical Israel. War minister Weizman lost no time in adding his voice to Begin's. 'Judea and Samaria' and the Gaza Strip were part of the land of Israel, "in the spiritual, historical and, without doubt, security aspects," he said. "Also the Golan Heights were equally important for the defence of Israel's northern Galilee region", Weizman added.

ISRAELI SETTLERS CALL FOR ANNEXATION OF GOLAN

In a related development, representatives of Israeli settlements in Galilee, the Jordan River Valley and the occupied Syrian Heights are currently collecting signatures from all over the country on a document stating that the Golan is an inseparable part of Israel. The decision was taken during a meeting of the Galilee Council on June 3, which called for the permanent annexation of the Golan to Israel due to its important strategic position linking the Golan to Galilee and the Jordan River Valley.

The Head of the Israeli Regional Council in Upper Galilee also stated that after the arrival of the Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon, a new situation has been imposed, which is more dangerous than that following the 1973 October War and which led to the encirclement of Galilee from the North, East and West.

WALDHEIM DENOUNCES SETTLEMENT PLANS

In a communique issued on June 5, in New York, U.N. Secretary - General Dr. Kurt Waldheim strongly denounced Israel's settlement plans which entail such practices as the seizure of further Arab territory for the establishment of illegal settlements. He confirmed that these Israeli measures were a violation of Security Council resolutions, and do not contribute at all to the search for a just and lasting solution of the Middle East conflict.

ISRAEL TORTURES SEPHARDI JEWS

Apart from the torture practised against Palestinian Arabs, the Israeli police and security forces have been accused in the Israeli establishment press of using similar methods with Sephardi Jewish prisoners and detainees.

The Sephardi Jews who figure in these few examples constitute the majority of the Jewish population in Israel. They originate, in the main, from the countries round the Mediterranean and are treated as second class citizens by the colonialist ruling class which has its origins in Eastern Europe. It is noteworthy that the boy treated the most outrageously, Sergei Nonikashvilli, appears, from his name, to come from the Caucasus, (Soviet Near East). The downtrodden, Moslems, Christians and Sephardi Jews constitute 80% of the population of the Israeli state.

According to "Yediot Aharonot", on 17 January 1979, Yahya Hazzan was subjected to extensive torture resulting in the possible loss of his right eye. His solicitor, Oded Dovrat, reports that he was taken to the police station in Rehovot where he was severely beaten by several officers (simultaneously) trying to extract a 'confession'. While prostrate his head was knocked on the floor, he was repeatedly kicked and beaten and, in addition, he was kicked directly in the right eye which resulted in bleeding and loss of consciousness. At this stage he was forced to sign a 'confession'

without knowing what he was doing and, as he started to vomit blood, he was transferred to hospital where he underwent eye surgery.

"Ha'aretz", on 2 March 1979, reporting the same incident adds that the police officer, Maryoni, threatened the man with 5 or 6 years imprisonment. When Hazzan replied that he was sure Maryoni was dying to do that, he was grabbed by the throat and half strangled, his hair was seized and he was thrown to the floor. In the "Ha'aretz" version all the policemen kicked and punched him and it was when he attempted to rise that he was kicked in the eye. After operating doctors sent him back to custody in Rehovot but later an independent doctor found serious damage to the eye giving rise to double vision and probable serious, permanent damage.

BRUTALITY AGAINST YOUNGSTERS

Reporting another incident "Yediot Aharonot" writes on 2 February 1979, that three policemen were accused of assaulting and wounding a young Jew, Uri Nakash. The boy was arrested by a plain clothes policeman while he was travelling by bus. The grounds for arrest were that the policeman 'did not like the noisy speech and demeanour of the boy'. In the police station the boy was beaten up by three policemen. He was



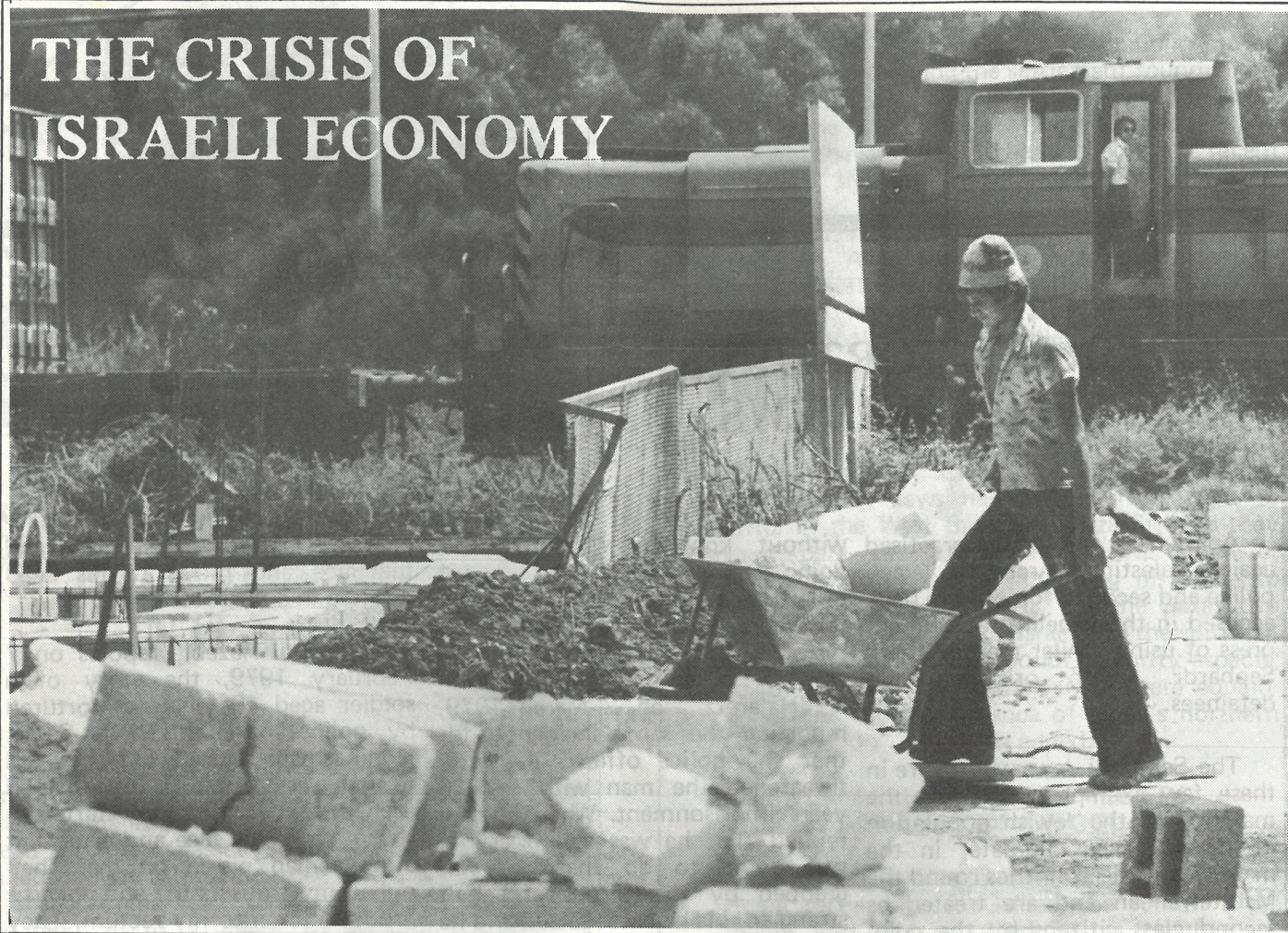
Yahya Hazzan photographed while in hospital

punched in both the stomach and the face and blows to his head resulted in a burst ear-drum.

"Haolam Haze" reports on 7 February 1979, the story of a soldier aged 19 who was tortured by police in Petah Tikva. Serge, Nonikashvilli says, "what they did to me was terrible, I am ashamed even to tell. At first they started to strike me in the face and after that a policeman pissed on me. They pulled my trousers off and poked a broom stick into my rectum. They did this twice. A rag soaked in urine was pushed into my mouth to stop me screaming. I asked to see a doctor but instead a young investigator took me to headquarters where I was beaten again. A policeman told me 'if you ask for a doctor I will hang you and say that you wanted to commit suicide'".

On 15 January 1979, the Israeli press covered a similar story. A solicitor, Z. Lidski, stated that one of his clients had been beaten by a number of policemen using both sticks and fists. He was stripped, beaten and kicked and had cold water thrown over him. Subsequently tear gas was actually squirted in his eyes and a broomstick pushed into his mouth to be followed by the barrel of a gun. The solicitor added that, in the course of the investigation, a knife was held near the accused's testicles and penis with the threat that they would be cut off. In the end his client was thrown down on a water soaked floor.

THE CRISIS OF ISRAELI ECONOMY



Exploitation of Arab labour force

The Israeli economy is characterised by unique forms of the capitalist mode of production, which to a great extent differ from the European model of capitalism.

Ever since the Zionists started to establish their settlements in Palestine at the end of the last century, they advocated and applied the policy of "Jewish labour," which aimed to create a Jewish working class and to purge the Jewish economy of any foreign elements. However, this policy cost the Zionists a great deal and curbed Zionism's economic growth. Dr. Omar Mohigedine said in his book *"The Israeli Economy"* that this policy is embodied in the "retreat of the economic norms in the face of the ideological norms when the two are in conflict". Now, thirty years after the establishment of the Jewish state, we see economic problems, including a rate of inflation which outstrips wage increases, and the neglect of economists' advice.

THE DEPENDENCY OF THE ISRAELI ECONOMY

The Israeli economy was set up in the era of

imperialism by colonialist and imperialism powers. Consequently, it served monopolist and metropolitan aspirations in the area. Therefore, one sees that this economy is linked and determined in terms of its structure and destiny, with the imperialist economy and with the metropolitan capitalist market.

A U.S. official spokesman said on 27 April 1979, that Israel received \$70 billion during the last thirty years from the U.S.A. Meanwhile, Menachem Begin declared in a speech at Haifa University that "Israel received about \$31 billion in aid from foreign sources, including \$11 billion from the Jewish people since Israel was established" (*"Haaretz"*, 31 October 1977). Israel received huge amounts of aid from West Germany for the establishment of industrial and agricultural networks from 1953-1965, which enabled Israel to have a very advanced and productive industrial base. The annual aid given to Israel by the U.S. is about \$2.5-3 billion, not to mention the long term loans and investments from most of the capitalist countries. So it is not strange to find that Israeli economic policy is governed by the general policy of imperialist interests, and is determined and limited in its

development with its negative or positive responses to the common interests of metropolitan imperialism and the Zionist entity.

One major economic aspiration of the Israelis now is to gain economic independence in order to regulate their economy by themselves. But all writers who deal with this subject confirm the incompatibility of this aim with other aims, especially of maintaining high standards of living, immigration, development and defense.

THE CRISIS OF THE WAR ECONOMY

The Israeli economy has its own problems in addition to the general crisis of the capitalist systems of the world. The symptoms of this crisis are the decrease in the rate of investments; the low rate of production and export; and the increase of imports which result in imbalances on the trade balance, the balance of payments and the other consequent problems. The major reasons behind Israel's economic problems are the following:

The permanent high costs of security and war measures, including the price of new war equipment and the expenses of the Israeli army and security forces. It is well known that the percentage of the Israeli military budget in relation to the general budget is the greatest in the world. For example, the military budget in 1976 reached about 38% of the total Israeli budget, equalling I.L. 32.5 billion, and has raised the Israeli foreign debt to over \$14 billion (*"International Herald Tribune"*, 30 December 1978). The value of military equipment purchased annually by Israel is about \$2 billion. In 1977, the military budget rose to I.L.40.28 billion, according to *"Haaretz"* on 10 October 1977. Israel radio said in 1974 that the "costs of wars until 6 December 1973 were equal to the production of one complete year of the whole population of Israel". So far, most of these costs are usually covered by direct and indirect 'aid' from the U.S. or other capitalist countries and institutions. For instance, the total amount of U.S. 'aid' paid to Israel in 1973 alone was \$3292.5 million. Israel is trying to establish an advanced military industry to meet the demands of war and aggression and to gain independence from its weapon supply sources. Consequently, Israel is directing more production and manpower towards military industry. But this will lead to "the decrease of the manpower assigned to the other branches of productive industry... which will lead to a rise in prices and deficit in the balance of payments due to the decrease of consumer commodities and the commodities assigned for export." (Hussein Abu Namel, *"Research in the Israeli Economy"*). Thus although the Israeli military industry has a financial base, it faces a major manpower shortage.

This has impelled the Israeli Prime Minister, Menachem Begin, to declare that "we have reached a situation in which the manpower shortage in Israel has become the major factor confining us".

THE SHORTAGE OF MANPOWER

Among the most dangerous problems facing Israel in the fields of economy, defense, and even with regard to its future, is the shortage of "Jewish manpower". On the one hand, the financial investments and the material basis for production are losing their basic function to produce surplus value and to create opportunities of labour. On the other hand, they cannot avoid opening the door to the "non-Jewish" labour force, which contradicts the slogan of "Jewish labour". Even the Israeli prison service lacks 200 men to fill the ranks of its staff, according to a declaration by Shlomo Heleil, Minister of the Interior. The Israeli central bank governor, Horveich, considers the roots of the inflation problem related to the "financial expansion, the inflation of purchasing power and the outflow of funds" (*"Yediot Aharanot"*, 1 June 1973). Therefore, the solution to this problem is either 1) to get more new Jewish immigrants into Israel, or 2) to continue with the suppression and exploitation of the occupied Arab territories to make full use of the labor force there, or 3) to curb Israel's economic expansion to make it commensurate with the size of the Israeli labor force. The third solution is the worst of all from the point of view of Israel.

The Israeli firms and institutions currently employ more than 75,000 laborers from the occupied territories captured in 1967. This figure includes unskilled and manual laborers whom Israel badly needs. The Arab laborers in Israel play the same important role as the foreign workers in Western Europe and the U.S. Of the West, Professor Bernard Krieser of Toloz University says: "Immigrant labor in Europe is a



Workers on strike



Slum dwellers in Tel Aviv

gift of resources presented by the poor to the rich" and the European economy" depends upon them to such a degree that they would cause a catastrophe if they left" (Beirut "Al-Nahar", 14 April 1979). So the question which has to be asked now is what will happen to the Israeli economy if Israel withdraws from the occupied Arab territories and the work force of these territories is no longer available to Israeli firms? This question is especially pertinent as Arab workers are 27% of the total labor force of Israel.

INFLATION

The Israeli inflation arises from the following causes:

1) The reasons dating from before the 1973 war:

a) The policy of settlements and the expansion of longterm investments, whereby this policy, in the light of manpower shortages, caused the creation of unused productive capaci-

ties in many fields of industry, reaching about 40% in 1970.

b) The growth of the construction sector and its portion of the state budget.

c) The increase in the size of the service sector relative to the production sector.

d) The increase in defense and security costs.

2) After the 1973 war:

a) The escalation of security expenses.

b) The increase of employers in the military sector or in its branches, such as military industry.

All of these factors led to the devaluation of the Israeli pound, which lacks gold or foreign coverage, the rise of commodity prices and an increase of wages. The Israeli government adopted many measures to confront these problems, such as the devaluation of the Israeli pound by 43% after the 1973 war, then the creeping devaluation by 2% every month, and then the floating of the Israeli pound according to market demands. Other measures are the attraction of foreign investment to Israel to revitalize the economy, seeking more aid and loans to cover the expenses of defense purchases, decreasing consumer demand, and the raising of exports and productivity.

THE ISRAELI ECONOMY UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF WAR AND PEACE

Some people have argued that Israel tries to solve its socio-economic problems by declaring war against neighbouring Arab states, as happened in 1966 and the 1967 wars. But a hard look at the results of World War II in Europe and the 1973 war in the Middle East surely shows that war is a heavy burden for any economy to bear.

But what has happened with the Israeli economy concerning peace and war? Going back to the period 1953-1967, we notice that Israel lived well in spite of the 1956 war. Israeli national income rose nearly 110% due to the huge amounts of financial and industrial aid paid to Israel by West Germany under the cover of compensation for the Jewish properties and lives devastated by the Nazis in World War II, and due to the U.S. political decision to supply, facilitate and maintain a "strong Israel".

Related to this, the rate of Jewish immigration to Israel reached very high rates, especially in 1957, 1962 and 1963. But it was very low in the years 1953 and 1967, which confirms that the rate of Jewish immigration to Israel is completely linked with the state of security and the "good life". In years when Israel is insecure, we notice the emigration from Israel equals or surpasses the immigration to it. The period 1967

- 1973 in Israel had similar characteristics of the former period, whether one is looking at the rate of national income, foreign aid or Jewish immigration. The period after the 1973 war revealed the fragility of the Israeli economy, and its inability to absorb the increased burdens of war and the consequent high inflation rate. Economic problems were one major reason for the Labour government's defeat in the May 1967 general elections in Israel, and the victory of Likud as a voters' protest against Labour's economic policy. Simcha Ehrlich received the post of Finance Minister in the Likud government and tried hard to restore the sick Israeli economy, but he has failed and may be forced to resign. His major policy is based on pumping hundreds of millions of Israeli pounds into circulation to cover wage increases, and at the same time he wishes to curb expenditures through levying high taxes on commodities and by lifting government subsidies. The result has been labour strikes, unemployment, emigration from Israel and serious inflation.

THE IMPACT OF THE ISRAELI-SADAT 'PEACE' TREATY

Zionist ideology and practical policy is not only determined by the colonialist dreams of territorial expansion, settlement and aggression to achieve the Zionist "Eretz Israel", stretching from the Euphrates to the Nile, but also is motivated by the interests and greed of the multi-national monopolies trying to strengthen their control over the Arab and Middle East national economies. This is the doctrine of modern imperialism practised in the Third World countries.

Zionism did not only achieve political recognition of its state through Sadat's capitulation, but it has also gained an economic "open door". The shortage of manpower of Israel can be compensated by importing thousands of cheap Egyptian labourers, creating more miserable work conditions for the Arab workers in occupied Palestine. Recent reports said that Zionist businessmen and officials were discussing the importation of Egyptian manpower to work inside Israel. An Israeli Labour Ministry spokesman said on 10 May 1979 that Israel proposed to import Egyptian workers to solve "the chief problem in building the bases and the entire infrastructure... it will help ease Egypt's unemployment problem and Israel's chronic labour shortage". Meanwhile, Sadat declared in a speech delivered on 20 May 1979 his willingness to have Israeli-Egyptian economic cooperation to set up joint projects in Egypt. This will be a golden opportunity for Zionist, U.S. and other Western capital based in Israel to invade the Egyptian market and exploit Egyptian citizens in their own country.

ILO HITS AT ISRAELI WORK POLICY IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

In a detailed report issued in Geneva recently, the International Labor Organization (ILO) criticises Israeli employment policies in the occupied territories. The report is the result of a two-week mission to the occupied territories in March 1979. It finds that the territories have suffered under occupation. It concedes that unemployment in the territories is less than one per cent of a working population of 214,000. But one-third of these workers are employed in the Zionist State. Their numbers grew by 11 per cent in 1977. This has combined with serious emigration (20,000 a year since 1975) to keep unemployment negligible. The daily Arab migrants, the ILO report says, are responsible for the 11 percent annual increase in the GNP of the occupied territories. More than a quarter are

employed in the Israeli building industry, and have "done much to alleviate Israel's chronic shortage of manpower". "For the most part Arab workers continue to be employed at the lower end of the scale in many of the more menial, temporary or seasonal jobs to which the Israeli labour force seems less and less attached."

The migrants are also vulnerable to the ups and downs of the Israeli economy. The report notes that 9,000 were laid off in the housing recession of 1975. The report concluded that Israel lacks an appropriate investment and manpower policy for Arab territories it occupies, and this is seriously threatening the economic prospects of these areas.

THE CRISIS OF ISRAELI ECONOMY

In addition, the separation of Egypt from the front-line Arab states lined up against Israel gives Egypt the opportunity to decrease its military expenditures on the Egyptian front, and to use these savings either for reinforcement of the other fronts, or for Israeli domestic projects. The London-based magazine "Events" reported on 25 February 1979 that Israel has expanded its investment market in Africa in recent years, and it now incorporates about 20 African countries, most of whom had severed diplomatic relations with Israel. "Last year, more than \$750 million was spent on road building, the development of agriculture and water supplies..." due to Sadat's capitulationist stand towards Israel and the short-range vision of the oil-rich Arab states.

Nevertheless, the "peace" agreement and its impact on both the Zionist and Egyptian economies will not yield the results hoped for by its signatories. Tibor Arnon, Deputy Director of the Israeli Manufacturers' Association, referring to the cost of withdrawal from Sinai and the cost of new bases in Negev, said that "all this new money coming into the economy must create inflation... We are already short of labour in the manufacturing industry and this new work in Negev will draw away labour. This means that not only will we lose export markets but we could also fail to fulfil demand at home". In addition to Israel's original economic problems, the "peace" treaty will create new ones, embodied in strikes and protests by different working strata, such as the strike of the employees of "Arkia" (the Israeli domestic airline), who were protesting the government's recommendation to sell the company's jet aircraft. The Israeli working class, including professionals, have turned more and more to the strike as a weapon to secure their demands. "More than 125 strikes have been called this year (1978), at an estimated cost to the national economy of 420,000



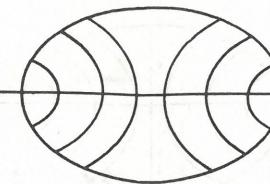
Women protest picket against price-hikes and lowering of living standards at Carmel Market, Tel Aviv.

workdays" ("International Herald Tribune", 30-31 December 1978). This attitude will prevail as long as the Israeli state monopolist system exists. So, in spite the marginal growth of Israel's gross national product by 3-4% in the last two years, the rising inflation, waves of strikes and a balance of payments deficit will dominate the Israeli economy, regardless of whether relief is provided by temporary measures. Recently, the Israeli Knesset had a fierce debate about the problem of inflation and the consequent dangers. Finance Minister Ehrlich admitted his failure to cope with this deep-rooted crisis, and has indicated his willingness to resign. Israeli society and experts are aware of the parasitical nature of the Israeli economy.

ZIONIST ECONOMY STILL ON WAR WITH PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND ARAB WORLD

In addition to the growing internal contradictions of the Israeli economic system, the Israeli-Sadat "peace" treaty above all has changed none of the basic deficiencies of the Zionist economy: The Zionist state continues to confront and suppress the Palestinian people and their growing internal and external resistance. Material and human expenditure for "security" keeps on soaring. So do expenses for further military buildups in order to maintain and even expand the Israeli empire at the expense of the Arab people. The continued frantic settlement policy, artificially stimulated Jewish immigration, combined with the expropriation, deprivation and deportation tactics applied against the growing Arab Palestinian population, remain fundamental congenital defects of the Zionist racist war economy which no Sadatist therapy will ever be able to cure. Facing its growing internal contradictions and social problems on the one hand as well as the persisting Palestinian and Arab national resistance against occupation and aggression on the other, Israeli economic problems can do nothing but increase till the eventual collapse of the Zionist economic system.

WORLD



EVENTS

UNCTAD OBSTRUCTED BY IMPERIALIST MONOPOLIES

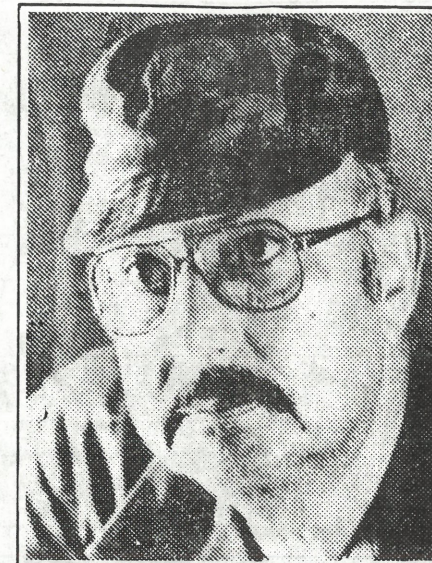
The fifth session of the UN Conference on Trade and Development held in Manila ended on 3 June amidst controversy over the neo-colonialist world economic order, which capitalist industrialized states want to retain.

The demands of the "Group of 77", now comprising 119 developing countries, to end capitalist protectionism and discrimination in international trade and to create an effective mechanism to control international monopolies were not met. This was mainly due to the obstructionist attitude of influential imperialist states. In his concluding speech, the president of the conference, Philippine foreign minister Romulo, said that a new economic order remained on the agenda of UNCTAD as a priority and indispensable objective. The key issue will be raised at the next special session of the UN General Assembly on economic questions.

THE LAST DAYS OF SOMOZA

Fighting between troops of the Somoza dictatorship and the Sandinist Liberation Front of Nicaragua has entered its decisive stage with the freedom fighters scoring major victories. Most major cities and towns have been liberated by the SLFN, which has extended its area of operations into the capital city and headquarters of the Somoza dictatorship, Managua.

Somoza's troops, supported by



Butcher Somoza
payed by U.S. imperialism, armed by Israel

aircraft, tanks and heavy artillery, in a desperate last minute move are reported to be using napalm against the civilian population, which has manifested its total support to the SLFN. Government employees and reservists have been mobilized to raise the fighting strength of the regime. Mercenaries from USA, Israel, Chile, Guatemala and Honduras are reported to be flocking to boost the defeated National Guard of Somoza. Notwithstanding the superior fire power of the dictatorship's forces, the Sandinists, supported by the whole population, are scoring major victories. As of 5 June a broad section of Nicaragua's population has been observing the call of the SLFN for a general strike. In Managua itself transport, trade and factories have come to a standstill and schools have closed.

Amidst the growing international isolation of the fascist dictatorship, the presidents of Mexico and Colombia in a joint communique on 9 June denounced the brutal repression of the Somoza regime against the people of Nicaragua. They also extended solidarity to Costa Rica which has been threatened with invasion by Somoza as a

scapegoat for his internal defeat.

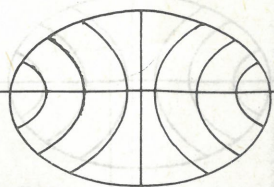
DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST ISRAELI MILITARY AID TO SOMOZA'S REGIME

Protest demonstrations were recently launched in Mexico City in front of the Israeli Embassy against growing Israeli military aid to Somoza's regime. Demonstrators carried placards with slogans such as: "The Israeli Military Junta is a direct partner in bloody crimes committed by Somoza's Regime in Nicaragua", "We call for an immediate halt to military supplies to the dictatorial ruling regime", "The Nicaraguan People shall have victory". Israel has been supplying Nicaragua with rifles, automatic guns, tanks, war-planes and other weapons for use by Somoza's National Guard to suppress and foil the general popular uprising in Nicaragua.

RHODESIAN REGIME RECEIVES FOREIGN MILITARY AID

It has been emphasized with documents by the organizers of a televised programme, presented by the BBC Television Union, that the Rhodesian regime is still getting military aid from abroad. As a result of an investigation, reporters and journalists have become convinced that the Rhodesian authorities have established "criminal" ties with the USA, Italy, Belgium, Israel and other countries.

Last Autumn, Israel dispatched to Rhodesia a big shipment of helicopters in a stealthy, roundabout manner. These choppers have been



Colonialist "security" gang in Zimbabwe

used by the Rhodesian Air Force to attack and strafe the bases of the supporters of the patriotic Front and neighbouring independent countries as well.

TURKEY'S AILING ECONOMY WORRIES THE U.S. AND ECEVIT

U.S. imperialist forces, after being thrown out of Iran and being forced to evacuate their military installations there, are reported to be relying more and more on their only ally in the Near East, Turkey. Recent reports from Turkey have confirmed that more American U-2 spy planes have been stationed in Turkey, and the number of U.S. forces has been increased significantly. Both the U.S. government and the Ecevit regime of Turkey are worried about the growing civil unrest and violence in Turkey, which has been caused by the presence of U.S. forces and the growing impoverishment of the population. In light of these developments Turkish Prime Minister

Bulent Ecevit, on 10 June, has told American journalists that Turkey wants long term aid from the U.S., over \$1 billion a year, to rescue the country's ailing economy and to enable it to play its role in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Correspondents have pointed out that American aid to Turkey, being essentially supplies of military hardware, as was the case in imperial Iran, will neither save the economy nor make the regime more stable to sustain the American military presence against the will of the Turkish people.

OMAN REVOLUTIONARIES EXECUTE OPERATION AGAINST QABUS REGIME

The military wing of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman (PFLO), on June 11 issued the following communique:

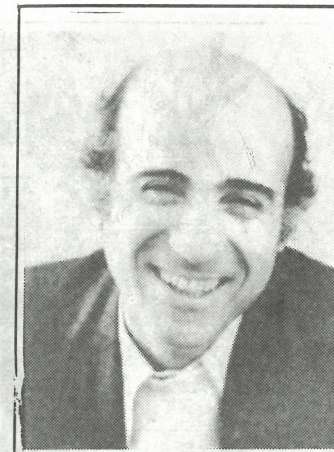
"A commando unit of the PFLO attacked a unit of Sultan Qabus's Army. As a result of the attack, an English Officer, a Baluchi 1st Lt,

and around five soldiers were killed."

The communique said that the Qabus Army used helicopters and heavy weapons and that the battle lasted for 11 hours. Three PFLO militants were martyred, and one captured after being wounded. This operation, on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the launching of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman, confirms the Revolutionaries' determination to realize its aims, to liberate Oman and overthrow the Qabus regime. 'Reuter' news agency, attributing its information to diplomatic sources, on June 13 reported that PFLO guerillas are preparing to "bring down the conservative Sultan of Oman. The PFLO began to regroup and reorganize its forces soon after the balance of power was transformed by the overthrow of the Shah of Iran. Well-trained commando units have resumed operations in Oman's Dhofar province."

ISMAEL SHAMMOUT— THE EMERGENCE OF PALESTINIAN PLASTIC ARTS

BY NASSER AL SOUMI



Ismail Shammout

The Palestinian painter Ismail Shammout occupies a special place among Palestinian artists, for he is the pioneer of Palestinian plastic arts in the technical contemporary sense of the word. Before Ismail, we knew of no plastic artist at all, apart from practical artists who had studied ornamentation, calligraphy and such like. Ismail's early and effective artistic activity reinforced his position as a pioneer of plastic art and played an effective part in creating a whole new succession of Palestinian artists.

Plastic arts, in the sense of arts fixed on special objects of their own, were not practised in the Arab Islamic world for centuries, and entered Palestine particularly late due to the special upheavals there. This form of art came in through pioneers who had studied in Western Europe, and it brought with it, in most cases, the contemporary trends which it expressed there on the subject of the intensification of the crisis of capitalism, without the local social structure at that time having any noticeable influence. Whereas the artist Shammout's works assumed a committed form, which appeared more connected to reality. This may be the result of the pressing nature of the harsh circumstances from which our people were suffering after the 1948 disaster. That undoubtedly played a part in delaying the vanguard role of plastic arts which gave those who came after him the opportunity to enter it in a broad manner. This led us to drop any plastic arts ambitions from our calculations, in view of the importance and critical nature of the historical circumstance which the artist expressed. It is true that Ismail did not go very far from his beginnings, if time is measured in relation to the volume of artistic conception, but it can be said in any case that he did not go backwards. Indeed — in relative terms — he made additions that gave an advanced dimension to his art and work.

Now let us consider who Ismail Shammout is.

COMPELLED TO ABANDON EVERYTHING

Ismail was born in the Palestinian town of Lydda in 1930, when the political and social situation was becoming aggravated as a result of the Zionist settler invasion of Palestine. He was born of middle-class parents, his father being a greengrocer.

Ismail displayed an early interest in painting, music and other art forms. But the 1948 disaster turned his concern into another direction. He found himself and his family in a strange, desolate place far from home, finding refuge in a tent which sheltered him with his family, like many of the Palestinian people who were compelled to evacuate their homes. Indeed, more than this, he was compelled to abandon everything in order to go out and sell sweets with his brother so as to keep themselves and their family alive, in the absence of opportunities for education, employment and a livelihood. When he eventually became a teacher with UNRWA (the UN Relief Agency for Refugees), he was able to pursue his ambitions, and went to continue his art studies in Cairo in 1950.

However, Ismail's worries did not end there. Another type of problem arose for him in that most of the students were sons of the wealthy classes who were concerned with pleasures and the superficiality of life, whereas he could not avoid the oppressiveness of what he and his people had to endure. As he put it, "I always felt that in my inmost being were many effects of the disaster, and I had to declare them. I wanted to shout at the top of my voice." Ismail did indeed shout at the top of his voice. He painted his picture *The Little Refugee Girl* (1951-52), then *Where is My Father?* and



"Tal al Zaatar" (by Ismail Shammout)

Whither? Subsequently he held his first exhibition in Gaza in 1953, the first exhibition held for a Palestinian artist in Palestine. This exhibition enabled Ismail to come to know himself, the usefulness of his work and its effect on the public of that historic period. After this he had another opportunity when he went to study in Rome from 1954 to 1956. He added much to his artistic resources and acquired a closer knowledge of artists he loved and whose personalities he admired, such as Goya, Rembrandt and Van Gogh. This made its clear impression on the artist's subsequent works.

INTERPRETER OF HIS PEOPLE

He kept his distance from the modern artistic controversies and trends which swept through Italy and several other European countries and clung to his intimate symbols. Thus he made the crucifixion and suffering of Christ a subject and symbol of the life and agonies of his people, while at the same time he did not deny himself and his canvases the right to treat subjects in a modern fashion, within the limits of this playing a positive role to serve the content of the canvas.

In Rome in 1956, Ismail began painting his canvas *Memories and Fire*, which is regarded as one of the works which constituted a method of

procedure for the artist's works and visions. Shortly after this period Ismail, together with his people and the Arab nation, witnessed various political and social upheavals which left a lasting imprint on all the works he produced from that period to the present time. He quickened the pulse and heightened the tension following successive disasters: the wars of Zionist aggression in 1956 and 1967; the Israeli massacre of 1966 in the Palestinian village of Sammua in the West Bank, the September 1970 massacres in Jordan and the butchery of Tal Al Zaatar in 1976. In all these situations, Ismail departed from convention, a clear tension took control of him and emotion took its place within him, at the expense of the plastic art element. However, this emotional recording of events soon disappeared and humanity, details, life and hope would return again.

Ismail chose himself to be the interpreter, through his paintings, of the situation of his people and the Arab nation, thereby drawing up a defined framework for himself and his work. Nevertheless he indeed managed despite this restriction to make a point each time, thus affirming the role of a school to which it was difficult to belong at that period. For this he deserves to be a pioneer for a generation of Palestinian artists.

(This article was first published in "Al Katib al Arabi" (The Palestinian Writer) No. 7, 1979)

SOLIDARITY



Hungarian Red Cross delegation at Palestine Red Crescent

PALESTINE RED CRESCENT AND HUNGARIAN RED CROSS ISSUE JOINT COMMUNIQUE

A delegation of the Hungarian Red Cross visited Palestine Red Crescent institutions from 28-31 May, at the invitation of the Red Crescent's Executive Committee. At the end of the friendship visit, the following joint communique was issued:

"During the official meetings, the Hungarian delegation and their Palestinian hosts reaffirmed the strong ties of friendship binding the two peoples, the continuing cooperation between the two societies, and in particular, the fraternal aid extended by the Hungarian people to the Palestinian people in support

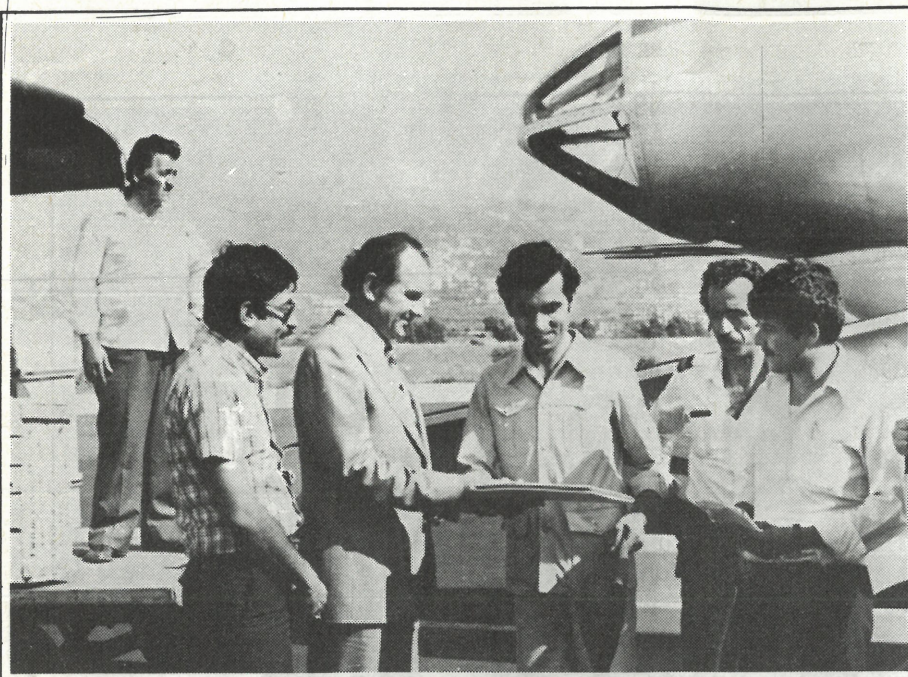
of their legitimate struggle to liberate their lands and establish an independent democratic state. The Hungarian side expressed its readiness to endorse the PRC's request to become a full member of the international organization, which includes the Red Crescent, Red Cross and Red Lion and Sun Societies."

The two delegations strongly condemned the daily Israeli aggression on the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples in South Lebanon, and the inhuman treatment by the Israeli authorities of Palestinian citizens, particularly the detainees in the occupied territories, describing such practices as a flagrant violation of the Geneva Convention and of Human Rights.

The Palestinian side expressed its

appreciation for the valuable aid extended by the Hungarian Red Cross to the PRCS and the Palestinian people.





GDR Ambassador hands over medical aid at Beirut Airport

SOLIDARITY

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC SENDS MEDICAL AID TO PRCS

The Palestine Red Crescent, on June 7, 1979, received a shipment of medicines and other medical equipment from the GDR, which were received at Beirut Airport by a PRCS delegation and several members of the GDR Embassy in Beirut. The cargo, worth around DM 1 million was presented by the students, doctors, unionists and citizens of the GDR, as an expression of their solidarity with, and support for, Palestinian steadfastness in the face of the Israeli attacks on South Lebanon and the Palestinian camps. PRCS also received a letter from the Secretary General of the Palestine Solidarity Committee in the German Democratic Republic, addressed to Yasser Arafat. The letter confirms that the workers of the GDR will continue to give aid

to the Palestinian people in support of their struggle against the Israeli enemy.

ABU IYYAD ADDRESSES SOLIDARITY RALLY WITH VIETNAM

A rally of solidarity with the struggle of the Vietnamese people was held at the Beirut Arab University on June 1, organised jointly by Palestinian and Lebanese student unions, on the occasion of a visit of a delegation from the Vietnamese

Democratic Youth Union. Abu Iyyad, member of the PLO Executive Committee, praised in a speech the Vietnamese Revolution, declaring that the ability of the Vietnamese people to defeat the U.S.A. and all its weapons was an encouraging example for the struggle of the Palestinian people.

Abu Iyyad then met the Vietnamese delegation and briefed them on the general situation in the Arab world and the circumstances through which the Palestinian Revolution is passing and reaffirmed the Palestinian people's and Revolution's full support for the Vietnamese people, Government, and Party.

SOVIET AND LEBANESE COMMUNIST PARTIES CONFIRM SUPPORT FOR PLO

At the end of joint talks in Moscow, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Lebanese Communist Party issued, on June 6, 1979, a communique in which they confirmed that a just and permanent peace cannot be achieved in the Middle East without the withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied Arab territories and the



guarantee of Palestinian national rights, including the right to establish their independent state. The two sides condemned the separate peace treaty concluded between Egypt and Israel, which aims to implement imperialist plans and represents a danger to other Arab states. They also expressed their solidarity with the Lebanese people and their national and progressive forces which struggle for Arabism, independence and the democratic development of Lebanon.

ICATU CONDEMNS ISRAELI CRIMES

The General Secretariat of the International Confederations of Arab Trade Unions (ICATU) has called on the world public to resolutely condemn Israel's criminal attacks against southern Lebanon. It also appealed to the United Nations to immediately intervene to put a halt to this barbaric war. A statement released in Damascus on June 9, 1979, underlined the need for a broad Arab front against the aggressive acts and plans of Israel with a view to protecting the lives of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens. All progressive and patriotic Arab forces and progressive people throughout the world are required to work for the defence of the Palestinian Revolution under the Leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, (FLO), the statement said.

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE IN USA TO DISCUSS ZIONIST VIOLATIONS

The 28th annual conference of Islamic Organizations in the USA will be held in Detroit on June 28th to discuss Zionist violations of the Islamic Holy Places in Jerusalem, as well as Israeli racist practices against Palestinian citizens in the occupied territories. The report of the Jerusalem Committee on Israeli violations will be presented to the conference, which will last for four days.

U.S. CHRISTIANS: "DEEP INJUSTICE WAS DONE TO THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE"

The National Conference on Christian Responsibilities in the Palestinian - Israeli conflict, sponsored by the Middle East Task Force of Chicago Presbytery and the Washington-based Palestine Human Rights Campaign, was held on May 18-20 in La Grange, Illinois. It assembled nearly 200 Christian personalities from twenty states and nine foreign countries to consider the issues of human rights and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Among the speakers at the meeting was Alexandra Johnson, a former US foreign service officer with the United States Consulate in Jerusalem, who spoke about the evidence pointing to an Israeli policy of systematic torture against Palestinian prisoners of all kinds. Sami Esmail, an American of Palestinian background, gave dramatic testimony on Israeli torture practices. He himself was imprisoned by the Israeli government for ten months.

Dr. James Zog by, Director of the Palestine Human Rights Campaign, spoke out against "the other anti-semitism," American racist stereotypes about Arabs. "We weep with the Israeli mother whose child is killed. But, the Palestinian children terrified, maimed, and killed by Israeli air attacks are only statistics to most of us."

DECLARATION; CALL FOR ACTION

At the end of the Conference, the participants released a comprehensive declaration, including the following excerpts:

"Forthrightly, we declare our conviction that in the process of establishing the State of Israel, a deep injustice was done to the Palestinian people, confiscating their land and driving many into exile and even death. We are further grieved by the on-going deprivation of basic civil rights to those Arabs who live today in the State of Israel.

"Too many of us have been lulled into the shallow hope that peace can be built in the Middle East through the U.S. supply of more weapons, with the continued military occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem, and while basic human and political rights of the Palestinian people are denied. We call on Christ's followers to repent from their complicity - through either their indifference or their uncritical embrace of U.S. policies - in the continuing cycle of Middle Eastern violence, accelerated by our tax dollars and our government's political decisions.

"Emerging from the conference are the following specific concerns which we feel must be urgently addressed:

1) Recent disturbing events, which culminated in the closing of Bir Zeit University on May 2, 1979 by the Israeli Occupation authorities, provoke us to concentrate in a national effort of support to a) reopen the university and b) to guarantee its faculty members and student body the right to full academic freedom. We move from this conference to organize a community of concern to support Bir Zeit, and call for a "National Day of Support for Bir Zeit University" on June 5, 1979.

2) We respond to our concern that we in the U.S. are not allowed to participate in full and open discussions with representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization. Specifically, we protest the U.S. State Department's effort to restrict Mr. Zuhdi Tarazi of the P.L.O. Mission to the United Nations from formally speaking to the conference.

3) Deeply troubled by repeated allegations of Israeli violations of a broad range of Palestinian human rights, we join with those organizations and individuals who call for a Commission of Inquiry to go into the occupied territories to carry out a complete investigation of these allegations."

LETTERS TO "PALESTINE"

Palestine Bulletin
PO Box 145168
Beirut, Lebanon

VIA AIR MAIL

PAR AVION



Dear Editor,

In fact I don't know how I can thank you for the "Palestine" bulletin I received dated April 5, 1979. I am now able to know the nature of the conflict between Zionists and the Arab World. As I am an interested reader of the bulletin, my advice is that solidarity is the only weapon in helping the oppressed peoples of the world win their struggles, especially the Arab World.

Freddie Sekitto
Kampala — Uganda

The Devil Quoting the Scriptures

I read with amusement the quoting of the Holy Koran in the signing of the Peace Treaty by Begin, Carter and Sadat. The verse chosen was 8:61 — viz.

"But if the enemies incline towards peace, do thou also incline towards peace and trust in God.
For He is the One that Heareth and Knoweth all things"

How could President Sadat justify this verse in the Holy Koran in support of the Peace Treaty? This is like the devil quoting the scriptures.

Have Begin and the Zionists really inclined towards peace? They stay outside of the 1967 borders despite U.N. resolutions to withdraw. They do not recognise the P.L.O. They torture Palestinian Prisoners-of-War and Palestinian Arabs living in the occupied territories. Even on the day of the signing of the agreement they opened up new settlements in the occupied lands. They desecrated the Holy Places of Islam — the Al-Aqsa Mosque. Also, immediately after the signing of the Peace Treaty by Begin, Carter and Sadat, a separate agreement for military assistance to Israel was signed by Begin and Carter, in case of Egyptian attack. To add to this, every public statement that Begin makes suggests that he will never surrender Arab Jerusalem to the Palestinians. He clearly indicates that Judea and Samaria, biblical names for the West Bank, and Gaza strip will be under Jewish control, covertly or otherwise.

Saybhan Samat
Dehiwela — Sri Lanka

Dear Sirs,

I am sure you have no doubt heard of the recent National Elections in Canada, and the victory of the Conservative Party under Clark. I myself am Canadian, and am very disturbed to see Canada vote in such a rightist, conservative government as it means trouble for Canada's internal affairs and trouble in her worldwide relations — if not actual disaster.

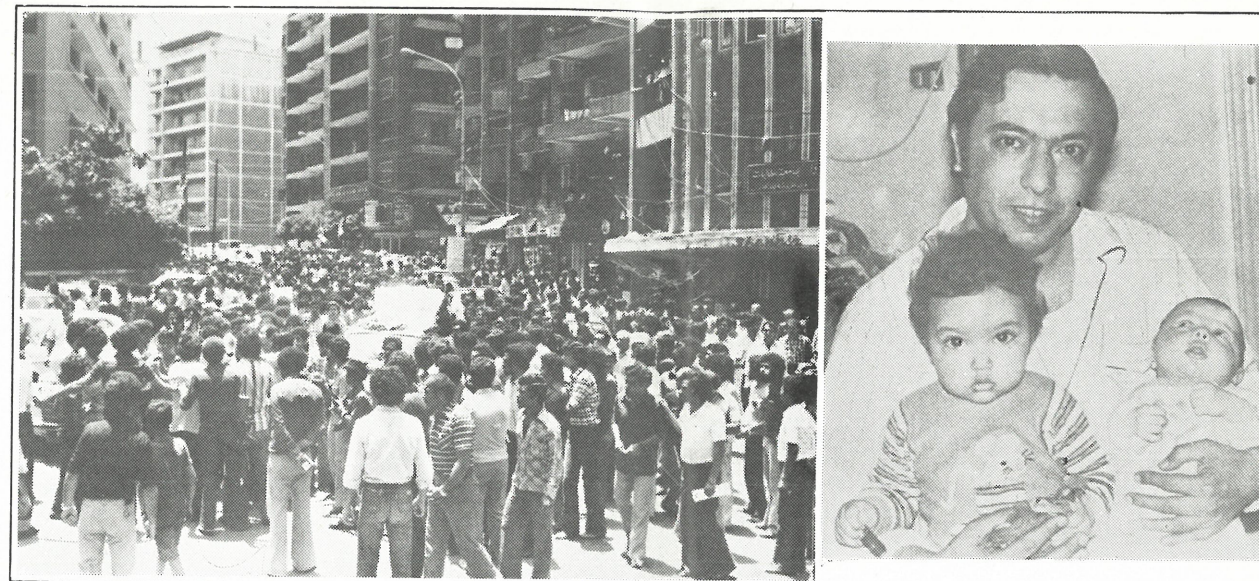
Clark and his Conservatives were voted in almost entirely by English Canadians, in an obvious reaction to the growing secessionist sentiments of the downtrodden French Canadians. I am English Canadian, but believe strongly in the right of the French Canadians to self-determination and self-government as they themselves deem necessary. Clark's government can only aggravate the existing tension and discord.

I am writing this letter in particular regarding Clark's outspoken statements about Israel! His plan to move the Canadian Embassy in Israel from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem is in flagrant violation of U.N. mandates and world recognition of the fact that Jerusalem is not the Capital, or even a part of, Israel. His act, should it come to pass, would be a virtual recognition and approval of outlaw Zionist expansionism in the land of Palestine! Zionists have always insisted that Jerusalem is the "Capital" of "Greater Israel", and Clark's rightist reactions can only perpetuate the Occupation and continued Expansion!

May the Canadian people come to their senses before Clark's government does too much international damage — or national. I have sent the accompanying "cartoon" to express the sentiment of all freedom-loving Canadians towards the Palestinian Cause! I hope you can use it in your magazine. Please receive it as a humble donation for your fight for truth and freedom.

My sincerest regards.
E. Alden Prieve
Canada

(We thank Alden Prieve very much for his letter and cartoon, which we have published in "Palestine Notes", p.7.)



Funeral procession in Beirut

Our murdered colleague Adel Wasfi
with his children

LEADING PALESTINIAN JOURNALIST MURDERED

Adel Wasfi, the Deputy Editor-in-Chief of "Falestin al-Thawra", official organ of the PLO, was murdered, on June 20, 1979, in front of his home while on his way to work by fascist killers.

Adel Wasfi ("Khaled al-Iraqi") joined Fateh in 1969. He was born in Baghdad in 1945, finished his secondary education there, and later took a degree in Political Economy from Damascus University. He was preparing his doctoral thesis at Paris University at the time of his murder. He was married and leaves two small girls behind.

Both as a leading cadre of the Palestinian Resistance and an Iraqi citizen and member of progressive and democratic organizations, Adel Wasfi was an unwavering defender of the Palestinian people and the struggle of the poor and oppressed Arab masses against Zionism and all forms of imperialism and fascism, fighting bravely in the forward ranks in all the battles. Adel Wasfi did not stop writing even in the darkest of moments. He continued our fight under the hail of bombs and all forms of terror. He wrote in an age characterised by reverses, an age in which all values are attacked and principles violated; an age in which the Zionists and their fascist servants are reaching out against militants and honest men until the mere uttering of a word endangers the life of the writer.

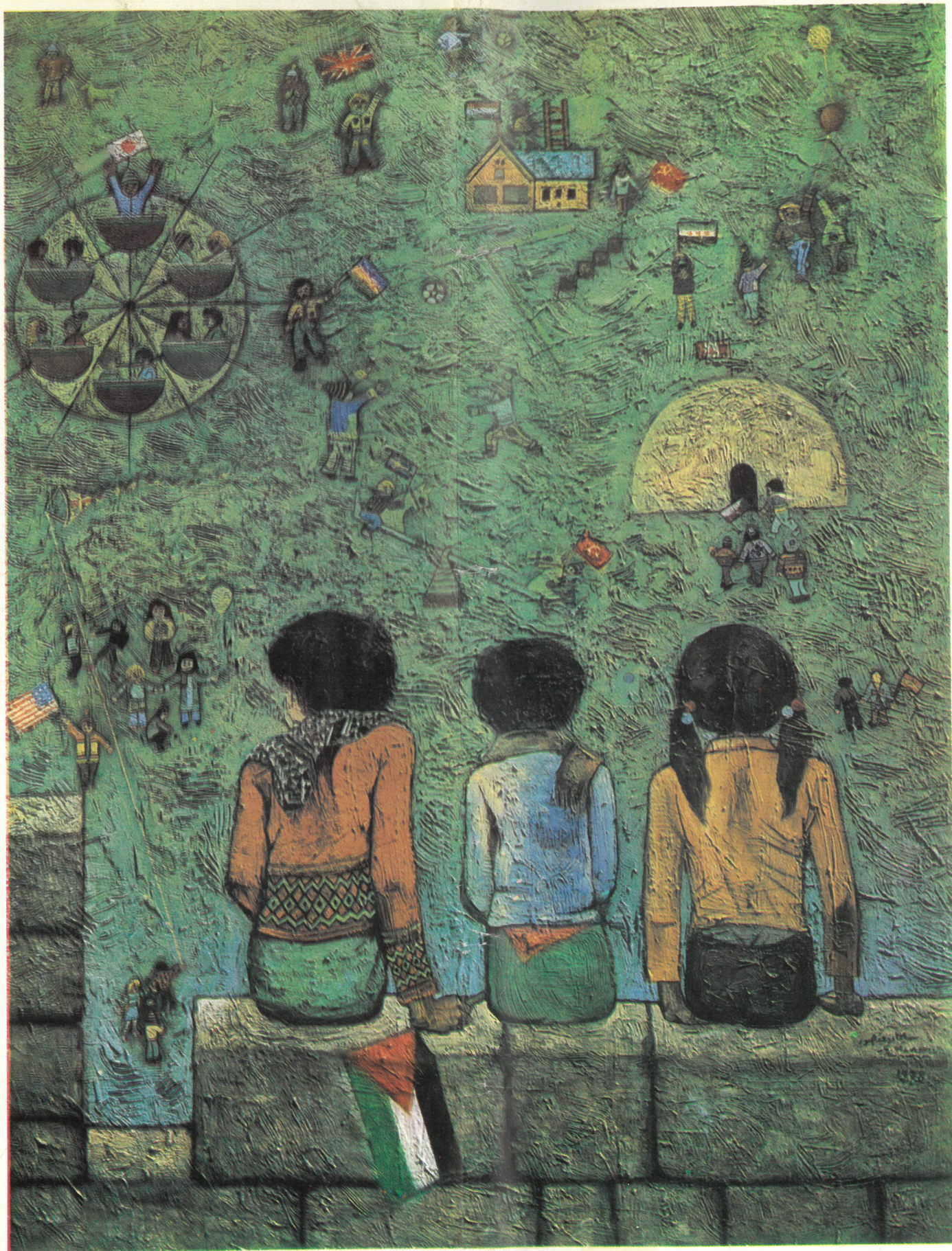
Thousands of Palestinian, Lebanese and Arab citizens walked in the funeral procession on

June 21: following prayers for the martyr at the Beirut Arab University Mosque, the funeral procession passed in front of the Falastin al-Thawra offices and Adel's home and on to the Martyrs' Cemetery. The procession was headed by leaders and cadres of the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese National Movement, followed by fighters of the Palestinian Revolution, and by a large crowd of Palestinian, Lebanese and Arab people and militants.

CONDOLENCES

Chairman Arafat, accompanied by Fateh Central Committee members Abu Iyad, Abu Jihad and Abu Saleh, other leading PLO officials and the family of our assassinated colleague, received condolences from many people and organizations. Among those who paid their condolences were the leaders of the General Union of Palestinian writers, of Palestinian and Lebanese journalists, teachers, engineers, workers and students organizations. Fateh cadres and the commanders of the military units and the militia command; the cadres and commanders of the Palestinian Liberation Army and the Palestinian Armed Struggle Command; Palestinians popular committees in the camps including a delegation from Tal-al-Zaatar camp; the Lebanese Communist Party and Lebanese popular committees and associations; representatives of the Egyptian National Movement.

We pledge to our murdered colleague to continue his struggle.



التضامن مع أطفال فلسطين
Solidarity With Palestinian Children
En Solidarite avec les Enfants Palestiniens

Palestine

P.L.O.
information
bulletin

Vol. 5, No. 12
1-15 July 1979

PALESTINE IS NOT FOR SALE

