

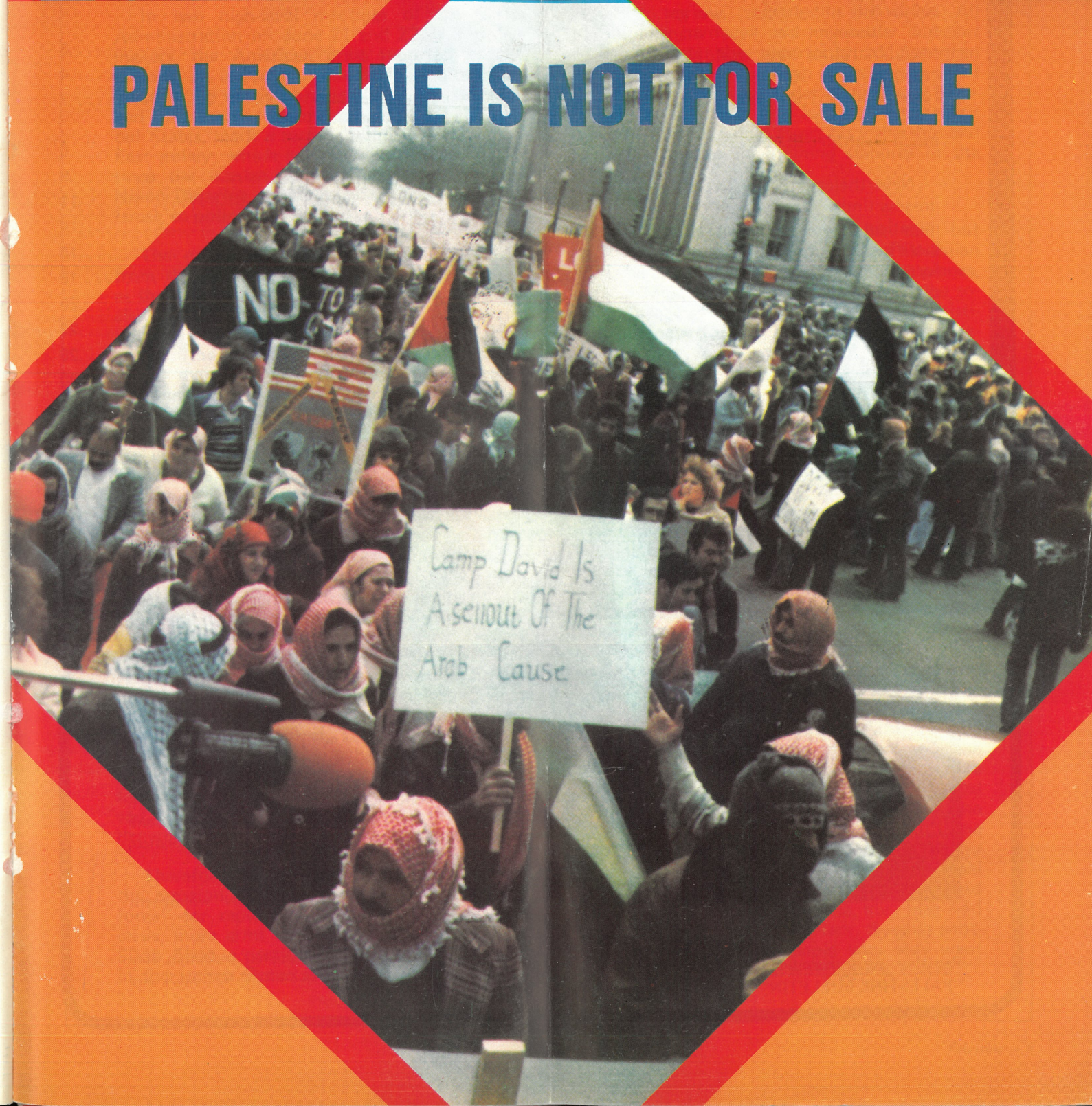
التضامن مع أطفال فلسطين
Solidarity With Palestinian Children
En Solidarite avec les Enfants Palestiniens

Palestine

P.L.O.
information
bulletin

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

PALESTINE IS NOT FOR SALE



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 CARTER DOCTRINE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

In two high-level meetings of the Carter Administration on June 21 and 22, U.S. policy makers, the American press reported, recommended an increase in direct U.S. military presence in the oil-rich Arabian Gulf. This decision, and other recent policy statements by the United States, mark a turning point in U.S. Middle East policy, which has been in serious turmoil since the Iranian Revolution swept away the Nixon Doctrine, which relied on Iran, as well as Israel, to police the area for U.S. interests.

The emerging Carter Doctrine is a far cry from the Carter affirmation of "human rights" as the "touchstone" of U.S. foreign policy. It is also distant from earlier Carter declarations in favor of a "homeland" for the Palestinian people or from the joint Soviet-American communique of October 1, 1977 that recognized "the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people" (a statement that Carter rescinded in essence six days later with the publication of an "Israeli-American working paper"). Now, according to his May 31 press conference, Carter affirms that the U.S. has never been in favor of a Palestinian state, which it sees as a "destabilizing factor."

Currently, Carter's special Ambassador, Robert Strauss, is pursuing what he calls a more "aggressive" American strategy to impose "self-rule" and deny Palestinian self-determination.

Stability has been a favorite goal for U.S. Administrations and a beloved word of foreign policy architects from Henry Kissinger to Zbigniew Brezezinski. Stability, in the American lexicon, means U.S. control. To ensure this control, Defense Secretary Brown has recently reaffirmed that "the United States would commit forces if we judged our vital interests were involved." Oil is obviously top on the list of what Brown & Company judge to be vital interests.

Therefore, in the next months, we will see the creation of an 110,000 man U.S. "strike-force" for rapid deployment in a Middle East crisis, more arms sales, an increase in the U.S. Sixth Fleet, a possible creation of a Fifth Fleet in the Indian Ocean and visits of U.S. combat

aircraft to various countries in the region. All this military hardware and manpower is meant to demonstrate the superiority of American power and pressure the Arab states to join Sadat in the American ranks. Sadat himself told Senator Henry Jackson during Jackson's recent visit to Egypt that he would assert his leadership and "play his role in maintaining stability in the Middle East."

Israel, unlike Sadat, does not just talk, but uses its American F-15s to bomb Palestinian and Lebanese civilians and attack Syrian planes. The \$3 billion Israel will receive under the so-called "peace package" will buy more sophisticated weapons for the U.S.'s most able policeman, and may lead, according to press reports, to an American military presence in the airbases to be built in the Negev. Closer military cooperation, which may include joint U.S.-Israeli and U.S.-Egyptian maneuvers, is also expected.

Yet the Carter Doctrine, which persists in disregarding the fundamental issues in the Middle East, is doomed to the same fate as the policies that preceded it. Neither the Eisenhower Doctrine of 1956, which advocated direct U.S. military intervention, or the Nixon Doctrine of 1970, which advocated indirect involvement, or the Carter Doctrine which combines both direct and indirect American involvement, confront the issues of justice and self-determination for the Palestinian people, the heart of the conflict in the Middle East.

Neither does American militarism in the long run benefit the American people, whose true interests lie in cooperation with the Arab world and justice in the Middle East. It is to be hoped that the American public will see through the current Administration campaign to blame OPEC and the Arabs, rather than U.S. energy policy and the giant U.S. energy multi-national corporations for the current "gas crisis" and U.S. energy problems. Otherwise, they may find themselves in another Viet Nam, fighting another unjust war against people who only want their fundamental human and national rights.

Palestine

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PALESTINE NOTES



ARAFAT RECEIVES CABLES FROM CYPRIOT PRESIDENT

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO, Executive Committee received on June 12 a cable from Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou, in response to a letter sent by the PLO Chairman regarding the current situation in the Middle East following the Camp David accords and the Egyptian — Israeli "peace" treaty.

In the cable, the Cypriot President confirmed the Cypriot Government's and people's support for the Palestinian people's just struggle to regain their national rights, under the leadership of the PLO. He also confirmed that no just and lasting peace could be achieved in the Middle East without the Palestinian people regaining these rights.

Finally the Cypriot President expressed his country's stand against the Camp David accords, since they contradict the resolutions of the UN and the Non-Aligned States.

PALESTINIAN WRITERS AND JOURNALISTS HOLD ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN TRIPOLI

The General Union of Palestinian Writers and Journalists — Libya branch — held its annual conference in Tripoli on June 10.

The conference was attended by Bassam Abu Sharif and Yehia Yakhlef, representatives of the General Secretariat to the conference, the PLO representative in Libya and representatives of Palestinian popular organizations.

ARAFAT RECEIVES LETTER FROM YEMEN PRESIDENT

Yasser Arafat received on June 14 a letter of solidarity from Lt.-Col. Ali Abdallah Saleh, President of the Arab Republic of Yemen, in response to a letter sent by the PLO Chairman regarding continuous Israeli attacks on Palestinian civilians in Damour and other Palestinian camps as well as Lebanese villages in South Lebanon.

In his letter, the Yemeni President expressed great concern about these Israeli aggressions against residential areas in South Lebanon, which caused the exodus of thousands of villagers. The aim of these aggressions, he said, was to lower the morale of the militants and to cover up the so-called peace treaty between Israel and the Sadat regime, and the Israeli policy of establishing new settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

ARAFAT RECEIVES KOREAN ENVOY

Chairman Arafat received in Damascus an envoy of Korean President Kim Il Sung, and a delegation of the Korean Workers Party, on June 18.

The envoy handed Arafat a message from the Korean President

in which he expressed Korea's stand with the Palestinian people and their struggle to restore their national rights including their right to return, to self-determination and to establish an independent state in Palestine.

ARAFAT MEETS SAUDI MONARCH

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee met on June 19 with King Khaled Ben Abdel Aziz of Saudi Arabia. Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd Ben Abdel Aziz, and Prince Salman Ben Abdel Aziz, Governor of the Riyadh region, attended the meeting, which dealt with current international and Arab developments and the Palestine cause.

ARAFAT MEETS WITH KUWAITI RULER

During his visit to Kuwait, which ended on June 20, Yasser Arafat met with Amir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Sabah, Ruler of the State of Kuwait. Fateh Central Committee member Abu Iyyad and Kuwaiti Minister of State, Abdel Aziz Hussein, were present at the meeting.

Later, Arafat met with Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Shaykh Sa'ad al-Abdallah al-Sabah, in the presence of Abu Iyyad, the PLO representative in Kuwait, Auni Battash, and the Fateh representative in Kuwait Salim al-Za'nun, on the Palestinian side, and Abdel Aziz Hussein on the Kuwaiti side.

Arafat informed the Kuwaiti officials about the latest developments in South Lebanon, the Palestinian point of view regarding the Israeli aggressions, and the results of the latest Libyan-Palestinian meeting.

ARAFAT SAYS THE U.S. HAS TO RECOGNIZE THE PLO

Chairman Arafat, in an interview with the Saudi daily "Al-Jazira" on June 2, said the United States has to recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. It should also recognize the Palestinian people's right to establish their independent state in accordance with pertinent U.N. resolutions.

Arafat repeated his refusal to accept U.N. resolution No. 242, which treats the Palestinians as mere refugees. When asked about the possibility of forming a Palestinian government in exile, chairman Arafat said that the Palestinian National Council considers this a premature step.

DUTCH TEAM TO MEET PLO

A Dutch parliamentary team arrived in Beirut on June 18, to inspect their country's peace-keeping troops in the South and to carry out the first official Dutch-Palestinian contact ever.

The Team met with the chief of the Palestine Liberation Organization's political department, Farouk Kaddoumi. The meeting, the first ever between Dutch and PLO officials, was arranged by the U.N. in Beirut.

The team includes MPs Devries (head), Vanderbergh, Frinking, Bleauw, Brianhorst, Verbrought and the non-parliamentary secretary of the Defense Committee, Mr. Hubert.

ARAFAT ATTENDS MEETING OF PLO HIGHER COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SCIENCE

The PLO's Higher Council for Education, Culture and Science met on June 22 at the PLO Research

Center in Beirut in the presence of Yasser Arafat, and Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani, member of the PLO Executive Committee and Head of the Council, and Talal Naji, member of the Executive Committee and Head of its Cultural Department.

The meeting dealt with the educational and cultural conditions in the Palestinian student sectors, both inside and outside occupied Palestine.

PALESTINIAN ENGINEERS END CONFERENCE IN DAMASCUS

The second general conference of the General Union of Palestinian Engineers ended its meeting on June 22, with the issuing of a political communique and the election of the new Supreme Council and General Secretariat.

Chairman Yasser Arafat attended the final session of the conference and gave a speech in which he praised the prominent role of Palestinian engineers in promoting the march of the Palestinian Revolution. In his speech, Arafat condemned the genocide which is taking place in South Lebanon. He added that

what is taking place in Lebanon and Palestine is directly related to the secret clauses of the Camp David agreements, and the peace treaty signed by Sadat and the Israeli enemy.

Chairman Arafat affirmed that the Palestinian Revolution, by relying on the struggle of our people, is capable of foiling the plots of the parties to the Camp David alliance.

In its final communique, the Union said that the signing of the Sadat-Zionist treaty is not the end of the road, for the Arab national forces and the Palestinian Revolution can confront the plot and limit its repercussions if they use their strength efficiently.

The communique called for, Arab support of the Palestinian Revolution, for the escalation of military struggle in the occupied territories, for implementation of the Baghdad Summit resolutions, and for striking against American interests in the area. The communique also called for strengthening ties with the liberation movements, Islamic and other third world countries, as well as with the USSR and the Socialist Countries.



Arafat addresses Engineers Conference

PALESTINE NOTES

MAJED ABU SHARAR TO PRAVDA

On June 25, the Soviet daily *Pravda* published an interview with Majed Abu Sharar, Secretary of Fateh Revolutionary Council and Head of the PLO Unified Information, who declared that the Camp David accords were aimed against the cause of peace and the interests of the Arab Palestinian people and the Arab people in general.

"We will continue our struggle against this conspiracy, and the Palestinian people are not alone in this struggle", Abu Sharar said. He added:

"The Soviet Union firmly supports the just struggle of the Arab people, and this stand was expressed once more by Leonid Brezhnev during his talks with U.S. President Carter, in Vienna."

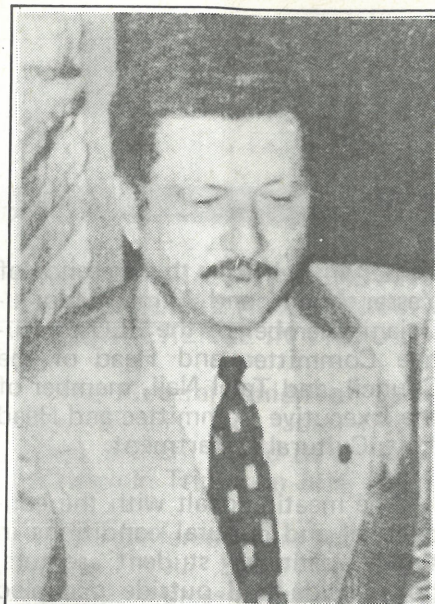
Abu Sharar concluded: "We are fully determined not only to foil this new imperialist-Zionist-reactionary conspiracy, but to achieve a just and lasting solution to the Middle East conflict."

ABU IYYAD MEETS WITH PRESIDENT SARKIS

Abu Iyyad, member of the Fateh Central Committee met with Lebanese President Elias Sarkis on June 25. The meeting dealt with various problems concerning the Palestinian Revolution and the PLO, as well as the current developments on the Lebanese, Arab and international levels.

NORTH LEBANON STRIKES FOR AYYOUBI

The North observed a day of strikes and mourning on June 15, in protest against the killing in Tripoli this week of Communist Party official Ahmed Al-Mir Al-Ayyoubi. Ayyoubi, 51, was shot by unidentified gunmen on June 13 near his home in the Tripoli port area. He died in the hospital on June 14.



Ahmed Al-Ayyoubi

The call to a strike was issued by a joint meeting of Palestinian and leftist groups in the North. It was backed by former President Suleiman Franjeh, who asked supporters in Zghorta, Koura and Batroun to join the protest.

Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat joined a number of Lebanese leftist leaders at Ayyoubi's funeral in Tripoli on June 15, while others offered their condolences at the Communist Party headquarters in Beirut.

In West Beirut's Arab University, a rally was held to honor the assassinated leader and a number of Palestinian and Lebanese leftist officials made political speeches.

Speaking at the rally, Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyyad) said Ayyoubi's

murder was another in the "Series of assassinations that Israeli agents are carrying out to liquidate the National Movement and the Palestinian resistance."

He called for the "revival of the nationalist fronts in every Arab country, to enable them to work against Israel." He also affirmed that the National Movement and the Palestinian resistance have "decided to join together to fight with all they have, and nobody can create obstacles or differences between them, despite all the conspiratorial attempts to do so."

Abu Iyyad then said that al-Ayyoubi was assassinated because the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty reflects a new alliance in the region which aims to liquidate all revolutionary strongholds in the Arab region in general and particularly in Lebanon.

PORTUGAL-PLO

Portugal's strained relations with the Arab world eased in July with the announcement that the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) plans to open an official mission there before the end of the year.

In an interview with the Portuguese national news agency Anop, PLO spokesman Ahmed Sobh said the PLO's leaders, including Chairman Yasser Arafat, hoped the delegation could be in operation before the meeting of a world Palestinian conference scheduled in Lisbon at the beginning of November.

Arafat and Ayyoubi's widow mourn assassinated Communist leader



EMERGENCY ARAB CONFERENCE IN LIBYA

Chairman Arafat visited Tripoli, Libya, from June 6-13 and attended the anniversary celebrations there for the evacuation of American troops from Libyan bases in 1969. He also participated in sessions of an emergency conference, held in Tripoli between various factions of the Palestinian Resistance Movement, Iraqi and Syrian delegations, and the Libyan leadership, which ended on June 15. Arafat's visit to Libya and the convening of the conference came as part of a joint Arab effort to confront the Zionist aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese people and to boost and strengthen the Arab steadfastness against imperialism, Zionism and Sadat's capitulatory stand.

Palestinian sources, referring to the conference, praised the spirit that prevailed during the conference but stressed the need for real actions rather than mere rhetoric and lamentations over what is happening inside and outside the occupied territories.

A final communique released at the end of the conference on June 15 reaffirmed the unity of the Palestinian people under the PLO leadership. It called on all Arab countries to open their borders for commando operations and to give support and arms to the Lebanese National Movement. The communique also called for a fourth Arab Summit to implement resolutions taken at the Baghdad summit conference. Followings are main points of the communique:

- Developing the military potential of the Palestinian Revolution to escalate the Palestinian armed struggle and enable the Revolution to realize its objectives.

- Training and arming the Palestinian masses in all Arab countries.

- Realizing Palestinian national unity on the basis of the political and organizational work program adopted during the 14th session of the Palestinian National Congress.

- Stressing the unity of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and outside them, under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, and striving to foil the self-rule plot.

- Asking Arab States to provide for the defence of the Lebanese cities and villages and the Palestinian camps from the daily Zionist air raids and attacks.

- Supporting Palestinian-Lebanese unity within the framework of a unified confrontation plan and through a joint command composed of the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese Na-



PLO leaders meet with President Qaddafi

tional and Progressive Movement to confront the imperialist-isolationist conspiracy against Lebanon.

- Supporting and arming the Lebanese national and progressive movement, because it represents the Lebanese nationalist masses and is a strategic ally of the Palestinian Revolution, and calling on the Arab States to stand with these forces.

- Stressing the necessity to refute the allegations of the agent Saad Haddad, to concentrate all Arab potentials towards this end and to deter repeated Israeli attacks on the South.

- Saluting the steadfastness masses of South Lebanon which are safeguarding the Palestinian Revolution and are bearing the tragedies caused by the Zionist enemy.

- Opening all Arab Fronts before commando actions against the Zionist enemy and escalating armed struggle for liberation and return.

- Supporting Syria militarily, politically and economically to consolidate its steadfastness.

- Full implementation of the political, economic, military, financial and cultural boycott of the Egyptian regime, as well as the boycott of the Suez Canal and the Suez-Alexandria pipeline.

- Standing with the Egyptian masses and nationalist forces.

- Consolidating friendship and deepening the strategic alliance with the progressive forces in Africa, Asia and Latin America and with the Socialist States, particularly the Soviet Union.

- Liquidating U.S. military, economic and political interests in the Arab and Islamic States, since the USA is the main enemy of Arab aspirations and the principal ally of the Zionist enemy.

- Supporting Libya military, politically and with manpower in the event of its being subjected to aggression, and considering any aggression against Libya to be an aggression against the Palestinian Revolution.

- Briefing all members of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front on the above resolutions.

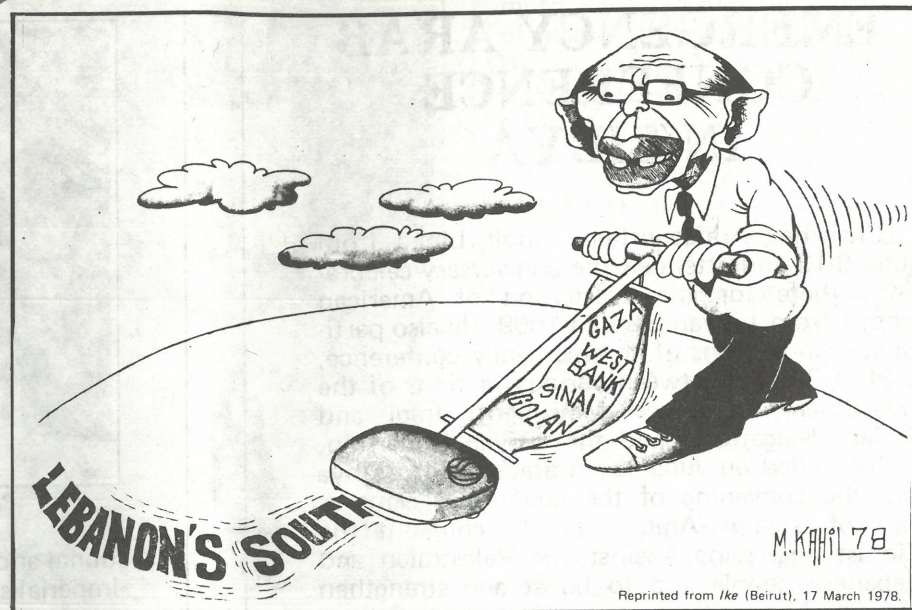
SOUTH LEBANON:

CAMP DAVID ACCORDS IN MOTION

As part of the strategy for an imperialist Middle East settlement charted under the auspices of the United States at Camp David, Tel Aviv's troops have escalated their acts of aggression against South Lebanon during the past three months. In what one American newspaper has termed the "first post Camp-David war," Israeli artillery has shelled Lebanese towns and villages and Palestinian refugee camps on an almost daily basis. Israeli combat aircraft pound civilian concentrations in South Lebanon, while local militiamen, under the command of Israeli-sponsored separatist Major Saad Haddad, have attacked posts of the United Nations interim force (UNIFIL) in Lebanon.

One of the objectives the Camp David co-plotters wish to obtain from these acts of terrorism is, in the words of Israeli Premier Begin, "to smash the PLO by means of continuous attacks." The chief result of the pursuit of this naive dream has been large casualties among non-combatants, including women and children, whose houses are not built to withstand air and naval assaults. In the past three months, hundreds of Lebanese and Palestinian civilians have been killed or wounded. Over sixty were reported killed in April alone. An estimated 60,000 new refugees have fled the South for cover elsewhere in the country.

A comparison of figures for civilian suffering and the minimal casualties among the Palestinian armed forces clearly discredits Begin's claim of destroying the PLO. But Begin has other goals: in the background of these recent attacks lies the classical Zionist vision of expansion. Historically, both the Zionist movement and the state of Israel have coveted the resources of South



Reprinted from *Ike* (Beirut), 17 March 1978.

Lebanon, particularly the Litani River. Observers agree that the Zionist strategy is to depopulate the South and to force the United Nations forces to withdraw, paving the way for an extension of Israeli control, north of the enclave of Major Haddad.

The lack of a clear political mandate and of weaponry for the United Nations Forces in South Lebanon, who are supposedly there to facilitate Israeli withdrawal, aids this strategy.

The other major objective of the Israeli aggression that aids the Camp David process is to draw in Syria, which as a member of the Arab Steadfastness Front has rejected the Israeli-Egyptian separate accords and their denial of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. The rationale is that if Syria is drawn into a war with Israel, which has been supplied with the latest U.S. arsenal, Syria could be pressured into signing an agreement with Israel on American terms.

Thus, on June 27, Israel used U.S.-supplied F-15 planes to attack older generation Mig-21s of the Syrian airforce over South Lebanon. The U.S. claims that these planes were delivered to Israel to use only for "defensive purposes." The same claim was made for the U.S.-supplied cluster bombs, used by the Israelis all over South Lebanon.

Clearly, the U.S., Egyptian and Israeli leaders have not grasped that American technology, Israeli terrorism and Sadat's complicity might destroy villages and murder civilians, but will never be able to break the will of a people. If that were the case in history, Hitler would have ruled the world.

PALESTINIAN CAMPS IN THE SOUTH: FIGHTING TO THE LAST PALESTINIAN

We reached the old Lebanese port city of Tyre in the early morning. The city, one of the largest in Lebanon, is partially deserted. The reason for its desertion is clearly inscribed on the sides of high rise buildings where Israeli bombardments have left apartments without walls. As we drove down the coastal road, we saw that the port, once the busiest part of the city, was literally empty. A pile of stone is all that remains of the port's control tower.

Viewing signs of destruction along the way, we drove south to the Palestinian refugee camp of Rashidiyeh. The camp, set up after the creation of the Zionist state of Israel in 1948, houses Palestinian refugees from northern Palestine.

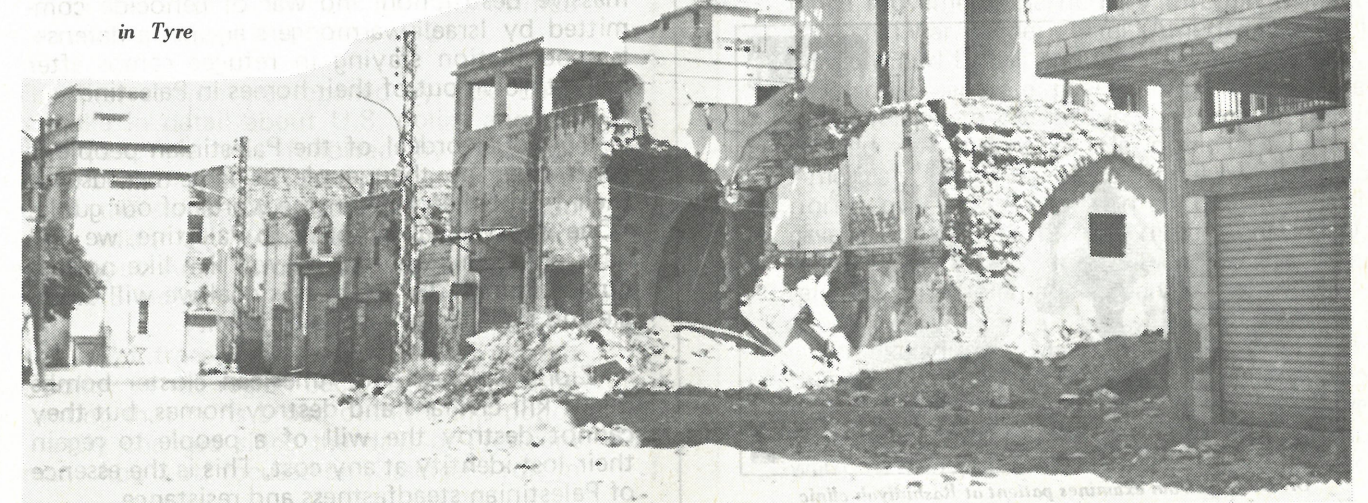
For those of us who knew it before the latest round of Israeli aggression, Rashidiyeh seemed partially empty. Walking through the narrow alleys of the camp we came across a clinic run by a Swedish-Norwegian medical team in co-operation with the Palestine Red Crescent Society.

Inside the clinic, after touring the small but well organized medical facilities, we sat to talk to Dr. Git Wikstrom from Sweden. "Last week they shelled the school 200 meters from here. We are shelled from the border and from Haddad's positions," she said.

When we asked what kinds of precautions they take against such savage bombardment by Israeli forces, she replied, "There are shelters in some parts of the camp but we at the clinic make sure that most of our patients don't come at one time. We treat them and then send them home directly, to save them from massacre."

Israeli naval bombardment

in Tyre



Asked about the major health problems facing the camp, Dr. Wikstrom told us that the major problem is that of sanitation and obtaining potable water. Because of this lack "many people suffer from infections and poisoning. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency does nothing," she added. "They run away the moment the Israelis start shelling."

"Can you believe it?" she exclaimed. "There are children who have been staying in shelters underground for the past four months!" At that moment Yusuf, a member of the Popular Committee of Rashidiyeh camp, came into our discussion and pointed out that "a war of genocide has been unleashed by Israel against us," meaning against the Palestinian refugees.

Yusuf talked to us about UNRWA assistance given to refugees at the camp. "100 grams of rice, 200 grams of lentils and 100 grams of margarine is distributed monthly to each family. This is not much, and moreover UNRWA stopped registering newly born children 15 years ago."

SOUTH LEBANON:

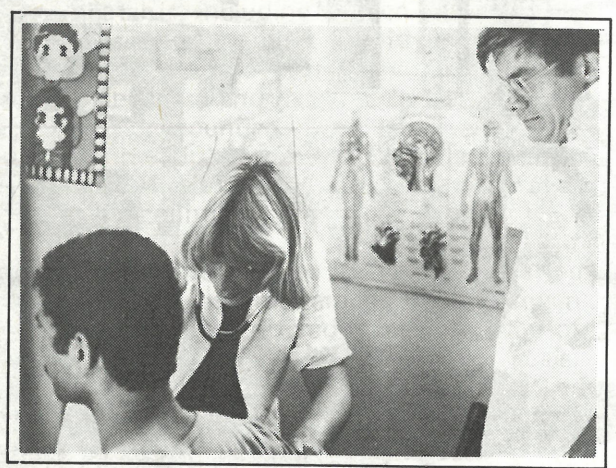


Briefing us on the social and economic structure of the camp, he said that the population of the camp had been over 12,000 grouped in 2227 families. There are also 327 families of martyrs supported by the PLO Social Affairs Institution.

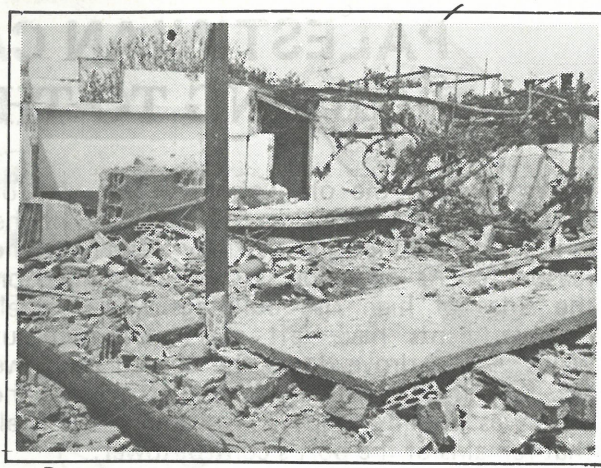
Two to three thousand of the inhabitants of the camp normally work on nearby farms as day laborers, while over a thousand have left Lebanon to work abroad. The rest of the camp's workforce travel here and there looking for jobs to maintain their families.

"Because of the latest round of shelling only 2000 people are left in the camp," he said. "The rest have fled to Sidon where they are staying in empty garages and schools that have been closed for the summer. They subsist in subhuman conditions."

After these discussions we toured the camp to witness the destruction of schools and the remains of houses burnt by phosphorous bombs, a form of napalm. "Here my brother was killed," our guide said, pointing to a house whose roof had been blown off by an Israeli shell. The small house still had the remains of what used to be household furniture. A picture of Jesus and



Dr. Git Wikstrom examines patient at Rashidiyah clinic



Rashidiyah camp: a "war of genocide" against Palestinians

Mary hung at one end of the wall in a cockeyed position. As if trying to divert us from our grief, our guide said, "This is nothing, this is only one out of hundreds of houses destroyed, and my brother is only one of the thousands martyred." Such are the ordeals of the Palestinian refugees.

After visiting Rashidiyah we proceeded to another Palestinian refugee camp, Bourj Shimali. At Bourj Shimali we also witnessed the partial desertion of the camp and the massive destruction which caused it.

We visited a handful of the 700 homes destroyed there. "They have been using American supplied rockets," one of the inhabitants explained. "American fragmentation shells have hit the refugee population hard." His voice rose as he explained his ordeal to us. "You know, they use timed shells which explode when we come out of our shelters to collect the remains of our belongings and to look for the killed and wounded!"

This is the net outcome of American technology transferred into the hands of the number one Zionist terrorist, Begin. Our brief visit to southern Lebanon enabled us to witness the massive destruction and war of genocide committed by Israeli warmongers against a defenseless population staying in refugee camps after being thrown out of their homes in Palestine.

This dual ordeal of the Palestinian people is confronted by the people at large because of their firm belief that, in the words of our guide, "One day we will go back to Palestine, we will have our own state and we will live like normal human beings. To attain this goal we will struggle and fight to the last Palestinian."

Zionist planes and American cluster bombs might kill civilians and destroy homes, but they cannot destroy the will of a people to regain their lost identity at any cost. This is the essence of Palestinian steadfastness and resistance.



Seminar participants (from left to right: Mahmoud Darweesh, Abu Lutf, Dr. Naseer Aruri, Majed Abu Sharar)

AAUG AND SHUUN FILASTINIYA MAGAZINE JOINT SEMINAR ON U.S. MIDDLE EAST POLICY

A seminar on U.S. Middle East policy, sponsored jointly by the Association of Arab-American University Graduates (AAUG) and the PLO Research Center's monthly magazine, *Shuun Filastiniya*, (Palestine Affairs) was inaugurated on June 19, 1979, by Abu Lutf, Head of the PLO Political Department. The seminar, which was held at the Fateh Foreign Relations office, took place under the sponsorship of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasser Arafat, and with the cooperation of the PLO Unified Information. It lasted from June 19-21.

The first session was opened by Abu Lutf, who spoke in detail about U.S. policy and the Middle East. He was followed by Professor Naseer Aruri of the AAUG, who discussed aspects of the same subjects, and by Mahmoud Darwish, editor of *Shuun Filastiniya*, who spoke briefly about Arab perceptions and misperceptions of U.S. policy.

Abu Lutf traced the basic lines of current U.S. policy in the region back to Henry Kissinger, noting that in its broad outlines this policy has hardly changed since the days of President Truman. Abu Lutf focused on Kissinger's role in

opposing any changes in U.N. resolutions in favor of the Palestinian people, and in other similar stands supporting the Israeli position and fundamentally hostile to the Palestinians since the first Sinai disengagement agreement.

Abu Lutf added that throughout the Kissinger years, the United States had played a major role in turning the Arab states against one another, and in striking at the Palestinian resistance movement, particularly through the Lebanese civil war. Under Carter, American policy by pressure and bribes had made possible the Egyptian-Israeli separate peace, and had systematically worked to prevent an Arab coalition being formed to oppose it. He noted furthermore America's commitment to Israeli military superiority over the Arabs, and concluded that this gave a clear idea of the dimensions of U.S. policy, particularly in view of the daily Israeli raids on Palestinian and Lebanese civilians.

In his address, Mahmoud Darwish said that this seminar does not aspire to accomplish more than it is capable of, adding: "We, who were always the subject of study by the U.S., now want to study them." He said that in the con-

AAUG AND SHUUN FILASTINIYA MAGAZINE:

JOINT SEMINAR ON U.S. MIDDLE EAST POLICY

flict with the Zionist enemy, all are aware that the latter is only one of the ugly faces of the U.S. policy, but that hesitation only afflicts intellectuals and rulers. "This seminar is therefore trying to shake off the forgetfulness which has touched the Arab decision-makers, forgetfulness of the nature of the U.S. administration which cannot and does not want to have different relations with the Arab Liberation Movement.

"In this seminar", he went on, "we are trying to erase illusions, the most important of which being the impossibility of studying U.S. policy and the Middle East outside the equation of the conflict. Another illusion concerns the nature of U.S.-Israeli-Jewish relations, for several Arab rulers still direct their policies under the impression that the U.S. is a "victim" of Zionism and that the Arabs should save the USA by providing it with all possible assistance."

CHRISTIAN ZIONISM AND AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION

In the second session held on the evening of June 19, Drs. Michael Suleiman, Fuad Mughrabi and Husni Haddad presented their papers. Dr. Michael Suleiman, professor of political science at Kansas University (Canada), discussed the "American Public Opinion and the Palestinian Question", and defined how American public opinion looks at the Palestinian question in particular and the Arabs in general in the form of the Zionist propaganda and the anti-Arab bias of mass media. The institutions who carry out opinion polls are mostly backed by Zionist interests. They maneuver to create illusory public opinion stands in support with Israel by providing the people with pro-Israeli information and asking questions in such a way that people's answers are pro-Israeli.

Professor Husni Haddad, professor of religious studies in Illinois, presented his paper about "Christian Zionism in Europe: The Religious Factor in U.S. Middle East Policy." He said that in addition to the Zionist lobby, the pro-Zionist mass media and the Jewish influence on American public opinion, the religious roots of the American position in its stand with Israel have played an important role in influencing the American people. "The cornerstone of Christian support for Israel is the equation of the recent political state of Israel with the Israel mentioned



Seminar studies U.S. Mideast policy

in the Old Testament", Dr. Haddad said.

Dr. Fuad Mughrabi, professor of political science at the University of Tennessee, discussed the U.S. decision-making process and made clear the limited role of the American people in making political decisions, because American institutions are directed to serve the interests of the ruling elite.

In the third and fourth sessions of the seminar held on June 20, Dr. Atif Qubresi, professor of Economics at McMaster University, said that U.S. energy policy was made to serve two objectives: (1) Internal economic interests and (2) Political, economic and military objectives. He also discussed the U.S.'s failure to control supply and demand as related to petroleum through OPEC, and attempts to exploit the contradictions between OPEC states, as well as officially-inspired propaganda campaigns against the Arabs and OPEC.

Dr. Samih Farsoun then read Professor A. Nasrawi's study "Energy and U.S. Foreign Policy" and emphasized that large Western oil companies are instruments for implementing this foreign policy. He talked about oil, the influence of oil on the October War 1973, and lastly the supply and demand for energy on the one hand and political economy and its relations with energy on the other.

Dr. Hatem al-Husseini, Head of the PLO Information Office in Washington, then explained the role played by the Zionist lobby in the U.S. in manipulating the mass media and influencing Congressional decisions. Dr. Husseini called for a new strategy in confrontation of the U.S.'s policy by strengthening ties with American progressive forces, the labor movement and leftist parties in the U.S., thus creating a strong political force supporting the PLO in its struggle against U.S. imperialism and Zionism.

REVOLUTIONARY VIOLENCE, U.S.-ISRAELI PARTNERSHIP AND DETENTE

Dr. Mohammed Shadid, professor of political

science at Howard University, presented his paper about "Palestinian Revolutionary Violence as a Fact in the U.S. Middle East Policy". The U.S. administrations played an important role in the area in an attempt to curb the mass escalation of the Palestinian revolutionary violence since the 1967 Middle East war. President Nixon ordered U.S. troops in West Germany and the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean to intervene on the side of King Hussein, during the war between the PLO forces and the Jordanian regime and army in September 1970. The U.S. tried to adopt UN resolutions against the national liberation movements on the pretext that they are practicing "terrorism", the term which is usually used by reactionary violent forces.

About the U.S. strategy of bartering during "the Age of negotiations 1969-1979", Dr. Mary Ellen Lundsten, visiting professor at Minnesota University, concluded in her paper that the last U.S. Administration based its foreign policy of negotiations in the Middle East on two schools of diplomacy, the school of the "Domination System" advocated by George Paul and the school of "Anarchy Restoration" advocated by George Liska.

Dr. Elias Shoufani, head of the Zionist and Israeli Affairs Department in the Institute of Palestine Studies in Beirut, discussed his study about the "U.S.-Israeli Relationship" and defined the kind of partnership in the relation between U.S. and Israel. "The Zionist project", he said, "produced the Zionist state which is an incorporated venture between World Zionism and Imperialism, and the size of profits gained by each reflects the nature of this partnership." Since the colonial powers hold the major group of shares, the venture profited them more than the Zionist project, which failed to solve the Jewish problem. The fundamental characteristic of the Zionist project is that it is an imperialist advanced base, more important than a settler colony such as Rhodesia. In this context, we could understand the role of Israel in striking against the national liberation forces everywhere in the Arab World.

Dr. Samih Farsoun, professor of sociology at the University of Washington and President of the AAUG, spoke about the factors which influence U.S. foreign policy: crisis of power, governability crisis, Jewish vote myth, trade union support of Israel, anti-communism, and division in the American Left.

Concerning the detente policy, Dr. Naseer Aruri, professor of political science at Massachusetts University, presented his paper and defined the nature and the essence of the detente, its political, social and economical and mechanisms and its influence upon the current events of the Middle East.

ARAFAT ADDRESSES THE CONCLUDING SESSION OF THE SEMINAR

The seminar on U.S. policy in the Middle East ended its meetings on June 21, when it was addressed for two hours by Yasser Arafat. Arafat began his talk by stressing the importance of the Palestinian front against Israel in Lebanon, which constitutes a solid fortress against the U.S., Israel and the Sadat regime. He said that the steadfastness of this Palestinian fortress is a pre-condition for the steadfastness of the other Arab fronts.

Arafat also underlined the PLO's key role in the establishment of the Confrontation and Steadfastness Front at both the Baghdad Summit and the Baghdad meeting of Foreign Ministers.

PRESS CONFERENCE

The Association of Arab American University Graduates (AAUG) evaluated at a press conference held on June 23 in Beirut the recent seminar on U.S. policy in the Middle East. They confirmed the necessity of concentrating all Arab resources as a basis for dealing with the U.S. position, and criticised all those who believe in the USA's "positive" stands.

At the beginning of the conference, a communique was read by Dr. Samih Farsoun, a professor of Sociology at the American University in Washington D.C., and President of the AAUG. The communique confirmed the AAUG's independence, its commitment to full Arab liberation, its faith in a unified Arab Lebanon, and its support for the Lebanese National Movement's struggle, and all those who stand against fanatic religious groups.

Regarding the results of the Seminar, he said that the USA is adopting two complementary policies: The first is a firm strategic one which has not changed since World War II, and stresses domination over every region of the world; the second is based on the Arab-Israeli conflict, and is the primary means for achieving the first policy. He added that the first policy depends upon international developments and the second on regional developments.

Dr. Farsoun finally added that the weakness and division of the Arab stand cannot succeed in confronting the U.S., despite the fact that the Arab world has the capabilities to do so. This of course leads to further U.S. pressure, culminating in Arab capitulation in the face of Israel obstinacy. He concluded by stressing the limitations on the Arab's potential for putting pressure on the U.S., recalling the latter's abandonment of the U.S.-Soviet communique of 1977 only five days after it was issued, as a result of Zionist pressure.



Majed Abu Sharar, Secretary of Fateh Revolutionary Council, addresses seminar.



Seminar affirms Camp David accords aim at "war, not peace"

SEMINAR ON DIMENSIONS OF CAMP DAVID

The seminar on "The Political, Economic, Military and Legal Dimensions of the Camp David Accords and its Repercussions on the Future of the Conflict in the Region", organised by the PLO Unified Information, was held on June 19 at the Beau Rivage Hotel in Beirut.

The inaugural session was attended by representatives of the local, Arab and foreign press and by a number of specialists including Dr. Igor Balayev from the USSR, as well as representatives from the GDR, Jordan, Democratic Yemen, Egypt, Syria, Algeria, Libya and Palestine.

The opening speech was delivered by Ziad Abdel Fattah, Director-General of the Palestine News Agency, WAFA, who said that in the face of the Camp David accords, there is no place for rhetoric. There should either be serious and planned confrontation matching the size of the forthcoming dangers, or humiliating surrender to U.S. imperialism. He added: "There lies the importance of this seminar, which represents a serious attempt to place matters in their correct context and to inform the masses about the real dangers of the Camp David conspiracy planned by U.S. imperialism." Abdel Fattah added that the savage attacks on South Lebanon are one of the fruits of Camp David.

Majed Abu Sharar, Secretary of the Fateh

Revolutionary Council, then spoke in the name of the Palestinian Revolution and of Yasser Arafat, stressing that "the Camp David agreement is a violation of the just peace for which we are struggling and a blatant attempt to establish a U.S.-Zionist-Sadat alliance aiming to make the whole Arab region submit to U.S. influence and interests and maintain Israel's place as a military power at the expense of the rights of the Arab people."

In the first day's sessions, studies were presented by: Dr. Ghassan Rifa'i from Syria about "The effects of the treaty on the links between imperialist interests and Zionist ambitions for the economic control of the region."; Ahmad Jaber on "The illegal essence of the Camp David agreements."; Mr. Haytham al-Ayyoubi on "The military results of the Egyptian-Israeli agreement."; Dr. Hassan Doudin on "The role of information in confronting the result of the treaty."; Fouad al Tohami from the Egyptian National Movement on "The Carter-Sadat-Begin treaty: Introduction, facts and possibilities."; and Samir Jabbour from the Institute of Palestine Studies, Beirut, on "Israeli ambitions for economic infiltration in the Arab world."

Papers presented at the second day's session included, "The background and political aims of

the Camp David accords" by Abdullah al-Hamishi from Libya; "The methods and forms of struggle in the Arab Nation to confront the economic repercussions of the Camp David accords" by Hussain Abu al-Naml (Palestine); and "The role of Zionist capital in imperialist economic infiltration in Egypt and the Middle East", by Dr. Igor Belayev from the USSR.

Dr. Belayev confirmed the necessity of supporting the Palestinian Revolution under the leadership of the PLO, as well as all Arab progressive and nationalist forces in order to foil the Zionist-reactionary, imperialist-sponsored conspiracy. He reaffirmed the support of the Soviet people and government for the Palestinian people's just struggle to regain their national rights.

The seminar ended its meetings on the evening of June 20 with a press conference and an address by Farouk Kadoumi, Head of PLO Political Department.

WAFA's Director General, Ziad Abdel Fattah, read the concluding political communique which had been adopted at the final session, and a call addressed to the representatives of all Arab, Islamic and Non-Aligned and friendly news agencies.

COMMUNIQUE

"The participants consider the Camp David accords and the Carter-Begin-Sadat treaty to be aimed at war and not peace, and call all news agencies and information media in the Arab, Islamic, Non-aligned and friendly states to:

1. Reveal the danger represented by the U.S.-Zionist plot to recolonise the Arab region and to expose and condemn the local and international forces working in complicity and cooperation with this plot.
2. Expose all distortions regarding the real situation in the region and the USA's allegations that it plays a 'constructive' 'pro-Arab' role, and foil all attempts to present the U.S. in a form that contradicts its hostile intentions against the aspirations of the Arab people.
3. Reveal the Sadat regime's contribution to the conspiracy being implemented against the Arab and African liberation movements.
4. Support the Egyptian nationalist and progressive forces in their struggle against the agent Egyptian regime to bring about its downfall and foil the U.S.-Zionist-reactionary plot.
5. Mobilize public opinion in support of the Palestinian people in their legitimate and just struggle to regain their right to their land and

establish their secular democratic state.

6. Consolidate and develop relations with Arab and friendly information apparatuses, and strive for the formation of a broad information front to expose the policies and plans of neo-imperialism and Zionism.

7. Expose the policy of normalising relations between Egypt and the Zionist enemy, which in fact means annexing the Egyptian economy to the Zionist economy; and impose a boycott on all states, firms or individuals that get involved in the policy.

8. Support all efforts exerted to set up an eastern front, in order to restore the strategic balance which was disrupted by the Egyptian regime's withdrawal from the battle.

9. Support and consolidate strategic relations with the natural ally: the Socialist camp, headed by the Soviet Union.

10. Support the struggle of the Palestinian Revolution under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, in its confrontation with the colonialist offensives against the land, people and cause.

11. Salute the Palestinian masses inside the occupied territories and their heroic uprising, in their on-going struggle against all forms of conspiracy and suspect moves, most recent of which is the self-rule conspiracy."

THE CALL:

"The participants in the conference call on all news agencies in the Arab, Non-Aligned, Islamic and friendly states to:

1. Form a broad information front to actively spread news and propaganda in order to confront the dangerous situation emerging from the Camp David accords.
2. Strive to expose the policy of imperialism, Zionism and their local accomplices.
3. Expose and foil all attempts to present the USA — on the information level — in a way that belies its aggressive intentions against the aspirations of the Arabs.
4. Inform their respective local public opinion about the true aims of Zionist-imperialist plots in the region and mobilise world public opinion to support Arab and Palestinian struggle against all attempts to control the region.
5. Mobilise world public opinion to support the Palestinian people's struggle, under PLO leadership, to regain their rights."

THE "AUTONOMY" PLOT CONTINUES

The on-going plot, against the Palestinian people by the tripartite allies, U.S., Egypt and Israel, under the banner of "Palestinian autonomy talks," is reported to have been stalled. After holding several talks, delegates were unanimous in declaring that progress has not been attained.

In the words of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, progress could not be attained because "there were difficult questions, never handled before."

QUESTIONS NEVER HANDLED BEFORE?

Are these questions "never handled before" the realization, by the trio, of the Palestinian peoples' rejection of the self-rule conspiracy? Not at all. The U.S., Israel and Egypt have been well aware from the outset that the Palestinian people will resist all conspiracies against their legitimate rights by all means at their disposal.

What U.S. Secretary of State Vance is realizing is that the submissive and weak regime of Sadat is unable to take a firm stand during the negotiations after it has divested itself of all its power. Moreover, the Arab masses know that the Sadat regime no longer holds the power of decision making, which it has completely surrendered to the U.S.

Sadat for his part, realizing his weak position, is insisting that the U.S. become a full partner to the "self-rule talks".

THE U.S. FULL PARTNERSHIP

The Palestinian people are well aware that the U.S. is a partner to all plots directed against them; so Sadat is revealing no secret. His public insistence on U.S. full partnership only stresses the Palestinian understanding of his growing isolation and weakness.

Sadat has pointed out that for the stability of his regime he has to insist on the Arab and Islamic nature of Arab Jerusalem. But Israel after squeezing from Sadat all the concessions it could earlier at the Camp David talks, knows that Sadat has no concessions left to offer and that Sadat is in no position whatsoever to decide on the future of the Palestinian people. Thus, the Israeli government, while sending delegations to Egypt to participate in the talks, has escalated the establishment of settlements in the territo-

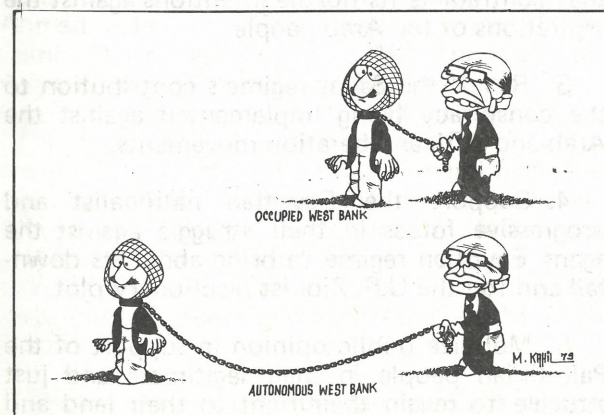
ries whose future is supposedly being discussed.

Moreover, Begin's statements and those of his negotiators with the Egyptian regime affirm time after time the Israeli conviction that the West Bank belongs to the Zionist state, and the Israeli determination to establish "Israeli sovereignty" over the West Bank and Gaza. Responding to critics of the recently established Elon Moreh settlement near Nablus, Begin affirmed fervently the Israeli right to settle anywhere in "Eretz Israel." The Gush Emunim, the right-wing group that spearheads the settlement drive, confirmed in interviews following the establishment of Elon Moreh that this includes the right to settle in "Nablus, Hebron and Gaza." If this is the viewpoint of Israel, why does it persist in pretending it is negotiating?

The negotiations on "self-rule" are in fact a cheap comedy whose aim is to divert the world's attention from the heart of the Middle East conflict and to liquidate the historical rights of the Palestinian people to their homeland.

Zionist leaders believe that this comedy, coupled with the continued land, sea and air attacks on Lebanon, is sufficient to impose on the Palestinian and Arab people total submission to Israel and to U.S. imperialist domination. The Israeli government, maintains that the "autonomy" talks will continue in early July, after Israeli Prime Minister Begin meets with Sadat in Alexandria.

The Palestinian people, aware of this shoddy conspiracy, are taking measures to strengthen their alliance with the Arab progressive movement and socialist and other allies to challenge U.S. domination, its handmaiden in the region, Zionism, and its new hireling, Sadat.



OCCUPATION DIARY



Uprising in Nablus against Zionist settlement policy June 17, 1979

UPRISING IN NABLUS: CONFRONTING THE RACIST POLICY OF SETTLEMENT

"He is a hero whom history shall talk about", Begin described his Agriculture Minister, Ariel Sharon. "As for me, when I die and stand in the door to heaven I shall say: I am the one who established Elon Moreh settlement. Then I shall be allowed to enter."

While Begin and Sharon were exchanging compliments, tension and anger spread over the occupied territories. The entire town of Nablus rose denouncing the settlement policy. On June 17, hundreds of Palestinian citizens demonstrated, raising their fists in the face of the Israeli troops. Palestinian flags were raised on the roofs of many houses and mosques. The demonstrators headed for Elon Moreh settlement, established in a lightning fast operation on June 7, chanting slogans

hostile to the Israeli occupation, its settlements and its coercive policies. They clashed with the Israeli troops three kilometers away from Nablus on the road to the Gush Emunim settlement. The demonstrators used sticks, stones and empty bottles to defend their land and themselves. The occupation troops fired their automatic weapons in the air to terrorize the people, threw tear gas grenades, and hit even young boys with their clubs. Many demonstrators were wounded, and so were some soldiers. But those who were wounded refused to go to hospitals and continued demonstrating in the streets of Nablus.

A reporter who observed Israeli soldiers dragging a child (8 years old) while others were hitting a boy (11 years old) with their clubs, said: "They were challenging the occupation military authorities and its repressive measures." The Zionist army banned newsmen and

reporters from entering the city, and even confiscated films taken by a French and an American cameraman. The Israeli troops attacked shops and broke their locks in an attempt to quell the general strike that was observed throughout Nablus.

In the municipality building, the national and progressive organizations in the city held a meeting during which Bassam al-Shaka'a, Mayor of Nablus, gave a speech. He said:

"Our confrontation with the Israeli authorities' provocation of our national feelings, is an experience which necessitates further cohesion and struggle to protect our national interests. In this respect, this conference attended by representatives of the whole Northern region, aims to formulate a program for the development of our struggle to encompass all the occupied territories and to stand against Israeli repres-

OCCUPATION DIARY

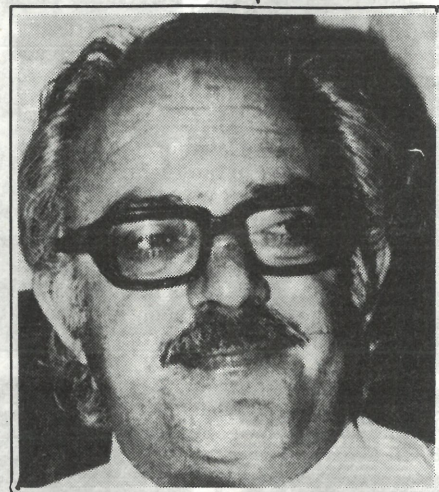
sion and settlement policy."

He added: "I told the Military Governor my job is not to maintain peace and order, and I will never be a policeman preserving the occupation's order. My responsibility is to safeguard Palestinian land and preserve the interests of the Palestinian people in the region. We want to express our right to our land and our attachment to it and to our national identity and rights, to stage a peaceful and quiet march to protest the Israeli settlement policy and the denial of the Palestinian people's right to self-expression, and to condemn the closure of the educational institutes. The occupation authorities, however, deprived us of our right to self-expression. We are also looking to these sectors of the Jewish population which oppose the Israeli government policy of occupation and the establishment of settlements... The whole world is also looking at us."

At the end of the meeting, a communique was issued calling for the annulment of the Elon Moreh settlement and all other Israeli settlements established on Arab land. The participants also declared their firm rejection of the Camp David accords and their outcome, including the self-rule plot, calling for self-determination and the establishment of a Palestinian state, and protested against the Israeli soldiers' breaking up of the march and the arrest of many demonstrators.

NABLUS PENALIZED

In the wake of the uprising in Nablus, the Israelis stopped issuing permits to Nablus citizens for travel to Jordan, banned Shaka'a, the Mayor from leaving for the U.S. to participate in political seminars on the Palestinian cause, and launched a campaign of mass arrests. Among the arrested are Hana Bassam al-Shaka'a, the Mayor's daughter, Ismat and Anan al-Attiri, daughters of a member of the Nablus Municipal Council and the trade union activist Omar al-Qassim.



Fahd Kawasemeh, mayor of Hebron

ZIONISTS STORM HEBRON MUNICIPALITY BUILDING

As a result of the Israeli wave of settlements aimed at perpetuating the occupation of Palestinian land and uprooting the Palestinian people, and after the Military Governor's refusal to meet the Hebron Municipal Council, various Hebron groups and institutions decided to hold a popular meeting on June 19 to expose the fascist Israeli practices currently being carried out by the Gush Emunim Movement against the Palestinian citizens in Hebron under the protection of the Israeli army and to take the necessary measures to confront the wave of settlement activities.

But the Israeli authorities blocked the entrances to the city, and at the time set for the meeting, the Deputy Military Governor with a group of Israeli soldiers broke into the Hebron municipality building, arrested Fahd al-Qawasemeh, Mayor of Hebron, Mohammad Melhem, Mayor of Halhoul and a number of representatives of the nationalist bodies and institutions in the occupied territories and declared the region a restricted military zone. Hundreds of citizens who were attending the meeting

confronted and clashed with the Zionist troops, using their fists and stones.

However, the Municipal Council held its emergency meeting on schedule and adopted the following resolutions:

1. To send cables of protest against the Israeli practices to the Secretary-General of the U.N., Dr. Kurt Waldheim, to the Human Rights Commission, to foreign consulates in Jerusalem, to the Israeli War Minister, to the Israeli Military Governor General and the Israeli Military Governor of Hebron.

2. Denunciation of the occupation of al-Dabwiyeh building by a group of Israeli settlers; and calling on the Israeli military governors to immediately evacuate the settlers without any delay.

3. Denunciation of practices of settlers from Qiryat Arba' and the Gush Emunim movement against the citizens of Hebron, such as raiding their homes, attacking them and spreading terror within the villages.

4. Denunciation of the Israeli Military Governor's decision to prevent the Hebron Municipal Council from holding its meeting despite the difficult circumstances the region is going through.

5. Condemnation of the settlement and land seizure policies; and calling for an end to such practices which violate all U.N. and other international laws and conventions and which constitute an attempt to change the geographic map of Palestine.

6. Denunciation of the decision to close all universities and schools and fail a certain number of students as in Ramallah, Bir Zeit and Bethlehem.

7. Condemnation of the closure of hospitals, specifically the decision of the Israeli authorities to close the Augusta Victoria Hospital

in Jerusalem and the National Hospital in Nablus.

8. The Hebron Municipal Council finally reaffirmed its firm stand in rejecting the Camp David accords and its implications, including the self-rule scheme, and stresses the justness of Palestinian national demands.

On the other hand, the Israeli authorities, on June 15, prevented al-Qawasemeh from leaving on a visit to the U.S.A. U.S. OMEN, the group that was to have sponsored Qawasemeh's visit, sent cables of protest to the Israeli authorities, to the White House, to the State Department and to several congressmen.

Al-Qawasemeh declared to a number of reporters who were able to by-pass the check points erected by the Israeli army on the roads leading to the municipality building, that the Israeli authorities are daily offending Palestinian national feelings, while they not only stand idly by in the face of the attacks by armed Israeli settler bands against the citizens of Hebron, but also protect them from the Palestinian people's anger.

MORE REPRESSIVE MEASURES AGAINST PALESTINIAN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

On June 12, the Israeli authorities prevented Palestinian citizens from attending a popular meeting at Bir Zeit. Troops surrounded the town and erected check points at its entrances banning all traffic to or from Bir Zeit. The meeting was called for by the West Bank Mayors and representatives of the popular organizations, charity societies and cultural unions and clubs.

The next day, Yediot Aharonot revealed that the Israeli authorities had decided to close Bir Zeit University and cancel the rest of the 1978-79 academic year. The paper, which is waging a bitter campaign against Bir Zeit University, said that the reason behind the decision was

a security force's report about "subversive" activities in the University. It also reported that the document mentions cooperation between the University students and the "Arabs of Israel" in establishing joint organizations.

Beside closing Bir Zeit University, the Israeli authorities have recently closed the Teachers Training Institute, the Secondary School in Ramallah and ordered Bethlehem secondary school students to repeat their classes in the wake of last month's uprising against the settlement policy and the repressive measures of the Military forces.

PROGRESSIVE JEWS DENOUNCE CLOSURE

Meanwhile, a delegation comprising dozens of progressive Jewish personalities and a number of Israeli University professors visited Bir-Zeit and expressed their solidarity with the University administration, and denounced the military government's decision to shut down the University. The delegation reached Bir Zeit following the Israeli authorities' ban on a demonstration in solidarity with Bir-Zeit University on June 13. A number of Knesset members, as well as a group of progressive Jewish students and professors, were supposed to participate in this demonstration.

In related news, the Nazareth Communist Youth Federation decided to organize a campaign of



solidarity with Bir Zeit University students and teachers, and called for the immediate reopening of the university. The Federation expressed solidarity with the struggle of all Palestinians who confront Israeli policies of land confiscation.

STRONG REACTIONS IN PARIS

In Paris, a group of French Professors held a press conference which was attended by Bir-Zeit Professors and progressive Jews. Dr. Munir 'Assy, mathematics professor at Bir-Zeit, stated that these Israeli practices which aim to deny the Palestinian people their right to education, are a flagrant violation of the most basic human rights. Dr. Daniel Yamit, an Israeli Physicist who is also a member of the Israeli Committee for the Defence of Bir Zeit, confirmed Dr. 'Assy's statement, and added that in spite of the Israeli authorities habit of making charges against Bir Zeit University, there was never one definite accusation against this educational institution. The French Committee for the Defence of Bir-Zeit has decided to submit a petition to the Israeli authorities to reconsider their decision, and to send an investigative commission to the University, in cooperation with the "Committees to Defend Bir Zeit University" which were established in Israel, Italy and the U.S.A.

BIR ZEIT UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT EXPOSES ZIONIST AIMS

On June 19, the President of Bir Zeit University, Hanna Nasser, held a press conference in Amman in which he confirmed that the reason behind the closure is the Zionist's wish to place obstacles in the face of university education in the occupied territories.

The bitter Zionist campaign against Palestinian students continues as a part of a general Israeli policy aiming to repress our youth. But the uprising against the military occupation goes on.

EXCLUSIVE



Mr. Christian Remi Richards (seated at center right) heads Malagasy delegation at PLO-Malagasy talks.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. CHRISTIAN REMI RICHARD MADAGASCAR'S MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

"As for us, when people speak of the State of Israel, we see it as Palestine occupied by the Israelis."

Mr. Christian Remi Richard, Malagasy Minister of Foreign Affairs, paid an official visit to Lebanon from 3 to 8 June at the invitation of the PLO. He headed an important Malagasy delegation.

"Palestine" magazine met Mr. Christian Remi Richard, who outlined the Democratic Republic of Madagascar's views on Malagasy-Palestinian relations, the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty, the situation in southern Africa and the problem of demilitarisation of the Indian Ocean.

Q: Sir, you have been in Lebanon for several days at the head of an important Malagasy government delegation. Could you describe the aims of your visit?

A: We have been in Beirut, or more precisely in Lebanon, for exactly five days, at the invitation of our militant brothers and comrades of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. This is partly in response to the visit to Madagascar by a PLO delegation, which came on a friendly and working visit to us in the course of which they suggested we pay a similar visit to them.

In five days we have been able to observe on the spot how our Palestinian brothers are fighting. The purpose of our visit is simply to convey to them our support and encouragement for the continuation of this struggle which we Malagasys have always supported in all international forums. Madagascar's position on this subject is very well known. We have always demanded that the Palestinian people should be able to exercise their right of self-determination, a totally legitimate right, and should be able to establish an independent sovereign state. It is in this sense that we very strongly condemned the unilateral "peace" treaty signed by Sadat and Begin with regard to the Middle East problems. We think, in fact, that Sadat has not been authorised by our Palestinian brothers, let alone our Arab brothers, to speak in their name. To us, this unilateral signature represents complicity with imperialism with a view to threatening peace in this part of the world still further. So we have come here to convey clearly this position, which we have always supported throughout the world, to our brother and comrade Yasser Arafat. We have come to work and discuss with our brothers, the combatants and militants of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. They took us to see front-line military positions some of which since then, according to the local press, were bombed again by the Israeli air force. They let us see this daily life they lead, this constant threat.

We have also taken the opportunity to discuss a certain amount of bilateral issues between Palestinians and Malagasys, such as how to develop relations of economic, scientific, technical and cultural co-operation with a view to translating our common aims and ideals into more concrete actions. It is to this end that the PLO has decided to establish a permanent diplomatic mission in Tananarive, not only to develop political affairs, but also to further our bilateral co-operation.

VISIT TO SOUTH LEBANON

In Lebanon generally, we've seen the city of Beirut, but we've also visited South Lebanon. In Beirut, we went to certain specialised PLO institutions. In particular, we saw the social work of these institutions such as, for example, the Palestinian Red Crescent, which we visited. With our own eyes we saw the children who were victims of the war, whether because their parents were killed during the bombardments or because they themselves were wounded, a very pitiful scene which showed the violence of Israeli Zionism. In South Lebanon we visited Sidon and we were in Nabatiyeh and Tyre. Particularly in Tyre, we saw, in a very limited area of scarcely one square kilometre, a camp of Palestinian refugees which had been bombarded recently. We learned that there were 12 people killed and 27 wounded in the bombardment. That was one aspect of what we witnessed here. But, in contrast to this, we learned in South Lebanon of the organisation of a unified military command between the Palestinians on the one hand and the progressive Lebanese, who belong to the Lebanese National Movement, on the other. We regard all this as proof of the reality of the daily Palestinian struggle against Israeli Zionism. In Beirut, we were also able to evaluate another aspect of this struggle, particularly the SAMED venture, an activity of a social character for the benefit of the children or families of those killed in action, as well as what we said about the Palestinian Red Crescent. This is also a positive aspect of this struggle against Zionism.

COMMON STRUGGLE

Q: The PLO office in Tananarive will be set up in the same premises as the former Israeli Embassy. First, what led the Malagasy government to close this embassy, and then what inspired your government to put these premises at the PLO's disposal, which is a very significant gesture?

A: First, one must understand the Malagasy Socialist Revolution, which is a true eradication of the neo-colonial system which followed independence in 1960. This eradication is also expressed by the unconditional closure of the former Israeli Embassy.

Why do we hand these premises over to our Palestinian comrades? In a way you gave the answer by saying it was a very significant gesture. As for us, when people speak of the State of Israel, we see it as Palestine occupied by the Israelis. If we gave this embassy to Israel before, we feel now that it belongs to those who truly represent the Palestinian people.

Q: Could you please tell us about recent developments in southern Africa, particularly with regard to Zimbabwe and Namibia?

A: The non-aligned movement held an extraordinary meeting of its co-ordination Bureau in Maputo in January specifically to study the problems of southern Africa in general. The situation prevailing there is being maintained by the Western powers and is far from conforming to the various relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations. We can only condemn these acts of procrastination with regard to the settlement of the problems of both Namibia and Zimbabwe. We also condemn the situation of apartheid and racism. It is in this respect that the next summit of non-aligned states and the forthcoming OAU summit will be of considerable political significance, since the solution of the problems of southern Africa can no longer be delayed, just as one cannot wait any longer for the solution of the Palestinian problem.

Q: Do you see a link between the political developments in southern Africa and those in the Middle East?

A: What I can tell you in overall terms is that it's a question of action by international imperialism. As long as one tries to solve such-and-such a problem in a given region partially, one is trying to aggravate it further. These are definitely acts to divert world attention from the problems which exist at present in the world. The proof — and here again I quote the Palestinian people's case — is that criminal savage acts committed every day against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples still remain unpunished. World opinion has turned its back on this completely, despite the adoption of clear and relevant decisions in all international forums, particularly the UN. These acts of genocide are going on every day.

Q: Would you like to add anything?

A: I would like, before concluding, to stress how vital it is for relations between peoples fighting against imperialism and colonialism to be strengthened further, so that they form a united front against domination and exploitation in all their forms. I think the relations between the Malagasys and their Palestinian brothers could in the very near future give an example in this respect.

PALESTINIAN POLITICAL PRISONERS:

STRUGGLE BEHIND IRON BARS

THE CASE OF AIDA SAAD



Aida Saad



Palestinian schoolgirls on the West Bank arrested and interrogated by the Israeli occupiers.

In "Palestine" Vol. 5, No. 9 we published the testimony given to "Palestine" by Hassan Al-Saghir, one of the militants liberated last month from the Zionist jails. Following is the statement made by Aida Saad, another liberated militant. Aida Saad tells of her recollections as a young girl under Zionist occupation, and her experience in Zionist jails.

"The motive behind my joining the military struggle is the picture which I have grown up with and which still sticks in my memory. It is the picture of the Zionist occupation of the Gaza Strip in 1956. I remember how our young men and children were killed and our houses blown up; how the Israeli jets were bombing and shooting, killing many of us; how the Zionist soldiers were rounding us up in schools and streets. I remember how I was running with my mother, both bare-foot and starving, to escape death. This is the picture that was imprinted in my memory as child. It made me ask; why are these people killing us?

"When I became 14, my elder brother was an officer in the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) and another was a soldier. I began to wonder: Why does my brother carry that gun? Whom is he going to shoot? Why does he wear this uniform? My brother answered: 'I don't have the Palestinian identity card. Palestine has been occupied and renamed Israel. Palestine exists no more on the map of the world. I have to restore Palestine and my Palestinian identity.' I, too, felt that I should carry a gun. But I was too young then.

"After the June war of 1967, my brother was pursued by the Israelis. I knew everything: Why did my brother hide his gun? Why didn't he carry it openly as usual? There were many arrests. The other day I heard that he was killed. Why was he killed? I used to wonder. The Israelis used to take a prisoner to re-enact the military operation he had done. Then they shot him dead. They used to say that he tried to run away. But in fact, he didn't. How could he run

away or think to while his hands and legs were chained? I began to realize their cheating and intrigues. They would let him walk and then shoot him in the back. I began to realize their brutality more and more.

"Early in 1968, I joined the ranks of the Palestinian revolution with full awareness of my choice and destiny. It might be because I was so young that the leadership didn't give me a big role in the organization. I understood that my duty was to take food and weapons to the commandos who were pursued by the enemy, and to convey messages from one base to another. My duty remained as such till one day in June 1968. I heard about the death of militant Mazen Abu Ghazali. My blood raged within my veins. On my insistence, the leadership agreed to recruit me as a full militant. I consider that day as my birthday. After I had my training outside the occupied territories, I returned to begin my new task. I knew that the road would be difficult and paved with hardships and sufferings. But I believed that the troubles I was going to undergo would allow a child of my people to smile."

"I WANT TO RESTORE MY IDENTITY"

"On 16 March 1969, I received instructions to go on a splendid mission. In the meantime, I was very emotional. But my love for my people, their pain in the refugee camp, the humiliation of the occupiers erupted in my mind to dominate any other thought and suppress any other consideration.

"At midnight, I headed to my target, the Zionist military warehouse at Sheikh Bilal in Gaza. I was determined that the explosion of my grenade would bring down the Zionist entity imposed on my land and make the whole world hear my lesson. I want to restore my homeland... I want to restore my identity. When I drew near the warehouse, I felt that I was holding my soul in my hands, and every step forward was drawing me nearer to certain death, but the memory of the bombs and shells thrown on us pushed me to hurry into the warehouse. I threw the first grenade... a tank caught fire, I threw the second... another tank caught fire. I was close to the second target so I was struck by some shrapnel. The flames of the burnt tanks turned the darkness of the night into daylight. My wounds made it too difficult for me to withdraw in time and avoid the bullets of the guards. Thus I fell captive, and from that moment the beating and torture started."

INTERROGATION, TORTURE

"The interrogation started before they gave me any first aid, just after I was arrested. They took off all my clothes under the pretext of

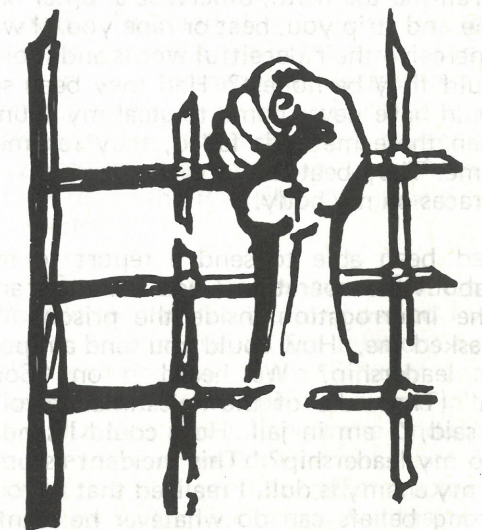
checking me. They pulled me by the hair, spat on me, dragged me on the floor, kicked me, and extinguished cigarettes on my body. They wanted to know 'the other people' who were with me, and from where I had brought the grenades. The next day, the interrogation took the form of a play. They made me sit at a table on which delicious foods were laid. Also there were a knife and a fork. Pressmen were attending and taking photographs. The interrogator introduced me to those present: 'She threw grenades at us, but we offer her a good meal.' However, this performance was for propaganda purposes, nothing more. For, how could I eat while my wounds were not treated? Anyhow, I was prevented from drinking, though the water was in front of me. After this farce of Zionist "generosity", they refused to give me water unless I answered their questions.

"After that I was taken in a car. I thought I was on my way to hospital, but I found my destination to be Gaza Central Prison. I was astonished to find my blind sister, even my classmates, also there.

"Just after my arrival, the interrogation was resumed. I was severely beaten so I would give the names of my fellow commandos. To spare myself some beating, I told a lie that my companion was named Walid. They rounded up everyone they could who was named Walid. I told them my companion is not among them.

"They told me 'your mother has given us the name of so and so. Your brother has told us about so and so', they put me face to face with my brother so that we might confess. But the information given by each of us was contradictory.

"My commando operation was carried out a day before my brother's planned marriage. I said to my brother, 'You sent me to buy your bride



STRUGGLE BEHIND IRON BARS

a bottle of perfume. Excuse me, but I didn't. I went to carry bombs to secure an identity card for your coming baby." At that moment my brother took me to his chest and began crying. His tears rolled down warm on my cheeks. The way the soldiers separated us affirmed my belief that they hadn't any human feelings. I became more confident that my brother would follow the trail I had blazed."

DEPRESSION

"Their questions were centered on my military training: Where? When? Whom? And who were my partners in the operation? They didn't believe that I had carried out the operation alone. There were about ten interrogators. Before I could answer the question of one, the other confused me with his. I had to answer different questions from different people at the same time. This overloaded my mind. Many times they offered me a cup of coffee and another kind of drink, but I refused to accept anything. I feared that there might be some drugs in the drink. I knew that from the experiences of other militants.

"Then came a group of soldiers. They quieted everyone down. My family's house was in the neighbourhood, and they said, 'Now you will hear an explosion. It will be in your house.' They continued, 'If you don't tell the names of your partners, your house will be blown up.' I laughed sarcastically and said: 'I was alone. I have no names to tell. Do what you want.' After some minutes I heard an explosion. In fact, it was our house."

PSYCHOLOGICAL TORTURE

"After that the psychological torture began. Each interrogator had his own method. One of them said, 'I will treat you as your father would. Tell me the truth, otherwise another one will come and strip you, beat or rape you.' I was able to perceive their deceitful words and looks. How could they be honest? Had they been so, they would have never come to steal my country! When these methods failed, they resumed beating me. They beat me in such a way that it left no traces on my body.

"I had been able to send a report to my leaders about the operation I had executed, and about the interrogation inside the prison. My captors asked me, 'How could you send a report to your leadership? We heard it on "Sout al-Assifa" (The radio of the Palestinian revolution). I said, 'I am in jail. How could I send a report to my leadership?' This incident assured me that my enemy is dull. I realized that anyone with strong beliefs can do whatever he wants,

even though he might be in prison.

"A considerable part of the interrogation was centered on my brother. They threatened me, saying, 'When we arrest him, we are going to make him have sex with you.'

"Before the trial, they introduced me to a group of psychologists. There were about 30 of them. I remember there were some oranges on the table before me. I smiled. I imagined what would happen if those oranges turned into grenades. I heard them saying, 'A 16-year-old girl, with a certain beauty, an acceptable financial situation, engaged, and who doesn't need anything! What made her throw herself to death?' My answer was that the motive was my love for my people.

TRIAL

"On 14 April 1969, they put me on trial. It was a play more than a trial. I knew that the sentence had been already determined. The moment I got out of the armoured vehicle to enter the court, I saw dozens of my Palestinian people there. I saw the Palestinian children holding bouquets of roses. The smiles of those children, their staring eyes, made it clear to me that they had understood the meaning of what I had done. My mother's looks at that moment were full of love and pride for what I had done. I felt that the bonds between me and my people had become stronger.

"Then the trial began. The judge charged me on six counts: throwing grenades in a warehouse, blowing up armoured vehicles, being a member of al-Fateh organization, illegal penetration outside the occupied territories and receiving military training, assisting the Palestinian commandos, and organizing secret groups. The trial was concluded, and I received a 20-year sentence. During the trial, I heard a journalist say, 'I want to ask the defendant if she repents what she did.' The judge answered, 'Her eyes show that she doesn't. Her looks are a sufficient response.' I laughed and asked the judge, 'How could you know I am not repentant?' At that moment another journalist asked me the same question. 'Are you sorry or not?' My answer was that, 'Really, I am sorry because I was not able to set off all the grenades that I had.' In fact, I was sorry for that. Disorder prevailed in the court and some soldiers rushed towards me and returned me to prison."

RENEWED TORTURE

"After the trial I thought that there would be no more interrogations. Yet they lasted for seven more months. They would wake me up at about 2 a.m. and take me to be interrogated. They would say, 'Come and see your brother,



Zionist military courts: "a play more than a trial"

we have arrested him.' Then I would be confronted by some young men, most of whom were naked. My captors told me that the young men had confessed about me. I knew that they were using me as a sort of psychological torture for them. For example, they said to one of them: 'If you don't confess we are going to rape her in front of you.'

"One night they woke me up. They confronted me with a fellow, whom I didn't know at first. For ten minutes I was unable to recognize him. My failure to recognize him anguished me. His face was red and covered with blood. They repeated the question, if I knew the man, but I denied it. 'Do you know this man?', but I didn't. So they asked him to introduce himself to me. I was shocked. He was one of my best friends and a member of another organization. I wanted to talk to him to raise his morale and encourage him. But I found it better to keep silent and pretend not to know him. Unfortunately, this made me sorry. They started beating us both.

"On another day they took me to him. They asked me to take off my clothes before him, as casually as if they were asking me to have a candy. I refused. The young man shouted,

'Leave her!' I knew then that they had threatened him. 'If you don't confess you'll be made to have sex with her in front of everyone.' You know, due to our environment, our respect for our customs and traditions, and the respect our men feel towards women, he was ready to tell many lies so as not to do what he had been asked to.

"The investigation came to an end. Once I was visited by a guy carrying a bouquet of flowers. He handed me a letter signed by some notables and mayors in the Gaza Strip calling on me to plea for mercy. I realized that he was an enemy agent. I refused. After that he came with some intelligence men. They started to call me names: criminal, inhuman... etc. After that they took me to the Ramleh prison where I stayed till my release.

"There I met my fellow militant prisoners. I started to plan for the long period I was supposed to stay in prison. The relations between the different prisoners from different organizations were excellent. We spent our time in discussion, mobilization and gaining more understanding of our revolution and other revolutions. Meanwhile we hoped that anti-imperialist revolutions in the world would be victorious eventually.

ISRAELI SETTLERS: SHOCK TROOPS OF ZIONISM



Gush Emunim settlers: vigilante gangs on the West Bank

"Our aim is to maintain Israeli control over these territories. We have to carry on settling there because Israeli control cannot be secured without the existence of a great number of settlers there."

(Interview on Radio Israel with Moshe Arens, Head of the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee in the Knesset, June 3, 1979)

Expansionism always has been one of the major bases on which Israel was founded back in 1948. The Zionist Movement called Jews everywhere to come to Palestine and settle there. But the land belonged to the Arabs, and Jews were then but a minority. The Zionists preferred to acquire the country 'totally cleared' of Arabs, as the late Ben Gurion said. They wanted "land without people." And they would stop at nothing to accomplish this aim.

There had always been 'pioneers' who were ready to take any measure, however cruel or brutal it may be, to force Palestinians to leave their homes and farms for Jewish immigrants to take over. Of course, the Zionists portrayed those pioneers to the world as hard workers who brought civilization to an underdeveloped country and transformed the desert into green fields full of orange trees. What they tried very hard indeed to hide was the real image of these 'pioneers': their brutal practices against the Arab Palestinian people. The 'pioneers' organized themselves into a number of terrorist gangs such as Hagana, Irgun, Stern, etc. and then started their terror campaign. Peaceful Arab villages were raided; old men, women and innocent children were killed and panic spread all over

Palestine. When Begin won the Israeli elections in 1977, the world remembered the Deir Yassin massacre of 1948 when Begin's "Irgun" terrorist group attacked the village and killed its inhabitants after torturing them in a sadistic way. Begin always boasts that if not for Deir Yassin 'operation', Israel would never have been founded.

After the creation of 'Israel', the Israeli authorities continued their attempts to empty Palestine of the Palestinians. They confiscated Arab lands, deported thousands of Palestinians, and even transferred the inhabitants of whole villages to other areas. When in 1967 Israel took over the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, Sinai and Golan, the Zionist authorities used the same old methods to empty the land.

THE 'PEACE' TREATY: GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR SETTLEMENT

Settlement continues all over the occupied land. According to the Camp David accords, the Israeli government proposed to give the Palestinians of the 'administered territories' a Bantustan under the guise of 'self-rule'.

After signing the 'Peace' treaty with Egypt, Israel believes that it now has a golden opportunity to carry on settling in order to change the demographic character of the West Bank and Gaza in its favour during the coming five years. In the West Bank, the Jews are only one per cent of the inhabitants. As Moshe Arens put it, "I am concerned about what will happen after the five years of 'self-rule'. We must succeed in increa-

sing the number of the Jewish inhabitants there till it becomes 10% or 15% and not just one per cent. We must have 700,000 Jews, and not only 7000 three years from now"

As usual, the Zionists stop at nothing to accomplish what they want. Oppression against our people increases; mass arrests are daily news, dozens of houses are demolished, many universities and schools are closed, and aggression against Arabs is escalating.

SETTLERS' AGGRESSION AGAINST PALESTINIANS IN THE OPEN

In addition to official brutal measures and actions taken against Palestinians, many Zionist voices were raised calling for kicking Arabs out of the land which was 'God given' to Israelis, as Prime minister Begin put it once.

On 15 February 1979, the head of the Jewish Defence League, Meir Kahane, and other members of his gang, went around the Jerusalem University's halls under police protection, calling for the expulsion of the Palestinian students. The Palestinian and Israeli progressive students confronted Kahane and his clique. Police units interfered in Kahane's favour, injuring several students. Later, on February 20 at a press conference in Beit Agharon in Jerusalem, Kahane announced the formation of a new movement called "Alil", which is a Hebrew acronym for "Arabs for Arab states and Jews for Israel". He said that the movement's objective is to expel all Arabs to the Arab states. "Our military activities coincide with those of the Israeli Army", he announced.

In late February, while Palestinian protests against the U.S.-Sadat-Israel plot were escalating, Moshe Dayan went so far as to threaten even the Arabs living in 'Israel'. "Remember 1948", he said in a clear reference to the time when Zionist



Ariel Sharon: the "Godfather" of settlement

gangs carried out terrorist attacks against peaceful Arabs to force them to flee to nearby Arab states.

"HAARETZ": "ISRAELI CRIMES AGAINST ARABS INCREASE"

The Israeli paper "Haaretz" admitted in an investigative report published on 20 February 1979, the increase in Israeli crimes against Arabs in the occupied territories. It reported that five youths from the Israeli National Guard in January raided the homes of two Arab citizens of the West Bank, took the two to the sea-shore facing the Hilton Hotel in Tel Aviv, forced them to swim in the cold sea, stoned them and finally beat them with the butts of their rifles.

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

SHARON'S 'GREEN PATROLS' GANGS:

Sharon, Minister of Agriculture, also threatened the Arabs, saying that "Israel will not allow disorder in Nablus or Halhoul, nor in Israel itself." The Ministry of Agriculture has created the so-called "Green Patrols", under the leadership of Aloney Galilee, to "solve" the problem of 35,000 Arabs living in the Negev by transferring them to other areas under the pretext of the need to build military installations in the area, especially after Camp David.

The 'Green Patrols' are given police authorities. They have the authority to demolish 200 houses in the area because they were not built 'legally'. They forbid Negev Arabs to use water pipes in middle Negev, thus depriving them of one of their main resources. They even can confiscate cattles. "They hit me till I lost consciousness, and took my cattle", said Faris Marweh, 60, head of an eleven-member family.

They are not the only ones who attack Arabs. Faris added that ten settlers of Jelixon came in two jeeps and took his cattle by force after hitting him. He complained to the Police. But in the police station they forced him to sign a paper. He found out afterwards that he had sold his cattle without knowing it (He is illiterate).

"SPECIAL MISSIONS"

While Zionist newspapers said on April 1 that 24 new branches of Gush Emunim were created to implement "special missions" in Occupied territories, the Zionist group "Israel Forever" announced that they kidnapped three Arabs and



Building settlements on confiscated Palestinian land



transported them to an area that is still unknown.

PALESTINIANS CONFRONT SETTLERS THROUGHOUT PALESTINE

But although the Israeli authorities and Zionist fanatic groups are combining their efforts to force our people out of their lands, the Palestinians stand firmly in the face of such attempts. Our people announced their support for the PLO, their sole representative, and stressed that Palestine is Arab. They expressed their feelings by demonstrating on every possible occasion, and by defending their homes and holy places.

On March 24, fanatic Zionists tried to enter al-Aqsa Mosque, but Palestinian youths clashed with them using their only weapon, stones. When it became obvious that the Zionists were not able to accomplish their mission, Israeli troops 'interfered'. In April, settlers of Qiryat 'Arba occupied the Dibweyah building under the protection of Israeli troops who brought them food. Many settlers marched in Galilee streets in a provocative manner.

FIRST LOCAL ISRAELI 'SETTLEMENT COUNCIL'

On April 19, the first local Israeli settlement council was established at Alon Moreh settlement, on land belonging to Kfar Qadoun village near Nablus. It includes representatives of seven Gush Emunim settlements. The establishment

was announced during a celebration attended by Yusef Burg, Israeli Interior Minister and the Israeli Military Governor-General of the West Bank. Radio Israel said on June 4 that the council area was expanded to extend from Jordan River to Mehula in the north and the Jerusalem-Jericho road in the South. The settlers' aggression campaign against Arabs was escalating. But also the Palestinian response was getting stronger.

'ISRAELI' ARABS CLASH WITH SETTLERS

More than 200 Israeli settlers assembled on May 2 near Ma'aliya in Upper Galilee. In 1948-occupied Palestine, in an attempt to intimidate the villagers, who were confronting attempts to confiscate more land from this village for the establishment of a new Zionist settlement. The settlers occupied an area 800 of meters belonging to the Tuma, Mualim and Khamis families. The settlers were armed, and their trucks were full of barbed wire and police dogs. As soon as they arrived, they erected a fence of barbed wire. The citizens of Ma'aliya clashed with them and forced them out of the land. A huge number of Arabs from Western Galilee came to help their brothers. Knesset member Meir Taim led the Zionist settlers in their attempt.

SETTLERS GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS TO SHOOT ARABS

On May 9, in a press conference held in Jerusalem, Zionist settlers in the West Bank said that they had received instructions from the

General Command of the Israeli Army to shoot at Palestinians in case the settlers were exposed to 'danger'. They added that they were given the necessary weapons by the Israeli army, which legitimizes their use of these weapons against Palestinian citizens. A settler from al-Khan al-Ahmar settlement explained that they were instructed to shoot at the feet of demonstrators.

They shoot, but not only at the feet. On the anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine, an Israeli settler aimed at Riad Nakhleh, 18 years old Palestinian youth and shot him in the chest. About 100 Palestinian youths were demonstrating in Bir Zeit against Israeli occupation when an Israeli civilian stopped his car and shot the youth.

On May 15, in Bir Zeit also, Neve Tsuf settlers shot at Palestinian youths who were barricading the road and detained two of them. The settlers went so far as to raiding a number of homes in Beir Zeit, attacked the residents and took away their identity cards. As usual the Israeli troops interfered 'to control the deteriorating situation'.

Aggression against Arabs continued: on May 26, a number of Zionist settlers broke into Arab houses in Galilee, attacked their inhabitants and forced them out of the houses under the pretext that these houses once belonged to Jews. The Israeli court is now 'investigating' the 'incident.' But it is obvious that Israeli efforts to appear as a 'fair judge' fool no one.

Our people know that the Zionist Israelis who planned and committed brutal massacres against them, demolished their homes, confiscated their lands, razed villages with bulldozers, carried out mass arrests and exerted every possible psychological, social and economical pressure to force them to leave their homeland, are re-using one of their old methods: waging a war of terror against peaceful Palestinians. Their aim remains: to have the land without people.

But our people shall not give in. They will go on confronting this new wave of aggression standing close together in one firm rank. Their aim is: to defend their homeland and their very existence.



Nablus youth affirm "No to the Occupation, the PLO is our representative!"

ZIONISM IN PRACTICE

CHILDREN AMONG NEW POLITICAL PRISONERS

In Lydda on June 12, a Zionist Military Court gave heavy sentences to six Palestinians charged with affiliation with the PLO and participation in several operations against Zionist targets. The court sentenced Mohammad Sha'aban to 15 years, Abdullah Saleh to 18 years, Violate Sa'ati to 12 years, Shideh Jamid to 8 years, Ahmad Safi and Muhammad Shayyab to 10 years each.

In Ramallah on June 15, an Israeli Military Court sentenced several 14 year old Palestinian youths from Kalandia Camp to prison on charges of affiliation with the PLO. Nasser Ayyad, Abdel Hakam Shehadeh, As'ad Shehadeh and Hassan Moutir were sentenced to four years and 9 months each; Majal Abu Lutifeh, Jamal Nasser and Adel Ya'quob to three years imprisonment each; Nabil Abu Deis to two years' imprisonment, Mahmoud Moutir to seven months, and Jamal Ammar to six months. The Court did not take the age of these youths into consideration.

Also in Nablus, the Israeli Military Court sentenced Hatem Khawaja, fifteen years old, to three years in jail, while in Lydda, the Israeli Military Court sentenced Suad Mustafa Ghoneim from al-Freidis to six months imprisonment on charges of affiliation with Fateh. It also sentenced Nurreddine Al-Ja'abari to twelve years in jail on the same charges.

HEADS OF LOCAL COUNCILS IN OCCUPIED PALESTINE DENOUNCE ISRAELI PRACTICES

On June 20, the secretaries of Regional Committees made up of Arab heads of local councils, and of the Regional Committee for the



Arrests of Palestinians in occupied land increase since Camp David accords.

Defence of the Land, strongly denounced the settlement policy currently being practiced by the Israeli authorities against Palestinians and their land.

The denunciation came in a communique following a joint meeting of the two regional committees in the town of Shafa Amr in Galilee on June 16. The communique said the Israeli authorities were determined to confiscate 715 dunums of Palestinian-owned land in the following villages: al-Jedayde, Kawkab Abu al-Hayja', Yarka and Deir al-Asal, for the establishment of new settlements, and it called on the Israeli authorities to put an end to the policy of land seizures which threatens what is left of Palestinian-owned land, according to the 1976 Koenig report, a policy study by the top Israeli official in the Galilee, which advocates the seizure of all Arab land.

The participants in the meeting also expressed their solidarity with the town of Ma'liya where a popular meeting was held on June 30, in protest against the policy of land seizures. Arab and Jewish delegations also joined the meeting.

1000 STUDENTS ARRESTED IN 6 MONTHS

In an interview with Israeli TV

on June 13, Benyamin Eliazar, the Israeli Military Governor of the occupied West Bank, admitted that the Israeli forces had arrested more than 1000 students in the West Bank over the past six months. He also confirmed his determination to keep Bir Zeit University closed until next year.

The representatives of religious, educational and social institutions in the West Bank urged public opinion to strive for the reopening of all educational institutions closed by order of the Military Governor of the occupied territories. Also, the Mayors of Bethlehem, Beit Jala and Beit Sahour issued a protest communique denouncing Israeli orders to make Bethlehem secondary school students repeat their classes, as well as other repressive measures taken against West Bank educational institutions.

SETTLEMENT CONTINUES

"They will find a way to go ahead. All the time the Israelis are taking our land", Al-Shaka'a told Reuters news agency. He was referring to the Israeli High Court order which, on June 21, temporarily blocked work on the Elon Moreh settlement. On June 18, the Gush Emunim brought bulldozers to level confiscated agricultural land eleven

miles north of Nablus near Quarni Shamron B which was established by the Zionist authorities on June 17 on 300 dunums of agricultural land confiscated from its Palestinian owners. The two settlements were approved by the Israeli Government, sources at the Israeli Agriculture Ministry declared. Each outpost is planned to be an "urban settlement" which will be built to accommodate 10,000 new settlers and thus encircle Nablus.

In related news, "Ma'ariv" reported that actual work will start in the coming few days in "Maali Ado-

nim" settlement in Khan al-Ahmar, East of Jerusalem. Also the so-called "Cooperative Villages Movement" has decided to establish a special cooperative village in the occupied Golan.

Recently, the Israeli authorities confiscated 50 dunums of land in the Ni'lin village near Ramallah in the West Bank to be "used for the establishment of a belt of settlements around Ramallah city", as the coordinator of the Israeli Military Government in the occupied territories put it. Meanwhile, the Israeli authorities have announced

the establishment of a Regional Council for Zionist settlements in the Jerusalem and Bethlehehem areas, named "Etzion" including 7 settlements and, in the future, the city of "Afrat" that will be established in the Bethlehehem area. Also, on June 21, the Israeli newspaper "Al-Hamishmar" reported that the Head of the Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency announced the decision to establish 16 new settlements in the West Bank and Gaza.



Israeli soldiers in Arab Jerusalem

MILITARY OPERATIONS

EXPLOSIVE CHARGE IN HADERA

No. 92/79:

Acting on orders from the General Command of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, a commando unit on June 13, planted a timed explosive charge near a shop in the market place of Hadera, near Tel Aviv.

At 11:20 a.m., a few minutes before the charge was due to explode, it was discovered by an Israeli security guard, who informed the police. Several Israeli policemen, accompanied by an explosives expert, rushed to the scene to evacuate the market and to defuse the charge. However, the charge went off when the explosives expert tried to touch it, killing him and injuring several Israeli policemen who were nearby. The blast also caused material damage to three big shops.

Radio Israel admitted the explosion, but as usual it kept the losses and the arrest campaign which followed it secret.

EXPLOSIVE CHARGE IN JERUSALEM

No. 93/79:

At dawn on Sunday, June 17, a unit operating inside occupied Palestine planted a timed explosive charge inside a bus station for Israeli soldiers at French Hill, in the Jerusalem suburbs.

At 5:45 a.m., the charge was discovered by an Israeli who informed the police. Immediately, patrols rushed to the scene, accompanied by an explosives expert who was forced to blow up the charge on the spot because he was unable to carry it away. Heavy material damages were inflicted on the station and neighbouring shops. The Israeli forces closed the Jerusalem-Ramallah road, erected dozens of checkpoints and arrested several Palestinian citizens on the pretext of their involvement in the operation. The unit returned safely to base.

PALESTINIAN COMMANDOS ATTACK AL-AZAR SETTLEMENT GUARDS

No. 94/79:

The "Martyr Lt. Fouad Aref Abu Rajab" Palestinian commando unit at 5:00 a.m. on June 19 launched an attack on the guards of the al-Azar settlement, located on the main road between Bethlehem and Hebron.

The commandos, who used hand grenades, killed one of the guards and injured several others, perhaps as many as five. The guards' headquarters were also destroyed. Israeli troops immediately erected checkpoints on the main road, checked all Palestinian citizens and arrested dozens of other Palestinians suspected of being involved.

Radio Israel admitted the operation, and as usual did not disclose any casualties or material losses. The commando unit returned safely to base.

COMMANDO OPERATION IN HERZLIYA

No. 95/79:

The "Martyr Abu Hassan Salameh" commando unit on June 20 evaded numerous check-points along the road from Tel Aviv to Herzliya, where the Egyptian-Israeli meetings are taking place, and planted timed explosive charge in the courtyard of the Herzliya Country Club, which is usually frequented by high-ranking Israeli officials and their guests, and which is located along the above mentioned road, north of Tel Aviv. The charge exploded at 11:30 am, causing many casualties, and damaging the club and surrounding buildings.

Following the explosion, which terrified the settlers of Herzliya, Israeli police and security forces rushed to the site and began evacuating the wounded. They also surrounded the club and started a search operation for other charges. Meanwhile, other Israeli forces

intensified their patrols on the road, arresting several Palestinian citizens in the process. The Abu Hassan Salameh unit returned to its base safely.

COMMANDO OPERATION IN JERUSALEM

No. 96/79:

Acting on orders, special commando unit "A" on June 22 placed highly explosive charges inside a vehicle transporting gas belonging to the "Amsra Gas Company" in Jerusalem. The charges went off at 9.10 am, while the vehicle was parked in the Mehna Yehuda market, starting a fire.

As a result of the explosion of the gas bottles, several Israelis standing nearby were injured, and a number of shops and a nearby house were set on fire. The commando unit returned safely to base.

COMMANDO OPERATION IN TEL AVIV

No. 97/79:

As part of a policy of escalating the armed struggle against Israel, on June 24 the martyr Azmi Ibrahim commando unit, operating inside the occupied territories placed timed highly explosive charges of approximately 15 kgs inside the central bus station in the heart of Tel Aviv.

The charges went off on schedule at 9.50 am when the station was packed with hundreds of Israeli troops and dozens of buses of the Egged Bus Company.

The explosion, which was heard all over the city, killed and injured dozens of Israeli soldiers, completely destroyed one bus and damaged several others, as well as the station and a number of shops around the bus station.

The area was immediately encircled by Israeli troops, and dozens of checkpoints were erected on

main roads, while several ambulances were busy transferring the dead and injured; and fire engines put out the fire caused by the explosion.

COMMANDOS PLACE CHARGES IN HEBRON

No. 98/79:

Palestinian commandos from special unit "A", operating inside the occupied territories placed timed explosive charges inside the Israeli Leumi Bank in the center of Hebron, despite heavy Israeli security measures around the building.

At 9.15 am on June 26, the charges were discovered, just before they were due to explode, by frontier guards and Israeli police during one of their search operations in the area. The discovery of the charges created a state of panic among Israeli troops and all those who

happened to be inside the building.

A number of explosive experts were immediately called up to remove the charges, after the police failed to detonate them. Our commandos returned safely to base.

TWO MORE COMMANDO ATTACKS

No. 99/79:

Palestinian commandos, on June 25, placed a timed incendiary explosive charge inside an Israeli bus operating on the Tiberias-Jerusalem road, which usually transports Israeli troops between the two cities.

At 5.00 pm, the charges went off just as the bus was arriving at Khan al-Ahmar, East of Jerusalem. The explosive killed and injured the passengers aboard the bus, and completely destroyed the bus, which caught fire.

Radio Israel admitted the operation in the evening. Our commandos returned safely to base.

No. 100/79:

Despite the extensive security measures imposed by the enemy in the occupied city of Bir Shiba, one of our commando units operating inside the occupied territories on June 26, placed several timed powerful explosive charges near a guard post in the military hospital in the city.

One of the explosives was discovered at around 10.00 am by some workers, and explosives experts were called up and were able to defuse it. A short while later, however, the rest of the explosives went off, killing or injuring a number of Israelis and inflicting serious material losses.



The heroic prisoner: HANAN NAKHLEH ABDEL-MESSIEH (Um-Imad)

- Born in Lydda, 1958.
- Obtained the Certificate of the Institute of Teachers and worked as a teacher in the occupied homeland.
- Hero of Jerusalem Operation-Jaffa Road — on March 23, 1979.
- Detained for trial by the Zionist authorities on charges of being affiliated with Fateh movement and for carrying out military operations against the enemy.
- The Zionist authorities confiscated her family's home.

HANAN, NADIA, AND ITTAF ON THE ROAD OF STRUGGLE



The heroic prisoner: ITAF AHMED ATEF YOUSEF (Lila)

- Born in Aljania Village — Ramallah Region — in 1957.
- Obtained the Diplome of the Institute of Teachers — Arabic section. She worked as a teacher in the occupied Homeland.
- Hero of Mahna-Yahuda Operation in occupied Jerusalem on February 27, 1979.
- Detained for trial by the Zionist authorities. Her family's house was demolished by the Zionist soldiers in June 1979.



The heroic prisoner: NADIA AHMED AL-KHAYYAT (JAN-DARK)

- Born in Nablus, 1958.
- Completed her studies at Ramallah Teachers School and worked as a teacher.
- Carried out Nathania's Operation on January 28, 1979 which inflicted many casualties on the enemy.
- Detained for trial by the Zionist authorities who confiscated her family's home. She was charged with being affiliated with the Fateh Movement and carrying out military operations against the Zionist enemy.

EYEWITNESS REPORT FROM A SWISS PHYSICIAN

A member of a Swiss parliamentary delegation visiting Beirut in late May, Dr. Antoinette Corboz, wrote the following article for the Lausanne newspaper "24 Heures.":

I have observed the daily life of Palestinians in Lebanon, which is full of dramatic situations. I lived the Israeli bombing of South Lebanon. I had talks with Mr. Farouk Kaddoumi and Chairman Yasser Arafat. I could see that although they have existed in very harsh and difficult conditions for thirty years — misery, war and dispersion — the Palestinian people have been able to forge, through the PLO, a real structure and organization. They refuse condescension and charity, and ask simply for the recognition of their rights. On the spot, I hardly expressed myself, only speaking concerning the Palestine Red Crescent, the Palestinian health organization. But this does not mean I do not have an opinion.

Once I returned to Switzerland, I was shocked by the laconic style of the Swiss press. They wrote about the bombing of South Lebanon as if it were simply a military exercise. Swiss opinion vociferously condemns any attacks claimed by the PLO. But how does it react when Israeli forces deliberately bomb Palestinian villages and spread terror and death among Lebanese and Palestinian civilians, women and children, without any military objective?

I condemn this hypocrisy. I have seen, in Damour and then in Tyre and its surroundings, houses, schools and hospitals destroyed by Israeli bombs and artillery. Who in Switzerland speaks of the many killed or wounded, or of the 600,000 homeless Palestinians and Lebanese who have fled South Lebanon?

This destruction is called "retaliation" for Palestinian attacks. In war, everyone knows that the others started. "Everyone," but not the Swiss. The Swiss have decided that the Palestinians are always the provokers. My aim is to take a stand against this bias.

Much is said these days about peace, about the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, and about the Nobel Peace Prize awarded Sadat and Begin. But at the

moment when Begin and Sadat were congratulating each other at Camp David, Israeli bombs were killing children in South Lebanon.

Is it the total annihilation of a people that is desired, as the American settlers did with the Native Americans? This image, dear to Yasser Arafat himself, reflects the situation of the Palestinian people. Israelis took possession of territory as a result of a United Nations decision. But this territory was not a desert on which they made oranges grow. Women, children and men — Moslems, Christians and Jews — lived in this country. They are to be forgotten, to be penned in reservations. Therefore, why call Palestinian attacks "terrorism," while, on the other hand, celebrating French resistance against the Nazi occupation?

I have no desire to preach violence and war, but as long as the Palestinian people are not recognized as such, as well as their legitimate representative, the PLO, the way to war will remain open and will allow such acts of desperation.

Zionists themselves will admit that the foundation of the state of Israel took place only because of the bad conscience of Western governments obsessed by the genocide of the Nazis. Certainly, the Swiss would do everything in order to forget the "J" marked on Jewish passports during the last war. But at what price?

It seems inadmissible to me that four million Palestinians must pay for our guilt for the crimes of Auschwitz and Buchenwald. Therefore, I pose many questions: Why doesn't the Swiss government recognize the PLO? Why is public opinion so badly informed? Why does our 'neutrality' only agree with American and Israeli positions?

In this respect, Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department, answering a question from a television journalist, repeated his hope of meeting Mr. Aubert, head of the Swiss Federal Political Department. He made no comment on the postponement of his visit and the participation of Mr. Dayan in this. I remind you that Mr. Dayan was invited to Bern just before the final round of Camp David. He came a second time without invitation, and publicly declared that he disapproved of the Federal Council decision to receive Mr. Kaddoumi. To thank Dayan for this serious interference in Swiss internal affairs, 40 Federal deputies, guided by the President of the State Council, went on a tour of Israel on the occasion of the anniversary of the creation of the state.

I am not a diplomat, but, as an individual, I ask the question: "Who commands our policy in Bern?"

DANISH JEW UNVEILS ZIONIST PRACTICES

Kim Moller, a 38-year-old Danish Jew, returned to his home town, Arhus, capital of Denmark's largest island Gotland after a stay in Israel. Disappointed by the "promised Land" to which he had intended immigrating and particularly shocked by the mendacity of Zionist propaganda, since his return he has devoted himself to denouncing the methods used in Denmark to encourage Diaspora Jews to immigrate to the Zionist state. The following is a summary of an interview which he gave to the Kuwaiti newspaper "al Qabas" of 11 May 1979.

THE ISRAELI-DANISH "FRIENDSHIP" ORGANISATION

This organisation is the leading Zionist body in Denmark. It includes children under 10 years old, who are methodically indoctrinated with the Zionist movement's ideological principles, above all hatred and contempt for everything Arab. Children emerge with the conviction that Israel is a veritable paradise and that the Israelis are "superior beings".

The Israeli-Danish Friendship Organisation owns large areas of land which have been turned into scouts' training camps, Zionist education centres, in fact. One of these is Kro camp, located in the middle of a forest 50 kilometres from Arhus. On its outskirts there are chalets which are also the organisation's property. They are hired out to Danish people and the rent goes into the funds of the organisation, whose expenses are also covered by its members' dues and private donations. The expenses, in fact, are considerable. For these camps alone, they amount to 500 Danish crowns per person for a single weekend.

The children are subjected to real brainwashing. The Arabs are constantly portrayed to them as bestial, backward and grotesque people, and their way of life as the desert, the camel, coffee, tea and assaults on women. The slightest mis-



demeanour by a "scout" is strongly rebuked as being worthy of an Arab.

The Palestinians, according to them, are nothing but terrorists who want to exterminate the Jews. In order not to let another six million Jews die, the Arabs, who are portrayed as the new Nazis, must be defeated. When asked about the reasons which impel them to give children such an education, the people in charge of Kro camp reply: "We do that because the Arabs themselves teach their children that the Jews are the enemies of God and the dogs of humanity." This is what a member of a Japanese delegation which recently visited this camp declared.

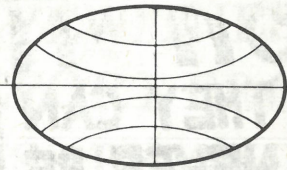
DON'T TRUST ANYONE; ESPECIALLY AN ARAB

"A young Jew's duty is to prepare to fight the Arabs, and the non-Jew who supports this fight is blessed by God" and "Don't trust anyone, especially an Arab" are some of the slogans which are current in the camp, according to the member of the Japanese delegation.

Kim Moller, summarizing his own experience and what he has been able to learn from other people, stresses that he left Israel with the clear impression that the Zionist movement has two faces: the first, which is presented to the Jews to influence them and encourage them to settle on Arab lands, and the second which is presented to non-Jews. The Zionist movement on the one hand fosters fanaticism and racism and on the other hand presents itself as a humanitarian, democratic and liberal movement.

Kim Moller condemns the racism of the Zionist state, which is practised not only against the Arabs, but also against the Oriental Jews. In a message to world public opinion, he has appealed for every effort to be exerted to put an end to the myth of "democratic Israel" and to support the Palestinian people in their struggle for the application of their fundamental rights.

WORLD EVENTS



NICARAGUA: AS FREEDOM DRAWS NEARER, U.S. THREATENS INTERVENTION

The United States government has long been a good friend to Nicaragua dictator Anastasio Somoza. But as the final offensive of the Sandinistas (the FSLN) gained ground in Nicaragua, liberating Leon and engaging in pitched battles with Somoza's National Guard in the capital city of Managua, the United States, fearing victory of popular revolution in Nicaragua, abruptly reversed its support.

U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, addressing an emergency session of the Organization of American States on June 22, voted against the Somoza regime and called for the stationing of a "peace-keeping force" under U.S. supervision. The last such "peace-keeping" force was used in 1965 in the Dominican Republic to back up U.S. Marines, who landed to overthrow the Republic's democratically elected government.

The leadership of the Sandinistas, who have proposed their own five member coalition government drawn from all sectors of the opposition to Somoza, has firmly rejected the U.S. plan and its thinly-disguised U.S. intervention in Nicaragua, and reiterated the Front's determination to continue the armed popular struggle until victory.

The sacrifice of the Nicaraguan people has been great. Somoza's 15,000 member National Guard, have stepped up their bombing of the slums and working class districts in Leon and Managua. The National Guard, armed with American and Israeli weapons, pursues a policy of terror towards the civilian population. On June 21, in fact, they murdered an unarmed T.V. newsman, Bill Stewart from ABC, as he was kneeling in a Managua street. Despite the dictatorship's superior firepower and brutal tactics, the Sandinistas have continued their offensive and observers feel victory is certain in the near future. The Sandinistas and the coalition government have developed a program to bring democ-



Sandinista guerrillas fight for a democratic Nicaragua

cracy and economic justice to the Nicaraguan people. Thus, the people are willing to sacrifice to end the oppression of the Somoza regime and build a new, democratic Nicaragua.

SECRET TALKS HELD BETWEEN SALISBURY PUPPET GOVERNMENT AND SOUTH AFRICA

On June 18, news agencies quoted a government spokesman in Salisbury as saying that bishop Abel Muzorewa, head of the Salisbury puppet regime in Zimbabwe, recently met with the South African apartheid chief Pieter Botha and his foreign minister Roelof Botha.

"Defense" was the major focus of their talks. In a report from Salisbury, the West German news agency DPA stressed in this context that Rhodesia had to fight "against the guerillas of the Patriotic Front."

The Patriotic Front has stated that, during the sham elections in April, an unprecedented number of South African soldiers and other mercenaries joined the terror squads of the Smith regime in forcing the population to the polling stations. Taking advantage of the fact that voters were not registered, the squads forced many people to vote twice, or even more times. Soldiers forced many people into army vehicles and drove them from one polling station to the other, thus collecting their votes as often as possible.

Despite this growing cooperation between apartheid and its puppets, the patriotic forces of Zimbabwe are scoring major victories. Since the beginning of this year, liberation fighters have put out of action at least 1500 soldiers of the racist troops, according to the Tanzanian government paper. Seven fighter planes of the Smith regime were also downed in the same period, and sixteen transport vehicles and armored personnel carriers destroyed. Such successes have helped the Patriotic Front to counter racist offensives aimed at the population of Zimbabwe.

G.D.R. SOLIDARITY WITH ARAB PEOPLES

"All staunch patriots in the Middle East who offer valiant resistance to the conspiracies of imperialism, Zionism and reaction, and fight for lasting and just peace in the region and for national independence and social progress of their peoples may rest assured of the unshakable solidarity of the population of the German Democratic Republic," affirmed a GDR statement released on June 11 on the occasion of a national week of solidarity with the Arab peoples in their anti-imperialist struggle (11 to 18 June).

The statement notes that with the signing of the Israeli-Egyptian separate agreement, imperialism has sharpened the conflict in the Middle East, giving a fresh boost to the regional arms race and thus heightening the danger to world peace. The statement strongly condemns the separate deal between Sadat's regime and Israel which it says will perpetuate Israeli occupation of Arab territories and oppression of the Arab population there, and tramples upon the inalienable right to self-determination of the Arab people of Palestine. The unreserved solidarity and support of G.D.R. people is extended to the Palestinian people under the leadership of their sole authentic representative, the PLO, in their struggle for the implementation of their national rights.

'LONG LIVE PALESTINE!'

A strong counter-demonstration to the "Salute to Israel" parade was held in New York on June 7. It denounced Carter's Mideast Treaty and pressed for the right of the Palestinian people to steer their own destiny on the land that was stolen from them.

The pounding rain did not dissolve the determination of 400 people, more than half of whom were Arab.

SOLIDARITY



Counter-demonstration to "Salute to Israel" parade, New York City, July 7

The Palestine Action Coalition initiated the June 7th demonstration. The Coalition includes the Palestine Solidarity Committee, the Red Crescent Society, the General Union of Palestinian Women, the Palestine Information Project, the Committee for a Democratic Palestine, the Palestine Social Club, the Yemeni Club, Youth Against War & Fascism, the Jewish Socialist Committee and many others.

As the marchers assembled in front of the Exxon Building in Rockefeller Center, a 15-year-old Palestinian youth shinnied 30 feet up a rainslicked streetlamp and pulled out the flag of Palestine.

As police shouted to him that he was under arrest, he pulled off his belt and secured the flag at the very top and then slid down. The boy was roughly arrested by the police and the demonstration faced off a column of police chanting "Let him go, let him go" and "Long Live Palestine!" The youth was released and returned in time for the march.

The PLO representative to the UN, Hassan Abdul Rahman spoke

at a rally before the march. He drew the connections between the struggle of the Palestinians to regain their homes and land and the struggle of the Nicaraguan people for liberation and the fight for freedom being waged in Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Namibia. He stressed that it is Zionism that is the enemy of the Palestinians — not the Jewish people.

The marchers wound through downtown Manhattan, stopped briefly in front of the South African Airways and the Nicaraguan Consulate, and stopped at the World Zionist Headquarters where the demonstration concluded with a message of solidarity from a Jewish anti-Zionist.

TWO AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP DELEGATIONS CONDEMN U.S. MILITARY SUPPORT FOR ISRAELI ATTACKS

On the invitation of the Arab American University Graduates (AAUG) organisation in the U.S., an American delegation of representatives from progressive and peace-orientated organizations, as well as

SOLIDARITY

Black American organizations, visited the PLO from June 12 to 20, 1979. The delegation was headed by Jack O'Dell, an assistant of the late Martin Luther King and a member of the board of directors of PUSH, (People United to Save Humanity) a national Black American organization in the U.S. Beside other PUSH representatives, the delegation included a number of religious leaders from the Baptist Church as well as American writers and television producers. They visited Palestinian social and welfare institutions, including Dar as-Somoud (a school for children from Tal al-Zaatar), Palestine Red Crescent hospitals and clinics and SAMED workshops. They also visited South Lebanon, where they saw the destruction caused by Israeli air raids in Nabatiyeh and a number of other villages, as well as in the refugee camps near Tyre. They protested the use of U.S. weapons against the civilian population there.

The delegation had meetings with Chairman Arafat, Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO's Political Department, and Fateh Central Committee Member Abu Iyad. They expressed their solidarity with the Palestinian people and condemned U.S. support for Israel, especially the massive supply of U.S. weapons that are now employed in the war of "scorched earth" Israel is waging against Lebanon and the Palestinians. They pledged that they would continue in the U.S. to rally support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people.

RAMALLAH FEDERATION IN THE U.S.A.

A delegation of the Ramallah Palestine Federation of the U.S., including the President of the Federation, Mr. George Houry, visited the PLO in Lebanon at the end of June.

The Ramallah Federation has approximately 20 chapters and includes 10,000 members, mostly Palestinians living in the U.S. The de-



Arafat meets with American delegation

legation included members of the board of directors of the Federation. They visited various institutions of the PLO in Lebanon, including SAMED workshops, schools and hospitals of the Palestine Red Crescent Society. In South Lebanon, they visited Palestinian refugee camps and witnessed the barbaric Israeli air, sea and land attacks.

In meetings with Chairman Arafat and Farouk Kaddoumi they expressed solidarity with the struggle of the PLO and had extensive discussions on how to mobilize the Palestinian American community in the U.S. They received a special message from Chairman Arafat to greet the Ramallah Federation's annual convention to be held on July 5, 1979 in California.

A JAPANESE-PALESTINIAN FRIENDSHIP GUILD

A parliamentary guild from Japanese political parties was for-

med to promote Japanese-Palestinian friendship during a recent meeting in Tokyo which was attended by more than 100 Japanese deputies and 16 Arab ambassadors. The guild elected Mr. Tokoma Atastomya as President. He spoke at the meeting about the importance of the Palestinian cause and the necessity of restoring to the Arabs their legitimate rights as a prerequisite for a solution to the Middle East crisis. He stressed the need to give the Palestinian people their right of self-determination and the establishment of their own independent state on their own homeland for a permanent and durable peace in the area. He reiterated that no solution could be achieved without these conditions being met.

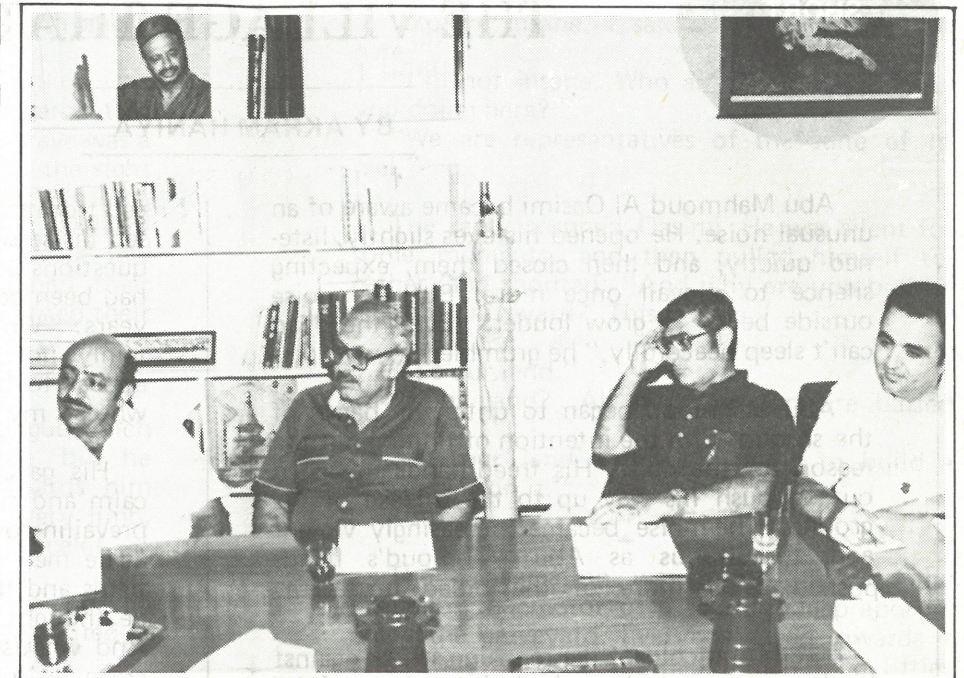
The President also suggested to the organizing council that invitations be sent to the Chairman of the PLO, Yasser Arafat, and to Farouk Kaddoumi to visit Japan. The council authorized the presi-

dent to follow up the invitation process.

PALESTINE ACTION IN AUSTRALIA

A group supporting the aims of the Palestine Liberation Organisation has been formed in Perth, Australia. Robert Birch one of the conveners of "Palestine Action," a campaign for human rights for the Palestinians, said on May 10 that members would lobby Members of Parliament, possibly organize demonstrations and try to give the public what he said was the "other side of the Middle East question." The Group said that the Federal Government of Australia should recognize Palestine and establish a Palestine Liberation Organization office in Australia. It also expressed concern at the attempts in the local media and worldwide, by Zionists and their sympathisers, to distort and suppress the truth about Palestine.

The group's aim is to reveal to the world public opinion the racist



Members of the Ramallah Federation in the U.S. visit PLO

nature of Zionism, embodied in Israel's "Law of Return" under which no one who is not Jewish has the right to settle in Palestine, even if he was born there and his family had lived there for centuries, whereas anyone has the right to settle in Palestine, irrespective of anything else, provided only that he is Jewish. The group made it clear that Israeli expansionism was the real obstacle to peace in the Middle East.

In a declaration, "Palestine Action" exposed the falseness of the U.S.-Begin-Sadat "peace" treaty. This "peace", it said, allowed for

the continued violation of all human rights in the occupied territories by Israel, the torture of thousands of Palestinian political prisoners despite world-wide outcry, the expansion of Israeli settlements, the denial of any meaningful self-determination for the Palestinian people, and Israel's continued support for fascist forces in Lebanon. This "peace" could never hold, since it excluded the Palestinian people and their sole representative, the PLO, and it was basically an attempt on the part of the U.S. to divide the Arab world and impose its economic and political will on the entire region.

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THE VILLAGE THAT MORNING

BY AKRAM HANIYA

Abu Mahmoud Al Qasimi became aware of an unusual noise. He opened his eyes slightly, listened quietly, and then closed them, expecting silence to prevail once more. But the noise outside began to grow louder. "Even the dead can't sleep peacefully," he grumbled.

Abu Mahmoud began to untie the bands of the shroud, with the intention of finding out the reason for the noise. His freed hands stretched out to push his way up to the surface of the ground. The noise became increasingly violent and tumultuous as Abu Mahmoud's hands pushed aside more of the piled up earth.

The biting cold of the morning struck against his face as soon as he poked his head out of the grave. He found himself covering his eyes with his hands as they encountered bright sunlight, to which they had been unaccustomed since Qasimi had died twenty years earlier.

After a few moments he was able to look around him. He looked towards the east, and saw the houses of his village lying peacefully on the hillside. Memories poured over him in successive waves, and he whispered nostalgically, "This is Abu Adnan the Mayor's house, and this is Shaikh Abu Sufyan's house in front of the mosque. But... Where's my house?" The increasing loudness of the noise snatched him from his reverie. He looked in the other direction and saw a massive bulldozer spreading its great iron jaw over the graveyard, sweeping away the simple tombstones and the bones of the dead on its way.

Astonishment overcame Abu Mahmoud. He opened his mouth intending to cry out, but the voice which had not uttered anything for 20 years came out faintly so nobody heard it. "What's going on? How can you violate the sanctity of graveyards?" He looked searchingly into the face of the driver of the bulldozer and gazed at a round white face topped by fair hair, a man in his thirties dressed in shorts and a shirt whose top buttons were undone. The man was carrying out his work on the bulldozer calmly, his lips holding a cigarette which he followed with another one when it went out.

Abu Mahmoud's whole body had now emer-

ged from the grave. But astonishment has paralysed his senses and tied his tongue. A clamour of questions began to echo through his head which had been completely at rest throughout the past years: "What has happened? This man is certainly not from our village, and his features appear to be Jewish. What has happened? And where's my house?"

His gaze reverted to the village. There was calm and silence like the silence of a graveyard prevailing over the haphazardly scattered houses. "The men should now be on their way to the fields and the children on their way to school," he thought. "What has brought this man here? And what's he doing with his bulldozer in the graveyard of our village? How can he violate the sanctity of the dead?"

A wave of strange, deep sorrow overcame Abu Mahmoud, but he had determined to do something. He began wrapping the cloth of the white shroud around his body and under his armpits and started walking towards the driver of the bulldozer to ask him what was happening. He found a difficulty in moving his legs, which has become used to a horizontal position for twenty years in the grave, when he began to step slowly towards the man, who was continuing his work a few metres away from Abu Mahmoud without seeing him.

A few moments later a storm of dust appeared, rising from the road which ran parallel to the village and led to the graveyard. It revealed a convoy of military and civilian vehicles which parked near the bulldozer. Abu Mahmoud stopped walking then and hid behind one of the tombstones to wait and see what would happen.

They all alighted from their vehicles. Their features were strange. "They're not people from our village," Abu Mahmoud whispered. They stood beside the bulldozer. He did not know any of them, but they were all there: the men from the military government, the border guards, Keren Kayemet (The Israeli Lands Department — the ed.) officials, Jewish Emunim men, journalists and others.

The situation was too difficult for Abu Mahmoud to understand and too heavy for him

to bear. "It's my village," he said, "my grave, the graves of my relatives and ancestors. I must know what's going on." He came out from behind the tombstone and headed with angry steps towards the group.

The first person to notice the movement of the man who had emerged from the grave was a soldier who started shouting loudly at the sight of a man bearing the smell, colour and clothing of death. Everyone turned towards the advancing man. Astonishment prevailed for a few moments, then some of them regained their composure and the frontier guards pointed their machine guns at the man and the voice of one of them rang out: "Halt!"

Abu Mahmoud realised that the tongue which spoke the order was a foreign one, but he stopped. The soldiers advanced towards him cautiously, their eyes fixed on his every limb, and formed a circle round him like a bracelet.

A military man who appeared to be the senior one in rank came forward and shouted at Abu Mahmoud: "Who are you?"

"And who are you?" Abu Mahmoud replied calmly.

"I'll ask the questions and you'll answer."

"I'm Abdullah Khalil Al Qasimi."

"From where?"

"From this village."

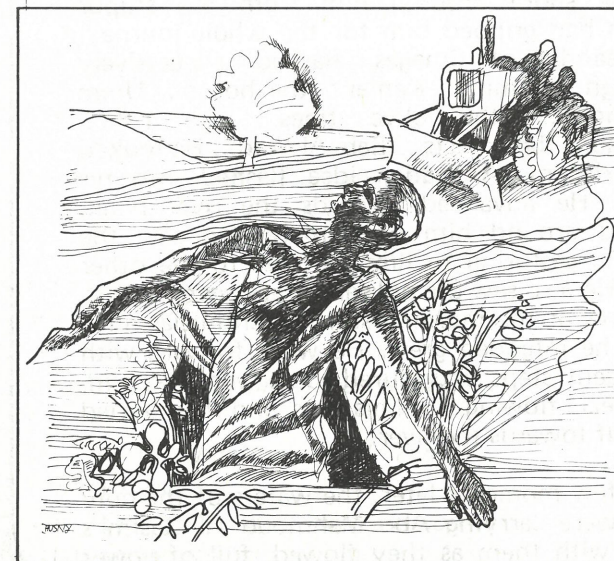
"Where's your identity card?"

"My identity card? What identity card?"

"What are you doing here?"

"I was dead in my grave, and the noise of the bulldozer woke me."

A murmuring arose and glances of fear and astonishment hovered between the people stan-



ding there, until the soldier resumed his questioning of Abu Mahmoud.

"You're insane. I said, what are you doing here?"

"I'm not insane. Who are you and what are you doing here?"

"We are representatives of the state of Israel."

The reply stunned Qasimi. He was silent for some moments, and then pulled himself together, and shouted: "And why are you bulldozing the graveyard? This is a sin."

"It's our land."

"Your land? All my ancestors are buried here."

"It's our land and we're going to build a settlement on it."

"But..."

The conversation was interrupted by the sound of the motor of a military Jeep approaching the graveyard. Everyone gazed towards it attentively. When it stopped, a man in his fifties dressed in military uniform alighted. He was the military governor of the area.

The newcomer sensed something strange in the atmosphere. He searched for the answer in people's eyes, and was shocked to see the man wrapped in death shrouds standing among the gathering with anger blazing from his eyes. The governor exchanged a brief conversation with the man who had been questioning Abu Mahmoud and obtained a full summary of everything that had happened. A faint smile appeared on his lips, then his face took on a serious expression and he went up to Abu Mahmoud and asked him, "Were you born in this village?"

"Yes."

"When did you die?"

Abu Mahmoud needed time to answer. "Five or six years after the exodus."

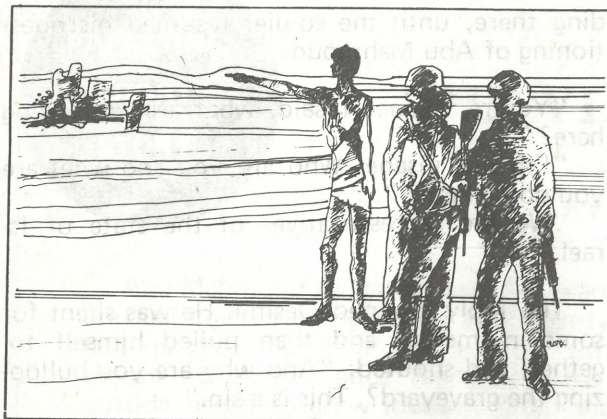
"Where were you in the year of the exodus?" the governor asked him.

"I was here in my village."

"Didn't you leave it in those days?"

Abu Mahmoud hesitated, and then replied hastily, "No."

The governor paused a while, before uttering the words slowly and calculatedly: "Didn't you defend your country and your people?"



Abu Mahmoud's body shuddered. The question provoked him and he did not sense the trap.

"Of course," he blurted out vehemently, "I fought the English and the Jews. I had a rifle which I had inherited from my father. I fought at Yaabad and Bab Al Wad and was famous for my courage."

The words rushed out like bullets from Abu Mahmoud's mouth. Things had become clear to him now, and the flood of old memories poured over him, mingled with nostalgia and bitterness, but everything stopped when the governor, sensing that he had found a rare treasure, shouted out: "Ha! So you're an old saboteur."

"Saboteur?"
"Shut up. Where's the rifle? Where have you buried it?"

"It's old. My father got it from the Turks when he fought in Yemen."

"Where did you hide it?"
"It's... It's buried beside the olive tree in front of my house."

"Where's your house?"
"My house? Ah... It was next to the mosque, but... it's disappeared. What have you done with it?"

A man who had been standing at the back of the group came forward, whispered some words in the governor's ear and then turned towards Abu Mahmoud and asked him, "What's your full name?"

"I told you. Abdullah Khalil Al Qasimi."
"Have you got a son called Kamal?"

Abu Mahmoud's heart leaped in anxiety, his body shook. "Yes," he shouted. "He's my young-

gest son, and my favourite child. What's happened to him?"

The man raised his voice. "We've blown up the house. Kamal's a saboteur."

"My house!" Abu Mahmoud shouted. "What's happened to Kamal?"
"He's in prison."

The words stunned Abu Mahmoud. He shouted loudly and advanced towards the governor, shaking his fists, to which emotion and anger had restored a vitality they had lost for twenty years, but the soldiers seized him and pulled him back.

The usual silence prevailed over the graveyard except for Abu Mahmoud's groans. "If we imprison him, it'll create a problem," the military governor thought. "How can we imprison a man who's come out of the grave. And the bulldozers will remove the graveyard, so we can't put him back there. What are we to do with him?"

One of the governor's aides came up to him, sensing his perplexity, and whispered in his ear, "We'll deport him to Jordan."

Four men hastily led Abu Mahmoud off and, despite his protests and shouts, threw him into the back of a jeep which drove off eastwards at high speed.

On the bank of the river of tribulation, the vehicle stopped. The soldiers took Abu Mahmoud with them until they came near a ford where it was easy to cross to the other side of the river.

"Cross to the other bank," the soldiers shouted at Abu Mahmoud.

The shout aroused him from the stupor which had gripped him for the whole journey. Thousands of images flashed successively through his mind: Kamal... the house... Umm Mahmoud... the olive trees... the rifle... Yaabad... the forests... Bab Al Wad... He looked around him. A sudden idea flashed into his mind. He advanced towards the river bank, looked around him once more and saw the soldiers gesturing to him to cross to the other side. He also saw the hills and trees covered with the rays of the morning sun. His enthusiasm for what he intended grew. He went forward with confident steps, murmured some words to himself, tears flowing from his eyes, and then hurled himself towards the river.

A few moments later, the waters of the holy river were carrying Abu Mahmoud Al Qasimi's body with them as they flowed, full of power and life, to pour into the Dead Sea.

KAMAL NASSER'S LAST POEM

Beloved, if perchance word of my death reaches you

As, alone, you fondle my only child,

Eagerly awaiting my return,
Shed no tears in sorrow for me

For in my homeland

Life is degradation and wounds

And in my ears the call of danger rings.

Beloved, if word of my death reaches you

And the mourners cry out:

The loyal one has departed, his visage gone forever,

And fragrance has died within the bosom of the flower

Shed no tears... smile on life

And tell my only one, my loved one,

The dark recesses of your father's being

Have been touched by visions of his people.

Splintered thoughts bestowed his path

As he witnessed the wounds of oppression.

In revolt, he set himself a goal

He became a martyr, sublimated his being, even changed his prayers

Deepened their features and improvised,

And in the long struggle, his blood flowed

His lofty vision unfolded, shaking even destiny

If news reaches you, and friends come to you,

Their eyes filled with cautious concern, Smile at them in kindness for

The following is a new translation of Kamal Nasser's last poem. It will appear in a new anthology of Palestinian poetry, *The Palestinian Wedding*, translated by Dr. Abdelwahab Elmesseri and illustrated by Kamal Boullatta.



my death will bring life to all;
My spring has spilled into autumn... but spring remains.

My people's dreams are my shrine
At which I pray, for which I live.

The ecstasy of creation warms my being, shouting of joy,

Filling me with love, as day follows day,

Enveloping my struggling soul and body.

Immortalized am I in the hearts of friends

I live only in others' thoughts and memories.

Beloved, if word reaches you and you fear for me

Should you shudder and your cheeks grow pale

As pale as the face of the moon,

Allow it not to look upon you, nor feast on the beauty of your gaze

For I am jealous of the light of the moon.

Tell my only one, for I love him,

That I have tasted the joy of giving and my heart relishes the wounds of sacrifice.

There is nothing left for him

Save the sighs from my song... Save the remnants of my lute

Lying piled and scattered in our house.

Tell my only one, if he ever visits my grave and yearns for the memory,

Tell him that one day I shall return - to pick the fruits.

Translation ©
by Abdelwahab Elmesseri



« رسوم أطفال فلسطين »
 « فداي » - رسم الهام شحرور - ١٢ سنة - بيت أطفال الصمود
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