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Palestine

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WORLD-WIDE RECOGNITION
OF THE PLO

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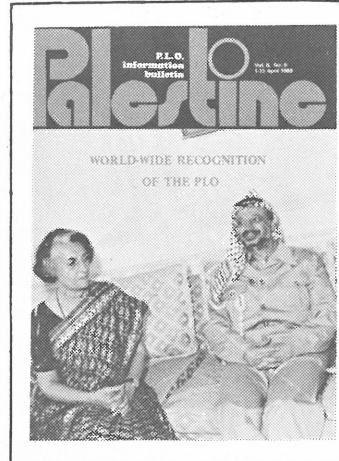
TO OUR READERS

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.

CONTENTS



| | |
|--|----|
| Editorial | 3 |
| Palestine Notes | 4 |
| Chairman Arafat's Visit To India | 6 |
| Sadat And Begin Summoned To Washington | 10 |
| Land Day: | |
| "We Are A Force Nobody Can Ignore" | 12 |
| Support For Hebron | 16 |
| Occupation Diary | 17 |
| Armed Resistance | 19 |
| Zionist Economy In Crisis | 21 |
| Zionism In Practice | 25 |
| Shamir: One Terrorist Appoints The Other | 27 |
| Iran Vs. The Shah And His Friends | 28 |
| World Events | 29 |
| Israeli Cluster Bombs: "Ali Was 10 Years Old..." | 31 |
| Solidarity | 33 |

Palestine

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EDITORIAL

CHAIRMAN ARAFAT IN INDIA

Chairman Arafat's visit to India is an important milestone on the way towards the international recognition of Palestinian national rights and the PLO. It came due to an official invitation extended by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Although the spring breeze was expected to come from the West, it came this time from the East. The Eastern nations who once were colonies of the colonialist West have much in common. They did not only share the hardships of the colonialist past, but they also contributed to the civilization and well-being of mankind with their former prosperity. The developing nations are presently working hard to overcome technical and educational backwardness in order to close the gap between the industrialized and the developing nations.

India, the second biggest nation in the world, with a population of six hundred million, plays an important role in the international arena. India of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, following in the path of her great father Jawaharlal Nehru, is one of the founders of the non-aligned movement. India has endeavoured to build a nucleus of a national industry which can be useful in building bridges to the Arab world. India's recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and the official recognition of the PLO's mission in New Delhi constitute a great success for the PLO's political activities; a step which should be rewarded by the Arab nation and especially by the oil-producing countries.

Little by little the Palestinian people are gaining more and more recognition. On the other hand, Israel is getting more and more isolated and exposed. After 32 years Israel has become notorious as a tool of U.S. and Western imperialism in the Middle East. The U.S. and South Africa remain the best and closest allies of Israel. Western Europe is still hesitating, and the European Community still hasn't decided which way to go.

Austria of Chancellor Kreisky already has officially recognized the PLO and invited Chairman Arafat to Vienna. Spain and Portugal have already taken this step last year. Ireland, an EEC country, adopted the most advanced position within the European Community and recognized the right of the Palestinian people to a state. Other EEC members such as France are still lagging behind and are wavering between terms like "self-determination" and a "homeland". They still try to out balance Zionist blackmailing at home and their interests in the Arab World. In this case the Palestinian people have but to continue paying the price, as they have been doing for 32 years, i.e. since the creation of the state of Israel at the expense of the Palestinian people in Palestine.

The European countries have to follow the example of India and to recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and the PLO. Sooner or later they have to do it, but the sooner the better.

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PALESTINE NOTES

ISRAEL DEFIES U.N. WITH SUPPORT OF U.S.

The PLO observer at the U.N. Zuhdi al-Tarazi strongly criticised U.S. policy in the Middle East on April 1. Speaking at the U.N. Security Council session to debate the Palestinian problem, Tarazi said that the U.S.A. shoulders the basic responsibility in creating obstacles on the road to peace in the region. Tarazi added that Israel could not violate U.N. resolutions without the continuous help of Washington. He affirmed that Israeli crimes cannot be hidden by the Camp David agreements which aim at the extermination of the Palestinian people. Tarazi stated that while the parties to these agreements ask the Palestinian people not to lose hope more settlements are being established in the occupied territories.

Tarazi then described the Camp David accords as an attempt to by-pass the international will, because they ignore the Palestinian people's rights to exercise their inalienable national rights of self-determination. He pointed out that if the current negotiations succeed, over two million Palestinians will have to spend their lives in exile. Tarazi praised the principled stand of the socialist states and their support for Palestinian struggle.

The U.N. Security Council began discussion of the Palestine cause on March 31, and postponed its sessions indefinitely after the U.S. threat to veto a draft resolution confirming the Palestinian right to self-determination, and to establish an independent state. PLO supporters at the U.N. however said that if their efforts were frozen, they would call for an extraordinary session of the U.N. General Assembly where the U.S. veto cannot be used.



Chairman Arafat in discussion with Brazilian delegation

ARAFAT RECEIVES BRAZILIAN DELEGATION

Chairman Yasser Arafat, received a Brazilian delegation on April 2. It was comprised of forty-two personalities, representing all sections of the Brazilian people. Chairman Arafat held a reception in honor of the delegation, attended by PLO Executive Committee members Yasser Abed Rabbo and Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani; and Fateh Foreign Relations Office Director Abu Hatem. The delegation presented Arafat with a golden emblem representing a map of Brazil, while Palestinian kaffiyehs were presented to the members of the Brazilian delegation.

Chairman Arafat and delegation members gave speeches praising the militant relations between the Brazilian people and the Palestinian Revolution. Earlier the delegation toured institutions of the Palestinian revolution. The delegation was also received by Um Jihad, head of the Social Affairs Institution, who briefed the delegation's members about the services being offered to

the families of militants and martyrs.

The head of the Brazilian delegation, Juan Herculino, member of the Brazilian Parliament and Dean of Brazilia University expressed in a speech the delegation's confidence that the Palestinian Revolution will achieve victory.

MESSAGE FROM SOVIET LEADERSHIP

Chairman Arafat received Alexander Soldatov, the Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon on April 3. Comrade Soldatov handed Chairman Arafat an important message from the Soviet leadership dealing with the latest developments of the current situation.

KADDOUMI: JAPAN SHOULD ADOPT MORE ADVANCED STAND

Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department, said in an interview with the Voice of Palestine on April 5, that the newly announced stand of the Japanese government, recognising the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of

the Palestinian people and recognising the right of the Palestinian people to the establishment of an independent state in reality marks no new departure.

Kaddoumi stated, "We already have an office in Tokyo. What we would like, is a more advanced stand to be adopted by the Japanese government, such as granting the PLO full diplomatic status, as India, Tanzania, Senegal and Austria have done. We would furthermore like the Japanese Government to invite Chairman Yasser Arafat officially, rather than leaving the invitation up to the Japanese-Palestinian Friendship Society. An official invitation to Chairman Arafat would be considered a genuine expression of a positive development in Japan's position."

ARAFAT MEETS MAJOR GENERAL SHAZLI

Chairman Yasser Arafat met with Maj. Gen. Sa'adeddine al-Shazli, the General Secretary of the Egyptian National Front and former Egyptian Chief of Staff on April 2. Chairman Arafat discussed with him the current developments in the Arab region, and welcomed the establishment of the Egyptian National Front as a positive step towards foiling Sadat's conspiracies.

PLO EMBASSY IN SENEGAL

Chairman Yasser Arafat sent a cable on April 3 to Senegalese President Leopold Senghor, thanking him for his Government's support of the PLO and for its decision to grant the PLO office in Senegal full diplomatic status. The cable said:

"This step is a reflection of the deep-rooted ties of friendship binding the Senegalese President, Government and people with the Palestinian people and their armed struggle on the one hand; and binding all militant African and Arab peoples on the other. We are sure that Senegal, under your leadership, will remain a strong supporter of the Palestine cause and the just struggle of all peoples against imperialism and Zionism."

Chairman Arafat concluded by



Abu Jihad inaugurating the exhibition

wishing the Senegalese President, Government and people further progress and success.

EXHIBITION OF WORKS OF EGYPTIAN SCULPTOR

Chairman Yasser Arafat and Abu al-Walid, Joint Forces' General Director of Operations, on April 5 visited an exhibition of the work of Muhammad Hajrass, an Egyptian

sculptor. The exhibit includes paintings and sculptures depicting the Battle of Karameh and the Kamal Adwan commando operation. The exhibition being held in the Beirut Arab University, was inaugurated on April 1st. by Abu Jihad, member of the Fateh Central Committee. The exhibition was organised by the Plastic Arts Section of the Palestinian Unified Information.



Chairman Arafat receiving Foreign Minister Shah Dost

ARAFAT MEETS WITH AFGHANI FOREIGN MINISTER

The foreign minister of Afghanistan, Mohammad Shah Dost, arrived in Beirut on April 9, and Chairman Arafat met with him the same day. The meeting was attended by Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department; Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani and Yasser Abed Rabbo, both members of the PLO Executive Committee; Issam al-Qadi, General Secretary of al-Saiqa Organisation; Abu Ja'afar, Director of the PLO Political Department; and Ahmad Abdel Rahman, Chief Editor of "Falastin al-Thawra". The talks centred on the situation in the

region, particularly Afghan-Palestinian relations. During the meeting, Mr. Dost, handed Chairman Arafat a message from President Babrak Karmal. The message confirmed Afghanistan's full support to the PLO and the Palestinian people in their national struggle to liberate Palestine and restore the national rights of the Palestinian people. It also stressed of the Palestinian People to self-determination and establishment of an independent state on Palestinian soil. The Afghani Foreign Minister expressed up on his arrival his hope that the visit would strengthen the bilateral relations between Afghanistan and the PLO.



Chairman Arafat and Prime Minister Gandhi at reception with President Reddy

WORLD-WIDE RECOGNITION OF THE PLO:

CHAIRMAN ARAFAT'S VISIT TO INDIA

Chairman Arafat arrived in New Delhi on March 28, at the head of a PLO-delegation on a two-day visit at the invitation of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The Indian Foreign Minister P.V.N. Rao announced Chairman Arafat's visit to India in a speech to cheering members of the Indian parliament on March 26. He also officially announced India's decision of granting the PLO-office in New Delhi, established in 1975, full diplomatic status.

Indian Premier Indira Gandhi, Indian Foreign Minister P.V.N. Rao, and members of the Arab and Islamic Diplomatic corps received Chairman

Arafat upon his arrival at the Delhi airport. Thousands of enthusiastic Indian citizens gave Chairman Arafat a rousing welcome as his motorcade passed through the streets of the capital. Pictures of Chairman Arafat carried aloft by the Indian masses were much in evidence.

Later Chairman Arafat was received by Indian President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy. He met also with the Indian Premier Gandhi with whom he discussed political issues on the Palestinian, Arab and international levels.

Chairman Arafat's official meeting with

Premier Gandhi was attended by Indian Foreign Minister Rao and members of the Palestinian delegation, including Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department, PLO Official Spokesman Abdel Muhsin Abu Maizar, PLO Executive Committee members Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani and Abdul Rahim Ahmad. The meeting lasted one and a half hours. Palestinian-Indian relations, the developments of the Palestine cause, and various international issues were discussed.

Chairman Arafat met also with a number of Muslim scholars, who garlanded him with flowers and coins. They affirmed their support for the Palestinian struggle to liberate Jerusalem.

**"WE WILL STRUGGLE
TOGETHER WITH ALL
PEACE-LOVING PEOPLE"**

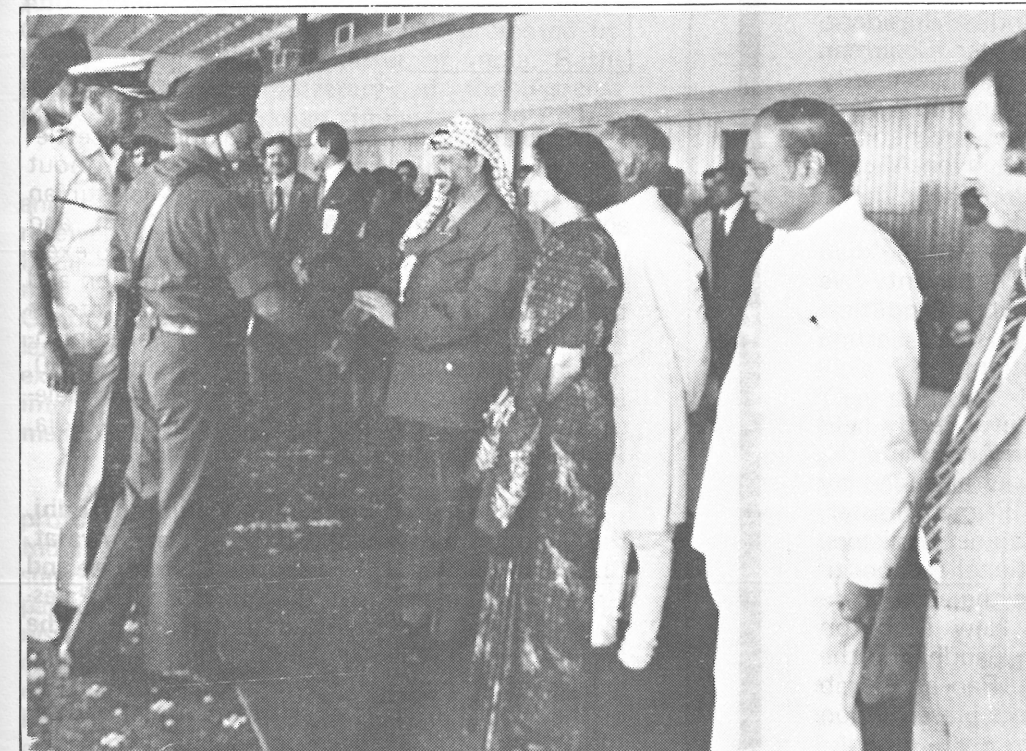
Premier Indira Gandhi held a banquet in honor of Chairman Arafat and the Palestinian delegation. It was attended by a number of high ranking members of the Indian Government and leading Indian figures, as well as World Peace Council head Romesh Chandra, and many other figures. At the end of the dinner, Chairman Arafat delivered a speech. He said:

"In my name and the name of the PLO and the Palestinian people, I would like to express my thanks for your invitation. We will continue to see in India's initiatives and its major role in international politics, a great source of support for the struggle of all peoples, and in particular the Palestinian people for the liberation of their

homeland, and to regain their rights and achieve their national independence. The ties that have been holding us for long now have today taken on a new dimension and crossed over to a new phase as a result of your material and moral support for the PLO.

"Mrs. Prime Minister, our people at this time are being subjected to a new phase in the conspiracy against their national rights, namely the Camp David accords and the self-rule scheme. These accords, masquerading as peace, in fact amount to a call for war, which has given the Israeli enemy new vigor. Israel escalates its settlement campaign in our Arab and Palestinian occupied territories, and persists in violating our holy places and intimidating our people under occupation. Israel also escalates its aggression against our people and the Lebanese people in south Lebanon. Recently it has begun issuing threats against Syria as it continues with the full encouragement of the U.S.A. in its ever more desperate attempts to impose these accords, which mean surrender and the squandering of our national rights. Our Palestinian people are strongly determined to confront all these conspiracies and to carry on with their just struggle by all means, especially armed struggle. At the same time, our people are also determined to carry on with their struggle to establish a just peace.

"Just peace in the Middle East can only be established by putting an end to the Israeli occupation of Palestinian and Arab land, and by enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable national rights to return, self-deter-



*A rousing welcome for
the Palestinian delegation*

CHAIRMAN ARAFAT'S VISIT TO INDIA

mination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil... By our struggle, we are working with all peace-loving forces in the world to construct a new world where there is no place for occupation, annexation, racism, imperialism, or exploitation."

Chairman Arafat finally expressed his great admiration for the Indian model in progress and internal democracy, and called for the strengthening of Indian-Palestinian relations.

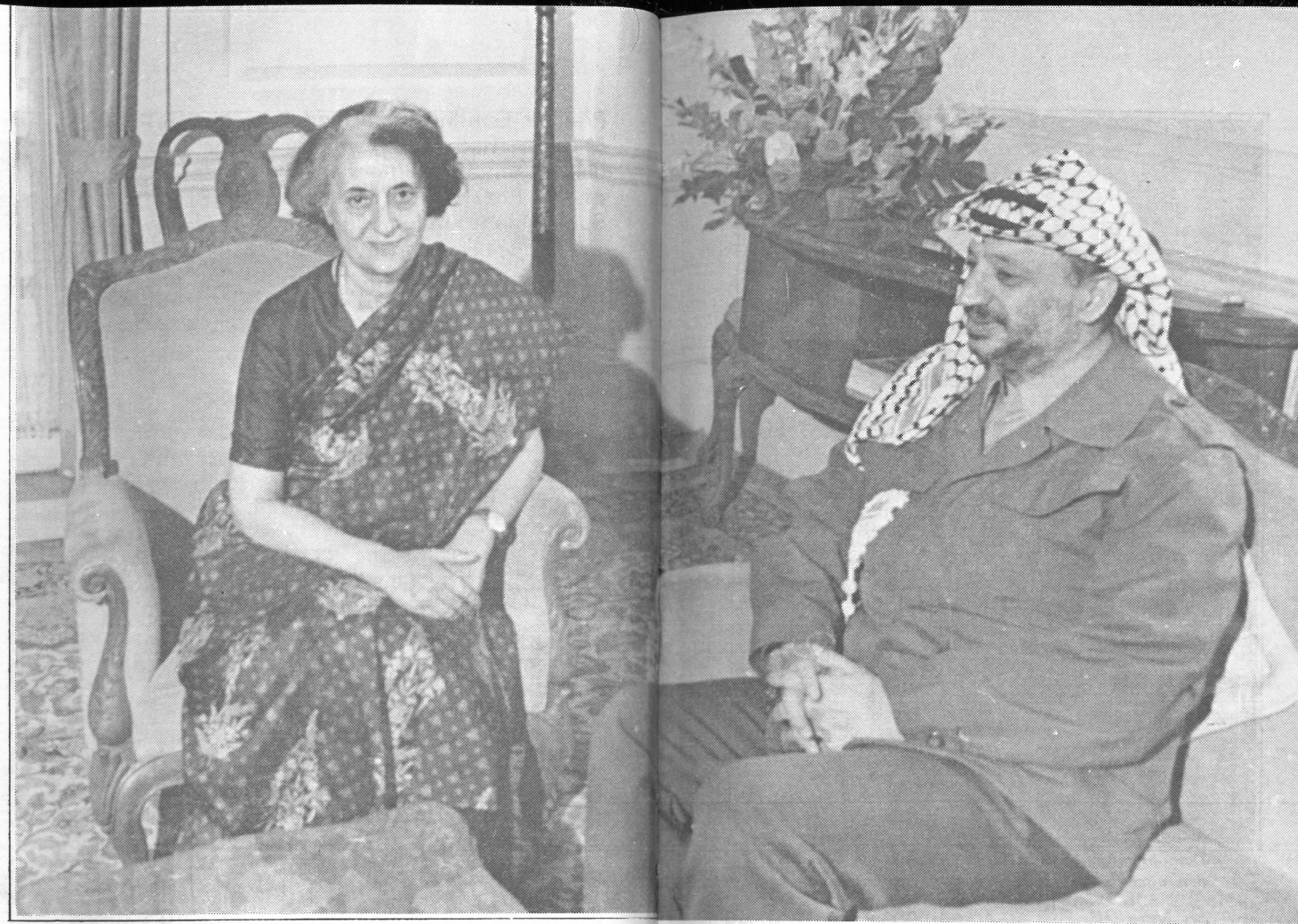
On March 29, Chairman Arafat visited the tomb of Mahatma Gandhi, where he placed a wreath and signed the visitor's book. Accompanied by the rest of the Palestinian delegation, senior officials in the Indian Prime Minister's office, officials from the Indian Foreign Ministry, and the Indian Ambassador to Lebanon, Chairman Arafat then visited the tomb of India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, where he placed another wreath.

Chairman Arafat met with the General Secretary of the Indian Communist Party on March 29. He discussed with him the latest developments on the Arab and international levels, particularly the Palestine cause and the situation in south Lebanon.

Later on, Chairman Arafat received Arab Ambassadors to India, with whom he discussed the current Arab and international situation, Palestinian-Indian relations, and the fruitful results of his talks with the Indian President, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister. Chairman Arafat affirmed during the meeting the necessity of strengthening Arab-Indian relations in light of the role played by India in the international arena, especially within the Non-Aligned Movement.

Chairman Arafat also met with the Indian Foreign Minister P.V.N. Rao. The seventy-five minute meeting focused on current political developments, the development of the Palestine cause and Indian-Palestinian relations.

Indian President Neetam Sanjiva Reddy held a luncheon in honor of Chairman Arafat and the Palestinian delegation, which was attended by Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, and a large number of Indian Cabinet Ministers, members of Parliament, and national and political figures. Chairman Arafat and the accompanying Palestinian delegation left New Delhi on March 30. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and the Indian Foreign Minister P.V.N. Rao and Arab and Islamic Diplomatic Corps were present upon Chairman Arafat's departure.



Prime Minister Gandhi and Chairman Arafat:

PALESTINIAN-INDIAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE

India and the PLO affirmed that no settlement in the Middle East can be achieved without full Israeli withdrawal from all the Palestinian and Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and without enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their rights to return, self-determination and the establishment of an independent state in Palestine. This was expressed in a Palestinian-Indian joint communique issued on March 30, following the official visit of a Palestinian delegation, headed by Chairman Arafat, to India. Following is the text of the communique:

"Upon an invitation from Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, visited India during the period March 28-30, 1980. The Palestinian delegation comprised Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department; Abdel Muhsin Abu Maizar, the Official Spokesman of the PLO;

"Cooperation on all levels"

Ahmed Sidqi al-Dajani, member of the PLO Executive Committee; Abdel Fattah Ghanim, member of the Palestinian Central Council; and Abu Tariq, member of the Palestine National Congress. The Indian side was represented by P.V.N. Rao, Foreign Minister of India; Rashi Bendari, General Secretary of the Foreign Ministry; and the Indian Ambassador to Beirut.

"During his stay in New Delhi, Yasser Arafat and the delegation that accompanied him was received by the President of the Republic of India, Mr. Neetam Sanjiva Reddy. Arafat also met with the Prime Minister of India, Indira Gandhi, with whom he conducted a series of lengthy talks on issues of joint concern, the explosive situation in the Middle East and the international situation, including recent developments in the region.

"During the talks, which were conducted in a profoundly warm and friendly atmosphere, the Indian Prime Minister confirmed her principled stand in support of the Arab cause, and in particular, the Palestine cause. The Prime Minister expressed her conviction that a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East can only be achieved with the participation of the PLO as a full partner in any settlement of the crisis. Furthermore, she maintained such a settle-

ment must be based on a complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and on the Palestinian people being enabled to exercise their rights to return to their homeland, self-determination and the establishment of an independent state in Palestine. In this context, the two sides confirmed their adherence to the special resolutions of the Eighth Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned States in Havana last year concerning the Middle East and the Palestine cause, and condemning the Camp David accords.

"The two sides condemned Israel's repeated violations of the U.N. resolutions, its obstinate pursuit of a policy of expansionism, its aggressions inside the occupied territories and in south Lebanon, and its policy of building settlements and exploiting natural resources in the occupied territories.

"Arafat and Mrs. Gandhi discussed various international issues, in particular the situation in southern Asia, and they agreed that the high tension in the region can only be eased through political and diplomatic means and not through the use of military force.

"Yasser Arafat expressed his appreciation for India's constructive regional role, particularly in this present critical phase. He also expressed his deep appreciation for India's role in supporting the Palestinian and Arab struggle over the last three decades, and praised the historical relations between India and the PLO and the Arab world. He welcomed India's role in the struggle against colonialism, imperialism and all kinds of discrimination, and lauded the positive and influential role played by India's Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, in the Non-Aligned Movement. Arafat finally expressed his admiration for India's achievements on the industrial, technological and scientific levels, and indicated his belief that Indian experience and technology could contribute greatly to the development of the Arab world.

"The two sides expressed their satisfaction on the level of cooperation between India and the PLO and between India and the Arab world. They said that they believed that there was vast potential for the development of cooperation on all levels and that there was complementary relations between the economies of India and the Arab world. They agreed to seek a suitable framework for regular exchanges of consultations, in particular between India, the PLO and the Arab League.

"Arafat finally thanked Premier Indira Gandhi for her invitation to him to visit India, and for granting the PLO mission in New Delhi full diplomatic status."

YET ANOTHER CARTER INITIATIVE:

SADAT AND BEGIN SUMMONED TO WASHINGTON

It was announced in Washington on March 19 that U.S. President Carter has invited both the Israeli and Egyptian leaders to the United States. The purpose is said to be "to confer with them separately in order to remove obstacles in talks on autonomy (for the Palestinians)." White House Press Secretary Jody Powell, who briefed journalists on the matter, rejected suggestions that the talks were deadlocked and said: "The Washington meeting will produce sufficient momentum to continue the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations." He stressed that "the meetings are intended to support the negotiations, not replace them."

This latest U.S. initiative comes at a time when even those who, naively or otherwise, had initially supported the Camp David "Framework for Peace in the Middle East" are voicing their concern over the formula's failure in its attempt to bypass the Palestinian people and their sole legitimate representative, the PLO. But many wonder why President Carter wants to confer with Begin and Sadat, and how this is to produce "sufficient momentum" for the completion of the negotiations.

THE FALSE PREMISES

At the basis of the so-called autonomy talks for the West Bank and Gaza lies the framework drafted at Camp David over a year ago. As part of the accord, Israel and Egypt agreed to start negotiations on Palestinian autonomy to work out "the modalities for establishing the elected self-governing authority, define its powers and responsibilities, and agree upon other later issues."

The agreement also called for "completing the negotiations within one year so that elections will be held as expeditiously as possible after the agreement." That one year is going to



Demonstrators outside the U.S. embassy in Teheran denounce the imperialist conspiracy of Camp David

end on May 26. But an agreement even on those terms is far from near.

Among the several false premises the accord was based on is the expected participation of Jordan. The agreement stated that "in accordance with the 'Framework for Peace in the Middle East,' the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is invited to join the negotiations." Contrary to the Camp David trio's expectations, the Hashemite king declared on several occasions that he neither represents, nor can negotiate on behalf of, the Palestinian people.

The agreements' text also assumed that Palestinians from within the occupied territories would join the talks on U.S.-Israeli terms. "The delegations from Egypt and Jordan may include Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza or other Palestinians as mutually agreed." The hunt for Palestinians to participate in the talks was shattered by the unanimous rejection by the Palestinian people of the "self-rule" conspiracy. The Palestinian people under occupation, ever since the talks were inaugurated, have resorted to every means available to them to counter what they understand to be moves to deny them their legitimate national rights and to legitimize Zionist occupation.

THE DOOMED TALKS

Only weeks after the inauguration of the

talks between Israel and Egypt it became clear that a "peace" based on Palestinian "self-rule" on Zionist terms would never work out. Nevertheless, contrary to any logic, the Camp David trio have maintained the talks for a year now. To project the illusion of momentum they have also been publicly exchanging accusations and counter-accusations.

The Zionist government has continued the talks because it finds them to be a suitable cover for its expansion and expropriation of Arab land. Only last month it confiscated 1000 acres of land around Jerusalem, and gave the go-ahead for the construction of more Zionist settlements in Hebron.

For its compliance the Egyptian regime has been offered a part of Sinai. It has also been offered millions of U.S. dollars and large amounts of U.S. weaponry to face the wrath of its people. The U.S. government, for its part, is satisfied with the resultant stagnation, since its multi-national interests dealing with oil and other commodities in the region have been showing tremendous profits.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN

The prerequisites for a general peace are clear for Sadat, Carter and Begin to see. A real peace in the Middle East, as recognized by nearly all members of the United Nations General Assembly, can only be achieved by recognizing the legitimate national right of the Palestinian people to a state in their own land, Palestine, and the unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab land.

But Carter has once again decided to take his own "initiative" to bypass the facts of peace. Washington is maintaining that the Camp David policy is still alive, and what it needs is the "momentum" which Carter intends to inject into it when he meets Sadat and Begin in Washington in April.

These latest moves can only be understood within the context of American politics, especially in the current election year. Carter's only claim to success in his foreign policy has been what he terms "peace in the Middle East." With the blunder he committed by giving refuge to the Shah of Iran, with the world sceptical of his hysterical campaign over Afghanistan (scepticism shared even by close U.S. allies), Carter wants to maintain the image of a peace broker in the Middle East. What better way to do this than to invite his partners to the U.S.?

It should be recalled that on March 3 Carter retracted the U.S. vote on March 1 in the UN Security Council denouncing Zionist settlement

policy in the occupied territories. He said the vote was "a genuine mistake" and marked "a breakdown of communications in the Administration." What this blunder underlined was the fact that Carter is out to appease the Zionist lobby in an effort to win its support. By having Begin in Washington the presidential candidate Carter hopes to bolster his image as the Guardian of Zion.

Under the cover of the talks for peace in the Middle East, Carter has unveiled yet another initiative. It is aimed at anything but peace in the Middle East, and is such doomed before it begins.



WALDHEIM: "PALESTINIAN AUTONOMY TALKS A FAILURE"

U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim in an interview with the Austrian Newspaper "Die Presse" on April 1, called the so-called Israeli-Egyptian talks on Palestinian autonomy "a failure". He added that there is little hope for a breaking of the deadlock by anything US President Carter could do in his talks with Egyptian and Israeli leaders. As an alternative he suggested "an international conference aimed at a global solution of the Middle East crisis." The UN Secretary General added that he wanted "all interested parties, including the PLO to attend."

LAND DAY:

"WE ARE A FORCE NOBODY CAN IGNORE"

The Conference for the Defence of the Land convened on October 18, 1975 in the Galilee region, northern Palestine. The first resolution, it adopted, deplored and condemned the Israeli government's practice of confiscating the land of Arab citizens of the Galilee, the Triangle, and the Negev. The conference asserted that the Israeli policy was in contradiction with Arab rights in their own homeland, and violated the Charter of Human Rights and principles of democracy and equality. The conference also formed a committee, whose task was to mobilize popular efforts to implement its resolutions. The committee held a meeting on March 6, 1976, attended by about 20 heads of municipal

councils, who decided, after consulting with popular forces, to designate the 30th of March as "Land Day". The committee declared a general strike to be observed on the same day in protest against the Zionist policy of seizure and Judaization of Arab land. The Land Day strike and demonstrations had come as a result of the unanimous resistance to Zionist practices of oppression, racial discrimination, expropriation of land, and destruction of property which the Palestinian Arab people had to endure throughout 28 years of Israeli occupation.

The Zionist authorities reacted to the Land Day protests with animosity and racist aggres-



Sakhnin 1976: Our people bury the murdered martyrs.

sion. The Israeli military and civil authorities tried every possible means to foil the Land Day general strike. They rallied their agents and collaborators, and used the old method of "divide and rule". Israeli police were put on the alert. The Minister of Police himself supervised acts of terror and repression, which included shooting at people inside their own houses. In spite of all the brutal provocations, the Arab masses carried out their general strike, and expressed their determination to maintain their right to exist in the land of their forefathers. They confronted the intensified terrorism of Israel by their simple weapons of stones, clubs, and Molotov cocktails.

ZIONISTS TURN PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION INTO MASSACRE

On March 31, the Jerusalem newspaper "Al Ittihad" described the events of the Land Day strike: "By a premeditated decision taken by senior officials, Israeli soldiers and frontier guards changed the strike staged peacefully by the Arab masses for the defence of land into an awful massacre, in which six persons were killed and hundreds were wounded. 250 persons were also arrested from different towns and villages". The brutal attack on Arab villages began on the eve of the general strike. On March 29, 1976, Israeli policemen provoked Arab villagers by beating them up, hurled tear gas bombs and fired on them, under the pretext of countering resistance to the security forces. During this bloody attack the first martyr fell, Kheir Ahmad, a 20-year-old youth from Arraba village. The forces continued their attack on Deir Hanna and Sakhnin villages. On the day of the strike, the Israeli police imposed curfew measures on the Galilee, and the Triangle villages, which were transformed into armed Israeli encampments in order to deceive journalists and make them believe that the situation was grave and explosive. Nevertheless, the masses held their popular demonstrations and amassed in the villages under the slogans of defending the land against the danger of expropriation and for ending all forms of national and racial persecution.

The wave of repression and terrorism extended to include other Arab villages, including those outside the Galilee region which did not take part in the strike. *The Times* reported on March 31, 1976: "Most shops and offices in the Galilee region were shut as part of a general strike and sympathy protests were held in Jerusalem and some West Bank towns. A curfew was imposed on Deir Hanna and the neighbouring villages of Sakhnin and Arraba, but early this morning it was broken at Sakhnin by villagers who left their homes to demonstrate and throw stones... Three Arabs were killed in the village when troops opened fire on a crowd...

An Arab was killed by gunfire at Tireh in the 'Triangle' area. The sixth death was in the ancient town of Cana of Galilee.

In 1976, the Zionist enemy thought that the civil war in Lebanon might eradicate the Palestinian revolution, or reduce its effect on the Arab masses of the occupied territories. But the Land Day uprising gave root to a new confrontation front in Galilee, the Triangle, and the Negev. The Land Day events proved that unity of militants and organisation of masses are essential weapons for the Palestinian Revolution to continue its struggle and fulfill its purposes of liberating land and man.

1980: THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES

On the fourth anniversary of Land Day, popular rallies were organised in Galilee, the Triangle, and the Negev, in addition to a general strike observed by all villages and towns in the 1967-occupied territories. This year, our Palestinian people had to face the Zionist plot of Judaizing Hebron, and other settlement plans in the occupied West Bank. When the Israeli government decided to allow settlers to live in the heart of Hebron, Arab masses of Hebron, Jerusalem, Nablus, Ramallah, and Bethlehem held conferences and declared strikes and demonstrations in protest against Israeli Judaization plans.

Thousands of Palestinians and members of the Jewish progressive forces gathered in the village of Luqqiya in the Negev on the anniversary of the Land Day to hear speeches delivered by a number of Arab and Jewish progressive leaders. All the speeches concentrated on denunciation of the occupation, the confiscation of land, and the oppression practiced by the Israeli authorities. The principal speech in the rally was delivered by Emile Habibi, who praised the achievements of the PLO on the international



**"WE ARE A FORCE
NOBODY CAN IGNORE"**

level, and the cohesion between the Palestinian masses in the occupied territories to strengthen their alliance with the Jewish progressive forces. Around 6000 Arab people grouped in a rally in the village of Kfar Qanna, and a number of speeches were made by Palestinian nationalists and progressive Jewish figures. In the concluding speech, Tewfiq Toubi, Deputy Secretary General of the Israeli Communist Party "Rakah", said: "There will be no peace on this land without the immediate and total withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all the occupied territories, the regaining of all the rights of the Palestinian people who will carry on their struggle as long as there is a parcel of Palestinian land under occupation. A 10,000 strong rally was held at the 30th of March Square of Arraba, which was attended by citizens from different towns and villages of the Acre region. A number of marches were also staged in the villages of Sakhnin and Deir Hanna, during which the demonstrators chanted slogans in support of the PLO. Other speeches were delivered by representatives of national organisations and institutions and progressive Jewish figures, such as Meir Vilner, the Secretary General of Rakah. At the end of the rally, the participants saluted the Palestinian masses all over the world, the progressive Jewish forces, and all the free men of the world. The Triangle rally in which more than 7000 citizens participated, was addressed by Taybeh Mayor Abdellatif Habib; by Amina Hamid on behalf of the woman's Democratic Movement in the Triangle, and by a number of progressive Jewish forces. The speakers all reiterated their opposition to the Zionist land seizure and to all plans which aim at dispersing the Palestinian people. The last speech was delivered by Nazareth Mayor Tewfiq Zayyad, who said: "We are a force that no one in the world can ignore. They wanted to liquidate Palestinian national rights, but they were confronted by a people determined to sacrifice everything so as to safeguard their rights and foil all conspiracies against them, including the Camp David accords. Zayyad also added: "The Likud Government will fall, and Begin will go as did Rabin. Only Arafat will remain, for he is a representative of Palestinian rights. What is needed is a substitute for this policy, and not a substitute for the PLO."

WEST BANK RALLIES OF SUPPORT

On the fourth anniversary of the Land Day, the West Bank Mayors confirmed the Palestinian people's determination to hold on to their land and to defend it with all available means in the face of the Israeli policy of land seizure, Judaization and settlement. Nablus Mayor Bassam al-Shaka'a, Hebron Mayor Fahd al-Qawasmeh, and al-Bireh Mayor Ibrahim al-Tawil, all confirmed that the Palestinian people's general strike in the occupied territories was an expression of their determination to resist Israeli occupation and that the Day of the Land was yet another expression of their hold on their land.

On March 29, Israeli forces stormed the headquarters of the Palestinian employees Club in Jerusalem, arrested thirty Palestinian citizens, and confiscated Palestinian flag, causing great damage to the contents of the building. A huge rally was being held in the Club and the square facing it, celebrating the fourth anniversary of the Land Day. The participants were incensed at the Israeli actions and expressed their readiness to clash with the Israeli forces when the latter tried to tear down the Palestinian flag. A number of speeches were delivered in the conference, which was attended by representatives of all national institutions and organisations in Jerusalem. The speeches reaffirmed the unity of the Palestinian people both in the 1967 occupied territories and in the parts of Palestine occupied in 1948, and denounced Israeli settlement in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, Galilee and the Negev. Hebron Mayor Fahd al-Qawasmeh addressed the conference, reaffirmed the determination of the Palestinian masses to confront Israeli settlement and land confiscation, and said: "The occupation policy will not



succeed in forcing us to leave our lands. We will stay in this land and will use all means to resist Israeli settlement in the occupied Palestinian town of Hebron." At the end of the conference, a communique was issued, denouncing the Israeli decision to close down the Science College in Jerusalem, and calling on the Palestinian people to rally around the National Guidance Committee and to establish branch committees in all towns and villages in the occupied territories. The communique finally reaffirmed the determination of the Palestinian people to regain their rights to return, self-determination, and the establishment of their own independent state.

SOLIDARITY RALLIES

On March 29, 1980, the Social Committee of the General Union of Palestinian Students held a meeting in the Engineering School of Damascus University to mark Land Day. Another meeting and popular march was organised by the various groups of the Palestinian Revolution and other popular organisations in the Yarmouk Camp in Syria. The speeches at the two events praised the steadfastness of the masses manifested on Land Day and expressed their support for the Palestinian Revolution.

In Aden, the Palestinian and Arab people celebrated the fourth anniversary of the Day of the Land confirming their determination to support the struggle of the Palestinian people, and to foil all enemy conspiracies. The PLO representative in Aden called on the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front to shoulder its responsibilities on all levels. In Morocco, the Moroccan Society for the Support of the Palestinian People's Struggle on March 31, held a press conference in Rabat, attended by Moroccan, Arab and foreign correspondents and representatives of the progressive political parties in Morocco. The speakers outlined the dangerous dimensions of the Israeli settlement policies in the Palestinian occupied territories. In Teheran, the General Union of Palestinian Students issued a communique, in which they said the Day of the Land is a day of Palestinian national unity and allegiance to the PLO. The communique also condemned the Israeli expansionist policy of settlements, and called on all to fully support the Palestinian people inside the occupied territories in their struggle against the Camp David conspiracy and the self-rule scheme.

In a huge rally held in Moscow on March 31, by the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with the Palestinian people, and attended by high-ranking Soviet figures, correspondents, and Palestinian students studying in the U.S.S.R., the Deputy President of the Committee reaffirmed the support of the U.S.S.R. for the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of

the PLO. The Soviet scientist Vladimir Kopin, member of the Soviet Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Palestinian People, denounced the Israeli settlement and land confiscation policy, and the expulsion of Palestinians from their land. Kopin said that the support by all progressive forces for the just cause of the Palestinians is of the utmost importance.

Muhammad al-Sha'er, Head of the PLO Office in the U.S.S.R., then made a speech, reviewing the struggle of the Palestinian people which is an integral part of the anti-imperialist struggle in the Middle East, where tension has recently increased as a result of U.S. moves in the region under the pretext of facing the "Soviet threat". Sha'er added that the Palestinians fully support the stand of the U.S.S.R. as regards Afghanistan and its backing of the legitimate Afghan Government. Sha'er finally thanked the Soviet people for their solidarity with, and support for, the just cause of the Palestinian people, and expressed his conviction that friendship and cooperation between the two peoples will continue and increase.

SOLIDARITY RALLY IN BEIRUT

On March 30, 1980, a mass rally in the Gamal Abdel Nasser Hall of the Beirut Arab University was held on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the Land Day with many Palestinian and Lebanese national leaders attending. Fateh Central Committee member Abu Jihad declared at the rally that all the militants outside the occupied territories are intensely concerned with the sufferings of the militants inside the occupied territories. Abu Jihad addressed the masses in the occupied territories and said: "Our brothers in the occupied territories, you brothers in the bases of the Palestinian Revolution, together with the Lebanese fighters are like a strong rock that backs you. Therefore we convey to you our common salutations and we convey to you our voice in a meeting which is being held at the same time as you hold your meetings at Arba, Tayybeh, Nablus, Hebron, Luqqiya and the Negev to celebrate the Day of the Land."

The Day of the Land has become much more than a mere occasion. It is a day to affirm national unity, the unity of people, the unity of the fighting gun, the unity of past, present and future. It is a day to affirm with renewed vigor that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the entire Palestinian people. It is a day to carry on the fight against Zionist aggression and against the capitulationists.

SUPPORT FOR HEBRON



Arab and Jewish youth marched together through the Palestinian village of Tayiba on Land Day 1980 to protest Zionist mania and express support for the PLO.

National institutions and organisations as well as popular unions in Nablus held a popular conference on April 1 to express their solidarity with the inhabitants of Hebron who confront the Israeli settlement decisions and the measures of the Gush Imonim movement. Nablus Mayor Bassam al-Shaka'a inaugurated the conference with a minute of silence in memory of the martyrs who fell on the Day of the Land in 1976. He denounced the Israeli settlement activities carried out at the expense of the Palestinian people. The mayor also condemned the Israeli attempts to minimize the effectiveness of Palestinian national institutions, universities and unions. He condemned land seizures and the encirclement of Palestinian towns and villages. Shaka'a reiterated that the struggle and the united stand of the Palestinian people was able to foil the Camp David conspiracy and to transform the region into a vanguard trench for the confrontation of the Israeli enemy. "Israel's terrorist policies will not scare the Palestinian people, but instead will increase their determination to continue the struggle", the mayor affirmed.

The conference then issued a communique including the following eight resolutions:

1. To stand firm against these arbitrary Israeli measures and to foil them.
2. To support the town of Hebron and whatever resolutions it adopts.
3. To condemn all forms of collective punishment against the villages of Abboud, Deir Abou Mesha'al and the al-Jalazoun Camp; and the aggressive policies against the Palestinian universities and educational institutions.
4. To support the stand adopted by

villages rejecting to join the regional Israel electricity network and the Israeli Water Company, which are all attempts to control the economy of the region.

5. To denounce and reject all laws that violate international conventions, the latest being a modification of the labor and employee laws, which constitute a violation of the most basic rights of employees.

6. To send a letter of protest to the Israeli Military Governor-General denouncing all such measures.

7. To support the town of Hebron; and stage a silent march this morning from the al-Nasr Mosque to the headquarters of the Military Governor, in protest against the Israeli attempts to Judaize the town of Hebron.

8. To cut off all relations with the Zionist settlements and settlers.

SOLIDARITY WITH HEBRON

Hebron Mayor Fahd al-Qawasmeh has received more messages of support denouncing the Israeli expansionist policy in the occupied territories in general and the recent Israeli government decision to establish two religious schools in Hebron in particular. The Palestinian student movement in the occupied territories issued a communique affirming its readiness to participate in the popular march on April 2 in Hebron to protest the settlement operations and the provocations of the Gush Emunim movement. The Israeli Democratic Front for Peace and Equality also issued a communique in which it called on the West Bank masses to express solidarity with the citizens of Hebron and to participate in the popular march.

ANTI-SETTLEMENT PROTESTS

West Bank Palestinian leaders are continuing their protests against Israel's settlement policy. On April 2, Arab youths in Nablus and Ramallah hurled stones at Israeli vehicles. Pupils also stayed out of school in Hebron and Bethlehem to join the protests. Offices and shops in all four towns closed. Arabs who reside in Hebron were not allowed to enter the city after roads were closed by Israeli occupation forces. Arab mayors, town councilmen and other officials gathered in al-Bireh for a protest meeting: Al-Bireh Mayor Ibrahim Tawil told the Associated Press that about 100 people gathered in his town after being refused entry to Hebron. "We protest the way the Israelis are treating us by not allowing us to go to Hebron, a city in our own country", Tawil said.

In Nablus, the West Bank largest city after Jerusalem, Mayor Bassam Shaka'a led about 100 Palestinians in a march to the local military government headquarters. They presented a protest letter to the Israeli commander and then returned home. The West Bank mayors have threatened to resign if Israel goes through with a plan to build a religious seminary and a field school in Hebron's old "Jewish Quarter." Mayor Fahed Qawasmeh said the Palestinians will resist the Israeli provocative decision "by all means at our disposal."

CURFEW IN BEITUNIA

Mayors of Ramallah, al-Bireh, Bir Zeit, Beitunia, Bani Zeid, Salwad and Deir Dibwan, held a meeting in Beitunia municipality on April 3. They discussed the latest developments of Abboud and Deir Abou Mesha'al which have been under an Israeli-imposed curfew since March 27. The mayors decided to contact the delegate of the International Red Cross Committee for the supply of food to the villages and to check the health of the villagers. The mayors also sent

cables of denunciation to the Israeli military governor of the West Bank and to the military governor of the Ramallah region, calling on them to lift the curfew and protesting against such collective punishment measures.

TALLOUZA VILLAGERS PROTEST LAND SEIZURE

For what they claim to be "security reasons", the Israeli authorities decided to seize 2,000 dunums of arable lands belonging to 20 families from Tallouza village near Nablus. The village council sent protest cables to the Israeli military governor of the West Bank, Defence Minister Ezer Weizman, and to the Nablus military governor. The landowners affirm that the lands are their only source of livelihood. These families have deci-



In occupied Jerusalem: call for a strike rallying around the PLO

ded to take their case to the Israeli Supreme Court. Mohammed Melhem, Mayor of Halhoul, and the Hebron Region Trade Union Congress expressed protests against and denunciation of this Israeli coercive decision to seize Arab lands.

In another move, the Israeli occupation authorities began to expand their settlement complex in the al-Auja region near Jericho. Bulldozers were seen levelling ground for a new settlement near Aqbat Jaber Camp, south of Jericho, as part of a plan to establish six new settlements in the area within the coming year.

PALESTINIAN DOCTOR ATTACKED AND THREATENED

A prominent Palestinian patriot, Dr. Ahmad Hamzi Natshe was attacked together with his wife during a demonstration against Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank. Israeli security forces arrested Dr. Natshe in his Bethlehem home on Wednesday, April 2, after he tried to deliver a speech at a protest meeting in the town of Hebron. The rally had been banned by the authorities. Dr. Natshe told the reporters after his release from jail on April 3, that the Israeli soldiers attacked him and his wife without any reason. He denied that he had tried to incite demonstrators. Dr. Natshe said: "I was attacked savagely, without reason, together with my wife".

A spokesman for the West Bank military government later officially denied that Natshe or his wife had been attacked. The spokesman said Natshe was "invited" to the Bethlehem police headquarters, where a criminal file was opened against him. The spokesman said Natshe was allowed to return to the West Bank in 1978 after "promising" to refrain from political activities, but the West Bank personality denied he had given such an undertaking. The Palestinian doctor was depor-

OCCUPATION DIARY

ted to Jordan in 1976 because of anti-Israeli activities but was allowed to return two years later.

WORKERS' UNIONS CONFIRM UNITY IN STRUGGLE

Adel Ghanim, the General Secretary of the Workers' Union, opened a conference of the General Assembly of the Federation of Workers' Unions in the occupied West Bank on April 4. Ghanim confirmed the Workers' Unions' adherence to the principles and goals of the working class and to the Palestinian people's aspirations to freedom and restoration of their legitimate rights. He also condemned the autonomy and Camp David consp-

iracies. The Secretary of the East Jerusalem Electricity Company's Workers Union delivered a speech in which he confirmed the unity of the Palestinian struggle against the Israeli occupation. He expressed the determination of the Palestinian workers to confront all Israeli attempts to take over the electricity company. The conference then rejected the Israeli Labour Officer's suggestion to amend the Unions' electoral laws. It also adopted several recommendations dealing with the social and economic problems.

ISRAELI SOLDIERS CLASH WITH RELIGIOUS PROCESSION

In Ramallah, near Jerusalem, a religious procession erupted into a rockthrowing protest against Israeli troops by Palestinian Christian youths, on April 4. These youths who were taking part in the annual candle-light procession to Ramallah church watched some Israeli troops standing nearby. The troops came close, provoked the young people and fired tear-gas at the youths and arrested a number of them, according to Deputy Mayor Pastor Audeh Rantisi. "We are protesting this. The soldiers had no place there", Rantisi said.

ISRAELI PRISON CONDITIONS PROTESTED

Relatives of Palestinian detainees in Birsheeba Prison recently sent memoranda to international bodies protesting the lamentable living conditions in the prison. The memoranda asserted that the Palestinian prisoners are being subjected to solitary confinement, torture and maltreatment. They suffer from malnutrition and illness. They are given "starvation" rations and are virtually deprived of clothing.

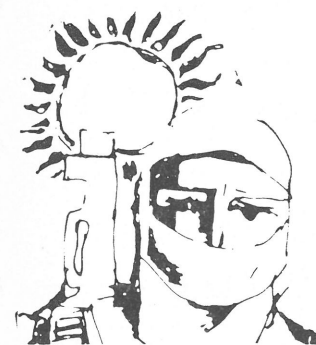
MOTHERS OF DETAINEES LAUNCH SIT-IN

On April 6, hundreds of Palestinian women and mothers of detainees from Jalzoun Camp launched a sit-in in al-Bireh Municipality in protest against the detention of their sons and relatives. On April 5, the Israeli forces stormed the camp and detained about 450 Palestinian citizens. The detainees were taken to a holding area within the Israeli military governor's headquarters where they stayed all the night without food or water. The detainees were subjected to torture and insults.

In its justification of these Zio-

nist measures, the Israeli daily Ma'ariv said that one citizen from the camp hurled a grenade at a military jeep when it was passing near the camp on April 5.

"Hundreds of Palestinian students in Ramallah hurled stones at Israeli military vehicles, patrolling the streets to maintain security in Ramallah", the paper said.



ARMED RESISTANCE

ELECTRICITY GENERATOR BLOWN UP IN JERUSALEM

No. 35/80:

On the morning of March 24, a special Palestinian commando unit placed timed explosive charges inside an electricity generating station in the Kiryat Moshe settlement near Jerusalem. The charges exploded at 11.00 a.m., injuring a number of engineers and workers in the station, destroying no less than three generators, and damaging other equipment in the station. As a result of the ensuing power cuts, certain vital installations in the western part of Jerusalem and in neighboring settlements were paralysed. A huge fire also erupted in the station, which firemen continued to fight for several hours. Our commandos returned safely to base.

HAND GRENADE ATTACK ON INTELLIGENCE OFFICE

No. 37/80:

On the morning of March 27, a Palestinian commando threw a hand grenade inside an office used by the Israeli intelligence services in Yehuda Halifi Street in the Ras al-Ain suburb of East Jerusalem. Several Israeli guards were injured and the entrance to the building was damaged. Israeli security forces rushed to the scene and surrounded it, but our militant returned safely to base.

BUS RAIDED NEAR BEN GURION AIR PORT

No. 38/80:

On March 27, 4 Israeli buses were attacked by Palestinian com-

mandos in the West Bank, as tension mounted against Israel's decision to settle Jews in the Palestinian city of Hebron. Palestinian commandos blocked a road near the village of Kfar Aboud, which lies 15 miles east of Tel Aviv, and overlooks Ben Gurion Airport. They ordered drivers out of their vehicles. One bus was fire-bombed while windows of the other 3 buses were smashed. The Israeli Army said the attack began about 4.30 a.m., when a bus was stopped by a stone barrier blocking the narrow road near the hilltop village. Consequently, the Israeli authorities imposed a curfew on Aboud village and the neighbouring villages, searched the region, stormed several houses, and arrested many Palestinians living in the area.

THREE COMMANDO OPERATIONS MARK DAY OF THE LAND

No. 39/80:

At midnight on March 30, special commando unit "B" uprooted a large section of track on the railway line which carries materials from the Tzin Valley region to the phosphate factory in Nahal Tzin, in the Negev. At 3.30 am on March 31, a goods train, on arriving at the uprooted part of the tracks, overturned and plunged into the valley. Most of the wagons and their contents were destroyed and there were many casualties among the train's crew. On March 31, Radio Israel reported that the material losses caused by this operation amount to approximately IL one million, and that the line will be out of service for a long time to come. Our militants returned safely to base.

No. 40/80:

On the evening of March 30 a special commando unit planted a timed explosive charge inside the main yard of the Israeli police station in Dimona in the Negev. The charge was discovered soon afterwards by an Israeli security officer. The station was immediately evacuated and an explosives expert was called in. He detonated the charge where it was found which resulted in extensive material damage to the station building. Israeli security forces patrol arrested several Palestinian citizens on suspicion of their involvement in the operation, but nevertheless the unit returned safely to base.

No. 41/80:

On the night of March 30, a Palestinian militant threw a hand grenade at an Israeli security office





ARMED RESISTANCE

in Kiryat Akron, south of Tel Aviv. The grenade injured two Israeli guards and destroyed the wall of the office. Mobile police patrols combed the area in search of our militant, who had returned safely to base.

EXPLOSIVE CHARGE IN GAZA MARKET

On April 1, a Palestinian Military Spokesman issued the following military communique:

No. 43/80:

On the morning of March 31 a commando unit, planted a timed explosive charge under an Israeli military vehicle in the Faras market in the heart of Gaza. At about 10.30 am, an Israeli discovered the charge, and immediately called police sappers, who exploded the charge under the car, destroying it. Consequently, Israeli army patrols were intensified and the market place was surrounded. Dozens of citizens were detained on suspicion of involvement in the operation. The unit returned safely to base.

COMMANDO ATTACK ON MISGAV AMM SETTLEMENT

The Zionists, encouraged by the ongoing U.S.-Sadat "autonomy" plot against the Palestinian people, are feverishly expanding their settlements and land theft in Palestine. At the same time, they are stepping up their terror in southern Lebanon, with daily overflights by Israeli warplanes and arbitrary bombardment of Lebanese and Palestinian targets. Every day farmers, women and elderly people are killed or wounded. On March 17, a Lebanese scout center in Tyre was



One of the 11 Israeli troopers wounded in operation against Misgav Amm settlement

bombed, with three people, including a nine year old girl, being killed, not to count the wounded children.

In protest against these escalations of Zionist terror and aggression against our people, on April 7, 1980 a Palestinian commando unit attacked the Zionist kibbutz "Misgav Amm" in Galilee, northern Israel. The five commandos seized a building in Misgav Amm in an attempt to release a number of Palestinian prisoners inside the Israeli jails. After a protracted heavy fight with Israeli army troops, during which one soldier was killed and 11 injured, the commandos fell in the battle.

COMMUNIQUE OF THE COMMANDO GROUP

The martyred commando group

which carried the operation left a communique that said: "Once again, we wanted to prove for you that this is the only language you deserve as long as you are continuing occupation of our lands and committing violations against our Holy Places. The land you occupy was never a land without people or history or civilization. You try to legitimize your occupation of our lands through military strength, with the help of American imperialism. But it will end one day in the face of mounting Palestinian struggle. Then you will have two choices; either to accept the return of the Palestinian people to their land, or the return of each one of you to his country of origin where he lived before the establishment of the Israeli state. And let it be known that the prostration of Anwar Sadat will never lead to Palestinian or Arab recognition of Israel".

"CLOSE TO TOTAL RUIN":

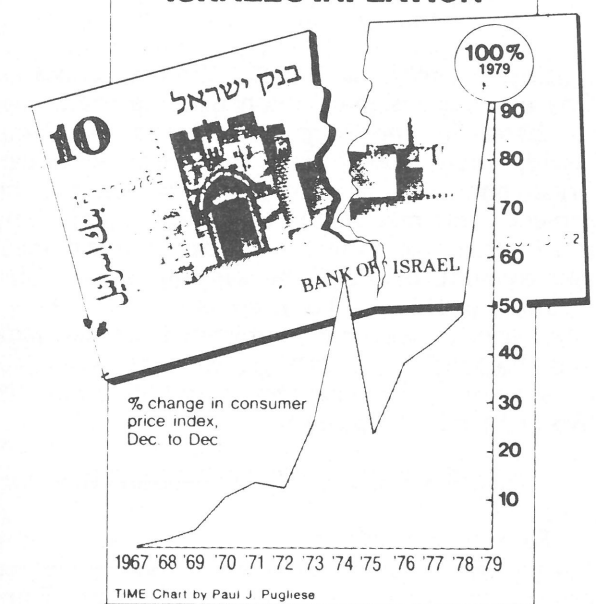
ZIONIST ECONOMY IN CRISIS

April 1 marks the beginning of the fiscal year for the Israeli government. 1980-81 forebodes a year, in which the economic contradictions inherent in maintaining a society on a permanent war footing may help push Zionism well on the way to its own undoing.

When the Zionist Finance Minister Yigael Hurvitz presented the 1980-81 government budget before the Knesset on February 25, he underscored the crisis facing the future of Zionism: "The state is in difficulty... Without a supreme physical and moral effort by everyone, we cannot hope to remedy the ills of the economy. All we can expect is something very close to total ruin." Given Zionism's ideological tenets which lead to perpetual militarism and expansion, there are few economic reforms that can save it from coming "very close to total ruin." Furthermore, the extreme right-wing nature of the Begin government's political and economic policies are accelerating the process of decline.

Primary among the economic failings of Zionism is an inflation rate currently estimated at 160% per year and climbing. Tied to the inflation rate is the highest per capita national deficit of any country in the world. Both these problems stem from the fact that close to 40% of the total GNP is spent directly on military procurement or related production and servicing. When so much of the national output is directed toward war preparedness or actual aggression little capital remains for bolstering consumer production either for domestic use or for export. The new government budget highlights this trend. Of the \$17 billion of the proposed 1980-81 budget, over 2/3 is slated for military procurement, debt repayment and settlement expansion.

ISRAEL'S INFLATION



The current economic crisis facing Zionism did not begin with the election of the Likud government in 1977, but can be directly traced to Zionism's penchant for wars of aggression. The 1950's and 60's showed a trend of rapid economic growth and manageable problems with the balance of trade (mainly due to the high level of outright grants from the U.S., world Jewry and German war reparations). But after the 1967 war, the picture changed. The expenditures on military hardware have gone beyond the capacity of the Zionist economy to finance the level of procurements. In a special March economic supplement published in the *International Herald Tribune*, Linda Bernier comments on the result this process has had on Israeli indebtedness: "...since 1969 the size of the debt has increased from about \$3 billion to \$15 billion in 1979, with a debt service last year of more than \$2 billion, the current deficit, which grew by about \$850 million last year is expected to reach \$4.3 billion this year."

Camp David has also accelerated the war spending. Israel was able to extract \$3 billion from the U.S. for signing the treaty. But this amount is not static. After the March 1st UN Security Council vote condemning Israeli settlements, Israel has been able to add \$200 million in military aid to a foreign aid bill pending before the U.S. Congress. This would bring the 1980-81 aid package from the U.S. to a total of \$1.4 billion. The problem with the vast amount of aid from the U.S. is that it creates a dependency which is irreversible and brings

◀ ZIONIST ECONOMY IN CRISIS

subsidiary problems for the Zionist economy. One example, is that in constructing the 3 new air bases in the Negev envisioned by Camp David, Israel was forced to accept American firms and the U.S. military to direct the project. This means that the whole undertaking is an economic drain as it doesn't boost local employment or help the sagging Israeli construction industry. (To keep labor costs down labor gangs have been imported from Thailand and Portugal. The foreign workers work six days a week, 10 hour shifts, and are forced to live eight men to a room.)

ARMS AS EXPORT COMMODITIES

To turn a profit out of military aggression, Israel has created an arms industry which aspires to be a major exporter to the Third World and developing countries. This has also suffered from the dependency relationship to the U.S. Most Israeli military hardware is built with at least some major part of the design incorporating a U.S. patent which gives the U.S. the final authority over where it can be sold. When Israeli arms begin to compete with U.S. arms sales, the U.S. has forbidden Israeli exports. Another inherent problem is that Israel is rapidly losing more and more of its arms markets due to revolutionary successes as in Iran, Nicaragua and Zimbabwe. With such recent defeats and because of the importance of arms exports to the Zionist economy, Defense Minister Weizman paid a secret visit to South Africa in March to shore up Zionism's alliance with apartheid to keep the exchange of arms and diamonds flowing smoothly.

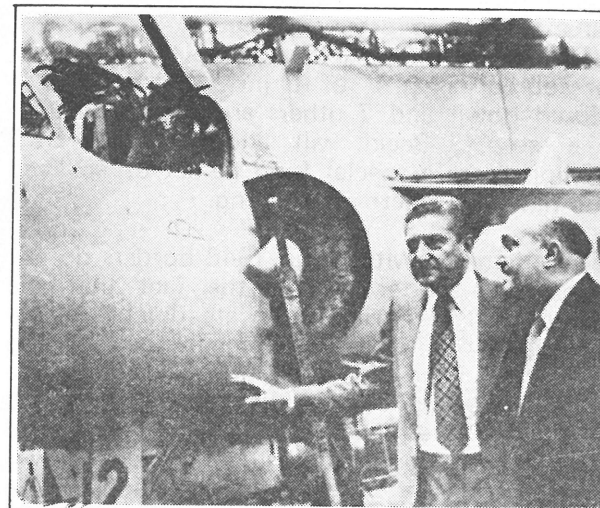
Despite the setbacks in the arms export sector, the Israeli government cannot envision planning its economy to increase other kinds of exports and previous capital expenditures don't allow it to operate in any other way unless Zionism decided to abolish itself. Therefore in the new Begin budget, there is a 6% cut in every category of social spending to allow for a 9% increase in "defense" spending. The *Jerusalem Post* reported Finance Minister Hurvitz's reasoning for this on February 25, suggesting that Israel "needs to stand up against possible dangers and to increase defense production which would make possible sales abroad." Hurvitz stated that "he hadn't the heart to make further cuts in defense..."

The Zionist government has gone to extreme measures in trying to boost arms exports in

order to cut into the national deficit. A model solution in this direction was heralded by the *Jerusalem Post* of February 18 in an article entitled "Military Gear success story of \$3.25 m. in first year." To reach an export rate of \$3.25 m. per year, Eagle Military Gear first got its start by a deal with the Israeli Defense Force for production of armored vests. The second step was to erase the cost of labor to enlarge the profits. This was done by setting up one of its two factories in Ramle prison. Prisoners are forced to work in the factory six days a week and only receive 1/3 of their pay. The other 2/3 is allegedly kept for them until their release, but in the meantime Eagle Military Gear either eliminates this amount from operating costs or uses it for reinvestment. Using forced prison labor will not bring long-term results in cutting the costs of Jewish labor in order to accumulate capital for industrial and export expansion.

WAGES FALL EVEN FOR JEWISH WORKERS

Zionist economic policies are beginning to effect the people they are designed to protect — Jewish workers. Most Jewish workers have been traditionally protected from the high inflation rate by automatic cost of living increases written into their work contracts. High wages for Jewish workers are paid at the expense of Palestinian workers who are not allowed their own unions and are brought in from the occupied territories to do the dirtiest work for the lowest possible wages. But industrial stagnation in the non-military sector of the economy has reached the point where for the first time it is causing significant unemployment among Jewish workers. Labor Minister Israel Katz stated in early February that the number of unemployed (Jewish only) would reach over 70,000 this year. The increasing number of people unemployed comes at a time when the Begin budget is cutting back on social benefits affecting compensation to unemployed Jewish workers. Labor contracts come up for renewal in April. To grapple with the high inflation rate and national deficit, the Begin government has pursued a series of maneuvers designed to cut the real wages of workers. One such method has been to time the announcement of official prices rises to coincide with the longest possible period when the rises will have to be paid to workers as part of the written-in cost of living raises in contracts. The continuation of such measures are likely to cause Jewish labor unrest just when Begin is looking for a Zionist consensus to aggressively expand settlements in the occupied territories in attempts to thwart a



Militarization will not save them: Israeli and Egyptian war ministers Weizman and Ali inspect "Kfir" fighter manufacturing plant.

possible Palestinian state.

Hinting at what is to come in the way of Jewish discontentment over the economy, 30,000 disgruntled farmers stormed the Knesset on March 5 causing the government to expend an estimated \$1 million in damages and costs in putting down the demonstration. Israeli agricultural products have only retained competitive marketing prices through heavy government subsidies. Now the Begin government has cut back the subsidies, tightened farm credit and cut production quotas to deflect investment to the military sector and finance debt repayments.

Of course, first affected by the rising unemployment are Palestinian workers holding jobs in Israeli-owned concerns. The *Jerusalem Post* of February 6 describes the role of Palestinian labor in the Zionist economy: "...these workers have served as a 'cushion' — being the first to go when dismissals are called for." There has been a sizeable decrease in the number of Palestinian workers employed in the Israeli economy in the past year. Official statistics quote a drop from 53,000 to 47,000. But this figure is misleading since it doesn't account for black market labor which has also likely dropped.

This trend to use Palestinian labor as a "cushion" for keeping down Jewish unemployment can only strengthen Palestinian national demands for independence and self-determination. Likewise, it also has led to the reemergence of national demands by the Palestinians living within the 1948 borders who have no recourse to an alternative economy such as exists to some extent in the occupied territories of 1967.

SETTLEMENTS

Expansionism is a costly policy for an economy which is almost totally dependent on outside grants and loans to operate at all. Camp David has goaded the Begin government into trying to expand Zionism in new directions other than the Sinai. Most representative of this tenet of Zionism is the settlement policy in the occupied territories.

When the 1980-81 budget was first announced some \$185 million was allocated for settlements in the occupied territories. When presented to the Knesset this amount was officially stated to be exclusively earmarked for expansion of existing settlements in the occupied territories, although six new settlements were announced for the Galilee. But the announced budget was not in step with the Zionist rate of aggression. After the UN Security Council vote of March 1 condemning Zionist settlement policy, the Begin government decided to strike back at the Palestinian people as well as the international community by building even more settlements. A week after the vote, the government ordered the seizure of 1,000 dunums of Palestinian land on the outskirts of Jerusalem on which to build a settlement with 10,000 housing units over a four-year period. The cost will likely add millions to the already bloated settlements allocations. Another \$2.5 million was added on March 22, when the Begin Cabinet voted to confront the Palestinian Resistance in Hebron by trying to settle Jews there beginning with a contingent of Jewish students. And yet another \$1.5-2.5 million was added on April 2 when Israel Radio reported that construction will begin on 6 new settlements near Jericho. But these publicly stated amounts do not tell the whole story. Much of the public expenditures on settlements are hidden within the military budget and in transfers to extra-governmental institutions like the Jewish Agency.

Settlements certainly don't add anything productive to an already artificial economy. The total opposition to the settlements by the Palestinian people living in the occupied territories, means steep expenditures on an occupation force and the infrastructure for the military administration. The political opposition both internationally and locally has meant throwing millions of dollars away simply on Zionist posturing over its ultimate intentions. For instance, last year over \$1 million was spent on relocating the settlement of Elon Moreh from one site near Nablus to another.

The tax incentives offered to settlers and

ZIONIST ECONOMY IN CRISIS

other remunerations have not enticed many Zionists other than the most extremist to live amongst a militant Palestinian population. Indeed in the present situation not many Jews want to live in any part of the Zionist state. The Jewish Agency reported that in February, of the 2,568 Soviet Jews waiting for transit to other countries from Italy, 2,168 went to the U.S., 382 went to other Western countries and only 18 went to Israel.

Except for the large urban blocks of settlements surrounding East Jerusalem, the 100 or so other settlements dotting the West Bank and Gaza retain the character of fenced-in militarized ghettos. They destroy the local Palestinian agriculture by stealing the natural water resources, while the economic viability of settlement agricultural production is only maintained by government price subsidies. There is a lack of an industrial base to make the settlements productive in other sectors. Unemployment is high in the settlement and those who do work often depend on an income from jobs they hold in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem. In the



Israeli workers at "Shimshon" tyre plant protest bad working conditions

largest so-called urban settlement in the West Bank, Kiryat Arba, it was revealed at the end of February that 4 of its industrial shops have closed down and 7 others are in grave economic straits. Begin will allocate some \$10 million from a special fund he set up to keep the remaining factories running.

Settlements within the 1948 borders do not fare much better despite the fact that the government has tried to locate defense plants in these so-called "development towns". The Jerusalem Post of March 4 reports that the director general of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs "was particularly concerned about unemployment in development towns where people have greater difficulties in finding alternative work. It will hamper the drive to encourage Israelis to move to those towns." The unemployment rate is double what it is nationally in settlements inside and outside the 1948 borders.

The pace at which the Begin government is moving toward annexation of the occupied territories through his settlement policies is only compounding the economic bankruptcy of the whole system. Murmurs of exasperation are beginning to penetrate even Zionist circles themselves. One demonstrator protesting government cuts in aid to the mentally retarded on February 5 commented: "When it comes to allotting millions of pounds for settlements in the West Bank, the government has money. But when it comes to treating mentally handicapped children, there's no funds".

More somber Israeli analysts convey a sense of hopelessness about the future of Zionism. The economic editor of the *Jerusalem Post* writes on March 7, "Even another government may not be able to dispel, at one stroke, all the messianic dreams that since 1967, have been leading us into the present blind alley."

There cannot be a reform of the Zionist economy that will save it from its present crisis. The crisis can only end with a political solution designed to end a system that nurtures militarism and expansionism to protect its exclusivist racist nature. In this sense it is the PLO that holds the solution to the crisis. To end the crisis the Zionist state will eventually be forced to reckon with the victims of its aggression.

ZIONISM IN PRACTICE

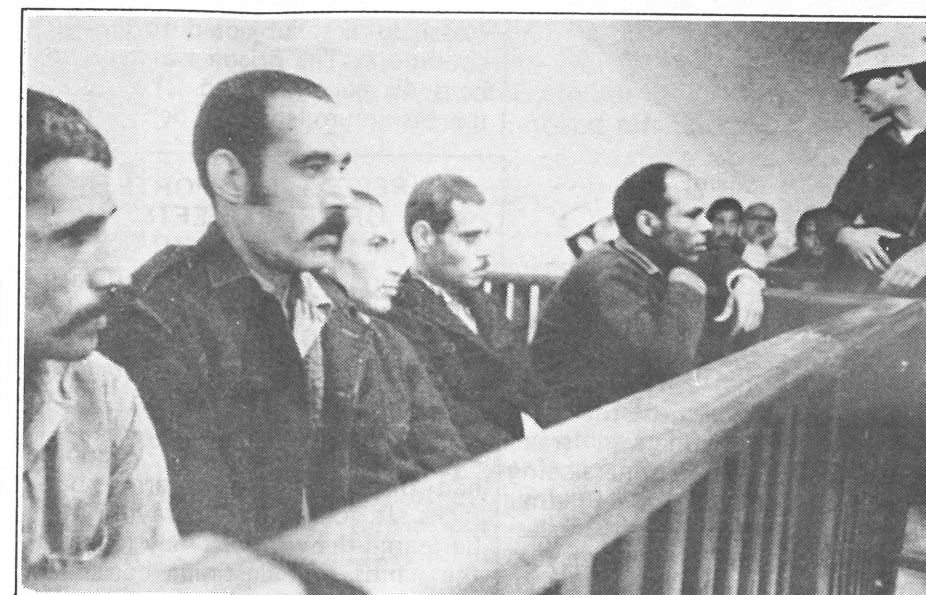
ISRAELIS EXPAND SETTLEMENTS NEAR JERICHO AND NABLUS

On April 3, Israeli Radio confirmed reports that six new Jewish settlements are to be built surrounding the Palestinian town of Jericho, in the occupied West Bank. Houses on the first site are to go up in a few weeks. Reuter reported on April 6, that Israel had begun work on the construction of two settlements near Jericho. The two settlements, known as Jericho Outpost B and Almong C, will be the first of a cluster of six the government intends to build. Local residents reported that bulldozers began earthmoving work in the area recently. Despite budget tightening, the Israeli government allocated about 300 million shekels (72 million dollars) for enlarging existing settlements, but did not include any provisions for new ones to be built. The settlement, to be called Mitzpeh Jericho, would cost between 60 and 100 million Israeli Pounds (1.5 and 2.5 million dollars).

The Israeli military governor of Nablus, informed the head of the village council of Tallouza on April 2, that the authorities have decided to confiscate two thousand dunums of the village land. The head of the village council condemned the decision, and affirmed that the owners of the land have documents proving their ownership and that the occupation authorities have no right to confiscate it.

FIST FIGHTS ON GOOD FRIDAY IN JERUSALEM

As thousands of pilgrims took part in Good Friday processions in East Jerusalem on April 4, several



The construction of new Israeli jails cannot keep in step with the incarceration of thousands of Palestinians.

fist fights broke out in the Old City between Jewish religious school students and Palestinian Christian youths. Officials and news agencies played down the violence, reporting that police quickly arrived and arrested about twenty people. Pilgrims of Catholic, Greek Orthodox and other Eastern faiths crowded around the sites revered by Christianity as the scenes of the Crucifixion and Resurrection.

Armed patrols blocked off side streets in the Old City. The clash occurred when a Jewish group tried to block the traditional procession of the "Way of the Cross," led by Franciscan friars. This is one more

example of Zionist harassment and disrespect for other faiths which they claim to give freedom of religious practice.

PRISONS IN ISRAEL OVERCROWDED

Prisoners in Israeli jails live under "bad conditions, graver than anywhere else in the Western world," said the Israeli official for prison affairs on March 23. Quoted in the *Jerusalem Post* on March 23, Levy said: "The situation in the prisons was very serious when I entered this office three and a half years ago, but now it is catas-

TWO REASONS TO QUIT ISRAEL

The British *Guardian* on April 4, 1980, reported the "latest Israeli joke" from Jerusalem, reflecting the mounting popular dissatisfaction:

Two old friends meet and exchange holiday greetings. "This is the last Passover I shall be spending here," one of them confides. "I'm leaving next month for New York." The second man is shocked and asks why.

"Two reasons," the first friend replies. "First, I've had enough of

this Government. Prices are going up every day. All they care about is settlements, nobody wants to live in. They're alienating the whole world, embarrassing the Jews, and throwing away the chance of peace with the Palestinians."

"All right," says his friend, "but that's no cause for leaving the country. Begin's government is on its last legs, so soon there'll be elections and Shimon Peres will come back as a Labour Prime Minister."

"Quite," says the emigrant, "and that's my second reason for going."

ZIONISM IN PRACTICE

trophic." At the moment there are 3100 convicted prisoners in Israeli jails and 2700 other prisoners being held without charge under "administrative detention," mostly Palestinian Arabs. Only in the last year their number has increased by 400. Levy reported that the Israeli budget does not include any expenditures for building new jails.

In Ramleh Prison, 28 prisoners have to live in cells which were designed to hold 18. Prisoners in

Maasijalu are subjected to similar conditions. The prison was built to hold 45 persons, with 21 days as the maximum length of detention.

REPEATED REPORTS OF ARMS THEFTS FROM ISRAELI BARRACKS

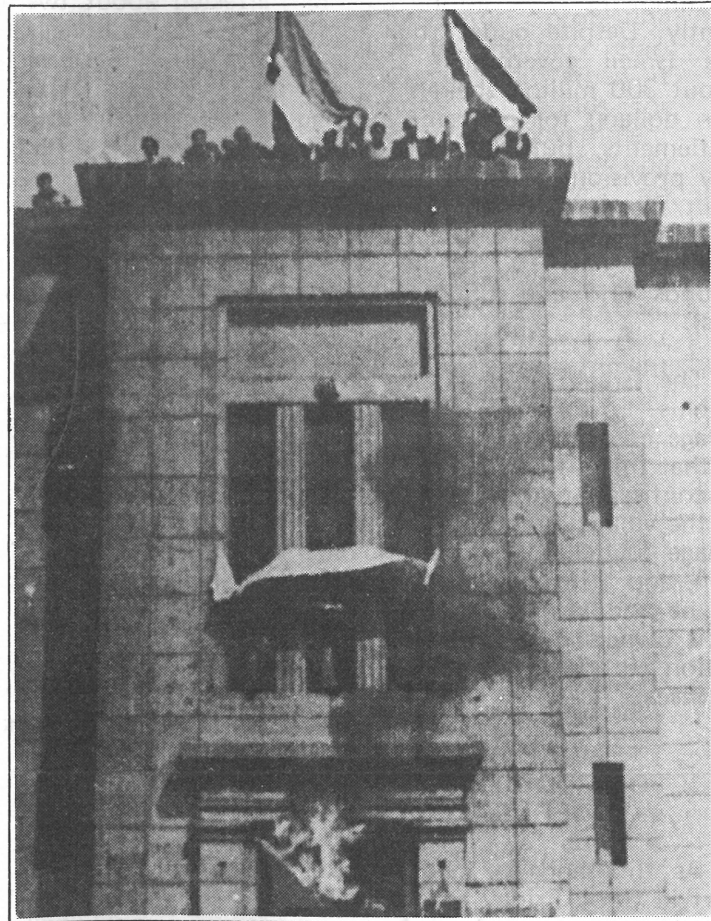
Reports of the theft of Israeli arms have been increasing recently. On March 19, the Israeli English language daily, the *Jerusalem Post* reported that the Israeli Police Commissioner, Baroch Eribel, stated that thousands of weapons had disappeared from army barracks. It quoted him as saying that he feared the weapons may fall into the hands of Palestinian commandos. The daily added that it is becoming impossible to control the proliferation of weapons in Israel because of the number of civilian Zionist organizations that have now obtained the right to possess weapons.

PREVENT EXTRADITION OF ABU AL-AIN

The Mayors, national institutions and organisations in the West Bank have sent messages of protest to U.N. Secretary General, Dr. Kurt Waldheim, calling for the cancellation of a decision adopted by the U.S. authorities against Ziad Abu Al-Ain, a Palestinian citizen, who is to be deported to Israel. The message stated that the U.S. decision violated all international conventions and called on Waldheim to intervene. The Arab community in Chicago and the Palestinian popular organisations there have staged a sit-in in Chicago in protest against the U.S. decision. Demonstrators sent cables to the progressive forces in the world, appealing for their support for Ziad who is on a hunger strike inside a Chicago Federal jail in protest against the U.S. deportation decision.

ISRAELI - EGYPTIAN POLICE COLLABORATION

In the course of the U.S.-sponsored "normalization of relations" between Egypt and Israel, Egyptian security bodies are collaborating directly with the Zionist police and secret services to suppress national and anti-imperialist forces in the area. *Agence France Presse* reported on March 30, 1980 from Jerusalem, that seven Egyptian police officers, together with a representative of the Egyptian Minister of the Interior, M. Salah Ibrahim, held discussions with Israeli security authorities during a four-day stay in Israel ending on March 30. On their departure from Lydda airport, the delegation refused to make any comment or statement. Informed circles in Israel hinted that the visit took place in the framework of the "normalization" process, as provided for in the Camp David pact.



200 Egyptian lawyers protesting the Zionist collaboration burn Israeli flag.



Begin and his terrorist friend Shamir

YITZAK SHAMIR:

ONE TERRORIST APPOINTS ANOTHER

On March 10, the Israeli Premier Menachem Begin appointed Knesset speaker Yitzak Shamir as Foreign Minister. Shamir like Begin, started his terrorist career during the British Mandate in Palestine which ended in 1948. Begin's choice of an intransigent ideologue to assume this post shows once more that the Zionist leadership does not seek a permanent, just peace in the area. It only seeks to promote by means of terror their expansionist designs on Arab lands to settle more Zionist immigrants in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Shamir's appointment has been met with disapproval and criticism, even in the Israeli press. One Israeli paper said the Zionist state needed a fresh policy, not a new intransigent minister. Shamir, having an expansionist mentality, supports the belief that Jews are entitled to settle in all parts of what he calls Eretz Israel, the "Biblical Land" of Israel. Of course, this includes the occupied Arab territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. As Foreign Minister, Shamir hopes to counter the growing support for the Palestinian cause among European countries. Just after his appointment, Shamir indicated that his ministry will pursue Israel's declared policies: no return to the borders of 1967, no to the establishment of a Palestinian state and no retreat from Israel's annexation of East Jerusalem.

Shamir's history is that of a professional terrorist. He masterminded the 1944 assassination of Lord Moyne, then High Commissioner in Cairo and British Minister of State for the Middle East. Shamir assassinated Moyne on the assumption that the latter was anti-Zionist and thus opposed to the Zionist program in Palestine. Shamir was also responsible for the 1948 assassination of Sweden's Count Folke Bernadotte, U.N. representative in the Middle East and head of a United Nations commission set up

to investigate Zionist aggression against lands allotted to the Palestinian people in the 1947 United Nations Partition Plan. Thus Shamir is the appropriate man to spoil and impede international efforts to put an end to the conflict of the Middle East and establish a just peace there.

Shamir was born in a small town in eastern Poland in 1914, where he received a Zionist education. He broke off his law studies in 1935 to illegally emigrate to Palestine and in 1936 he joined the Irgun Zvai Leume, a fascistic terrorist movement headed by Begin.

In 1940 Shamir joined an Irgun splinter group, "Lehi", also known as the Stern Gang. When Lehi commander Abraham Stern was killed by the British in 1942, Shamir became one of a triumvirate running the organisation. He was put in charge of masterminding terrorist operations, most eminent of which was the destruction of the British General Command Headquarters at King David Hotel in Jerusalem, shortly before the British Mandate in Palestine ended in May 1948.

Shamir was arrested by the British in 1941 and again in 1946. Together with other terrorist leaders he was deported to Eritrea. Both times he escaped to French Djibouti and was given political asylum in France. He returned to Palestine in 1948. In 1955, he joined the Zionist intelligence Service, Mossad, and became head of its European activities. Mossad trained the Iranian secret police, Savak, which committed horrible massacres against the Iranian people during the Shah's regime. In 1975 Shamir was elected Chairman of the Herut political party executive with Begin's endorsement. When Begin assumed power in May 1977, Shamir became Speaker of the Knesset.

FOSSILIZED ZIONISTS

Begin, Shamir and the rest of the Zionist leadership deny the Palestinian people's rights of self-determination and of establishing a state in their homeland. This leadership is sabotaging attempts to achieve peace in the Middle East by its violation of international law and contempt for all United Nations resolutions supporting Palestinian rights. But now these fossilized Zionists, political dinosaurs whose likes are rapidly becoming extinct, must confront a world increasingly hostile to their intransigence and denial of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. The world now starts to understand the true aims of the Zionists. Surely, the Palestinian people, through their persistent efforts and incessant struggle under the leadership of the PLO, will secure their inalienable rights regardless of whether "hawkish" or "dovish" Zionists rule in Israel. Our people shall smash Zionist racism and intransigence and restore our rights to our Palestinian homeland.

U.S. INTERESTS,
CHASE MANHATTAN AND SADAT:
**IRAN VS. THE SHAH
AND HIS "FRIENDS"**



At Cairo University students demonstrate against the Shah's deportation to Egypt

The former Iranian dictator left Panama for Egypt only a day before Iran planned to start extradition proceedings to bring him to justice before the Iranian people. The ex-Shah flew from Panama on March 24 to Cairo via an American air base in the Azores. At Cairo airport he was met by his friend, Egyptian President Sadat, who told reporters, "The Shah will be staying permanently."

A day after the arrival of the ex-Shah in Egypt, the Egyptian daily newspaper *al-Akhbar* wrote in its editorial that the Shah fled Panama for refuge in Egypt after receiving "secret information" that the CIA was plotting to poison him. The report coincided with a Washington statement that the U.S. government had urged him to stay in Panama and had dispatched "State Department officials," plus White House Chief of Staff Hamilton Jordan, "to work out an arrangement for the Shah to be treated in Panama by U.S. specialists."

These reports once again bring to light the intricacies involved in U.S. dealings with its stooges and so-called "moderate" leaders. Only days after the Shah's departure from Panama, former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger told NBC television that the U.S. should resort to military action to release the hostages in Tehran. Kissinger argued: "Until the point is reached when we say you are not going to squeeze anything further out of us, and the penalties for holding the hostages are worse," the hostages will not be released.

The U.S. media, which forms public opinion in the United States; experts like Kissinger, whom the media publicize; leaders like Carter, who rely on expert advice; and the banks which finance the media and the government, have all in one way or another been involved in the Shah's case.

President Carter has acknowledged that Kissinger pressed the Administration to let the Shah into the United States. Kissinger explained in a letter to the *Washington Post* (reported by the *New Statesman* of December 7, 1979) that he had called David Rockefeller for help at the time. Rockefeller is the chairman of the Chase Manhattan Bank. Besides having tremendous "influence" on the U.S. President, the Chase Manhattan Bank was also the Shah's principal bank. The bank's paid advisor on international affairs is none other than good old Henry Kissinger.

Kissinger explains: "Rockefeller was reluctant to be involved in any enterprise that might jeopardize the Chase Manhattan's financial relations with Iranian governmental or quasi-governmental agencies."

The Central Bank in Tehran has published information proving that until the Shah's fall, the Chase Manhattan Bank collected all oil receipts owed the National Iranian Oil Company. The bank delayed the repayment of this money in an agreement with the Shah, making tremendous profits on interest which was partially diverted to the Shah's personal account.

Therefore the return of the Shah to Iran to stand trial would expose the bank's dirty dealings and jeopardize the bank's relations with Iran and other countries.

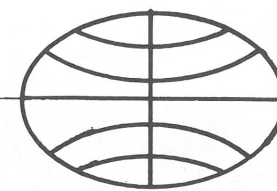
As for Kissinger's involvement, the Iranian Embassy in Washington pointed out that he was interested in more than just the welfare of the Chase Manhattan Bank. Kissinger admitted that "the education of the Shah's children in America was the principal issue. We did our best to find appropriate schooling." Kissinger was giving private lessons for the sons of the Shah, for which he was paid \$10,000 per lesson. According to the U.S. Foreign Agent Registration Act, he should have informed tax officials of this income and made the necessary payments, but he did not. If taken to court, this case could have Kissinger sentenced to up to five years in prison.

Together with the banks which finance the election campaign of U.S. Presidents and of a variety of interest groups, Kissinger has been facing a dilemma ever since the United States arranged for the departure of the Shah from Iran and the Iranian people reacted by detaining U.S. Embassy staff. Kissinger and the bankers do not desire the repatriation of the Shah. The solution they advocate, as made public by Kissinger on NBC television, is the escalation of U.S. aggression against the Iranian Revolution even if it risks the lives of U.S. citizens in Iran.

Another option for Kissinger and the bankers, but one which they do not publicly talk about, is the quiet liquidation of the Shah. Thus *al-Akhbar's* report of a CIA plot to poison the Shah gains credibility.

The dilemma faced by the banks, advisors and the bought American leaders has temporarily been solved by their very good friend Sadat, who has taken the Shah in. Due to this intrigue the Iranian people have vowed once again to try their utmost to have the Shah brought before the law and his "private accounts" returned to the people.

In Egypt nearly daily popular demonstrations are being held against Sadat's decision to accept the former Shah. The opposition Social Labour Party has also rejected Sadat's move and has declared that it does not welcome the former Shah "because we want to save Egypt the trouble of protecting him against the will of his people." The Iranian President Bani Sadr has made it clear that Iran will still ask the U.S. for the Shah, and has pointed out that "Sadat is even more tied to the White House than Torrijos". But the Egyptian leader figures that when his time comes, the banks and their advisers are more of his allies than the Egyptian popular opposition or Iranian protests.



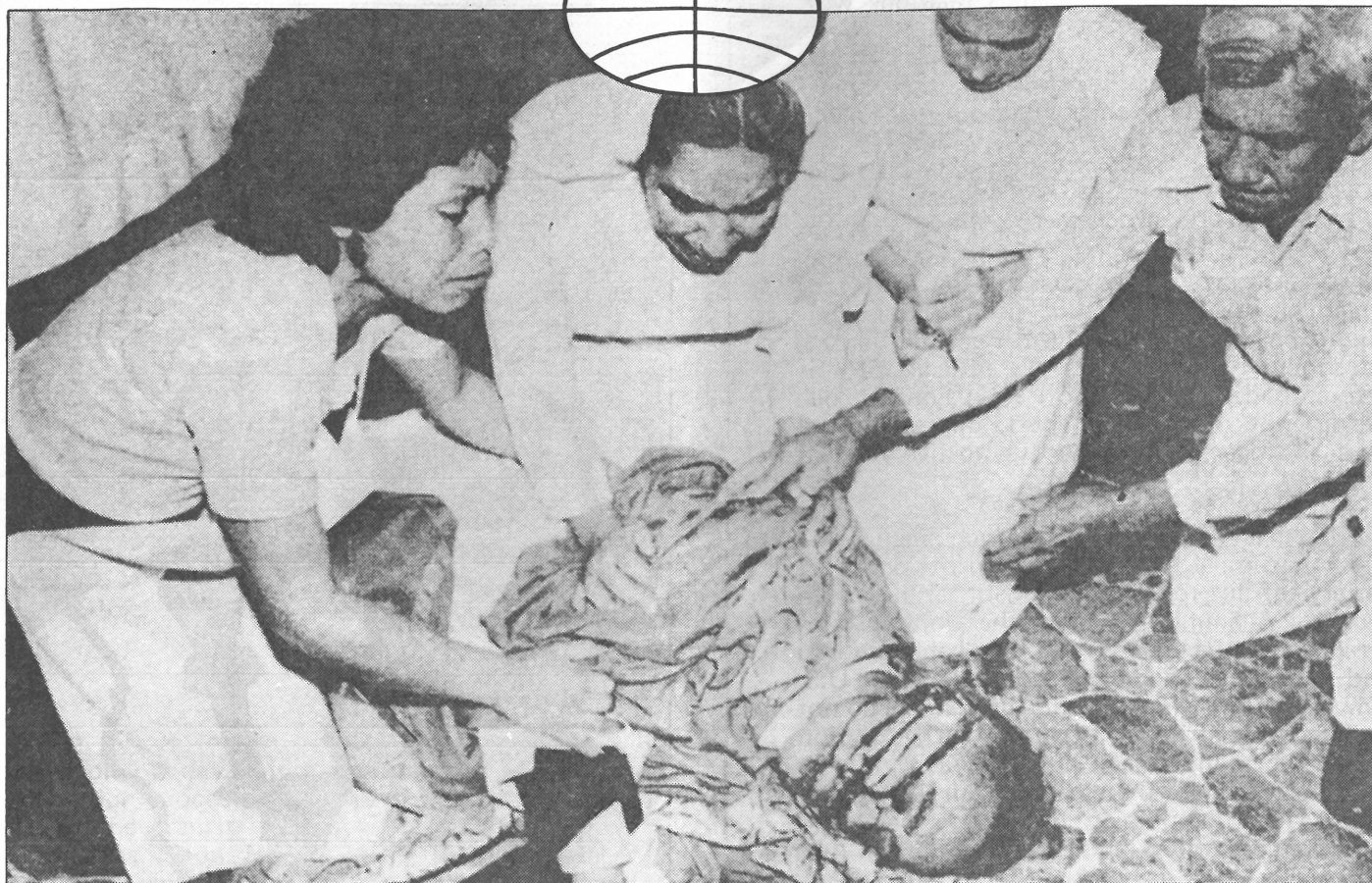
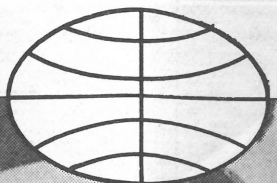
WORLD EVENTS



PRETORIA BOOSTS MILITARY EXPENDITURES: SWAPO SUCCESSES

The South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) has published a survey of its battlefield successes in 1979. SWAPO armed units operating inside occupied Namibia last year killed or injured a total of 1,200 mercenaries of the South African racist regime and destroyed 70 vehicles, 14 planes and two helicopters. SWAPO has also reaffirmed that armed struggle will continue until the illegal occupation of Namibia is terminated.

In the face of SWAPO successes the Pretoria regime, as reported by the Associated Press on March 27, intends to increase its military budget by almost 45 percent. Before the budget was submitted by the government, South African newspapers published secret military documents containing instructions on how the regime should manipulate the mass media and prevent attacks by the opposition forces against the record budget.



The massacre goes on: Archbishop Romero murdered by fascist gangsters supported by U.S. capital.

THE MARTYRDOM OF ARCHBISHOP ROMERO OF EL SALVADOR

The Archbishop of El Salvador, Oscar Arnulfo Romero, was assassinated by gunmen on March 25 while celebrating mass in San Salvador. The assassination came at a time when the ruling junta of El Salvador was unleashing armed fascist thugs in a futile attempt to terrorize the people into passive submission to the heinous demands of the junta and its imperialist backers.

Archbishop Romero devoted his whole life to his suffering people, who are struggling heroically for their liberation from oppression. He shares the fate of Salvador Allende and many others who have courageously fought in the front line of the people's struggle and have fallen victim to the sanguinary, wicked terror of imperialism.

What the juntas never learn is that they can silence individuals but can never smother the voice of the people. The murder of newspaper editor Pedro Jaoquin Chamorro in neighboring Nicaragua was one of the major catalysts of the escalation of the Nicaraguan people's struggle

against the nasty Somoza dictatorship. Archbishop Romero's death may have a similar effect in El Salvador, for fallen heroes usually become symbols of struggle.

INDIRA GANDHI AGAINST U.S. NUCLEAR BASE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

The Indian Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, addressing students in New Delhi on April 2, denounced U.S. projects to turn the U.S.-British held major naval base in the Indian Ocean, Diego Garcia, into a nuclear base. She also pointed to the increasing military presence in the Indian Ocean. The Indian Premier added, that this increased tension in the region. With regards to Afghanistan, she said the situation should be seen in the context of the U.S. and China drawing closer together in what the Soviet Union sees as anti-Soviet cooperation. A solution can be found if the other big powers give up their attempts to encircle the Soviet Union. The major task was to relieve tension in the region and not to let the "cold war" degenerate into a "hot" one, Indira Gandhi said.

NORWEGIAN DOCTOR REFUTES ISRAELI LIES ABOUT CLUSTER BOMBS:

"ALI WAS TEN YEARS OLD, HE FOUND A BALL..."

Following is a translation of a report in a leading Norwegian newspaper, *Lordags-Dagbladet*, of January 12, 1980. The report is based on an eyewitness account given by a Norwegian doctor, Bernt Heger, who was working among Palestinian refugees and the Lebanese population in south Lebanon.

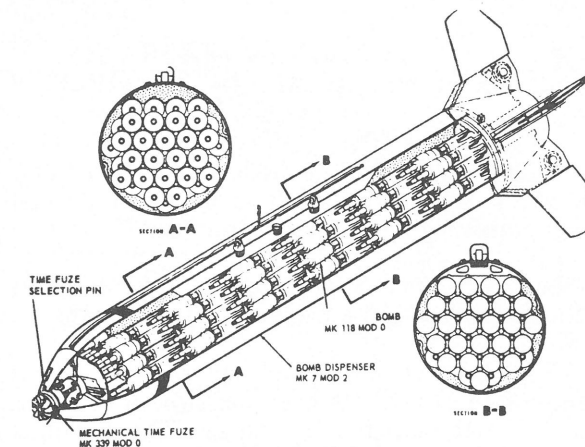
Dr. Bernt Heger reports:

"It was November 11, 1979. The clinic in the Palestinian refugee camp of Rashidiyeh on the outskirts of the town of Tyre in south Lebanon was full of patients. I was examining a totally deaf heart patient when the rest of us heard a piercing explosion. In no time the clinic was deserted. Only the deaf patient and myself were left behind. There were no more explosions, but just afterwards people came running in to get us out. A small bomb had exploded in the schoolyard.

"We ran there, and found ten children, nine boys and a girl, lying on the ground, bleeding and covered with burns and shrapnel wounds. A 10-year old, Ali, had found a cluster bomb and played with it until it exploded. It was a ghastly sight. Four of the children, three boys and a girl aged 10 or 11, died. Ali was one of them. The next day the schoolyard was searched once more, and Ali's brother found another cluster bomb, of the same American make which had killed his brother the day before. Israel had been dropping the bombs on targets in south Lebanon such as Rashidiyeh camp and Tyre.

"Two out of the ten children caught in the explosion died instantly. The third died on his way to the hospital in the nearby town of Sidon. Altogether four out of the eight survivors were sent on to the hospital. The doctors tried to save the fourth by sending him to a special ward in Beirut. He died the following day in the hospital there. Two of the hospitalized ones endured major stomach operations. One lost a foot. All the survivors had many shrapnel wounds.

"Some shrapnel pieces we could dig out. Others we just had to leave because they were



located too deep. We had no X-ray equipment in the Rashidiyeh hospital."

Dr. Heger returned to Norway on December 18, 1979, after his stay in south Lebanon. He brought with him the casing of a cluster bomb. The explosion in the schoolyard in Rashidiyeh is a new and strong piece of evidence that Israel has been using cluster bombs in south Lebanon ever since the Israeli invasion of 1978.

Speaking in January 1980, Dr. Heger said: "The last major attacks on Rashidiyeh and Tyre started on August 23 last year. For one week the camp was constantly bombed with artillery and planes from Israel, and from Israeli gunboats along the coast. After these attacks twelve volunteers, according to the PLO, picked up 1,500 cluster bombs from the beach outside Rashidiyeh. The schoolyard in the camp was searched several times, but still there were two bombs that escaped detection, one of which exploded."

AN OLD "IDEA" FURTHER DEVELOPED

Malvin Lumsden, a scientist at the Institute for Peace Research in Stockholm, told the newspaper that the idea behind the cluster bombs goes back to the Second World War. But it was not until the Vietnam War that the cluster bombs were developed into highly advanced anti-personnel weapons.

Lumsden said: "A number of types were developed, but according to the information available to us, Israel has got the most common type. This is a container holding 670 small bombs. When the container is dropped from a plane, it opens at a fair distance above the ground, and the little bombs spin out and scatter over a large area. A certain number explode immediately while the others explode at a later stage, by hitting the ground or by being tread upon, picked up, driven over or something like

◀ "ALI WAS TEN YEARS OLD HE FOUND A BALL IN THE FIELD..."

that. On exploding, the little bomb will burst the metal shell enveloping it into many small metal pieces flying off in all directions."

Have attempts been made to prohibit this kind of weapon in the Geneva Conventions?

"Yes, but without much success. At recent meetings the topic has been napalm, but neither has this met with much progress. The attempts to introduce a prohibition against cluster bombs have failed."

AN "UNFORTUNATE EPISODE"

An "unfortunate" episode occurred in the relationship between Israel and the U.S.A. in 1978 when Israel could no longer deny that cluster bombs were being used in the invasion of south Lebanon. "Keesing's Contemporary Archives," p. 29652/1979, reports:

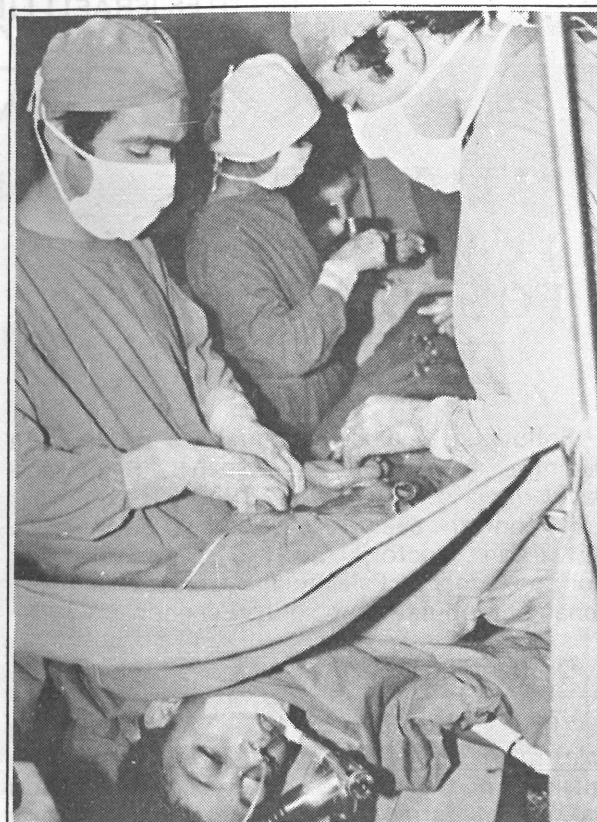
"After the Israeli military authorities on April 9 had admitted that Israeli forces had been using American-produced anti-personnel 'cluster bombs' during the operations in Lebanon, a spokesman for the American State Department on April 14 said that further deliveries of this weapon would be held back until new rules for the use of arms were established."

According to Keesing's, the U.S. has delivered more than 20,000 cluster bombs to Israel since the early 1970s:

"While the declaration from the Israeli military authorities of April 9 maintained that the bomb was only used against artillery and rocket positions firing at the northern parts of Israel, Western journalists and other eyewitnesses reported that the weapon was extensively used against Palestinian camps and civilian Lebanese targets. On April 21 Mr. Weizman (Minister for Defense in Menachem Begin's government) admitted that the use of cluster bombs had been a 'mishap of sorts,' and said that it was unknown to him that Israel had pledged (to the U.S. in December 1976) not to use the weapon except in conventional warfare or in a situation where Israel was attacked by more than one country."

Keesing's concluded:

"Later on, on May 12, it was reported in the American press that Israel had made an agreement — of which the details were kept secret — which repeated the obligation not to use the American-produced cluster bombs except under special wartime conditions."



One of the pupils wounded by a U.S.-made Israeli cluster bomb in Rashidiyeh on November 11, 1979

BREACH OF THE NEW AGREEMENT AS WELL

The photographs and information from Dr. Heger suggest that Israel is breaking this agreement today in the same manner as the original agreement was broken when the cluster bombs were used during the 1978 invasion of south Lebanon.

Similar restrictions exist against Israel's use of the advanced F-15 fighter-bomber. A new "episode" similar to the one concerning the cluster bombs occurred when Israel committed F-15s to aerial warfare with Syrian Migs over Lebanon. The Migs intercepted the Israeli F-15s when they were attacking targets in south Lebanon.

"A farmer in the vicinity of Rashidiyeh was killed when his plough ran into one of these cluster bombs. This occurred while I was in the area (from September 1 to December 18, 1979)," says Dr. Heger. The clinic where he worked was run by the PLO, aided by the Palestine solidarity groups in Sweden and the Palestine Committee in Norway.

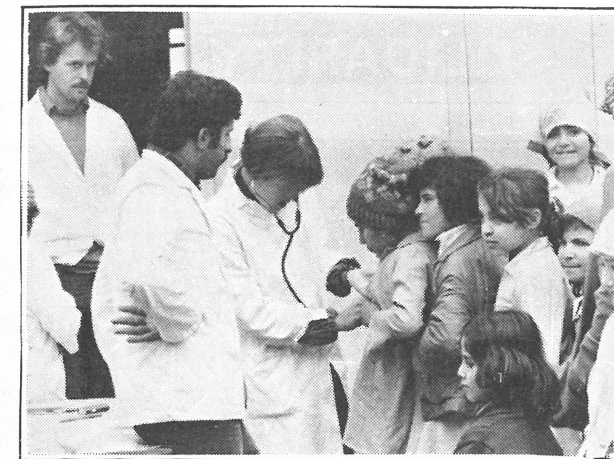
AFFECTS CIVILIANS AND CHILDREN

"These delayed fuse bombs," he continues,

"especially affect civilians and children. The PLO had been searching the school, which didn't resume classes until mid-October, after the attacks in August. They had been drilling the kids to refrain from picking up strange objects. But children are children, and Ali couldn't help himself when he found the object. Children cannot control themselves, and the farmers cannot stop ploughing the earth — both risk their lives on a playground and in a field which is converted into a mine area.

"Rashidiyeh is situated very close to the Israeli border. One can watch Israeli television there. The same night, after Ali and the others were dead, we watched the news on Israeli TV. The announcer mentioned that three children (the fourth didn't die until the following day) were killed in an explosion in the schoolyard in Rashidiyeh. The bomb was placed there by Palestinian terrorists, Israeli television said, and was aimed at the school's headmaster. This sickened me."

Dr. Heger was supposed to return to Norway on December 1, but had to remain in Lebanon until December 18 since the clinic in Rashidiyeh is the only source of medical aid for 7,000



Norwegian medical team in Rashidiyeh

people, with up to 100 patients a day. Most of them suffer infections and diseases caused by overcrowded living quarters and inadequate sanitary conditions in the refugee camp.

The children who were injured by the flying shrapnel from the explosion in the schoolyard on November 11, but survived, had still not recovered when Dr. Heger returned to Norway.

SOLIDARITY



JAPANESE PUBLISHING HOUSE EDITS PALESTINIAN BOOKS

The "Daisan Shokan Publishers" in Tokyo, 1-16-15-904 Ohkubo, Shinjuku-ku, informs us that it has published a Palestine documentary

photography — "Children Deprived of a Homeland". This book was planned and edited by those Japanese who have long been engaged in the Palestine solidarity movements. Pictures in this book were all (except three of them) taken by Japanese photographers who visited the Middle East, and many of them were the souvenirs given to a visiting Japan-Palestine solidarity delegation in 1978 and 1979.

The members of this delegation were deeply impressed by their experiences in Lebanon and they found it quite important to let all Japanese people know about the situation and struggle of the Palestine people, because Palestine is still so far away from the insights of ordinary Japanese people.

"Children Deprived of a Homeland" is, therefore, published first of all for Japanese. But pictures are the most international language and the struggle for liberation of Palesti-

ne is of the most international importance, which means that this book is worth being distributed to all the corners of the globe. And that is why some English captions are in it and the book is to be distributed to all countries as well as to Japan.

While this book was edited, another actual plan to perform solidarity with Palestine people is simultaneously being constructed by delegation members and other workers, labour union leaders, scholars, teachers, writers, artists and journalists etc. That is a plan to establish a wide and broad committee invite several Palestine delegations to Japan in order to consolidate solidarity with Japanese people through mass meetings in Japan. In the near future, the "Daisan Shokan Publishers" are also going to publish the Japanese translation of Fawzi al-Asmar's book "To be an Arab in Israel" and books by Mona Saudi.

SOLIDARITY



Bengali students demonstration protesting the Egyptian-Israeli plot

BANGALI STUDENTS EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH PLO

A huge demonstration took place recently in early March 3 in the Bangali Capital, protesting the Egyptian-Israeli conspiracy against the Palestinian people. The demonstration was organised by the General Union of Palestinian Students in Dacca. Bangali students participated in the demonstration and expressed their firm solidarity with the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO.

CJME SUPPORT PALESTINIAN CAUSE

Canadians for Justice in the Middle East — CJME — is a newly formed organization in Canada. Its main task is to provide the public with information on the Middle East situation, especially on the Palestine question. It focuses will be to a large extent on humanitarian issues affecting Palestinians. CJME plans to hold educational gatherings including seminars and films on Palestine. In Ottawa, for example, there was a two-day seminar that was attended by prominent Palestinian and Canadian figures, including politicians, academics,

journalists and public personalities. CJME published the first issue of a magazine — Middle East News — in February 1980.

For further information contact the following address:

CJME STEERING COMMITTEE
P.O.BOX 11072, STATION H
NEPEAN, ONT., K2H 7T8

IUS CONDEMNS MEASURES AGAINST PALESTINIAN STUDENTS

The International Union of Students (IUS) released a statement in Prague at the beginning of April condemning the Israeli violations of the Palestinian students' right to education, including the closing of the Faculty of Science in Jerusalem and the harassment of students. The statement said that apart from running counter to international conventions on culture and scientific knowledge, especially those adopted by UNESCO, this unpardonable crime tramples on the right of hundreds of Palestinian students in the occupied territories to continue their higher education. It also constitutes an effort to undermine the role of higher education as an effective means of national, cultural and social liberation.

The statement added that the Secretariat of the IUS fully supports the just struggle of the Palestinian people and students in the occupied lands and elsewhere for national, social and cultural liberation and for the latter's right to obtain a higher education both at home and abroad. It urged all IUS members friendly organisations to protest against these Zionist and reactionary measures which recently have been taken against the Palestinian students in the occupied territories. The statement finally demanded that IUS members raise their voices still more loudly to demand the reopening of the faculty of science in Jerusalem, and to redouble their solidarity with material and moral assistance to GUPS, the militant Palestinian organisation which guides and groups the Palestinian student masses.



SAMED Director Abu Ala' received by Chairman Erich Honecker at Leipzig Fair

PLO PARTICIPATES IN LEIPZIG INTERNATIONAL FAIR

The economic arm of the PLO — SAMED — participated for the seventh time in the Leipzig International Fair in the German Democratic Republic held from March 9th through the 16th. Many people visited SAMED's displays. SAMED's General Director, Abu Ala' attended the exhibition and received

Comrade Erich Honecker, Chairman of the State Council and Secretary-General of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, as well as other leaders of the German Democratic Republic. SAMED's products were among the gold prize winners. Citizens of the GDR expressed their solidarity with the Palestinian cause by visiting the PLO stand of SAMED in large numbers. A gift of 10,000 marks was contributed for the development of SAMED workshops.

FRENCH C.P. DENOUNCES SETTLEMENT IN HEBRON

The French Communist Party reiterated its support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people, and its solidarity with the Palestinian masses in the occupied territories in their confrontation of the Israeli racist policy. This came in a cable sent by the party to the Hebron municipality at the beginning of April, in which the party expressed its denunciation of the Israeli Cabinet decision to approve settlement in Hebron.

GERMAN COMMITTEE CALLS FOR PLO RECOGNITION

The West German Committee of Anti-Imperialist Solidarity with the African-Asian and Latin American Peoples called on German public opinion to support the just struggle of the Palestinian people under their sole legitimate representative, the PLO. The Committee issued a communique on April 8, in which it stated that the only solution to the Mideast conflict was the recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to establish an independent Palestinian state. The Committee also called on the West German Government to officially recognise the PLO, which has already been acclaimed by the world as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

DANISH RESOLUTION ON PALESTINIAN LAND DAY

The Danish "International Forum" and the "Left Socialist Party"

Palestina lever!



Støtt Deir al-Asad
postgiro 2 27 97 27

Norwegian solidarity action:
"Support Deir al-Asad"

expressed their solidarity with the just struggle of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. A resolution concerning the "Day of the Land" was passed at a meeting held in Copenhagen on March 26 and sent to the Committee for the Defence of Palestinian Human Rights and to the PLO Unified Information. Excerpts of the resolution follow:

"When the state of Israel was first established in 1948, the Zionists had still not colonized all of Palestine — nor had they expelled all the Palestinians. Colonization is still going on in Israel. The land of the Palestinian Arabs is still being pinched and they are forced to work as agricultural labourers on the land they formerly owned.

Since '48 the Zionists have stolen 800,000 acres of land and the Palestinians now possess less than 200,000 acres. Galilee is the region

in which the Palestinians hold a strong position. Because of that, they are a threat to the Israeli state. The government wants to build Jewish settlements in the area. By a complete take over of Palestinian land, the Zionists want to remove every trace of the Palestinian people, whose land they have conquered.

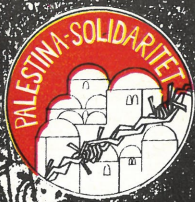
The Galilee Palestinians are allegedly Israeli citizens — but they do not hold equal rights. The Palestinians do not have the right to organize politically in order to defend their national rights as Palestinians. When a group of Palestinians in 1959 tried to form a party — El Ard (The Land) — in an attempt to hinder the Zionist colonization, the party was forbidden immediately. Therefore the struggle of the Palestinians for the possession of their own land is exceptionally difficult.

March 30 — The Day of The Land — has become a symbol of resistance against Zionist colonization among the Palestinians in Israel and The Left Socialist Party and International Forum on this day want to express our support for the struggle of the Palestinian people against the Zionist colonial state."

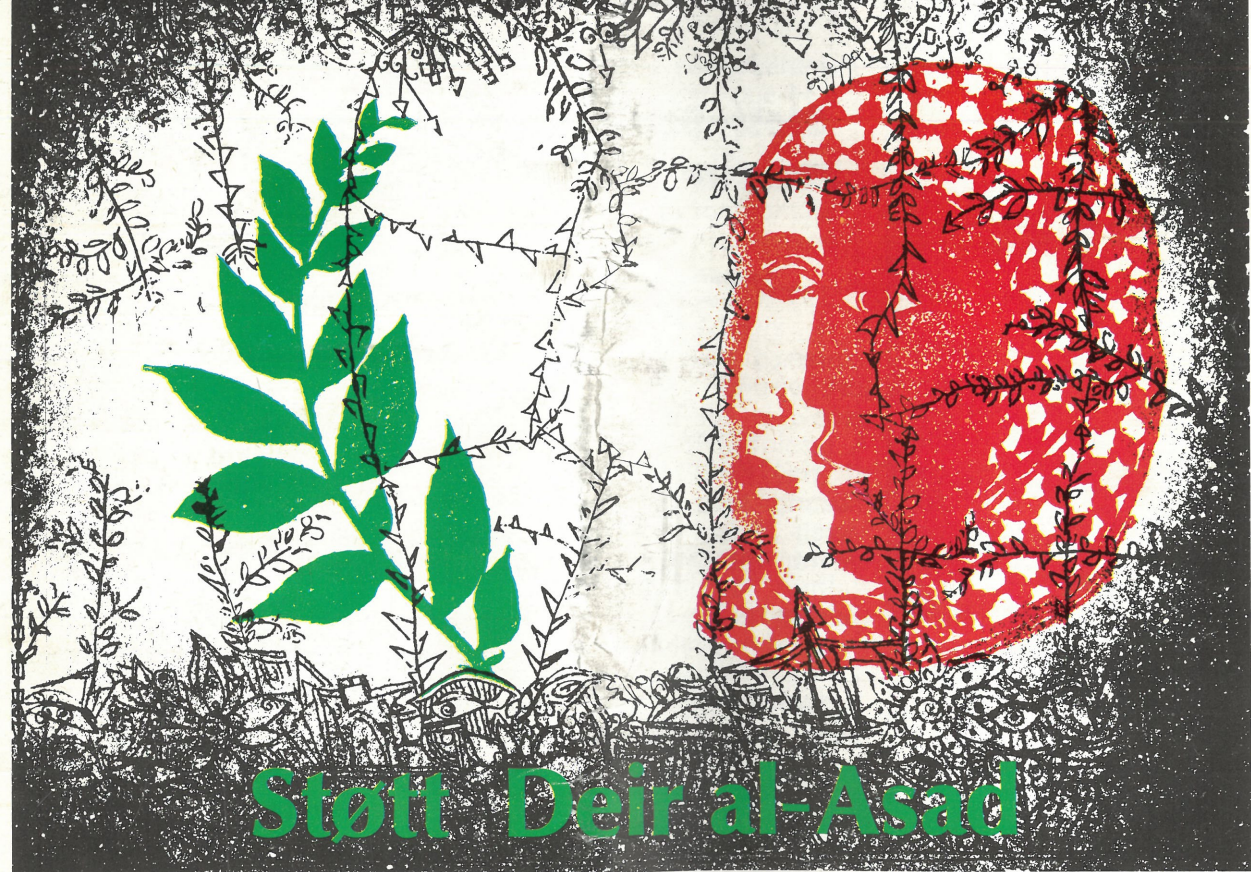
LAND DAY ACTIVITIES OF NORWEGIAN SOLIDARITY GROUPS

Norwegian solidarity committees celebrated the fourth anniversary of the "Day of the Land" and expressed their firm stand in supporting the just struggle of the Palestinian people. The Norwegian "Palestinafronten" launched a campaign for raising funds to be donated to "Deir al-Asad", a Palestinian village the Galilee in 1948-occupied Palestine. The Norwegian "Palestinakomiteen" also held meetings in Oslo to commemorate the Palestinian victims, martyred during the events of the "Day of the Land" in 1976. Thousands of pamphlets were distributed in the Norwegian capital. The publications of both the "Palestinakomiteen" and the "Palestinafronten" carried special articles on the Palestinian struggle for the land against Zionist land theft.

Palestina lever



"Palestine Lives"



Støtt Deir al-Assad

WILLY STORN

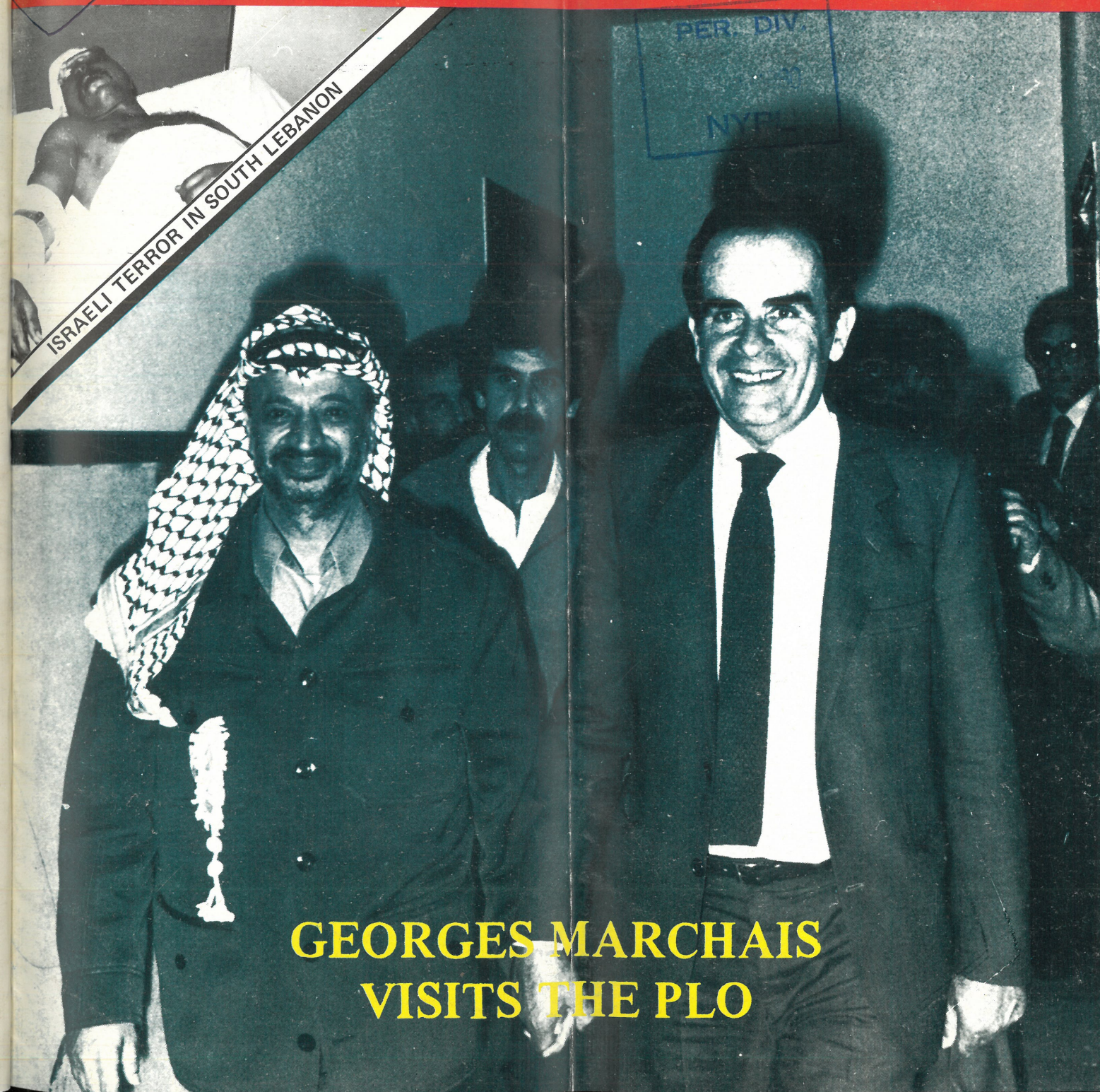
"Support Deir al-Assad"

NORWEGIAN POSTER IN SOLIDARITY
WITH THE TOWN OF DEIR AL-ASSAD
IN THE GALILEE IN NORTHERN PALESTINE

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Palestine



GEORGES MARCHAIS
VISITS THE PLO