



# Palestine

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## VICTIM OF ISRAELI TERRORISM



NABLUS MAYOR  
BASSAM SHAKA'A



## 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 MAYOR OF NABLUS

The Israeli military junta is presently insisting upon the expulsion of the mayor of Nablus from his town and from his homeland. The case of Bassam Shaka'a is not a new one inside the occupied territories, and it is also not a new crime committed against the Palestinian people. Israel's policy in Palestine has not changed and its hostile attitude towards the Palestinian Arab population has been well known for decades.

Even before the creation of Israel, the Zionist gangs of Begin's Irgun Zvai Leumi committed the massacre of Deir Yassin, north of Jerusalem, where more than 250 Palestinians civilians were cold-bloodedly killed. And after the creation of Israel as a state in Palestine, the Israelis expelled more than a million Palestinians from their houses and land. An Israeli slogan said at that time: "We want Palestine so Jewish as Britain is British and America is American".

After the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza in 1967, the Israelis expelled thousands of Palestinians and deported hundreds of Palestinian patriots. Even mayors were expelled from their constituencies as the mayor of El Bireh, Abdel Jawad Saleh. Every Palestinian patriot who opposes occupation, even by political means, is not wanted by the military authorities of Israel. The Israelis want the Palestinian people in the occupied territories to accept and bless Zionist occupation, atrocities and torture. They want the Palestinians to accept confiscation of their land and slavery, and every impolite slave has to be punished.

Israeli mentality is old-fashioned and well-suited to the medieval ages. It is even more than

that; it is a dangerous mentality and not only for the Middle East. It is also dangerous for the whole world. The Zionist clique in Israel behaves as if they are alone in the world. They behave in a fascist manner even worse than Hitler's behaviour vis-à-vis the European Jews and other European minorities. The Israeli clique believes that Palestinian Arabs are minor creatures, and consequently don't suffer or have feelings of love and hatred.

The Israelis believe that Palestinians have no right to resist their occupation and inhuman practices. Blinded by arrogance, the Israelis even neglect world public opinion and carry on with their policy despite international condemnation. That is why they are becoming more and more isolated. If they don't respect world public opinion, why should the world continue supporting their occupation and expansion?

On the other hand, the Palestinians are gaining more and more international sympathy. The just cause of the Palestinians is becoming more and more convincing because of its clear human elements. The increased world sympathy encourages the Palestinians to step up their political and armed resistance against Zionist occupation.

The Shaka'a case is but a link in a chain of oppressive Israeli practices against the Palestinian population inside and outside the occupied territories. Such practices will increase hatred and lessen the chances for a just and durable peace in the Middle East. Mayor Shaka'a is only one victim of Israeli Zionist terrorism. He will surely not be the last victim.

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## PALESTINE NOTES

### ARAFAT RECEIVES CABLE FROM KHOMEINI

Chairman Yasser Arafat on November 6 received a cable from Imam Ayatollah Khomeini in response to the cable of congratulations sent to Imam Khomeini on the occasion of the al-Adha Feast. Imam Khomeini congratulated Chairman Arafat on the Feast, and expressed his hopes of victory for the Palestinian people. Chairman Arafat also received a cable from Sheikh Mustapha Ruknma, head of the Iranian Association for cooperation with Palestine. Rahnma affirmed the Iranian people's support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their national rights.

### SUPPORT FROM BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT; G.U.P.S. BRANCH IN BANGLADESH

Chairman Yasser Arafat on November 6, received a cable of support from the Founding Conference of the General Union of Palestinian Students — Bangladesh branch. The members of the conference pledged to Arafat to continue their struggle against imperialist, reactionary and Zionist forces, and affirmed that they are a militant organization under the command of the Palestinian Revolution.

Chairman Yasser Arafat on November 7, also received a cable of congratulations from the Government of Bangladesh on the occasion of the Adha Feast (Islamic "Feast of the Sacrifice"). The cable expressed the great confidence of the people and Government of Bangladesh in the inevitable victory of the Palestinian people under the PLO's leadership.

### KADDOUMI RECEIVES DUTCH DELEGATION

Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department, on No-

vember 6 received a delegation of the Defence Committee of the Netherlands Senate. The delegation was headed by Dr. B. de Gaay Fortman, who was accompanied by J.G. Gooden, J.G. Nagel, Y.P.W. van der Weff as well as the information officer of the Dutch Army. The meeting was attended by Brigadier Abu al-Walid, Chief of the Central Operations Room of the Joint Forces. The meeting focused on developments in the Palestinian sphere and on bilateral relations between the PLO and the Joint Forces and the Dutch contingent of UNIFIL in South Lebanon.

### ARAFAT MEETS SOUTH YEMENI OFFICIAL

Chairman Yasser Arafat on November 7, met with the Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Saleh Musleh. The meeting ranged over several current issues and, in particular, the Palestine cause, South Lebanon and cooperation between the PLO and the PDRY.

### PALESTINIAN WORKERS CONGRATULATE SOVIET WORKERS

The General Secretariat of the

General Union of Palestinian Workers on November 8, sent a congratulatory message to the Central Council of the Trade Unions in the USSR on the occasion of the 62nd anniversary of the October Revolution. The message affirmed the solidarity of the Palestinian workers with the workers in the Soviet Union on this occasion, and expressed their appreciation for the achievements of the Soviet people which set a fine example for other peoples in their struggle against oppression, underdevelopment and imperialism.

### MESSAGE TO SEYCHELLES PRESIDENT

Chairman Yasser Arafat on November 8, sent a message to President Albert René of the Seychelles, centered on the latest developments in the Middle East and on the struggle of the Palestinian people to restore their national rights. In his message, Chairman Arafat expressed gratitude for the Seychelles' support for the Palestine cause, particularly at the UN, the Non-Aligned Conference and in the Organization of African Unity. It is to be noted that a delegation from the Front of the Seychelles' People participated in the Lisbon Conference.



Farouk Kaddoumi meeting with Dutch delegation



Chairman Arafat receives delegation of Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee

### ARAFAT RECEIVES KOREAN DEPUTY PREMIER

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the Forces of the Palestinian Revolution, on November 9, received the Deputy Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, who handed him a message from Korean President Kim Il Sung. The meeting was attended by Abu Jihad, member of the Fateh Central Committee and of the General Command of the Assifa Forces. It dealt with the current situation in the region and Korean-Palestinian relations.

### ABU MAZEN MEETS U.A.E. FOREIGN MINISTER

Fateh Central Committee member Abu Mazen, visiting the United Arab Emirate, on November 11, met with the Foreign Minister of the U.A.E., Ahmad Khalifah al-Suweidi. The meeting centered on bilateral relations between the PLO and the U.A.E., and the developments of the current situation in the Arab region.

### AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY DELEGATION

On November 11, Chairman Yas-

ser Arafat received a delegation of the Permanent Secretariat of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee and discussed with them the latest developments of the situation in the Arab region.

### AL-FAHOUM VISITS PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Palestinian National Congress President Khaled al-Fahoum, while visiting the People's Republic of China, met on November 11 with the Vice President of the Chinese Presidium, to whom he transmitted Yasser Arafat's greetings to the Chinese leadership. He also briefed him on the developments of the Palestine cause at all levels. The Chinese official affirmed China's stand in support of the just struggle of the Palestinian people led by the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, to restore Palestinian national rights. He also denounced the Israeli aggressions against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples in South Lebanon.

Khaled al-Fahoum arrived in Peking on November 10, and was accompanied by Muhammad Zuhdi al-Nashashibi, General Secretary of the PLO Executive Committee.

### CHAIRMAN ARAFAT VISITS IRAQ AND SAUDI ARABIA

A PLO delegation led by Chairman Arafat on November 17, arrived in the Iraqi capital Baghdad. The delegation was received at the airport by Na'im Haddad, member of the National Command of the Arab Socialist Baath Party. Upon his arrival in Baghdad, Arafat said he would consult with the Iraqi President and other officials before the holding of the Arab Summit Conference in Tunis.

On November 18, Chairman Arafat arrived in Saudi Arabia to meet with the Saudi Monarch King Khaled Ben Abdel Aziz in Riyadh. The meeting was attended by Prince Sultan Ben Abdel Aziz, the Saudi Defence Minister, and Prince Saud al-Faisal, the Saudi Foreign Minister, and dealt with all issues concerning the Palestinian, Arab and international situations, particularly the topics on the agenda of the forthcoming Arab Summit Meeting. The meeting was described as positive and fruitful.



## TENTH ARAB SUMMIT HELD IN TUNIS



Chairman Arafat heading PLO delegation at Summit

In compliance with the eighth resolution of the ninth Arab Summit Conference held from Nov. 2-5, 1978 in Baghdad, and in response to an invitation extended by President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia, the Tenth Arab Summit Conference convened in Tunis from Nov. 20-22.

This summit was preceded by an Arab Foreign Ministers' preliminary meeting starting on November 13. Resolutions taken by the Arab Foreign Ministers' Conference drew comments from Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department, who led the Palestinian delegation to Tunis. Farouk Kaddoumi called for the implementation of the Baghdad Summit resolutions and demanded that the Tunis Summit meeting be a step forward for the support of the Lebanese people and South Lebanon.

On 19 November, Chairman Arafat arrived in the Tunisian capital to participate in the Summit Conference. He held extensive talks with Arab Heads of State, including Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba, who reiterated his firm support for the Palestinian cause under the leadership of the PLO. On November 16, Chairman Arafat had already discussed the South Lebanese

issue in Beirut with Lebanese Premier Selim Hoss. On November 22, Chairman Arafat also met with an Iranian delegation to the Tenth Arab Summit Conference and discussed with them the latest developments of the current situation.

### SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS

At the conclusion of its meetings on Nov. 22, the Tenth Arab Summit released a communique which was read by the Arab League Secretary-General Al-Shadhli al-Klibi. The communique reiterated that the Arab Summit had met in order to consolidate Arab solidarity and safeguard Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as to support the Palestinian firm stand against Israel.

The Arab Heads of State discussed the situation in South Lebanon, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the strategy for Arab joint action in the next stage of this conflict. They reaffirmed that the Palestinian problem is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict and that a just peace rests on regaining the legitimate Palestinian national rights and the liberation of Arab and Palestinian occupied territories. They also denounced the Camp David agreements and the Israeli Egyptian peace treaty, and reaffirmed that any real settlement must be comprehensive and based on the liberation of all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and the restoration of Palestinian national rights, especially the right to return to their country and establish their independent state.

The Arab Heads of State reaffirmed their support for the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people; and saluted the Palestinian people's steadfastness in the occupied territories and their resistance to the Israeli policies of Judaisation and deportation; and called for the intensification of the struggle against Zionism.

The summit, moreover, expressed its appreciation of the roles played by Syria, Jordan and the PLO, and their confrontation to all forms of



Tunisian President Bourguiba:  
reiterated firm support for Palestinian cause

aggression; and reaffirmed the necessity to support these Confrontation States and forces on all levels. The Conference expressed its appreciation of the positive results realised by the implementation of the resolutions of the Ninth Arab Summit; the Tenth Conference of Islamic Foreign Ministers; the Sixteenth African Summit, and the Sixth Non-Aligned Summit.

The Conference pointed with satisfaction to Israel's isolation on the international arena and to the rising consciousness of the justice of the Palestinian cause; and warned against attempts by some states to restore their relations with Israel or recognise Jerusalem as the Israeli capital, and declared that the Arab states will implement the required measures to protect Arab rights.

The Conference affirmed the necessity to introduce technology in order to face the dangers threatening the Arab Nation; and called for cooperation with all Non-Aligned States and with Western Europe, in order to develop the stands of the European group, and for the continuation of cooperation with the Socialist states.

The Conference decided to form ministerial delegations to visit countries all over the world to clarify the basis for a just peace as decided at the Baghdad Summit. The Conference then denounced the U.S. role in the Camp David agreements and the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, and stressed that the continuation of this policy will negatively affect Arab-U.S. relations and interests.

The Conference also expressed its denunciation of the U.S. schemes and affirmed the solidarity of all the peoples in the area in confronting these schemes which threaten world peace.

The Conference denounced the Israeli aggression against South Lebanon, which it described as intervention in Lebanese internal affairs. It affirmed Lebanon's right to sovereignty over all its territory, and stressed the necessity to implement the resolutions of the Riyadh, Cairo and Beiteddine Conferences. The Conference finally expressed support for PLO-Lebanese joint efforts to coordinate stands and cooperate in solving all pending problems; and decided to support the Lebanese people's steadfastness in south Lebanon and to pay special attention to the situation in south Lebanon and support the Lebanese Government on all levels to force Israel to stop its aggression against Lebanon.

In conclusion the Summit thanked the Tunisian authorities for the efforts they had exerted in convening this conference.



A warm welcome for the PLO delegation





*Chairman Arafat conferring with Foreign Minister Gromyko*

#### IMPORTANT PALESTINIAN-SOVIET COMMUNIQUE:

## CHAIRMAN ARAFAT'S VISIT TO MOSCOW

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, headed a top level Palestinian delegation to Moscow between 12-14 November. The Palestinian delegation included PLO Executive Committee members Abdel Muhsin Abu Maizar, Yasser Abed Rabbo, Abdel Rahim Ahmad, Talal Naji, Muhammad Zuhdi al-Nashashibi and Habib Qahwaji; as well as 'Isam al-Qadi, Secretary-General of the Saiga Organization, and Taysir Quba'a, member of the PFLP Politburo. The delegation met with Andrei Gromyko, Foreign Minister and member of the Politburo of the Soviet Communist Party, and Boris Ponomarev, Candidate Member of the Politburo, and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party. During the talks, which were

conducted in the Kremlin in an atmosphere of friendship and understanding, there took place discussions and an exchange of points of view on the situation in the Middle East, and the requirements of the struggle for a just settlement of the Palestine question in the framework of a just and comprehensive solution in the area.

At the end of the constructive talks a joint communique was issued affirming the Soviet Union's close ties with the Palestinian people. The communique stated that:

"The two parties are firmly convinced that it is important in the present circumstances for all the patriotic forces in the Arab world to join together and strengthen their unity in the

struggle against the plots of imperialism and Zionism, and for the establishment of a just peace in the Middle East.

"The two sides confirmed their condemnation of the Camp David accords and of the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty which was signed, with the encouragement of the USA and its active participation, which they considered to constitute collusion against the Arabs. They pointed to the fact that Israel continues its expansionist policy against the Palestinian people and the neighboring Arab peoples, under the pretext of these accords and the treaty, while the imperialist circles which stand behind the treaty are enlarging their military and political presence in the Middle East.

"The two sides strongly condemned the current negotiations between Israel, Egypt and the USA on the so-called 'autonomy' for the Palestinians and considered this as an overt attempt to prevent the achievement of Palestinian national rights, and to perpetuate the Israeli occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories, including the annexation of Jerusalem. They also condemned the policies of repression, racial discrimination, violation of historic Arab cultural traditions, exile and deportation, the oppression of the Arab people in the occupied territories and establishment of Israeli settlements, and other illegal practices.

"The two sides were in agreement in their opinion that the capitulationist policy of the Egyptian regime and the separate treaty with Israel create major obstacles in the path of achieving a just peace in the Middle East, and inflict serious damage to the cause of the national independence of the Arab and African peoples, and in the first place, to the just struggle of the Arab Palestinian people for liberation and restoration of their inalienable national rights. The two sides categorically reject the path of separate deals and oppose any attempt to involve the UN, in any manner, in matters concerning the implementation of these deals.

"The Soviet side highly appreciated the principled position of the PLO as regards the Middle East problem, and its contributions to reinforcing the unity of the Arab struggle against capitulation and separate deals. Chairman Arafat expressed, in the name of the Palestinian people and the PLO Executive Committee, his deep appreciation to the party, government and people of the Soviet Union, and other members of the Socialist bloc, for their decisive stand and support for the struggle of the Palestinian people and their just cause. He affirmed that the PLO will utilize all means to reinforce friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other Socialist countries, for it considers that this is

one of the important and decisive factors in reaching a solution to the Palestine question, and for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

"The two parties expressed their determination to intensify their efforts in the struggle for the establishment of a just and permanent peace in the Middle East on the basis of complete and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all the Palestinian and Arab lands occupied in 1967 and the realization of the inalienable national rights of the Arab Palestinian people, including the right to return to their lands in accordance with the U.N. resolutions to that effect, and the right of self-determination and the establishment of their own independent state. The parties are convinced that only the abandonment of the policy of separate deals is capable of opening up a road for such a just and permanent solution, on the basis of the joint efforts of all parties concerned, including the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Arab Palestinian people.

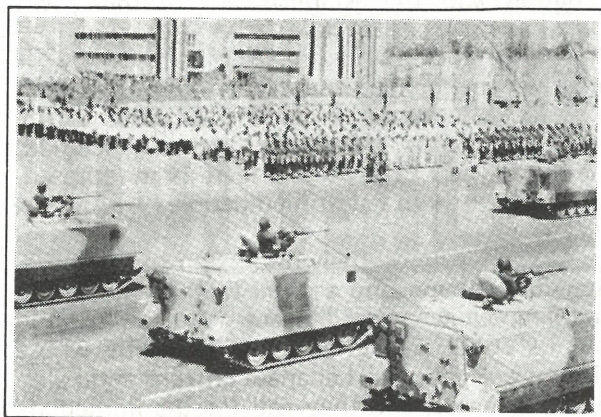
"As a result of their discussion of the situation in Lebanon and around it, the two parties condemned the Israeli aggression on Lebanon and its continuing attacks on the south, whose victims are peaceful Lebanese citizens and Palestinian refugees, and they call for the immediate halt of the Israeli aggressive actions against Lebanon, and condemn its interference in the internal issues of this country and the Israeli attempt to partition the Lebanese state. The two parties stressed their efforts to help restore the situation in Lebanon to its natural state, on the basis of guaranteeing its sovereignty, independence, and the unity of its territories. The two parties called for the reinforcement of the legitimate authority of the Lebanese government on all the Lebanese land while preserving the legitimate interests of the Palestinian Resistance movement in Lebanon.

"The two parties confirmed their agreement to pursue their contacts and exchange points of view, and to coordinate their moves in an organized way on all levels and regarding all issues of common interest, in the first place the situation in the Middle East. The two parties expressed their high estimation of the results and decisions of the sixth Summit Conference of Non-Aligned States held in Havana concerning the Middle East and the Palestinian issue. The two parties pointed to the extreme significance of the International Conference for Solidarity with the Arab People and its Central Issue, Palestine, which was held in Lisbon and the positive decisions of this Conference. The two parties expressed their satisfaction and appreciation of the increased international recognition of the PLO, and the necessity of enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable national rights."



# CAMP DAVID DEADLOCK:

## NO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST



U.S.-Egyptian military collaboration for "peace":  
American M 113s on October 6 parade in Cairo

### EGYPT AND THE USA JOIN IN ARMAMENTS PROJECT

A protocol on cooperation in armaments production was signed by representatives of the defense ministries of Egypt and the USA in Cairo on November 21. According to the Egyptian daily "al-Ahram," the protocol, among other things, provides for joint production of armoured personnel carriers and electronic devices as well as the production of various optical instruments in Egypt.

### KHOMEINI TO EGYPTIANS: 'OVERTHROW SADAT'

Iran's revolutionary leader Ayatollah Khomeini on November 19 called on the Egyptian people to "rise up to overthrow Sadat, just as we did with the Shah." The Ayatollah added, "Sadat states he is a Moslem and we are not. He is not, for he makes compromises with the enemies of Islam. Sadat has united with our enemies. He knows well what is occurring in south Lebanon and with the Palestinians. He knows the crimes of Israel. Yet he still considers Ben a friend and himself a Moslem."

### ARAB NEWS AGENCIES TO BOYCOTT MENA

The 8th Conference of the General Assembly of the Union of Arab News Agencies decided on November 8 to cancel all agreements made between the members of the Union and the official Egyptian Middle East News Agency (MENA). The Conference, which held its two-day meeting in the Kuwaiti capital, also decided to close down the offices of the Middle East News Agency in all the Arab capitals, in implementation of the Arab League's recommendations issued last March in Baghdad during the Conference of Arab Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Finance. The Conference also decided to hold a seminar on the means to confront Zionist propaganda; and to hold a seminar for Arab and Latin-American News Agencies next January. The Conference moreover decided that the Arab News Agencies should join the meeting of the Non-Aligned News Agencies to be held later this month.

### GDR LEADER WARNS: DANGERS FOR PEACE

The firm solidarity of the German Democratic Republic with the Arab peoples standing up for an end to the Israeli policy of aggression and for a just, durable solution in the Middle East has been reiterated by GDR party and state leader Erich Honecker. Honecker addressed a meeting of workers in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen on November 16. The GDR President emphatically warned against the dangers to peace which the policy of imperialism was harbouring in many parts of the world. He declared: "the same imperialist forces that want to draw Europe back to cold war are preparing so-called intervention forces for deployment in the Middle East, the Arab peninsula and other regions of the globe. Along with this they are extending their system of bases and are trying to patch together more military blocs. They are the same forces that tread under foot the most

elementary rights of the peoples of Palestine, Lebanon and southern Africa.

The policy of separate agreements has further aggravated the situation in the Middle East, the GDR statesman added. That policy was favouring the aggressor and encouraging new acts of terror against the population in the occupied territories and in Lebanon.

### WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES CALLS FOR PALESTINIAN STATE

The World Council of Churches in a statement issued on November 15 pointed out that the absence of the Palestinian self-determination and statehood is the main problem in the Middle East. The W.C.C. in a declaration called for

### U.S. TROOPS THREATEN AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

The United States has been pushing ahead the setting up of rapid deployment forces. As emerges from the November 1 issue of "U.S. News and World Report", the U.S. Navy maintains a permanent Middle East fleet, covering the Persian Gulf and a vast region from Africa's eastern coast to India's western coast and to Mauritius in the South. It was only recently reinforced by another two naval vessels to a total of five. Special aircraft carrier units are also regularly ordered to the Indian Ocean area. Coming from the Pacific, another special unit of seven naval vessels entered the Indian Ocean region in mid-October.

The setting up of a 110,000 strong intervention force is simultaneously being pushed ahead, say western press reports. According to Pentagon plans this invasion army, which is to be employed mainly in the Middle East and in the north western Pacific and is to be taken to its destinations by airlift operations, includes two divisions and one brigade equipped with heavy tanks, artillery and sophisticated missile systems.

The notorious "Green Berets", comprising at present 10,000 men, are to form the core of the invasion troops, according to reports from Washington. Because of the cruelties they committed against women, children and old people during the U.S. aggression against Vietnam the "Green Berets" were called performers of the especially dirty side of the war. One of their units is stationed in the Federal Republic of Germany. Their commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Robert A. Costa, said in an interview, that his men were prepared to go into action all

Churches "to promote the idea that the PLO be admitted as full partner into any deliberations dealing with the future of Palestine and the Palestinians."

### EGYPT'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS SOARING, ARAB BOYCOTT EFFECTIVE

The London "Economist" reported October 6, that the boycott imposed by Arab states against Egypt for capitulating to U.S. imperialism and Zionism is having a significant effect. The "Economist" stated: "At government-to-government level the boycott is solid. Mr. Sadat has not the money to pay for the military equipment he wants: the £700m three-year arms package promised by the United States after the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty

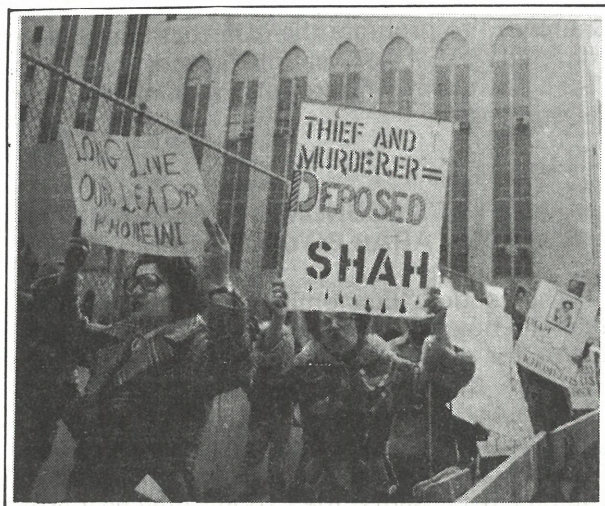
over the world. "Our commandos are able to fulfil special missions" such as "sabotage behind the enemy's positions. But we are also prepared for subversion stopping short of open war."

In the framework of the U.S. global strategy, for the purposes of which some 3,000 military bases have been set up around the world for use against the Socialist states and the national liberation movements, special attention is being paid to being flexible for interventions in other countries. The formation of a U.S. 5th fleet in the Indian Ocean must be seen in this light.

Diego Garcia has on a long-term basis been extended and modernised to be the new U.S. fleet's base. It was officially said that this cost the U.S. 173 million dollars. On the new runways eight-engined B-52 bombers can take off and land and a forest of aials suggests a large radio-electronic station capable of monitoring all ship movements in the Indian Ocean. At the harbour warships from frigates to aircraft carriers can anchor.

The U.S. has obtained the right to use the former British base in Bahrein and the island of Masirah on the Arabian coast. American press reports revealed that the Pentagon has drafted plans, in connexion with the Camp David deals, to set up U.S. bases in the area. In collaboration with the South African racists, military plants at the strategically important Cape of Good Hope have been equipped with highly-sophisticated military installations made in the NATO countries. The South African military espionage network, whose radio-electronic stations cover wide marine and continental areas, is directly connected with the staffs of the NATO pact and with the Pentagon by means of a secret code.





nowhere near fills the gap left by the withdrawal of Saudi arms aid of around £1 billion a year.

"Given the disgruntled mood in Cairo, the government has steered clear of any overt attempt of subsidy reform (of basic commodities). Rising prices have swollen the subsidy budget out of recognition. Originally set at £670m for the current year, it is now expected to be £1,100m—1,200m. This is about twice as much as the net revenues of oil and the Suez canal." The Economist added: "Negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on reactivating an extended credit facility worth £360m are deadlocked.... Egypt can probably get by for six months to a year. Beyond then Egyptian officials put their faith in the United States."

Putting "faith in the United States" is exactly the cause of Sadat's political and economic isolation in the Arab world. The U.S. continues to ignore, as it has done historically, the major national question in the Middle East, that of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination under the leadership of the PLO and the right to their own sovereign state. Aside from this, the U.S. dominated IMF had already made a further shambles of the Egyptian economy even before the Arab boycott. IMF measures imposed on Egypt in 1977, such as devaluation of the currency and ending of subsidies for food, caused massive riots and protests. In 1978, Egypt's trade deficit was over 4 billion dollars and it will be much higher in 1979 despite post-treaty measures by the U.S. to shore up the Sadat regime. Most IMF guaranteed credits are eaten up paying past foreign debts and come with very exacting terms: reducing bank financing of government deficits, raising interest rates on local bank loans, loosening foreign exchange regulations, devaluation, lifting price controls and subsidies. All these measures ensure an "open door" to Egypt for U.S. multinationals and ensure perpetual poverty for the suffering Egyptian masses.

## HANDS OFF IRAN

On November 15, the leadership of the PLO issued the following statement on the ongoing imperialist threats and provocations against revolutionary Iran:

"The Pentagon recently ordered a number of U.S. vessels to carry out maneuvers together with British vessels and Australian planes, near Iranian territorial waters. The Pentagon gave another indication that it is flexing its muscles by announcing the preparation of special forces to head towards this region.

"The Palestinian Revolution cannot stand idle before these critical military moves by the USA and some of its allies, for the Revolution considers such actions to be directed against it, in view of the strategic ties existing between the Iranian and Palestinian Revolutions. On this basis, the Palestinian Revolution, which stands in the same trench with the Iranian Revolution, against imperialism, Zionism and colonialism and on the side of all oppressed people on earth, announces its firm stand with the Iranian masses in confronting the conspiracies being concocted by US imperialism.

"Carter's decision to freeze the assets of the heroic Iranian people and his call on European states to boycott Iranian oil is but another dangerous escalation by the US Administration, with the aim of striking at the Iranian Revolution with all possible means, despite the illegality and illegitimacy of these means. For Iranian deposits in US banks are the property of the Iranian people which no one has the right to freeze or tamper with.

"Therefore, such provocative and dangerous measures, which coincide with Bani Sadr's announcement that the Iranian Revolution is ready to release some of the innocent hostages, reveal the ugly face of US imperialism's military moves and threats. The Palestinian Revolution, which is in constant contact with the Iranian leadership, places all its forces at the disposal of the heroic Iranian people and their Revolution, led by Ayatollah Khomeini."

### U.S.-ISRAELI MOVES TOWARDS WAR

In an interview with the Algerian newspaper

"Al-Sha'ab", Chairman Arafat pointed out the political background of the U.S. threats against Iran:

**Question:** How do you view this Iranian-U.S. confrontation?

Chairman Arafat: "First, we did not and will not mediate between the Iranian Revolution and the U.S. concerning the American hostages in Teheran. The Palestinian Revolution and the Iranian Revolution are both in the same trench. But we made contacts at the very beginning with our Iranian brothers because Iran is a friend of the Palestinian Revolution. On this basis, we dispatched Brig. Sa'ad Sayel to examine the situation.

"The ensuing developments, which began with the U.S. disruption of Iranian oil imports, the freezing of Iranian assets in U.S. banks, and the U.S., British and Australian naval show of force all lead us to believe that these powers are seeking to draw Iran into a war. These U.S. moves are all dangerous signs and we are expecting some Israeli moves. Our forces are all on alert and ready to assist the Iranian Revolution or confront any Israeli move in South Lebanon. War is very likely to erupt in the area and both the U.S.A. and its Israeli ally will be responsible for any stupid move committed by either party".

United States commandos disguised as oil company workers have arrived at the Saudi Arabian airbase of Dhahran, the Soviet news agency Tass reported on November 23. The men, members of "special helicopter-borne forces" were flown in aboard "several United States air force transports" Tass said, adding

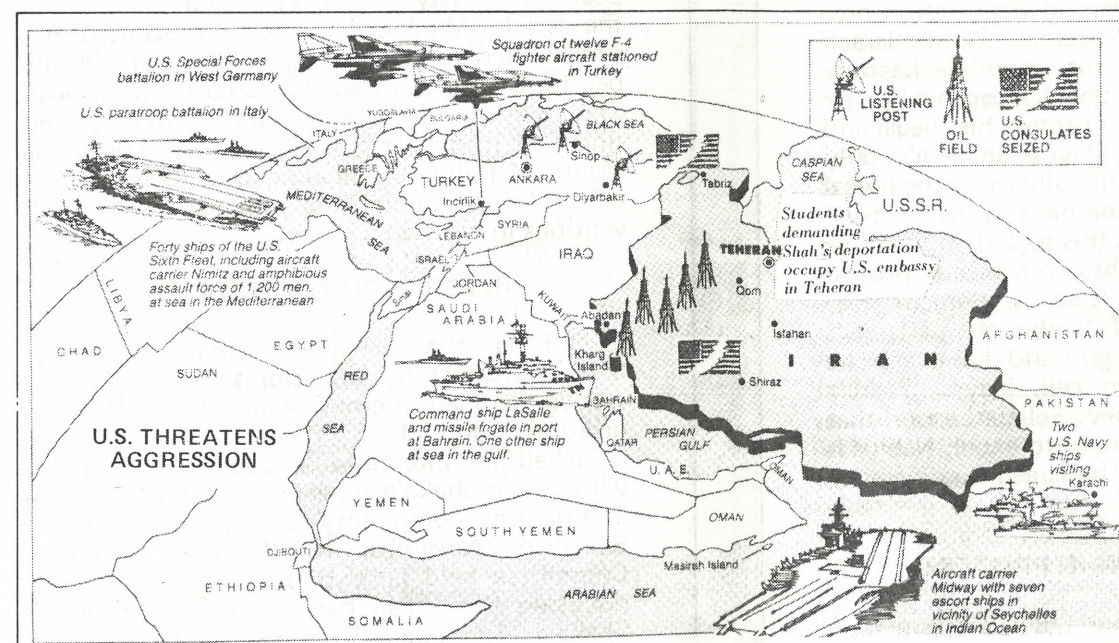
that they were wearing civilian clothes and their presence at the base was "carefully concealed."

At Ponta Delgada, in the Azores, refueling airplanes of the U.S. Air Force were expected within hours at the Portuguese air base in the Azores. They could take part in a military operation related to the holding of American hostages in Tehran, the sources said.

An American spokesman in Tel Aviv confirmed that the U.S. ambassador and military attaché met with Israeli Defense Minister Ezer Weizman 24 hours after he said he had ideas for military moves to save the U.S. hostages in Iran. Gen. Weizman talked with Ambassador Samuel Lewis and Military Attaché Colonel Bruce Williams at the request of the ambassador, the spokesman said. Military columnists of Israeli newspapers have said several times that Israel offered the only potential logistical base for the United States close to Iran.

### STRIKE U.S. IMPERIALISM

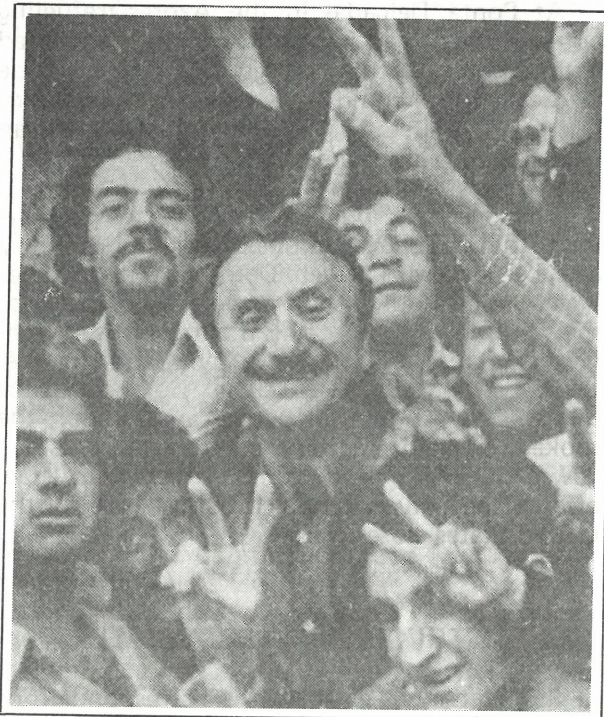
In a statement given to the correspondent of the Palestinian News Agency "Wafa" in Iran on November 6, Ayatollah Khomeini called on all struggling peoples to support the Palestinian people and their national rights by striking at all U.S.-imperialist and Zionist interests as part of the just and legitimate struggle against these colonial powers. The Imam added that the people of Iran, who everyday prove their complete support of the struggle of the Palestinian people, will continue their strikes against American imperialism, to force it to change its aggressive policy against the Palestinian people and their just cause.



Was the Shah admitted to the U.S. in order to provide an Iranian pretext for U.S. intervention?



## OCCUPATION DIARY



Mayor Shaka'a surrounded by people of Nablus, one day before his arrest

### FREEDOM FOR BASSAM SHAKA'A!

As "Palestine" goes to press, Nablus Mayor Bassam Shaka'a is still being held by Zionist authorities in Ramleh Prison. Mayor Shaka'a is awaiting Zionist maneuvers in deportation proceedings. On Thursday, November 22, the Israeli Supreme Court delayed the appellate hearing. On November 17, Mayor Shaka'a began a hunger strike in his prison cell to protest his illegal and arbitrary incarceration. Mayor Shaka'a's only "crime" has been to continually resist the illegal occupation and defend the national interests of the Palestinian people. In this regard, in his three years as mayor, he has organized protest demonstrations, resisted Israeli settlement policy, and kept the city of Nablus out of Israel's water system, electricity grid and dial telephone system. From his prison cell, Mayor Shaka'a stated through his attorney, Felicia Langer, that Israel "has no legitimate right to expel. Nablus is my land. I should stay. The Israeli occupiers are the ones who should go."

#### MAYORS RESIGN IN PROTEST

Within days of Bassam Shaka'a's arrest on

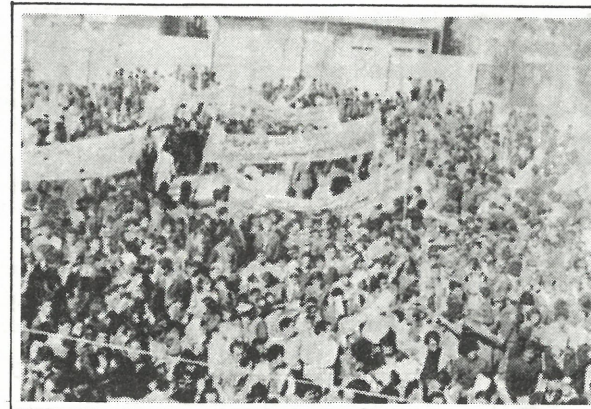
November 11, all 23 elected Palestinian mayors in the West Bank resigned in protest. In the Gaza Strip, mayors and members of village councils insisted on their collective resignation despite rejection of the resignation by the Israeli military governor. The resigned mayors, municipal officials and the general Palestinian population have seen the Shaka'a deportation move as part of an accelerated Israeli drive to implement the sham Camp David "autonomy" plan. In their resignation statement issued at a mass rally at the Nablus town hall on November 15, the mayors declared that the PLO was their sole legal representative. They added that the West Bank and Gaza Palestinians would continue to strive for a Palestinian state and would reject the mild brand of "autonomy" offered by the Israelis.

In a letter to UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim urging UN action on behalf of Mayor Shaka'a, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat detailed other Israeli maneuvers aimed at removing patriotic Palestinian leaders in the West Bank:

"The Israeli occupation authorities have decided to deport Nablus Mayor Bassam al-Shaka'a. They also intend to deport the Mayors of Ramallah and al-Bireh, Karim Khalaf and Ibrahim Tawil, and have paved the way for this step by trying them both on a trumped up charge, i.e. preventing a policeman from performing his duties. The trial of the two mayors is due to take place on November 22, 1979. "A similar charge was made against the Beit Jala Mayor, Bishara Daoud on June 1978; after which he and three members of the Beit Jala Municipal Council were dismissed from their posts. The lawyer Youssef Marrar, member of the Jericho Municipal Council was accused of a similar charge (attacking a policeman) in November 1978, and was also dismissed from his post. The military authorities in the occupied Palestinian territories are also threatening to bring the Mayor of Halhoul, Muhammad Melhem, to trial on charges of committing administrative conventions in his municipality.

#### INTERNATIONAL OUTCRY

Outside the occupied territories, Mayor Shaka'a's arrest by the Zionist military police was condemned internationally. PLO mass organizations and PLO foreign representatives launched an international solidarity campaign with Mayor Shaka'a appealing to the UN and the international community to secure his release. In Beirut on November 10, the PLO Executive Committee held an extraordinary meeting and discussed the Israeli decision to deport Mayor Shaka'a. The Executive Committee considered



Demonstration in Damascus in solidarity with Shaka'a

this arbitrary decision as a dangerous step in the framework of the aggressive plan adopted by the Begin government, which aims to strike at the Palestinian nationalist forces inside the occupied territories. In a press statement issued after the meeting, the Executive Committee stated: "We hail the courageous stand of Bassam Shaka'a, the solidarity of the mayors and members of the municipal councils and the masses' support for him. The PLO Executive Committee hereby resolves to take action on all levels, and to appeal to all international organizations and human rights groups to take a firm stand against this crime which is a flagrant violation of human rights and of the resolutions of the Helsinki Conference."

There were mass demonstrations in Arab capitals in support of Mayor Shaka'a. Thousands of Palestinians and Syrians demonstrated outside a refugee camp near Damascus on November 17. The demonstration was addressed by PLO official spokesman Abdel-Mohsen Abu Maizar who declared: "The decision to deport Shaka'a demonstrates the deadlocked talks between the parties to the Camp David agreements and exposes the fake peace propagated by American imperialism." In Beirut there were two popular protest demonstrations. One took place on November 15 in Sabra and Shatila refugee camps organized by Palestinian students. On November 18, a major mass rally condemning Mayor Shaka'a's arrest and the Camp David maneuvers, was held at Arab University. The rally was addressed by Abu Saleh, member of the Fateh Central Committee; Dr. George Habash, Secretary General of the PFLP; Nayef Hawatmeh, Secretary General of the DFLP; and Muhsin Ibrahim, Executive General Secretary of the Central Political Council of the Lebanese National Movement.

Mounting international pressure on Israel to release Mayor Shaka'a reached a climax on November 16 when every country represented in the UN voted in the General Assembly on a resolution calling on Israeli authorities to with-

draw their order for the deportation. Israel's vote was the only one cast against the resolution.

#### ZIONIST INTRANSIGENCE

As evidenced by the UN General Assembly vote, the Begin government arrogantly disregards all international standards or conventions in its drive toward further expansion in the occupied territories and attempts at suppression of the national aspirations of the Palestinian people. Bassam Shaka'a is being held without any charge being cited against him under a law adopted by the Israeli military authorities from the former occupiers of Palestine — the British. Under the British Regulation 112 of the Defense (Emergency) Regulations of 1945, the mandatory occupiers deigned that "The High Commissioner shall have power to make an order, under his hand (hereinafter in these regulations referred to as 'a Deportation Order') for the deportation of any person from Palestine. A person in respect of whom a Deportation Order has been made shall remain out of Palestine so long as the Order remains in force."

The Zionist occupiers adopted in total the British Defense (Emergency) Regulations and in regard to Regulation 112 changed the authorizing agent of the "High Commissioner" to that of the Israeli Minister of Defense — in the case of Mayor Shaka'a, Ezer Weizman has the supposed authority to enforce deportation. The Defense (Emergency) Regulations have been used by the Zionists ever since 1948 to expel, dispossess and attempt to liquidate the Palestinian people. Regulation 112 has been specifically used since 1967 to deport over 1,560 Palestinian political, union, religious and intellectual leaders in the occupied territories. Even under the British use of the regulations, Palestinians had the right to return after the order expired. Under the Zionists, the regulations are used to permanently alienate the Palestinian people from their national soil.

The Zionist deportation proceedings against Bassam Shaka'a also violate Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention to which Israel is a signatory: "Individual or mass forcible transfers, as well as deportations of protected persons from occupied territory to the territory of the Occupying Power or to that of any other country, occupied or not, are prohibited, regardless of their motive." It is a pathetic historical irony that Article 49 was specifically drafted after World War II to prevent in the future the kind of deportation used by the Nazis to exterminate Jews and resistance fighters in concentration camps. Through forced massive expulsion in 1948 and the continuing deportation of Palestinians in the occupied territories, the Zionists ape former Nazi practices in trying to liquidate the national identity of the Palestinian

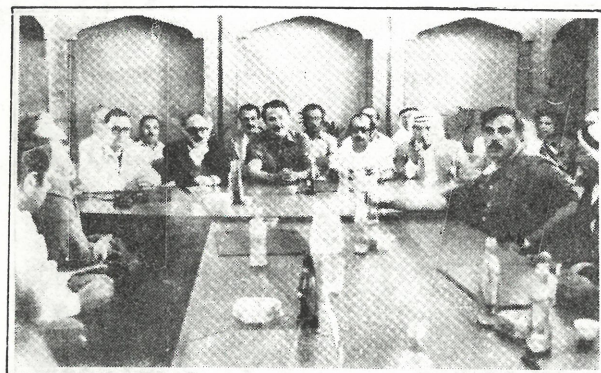


people. With the steadfastness of the Palestinian Resistance inside and outside the occupied territories and the growing international condemnation of Zionist practices, the callous Zionist maneuvers against Palestinian national sovereignty are doomed to total failure.

### MASSIVE PROTEST IN OCCUPIED PALESTINE

On November 17, West Bank and Gaza mayors staged a one-day hunger strike in solidarity with Mayor Shaka'a. Israeli troops tried to prevent the mayors from meeting at the Red Cross headquarters in Gaza, but seven West Bank mayors took over the Red Cross headquarters in Ramallah.

Most towns and businesses in the West Bank and Gaza continue to be closed down in a general strike. In Arab Jerusalem, Zionist authorities violently forced shopkeepers to remain open by threatening to seal off their shops indefinitely if they joined the protest strike. After Mayor Shaka'a's arrest Palestinian women in Nablus seized the town hall in a sit-in demonstration and unfurled banners reading: "We shall say no to the Israeli occupation, yes to Palestine." All schools and universities in the West Bank have closed down in protest. There have been militant demonstrations throughout the week following Mayor Shaka'a's arrest in



*Shaka'a chairing meeting of West Bank mayors*

Nablus, Jerusalem, Ramallah, Bethlehem and Jenin.

When Mayor Shaka'a began his hunger strike on November 17, he was joined by the other Palestinian prisoners in Ramleh prison. The hunger strike has spread to Nablus Prison and is expected to be observed in all Israeli prisons in which Palestinians are detained. Israeli police and army units positioned in these prisons have been put on maximum alert.

On November 14, Israeli settlers joined with security forces in besieging the Jalazoun refugee camp. Zionist settlers, armed with guns, stopped cars passing by the camp and compelled their Palestinian occupants to remove barricades erected by protesters. In Ramallah, other groups of settlers vandalized property, shops and cars belonging to Palestinian citizens while Israeli military forces imposed a curfew on the city.

### ARABS AND JEWS JOIN PROTEST AGAINST SETTLEMENTS

In protest against the Israeli government's decision to delay the evacuation of the Elon Moreh settlement, and against the arrest and threatened deportation of Nablus Mayor Bassam Shaka'a, 200 Jewish and Palestinian students at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem seized one of the university buildings on November 19, 1979, and demanded the immediate release of Shaka'a. The protest of the students, whose organization is called "Campus", comes at the time when many schools and shops in the occupied territories continue a strike which began a week earlier to protest the arrest of Mayor Shaka'a.

### FURTHER INTIMIDATION OF MAYORS

An Israeli Tribunal in Jerusalem on November 11 continued its hearing of the testimony by witnesses in the case brought by the Israeli authorities against Karim Khalaf and Suleiman al-Tawil, Mayors of Ramallah and al-Bireh respectively, on charges of "assaulting an Israeli policeman" last November during the Israeli Supreme Court hearings on seizures of land. The tribunal decided to hold two sessions on December 11 and 20 to hear more witnesses' testimony. The court heard the testimony of Linda Levi, a correspondent for the American ABC television network who had attended the Supreme Court hearings in November 1978. Levi said

that Khalaf and Tawil did not do anything unlawful; and that she had seen six policemen encircling Khalaf. The Israeli authorities, by trying Khalaf and Tawil, aim to dismiss them from their posts as mayors, because of their rejection of the Camp David accords and the administrative autonomy plan.

### TERROR SENTENCES AGAINST POPULAR RESISTANCE

Among other cases, the Israeli military court in Lydd on November 12th, sentenced the Palestinian citizen Ribhi Mustafa Rashid al-Sharabati, 60, to nine years in jail on charges of affiliation to the Palestinian Revolution and resisting the Israeli occupation. The same

court sentenced his son to several prison terms, adding up to 100 years. It also sentenced the Palestinian citizen Ala' al-Din al-Bazyen to five years imprisonment on charges of involvement in actions of armed resistance against "Israeli security."

In related news, an Israeli military court in Gaza began the trial of Nayef Jaber Moussa, who is already serving a 19 year prison term which began in 1976. The Israeli authorities charged him with attacking a military vehicle near the Palestinian camp in Gaza, and with affiliation to the Palestinian Revolution.

### MEMORANDUM CALLS FOR A HALT TO TORTURE OF PALESTINIANS

The Jerusalem Committee for the Defence of Palestinian Prisoners sent a memorandum on November 8 to a number of international bodies urging them to intervene on behalf of Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails where they are kept in miserable conditions, receiving no medical attention and frequently subjected to physical torture. In its memorandum to UN Secretary-General Dr. Kurt Waldheim, the committee said that the Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails are subjected to all kinds of torture, leading to permanent disfigurement and even death, and that this goes on with the knowledge of the UN Human Rights Commission, the IRC and other international institutions. The memorandum added that on the occasion of the publication by the Palestinian militant Fayeze Badr Youssef al-Ghourani, recently deported from the occupied territories, of the names of citizens inside Israeli jails who are suffering from chronic diseases, the committee called on the UN Secretary-General, the Human Rights Commission, the IRC and all Islamic and Arab states and all humanitarian institutions to work hard to rescue the Palestinian detainees.

### PROTESTS AGAINST LAND CONFISCATION

The mayors of the villages of Yaabod, Zabda, Bartaa, Nazletzeit, and Yamoun, during a meeting held on November 6 in Yaabod, denoun-



*Palestinian family  
thrown out of their  
house*

### COLLECTIVE PUNISHMENT, HOUSE BRICKED UP

The Israeli daily newspaper "Ma'ariv" reported on November 11 that the Israeli supreme court refused a Palestinian citizen's appeal against the sealing off of one room in her home in the village of Abween in the Ramallah area. The owner of the house is the mother of the detained citizen, Juma'a Othuman. The citizen mentioned in her appeal that she had nothing to do with the activities of her son,

who was sentenced to five years imprisonment on charges of membership in the Palestinian Revolution.

Israeli lawyer Leah Tsemel, who delivered the appeal, said that collective punishment and the demolition or damaging of property are forbidden under the Fourth Geneva Convention, and that the bricking up of the house is a penalty inflicted on the mother for something allegedly done by her son.

ced the Israeli decision to seal off 70,000 dunums of land in the Jenin area. The mayors decided to appeal to international forums, including the IRC and the UN and to international news agencies, to expose to them the dangers of this situation which threatens the livelihood of 20,000 citizens in this area. The villages' lawyer sent a memorandum to Israeli War Minister Ezer Weizman, protesting against the Israeli seizure decision. The memorandum said that the lands enclosed are agricultural lands, on which the villagers depend for their livelihood, and that they will use all legal means to restore their lands. The Mayor of Jenin also protested to Weizman against the Israeli decision, describing it as an arbitrary one, and demanding that the Israeli

authorities return the enclosed land to its owners. Telegrams to the same effect were sent by the heads of municipal councils of the villages addressed to UN Secretary-General Dr. Kurt Waldheim, to the head of the UN Human Rights Commission, and to the IRC.

Meanwhile, Israeli military authorities issued an order on November 13th to seize a plot of land in Beit Safafa village near Jerusalem, on which the houses of 30 families stand, according to reports from the occupied territories. The Israeli authorities warned these citizens to evacuate their land before November 15th because otherwise the government could be forced to take the "necessary measures" against them.





## ARMED RESISTANCE

### 14 OPERATIONS IN OCTOBER

Palestinian commandos carried out a total of 14 operations in the occupied territories last October. Four of these took place in Tel Aviv, three in Jerusalem, two in Gaza, two in Nablus, one each in Natanya and Hebron, and one on the Jerusalem-Haifa railway line, north of Natanya. Eight of these operations were admitted by the Israeli authorities. The operations reached their peak towards the end of the month, when seven operations were carried out between October 23 and 28, five of which were admitted by the enemy. In one Nablus attack, a bomb went off in the military governor's office, causing extensive damage, while in five other attacks Israeli military personnel or installations were the targets.

Commenting on these operations, the Israeli police commander in the Tel Aviv region, Moshe Newman, said that this escalation signals a new phase of commando operations against Israel. These operations were executed in a "well-organized and planned manner", and gave cause for concern. These operations followed a lull in military action at the beginning of the month, when Palestinian struggle focused on mass and student demonstrations and rallies with the coming of the new academic year, making tactical use of this opportunity.

### ATTACK ON ISRAELI BORDER PATROL

#### No. 188/79:

On the morning of November 11, a Palestinian commando from special unit "B" attacked an Israeli Border Guard foot patrol in front of the central market of the Sapporath settlement in the Naqab with a hand grenade. Several casualties were suffered by members of the patrol, and a number of shops were damaged. The Israeli security forces surrounded the area but could not arrest the militant, who returned safely to base.

### AFTER SHAKA'A ARREST: CHECK-POINT ATTACKED

#### No. 192/79:

A Palestinian commando from special unit 'B' planted a timed explosive charge near an Israeli check-point which had been erected in Nablus to suppress the mass uprising there following the arrest of Nablus Mayor Bassam al-Shaka'a. The charge was discovered at 8:15 a.m. on November 14 and was dismantled by an explosives expert after the check-point was evacuated. Israeli forces were subsequently placed on full alert, patrols were intensified, and several Palestinian citizens were arrested on charges of involvement in the operation.

### RAILWAY LINES THREATENED

The Israeli newspaper "Ma'ariv" reported on November 6, 1979, that the Israeli army, in cooperation with the Israeli Railway Administration, plans to provide a new patrol force to prevent any more commando attacks on railway installations, following the operations of the last few weeks. These include the demolition of a railway bridge over the Yarkon River in Tel Aviv on November 1, a bomb on the Haifa-Tel Aviv line on October 10, and demolition of part of the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem line on September 30. The daily went on to say that this force will patrol the main railway lines, which according to Israeli experts, have recently been the main targets of Palestinian military operations, namely the Tel Aviv-Haifa and the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem lines.

In related news, another Israeli newspaper, "Davar," reported that in light of the escalation of commando operations in the Tel Aviv region, the Israeli police force adopted new security measures attempting to catch Palestinian commandos while they are executing their operations inside the occupied territories.

### ISRAELI MILITARY TRAIN DERAILED

#### No. 193/79:

A Palestinian commando unit on the night of November 14 uprooted at least 16 meters of track on the Lydd-Haifa railway line as it passes the Ras al-Ain area, east of Tel Aviv. On November 15, at dawn, the goods wagons of an Israeli train loaded with gas and military equipment were derailed and destroyed, causing a number of casualties, in addition to the material damage. Israeli forces rushed to the scene in an attempt to arrest the Palestinian commandos. They were accompanied by rescue teams to deal with the injured and calculate the losses. At the same time, special mine detector wagons patrolled the line, which was closed to normal traffic.

## ZIONISM IN PRACTICE

### PROVOCATIONS INSTEAD OF PEACE: BEGIN GOVERNMENT ESCALATES COLONIZATION

On November 19, 1979, the Israeli government approved a decision to step up its settlements activities and to establish new settlements in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights, on so-called state lands. This provocation once more reveals the true character of the Camp David "autonomy" fraud. The Israeli Cabinet also decided to form a new committee headed by the new Finance Minister, Yigal Hurvitz, to study the various aspects relating to the establishment of new settlements. The Cabinet also authorized the government's legal advisor to study the legal dimension of settlements in the occupied territories, and to present his proposals to the Israeli government.

A cabinet committee chaired by Prime Minister Menahem Begin decided on November 15, 1979, on an ambitious settlement program that aims to triple the number of Jews living in the occupied West Bank in the next year. "I hope we will succeed to achieve this," Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Zippori told. The Associated Press in a telephone interview, "but there is a problem of money."

A statement issued after a meeting of the Settlement Committee chaired by Begin said Israel aimed to build 10,000-15,000 housing units each year, concentrating on bolstering five existing settlement blocks. The meeting put details on the decision in principle made by the full cabinet on November 11 to build more settlements and strengthen existing Jewish outposts in the occupied territory. West Bank Palestinians cite Israel's settlements as one of their reasons for refusing to



Gush Emunim settler aiming at Oriental Jews who protest the "waste of money" for the settlements

join the talks on "autonomy" in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

### "TRIPLE, AND EVEN MORE"

About 14,000 Israelis now live in West Bank settlements exclusive of Jerusalem, according to a recent survey by the World Zionist Organization. Zippori was asked whether the new program would double that number, and he replied that it would "triple, and even more."

The new program will be allocated an estimated \$3 billion. Zippori conceded that there could be problems in finding "money and manpower to build" the settlements. But observers noted that the new Finance Minister, Yigal Hurvitz, participated in the committee meeting and did not object to the plan. Hurvitz recently rejoined Begin's government, saying it was important now for Israel to hold onto the West Bank.

### LAND CONFISCATION GOES ON

Already on November 6, the Israeli occupation authorities have ordered a 7,000 hectare (17,500-acre) agricultural zone in the occupied West Bank closed to Palestinian villagers. Military sources said the area, owned by several Palestinian villagers, near the town of Jenin, was needed for "military training."

The villagers said they had been told by the authorities that entry to

the closed territory would only be permitted with special passes issued by the military government every six months. The villagers, who own large herds of goats and sheep, said the area affected was needed mainly as grazing land.

### ELON MOREH EVACUATION DELAYED

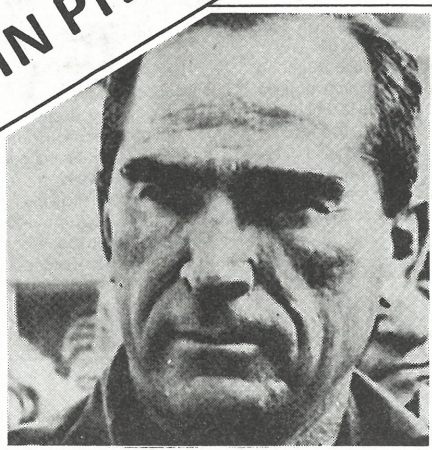
In the meantime, the Begin government has decided not to adopt any resolution concerning the evacuation of the Gush Emunim settlers from the "Elon Moreh" settlement, despite the Israeli supreme court's decision to evacuate it by November 20th, 1979.

### ORIENTAL JEWS CONFRONT ZIONIST SETTLERS

On November 11, about 200 members of the Israeli "Black Panthers" representing deprived layers of society, entered a Gush Emunim settlement outpost in the West Bank. In the course of a violent confrontation between both sides, one of the "Black Panthers" was seriously wounded. The "Black Panthers" generally belong to communities originating from Arab countries and the Orient. They arrived in Elasar, a settlement outpost near Hebron, in three buses. Their purpose was to demonstrate against "The waste of money [by the government] on the Gush Emunim, while nothing is done in Israel for the economically disadvantaged."



## ZIONISM IN PRACTICE



*Murder general Eitan  
welcomed in the Pentagon*

### ANOTHER "PINTO AFFAIR": PRISONERS OF WAR MURDERED

A new storm has broken over the Israeli armed forces with the disclosure that a senior army officer ordered his men to murder an Arab prisoner during an invasion of Lebanon in March, 1978.

Details of the case were quoted in a letter distributed by a leftist member of Parliament. It said that the officer involved, Lieutenant Colonel Arye Sadeh, had his punishment sharply reduced by the Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Rafael Eitan. Sadeh's wife was quoted by Israeli radio and television as saying that a top commander in a briefing to the officers before the invasion ordered no prisoners brought back. She said her husband understood this to mean that all prisoners should be killed. The commander was General Eitan himself, then chief of military operations.

In the newly-disclosed affair, Sadeh was originally sentenced to 30 months in prison and demoted to captain. The military prosecutor appealed for a stiffer punishment and Sadeh was sentenced to five years and demoted to private. General Eitan then reversed the result of the appeal fixed Sadeh's sentence at 30 months and declared Sadeh a major.

According to the letter circulated by Member of Parliament Uri Avneri, Sadeh commanded an engineering battalion during the invasion. His men captured three Arabs, who gave no resistance. When their mission was completed, one of the soldiers reminded the colonel that they had prisoners. The colonel ordered the soldiers to kill one of them, who looked to him "like a guerilla," and to take the other two back with them. Four soldiers carried out the order, but a sergeant who opposed the killing reported the incident on his return. The man who was killed was a Palestinian.

### PINTO RELEASED

The Sadeh controversy broke on the very day that another officer was released after serving a prison term for a similar offense. The army chief of staff came under sharp criticism for reducing the sentence in the earlier case. The earlier incident concerned Lieutenant Daniel Pinto, 20, who was found guilty of torturing four Lebanese farmers, strangling them to death with a nylon cord and throwing their bodies in a well. Pinto was stripped of his rank and sentenced by court martial to 12 years in prison, which was reduced to eight by a military appeal court. General Eitan cut the sentence to two years. With time off for good behavior, Pinto was released on November 3.

### MURDER GENERAL ASSISTS IN PENTAGON EXERCISES

Israeli Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Rafael Eitan, on November 9 watched military exercises designed to test the response of American troops to "emergencies" such as might occur in the Middle East. A Pentagon spokesman said the general visiting Fort Hood, Texas, saw the latest in a series of exercises to test the ability of U.S. units to respond on short notice. "It (the exercise) has no relation to Iran," the spokesman claimed. He said the exercise, involving 2,700 men, tested the readiness of units around the country to be airlifted quickly to a battle area.

### "A SICK ECONOMY — A SICK SOCIETY"

**Tel Aviv (AP) November 8, 1979** — Israelis accustomed to worrying about external threats are beginning to fear that internal politics and inflation may be eroding the roots of Israeli democracy. "We have a sick economy, and a sick society, and one sickness feeds the other," supreme court justice Haim Landau said in a speech recently.

Israel is dependent on U.S. economic aid to pay its bills, and the coalition government of Prime Minister Menahem Begin, divided between "moderates" and uncompromising hawks, has been unable to reach decisions on economic policy and the political future of the Palestinians. Extreme rightists, who demand Israeli annexation of the occupied West Bank, have issued dark warnings that government indecision could kill Israeli "freedom," and perhaps even lead to a civil war. Though the danger of civil war is almost universally discounted here, some Israeli analysts warn that democracy is being whittled away. "The palpable and immediate danger... is that the violence and anarchy will grow, and this, not the ballot box, will determine our fate," wrote Amnon Rubinstein, a liberal member of parliament and former dean of Tel Aviv University Law School.

### GUSH EMUNIM

Rubinstein was referring primarily to the right-wing Gush Emunim movement, which has time and again forced the government to set up West Bank settlements, largely by its dogged defiance of orders to evacuate its illegal outposts. But violence has been increasingly felt in other facets of Israeli life, from soccer riots to reports of gangsterism in high schools that have inspired protests by teachers and an investigation by the education ministry.

Analysts point to a host of examples where threats and blows have forced the establishment to give in. A householder enlisted hundreds of neighbors to frustrate a

court order to raze his home, built illegally on government-controlled land. Soccer fans in a Tel Aviv neighborhood burned tires and blocked streets, forcing an opposing team to cancel a contract stealing away a favored player from the neighborhood team. Striking workers in vital industries, like the national airline El Al, have consistently won wage concessions by disrupting services. "We are caught in an ongoing process," Rubinstein wrote in the "Haaretz" newspaper last week, "and the danger is that the process will spread like a can-

cer. Ariel Sharon, the minister in charge of settlements and leader of the hawk camp in Begin's cabinet, said in a recent speech: "I believe the country is in a state of exhaustion and destruction, as if there were a national suicide wish."

### INFLATION; MORE U.S. "AID"

A key factor in the depressed mood is a dizzying inflation that was more than 90 percent in the past 12 months and is expected to push well past 100 percent by the

end of the year. "You lose all sense of the value of things," says occupational therapist Dina Kozako. Israelis live chronically in debt, and one banker said 90 percent of his accounts are overdrawn by the 18th of the month.

The government, while promising draconian reforms under its new Finance Minister-designate Yigal Hurvitz, is meanwhile asking the United States for 3.45 billion dollars in aid for the next fiscal year to cover its expected military and economic debt.

### ZIONISM IN MOTION IN WESTERN EUROPE

The just and legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people has been supported for a long time by democratic and peace-loving people the world over. Socialist countries and non-aligned states have stood behind the cause of the Palestinian people against racism, expansionism and the Zionist war of genocide unleashed against the Arab inhabitants of Palestine. This means that a majority of the world's peoples and states support the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, while in contrast only a handful of Western countries and their racist and neo-colonial puppets have stood with and sponsored Israeli occupation and expansionism.

Lately, with a growing realization of the essence of the Middle East conflict and the indispensability of the Palestinian factor for genuine peace in the Middle East, some West European countries have expressed their long-overdue recognition of the just and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and have called for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories. Some West European countries like Spain, Portugal, Turkey and Austria have already received PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat as an expression of their support for the struggle of the Palestinian people.

This peace-oriented move in West Europe has infuriated Zionist leaders who view it as a Palestinian victory within their own territories. Zionist leaders in the West have vowed to work against this positive tendency.

Recently leaders of Zionist groups from 13 European countries held a meeting in Amsterdam to work out plans for a campaign to "counter increasing support for the Palestine Liberation Organization in Western Europe." At

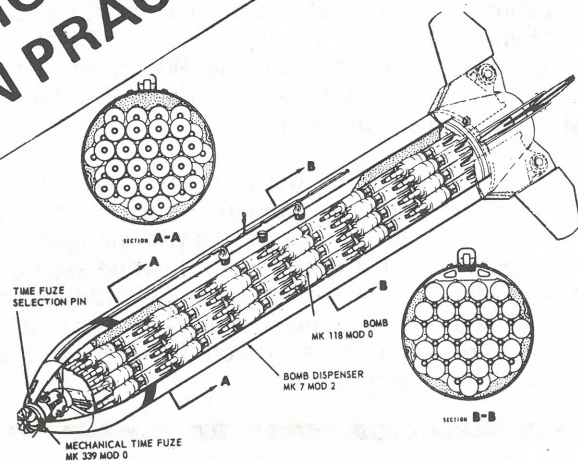
the end of the closed-door meeting on November 13 the chairman of the assembly, Lex Van Geldern, chairman of the Dutch Zionist Federation, said a special committee has been established to try to convince the governments of Common Market countries that recognition of the PLO endangers Europe as well as Israel by "furthering terror and not peace." The committee is to be financed by the various Zionist movements in Western Europe, Van Geldern added.

Only one day after the European Zionists met to discuss "confrontation" of increasing support for the PLO, reports came in from Lisbon that a machine gun and grenade attack outside the Israeli embassy on November 14 wounded Ambassador Ephraim of Israel and killed his Portuguese bodyguard. Only moments after the attack a spokesman for the Portugal-Israel Friendship Association declared at a press conference: "The terroristic attack is one of the consequences of the friendly reception given to the PLO leader Yasser Arafat."

This incident brings to mind several similar acts of terrorism performed by Zionists against their own people and allies. In Iraq in 1948 Zionist terrorists blew up synagogues and Jewish cafes to force Iraqi Jewish emigration to the Zionist state. In the early days of the Nasser era in Egypt Israeli agents blew up American targets and blamed "Arab terrorists" to create tension between the U.S. and Egypt. Many such acts of terror have been committed against Israeli and Jewish personalities by Zionist thugs to maintain the momentum of Zionist propaganda that the Palestinian people are only a bunch of terrorists who threaten humanity. To the dismay of the Zionist terrorists the world has grasped the reality of the Palestinian people's cause and has become aware of the need to work for a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, by which the national rights of the Palestinian people will be restored.

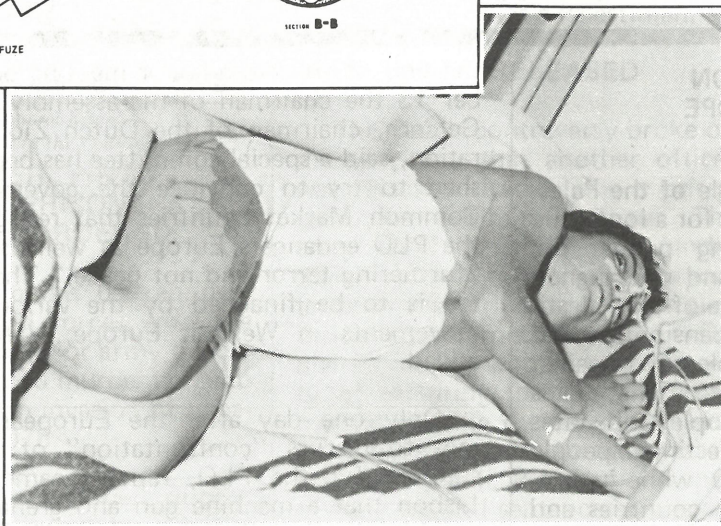


# ZIONISM IN PRACTICE



Scheme of  
U.S.-made  
cluster bomb

Child wounded  
in explosion,  
at Palestine Red  
Crescent hospital



## ISRAELI CLUSTER BOMB KILLS THREE CHILDREN IN PALESTINIAN REFUGEE CAMP

An unexploded Israeli cluster bomb blew up at 11 a.m. on November 11, 1979 in the school yard of the Palestinian refugee camp of Rashidiyeh near Tyre, south Lebanon. The shrapnel from the bomb killed three Palestinian school children; seven others were severely wounded. Their ages vary between nine and ten years. The Zionist terrorists extensively used various

sorts of the U.S.-made cluster bombs during the aggression against south Lebanon in March '78. The bombs are dropped by airplanes, in a special container which opens some one hundred yards above the ground setting free hundreds of bomblets spreading over the area. The bomblets either explode when hitting the ground, or when shaken afterwards — even after months or years. Cluster bombs are an exclusively anti-personnel weapon used by the U.S. during their aggression against the Vietnamese people which caused an international outcry. The Israelis have used these murderous weapons especially against Palestinian refugee camps and their environs in south Lebanon, where they also mined agricultural fields. Ever since the bomblets have caused shocking casualties among the civilian population, especially among children and farmers. Use of the U.S.-supplied cluster bombs by Israeli air planes was

lately reported in an attack on Ras al-Ain near Rashidiyeh on August 20, 1979.

### "I WAS PLAYING WITH MY FRIENDS"

One of the injured children from Rashidiyeh, Maher Ibrahim (11 years old), was sent to a hospital in Beirut where he underwent an urgent operation. He was in a very bad situation. We paid a visit to him. When we arrived, he was sleeping and unconscious. We couldn't speak with him. His father was there, so we talked with him about how the incident took place. He told us:

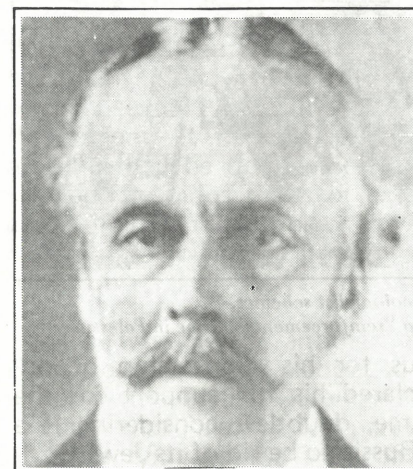
"When the accident took place, I wasn't present. I was told later that my child was one of the victim children. I was very sorry, because it is not the first time such an incident has happened. Hundreds of civilians, mainly women and children, fall victim to this evil device dropped from U.S.-supplied phantoms and skyhawks over populated areas and farming land in south Lebanon. These are barbaric acts committed against us. They are the gifts given to our innocent children. Cluster bombs are forbidden internationally and yet they are used against our Palestinian children. The use of them is inhuman. They have a tragic effect on our population. But whatever the Israelis try to do against us, we will face it bodily. The world must stand beside us and support us in our struggle." gle."

The father's talk was interrupted when the child woke up asking his father to sit beside him. He was very weak and pale. He underwent surgery in his stomach and he was still in danger. He tried to talk with us, he said: "I was playing with my friend. ... One of us found this bomb, but he didn't recognize that it was a bomb. He dropped it and the result was this incident." He looked very pained and tired. His features expressed more what he wanted to say. This is the "civilization" of the Israelis. This is the effect and impact of the war launched against the Palestinian and Lebanese people.

## BRITISH CRIMES IN PALESTINE (1):

### THE BALFOUR DECLARATION

BY FARIS GLUBB



Lord Balfour:  
broken pledges  
to the Arabs

Between July 1915 and March 1916, an exchange of correspondence was conducted between Sharif Hussein of Mecca and the British High Commissioner in Cairo, Sir Henry MacMahon. The aim of the Sharif was to secure the independence of those parts of the eastern Arab World that were ruled by the Turkish Ottoman Empire, while the aim of the British imperial proconsul was to secure the Arabs as allies in the war against Turkey, which was allied to Germany and Austria.

The correspondence resulted in a *quid pro quo* agreement. In his first letter, of 14 July 1915, Sharif Hussein defined the Arab territory as "bounded on the north by Mersin and Adana up to 37° of latitude, on which degree fall Birjik, Urfa, Mardin, Midiat, Jezirat (Ibn Umar), Amadia, up to the border of Persia; on the east by the borders of Persia up to the Gulf of Basra; on the south by the Indian Ocean, with the exception of the position of Aden to remain as it is; on the west by the Red Sea, the Mediterranean Sea up to Mersin."

On 25 October 1915, MacMahon replied that "Great Britain is prepared to recognise and

support the independence of the Arabs" in approximately the territory defined by the Sharif, with the exception of "the districts of Messina (sic) and Alexandretta and portions of Syria lying to the west of the districts of Damascus, Homs, Hama and Aleppo." Sir Henry also told the Sharif that within "the proposed frontiers" Great Britain was only free to act "without detriment to the interests of her ally France" — which he did not define. It was on the basis of these promises that the Arabs of Hijaz and Greater Syria (a geographical area which historically includes Palestine) rose in revolt against the Ottoman Empire and helped Britain and its allies win the First World War.

### SYKES-PICOT — THE FIRST BETRAYAL

The "interests" of France were used as an excuse for the first violation of the above agree-

#### PALESTINE 1919

##### Population :

Total : 700,000

Arabs : 642,000 or 91.7 %

Jews : 58,000 or 8.3 %

##### Land Ownership :

Total area : 26,320,000 dunums

Arabs : 25,670,000 or 97.52 %

Jews : 650,000 or 2.48 %

No. of Jewish Settlements: .....71

( Survey of Palestine, PP. 141, 185, 372,367 )



## BRITISH CRIMES IN PALESTINE (1): THE BALFOUR DECLARATION

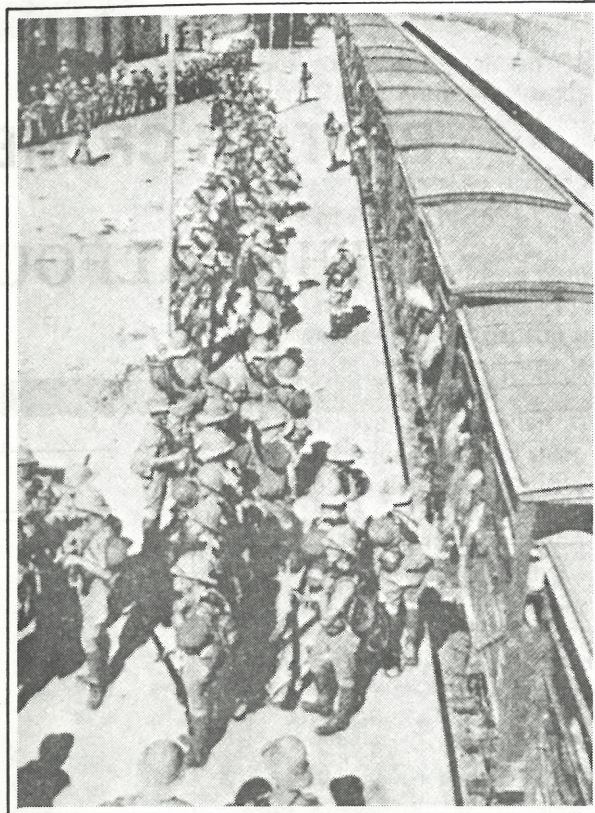
ment, with the signature of another agreement between Britain, France and Tsarist Russia which conflicted with the undertakings given to Sharif Hussein. The Sykes-Picot agreement, as this second accord came to be known, after the names of the chief British and French negotiators, was kept secret. For it was signed in 1916, when the First World War was still going on and the Arabs' help was still needed, so it would not have done for the latter to have learnt of its existence. In fact, it was published after the Russian Revolution by the Bolsheviks, who found a copy in the Tsarist archives.

The agreement, in brief, was concerned with dividing the spoils once the Ottoman Empire was dismembered. It confined the area of Arab independence only to those areas of the Arabian Peninsula that were not already under British control, while providing for France in Syria and Lebanon and Britain in Iraq and Transjordan "to establish such direct or indirect administration or control as they may desire and as they may deem fit to establish after agreement with the Arab State or Confederation of Arab States." Parts of Palestine were to be placed under "an international administration of which the form will be decided upon after consultation with Russia and after subsequent agreement with the other Allies and the representatives of the Sherif of Mecca." Thus the intention was to face Britain's Arab allies, at the end of the war after they had served their purpose, with a *fait accompli*: the amputation of the northern portion of their homeland and its partition into areas controlled by outside powers.

### ZIONIST QUEST FOR IMPERIAL PATRONAGE

The next violation of the Hussein-MacMahon agreement, the Balfour Declaration, amounted to a deal between the British Government and the Zionist movement. Since its foundation in 1897, the latter had been seeking the patronage of an imperial power for its scheme to colonise Palestine with Jewish settlers from Europe.

The Zionist movement was not too particular about which empire was to be its patron. Its founder, Theodor Herzl, tried the Kaiser of Germany in 1898, but was turned down. He offered Zionism's services to the Ottoman Empire for an anti-Christian campaign and was very properly rebuffed. He made some progress with the Tsarist Russian Interior Minister Wenzel von



To execute colonialist schemes,  
British troop "reinforcements" arrive in Palestine

Plehve, notorious for his sponsorship of pogroms, who declared his full support for the Zionist programme, doubtless considering it a good means for Russia to be rid of its Jews.<sup>1</sup>

Although Plehve's declaration did not bring the tangible results Herzl sought, Zionism later scored its greatest success with a British politician with a very similar mentality: Lord Arthur Balfour, who in 1905 led a campaign for the Aliens Act to forbid persecuted Russian Jews entry to Britain. Balfour told Parliament on 10 July 1905 that "it would not be to the advantage of the civilisation of the country that there should be an immense body of persons who... by their own action, remained a people apart, and not merely held a religion differing from the vast majority of their fellow-countrymen, but only intermarried among themselves."

Herzl had visited Britain earlier to give evidence to the Royal Commission on Alien Immigration, and he urged that the "stream of migration" be diverted away from Britain, towards Zionist settlement. For this he won warm praise from Jew-haters of the British ruling class like the then Colonial Secretary Joseph Chamberlain, who also endorsed the Zionist idea of a Jewish state.<sup>3</sup>

### THE SECOND BETRAYAL — THE BALFOUR DECLARATION

The relationship which Herzl established with

the most obscurantist elements in Britain was brought to fruition by one of his successors as leader of the Zionist movement, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, who later became the first President of the Zionist state. Weizmann, who showed an astute awareness of how to exploit the circumstances in which Britain found itself in the First World War, succeeded in 1917 in obtaining from the British government the pledge of imperial patronage that Zionism had sought since its foundation.

This pledge, known as the Balfour Declaration, came in the form of a letter from Balfour, then Foreign Secretary, to the Zionist financier Lord Rothschild. Its main paragraph stated:

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

This was clearly another violation of the British government's pledges to Sharif Hussein, although the British Colonial Office later tried to claim that Palestine was part of the "portions of Syria lying to the west of the districts of Damascus, Homs, Hama and Aleppo" excluded from the area of Arab independence in the MacMahon correspondence. But any schoolchild can tell from a glance at a map that Palestine lies south, not west, of these districts! Did none of the public school-educated gentlemen in the Colonial Office know how to read a map?

### DISTORTIONS IN THE DECLARATION

Although Zionists have proclaimed the Balfour Declaration as a "title deed to Palestine", this document in fact has no validity in international law. For one thing, as a distinguished Jewish writer has noted, "in this document one nation solemnly promised to a second nation the country of a third"<sup>4</sup> (although the use of the word "nation" to describe the Jews is inaccurate). At the time it was issued, on 2 November 1917, Britain had no jurisdiction over Palestine, which was an Arab-inhabited country governed by Turkey.

The idea of a "national home" is totally meaningless in international law, which then concerned itself exclusively with states and relations between them, not with such fantasy concepts that have never been defined. The vagueness of this term was to cause much trouble,

le, as it was unclear whether a Jewish state was meant, which would alter the whole character of Palestine, or a place of refuge for Jews to practise their religion freely, which the Arab World generally had been for centuries without British government interference.

Furthermore, the term "Jewish people" is inaccurate. A people inhabit an internationally recognised state area and are bound by an ethnic, geographical, linguistic, cultural or historical heritage. Most modern Jews are descended not from the Biblical Hebrews but from a variety of tribes and peoples (the largest single one being the Khazars) who were converted to Judaism over several centuries, and have no ethnic links with each other or ancestral claim to Palestine. "At the present time there is absolutely no racial homogeneity between the Yemenite Jews, for example, and the Jews of Daghestan. The first are Oriental in type while the second belong to the Mongol race. There are black Jews in India, Ethiopian Jews (Falasha), 'Troglodyte' Jews in Africa... The Jewish race is a myth."<sup>5</sup> The only thing all these Jews of such varied ethnic origins had in common was religion, which international law does not recognise as a basis for a nation-state's existence.

Finally, to describe some 92% of Palestine's inhabitants as "existing non-Jewish communities" shows cynical disregard for the majority whose rights were bound to be prejudiced by the takeover of their country. In the words of a knowledgeable British writer of integrity:

"There is more than more preposterous nomenclature in the use of the phrase 'non-

### PALESTINE 1939

#### Population :

Total : 1,422,955

Arabs : 977,498 or 70 70 %

Jews : 445,457 or 30 30 %

Jewish legal immigration into Palestine from 1920 until 1939 : 322,454 or 23 % of the population.

#### Land Ownership :

Total area : 26,320,000 dunums

Arabs : 24,786,600 or 94.4 %

Jews : 1,533,400 or 5.6 %

No. of Jewish Settlements : 231

( Survey of Palestine, PP. 141, 185, 372, 367 )



## BRITISH CRIMES IN PALESTINE (1): THE BALFOUR DECLARATION

Jewish communities in Palestine' to describe the Arabs. It is fraudulent. It was done in order to conceal the true ratio between Arabs and Jews, and thereby to make easier the suppression of the former...

"The Arabs were guaranteed civil rights, again because to the unalert ear it sounded as though they were being assured a man's normal rights, the freedom to choose the government of his country which every decent man should enjoy, the common political rights of a democratic regime.

"But in fact the Arabs were not assured these at all. The effect, and the aim, of the clause actually was to withdraw from the Arabs (fighting or suffering for us at the time under promise of independence) those very rights of independence for which they had contracted; to say nothing of their actual title to them. By sleight of tongue civil rights were substituted for political rights. If civil rights meant anything, which was uncertain and would take long legal proof (which was never offered) they meant most likely civil or borough rights, or such rights as a foreign householder can exercise in a country of which he is not a citizen. But this was untested theory. As practice went, 'civil rights' was an expression which was left without any interpretation, and so had no existence as a surety or guarantee at all.

"When in Jerusalem, once I asked a High Commissioner himself what were civil rights, and the answer of the High Commissioner was that 'Well, they would be very difficult to define.' Which is precisely why they were guaranteed to the Arabs. It was a triumph of draftsmanship, of course, to take everything away from them in terms which appeared to safeguard them. A skilful ruse of the drafters, if a knavish one."<sup>6</sup>

### THE MORAL ISSUES

Why did the British government, of which Lloyd George was Prime Minister, so flagrantly violate its pledges, on whose basis the Arabs had become Britain's allies? Balfour's desire to get rid of Britain's Jews by shipping them off to Palestine may have been one factor, but there were undoubtedly others, as the Balfour Declaration was a cabinet decision. However, it is interesting that the most vehement opponent of it in the cabinet was its one Jewish member, Sir Edwin Montagu, who entitled his brief, against it "Memorandum on the anti-Semitism of the Pre-

sent Government". In it he warned prophetically:

"I assert that there is not a Jewish nation... When the Jews are told that Palestine is their national home, every country will immediately desire to get rid of its citizens, and you will find a population in Palestine driving out its present inhabitants, taking all the best in the country."<sup>7</sup>

The Balfour Declaration was followed a few years later by the rise of Nazism, the spread of persecution of Jews, a massive influx of Jewish settlers to Palestine and the dispossession of the Palestinian people. Yet Montagu's sound warning was neglected and forgotten.

### POLITICAL APPETITE

The main reasons for this unscrupulous conduct by Britain's rulers at that time were undoubtedly strategic. Lying at the junction between Africa and Asia, close to the vital Suez Canal, with a coast on the eastern Mediterranean which has long been a coveted prize for warring nations, Palestine was bound to excite the appetites of politicians of the British Empire. Britain was then at war with Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey; France, its ally at the time, had been a bitter enemy in the past and might become so again; Russia, which had at times been a rival for spheres of influence in the East, was then going through a political upheaval whose outcome was still uncertain. In these circumstances, the idea of Palestine being colonised by a movement which co-operated with the British government and depended on it must have been tempting to Whitehall policymakers. It is this logic which was behind Balfour's cynical remark, in a memorandum written in August 1919, that Zionism was "of far profounder import than the desires and prejudices of the 700,000 Arabs now inhabit that ancient land."

Weizmann admitted the vital importance of the strategic argument in winning right-wing British politicians over to Zionism. He wrote: "We had long pointed out to the British, and I repeated it again in my interview with Lord Robert Cecil, that a Jewish Palestine would be a safeguard to England, in particular in respect to the Suez Canal."<sup>8</sup>

The British government's motivation may also have been the desire to secure an immediate gain related to its First World War aims. According to Lloyd George, "the Zionist leaders gave us a definite promise that, if the Allies committed themselves to giving facilities for the establishment of a national home for the Jews in Palestine, they would do their best to rally Jewish sentiment and support throughout the world to the Allied cause. They kept their word."<sup>9</sup>



1920: Palestinians stage mass protests against escalating Zionist immigration

If this account is correct (and it is hard to believe that this was the main reason for the Balfour Declaration), then the British government was the victim of a confidence trick. According to a highly respected Jewish author, "the Zionists themselves, however, were only too aware of the legerdemain which had enabled them to wrest this notable statement from the British government. The simple fact of the matter was that they did not have the credentials to speak on behalf of anyone but their own, limited circle of Jews; and they themselves knew as much. Dr. Weizmann, the chief Zionist negotiator for the Balfour Declaration, himself candidly admitted this some years later when he said:

"I often ask myself what we — I and my friends who were speaking for the Jewish people — could answer when we were asked to 'show our credentials' and to prove our right to act as the representative of world Jewry... The Balfour Declaration was built on air... every day and every hour of these last ten years, when opening

the newspapers, I thought... the British government would call me and ask: 'Tell us, what is this Zionist organisation, where are they, your Zionists?' "<sup>10</sup>

### A SHAMEFUL ACT

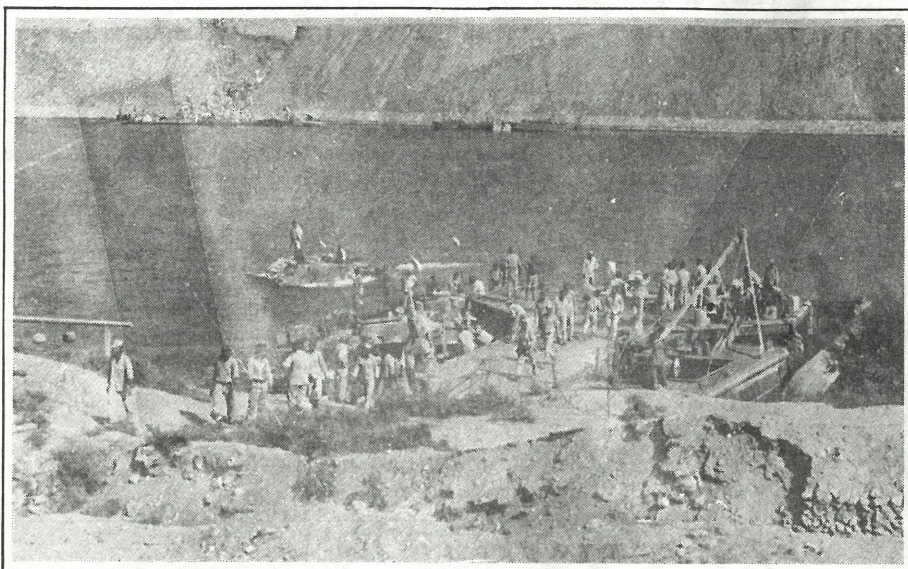
Whatever may have been the reason for the Balfour Declaration, and it appears to have been issued for a combination of reasons, it remains one of the most shameful acts in the history of diplomacy. The only breach of faith in the history of Britain comparable to it, in terms of both immorality and disastrous consequences, was the 1938 Munich Agreement signed between British Premier Neville Chamberlain and Adolf Hitler, whereby the Czechoslovakian people's interests were sacrificed for the sake of power politics. The Munich Agreement was denounced by a later British government. It is time now for the present British government to denounce the Balfour Declaration, so that this blot may be expunged from British history and Britain's conscience may again be clear before God, history and humanity.

(To be continued in the next issue of "Palestine")



## SADAT'S "MISSED OPPORTUNITIES"

by Faris Glubb



Heroic Egyptian soldiers crossing the Suez Canal



The "hero" of the sell-out

Six years ago, at the end of the October 1973 war, many question marks hung over the whole Middle East situation. One question in particular puzzled some observers because it seemed to contain the key to understanding why the course of the war had been reversed from an initial Arab victory to an eventual Arab defeat, and could also be the key to assessing the likely consequences of the war.

This question was: Why did the Egyptian leadership, after winning the victory of crossing the Suez Canal, then proceed to squander this victory allowing Israeli forces to cross the Canal westwards and surround Suez city, particularly since the Egyptian army could easily have cut those forces' lines of communications and annihilated them? Was the Egyptian military command so stupid as to miss such a golden opportunity that generals hardly dare to hope in their wildest dreams?

The Egyptian Armed Forces' victory in crossing the Suez Canal and storming the supposedly impregnable Barlev line won praise from numerous military experts throughout the world. Regardless of the machinations of the political leadership at a safe distance from the

battle zone, objective historians acknowledge that the officers and men of the Egyptian and other Arab armies fought the October war courageously and carried out many difficult tasks with skill.

The Canal victory, although its results were subsequently squandered by the political leadership, was nevertheless a real victory which destroyed the myth of Israeli invincibility and could have been a first step towards regaining the Arab nation's rights which had been forcibly violated. The officers and men who fought the war were also genuinely inspired with the morale needed to win, the feeling that they were defending their homeland and the Christian and Muslim holy places in Palestine. It had to be so. Sadat not only needed to claim a victory in order to make peace with Israel; he also had to convince the Egyptian public, particularly the troops, that this victory was authentic.

### ENTER DR. KISSINGER

It was perhaps more than coincidence that Dr. Henry Kissinger was appointed U.S. Secretary of State only a few weeks before the October war. There were press leaks that he was

planning "a new peace initiative" in the Middle East, and the Cairo press published several articles in early September 1973 on the strategy Egypt should follow in the light of this.

Thus Muhammad Hasanain Haikal said Egypt should prepare to confront Kissinger in the near future. He cited the well-known Kissinger theory that crises should be raised to a point of extreme tension in order to be solved, and urged the Egyptian government to take the necessary actions in the light of this logic. Another journalist, Ihsan Abdul Quddous, speculated that Kissinger would encourage Israel to heat up the crisis by launching a war, but in a manner that would lead to negotiations.

### DECEIVING THE SYRIANS

Later events showed that Sadat indeed took his political decisions in such a way as to accord with Kissinger's thinking, but it became apparent that this was not the case with the Syrian leadership. Former Egyptian Chief of Staff Gen. Shadhli states in his memoirs that the Sadat regime's plan for the October war was based from the start on deceiving Syria regarding its aims. Shadhli relates that in April 1973 "the War Minister told me that he wanted to develop our attack in the plan so as to include capture of the passes. I again mentioned to him the problems involved in this matter, and the situation with regard to them had not changed since we had discussed them together in November 1972. After a long discussion he told me that if the Syrians learnt that our plan was to occupy 10-15 km. east of the Canal, they would not agree to enter the war with us... He told me to prepare another plan to include development of the attack to the passes after the crossing, and informed me that this plan would be shown to the Syrians to persuade them to enter the war, but it would not be implemented except in appropriate circumstances."

The Sadat regime continued its efforts to deceive the Arab nation in general and Syria in particular throughout the war. The Egyptian Ambassador at the UN stated on 7 October that Egypt would not stop fighting until after the liberation of Egyptian territories occupied in 1967, or Israeli withdrawal from them. Sadat's press adviser, Dr. Ashraf Ghorbal, stated on television the following day that Egypt insisted on liberating these territories.

Nevertheless, some Western newspapers hinted at Sadat's real motive from the start. "The Financial Times" of 8 October wrote that to attempt to oust Israel by force from the occupied territories was out of the question, and the aim of the Egyptian plan was to create an international crisis in the hope of forcing the USA and USSR to intervene and impose a

settlement on Israel. It added that both sides regarded the current fighting as a prelude to a new drive for a political settlement. The same day, "The Guardian" said the war could facilitate Arab-Israeli negotiations, since the Egyptians need no longer fear appearing as "defeated supplicants". "The New York Times" quoted a senior US government source as saying Sadat had launched "a limited military operation with the aim of holding on for a while on the eastern bank of the Suez Canal and bringing the big powers into play against Israel."

### THE EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP'S MISTAKES

The Israeli military commentator Gen. Haim Herzog wrote in "The Times" of 16 October that during the first two days of the war "the Arab armies lost the opportunity which faced them," and "the Egyptians failed to take advantage of the initial surprise."

This view is shared by a number of Arab and other military experts, who believe that the Egyptian leadership made a series of mistakes, perhaps mainly out of political considerations, which threw away the gains of the first victory. The "Sunday Times" Insight team's book "The Yom Kippur War" said Egyptian War Minister Ahmad Ismail's first mistake was to choose 6 October as the date to launch the war. Being the Jewish Day of Atonement, it was the one day in the year when the Israeli military knew where virtually every reservist would be: at home or in the synagogue; and military vehicles could move rapidly because there was virtually no civilian traffic on roads. Had the Jewish New Year (27 September) been chosen, there would have been far greater chaos in Israel because almost everyone goes out for picnics and visits, roads are jammed and reservists hard to locate.

The "Daily Telegraph" of 8 October noted that European air experts were surprised that Egypt had not made an all-out effort to neutralise the Israeli air force while it was still on the ground, since a large proportion of its pilots were on leave for Yom Kippur. Egypt thus missed an opportunity in the very first hours of the battle for a decisive blow against Israeli air superiority — a most vital factor for success in conventional warfare since 1940.

### LIMITED AIMS

The chief error was the strategic one of the leadership restricting the armed forces to aims that were much too limited after the Canal had been crossed. We have noted that Shadhli had prepared a plan, to be used only "in appropriate circumstances", for capturing the Mitla, Giddi and Khatmia passes. Many military experts believe that the circumstances in the 48 hours



immediately after the Canal victory were extremely appropriate for implementing the plan to retake the passes, and that a golden opportunity was missed.

In those first hours, these experts stress, Arab forces had the advantage of surprise, which they should have exploited to the full. Military experts also note the following factors:

- Egyptian casualties in crossing the Canal were far lower than had been anticipated, as Egyptian sources told "The Financial Times" of 10 October.

- In the first 48 hours of the war, Egyptian forces destroyed the bulk of Israeli tanks in Sinai. There were less than 90 Israeli tanks left in Sinai by the evening of 7 October, and further armoured reinforcements were destroyed in the ensuing two days, notably the 190th Armoured Brigade.

- Egyptian forces established ten bridges and 50 ferries across the Canal and breached the Barlev line in 60 places in the first nine hours of battle, enabling them to bring 500 tanks to the eastern side during the first night. This was more than enough to crush the remaining Israeli forces between the Canal and the passes and to capture the passes, or at least their western entrances, particularly since Egyptian infantry had excel-

lent anti-tank weapons (RPG-7s and "Sagger" missiles).

- Egyptian commando units were sent behind enemy lines in Sinai on several small missions, in a manner which dissipated their strength and led to some units being wiped out. It would have been more sensible to land at least a brigade (out of a total of 24 commando battalions) on the passes as part of a comprehensive plan to seize them.

- Egyptian forces were also able to bring a SAM missile air defence network across the Canal. Egypt was then estimated to have at least 14 self-propelled SAM-6 batteries out of a total of over 40 SAM batteries of different types. Half of these missiles would have been more than adequate to cover the forces on the east bank if they advanced to the passes, leaving the other half to protect Egypt's heartland. The self-propelled SAM-6s and Shelka anti-aircraft guns could have advanced to the passes with the tanks and infantry, to provide them protection from air attack.

- Although Egyptian forces had carried out over 300 training maneuvers for the Canal crossing, they had not done a single maneuver for attacking the passes. Their maneuvers had only been up to divisional level, whereas modern warfare on the scale of the Arab-Israeli conflict

requires corps level manoeuvres to accustom units to the necessary wide-scale co-ordination. Nor had Egyptian troops been adequately trained on their night fighting equipment, which could have been very useful for advancing towards the passes on the first night.

The reason for these shortcomings appears to have been *Sadat's political decision* to launch a very limited war and achieve only a symbolic rather than a real victory over Israeli forces. The distance from the Canal to the Mitla pass is some 30 kilometres. The other two passes are less than 60 kilometres from the Canal, a distance which tanks, mechanised infantry and self-propelled anti-aircraft weapons can cross easily within a few hours, even allowing for delays to neutralise what remained of Israeli forces on the way. The Egyptian army could have reached the entrances to the passes in the first 24 hours of the war.

### THE GAINS THAT WERE MISSED

Had the passes been captured, the military situation at the end of the war and the political situation in the region would have been very different from what actually occurred as a result of this missed opportunity.

*Militarily:* By taking the passes, the Egyptian forces would have had a first-class line of defence from which to repel counter-attacks, as long as the Egyptians still had SAM air defences. The passes are an ideal trap for an army without air cover, as the Israeli army was in the first hours of the war owing to the Arab SAMs on both the Egyptian and Syrian fronts. These were estimated to have downed some 60 percent of the Israeli aircraft which attempted to stem the Arab advance on the first day of the war. According to the "Insight" team, the Canal air defences "were denser than the Soviet missile screen around Moscow... In the first three days of this geographically confined war, the number of surface-to-air missiles fired roughly equalled the total NATO stocks in Europe."

Had Egypt recaptured the entrances to the passes in the first two days of the war, before the enemy could mobilise and commit most of his reserves, the latter would never have been able to surprise the Egyptians by crossing to the West Bank of the Canal. The Egyptians would have secured adequate depth to repel subsequent counter-attacks, while making use of terrain features (the line represented by the mountain chain broken only by three long narrow passes) to deprive the enemy of manoeuvre.

Furthermore, the Canal crossing points could have thereby been placed out of range of Israeli artillery, allowing the Egyptians secure supply lines to bring reinforcements across for future battles.

It was vital for Egyptian forces to maintain the initiative, exploit the element of surprise from the start of the war and not allow the enemy to regain his balance. This was particularly important in view of the situation on the Syrian front. According to the "Insight" team, on the first night of the war, the Egyptians "held the initiative and were in a position to dominate the battlefield — even to take the crucial passes — by morning and on Golan, the Syrians had broken through. There was nothing to stop them from crossing the Jordan." The team added that the Israeli air force lost 30 Skyhawks and 10 Phantoms over Syria before the evening of the first day, and was forced to stop sorties on that front for some hours as a result.

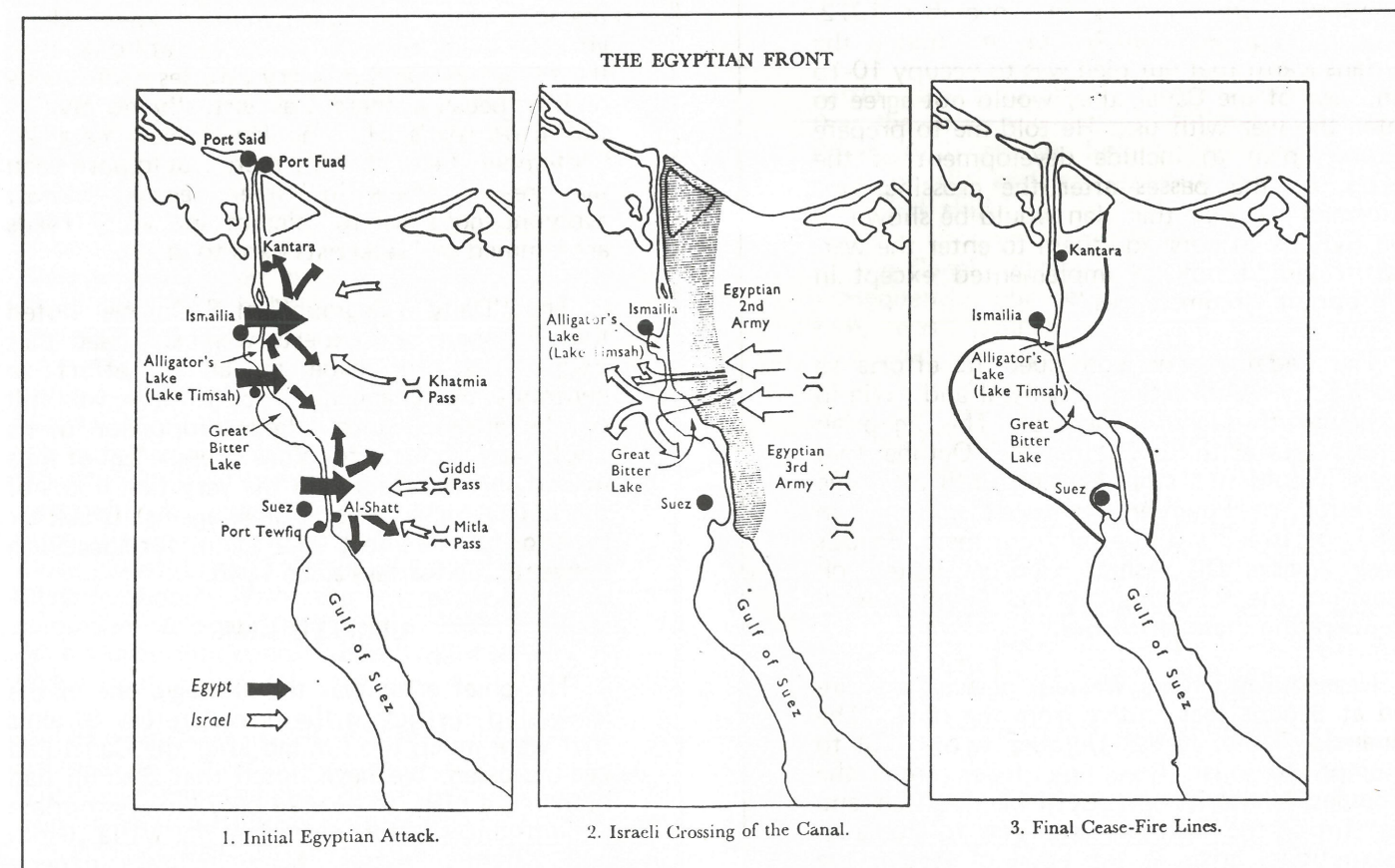
*Politically:* Had Egypt regained the passes, it would have been in a much better bargaining position at the end of the war. Because of the limited nature of its war aims, Egypt was compelled, in the Kilometre 101 talks, to negotiate permission to supply its besieged Third Army and then to plead with the enemy to withdraw from the Canal to a line of sand dunes which War Minister Ismail had intended to be Egypt's defence line between the Canal and the passes. In later negotiations, from the second disengagement through Camp David and Blair House to the signature of the Sadat-Begin treaty, Sadat made one concession after another, including many at the expense of the Palestinian cause and Arab rights in Jerusalem, in order to secure an Israeli undertaking to withdraw from Sinai.

The Egyptian leadership's vacillation also weakened Syria's position, preventing it from liberating all of occupied Golan. And it is an open question whether Israel would have been able to carry out its repeated acts of aggression, including fanning the flames of civil war, had Egypt been negotiating from a position of strength.

### A SERIES OF LOST OPPORTUNITIES

Ismail insisted on an "operational halt" on the east bank of the Canal after the crossing. There is nothing wrong with this militarily in principle, since Egyptian forces needed such a pause for a few hours to bring their equipment, ammunition and supplies across and reassess the situation in the light of the results of the first phase of the battle.

The problem is that this pause dragged on for days. The Egyptian leadership thus handed the Israelis the initiative, which the Egyptian forces had won through brilliant planning and great effort and courage. Ismail intended his forces to dig in along the line of sand dunes, on a long





## SADAT'S "MISSED OPPORTUNITIES"



*Deceiving the Arab people:  
soldiers in October War*

front extending more than the length of the Canal. He said later that the aim of this was to attenuate the effect of Israeli air raids and compel the enemy to disperse his forces by confusing him into not knowing where the next Egyptian thrust would come. Such tactics could work for an army which maintains the initiative of attack and keeps on advancing, but the Egyptian army adopted a defensive posture along this extended line and did not try to advance and seize new positions until 14 October, thus enabling the enemy to seize the initiative.

The Egyptian army did not even get as far as the intended line of defence, but stopped short of it some 16 kilometres from the Canal, and so had inadequate depth when the enemy broke through its lines. But even had it reached the intended line, this was totally inadequate as a line to be held by the five Egyptian divisions which crossed the Canal in the first wave, and needs a far larger force to be held effectively.

These five divisions were sufficient to seize the passes in the first three days of the war and hold a superb defensive line with continued SAM air cover. But the Egyptian leadership threw this chance away. As Herzog noted, "the time gained by Israel and lost by the Arabs has been invaluable to Israel." He added that, "unlike the Syrian situation, a fair percentage of the Egyptian reserves have not been committed".

This was the situation on 10 October, when Herzog published his preliminary study. The next day, Ismail began transferring some reserves to the east bank, including some tanks. The Egyptian army had kept about half of its tanks on the west bank up to that date. The aim behind this move was to launch an attack on the enemy after the latter had managed to reinforce his weak Sinai positions to resist it. The

Egyptian leadership was apparently compelled to do this, the "Insight" team relates, because Syria's President Assad had become suspicious and "was threatening to denounce Sadat's betrayal of the Arab cause unless Egypt attacked once more. Politically, Ismail had little choice but to prepare for a fresh assault in Sinai."

However, it was now too late for such an action. The long "operational halt" had given Israel the perfect opportunity to concentrate its major efforts on the Syrian front in the decisive first days. On 9 October roughly half the Golan SAM batteries had been destroyed, and the Israeli air force was able to raid civilian targets in Damascus, Homs, Latakia and Banias to weaken Syria economically. Despite brave resistance by the Syrian and other Arab forces in Golan, by 11 October the military situation allowed the Israelis to transfer a number of tanks from there to Sinai.

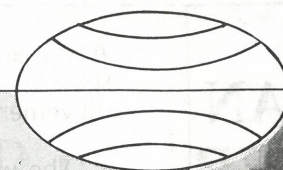
Shadhli described the decision to attack towards the passes on 14 October as "a great mistake". He added that "this mistake led us into another series of mistakes which had a great effect on the course and results of the war. In order to develop our attack to the east while keeping the bridgeheads strong and safe, we had to push the second rows into battle, which led to a weakening of reserve forces on the west bank of the Canal and opened the way to the Deversoir penetration... Our plan of attack included using 4 armoured brigades and a mechanised infantry brigade in four directions. These forces were inadequate to launch an attack on the 8 brigades with 900 tanks which the enemy had managed to place on the Sinai front before dawn on 14 October."

It is clear that main reason for these errors was the political decision to confine the war to a limited scope. As the "Insight" team noted, Ismail claimed "that he alone understood what Sadat wanted — and that was a more complex and subtle outcome than straightforward military victory. Sadat's strategy (was) to use the war as a means of sparking an international crisis sufficiently serious to persuade the superpowers that the Middle East situation was too dangerous to remain unresolved any longer. To achieve this, Ismail saw no need to pursue Israel across Sinai. His own more cautious plan would suffice."

Israel took advantage of this weak point. As Moshe Dayan, then its Defence Minister, confided to Israeli newspaper editors on 9 October, "what we can't do now is to throw the Egyptians back and defeat them. I put the emphasis on *now*. It is possible that, within a short time, opportunities will be afforded and it will be worth our while to cross the Canal."

*(To be continued in the next  
issue of "Palestine")*

## WORLD



## EVENTS

### NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION IN NICARAGUA

A crowd of 300,000 demonstrators in Managua recently manifested their support for the government of national reconstruction of Nicaragua and the revolutionary process. They greeted nationalization of the mines and mining companies, which have so far been chiefly plundered by U.S. corporations, as well as the measures taken by the government to get control of the production and distribution of basic foods. At the demonstration, senior officials of the FSLN national leadership and the government council acknowledged the achievements following the victory of the popular forces, especially in the health and educational spheres. One example of headway in these fields is the second poliomyelitis immunization of children of pre-school age, which was carried out recently. The campaign started in September.

About a million people are to learn to read and write. After almost five decades of rule by the Somoza clan, nearly 70 percent of the 2.3 million people of the country are illiterate. About a thousand Cuban teachers will support this campaign. Already the first 250 of them have come to Managua. Text-books and teaching aids which recently arrived in Managua with a second solidarity consignment from the GDR for Nicaragua were handed over to the education ministry. With its literacy campaign the government of national reconstruction of Nicaragua takes an important step towards implementing its programme, which gives priority to education, health and housing construction.

### ISRAELI PILOTS PARTICIPATE IN MOZAMBIQUE BOMBARDMENT

Two Israeli pilots working for the neocolonialist Muzorewa "government" in Zimbabwe have been shot down in Mozambican air space. This was revealed by the Mozambican ambassador to Portugal, Armando Panguese, in his address to the recent Lisbon Conference in Solidarity with the Arab People and Their Central Cause, Palestine. Mr. Panguese headed the official Frelimo delegation to the Conference.



*The task of reorganization and reconstruction;  
Nicaraguan Interior Minister Borge meeting the people*

### THE MERCENARY ARMY OF RHODESIA

As the Zimbabwe liberation war has expanded, the armed forces of the Salisbury regime have become increasingly dependent on foreign mercenaries, says a report published in London. In fact, it says, the most important characteristic of the Southern Rhodesian army is that it is a mercenary army. The same is true of the air force, with mainly South African and Israeli pilots flying the 300 planes and helicopters which form the backbone of a force greatly expanded by a series of sanctions-breaking deals with western countries.

The Salisbury regime is still recruiting white mercenaries. Indeed, recruitment is said to have been stepped up under the current Salisbury regime. The biggest section of mercenaries in the Southern Rhodesian forces are believed to be South African and British, followed by American, Portuguese, West German, Israeli and French.

Many of the regime's leading military commanders, as well as ordinary soldiers, have backgrounds of service with the British army, the report says. The notorious 'counter-insurgency' unit, Special Air Service (SAS) "is still regarded as the 'c' unit of the British Special Air Service and as such maintains close links with its parent squadron." Many other medium and higher ranking officers are South Africans. U.S. nationals have occupied important positions in the Salisbury regime's military forces. Like the army and air force, the police has also attracted its share of mercenaries. (A.D.N., November 8, 1979).



## IN A PALESTINIAN ATHLETIC CENTER

Descending the stairs of a building in Beirut, we reached a dark shelter deep under the ground. It's not a large room and not well constructed. You can smell the musty humidity down there, for no ray of sunlight finds its way into this place. In this humble and simple room is the karate center, one of the numerous athletic centers run by the Higher Council for Palestinian Sports and Youth which is affiliated to the PLO.



"Our aim is to raise a good generation"

When we arrived, members were already in action — their shouts echoing against the walls. Women from the age of 16 and over were in the midst of their warm-up exercises. Next came repetition of new movements they had learned. The head trainer of the center, Rabia Abdul-Qader, stands before the women and greets them bowing. They return the bow and begin a new karate lesson. The women pay great attention to their instructor and seem very interested in mastering the new movements.

It was raining outside. Water leaked down into this basement through the ceiling. But the women didn't care what was happening around them. What was important was the lesson. Though the center lacks many basic kinds of equipment which could facilitate their training, it was rich with the high spirits of the instructor and his students. Mr. Qadar was teaching them patience, self-confidence and the development of a strong will. The women's faces displayed features of strength. Their movements were coordinated and tight as demanded by the art of karate. The most important parts of the body for this sport are the hands and legs because the variety of the kinds of movements are unlimited.

A student of karate needs about 2/3 of her life span to learn every innumerable possible limb movement.

The women were very quick and they learned fast. This was encouraging because it gives the student more ability and strength to continue on. After an hour the women took a break and we approached them to ask questions. One woman, Wafa Abou Aida, described her interest in the center: "I joined this center, because I believe I can learn a lot here. Any Palestinian can join it without paying a fee. At first I started the sport as a hobby, but now I intend to work harder at it. I hope that I will eventually be able to represent Palestine in athletic competitions. This kind of sport is good for every woman because it teaches you how to defend yourself in addition to strengthening your body. Self-defense emerges from good training, conscious knowledge and body strength. You learn your own capabilities and it helps you overcome your problems. This sport teaches you patience and develops a calmness of mind. I advise every girl to join the center."

### TYKES TAKE TO THE MAT

In the early evening, girls and boys from the ages of 6 to 15 entered the center to take their lesson. They were wearing karate pajamas and prepared themselves for action. Mr. Qadar started them off with basic movements. They responded adeptly and with enthusiasm. They represent the generation of the future. Their shouts seemed to defy the world. Their looks showed their insistence to carry on the thorny task of their parents and ancestors. Palestine is their aim and is in their hearts. After an hour of training, they stopped seeming satisfied, though they were exhausted.

We spoke with Mr. Qadar who has a black belt in karate, as he proudly looked at the children: "We were among the first Arab countries to bring karate into the Arab world. We have won many victories in athletic competitions, and we are careful to protect our victories and championship titles. Our aim is to raise a good generation. That's why we're interested in children, because they constitute the backbone of our country's future. At this karate and judo center, there are children from the age of 7 and up. We teach them self-confidence and good behavior. There are about 120 members in this center, including girls. They take 10 hours of training weekly. The fact that we lack facilities does not stop us from continuing our struggle to achieve our aim. We are people with our own civilization, and our hope is to regain Palestine, where we can perform our activities freely and fully."

## GUPW VISIT: STEP FORWARD IN NORWEGIAN-PALESTINIAN RELATIONS

On September 20, 1979, the Palestine Front in Norway received a General Union of Palestinian Workers (GUPW) delegation which it had invited. The delegation included Zayed Wehbeh, Secretary of the GUPW's Lebanon branch, and Abu George, the Union's Foreign Relations official. This visit was the second of its kind. A GUPW delegation had previously visited Norway last year.

The delegation met with most of the political organizations and parties in Norway, including meetings with local chapters of the Norwegian Trade Union Movement (NTUM), representatives of the Social Democratic Party, the Social Leftist Party and the Norwegian Communist Party. The delegation also met the chairman of the ruling Social Democratic Party's youth organization, Comrade Jagland. The GUPW delegation toured eight factories, gave four public lectures and met with the Palestinian community in Norway.

### POSITIVE RESULTS

The delegation's visit was of importance, especially because Norway has not yet recognized the PLO. On their return members of the delegation praised the warm reception they received from the Norwegian labor unions and from the "Palestine Front", a solidarity organization in Norway. They stressed the fact that there is tangible progress in the Norwegian people's understanding of the just cause of the Palestinian people, including the support of Norway's working class, unions and parties, for the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO.

The delegation pointed out the importance of contacts with leaders of Norwegian trade unions. The GUPW explained the aims of the Palestinian union, of Palestinian workers, and the role the Palestinian working class plays in the Palestinian national struggle. These contacts were especially important because the leadership of the National Trade Union Movement in Norway has strong relations with the Israeli Histadrut union. The delegation praised the press coverage their visit



GUPW leaders Wehbeh (third from left) and Abu George (second from right) meeting with Norwegian labour leaders

received in Norway, where 17 magazines of different political trends covered the activities of the delegation.

The delegation expressed their gratitude to the National Union of Chemical Workers under the presidency of Comrade Arthur Svensson, who supports the right of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland, to exercise self-determination and to establish an independent state of their own. This union has 40,000 members.

### POLITICAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT

The GUPW discussed ways to cooperate in different fields with the leaders of the Norwegian federations. These leaders expressed their desire to visit Lebanon and see the reality of the Palestinian people in camps, and to study the possibilities of cooperative projects. Comrade Jagland of the SDP's youth organization is also expected to pay a visit to Lebanon.

The Palestine Front, which arranged the GUPW's schedule, is a body in which all progressive forces from different parties and political trends are represented. Its leadership consists of leading personalities who have direct relations with the Norwegian working class. It also includes student activists and has branches in most Norwegian towns.

The visit helped open a dialogue between the Palestinian people on the one hand and the trade union leaderships and the Norwegian people on the other about the Palestinian point of view. Continued Israeli provocations against Norwegian forces serving with the United Nations in South Lebanon, and the PLO's successful political moves on the international level, have had their effect in changing Norwegian-Palestinian relations for the better. The visit was a preliminary step toward visits to Norway by other PLO delegations. Delegations from the Women's Union and the Ashbal are expected to visit Norway soon after receiving official invitations.





The late Samed engineer Dr. Abu Raqaba

"SAMED" ENGINEER SACRIFIES HIS LIFE IN GUINEA

## AFRICAN-PALESTINIAN AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

In early November 1979, Dr. Adel Ghani Tawfiq Abu Raqaba, a Palestinian, fell victim to a disease while working as an agricultural engineer on a Guinean-Palestinian agricultural friendship project in Guinea-Conakry. Dr. Abu Raqaba was working with "Samed", the PLO's workshop association.

The "Sons of the Palestinian Martyrs Workshop Association" (Samed) is one of the productive establishments of the Palestinian resistance movement. The Palestinian leadership attributes great and ever-increasing importance to this institution, since it constitutes part of the social progress of the Palestinian people struggling for the recovery of their legitimate national rights.

Samed is involved in the training and employment of Palestinian workers in various vocational and production centers in several Arab countries, especially in Lebanon. Samed meets some of the needs of the Palestinian and Arab people in such fields as clothing, leather and wood work, toys and foodstuffs.

Samed is the nucleus of a Palestinian national economy, part of the consolidation of the Palestinian national identity. This identity has been deliberately undermined and denied by the Zionists ever since the establishment of the Israeli state on Palestinian national soil in 1948.

Samed appreciates the support provided by fraternal and friendly states, which extend their technological experience by supplying equipment, training and professional cadres. Chief among these states are the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic and other socialist countries.

### AFRICAN-PALESTINIAN COOPERATION

Through its agricultural department, Samed has been executing agricultural pilot projects in some friendly African countries, especially after these countries severed their ties with Israel following the wars caused by Israeli aggression in June 1967 and October 1973. These African countries also discovered the racist nature of the Zionist state and its increasing collaboration with the South African regime, supporting the latter's neocolonialist role in exploiting the riches of the African peoples.

The solidarity of the African states with the just Palestinian struggle is reflected in the development of friendly economic relations between the African peoples and the Palestinian people, represented by Samed. The agricultural department of Samed, in executing its agricultural projects in friendly African countries, aims at strengthening the existing cooperative relations. It provides Palestinian agricultural cadres for the training of African cadres to further the production of goods meeting the demands of the local markets, and to expand African agriculture to enable the African states to increase their exports.



Samed agricultural pilot plant in Guinea

### TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

These agricultural projects fall in the line with the development plans of the African states, as is the case in Somalia, Sudan, Guinea-Conakry, Guinea-Bissau and Uganda. These countries provide agricultural land, while the PLO through Samed provides special cadres and the finance needed for production and marketing. These projects are not just aimed at making a profit, but also at ending shortcomings in these countries through the use of modern technology and the development of an economic infrastructure (including road construction, electricity, general construction and schools).

The Palestinian cadres working on these projects also provide consulting services for the friendly African governments in the fields of agriculture and commerce. These agricultural projects are appreciated by the African people and their national governments, which want to build up their agricultural capacities. There are plans to establish similar agricultural projects in the People's Republic of Congo and the People's Republic of Malagasy.

### A NOBLE MARTYRDOM

In executing these projects, Samed and the PLO rely on conscientious cadres who are ready to make sacrifices for the sake of strengthening the ties of cooperation and friendship with the African peoples. One of those cadres was the late engineer, Dr. Abdel Ghanni Tawfiq Abu Raqaba, who died of disease while working on a project in Guinea-Conakry. He completed his university studies in Bulgaria and then directed the agricultural section of the Palestinian-Guinean Friendship Project in Guinea. He sacrificed his life in the most noble manner in the struggle for the social and economic liberation of the exploited peoples and countries. He also gave an example of how to strengthen the friendship between the Palestinian and African peoples.

## SOLIDARITY

### NICARAGUA READY TO JOIN PALESTINIAN STRUGGLE

The Nicaraguan Deputy Minister of the Interior, in a press conference in Lisbon on November 6, declared his country's complete support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, for the achievement of their legitimate national rights which have been usurped by Israel. He added that his country is ready to fight on the field of battle side-by-side with the PLO against Israel. He further expressed his inability to understand how the Israeli people, who have been the victims of Nazism, can now become one of the largest exporters of armaments to such fascist regimes as that of Somoza. The Nicaraguan Deputy Minister had been participating in the International Conference of Solidarity with the Arab People and Palestine, which was held in Lisbon from November 2 to 6.

### LAOTIAN PRESIDENT GREETES PALESTINE CONFERENCE

President Souphanouvong of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos, on October 31, sent a message to the president of the Conference in Solidarity with the Arab and Palestinian People held in Lisbon, expressing the Laotian people's and government's support for the "uncompromising struggle of the Palestinian Arab people against the interference, expansionism and aggression by Israel and the imperialists for the independence, sovereignty, friendship and interests of the Arab peoples." "Together with the people all over the world", the message said that the "Laotian people vehemently denounce Zionism which is organically linked to imperialism, a destructive factor for peace and stability in the Middle East. They condemn the separate peace accords reached at Camp David and demand Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories it illegally occupied in



## SOLIDARITY

1967. This conference will constitute a new step in the development of the world movement for solidarity with the Arab peoples, especially with the Palestinian people who are struggling under the leadership of Palestine Liberation Organization for their inalienable national rights, including their right to found an independent Palestinian state."

### MOROCCAN SOLIDARITY ORGANIZATION

Chairman Yasser Arafat, on November 15, received a cable of solidarity from the Moroccan Association for the support of Palestinian struggle, currently meeting in Rabat. The cable praised the struggle of the Palestinian people, and the victories achieved both inside and outside the occupied territories, specifically at the conference of Non-Aligned States recently held in Havana, and in Western Europe. The cable then reiterated support for the PLO and praised the joint Palestinian-Lebanese confrontation of Israeli aggression in South Lebanon.

### CHANDRA CALLS FOR PALESTINIAN STATE

The President of the World Peace Council, Mr. Romesh Chandra, called on the UN General Assembly and the World Peace Council to actively participate in guaranteeing the restoration of the Palestinian people's national rights. In a speech he delivered on November 14 to the Palestinian delegation at the U.N., the President of the W.P.C. said that it was time to establish an independent Palestinian state for the Palestinian people. Chandra finally confirmed that the World Peace Council will continue to support the PLO in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.



At Lisbon Conference: Chairman Arafat welcomes solidarity delegation

### LATIN AMERICANS PRAISE PALESTINIAN STRUGGLE

Chairman Yasser Arafat on November 15, received a letter from the representatives of Latin American countries and organizations at the International Solidarity Conference with the Palestinian People, which held its meetings early in

November in Lisbon. The letter praised the Palestinian people's struggle against the fascist and colonialist Zionists, who are but an extension of imperialism and therefore an enemy of the peoples of Latin America. The letter reiterated support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

### PALESTINIAN SOLIDARITY RALLY IN BULGARIA

A rally in solidarity with Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails which was held in Sophia recently urged the UN to intervene to stop the illegal measures taken by the Israeli government against the Mayor of Nablus, Bassam al-Shaka'a. It also called for the release of all the political detainees in Israeli jails who suffer from chronic diseases, especially those not yet charged or tried. The participants in the rally said, in a letter sent to Dr. Kurt Waldheim, that the decision taken against Shaka'a is part of the Israeli policy of forcing all the Palestinians to leave their land, a policy which has been practiced against the Palestinian people since 1948. The cable affirmed that the Palestinian people are being subjected to the worst forms of oppression and pointed out the dangers of the Camp David conspiracy which aims at liquidating the Palestinian people's cause through the "self rule" scheme,

thus perpetuating the Israeli occupation. The rally, called by the Palestinian political organizations in Bulgaria, was attended by all factions of the Palestinian Revolution and some Arab student leagues.

### CYPRIOT SCHOOLS AND T.V. COMMEMORATE INTERNATIONAL PALESTINE SOLIDARITY DAY

The Cypriot Minister for Culture, Mr. Sophianos, has given instructions to all schools in Cyprus to commemorate the International Palestine Solidarity Day on November 29. According to these instructions, the first two school lessons of this day will be devoted to explaining the cause of Palestine and the just demands of the Palestinian people.

The same day, a special programme on Palestine will be shown on Cyprus T.V., including a historical lecture about the Palestinian ordeal and the presentation of Palestinian films and poems.

### AAUG HOLDS CONVENTION IN WASHINGTON

The Arab-American University Graduates Association (AAUG) held its annual convention in Washington from November 9-11. "The Critical Nature of U.S.-Arab Relations, with New Opportunities and New Dangers", was the theme of this year's convention. AAUG president Samih Farsoun, reviewing the past year, declared that "the centerpiece of U.S. policy, the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty," affirmed the historic injustice done the Palestinian people". Yet it was also a "year of awakening" for the Arab and Palestinian communities in the U.S., as protests erupted in twenty-six cities against the Egyptian-Israeli treaty; and a year of steadfastness for the Palestinian people as they rejected the "Palestinian reservations" offered them under the "autonomy" plan. "The Palestine question has finally arrived in the United States", Farsoun affirmed, saluting Ambassador Andrew Young, Reverend Joseph Lowery, Reverend Jesse Jackson and other Black community leaders who broke the "shackles" of U.S. policy by talking with the Palestinian people and their representative, the PLO. The "colonial legacy shared by Blacks and Palestinians, is a solid foundation for mutual solidarity and work", Farsoun noted. In his address to the convention, Reverend Joseph Lowery noted, "Until Reverend, the cause of Palestine was the best kept secret in the world. Now it's no secret anymore". Lowery explained why Black leaders and organizations were interested in the Middle East, stating that "foreign policy takes bread from the mouths of black and brown children."

Speaking to the conference, Reverend Jesse Jackson emphasized the emergence of a "new world order" based on cooperation instead of domination and attacked the "absurdity of the no-talk policy" with the PLO. In reference to the Iranian crisis, he said, "If America can talk to the PLO to protect American lives, it can talk to them to protect Palestinian lives". Jackson urged justice and a homeland for the Palestinian people and preservation of the territorial integrity of Lebanon.

Saleh Baransi, a political prisoner held in Israeli jails for ten years, affirmed that the support of "Black Americans for the Palestinian cause was returned with equal solidarity by Palestinians everywhere. Speaking on "behalf of those who face the harsh Zionist regime," Baransi said that "the PLO is the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people everywhere, including those under occupation since

### solidarity-solidarité

INTERNATIONAL DAY JOURNÉE INTERNATIONALE  
OF SOLIDARITY WITH DE SOLIDARITÉ AVEC  
THE PALESTINIAN LES PALESTINIENS  
PEOPLE



29 NOV.

1948". Eqbal Ahmed, a noted scholar and long time activist for the Palestine and Arab cause, then launched a strong attack on the Arab regimes. Citing his own recent trip to South Lebanon, he said that Lebanon was "torn apart while the Arab world watched".

In addition to many other distinguished speakers, messages were read from PLO Chairman Arafat and from Mohammed Milhem, Mayor of Halhoul. Milhem, who along with Bassam Shaka'a, Mayor of Nablus, was denied permission by the Israeli military authorities to travel to the U.S. for the AAUG convention, described the difficult situation in the West Bank. "Bassam Shaka'a is threatened by expulsion but the people of the West Bank are behind him 100 percent", Milhem said. During the AAUG convention, a demonstration was held at the U.S. State Department on November 10 to protest the "treatment of Shaka'a and the other Mayors". Several hundred people demanded "hands off Shaka'a" and "freedom for the Mayors".



32



29 NOVEMBER

INTERNATIONAL PALESTINE SOLIDARITY DAY



SOLIDARITY WITH THE  
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE