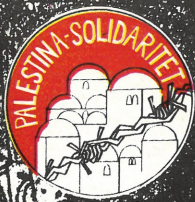
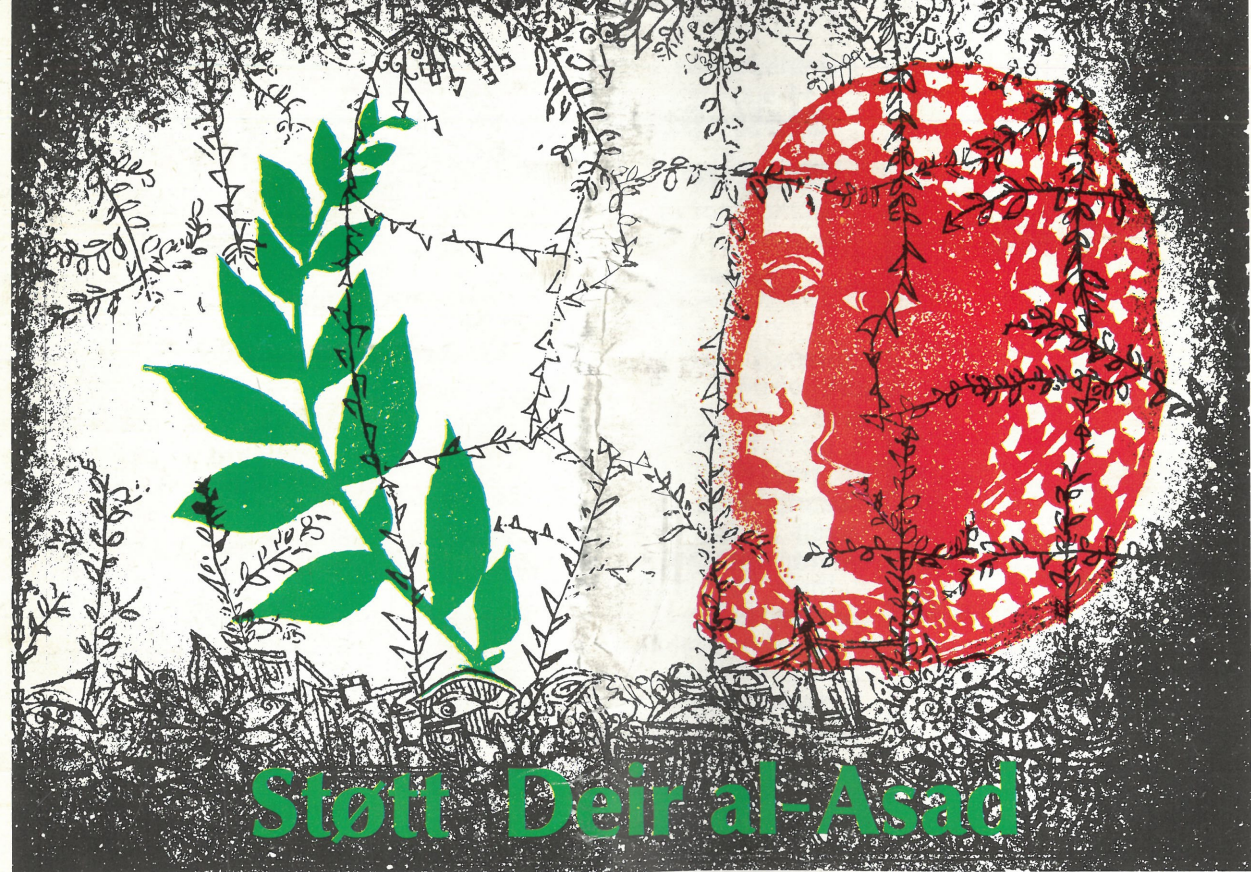


# Palestina lever



"Palestine Lives"



Støtt Deir al-Assad

WILLY STORN

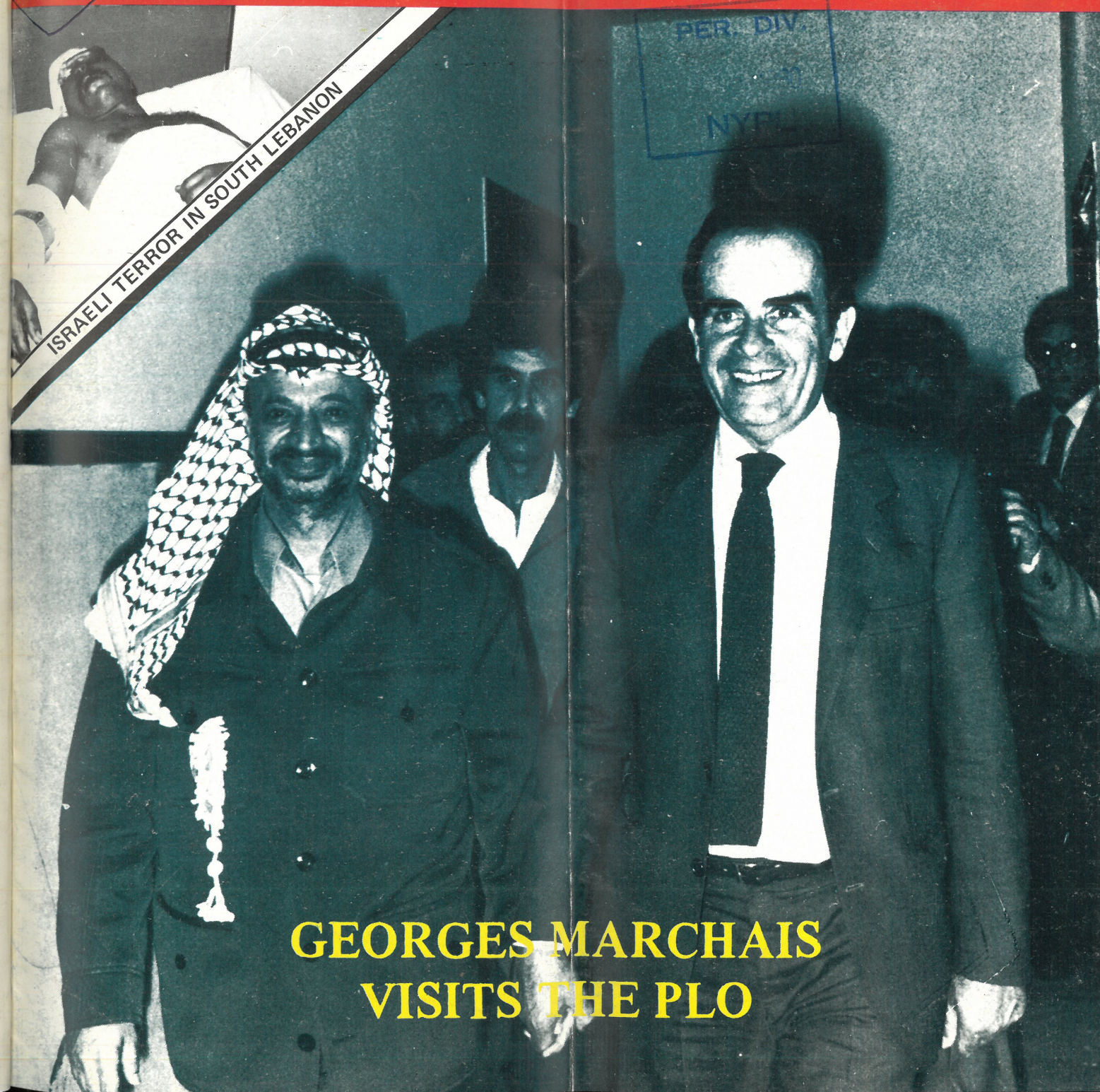
"Support Deir al-Assad"

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

P.L.O.  
information  
bulletin

Vol. 6, No. 7  
16-30 April 1980

# Palestine



GEORGES MARCHAIS  
VISITS THE PLO



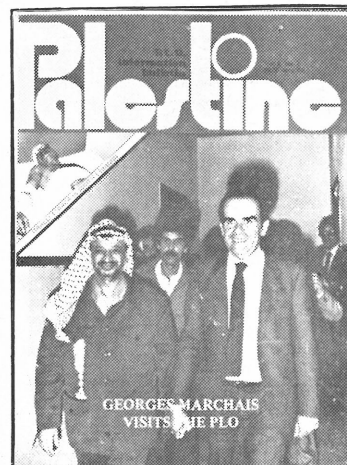
## TO OUR READERS

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
Visit Of Georges Marchais:	
"France Must Act In An Independent Manner .....	7
Camp David Produces More Empty Talk .....	10
Arab Steadfastness Front Meets .....	13
Occupation Diary .....	14
Armed Resistance .....	16
Felicia Langer:	
"The Occupation Cannot Defeat The People .....	17
Israel Plans Murder Of U.N. Soldiers, Attacks Clinic .....	23
Zionism In Practice .....	27
British Government Crimes In Palestine (3):	
From The Military Occupation To Herbert Samuel .....	28
World Events .....	33
Angolan Women: "We Are Fighting For Our Freedom" .....	34
Third Congress Of Palestinian Writers .....	35
Solidarity .....	37
Letters To Palestine .....	38
Hajras Sculpture Exhibition .....	39

# Palestine

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## EDITORIAL

# CARTER'S ADVENTURE IN IRAN

The U.S. president is under pressure, and needs to do something for his reelection. He needs to show that he is a strong president otherwise he will not be reelected. The president knows that his wavering positions flip-flopping from one side to another since the beginning of his administration, have given him a weak image to the American people and to the outside world.

The U.S. president drew back from the U.S.-Soviet Joint Communique of October 1, 1977 after a six-hour discussion with the then Israeli foreign minister, Moshe Dayan. He retreated from his famous statements given on the "Palestinian homeland" at the beginning of his administration in 1977. He fired Andy Young from his UN post after a secret talk with the PLO representative last year. He also retreated from a Security Council resolution condemning Israeli settlements in the occupied territories and Jerusalem adopted on March 1, 1980. His many meetings with Begin and other Israeli officials showed that the president cannot stand up to the Zionist lobby in the United States.

Then came the Iranian crisis and the crash of the Shah's regime. The hostage problem at the U.S. Embassy in Teheran illustrated the weakness of the Carter Administration. His negotiations with the Iranian Revolution to free the U.S. hostages has proven to be a failure. Due to his wavering positions and his weakness in not giving real concessions to the Iranians, the whole thing was blown up. His incapability of making real decisions complicated the whole issue more and more.

But time is running out and the U.S. president is approaching the pressure of the U.S. elections. It is true that he cannot face the Zionist lobby; likewise it is also true that he could not stop the war mongers around him —

those who make profit from the cold war between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. The U.S. president has finally decided what he wants: he has decided to change his image as a weak president into the image of a strongman. During the last five months, public opinion in the U.S. has been mobilized and pressured into accepting a military solution to free the hostages. The U.S. mass media has been reporting about plans to invade Iran.

New movements of U.S. fleets are approaching the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf. The Seventh Fleet came from the Philippines. A new Fifth Fleet is being created to be sent to the Indian Ocean. Even parts of the Sixth Fleet crossed the Suez Canal into that area. The U.S. asked Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states to accept U.S. military bases on their territory. Oman and its reactionary Sultan Qabous offered them the island of Massira in the Arabian Sea for use as an American base.

President Carter has been encouraged by his wicked advisors such as Brzezinski and local agents such as Sadat to use the military option against Iran. U.S. planes flying from U.S. bases in West Germany, passing through Egypt and using Oman as a staging base, launched their attack. But the winds blew against the current of the U.S. onslaught. A total failure.

President Carter will not give up and he will carry on with his aggressive schemes against Iran. He is even under more pressure than before. The new Secretary of State, Edmund Muskie, is likewise not a reasonable man. He fits well into the war-mongering policy of the president. These policies might well lead the world into a new disaster.

But the Iranian people will win!

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# PALESTINE NOTES

## ARAB CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN

The Arab Children's Conference meeting in Tunis adopted a number of resolutions and recommendations for the support of the Palestinian children inside the occupied territories, in their confrontation with the Israeli policies of placing Palestinian children on trial, and of depriving them of their rights to education. The conference met from April 8-13, and was attended by delegates from eighteen Arab states, Arab and foreign organisations and the General Secretariat of the Arab League. The Conference, which was chaired by Um Jihad, the Head of the Palestinian delegation, called for a study of the situation of Palestinian children inside and outside the occupied territories, and that a special fund should be set up to support Palestinian children.

## MESSAGE TO IRANIAN PRESIDENT

On April 13, Iranian President Abul Hassan Bani Sadr received Hani al-Hassan, the PLO representative in Teheran, who conveyed to him a verbal message from Yasser Arafat concerning issues of mutual concern. After the meeting, Hani al-Hassan said: "We must exert all efforts to turn the region into a single front against imperialism and Zionism." He said that the explosive situation between Iran and Iraq only serves the enemy, and not the interests of the various states. He added that all problems must be settled in the framework of an objective and cordial dialogue.

## ARAFAT MEETS BOURGUIBA IN TUNIS

On April 15, Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, met with Tunisian Pre-

sident Habib Bourguiba. The meeting was attended by Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department; Abu Saleh, member of the Fateh Central Committee; Muhammad Massali, the Tunisian Minister of Education, and Hassan Belkhouja, the Tunisian new Foreign Minister. On his arrival in Tunis, Arafat stated that his visit comes within the framework of continuing talks with Tunisian officials, in particular President Bourguiba, on current developments which concern the unity of Arab ranks.

## CONFERENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF AZANIA

The General Secretariat of the General Union of Palestinian Workers (GUPW) took part in the International Trade Unions Conference in Solidarity with the Workers and People of Azania, which was held in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa, from April 14-16. Forty-five regional, national and international unions took part in the Conference. The unions taking part in the Conference decided to expel the Egyptian delegation from the Conference.

The Conference was inaugurated by the Ethiopian Labour Minister. Khaled Abdel Ghani, member of the General Secretariat of the GUPW, then delivered a speech in the name of the Palestinian Workers, in which he saluted the solidarity of the workers in South Africa and their unconditional support for the Palestinian workers and people and their armed revolution against the racist regime in Israel. Abdel Ghani then denounced the continuous racist aggressions against Angola, Mozambique, Botswana, and Zambia, and reaffirmed that the Palestinian working class feels closest to the South African working class because the struggle it is waging is under similar racist and

colonial circumstances. Furthermore, Abdel Ghani added, coordination and cooperation between the racist regimes in South Africa and Israel is evident for all to see, and the only way to confront this is to coordinate and cooperate the moves of the Arabs and the Africans in the face of their joint enemy.

At the end of the Conference, a communique was issued, rejecting the new labour law of South Africa, describing it as an attempt to coerce African workers into accepting white domination, and as an attack on the independence of the trade union movement. The communique described the struggle in South Africa as an integral part of the anti-imperialist struggle in the world. The communique then expressed unconditional support for the Conference of the Unions of South Africa, the sole representative of the national unions of South Africa and also for the National Union of Workers of Namibia, closely linked with SWAPO. The communique then called on all workers to boycott the South African regime and support the struggle of the South African people. The communique concluded by demanding the complete withdrawal of the racist forces from Namibia, the release of all political prisoners and putting an end to all internal oppression in South Africa and external aggression against neighboring countries.

## PLO DELEGATION TOURS WESTERN EUROPE

A delegation of the PLO, headed by the Chairman of the Palestinian National Council's (PNC) Committee for International Affairs, Khaled al-Hassan, toured Western Europe in April to meet with parliamentarians of different countries and parties. On April 15, the delegation held official talks with representatives of the two parties of the

governing coalition in the Federal Republic of Germany. There was also informal talks with a representative of the opposition party. The delegation then went to Brussels, the seat of the European parliament, where the PLO officials met with various political groups of the parliament. It was the first of such meetings to take place with a PLO delegation. The Communist Group and the Socialist Group within the European parliament officially received the Palestinian delegation, while the Christian Democrat and the Liberal Groups met with them on an informal basis. All the meetings were described as positive and fruitful. The Palestinian delegation had the opportunity to correct false notions concerning the PNC, the PLO and the Palestinian position.

An office concerning Palestinian affairs was formed on April 20, affiliated to the European Parliament, which includes twenty-one European states. The announcement came in the form of a joint communique issued by the delegation of the Palestinian National Congress and the Euro-Arab cooperation group at the conclusion of three day of meetings. The communique urged the European states to exert efforts towards the implementation of peace in the Middle East, and the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil. The communique also called on the European states to provide economic, cultural and educational aid to the Palestinian people.

## ARAFAT MEETS WITH ZHIVKOV

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution on April 22 met in Damascus with Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov who was paying an official visit to Syria. President Zhivkov and Chairman Arafat discussed the situation in the Middle East and the Palestine cause, and the deteriorating situation in south Lebanon in the wake of the latest Israeli military escalation and threats.

## ABU IYYAD VISITS YUGOSLAVIA

On April 18, Fateh Central Committee member Abu Iyyad arrived Josip Vrhovec. During the talks, Vrhovec reiterated Yugoslavia's help and support for the Palestinian people in the struggle for their national rights, self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. He also stressed the right of Palestinians to return to their homeland, and the need to recognise the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab Palestinian people.

in Belgrade at the invitation of the Yugoslav interior minister. He con-

ducted talks with Yugoslav officials regarding current developments and Palestinian-Yugoslav relations. On April 21, he discussed the Middle East situation and bilateral relations with Yugoslav foreign minister

## PLO OFFICE IN GREECE

The Greek Government has agreed in late April to the opening of a PLO information and communications office in Athens. An agreement on this was reached during the talks conducted in January between Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department and Mr. George Raillis, the Greek Foreign Minister.



Chairman Arafat receives the Black American delegation

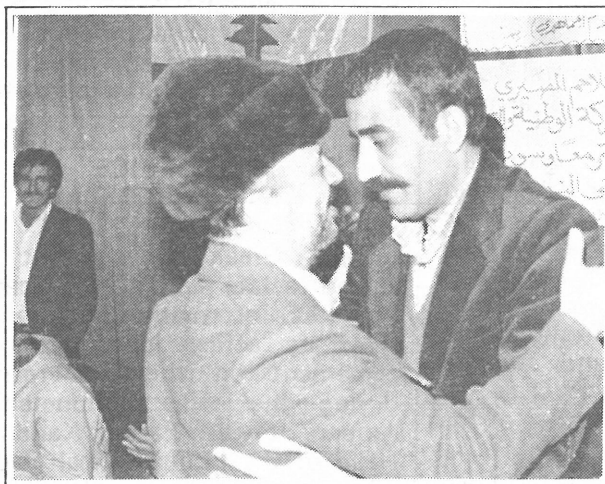
## BLACK AMERICAN DELEGATION CONDEMNS U.S. SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL

A delegation of American Blacks visited the PLO in Lebanon in mid-April. It was led by Huey P. Newton, Chairman of the Black Panther Party and Carl Green, staff member of the Black Caucus of the U.S. Congress. The delegation visited various social, educational and cultural institutions of the PLO and hospitals of the P.R.C.S.

They also witnessed in South Lebanon the destruction caused by Israeli bombardments in Lebanese

villages and Palestinian camps. In declarations to the press they expressed their deep shock about what they saw and deplored the fact that the American taxpayers are made to pay the bill for Israeli aggression and crimes committed against the Palestinian and Lebanese civilian population, children, women and old people. At the end of the visit the delegation was received by Chairman Arafat. The American friends pledged to bring home a true picture of the Palestinian Resistance and report to the American people and Congress on the shameful results of U.S. policy in the area.

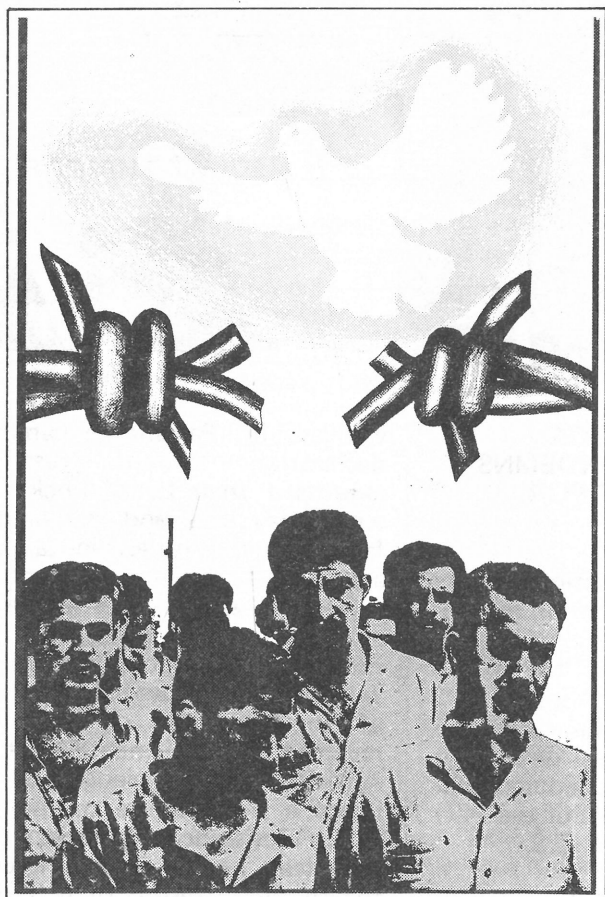




Chairman Arafat welcomes Mahdi Bseiso recently released from Israeli imprisonment

### PALESTINIAN PRISONERS' DAY

On April 17, Palestinian masses in the occupied Palestinian territories and outside marked Palestinian Prisoners' Day. In the occupied West Bank, the National Guidance Committee called on Palestinian masses to observe a



Hail to Palestine—  
"The Oppression Will Never Crush You"

general strike. Various seminars, rallies and cultural events took place to observe the occasion. Popular organizations issued a report outlining the lamentable and deteriorating conditions for Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.

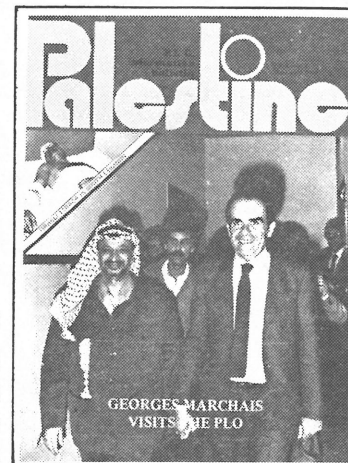
The Employees Club in Jerusalem on April 17 organised an art exhibition in which works by Palestinian detainees inside Israeli jails were shown. The works expressed the prisoners' suffering at the hands of the Zionist authorities. The Israeli forces stormed the exhibition, assaulting and arresting one of the club's members. In Jenin, all shops were closed and students staged demonstrations in protest against the brutal treatment of Palestinian prisoners. In Qalqilya, the students staged a hunger strike. In Nablus, a rally was held in support of the detainees' families. Members of the municipality and representatives of religious and national bodies and trade unions participated in this rally. In 'Anabta, the mayor and the municipality of the town visited the families of the town's detainees and expressed their solidarity with all those engaged in the struggle for the just Palestinian cause. The Union of Employees of the Jerusalem Electricity Company also held a seminar in which they decided to establish a special fund by different Palestinian organisations for the families of detainees and martyrs. It also decided to grant scholarships to their sons.

In Beirut, the Committee for the Defense of Palestinian Detainees in Israeli jails organised a rally on the occasion. Leaders from the Palestinian Revolution, headed by Chairman Arafat, and leaders of the Lebanese National Movement were in attendance. The speakers confirmed the steadfastness of the Palestinian people inside and outside Palestine, and affirmed the inevitability of victory for the Palestinian Revolution.

### MEMORANDUM TO UNITED NATIONS

The Palestinian women's organizations and the relatives and parents of Palestinians detained in Israeli jails sent a formal complaint to U.N. Secretary General Dr. Waldheim, the Secretary General of the Arab League, the International Red Cross, the Human Rights Commission and Amnesty International, describing the prisoners' conditions in Israeli jails. The memo called on Arab and world communities to exert their utmost efforts for the implementation of internationally recognised rights for the presentation of prisoners' cases before the U.N. Security Council, to end all Israeli military incursions into the jails and to stop the brutalization of infirm prisoners.

### VISIT OF GEORGE MARCHAIS AND PCF DELEGATION:



The General Secretary of the French Communist Party (PCF), George Marchais, arrived in Beirut on April 15 at the invitation of the PLO and the Lebanese Communist Party. Marchais was received by PLO Executive Committee members Yasser Abed Rabbo and Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani; PLO Political Department Western Europe Affairs Director Zakaria Ahmad; Palestinian National Front representative Jiryes Qawass; PLO Foreign Information Director Mahmoud Labadi; PFLP Politburo member Taysir Qubba'a; Lebanese Communist Party (LCP) Secretary George Hawi; LCP Politburo members Nadim Abdel Samad and Karim Mruweh; Lebanese Communist Action Organisation Secretary Muhsin Ibrahim; and Syrian Socialist Nationalist Party Leaders En'am Ra'd and Abdallah Sa'adeh. At the airport, Marchais made the following statement.

"I take this opportunity to reiterate the position of the PCF as regards the Middle East

problem. In brief, the PCF maintains that peace and stability in the Middle East cannot be established unless the Palestinian people realise their national rights. We further reaffirm our position in support of the Lebanese National Movement in its struggle to defend the unity and territorial integrity of Lebanon."

A Palestinian delegation headed by Chairman Arafat met with the delegation of the PCF and held a three-hour meeting on April 16. Afterwards Chairman Arafat remarked: "I am very satisfied with the talks we have held with the PCF and M. Georges Marchais. We, for our part, expressed our appreciation for the positive stand of the PCF and other democratic and progressive forces in France with regard to the Palestinian people and their just cause."

George Marchais said: "I informed Chairman Arafat and our friends in the Palestinian Revolution of our Party's decision to strengthen its solidarity with them and work for official recognition of the PLO by the French Government as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. We call for a French initiative for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state." Marchais concluded by that a visit by Chairman Arafat to France will certainly take place, and he hoped that it would be soon.

After meetings with the Lebanese Communist Party, representatives of the Lebanese National Movement and Lebanese government officials, Georges Marchais left Beirut on April 17. He thanked the Lebanese politicians and officials for their very warm and cordial welcome. He also thanked the Lebanese Communist Party and the PLO, which he said hold common ties in the joint struggle for peace and justice.

## "FRANCE MUST ACT IN AN ENTIRELY INDEPENDENT MANNER"

(In an interview published in the Beirut newspapers "An-Nahar" and "L'Orient-Le Jour" on April 17, 1980, the Secretary General of the French Communist Party, Georges Marchais, commented on French policy towards Palestine and on other issues.)

Q. What does the PCF contribute to the promotion of a European movement in support of the PLO?

Georges Marchais: "I think one can verify the efficacy of the activities of the PCF and also of other communist parties and of other progressive forces, when one considers the progress obviously made in furthering the two demands





Georges Marchais welcomed at the airport by representatives of the Lebanese National Movement and the Palestinian Resistance.

for a Palestinian state on Palestinian soil and for the recognition of the PLO as the authentic representative of the Palestinian people. Of course, we have to attribute this progress above all to the struggle of the Palestinians themselves, as well as to the solidarity on which they can count among the Arab people. But our activity has played a great role concerning the increased awareness emerging, for instance, in Europe. It is not by accident that recently, for sure with some delay, the President of the French Republic has been prompted to recognize what the United Nations did five years ago: the right of the Palestinians to self-determination. This happened quite simply, because this idea has come to be supported by the majority in our country, by the majority of our people."

— Is a European action conceivable, which takes place independent of the United States and initiated by France?

"I don't think so. I think one should not have illusions about Europe. One has to face things as they are. Europe independent of the United States is a myth. One must only look at the policy of Madame Thatcher, completely tied to Washington. The same applies for the Federal Republic of Germany. Of course, we nevertheless will not give up acting together with other progressive forces in Europe in favour of the Palestinian struggle. We demand that our government act in an entirely independent manner, in favour of the right of the Palestinians to their state. That is why we are pushing Mr. Giscard d'Estaing to invite my friend Yasser Arafat to visit France."

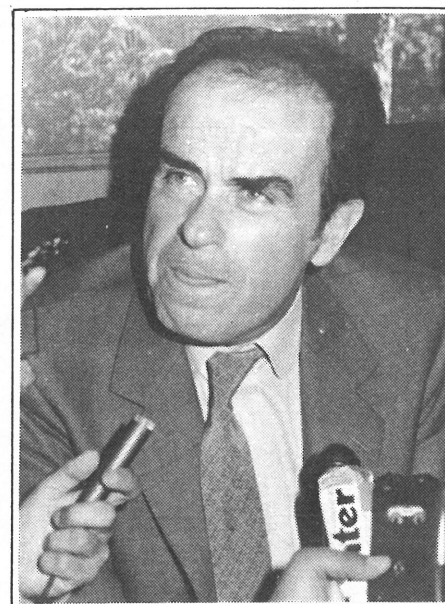
— Do you think that the initiative of the French president comes in the framework of a distribution of roles, or is it a proof of independence?

"I don't think one can speak here of a distribution of roles. Even if there is one, this takes place among the imperialist countries. We reproach the French government for playing the role of the policeman in Africa. But as for the Palestinians, one should do justice to the French position (which remains insufficient since it does not go as far as it should go, that is to affirm the necessity of an independent Palestinian state on the soil of Palestine). Nevertheless, it represents an attitude which is different from the position of the United States."

— Will the European initiative be effective? Will we soon see a Palestinian state?

"I think we will soon witness the emergence of an independent Palestinian state on the soil of Palestine. Here, I speak out of the experience lived through by the French. I mean the Algerian and Vietnamese experiences. I cannot make prognoses. The cause of the Palestinian people has been much in progress recently. Even in Israel recently one witnessed demonstrations rallying tens of thousands of people favouring peace and a dialogue with the PLO. One should not forget this was the way things started to move, too, in Algeria and Vietnam."

— Could one speak of an objective collaboration between you and the French government? Your invitation to Mr. Arafat — does it



Georges Marchais

open the way for an official invitation?

"There is no objective collaboration in the sense that there exists a difference in attitude between the position of the government and our position. We reproach the French government for not advancing far enough in taking the necessary positions, with regards to the independent Palestinian state and the recognition of the PLO. We reproach the government for not acting in an independent way, for not taking the initiatives it should take, whatever the behaviour of the U.S., the F.R.G. and other European countries may be. Anyhow, I would like to say that our attitude is guided both by our solidarity with regard to a just cause and at the same time by the fact that also French interests are involved."

— Do you believe Mr. Arafat will go to France before May 26?

"The decision doesn't depend on me. I will renew the invitation of the PCF extended to Mr. Arafat and he may honour it whenever he wants to do so. Thus he can come to France at any moment. On the other hand it is obvious that the visit will undoubtedly take place in the immediate future, if the President, as we demand it, extends an invitation to Chairman Arafat. I think this would be a considerable step forward. Such an initiative would have considerable repercussions on the situation in the Middle East."

— Do the latest aggressions in south Lebanon have any special significance for you?

"They illustrate the deadlock of what is called the policy of Camp David, which has led to an impasse. The fundamental problem has not been settled. On the other hand, the declarations of Mr. Begin have a provocative character. They repel any solution which would allow steps forward. This runs contrary not only to the interests of the Palestinians and the Lebanese but also to the Israeli people themselves."

— Do the diverging positions which the Western communist parties, in particular the French, the Italian and the Spanish Communist Party, have taken with regard to Afghanistan, signal the end of Eurocommunism?

"The word 'eurocommunism' is incorrect insofar as it suggests that only European communist parties have adopted an original position calling for a democratic way towards socialism and for a socialism in itself democratic. The Japanese, Mexican and other communist parties from all over the world have such an orientation in their programmes."

The socialist society in this or that Arab country are of the same nature as the socialist society in this or that European, Latin American or African country.

As for Afghanistan, I would like to know in the name of who or what one could pretend to forbid Afghanistan to conclude an alliance with the USSR, which goes back to 1921, and was renewed in 1931 and again in 1978.

Secondly, the Afghan authorities have come to the conclusion that the foreign interventions heavily supported by the United States were aiming at destabilizing the country, contrary to the wish of the Afghan people who wanted to advance on a democratic road. It has appealed for Soviet help and the Soviet government quite naturally has honoured its obligations. We are against the export of the revolution, but we are also against the export of counter-revolution. One cannot just let the imperialist forces act. Look how they are intervening in Africa: take the example of Angola. Just when Angola had become an independent state, the imperialist forces intervened from outside in order to prevent the Angolan people from enjoying the independence they had achieved. We say that it was justified to help the Angolan people in the way the Cubans did. Of course, we are sticking to the principle of non-interference, but this principle must first of all be respected by the imperialists. We know quite well what they are doing and will do to obstruct the way forward of the people towards progress, democracy and socialism."



CARTER, BEGIN, SADAT  
"REPRESENTING" PALESTINE:

## CAMP DAVID PRODUCES MORE EMPTY TALKS

U.S. President Carter orchestrated yet another useless round of Camp David talks — first, with Sadat on April 8-9 and then with Begin a week later. The aim of the most recent American stagecraft was an attempt to prolong the life of the so-called Palestinian "autonomy" negotiations beyond their expiration date of May 26th.

A year of U.S.-directed negotiations between Egypt and Israel over the fate of the Israeli occupied Arab territories has produced nothing to show for itself. Above all, the talks have not enticed a single Palestinian to join in the maneuvering to abolish their own right to self-determination. On the contrary, the Palestinian resistance to Camp David has grown and become more militant even inside the 1948-occupied territories.

As the Begin-Sadat talks were unlikely to break any new ground, even the U.S. press treated the whole matter as a Carter campaign gimmick. The *New York Times* reported on April 8 that "Mr. Carter's aides hope that, if he can reach a general understanding with the two leaders, it could restore his foreign policy image at a crucial point in the campaign for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination." But Carter's aides hoped falsely. All that was agreed upon by three parties in the end, was to meet more intensively for more empty talk. Afterwards, the *New York Times* summed up the outcome in an editorial on April 18, stating that Begin and Sadat "hardly needed to fly to Washington to promise to talk more diligently for 40 days (and nights?).... But they had to agree on how to handle an important failure."

The current talks were cloaked with elaborate diplomatic euphemisms and charades in attempts



*He tries to hide his empty hands*

to disguise the final death of Camp David. There were indications that to save face in the international community, to side-step the PLO, and sustain the appearance of movement, all parties will simply declare that "Autonomy" has been achieved with nothing at all resolved, and thus try to formalize continued Israeli military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. But each of the three parties expressed its own variation of how to dispose of the rights of the Palestinian people.

In a speech given before the National Press Club on April 10, Sadat dismissed the original May 26th "autonomy" deadline and foresaw Palestinian rights being indefinitely postponed until "a later stage" when the Palestinian people would "play a major role in reaching the final settlement." But before then, he envisioned five years with no settlement: "We thought of an initial step in the form of a transitional agreement for a period not to exceed five years. Such a formula does not constitute a settlement..." Sadat also stated, true to his capitulationist form, that the aggressive Zionist settlement policy would not stop negotiations. Not only was Sadat prepared to deal away the Palestinian right to self-determination (based on the ludicrous pretention that he and not the PLO represents the Palestinians), but he was also busy in Washington preparing to surrender Egyptian sovereignty to the regional designs of U.S. imperialism. The British *Guardian* of April 11 reported what was perhaps the only "accomplishment" in Sadat's talks with Carter:

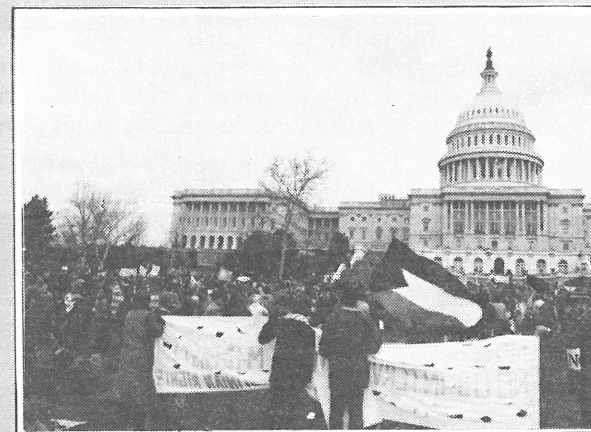
"President Sadat said that arrangements were already underway to give the U.S. military facilities in Egypt which would allow it to go to the aid of any Arab nation in danger from the Soviet Union or anyone else."

### DELAYING TACTICS

After Begin's meetings with Carter, he claimed that he rejected proposals put forward to include the status of Jerusalem as an agenda item in the future. He also claimed that there was general agreement that Israel would maintain military forces in the occupied territories and that any proposed formation of Palestinian "governing councils" would have limited powers so as not to later evolve into independent bodies. To enforce the latter, on April 14 the Zionist government cancelled West Bank mayoral elections due to be held this spring. Likewise, Begin affirmed that the Zionist settlement drive would continue. U.S. officials disclosed that

Carter and Begin had agreed that water rights, land titles and settlements in the occupied territories could be negotiated after "autonomy" was set up — how one could achieve even "autonomy" without water or land while foreign settlers occupy military outposts is rather mysterious.

After the Carter Administration back-tracked on its UN Security Council vote condemning Zionist settlements, the Administration sought to firm up its ties with Zionism and reaffirmed that Palestinian rights are not in the present interests of imperialism. In an address before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on March 20, Secretary of State Vance reiterated the U.S. policy guideline which would govern the Begin-Sadat talks. Foremost among the point he stressed was the Administration's "unwavering support for Israel's security and well-being." Another guiding U.S. principle was, "Our firm position that we will not recognize or negotiate with the PLO so long as the PLO does not



*Thousands demonstrated in Washington in support of the PLO*



### WASHINGTON DEMONSTRATION PROTESTS SADAT'S TALKS, SUPPORTS PLO

Over 3,000 Palestinians and American supporters demonstrated on April 12th near the White House in Washington in support of the PLO and against Sadat's talks with Carter. The demonstration was organized by the Palestine American Congress of North America, and speakers at the rally included representatives from Iranian organizations, El Salvador, Palestine Solidarity Committees, Black organizations,

the Lebanese National Movement, the Organization of Arab Students, the Palestine Information Office, the Egyptian National Movement and others. Speakers called for the defeat of Camp David and for granting of Palestinian self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. Demonstrators carrying signs in support of the PLO and chanting slogans in support of Palestinian self-determination marched through the city to the front of the White House. At the rally thousands of helium filled balloons were released with Palestinian flags tied to them which flew in all directions, including over the White House.



## CAMP DAVID PRODUCES MORE EMPTY TALK

recognize Israel's right to exist and does not accept Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338..." But Sadat-Begin-Carter are almost alone in holding the illusion that a solution in the Middle East can bypass the PLO, the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

## 'WARMONGERING

A White House press statement of April 9 stated that "President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin have proved to the world their dedication to sparing their people the agony of war." In fact, quite the opposite was taking place in Washington. Sadat was anxiously assisting the U.S. in preparing for possible future military adventures in the Gulf by offering Egyptian military bases. The Zionists were preparing new incursions into southern Lebanon, one of which materialized even before Begin arrived in Washington. On April 9, some 300 Zionist troops invaded southern Lebanon and Israeli-Haddad forces began a heavy artillery bombardment of Sidon. Since then, Zionist troops attacked a

clinic in Sarafand on April 18 killing eighteen people including children, a doctor and a nurse. Their agent Haddad in the southern Lebanese border strip has been savagely attacking UN outposts in likely preparation for further Israeli actions.

But both inside and outside the occupied territories resistance to the new forms of the Camp David aggression has remained strong and grown among the Palestinian people. Mayor Bassam Shaka'a of Nablus described the current Zionist attacks on Palestinians in the West Bank on April 14:

"Faced with the failure to implement the Camp David accords, the growing world recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people and the strong world-wide condemnation of the Israeli expansionist policies, Israel is heading towards the creation of further faits accomplis which could be used as pressure cards in any current or forthcoming talks. Israel thus seizes more land, and further harrasses and oppresses the Palestinian people with the aim of striking at the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in their confrontation of the various conspiracies."

However, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat warned on April 8 before the "autonomy" talks began: "Neither Zionism nor imperialism will touch our land; and Carter, Begin and their agent Sadat should listen.... They can impose autonomy, but our people will fight until the liberation of their land, even if it takes a martyr for every inch."



"Autonomy" swindle is put off — settlements go on

## WHILE U.S. IMPERIALISM IS ROAMING THE REGION:

## ARAB STEADFASTNESS FRONT MEETS

U.S. imperialism, in complete accord with its regional offshoot, Zionism, in recent years has stepped up its aggression against the Arab nation. Israel has managed to mobilize the pliant Egyptian leader, Anwar Sadat, on the side of its policy, dragging the Egyptian people out of their Arab environment in the process. The plot, expressed by the Camp David agreements, weakened for a time the Arab stance towards the liberation of their occupied territories, facilitated the exploitation of Arab wealth by U.S. corporations, and provided a cover for the expansion of Zionist settlements in occupied Arab land. At the same time, Pentagon strategists have been roaming the region trying to further split Arab ranks, and in the process to establish military bases on Arab soil, including Oman, Egypt and Somalia.

American warships and marines have been dispatched to the Indian Ocean and the Gulf. An economic and propaganda war has been unleashed against the national liberation movements of Iran and Afghanistan. At the same time, U.S. President Carter has been beating the wardrums in an apparent attempt to draw West European allies into what he colorfully disguises as a crusade to preserve the interests of "Western civilization." Detente has also been undermined to the extent that the world is daily being pushed closer to a nuclear holocaust, as Carter tries to win the support of the U.S. military-industrial complex and oil multinationals during his campaign for re-election.

It was against the background of this global and regional onslaught by U.S. imperialism that the Fourth Conference of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front was held in Tripoli from 13-15 April. The summit was attended by leaders representing the PLO, Syria, Algeria, South Yemen and Libya. The Conference discussed the current situation in the Arab nation and the escalating hostilities of Zionism and imperialism against it, specifically the attempt by the parties to the Camp David accords to implement the self-rule scheme. The Conference then passed important resolutions, some of which were kept secret.

## FRONT COMMUNIQUE: NO TO U.S. BASES

The Conference agreed on several positive resolutions on the strategic level, including the adoption of an offensive policy, and laid down the basic steps for a long-term military program by founding its own permanent political and military institutions.

The Conference rejected any solution to the Middle East conflict based on UN resolution 242, or any solution derived from this resolution. The members of the Front were careful to make a clear distinction between U.S. imperialism and its allies on the one hand, and the friendly Socialist states, headed by the Soviet Union, on the other. The Conference strongly denounced the establishment of U.S. military bases on Arab soil, since this represents a danger to the Arab Nation. The Conference also expressed its full support for the Iranian Revolution, and said it considers any U.S. intervention in the area a threat to its security. The Front called for the respect of Afghanistan's desire to defend its territory and its non-alignment.

The Conference put into practice the very

essence of the Front through the building of its institutions and the formation of a special force, including land, air and naval forces. This special force will be headed by a Syrian officer and its staff will include all parties, including the PLO. It will form the nucleus of an Arab military union, fighting for the implementation of the Front's goals of liberating the Arab occupied territories, implementing Palestinian national rights and confronting all imperialist conspiracies against the Arab Nation and the members of the Front. The Front also decided to form a delegation to be headed by Col. Muammar Qadhafi, which will visit the Soviet Union to discuss with the Soviet leadership ways of consolidating ties between the Front and the Soviet Union.

The Conference also noted that some West European countries did not pay attention to the just Arab national cause, the core of which is the Palestine question. Instead they attempt to bring about projects trying to complement Camp David, neglecting the dangerous repercussions emerging from the aggressive U.S. policy in the area. The Conference expressed its determination to limit economic relations with West European countries which continue to play the role of U.S. proxies in the area.



# OCCUPATION DIARY

## ISRAEL PLANS NEW MILITARY BASES IN OCCUPIED WEST BANK

Israeli military sources revealed on April 12 that the occupation authorities intend to establish new military installations in the occupied West Bank to "compensate" for the handover of military bases in the Sinai. The Israeli newspaper *Ha'aretz* reported that IL 3 billion (about \$75 million) would be spent in the initial phase of a vast program, which includes building camps, roads and a communications network. The same sources told *Ha'aretz* that a communications station and an access road are currently under construction on Mount Eval, near Nablus, which at present can only be reached by helicopter. Quoting Israeli military sources, *Ha'aretz* noted that "the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai and the current Israeli-Egyptian-American negotiations on Palestinian autonomy served as a catalyst for the construction program."

## LAND CONFISCATION

The inhabitants of the Palestinian village of Beit Omar, near Hebron, have demanded that the Israeli authorities cancel the deci-



More military bases will not save Zionism

sion to seize their land in order to establish new settlements there. The Palestinian citizens demanded that the Israeli Supreme Court issue an injunction against the Israeli War Minister, his Chief of Staff, and the Military Governor of the Hebron region, regarding the decision to evict the villagers from the land which was confiscated by the Israeli forces to establish the Mifdal Oz settlement. The Beit Omar villagers also presented documents proving their ownership of the land which the Israeli forces had seized.

## WEST BANK MAYORS CONDEMN POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS

The Israeli military authorities informed the West Bank municipalities on April 14 of their decision to limit the terms of these municipalities and to postpone new elections. Municipal elections in the occupied territories are usually held every four years, and were due to take place on April 12, 1980, after having been announced ninety days earlier.

Nablus Mayor Bassam al-Shak'a said that the Israeli decision is political, and that the postponement of the elections proves that the Israeli authorities could not find municipal councils willing to participate in the implementation of the administrative autonomy conspiracy. Al-Shak'a added that the aim of this decision is to combat all nationalist institutions and replace them with municipalities hostile to the people's goals and which accept the Camp David accords.

Ramallah Mayor Karim Khalaf rejected the Israeli decision. The Mayors will hold an emergency meeting to decide the future of their people. Hebron Mayor Fahd al-Qawasmeh also said that his municipality will continue to serve the masses. The national institutions and popular unions in the occupied territories, meanwhile, described the Israeli decision as a political decision and part of a series of aggressive Zionist measures and decisions against the Palestinian people inside the occupied territories.

## PALESTINIANS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST CLOSURE OF COLLEGE

The Israeli authorities on April 14 refused to release 21 Palestinian students from Bethlehem, who were arrested together with students from other towns in the West Bank. The students were arrested on charges of participating in a sit-in organized at the Science College of Abu Deis to protest the Israeli decision to close it down, hence depriving Palestinian students of the opportunity to resume their studies. Moreover, the Israeli occupation authorities insisted on bringing the students to trial.

In another move against Palestinian educational institutions, the Israeli authorities refused to renew the residence permit of Dr. Wafiq al-Kufri, physics professor at the Abu Deis college. The authorities ordered him to leave when his residence permit expired on April 18, 1980. Following these Israeli measures, the Higher Education Council in the occupied West Bank held a meeting at Beit Hanina, near Jerusalem, in which a number of West Bank mayors participated. The conference discussed the current situation in the occupied Palestinian territories in view of the escalating Israeli campaign against

the national and educational institutions there.

At the end of the conference the participants issued a communique denouncing the Israeli acts of aggression against the educational institutions, which included the storming of the teachers' training centers in al-Bireh and Ramallah, the attack on al-Najah University in Nablus, the arrest of several members of the Bir Zeit University Student Council, and the closure of the Science College in Abu Deis. The communique called on regional and international bodies to exert all efforts to stop these aggressions. Huge demonstrations erupted in Ramallah to protest the Israeli actions. Israeli forces rushed to the scene and attacked the demonstrators with batons, firing guns in the air in an attempt to disperse them. In Bethlehem, the students declared a strike and classes were suspended in support of the Beit Hanina conference.

## ISRAELIS DAMAGE CROPS IN HEBRON AREA WITH DEFOLIANTS

The Israeli occupation authorities have extended their destructive measures to Palestinian crops. Recently these authorities damaged several hundred hectares of agricultural land in the Hebron region following the systematic spraying of defoliants by planes attached to the Israeli Agriculture Ministry, whose head is that outspoken advocate of Jewish colonization, Gen. Ariel Sharon.

Several West Bank mayors protested the incident, in which olive groves, wheat fields and barley crops were damaged. Tawfiq al-Toubi, a Knesset member of the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality, demanded that the Israeli authorities investigate the poisoning



Threatened Palestinian crops

of cultivated land in the Hebron area. The Israeli land administration which was responsible for the action claimed it had been seeking to destroy crops which were planted "illegally" by Palestinian West Bankers. This demonstrates that the spraying was done as an official act of government policy.

## G.U.P.S. CALLS FOR HELP FOR ABU DEIS

The General Union of Palestinian Students has called on all international friendly organisations and forces to express solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people and to denounce the closure of the Abu Deis Science College and the arrest of Bir Zeit students. It also asked these organisations to exert the maximum efforts to compel the Israeli authorities to withdraw their arbitrary decision. This was mentioned in a communique issued by the Executive Committee of the General Union of Palestinian Students, in which it reviewed the practices of the Israeli authorities

against the Palestinian people, including the students. The communique saluted the heroism of the students in the occupied territories, who were subjected to all kinds of torture, terrorism and imprisonment. It revealed the Israeli plan which aims at ruining the educational institutions in the occupied territories, and affirmed that the Palestinian people will foil all conspiracies hatched against their struggle.

## NAZARETH NATIONAL FRONT: PLO IS SOLE REPRESENTATIVE

The National Front in Nazareth in 48-occupied Palestine on April 17 issued a communique affirming the commitment of the Palestinian people to their national rights, including their rights to self-determination and to establish an independent state under the leadership of the PLO. The communique called on the Israeli authorities to lift their siege on al-Jalazoun Camp, Bir Zeit University, the Teacher Training College in Ramallah and the



## OCCUPATION DIARY



Sciences College in Abu Deis. The communique expressed the solidarity of the National Front in Nazareth with the Palestinian people and their national institutions, and said that Israeli practices reflect a moral and political bankruptcy in Israel and a failure to impose the administrative autonomy scheme and other capitulationist plots. The National Front also appealed to local and international public opinion to halt the Israeli measures against the Palestinian citizens in the occupied territories.

### SIT-IN AT THREATENED JERUSALEM HOSPITAL

Palestinian masses and represen-

tatives of popular and national institutions staged a sit-in on April 18 at the Hospice hospital in Jerusalem in denunciation of the decision of the Israeli authorities to cut down the hospital's services, which will involve the dismissal of many of the staff. A number of women's unions from Jerusalem, Nablus, Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, Ramallah, al-Bireh and Hebron, together with representatives of Bethlehem and

Bir Zeit students, Jerusalem electricity company workers and others, participated in the sit-in.

A communique denouncing the Israeli move was read out at the meeting. The communique noted that cutting down the hospital's services was merely a preliminary to its closure, which would deprive many Palestinian citizens of employment, while diminishing the already inadequate medical facilities available. It should be recalled that the Israelis turned a new hospital in the Sheikh Jarrah quarter of occupied Jerusalem into a police station. During the sit-in the Israeli forces stormed the hospital and beat two of the participants, ordering them to take down anti-occupation slogans.

## ARMED



## RESISTANCE

### BLAZE IN OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

No. 44/8 :

Palestinian militants from special commando unit "A" operating inside the occupied territories planted a number of timed explosive and incendiary charges inside several warehouses storing chemicals and food in the Yehuda Market in Jerusalem on the afternoon of April 10. The charges went off at 7.00 pm, setting the warehouses ablaze and causing extensive material damage, estimated at tens of thousands of Israeli pounds. Following the explosion, Israeli police evacuated the area and erected checkpoints all round. Six men affiliated to the Israeli fire brigade suffered severe burns while attempting to put out the blaze. The fire continued for nine hours and was not extinguished until 4.30 am on April 11. In their customary response, the

Israeli security forces launched an intensive arrest campaign and detained a large number of Palestinian citizens in Jerusalem on suspicion of involvement in the operation.

### EXPLOSIVE IN VEHICLE CENTRE

No. 45/8 :

On April 16 at dawn, a timed explosive charge planted by Palestinian commandos went off inside an Israeli vehicle licencing centre in the Talpiot suburb of Jerusalem. The explosion destroyed the main gate and the windows of the centre and damaged all its contents, including its filing system. The Israeli security forces closed the area and searched it for other charges. Meanwhile our militants returned safely to their base.



Felicia Langer

## FELICIA LANGER:

### "THE OCCUPATION CANNOT DEFEAT THE PEOPLE"

Following are excerpts from a speech presented by progressive Israeli attorney Felicia Langer, at the Palestine Human Rights Conference held in Washington, D.C. during the weekend of September 21, 1979. Ms. Langer is well-qualified to survey Zionist oppressive policies toward Palestinians in the occupied territories, as she has devoted her entire legal career and political life to defending the human and political rights of Palestinians living under Zionist domination.

Year after year we have tried to bring to the world the voice of suffering humanity; of those displaced and homeless, tortured and degraded, but struggling for the rights of the Palestinian people. We tried to break the conspiracy of silence, the war of indifference, the chill of hostility, to penetrate the ivory tower of intellectuals of the old and new world. We tried to compel them to listen to the voice of sorrow and anger coming from the prison cells, from the ruins of demolished houses, from exile. A voice of people condemned to oblivion, but rejecting the verdict.

"No more war. No more bloodshed," said Prime Minister Begin pathetically. And his U.S.-made artillery and cluster bombs are killing more women and children in southern Lebanon, which we sarcastically now call "northern Israel". The Prime Minister and the President are talking about autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza, which in reality means closing schools and universities, shooting at students and youngsters, beating children, preventing every means of political expression, and using manacles made in the USA to handcuff the Palestinians.

### ZIONIST ATTACKS ON THE WEST BANK IN MARCH

The Israeli League for Human and Civil Rights appealed to Israeli public opinion,

illustrating the situation in the West Bank as follows: "Last week there was an increase in oppression in the occupied territories. The Palestinians and their elected representatives have been denied the basic human rights of assembly, freedom of expression and freedom of meeting on the subject which concerns their national fate. All the members of the municipal council of the town of Halhoul with the mayor were arrested and were held in the courtyard of the military governor from 2:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. In Halhoul, a young man and a young girl were shot and killed. All the males from the age of 14 and over in the town of Bir Zeit were rounded up. Many of them were imprisoned in the local church where they were beaten repeatedly. During a dispersal of a demonstration in Bir Zeit several young men were shot and wounded. Many schools and the center for women teachers were closed down on the orders of the military government. The settlers, who have settled in the conquered territories against international law, have organized themselves into storm troops taking the law into their own hands. They entered houses by force. They beat and mutilated the inhabitants. They threaten with their weapons, shoot and capture people, go wild. We demand the immediate disarming of the settlers and charging the settler riot as an offense; an end to oppression; the fullest right of assembly; freedom of speech; freedom of protest for the Palestinians. Let their human rights be made secure."

But to our profound regret, their basic human rights were not secured thus showing and proving the kind of autonomy they want to grant to the Palestinian people.

### PALESTINIANS GRANTED LESS THAN BANTUSTANS

According to the official Israeli definition, it has to be an autonomy for the inhabitants only,



## ◀ "THE OCCUPATION CANNOT DEFEAT THE PEOPLE"

not for the land. As the village leader of Kafr Anata said to the military governor: "You want to turn us into beholden guests in our own homes and our own land." Such an autonomy is the most sensational invention in the history of international law — a special Zionist contribution to it. The Palestinians will be granted much less than the bantustans, surrounded by Jewish settlements constantly growing in number. President Carter said during his visit to Israel: "How does Sadat feel when Israel will not fulfill its obligations concerning the autonomy?", referring to Sharon's statement that Israel will settle a million Jews in "Judea and Samaria" (as they call it). Answering that, Sharon said to President Carter, "Mr. President, maybe a million, maybe two million."

Let us scrutinize this item. Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention prohibits an occupying power from transferring parts of its civilian population into occupied territory. Israel is daily violating this article starting from the first days of the occupation. The first official government action came in June, 1967 when some 160 Arab houses adjoining the Western Wall in the Old City of Jerusalem were demolished in order to open a plaza in front of the wall. Soon after, the rest of the Jewish Quarter was excavated. Many Arabs, both tenants and landowners, were removed from 600 buildings over the next several years. Most of the houses were demolished and



new ones were built in their place for the new Israeli residents.

Since 1967, East Jerusalem has been encircled by a ring of Jewish settlements and now there are about 16,000 Jewish residents living there. In the West Bank, three villages in the Latroun area, Amwas, Jan and Beit Nuba, were destroyed and their inhabitants forced to leave in June of 1967 just after the end of the war. Their lands are now incorporated into "Canada Park" and similar settlements. Tourists and Israelis who visit the beautiful "Canada Park" do not know that the roses are growing on the grave of somebody's house and that three flourishing villages were situated there only 12 years ago. The guides explain to the visitors that in this place there was a settlement in ancient biblical times.

### UNDER THE COVER OF "AUTONOMY": ZIONIST SETTLEMENT DRIVE

Israeli authorities confiscated lands belonging to more than 1 million inhabitants in the West Bank. More than one hundred new settlements have been established in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights. In these very days, new settlements are established under the auspices of the "peace treaty" with Egypt. Elon Moreh and existing ones are considerably enlarged by seizures and confiscation of Arab land... They are now closing off 1,600 dunums in Beir Yezah and Jenin for the Israeli units which will be withdrawn from Sinai. The Gush Emunim is moving now to surround the Arab villages and

towns by a ring of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights. This plan was announced by Ariel Sharon in August 1977 at a gathering in a Kibbutz in the Golan to mark the founding of 10 new settlements in the Golan Heights: "Israel must take upon itself a task to realize in 20 years the settlement of 2 million Jews in the area alongside the coastal plain from the Golan Heights in the north to Ofra in the south. These settlements will be both urban and agricultural and the settlements on the Golan Heights are the northern and most important elements in this plan." Consistent with this plan, there is a decision to establish new administrative units for all the settlements. Three such units were recently established under pure Israeli jurisdiction which means practically to annex to Israel the territories on which the settlements are situated. One-third of the land of the West Bank has been confiscated up to this time, while there are new orders of confiscation waiting to be executed presently. So one can easily imagine the vast annexed territories under the cover of autonomy.

In September 1977, there was a meeting of the Committee on International Relations of the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington, D.C. on the subject of Israeli settlements in the occupied territories. Many aspects of the settlement plans were revealed by the witnesses. Some of them were U.S. Zionists who defended the policies of colonization while Mr. Alfred Atherton denounced it in very nice language, knowing that Israel could never keep the territories and settle it without the massive economic, military and financial assistance from the U.S. government. One of the other witnesses, Mr. Paul Quiring, Program Director of the West Bank Mennonite Central Committee, testified about the settlement policy and practice of the Israeli authorities, emphasizing the dangerous infringement on the water rights of the local population by the settlers. He gave examples of the Arab villages having lost land to Israeli settlements and now are fighting for their very existence. I quoted from Mr. Quiring's testimony: "Increasingly, West Bankers recognize settlements as the most threatening consequence of the occupation. Whereas the occupation seeks to govern, the settlements seek to transform regardless of their location, site or stated purpose. Under such circumstances, West Bankers see themselves in a battle for survival. The battle begins in the seas, the springs and the wells of the West Bank. Their economy is threatened by the loss of farmland and water. Villagers must decide whether to stay and endure or leave. The other ones, those who have endured respond by saying, 'For us, we will survive. But for our children, where is the future?'"

## "A BULLDOZER HAS BECOME THEIR TRADEMARK"

The many Palestinians killed or injured by Israeli soldiers during the demonstrations during all these years constitute a clear answer to the occupiers from the new Palestinian liberation movement: "Our land is our identity and we shall never leave." The settlements are also a springboard for provocation and assault on the Palestinians. The settlers are claiming the right to "deal with the Arabs" themselves... A bulldozer has become their trademark.

Journalist Uri Dan from "Maariv" visited a settlement in "Samaria" and interviewed a settler there. He wrote in his article that "Jewish autonomy" is becoming a reality in the West Bank. As to the settler interviewed, he told him: "I believe in the bulldozer more than I believe in Begin. To us the noise of the bulldozers and other heavy machinery in Samaria is like sweet music." Begin calls them the "glory of Israel." He says: "I extend my hands to our brothers known as the choice people of our country. Woe, to such a glory." I am proud of what others say with conscience while raising their voices in protest against the evil done to the Palestinians, demonstrating against the brutal colonization. Those for whom Elon Moreh is a shame represent the other face of our people and our true interests. For them the bulldozer became a symbol of exploitation and barbarism.

### COLLECTIVE PUNISHMENT

Collective punishment is still one of the most painful means of oppression of the Palestinians in the occupied territories. In the implementation of this practice almost 20,000 houses have been demolished. The legal basis for this action are the Emergency Regulations of 1945. The house is demolished on order of the Minister of Defense. If one of the inhabitants was accused or even suspected of an illegal act, his house is demolished by the Israeli authorities... The maxim of the Geneva conventions saying that collective reprisals against property is prohibited has been arrogantly ignored with the silent complicity of the U.S.A. I have seen so many ruins, so many glimpses of sorrow and of outrage...

### CURFEWS: INDICTMENT AGAINST THE OCCUPIERS

The curfews in the town of Halhoul, in the refugee camp of Qalandiya near Ramallah are a heavy indictment against the occupiers. The following testimony of a Palestinian witness to the curfew in Jalazun camp was published in the Israeli press: "One day, as usual, (children) threw stones at cars and buses. At 3:00 a.m. the Israelis came to the town in large numbers and



## “THE OCCUPATION CANNOT DEFEAT THE PEOPLE”

announced through their loudspeakers that no one was permitted to leave the town. We thought that it would last about 2 hours as usual. But it lasted day after day for 12 days until May 16. The workers stayed at home. They had no money. If you don't work there is no money to buy food. After the third day of the curfew they allowed one hour a day for buying food, sometimes up to an hour and a half. But there was no food left in the camp and only on the sixth day did they allow some merchants to get out and buy food. There is electricity in the camp, but no water. The water is brought in. There wasn't enough water. During the curfew, the Israelis threatened to stop the water and to cut off the electricity. After a few days they allowed the civil servants to leave for work, but not the others. They let officials in the government and schools go out, but not the teachers of UNRWA schools. I was very ill. I asked the soldiers to let me go and see a doctor. They refused. At night, I climbed a mountain and went to Ramallah. The doctor who examined me sent me immediately to a hospital, where I stayed for several days. When I returned, I was asked to indicate where I had been. I showed them the certificate from the hospital, but they still wouldn't let me in. When they heard that I was a student they said: 'We don't like students.' The situation was symbolized by a lorry full of oranges that was standing by the gate. It was supposed to go to Amman that day. When the curfew was declared it got stuck. The driver lived in the camp, although the owner of the lorry and the owner of the fruit lived outside it

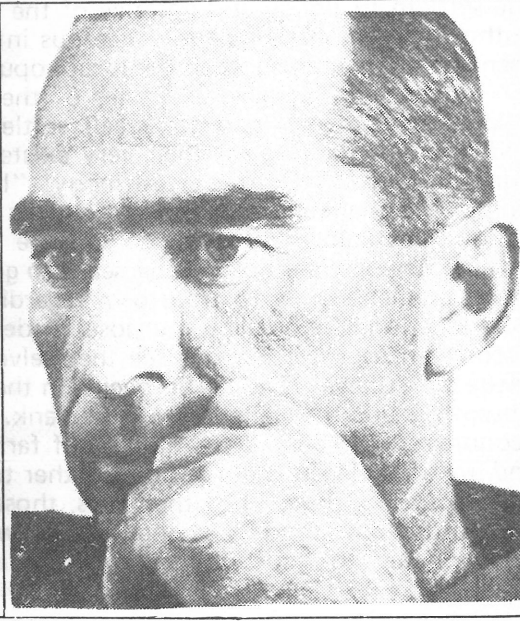


Zionism's true goal is crime:

So it stood there for 3 days in the sun, the fruit slowly rotting because the driver couldn't leave the camp... My neighbor has 500 chickens. The chickens had no food. For three days they wouldn't let him bring food for them. What did he do? He gave them less food every day until they died."

### ZIONIST SOLDIERS ATTACK SCHOOL CHILDREN

During President Carter's visit to Israel from March 11-12, Bir Zeit university students held a meeting in an assembly hall. A group of high school and university students went on a peaceful march in the town of Bir Zet. After most of the protestors had dispersed and a small group was standing near the center of town, soldiers opened fire and shot four persons, all in the back. Two of them were seriously injured, while the condition of one of them was critical. The army announced that they had imposed a curfew on the village and that all males over the age of 14 must go to the courtyard of the Catholic church of the town. The identity cards of the residents were checked and they were made to sit on the ground. Some of them were interrogated. Houses in the town were searched during the curfew after the men had left. Some women were beaten during the house searches. The Bir Zeit University community was ordered to stay inside the campus. Bir Zeit University was closed on the 10th of May for two months after the students were assaulted and some of them were shot and wounded. Israeli citizens passed through the town in their cars shooting at the students. None of the attackers and provocateurs were punished. But the whole town itself was punished. Due to a campaign within Israel and the US by progressive forces... the university



Israeli Chief of Staff Raphael Eitan

will be reopened.

On April 11, 1979, an hour before noon, IDF ("Israeli Defense Forces") forces entered classrooms in the secondary school in Ramallah and removed dozens of pupils studying in their classrooms, claiming they had taken part in demonstrations and stone throwing in the streets. The surprised pupils denied having taken any part whatsoever in demonstrations while their teachers supported them. Nevertheless, the pupils were taken from the classrooms by the IDF soldiers in spite of their teachers' protests. In reaction to this, the teachers resigned from their posts. The pupils were taken to the compound of the military government in Ramallah. They were locked up in a shed in the courtyard. The youngsters had to remain in the light clothing they had on in the daytime when they were taken from their classrooms. The shack was full of holes in the walls and the roof was not tight. The children were wet and shivering from cold during the three nights and days they were kept in the shack while rain was dripping through the roof and the cold night air blew through the walls. The shack didn't have a floor and they had to sleep on the naked ground. These children were tried in the Ramallah military court for disturbing public order. During their trial, they testified that they were beaten and humiliated by the soldiers, forced to clean the army cars in the yard of the prison... One teacher who also testified as a witness described how the army entered the school with tear gas; how the soldiers beat and humiliated the teachers in front of their pupils and the pupils in front of them; how they were shooting outside the school. The prosecution did not even try to contest the testimony. 11 children were acquitted, but 6 others were sentenced for their defiance and given a suspended term in order to deter others.

### HEAVY PRICE FOR ISRAEL'S ALLIANCE WITH U.S.

Israeli society is paying a heavy price for its strategic alliance with the U.S. The need to rule another people, to act as a policeman for the region, a constant arms race is developing inflation reaching almost 100 percent a year. There are more anti-democratic laws inside Israel. There is more oppression and expropriation of Arab land in Israel. Among the expropriated are the Bedouins in Negev who are threatened with being forcibly evicted from their lands under the auspices of a new law of a fascist nature which forbids them to complain to the courts about confiscation of their lands. So these are the victims of the new "peace." Less hospitals, less education, less culture, more delinquency, more poverty. There is an acute housing problem in Israel causing unrest and despair and the government is not solving it. Also the budget is an

enormous one: 400 billion Israeli lira. The new settlements are swallowing many billions of Israeli lira while the external debt of Israel is 16 billion lira and internal debts are 200 billion lira. But every family in a settlement... in the Jordan Valley costs 30 million Israeli lira. This is very significant for the American taxpayer, I suppose, especially in these days when additional billions of dollars were asked for by the Israeli government from the U.S.A. In the wake of this disastrous policy the dependency of the Israeli government on the U.S.A. grows steadily. The old maxim that "a people oppressing another people cannot be free" is proven in Israel day by day.

### ZIONISM'S TRUE SOUL IS CRIME

The occupation is corrupting the occupier. It acts as poison affecting the people's moral wealth. Therefore, it is no wonder that organized crime is flourishing in Israel, because its true soul is the most cruel, the most sophisticated and organized crime — the occupation itself. Another phenomenon is the disappearance of formalities: The policy of mitigating sentences of those who murdered Arabs. Honest and peace-loving people, many honest Israeli journalists, denounced harshly this practice which is now almost a hallmark of our Chief-of-Staff, Raphael Eitan. He reduced the sentence of Lieberman, a reservist who murdered an Arab a year ago. And now he has mitigated the sentence of an officer who murdered four innocent civilians in the Litani operation two years ago.

"Davar" describes the case of Lieberman under the title: "Raphael Scandal": "When Gen. Raphael Eitan was appointed Chief-of-Staff, he promised to begin a new page in the state of discipline in the Israeli Army. Soldiers should not walk around without a permit... Civil defense soldier Lieberman was lucky not to commit one of the crimes that made the Israeli Chief-of-Staff angry. Lieberman is only a murderer, a cold-blooded murderer. With his background, he's treated in prison in a way which no Israeli soldier is treated in prison... He spends a large part of his time home on vacations earned by his high rank in the army. I am told that in prison he is treated more like a model than like a prisoner. Two weeks ago the Chief-of-Staff decided to cancel the sentence of 10 years in prison which was given by the Israeli Military Appeals Court. Raphael reduced Lieberman's sentence to 3 years... He will probably be officially out of prison in a year's time unless he asks to continue his service..."

The second case of a cold-blooded murder in the Litani operation, where the victims' bodies were thrown into a well, tied with nylon ropes, was reviewed in "Haaretz" entitled "Sanction for Crimes of War": "When the Chief-of-Staff



## “THE OCCUPATION CANNOT DEFEAT THE PEOPLE”



*The Zionist terror will not break the resistance against the occupation*

set the price of the lives of four men as two years or maybe even less (for there is a reduction of one year for good behavior). He is thus turning a terrible crime into a minor offense. It condemns the authorities in terms of society into a participant in the crime of war committed by the individual soldiers. A society that tolerates murderers cultivates murderers. A society that accepts committing crimes of war takes upon itself the responsibility for the offense.”

The public storm now about these cases is encouraging. I have to declare that the tolerance for the murder of Arabs started long ago in the early days of the occupation and afterwards.

I declare now that such delicate, considerate treatment for those murdering Arabs is a grim contempt for life. Needless to say, such killers are deepening the abyss of hatred caused by the occupation. We know that rulers despising another's fate, do not care for their own compatriots' fate either. They are ready to sacrifice thousands of young men for the dreams of expansion, for mystical beliefs and for foreign imperialist interests. Therefore, the best hope for the future is to struggle against such policies bringing catastrophe to our people and to the whole region.

### “NOTHING CAN UNDERMINE SOLIDARITY WITH PLO”

I have to return once again to the greatest of wrongs — the torture of Palestinian prisoners by the Israeli persecutors. This horrible item is no longer a taboo thanks to those who dare to confront American public opinion with the

truth. This shame is going on to this very day, in order to extract evidence, to degrade, to kill national aspirations especially among young Palestinian prisoners — sometimes children whose number is growing constantly. But despite all these terroristic measures, which I have described to you only partially, this struggle against the occupation is going on, often resembling a civil rebellion. Those who were babies in 1967, are demonstrating undeterred by shooting or by the death of their comrades. They are raising the Palestinian flag and are becoming a bitter enemy of the occupier. Afterwards, one can see those children's pride and stubbornness in the courts, their steadfastness in front of the judges. A “Davar” correspondent writes: “The mere existence of the Israeli occupation of the Arabs in the territories speeds up the consolidation of their identity and forces them to organize and to struggle. Faced with the reality of the occupied territories for the past 12 years one cannot escape the conclusion that the Israeli occupation is the most faithful and true measure which will give rise to a Palestinian state in the future. There is much to show for the far-reaching changes in recent years. The solidarity of the people around the PLO is so strong today, that there is nothing that can undermine it.”

Indeed, today when the right of people to self-determination is not a favor, but a generally recognized right, when the PLO has become the focus of international attention, recognized by the United Nations and by 105 states, when hundreds of Israelis are realizing how disgraceful and miserable Israeli policy is — the autonomy plan and the so-called “peace treaty” are produced. Begin seems to have forgotten that in 1976 in the days of the horrible bloodshed in Lebanon, the people in the West Bank elected their representatives by saying no to the Israeli proposal of the civil administration and yes to the PLO and are continuing their struggle.

Nowadays, more and more people consider this “peace treaty” as especially contradicting real peace and the vital interests of Israeli Jews too. It is not only that it does not promise a solution to the Palestinian problem, the core of the Middle East conflict. But, on the contrary, it is meant to perpetuate the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights and is aimed at negating the national rights of Palestinian people to self-determination and establishing their own independent state.

The Palestinian people are leading a battle for survival. The best sons of my people are in solidarity with their struggle. They need the assistance of every man of good will under the sun. For the smile of a child, for a piece of happiness in the eyes of a proud man, let us unite. For the sake of peace and justice which are indivisible, let us unite.

## ISRAEL PLANS MURDER OF U.N. SOLDIERS, ATTACKS CLINIC

With every passing day it becomes clearer that the US “peace” scheme for the Middle East in fact is one of aggression and war. The Camp David farce of ‘self-rule’ for the Palestinian people is at a complete deadlock. The U.S. is escalating its aggression against the Iranian people and their just demands and threatening the world with open war in the Gulf. At the

### ISRAELI INVADERS HIT PALESTINIAN CLINIC

The same day that terrorist Israeli Premier Begin returned from Washington, Israel launched a heinous aggression against a Palestinian clinic in Sarafand, a coastal town in south Lebanon.

Israeli sea-borne troops, under the cover of a barrage of fire from helicopters and gunboats, landed in a pre-dawn raid against Sarafand on April 18, 1980, attacking a Palestinian convalescence clinic. They killed 18 people, including three children and two women, and wounded 20 other civilians. The Israelis also blew up a number of buildings in the town, inhabited by southern Lebanon refugees who had fled to escape the harassment of Israel and its stooges, who have repeatedly attacked the refugees' native villages.

A PLO spokesman said the guards at the clinic engaged the raiding Israelis in a three-hour battle, inflicting heavy losses on the invaders. He added that a doctor and two nurses working at the clinic were martyred, and seven patients were wounded. The Israeli losses could not be determined because the invaders took their casualties with them in helicopters, but pools of blood and much military hardware were left behind; the Israeli government admitted two casualties.



*Palestinian clinic destroyed in Zionist terror raid on April 18, 1980*

same time the Zionists, using Sadat's “peace,” are stepping up their expansion in the occupied territories and their aggression against Lebanon.

On April 9, 1980, Israeli forces again invaded South Lebanon. According to a UN spokesman, the Israeli troops were backed by eleven tanks and ten other armored vehicles. The spokesman said the Israelis had deployed their tanks 3 km west of the Lebanese border village of Markaba, and had taken up positions in areas controlled by Irish troops of the U.N. peace keeping forces, UNIFIL (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon).

The U.N. spokesman added that the invaders had brought a bulldozer, and had strung barbed wire around their new positions in the Irish UN sector. The Israelis were stationed in Kunin in the UN sector, and at Markaba and Shakra villages in the area presided over by Israeli puppet Saad Haddad. On the same day, the Israeli-led Haddad militia tried to force UNIFIL to pull out of the southern Lebanese village of al-Tyreh, and kidnapped nine Irish soldiers.

On April 11, the Israeli-backed militias raised the tension in the area by harassing UN troops. Norwegian Brigadier Ole Nilson, deputy commander of UNIFIL, was on an inspection tour of areas occupied by Israel when the militia gunmen opened fire on his car. Captain Harry Klein, an American serving with a small UN truce observation group, told an AP reporter in the area that a UN observation post near





Markaba had been looted by Haddad's militiamen overnight. He said they took radios, cameras, tape recorders, and money from the unarmed UN observers.

The UN spokesman in Beirut, Samir Sanbar, also revealed that Haddad's militiamen closed all the roads in their enclave to UNIFIL traffic, including the coastal highway, leaving 14 UNIFIL positions and four observation posts without food. He added that the militiamen also stormed a UN observation post in the village of Maroun el-Ras, near Bint Jbeil, and held two UN observers. In the village of Khiam, in the mountainous eastern sector the border region, the militias threatened to blow up a UN observation post if they were not allowed to station two of their men with the UN observers.

#### ATTACK ON UN HEADQUARTERS

By April 12, 1980, the Israeli-backed militias had escalated their violations and attacks against the UN peacekeeping forces. A UN soldier and a number of militiamen were killed in some of the worst fighting between the UN troops and Haddad's gang.

The UN soldier, a Fijian, was shot when Haddad's militiamen opened fire on UNIFIL troops who refused to let them bring fifty trucks into al-Tyreh.

Meanwhile, Haddad's gunmen had begun firing on UNIFIL headquarters in Naqoura. Diplomatic sources said that 91 mortar shells impacted inside the headquarters compound. Three houses around the field hospital run by Norwegians were destroyed, and four shells hit the hospital itself. The mortar attack also destroyed two helicopters belonging to an Italian logistics battalion attached to UNIFIL.

Diplomatic sources said the exact origin of the shells was not known, although some reports said that the shells came from Israeli territory. A UN spokesman said the militiamen had closed all roads in the area, preventing the UN observers from confirming the alleged Israeli withdrawal.

#### CONNIVANCE

This clear connivance between Israel and its stooges, backed by the U.S. in the form of highly sophisticated American weapons, unmasks Israel's longstanding designs against South Lebanon. Israel desires to depopulate the region and then gain control of its water resources, particularly the Litani River.

Israel has tried to achieve these goals through various pretexts. Through the "good fence" policy, which it established under a "humanitarian" guise, it funneled its military support to its agents in Lebanon, who prevented the restoration of legal Lebanese authority in the border region.

The actions of these stooges were exposed following the failure of Israel's March 1978 invasion of South Lebanon.

The UN troops which were deployed in South Lebanon in order to supervise the Israeli withdrawal, and to restore the sovereignty of the Lebanese authorities, were constantly subjected to harassment and attacks by the Israeli-backed militias.

Just as the "no more wars" slogan of Begin and Sadat, following Sadat's treacherous visit to Jerusalem, led to the March 1978 invasion of South Lebanon, so too the recent Israeli incursion erupted after US President Carter's call for a round of Camp David-style meetings under its sponsorship. This summit has obviously encouraged Israel to step up its aggression against the Palestinian people.

#### INTERNATIONAL PROTESTS

The Israeli incursion and the actions of Israel's proxy militias in South Lebanon met broad international condemnation.

UN Secretary General Dr. Kurt Waldheim expressed grave concern over the Israeli attack and deplored what he termed "dangerously escalating tension" in the area.

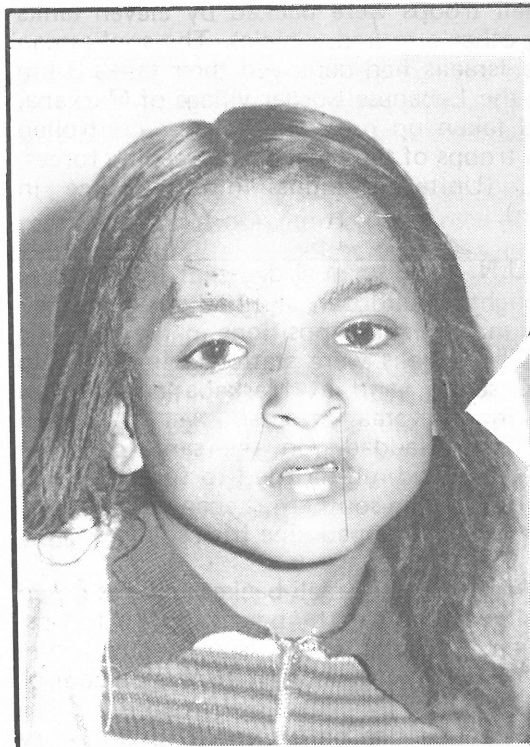
Dr. Waldheim told the UN Security Council

on April 1, 1980, that he had sent an urgent message to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin urging that Israeli troops be withdrawn from Lebanon, and asking that Israel prevent Haddad's units from harassing UN troops. In London a Foreign Office spokesman described the Israeli act as "unjustified" and said that Haddad's troops have constantly frustrated the UN force's efforts to fulfill its mandate.

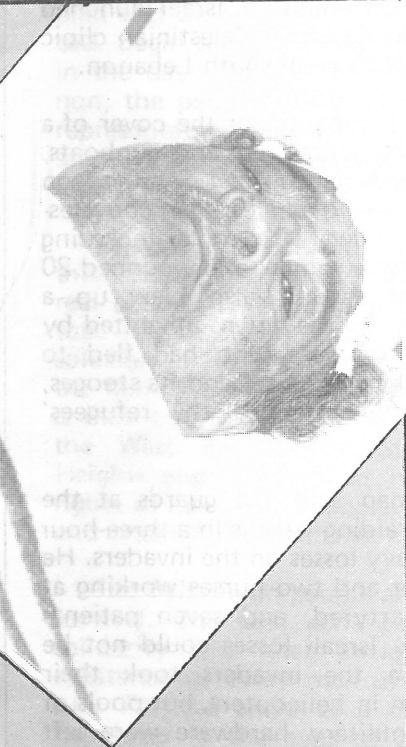
In Dublin, a government spokesman expressed his country's serious concern about the activities of Israeli troops in Lebanon. The Dutch government expressed its disapproval of the "escalation of tension in the Middle East," and said that it was upset by the Israeli incursion across Lebanon's borders. In Paris, the French Foreign Ministry said it deplored the Israeli incursion across the Lebanese borders, saying it "complicated the task of the UN peace forces in Lebanon."

The Norwegian ambassador to the UN Security Council told the Council that "the already tense situation created by [Haddad's] forces had been further aggravated by Israel's recent incursion into Lebanon, including UNIFIL-controlled areas."

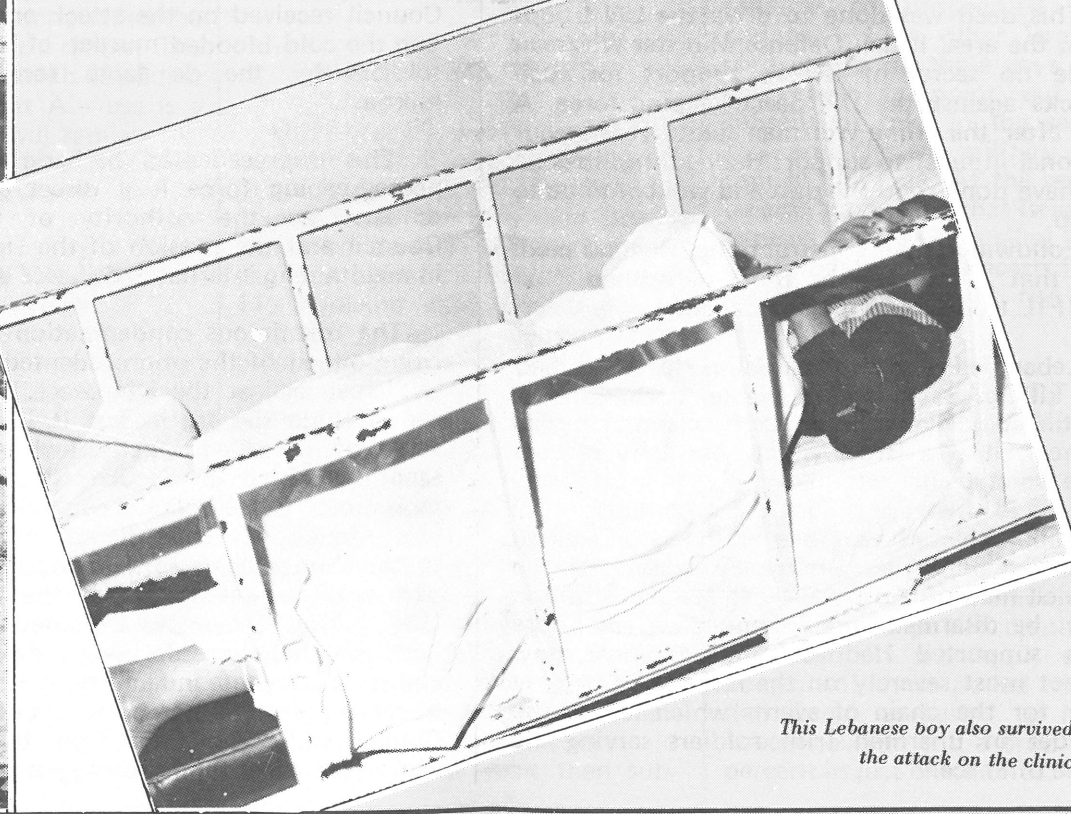
Dr. Clovis Maqsood, the Arab League's permanent observer at the UN, asked the UN Security Council on April 15, 1980, for effective measures to put an end to the deteriorating situation in South Lebanon.



Abu Ali and his little daughter survive:



his wife and eight other children were murdered in the attack of April 18



This Lebanese boy also survived the attack on the clinic





*Irish Pvt. John O'Mahony was tortured by the Israeli-directed "Christian" militia, while his two comrades were murdered*

#### ISRAEL PLOTS ASSASSINATION OF U.N. SOLDIERS

On April 18, 1980, Israeli-controlled militiamen committed an unprecedented crime. Two UN soldiers belonging to the Irish Battalion were murdered in cold blood after being taken as hostages near Bint Jbeil in southern Lebanon by the Israeli-commanded gangs of Saad Haddad. A third UN Irish soldier was savagely tortured and thrown in a ditch, where he was found later.

This deed was done to drive the UN troops from the area. Israeli Defense Minister Weizman made no secret of Israel's support for such attacks against the UN peace-keeping force. A day after the crime Weizman said: "It is in our national interest to support Haddad's militias.... we have done so in the past and will continue to do so."

Following Israel's instructions, Haddad pledged that "there will be more bloodshed if all UNIFIL troops do not leave Lebanon."

Lebanese Prime Minister Selim Hoss described the killings as an "abominable, barbaric incident.... Whatever the capacity claimed by its authors, it was Israel which was fully responsible."

The Irish representative at the UN Security Council said in an emergency session of the council held on April 18 that "Haddad's militia must be disarmed and disbanded.... and those who supported Haddad's militias must now reflect most severely on the responsibility they bear for the chain of events which led to the murder of unarmed Irish soldiers serving the cause of Peace."

#### ISRAELI RESPONSIBILITY U.S. HYPOCRISY

The Irish Charge d'Affaires in Beirut described the killings as "a monstrous crime perpetrated by Israeli-sponsored thugs."

The UN Security Council issued a statement the same night which read:

"The members of the Security Council are shocked and outraged at the report which the Council received on the attack on the UNIFIL, and the cold-blooded murder of peace-keeping soldiers by the de facto forces [Haddad's militias]."

"This unprecedented barbaric act against a peace-keeping force is a direct challenge and defiance to the authority of the Security Council and the mission of the United Nations in maintaining international peace and security."

The unanimous condemnation by the Security Council of the unprecedented crime staged by Israel against the UN peace keeping forces cannot hide the truth that it is the U.S. and some of its allies which block any effective sanctions which the Security Council might try to impose. Indeed, these countries continue to give unqualified economic and military support to the Zionist aggressor. During the debate, the permanent representative of the USSR at the U.N., Oleg Troyanovski, noted that it was "obvious that those defining the policy of Israel count on complete indemnity, given the position of certain Western member states of the Security Council which prevent it from taking effective measures against the Israeli aggression."

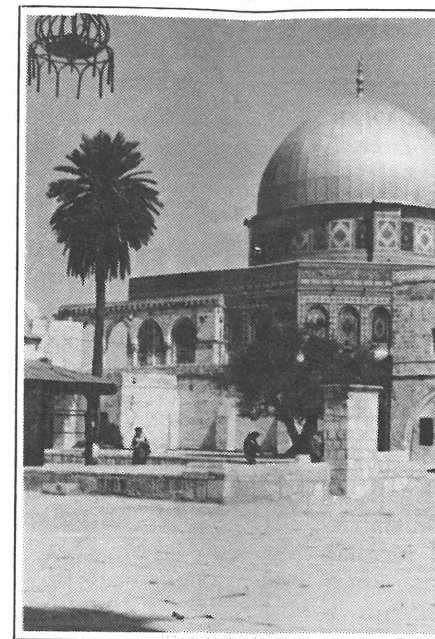
## ZIONISM IN PRACTICE

#### ZIONIST PROPAGANDA FOR TAKEOVER OF AL-AQSA MOSQUE

A meeting of leading Israeli rabbis in early April adopted a resolution claiming that the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem belonged to the "holiest places for Jewish people" and calling for taking it out of "the hands of non-Jews", i.e. the Arab Muslim people. The provocative resolution of the rabbis has been encouraged by the Israeli government. It must be seen in line with the Zionist preparations to Judaize and finally annex Arab Jerusalem. Muslim and Christian clergymen in Jerusalem have ardently denounced the provocation of Zionist rabbis. The Qadi of Jerusalem, Sheikh Sa'addine al-'Imli, exposed that Al-Aqsa is a Muslim shrine and will remain forever the sacred holy place for Muslims from all over the world.

#### ISRAEL CONTINUES DEPOPULATION OF NEGEV

The Israeli authorities are continuing their arbitrary measures against the al-Azazmah Arab tribes in the Negev with the aim of expelling them from their territories. The Haifa newspaper al-Ittihad reported that the Israeli police and the border guards deported three families on April 17 from the Sede Boker region to a remote area, enclosing their land with barbed wire. It adds that the Israeli security forces arrested several persons from the three families, including



*Zionist hands off Al-Aqsa Mosque!*

Salim and Salameh al-Tantawi. The Israeli authorities have confiscated large areas of land in the Neve to establish settlements and other military installments following the signature of the signature of the Camp David accords. A special law is due to be passed depriving Negev Arabs of the elementary right of appeal against confiscation in Israeli Courts.

#### TORTURE OF BIR ZEIT STUDENTS

On April 20, Israeli progressive lawyer Felicia Langer, sent a message to Israeli Defence Minister, denounced the arbitrary and brutal attack on three Bir Zeit University students by Israeli forces on April 11, involving vicious beating and torture. Langer demanded that those responsible for the incident be brought to trial. Langer reported that Israeli soldiers had stormed the apartments of the three students at 1.00am on April 11, searched their rooms, interrogated the students and took them away in an Israeli military vehicle. The students were beaten with fists and gun-butts while being transported with their hands bound behind their backs from Bir Zeit to the Military Government headquarters in Ramallah. Langer's report said that the students were then sub-

jected to arbitrary beating and further humiliation and abuse. Finally they were thrown into prison, with no reason given for their detention and no charges brought against them.

#### ISRAELI TROOPERS FIRE AT PALESTINIANS IN THE GALILEE

Three Israeli soldiers driving in a civilian car on the morning of on April 21 opened fire with sub-machine guns on a group of Palestinian citizens in the Deir al-Assad village in the Galilee. Radio Israel, which broadcast the news, claimed that the villagers had stoned the Israeli car. The report said that a number of the villagers were injured, some of them critically, and that Israeli police detained a number of citizens for questioning.

#### ISRAELI MILITARIZATION IN THE SERVICE OF NATO

Israel's Deputy Minister for war, Mordechai Zippori boasted on April 22, that Israel had developed a ground-to-ground missile of "tremendous fire power". Zippori told a press conference that the missile, to be mounted on tanks, was ordered by an unspecified "NATO country". Like other Israeli officials use to do these days, Zippori was eager to point out Israel's subservient role, in the service of U.S. and Western military imperialism in the area. At the same time he also announced that Israel's arms exports for 1979 totalled 600 millions dollars, and forecasts for 1980 indicated this would rise to one billion dollars.

#### PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR BEGIN SLUMPS

While the Israeli crime minister is stepping up his offers to surrender military bases to the U.S. in Palestine, his public support is rapidly declining even among Israelis. According to public opinion polls published in mid-April, only 21 percent of those polled still regarded Begin as suited to lead the Israeli government, a drop of three percent in just one month.



## FROM THE MILITARY OCCUPATION TO HERBERT SAMUEL

by Faris Glubb

(Part 1, "The Balfour Declaration", and Part 2, "The Establishment of the Mandate" were published in "Palestine" Vol. 5, No. 21 and Vol. 6, No. 1).

While the British Government manoeuvred at the San Remo peace conference and the League of Nations to secure a Mandate over Palestine, that country was under a British military administration. This was termed an "Occupied Enemy Territory Administration" (OETA) on the grounds that it had previously been part of the Ottoman Empire, although the Arabs, including the Palestinians, had fought as Britain's allies against the German-Ottoman axis in the First World War.

This military government, which lasted from Allenby's entry to Palestine in November 1917 until June 1920, produced a notable phenomenon: a sharp divergence in attitudes between some British officers administering Palestine and their government in London. Being present on the spot, and being professional soldiers not involved in the machinations of Whitehall politicians, these officers (or at least those of them who were honest) realised that their government was about to violate all the promises it had made to its wartime allies, the Arabs. The ethics of gentlemanly conduct, to which "statesmen" like Balfour and Lloyd George had developed a total immunity, were still prevalent among these professional soldiers.

Thus General Sir Arthur Money, Chief Administrator for the OETA, warned the Foreign Office of the consequences of implementing the Balfour Declaration and stimulating massive Zionist immigration. "The Palestinians desire their country for themselves," he wrote in a report, "and will resist any immigration of Jews... by any measure in their power including active hostilities... No mandatory power can carry through the Zionist programme except by force."<sup>1</sup>

A further factor which helped to enlighten the military administrators was the British government's action in April 1918 of sending a Zionist Commission to Palestine led by Dr. Chaim Weizmann and containing British, French and Italian members. "As early as August 1919, the abolition of the Zionist Commission was being urged on Military GHQ Cairo by the Chief Political Officer of OETA... The Administration had two main grounds of complaint: that the Zionist Commission looked on itself as the government and that with their distrust went an inveterate habit of intrigue."<sup>2</sup>

This is not to say, as some of Zionism's more fantastic propaganda seeks to claim, that OETA was "pro-Arab". It was a military occupation imposed on a people who, by all the principles of international law, should have been allowed to exercise their right of self-determination as soon as possible after the removal of Ottoman rule. But it nevertheless contained some honest individuals who became aware of, and disgusted

by, the injustice that their government ordered them to commit.

### MISPLACED "IMPARTIALITY"

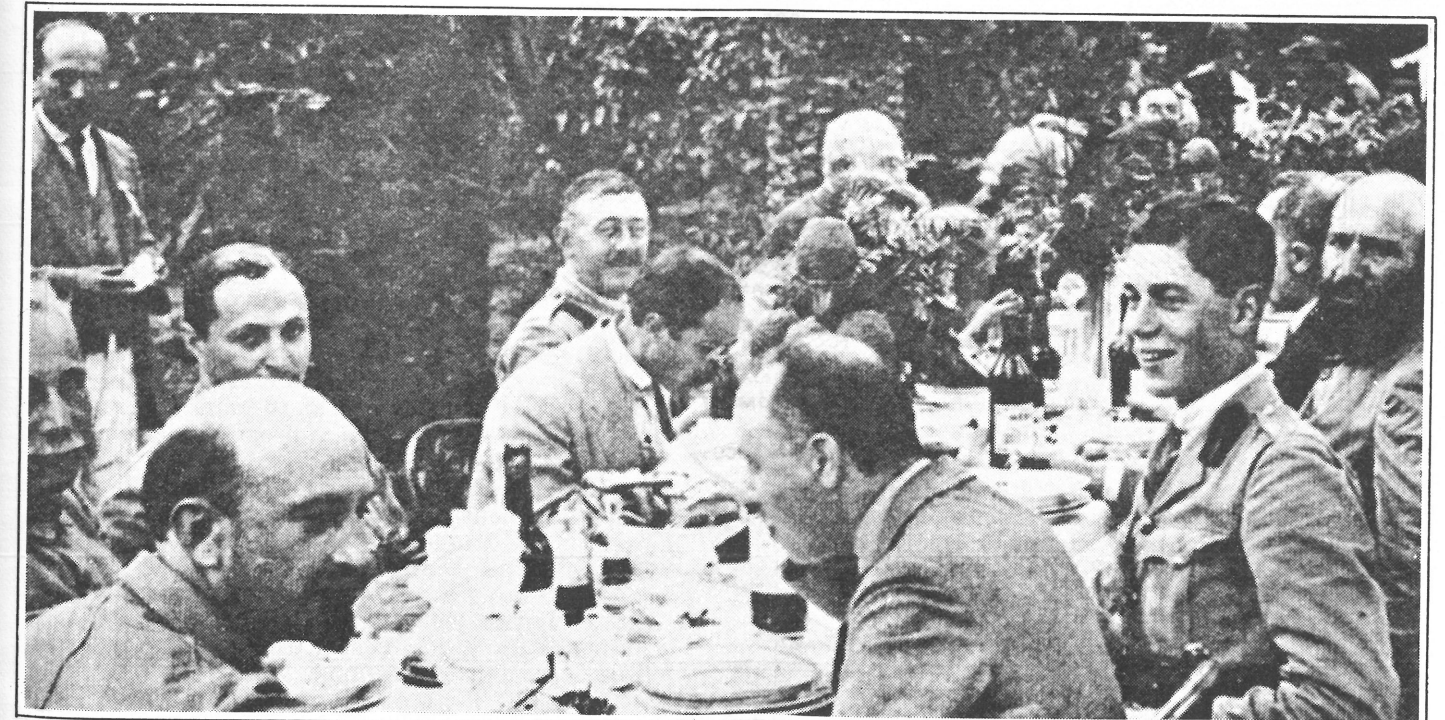
According to British author Christopher Sykes, the aim that the OETA regime initially set itself was "impartiality" between the lawful inhabitants of Palestine and the Zionist settlers. "This policy of fairness was thoroughly unwelcome; it was resented to the end by both sides. When a man's country has been opened to an invader, does he seek first and foremost that the apportioning of billets and spoils should be organised with a strict regard to equity; that bias should never be admitted in hearings accorded to the invaders and the invaded; that judgments pronounced after such hearings should never make the smallest scruple of discrimination between one and the other? ...

"The regime knew that this was the feeling of the Palestine majority, and what could they do against it? They could only strive to allay such feelings, and in the course of doing so they had recourse to odd political stratagems which increased suspicion of anti-Zionist bias. For two and a half years they withheld publication in Palestine of the Balfour Declaration in the extraordinary hope (it seems) that Palestinians might forget its existence! They assured alarmed Arabs that there was no invasion, and no possibility of one, but instead a certain immigration to which they surely could not be so unreasonable as to raise difficulties, since everyone had been consulted (except of course the Arabs themselves)."<sup>3</sup>

General Money's report to the Foreign Office had antagonised Balfour. Following a disagreement between OETA and a visiting Zionist, American Judge Louis Brandeis, owing to the latter's attempts to instruct the military administrators on how to govern Palestine, General Money was replaced by General Watson, apparently as a result of Zionist pressure.<sup>4</sup> Shortly before, the post of Chief Political Officer at British Military GHQ in Cairo had been given to Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen, a fanatical Zionist. Watson was later replaced by General Sir Louis Bols, the last OETA Chief Administrator in Palestine.

### HOLLOW REASSURANCES

General Bols was given the unenviable task of officially informing the Palestinian people of the Balfour Declaration, nearly 2 1/2 years after the event, and to issue a "reassuring statement". At a meeting in Nablus on 28 April 1920, he declared: "I will now read to you Mr. Balfour's Declaration, the inclusion of which in the Treaty (of Sevres) means that there will be no interference with religious customs in the holy places or any curtailment whatever of the religious liberty of the subject, but only the maintenance of public order and security. Immigrants will be allowed to enter only as required for the development of the country, and immigration will be controlled by the British government of the country... The British government will govern, and in no sense will a minority be allowed to control the majority of the population when the time arrives for any form of representative government."<sup>5</sup>



The "Jewish Colonial Mission of Great Britain" with Chaim Weizmann (foreground) in Palestine, August 1918



## FROM THE MILITARY ADMINISTRATION TO HERBERT SAMUEL

How hollow and unconvincing these fine reassurances seem now. "For, as is all too evident from the Cabinet documents of this period, the British Government never intended to allow the Arab majority any voice in shaping the future of their own country. 'The weak point of our position,' Balfour wrote to Lloyd George in February 1919, 'is of course that in the case of Palestine we deliberately and rightly decline to accept the principle of self-determination'. If the existing population of Palestine were consulted, he added, they would 'unquestionably' return an anti-Zionist verdict... Small wonder that Curzon should have said of Balfour that he was 'the worst and most dangerous of the British Foreign Ministers' with whom he had ever dealt, a man who 'never looked ahead', who trusted in his extraordinary 'mental agility... to extricate himself from any complication however embarrassing', and who, despite 'his scintillating intellectual exterior, had no depth of feeling, no profound convictions and strange to say (in spite of his fascination of manner) no real affection.'"

However, although General Bols obeyed his government's order to announce the Balfour

Declaration in this distasteful manner, he appears to have become aware of the injustice involved, and to have had his conflicts with the Zionists. In one report, he wrote of the members of the Zionist Commission that "they seek not justice from the military occupant, but that in every question in which a Jew is interested, discrimination shall be shown in his favour." His disagreements with Meinertzhagen also led the latter to resign and allege that "the officers of the Administration are, almost without exception, anti-Zionist in their views." Whether Meinertzhagen's claim was accurate or not was of little relevance, since the final decisions on Palestine's destiny were anyway being taken by the pro-Zionist politicians in Whitehall, not by OETA which was shortly to be replaced by the Mandate administration.

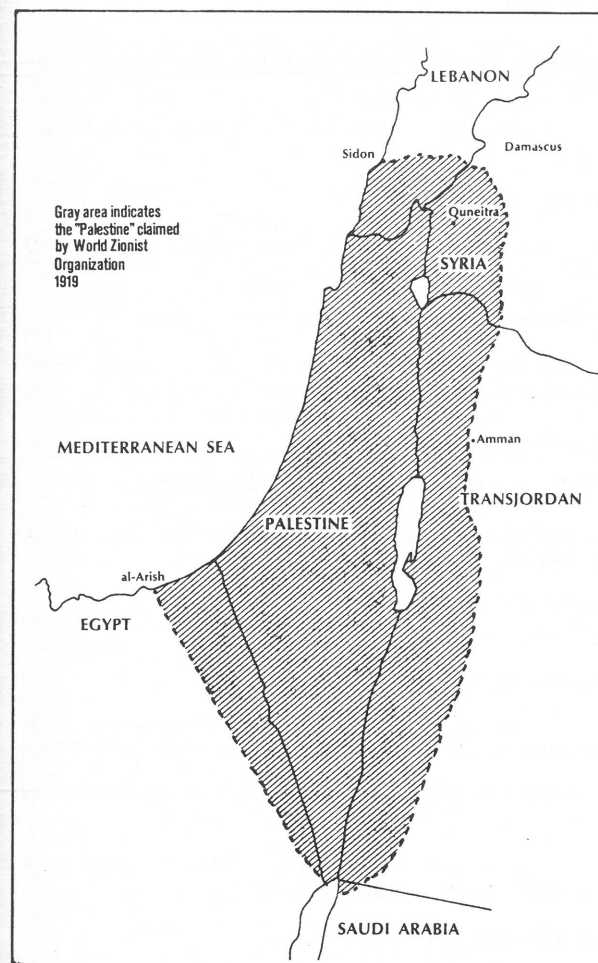
## INTERNATIONAL LAW VIOLATED

This transfer from the OETA to the Mandate regime involved many irregularities in international law, apart from the violation of the League of Nations Covenant and the principle of self-determination outlined earlier (see *Palestine*, Vol. 6, No. 1.) The Treaty of Sevres to end the state of war between the Allies and Turkey was never ratified by the latter. This was the treaty referred to by General Bols in his Nablus speech and had included the Balfour Declaration in its text. It had been signed, reluctantly and without

ratification, by the Turkish delegation at the peace conference, but rejected by the new regime of Mustafa Kamal Ataturk, and thus had no legal standing. Until the conclusion of a peace treaty, the status of militarily occupied territories like Palestine was governed by international military law. The British Manual of Military Law stated that the armistice then in force between Britain and Turkey "merely supersedes hostilities without putting an end to the war." Accordingly, "it is no longer considered permissible for (the occupier of conquered territory) to work his will unhindered, altering the existing form of government, upsetting the constitution and domestic laws, and ignoring the rights of the inhabitants."

Faced with such a situation, two courses of action were open to the British government if it was to act in accordance with international law: either to restore the occupied territory to the power from which it had been conquered, or to respect its inhabitants' right to self-determination. The first course was obviously impractical, and the second course was deliberately thwarted, as Balfour himself admitted in his correspondence.

Even before the Balfour Declaration was



Plan of "World Zionist Organisation" 1919:  
casting the Zionist shadow over Palestine

issued, it was clear that "Zionism envisioned the fulfillment of its aim through the aim of British suzerainty alone. This served to reassure the British government that its own strategic interests in Palestine would receive consideration as an integral part of any agreement reached between itself and the Zionist Organisation."

## THE ZIONISTS APPOINT A HIGH COMMISSIONER

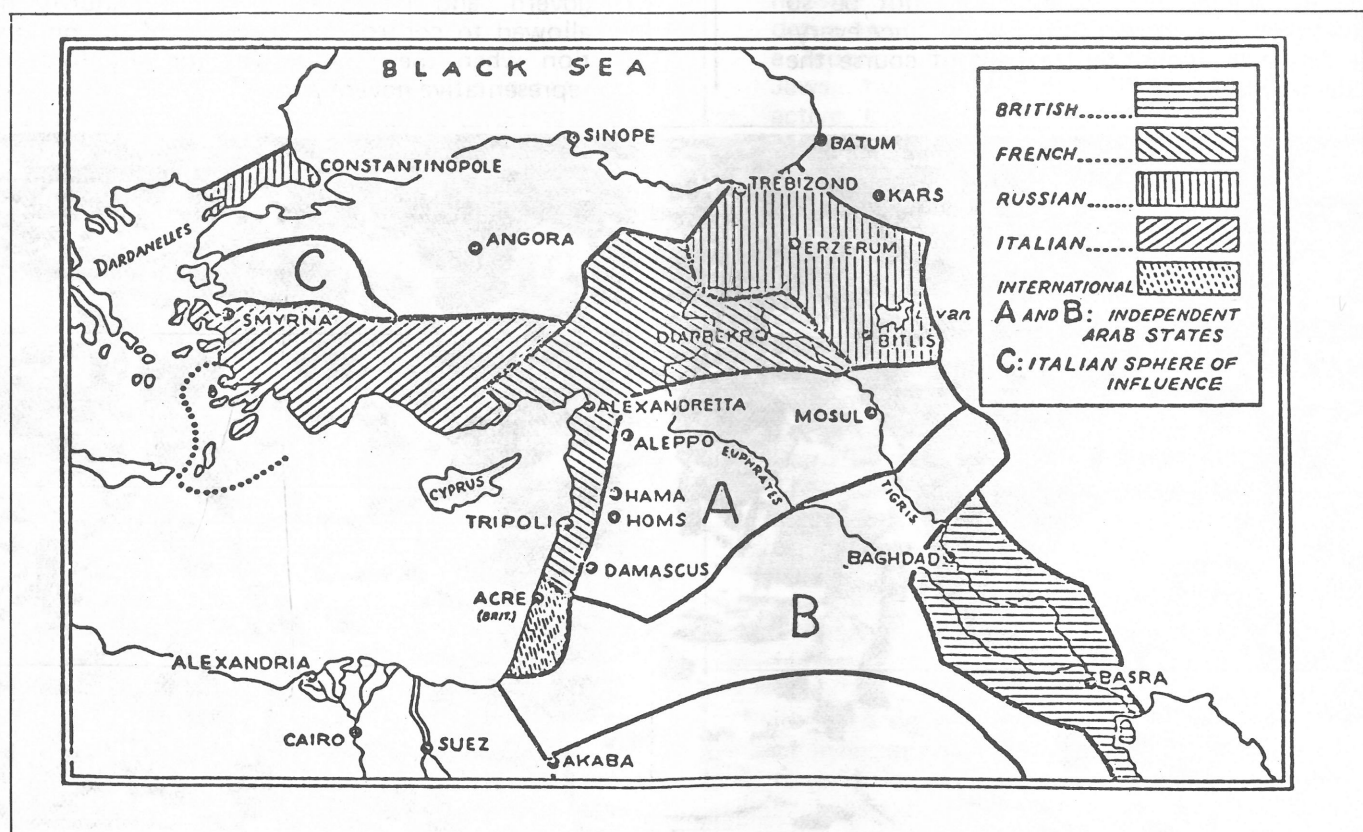
This relationship was consolidated by the appointment of a British Zionist, Herbert Samuel, as the first High Commissioner for mandated Palestine. Weizmann was later to boast: "I was mainly responsible for the appointment of Sir Herbert Samuel to Palestine. Sir Herbert Samuel is our friend. At our request he accepted that difficult position. We put him in that position. He is our Samuel."

This appointment of a man so clearly dedicated to a policy harmful to the interests of the vast majority of the people of the territory he was to administer was yet another violation of the principles of the League of Nations Covenant which specified that "the well-being and development of (mandated) peoples form a sacred trust of civilisation."

Samuel exploited his position cleverly to give added deceptive force to the "reassuring statements" issued by the Zionist movement by delivering them as a spokesman of the British government. Thus, on 3 June 1921, he declared: "I hear it said in many quarters that the Arab population of Palestine will never agree to their country, their holy places, and their lands being taken from them and given to strangers... I answer that the British government... has never consented and will never consent to such a policy... (The Balfour Declaration) means that the Jews, a people who are scattered throughout the world, but whose hearts are always turned to Palestine, should be enabled to find their home, and that some among them, within the limits that are fixed by the numbers and interests of the present population, should come to Palestine in order to help by their resources and efforts to develop the country to the advantage of all its inhabitants... For the British government, the trustee under the Mandate for the happiness of the people of Palestine, would never impose upon them a policy which that people had reason to think was contrary to their religious, their political and their economic interests." Competition between Samuel and Balfour for the Whitehall Mendacity Prize seems to have been quite sharp at that time.

## A MANDATE STAFFED BY ZIONISTS

The appointment of Samuel was the most



Sykes-Picot Agreement of 1916: Attempt to divide  
the Arab World among the European imperialist powers



## FROM THE MILITARY ADMINISTRATION TO HERBERT SAMUEL

striking example of a general policy of packing key positions in the Mandate administration with Zionist appointees. Thus Colonel Fred Kisch of British Intelligence, a man "belonging to both worlds, English as well as Jewish,"<sup>13</sup> was given a post on the Palestine Executive of the World Zionist Organisation, as part of the moves to integrate the British Mandate administration with the Zionist power apparatus. He became the liaison officer between the Zionist movement and the British authorities in Palestine. Another British Zionist, Norman Bentwich, was appointed Attorney General for Palestine, Max Nurock was seconded from the Zionist Organisation to be Chief Secretary to the Palestine Government and Albert Hyamson was appointed Head of the Immigration Department, a vital post which controlled the inflow of Zionist settlers.<sup>14</sup> Samuel's chief secretary was Wyndham Deedes, "a friend and admirer of Dr. Weizmann." This "allayed the misgivings of the Zionists" over their friction with OETA, and "they anticipated a period of government under which the National Home would be so firmly established that its further growth to statehood would be certain and perhaps more rapid than anyone dared to guess then. Here was a High Commissioner who not only knew Zionists as a fellow-Jew, but had been the first protagonist of Zionists in British politics. He showed early in his new post that he had not departed from this loyalty. Among his first legislative acts were the establishment of Hebrew as an official language, and a satisfying agreement with the Zionist Commission on the number of Jewish immigrants who enter the country yearly as settlers."<sup>15</sup>



British trooper shooting at  
Palestinian resistance fighters in the 30's

Although Samuel's measures for the Zionisation of Palestine did not proceed fast enough to satisfy the most extreme Zionists, who branded him as "too moderate", he laid an important part of the foundations for Zionist statehood, contrary to the interests of the people of Palestine and with the British government's blessing. The cynical attitude of the British government is well illustrated in Meinertzhagen's account of a discussion between Dr. Weizmann and a number of senior British officials, including Lloyd George, Balfour and Winston Churchill.

At this meeting, both Lloyd George and Balfour declared that by the Balfour Declaration "they always meant an eventual Jewish State." Dr. Weizmann complained of "lack of security for the Jewish population", adding, "We were gun running and I can't allow it." To which Churchill interjected, "We won't mind it, but don't speak of it." Dr. Weizmann replied, "I would like it sanctioned. Is it agreed?" They all agreed to this.<sup>16</sup>

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3. *Ibid.*, pp. 33-34.
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6. The Rt. Hon. Sir Anthony Nutting, *Balfour and Palestine: A Legacy of Deceit* (CAABU pamphlet, London), p. 5.
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9. War Office, *Manual of Military Law* (HMSO, 14), Chapter XIV, para 354.
10. Alan R. Taylor, *Prelude to Israel* (New York, 1959) pp. 18-19.
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13. Chaim Weizmann, *Trial and Error* (London, 1949), p. 295.
14. Robert John & Sami Hadawi, *The Palestine Diary 1914-1945* (New York, 1970), p. 167.
15. Sykes, *op. cit.*, p. 58.
16. Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen, *Middle East Diary 1917-1956* (New York, 1960), pp. 103-104.



## WEST GERMAN DESTROYERS TO JOIN U.S. MILITARY BUILDUP IN INDIAN OCEAN

The Defense Ministry of the Federal Republic of Germany has confirmed that its warships will carry out exercises from 29 April to 8 August in foreign waters, including the Indian Ocean. According to an Associated Press report of April 5, West Germany is to dispatch two destroyers and two support ships to join U.S. naval units in foreign waters.

The planned dispatch of West German warships to the Indian Ocean has drawn criticism from different governments in the region. An Indian government spokesman has once again reiterated Indian policy that India is against any military presence in the Indian Ocean. The Kenyan newspaper *The Nation* wrote on April 7 that "the planned sending of warships to the Indian Ocean shows a remarkable lack of tact on the part of the government of the Federal Republic of Germany towards the wishes of the countries bordering the ocean."

## U.S. NAVY OFFICER SHOT IN ISTANBUL

As tension rises in Turkey over the increased U.S. military presence in the country, a U.S. naval officer was shot dead by gunmen on April 16 in the Turkish city of Istanbul. As a result of the incident U.S. servicemen and their dependants, who number over 5000, have been ordered to keep a "low profile." Four U.S. military personnel were shot on December 14 in Florya, near Istanbul, and two others were killed in shootings in April and May, 1979. Istanbul and 20 Turkish provinces have been under martial law for 16 months as the authorities try to stem widespread political violence, including growing anti-U.S. feelings.

## U.S. MILITARY BASES SET UP IN EL SALVADOR

The West German newspaper *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* reported on April 18 that American military advisors have begun setting up military bases in El Salvador in order to coordinate the military actions of the armed forces and the "Orden" paramilitary terror organization. Military equipment is increasingly being brought from the U.S. to El Salvador and is reaching the "Orden" gangs via the army. Even further measures of extended military aid are under discussion in Washington, the paper noted.

## WORLD YOUTH DEFY U.S. ANTI-OLYMPIC CAMPAIGN

The participants in the Executive Committee Meeting of the World Federation of Democratic

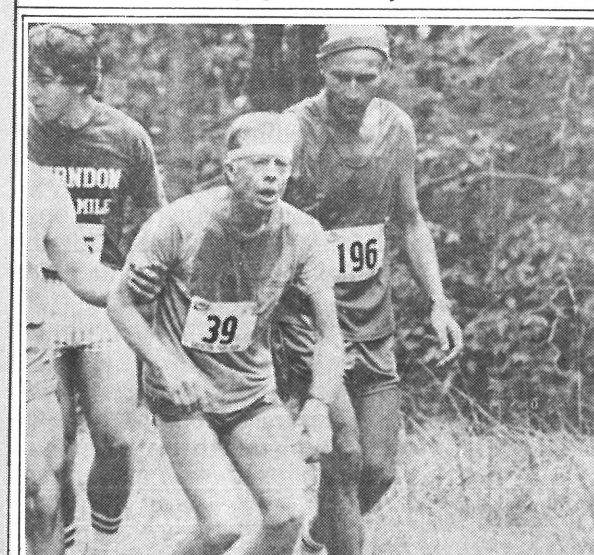
Youth (WFDY) held in Copenhagen on 8-10 February 1980 express deep concern over the threat to boycott the 1980 Olympic Games in the City of Moscow, USSR, as proposed by the Carter Administration.

This threat has evoked a very strong wave of protests among young sportsmen and democratic youth all over the world, and also in many National Olympic Committees. Since its origin in ancient Greece, sport has always been the messenger of peace. Only the International Olympic Committee has the power to determine the place for the top sporting event — the Olympic Games. This is the spirit of the Olympic Charter and Rules, which are the main law for all sportsmen.

The present U.S. campaign endangers the future of the whole Olympic movement and international sporting activities in general. At the same time it is another step in order to complicate the process of détente. In such a difficult situation, when international relations could rapidly undergo a further deterioration caused by U.S. imperialism, the successful holding of the 22nd Summer Olympic Games in Moscow would represent a positive step forward in the process of détente, giving the opportunity to thousands of young people to gather for a peaceful competition.

WFDY, on behalf of millions of young people all over the world, strongly condemns the campaign against the Moscow 1980 Olympic Games, which is aimed at undermining the positive development of the international sport movement. We appeal to the world's youth to fully support the preparation and holding of the 1980 Olympic Games, particularly the International Youth Camp of the 22nd Olympic Games in the City of Moscow, and to be active in supporting the pre-Olympic preparations and the fundamental Olympic ideas just as they are set down in the Olympic Charter.

Olympics — U.S. style





## ANGOLAN WOMEN: "WE ARE FIGHTING FOR OUR FREEDOM"

A delegation from the Angolan Women's Organization visited the Palestinian Revolution and attended the Third General Congress of the General Union of Palestinian Women held recently in Beirut. *Palestine Bulletin* took the opportunity to discuss issues of mutual interest with Comrade Maria Tereza Del Fonseca and Comrade Idalina Bamba, both members of the Angolan women's delegation.

They began by explaining the purpose of their visit to be "to express our solidarity with our Palestinian sisters." They said that "the Palestinian and Angolan peoples are struggling against oppression, racism and remnants of colonialism."

Q. Angolan women participated in the struggle against Portuguese colonialism. What is the condition of women today in the Popular Republic of Angola?

A. Since our war against the colonizers, Angolan women have been improving their position in society. We are participating in all aspects of political, economic and social life. Women are represented in the central committee of Angola's revolutionary party, the MPLA; in the government; in the factories; in the co-operatives, as well as in the medical, educational and social fields. There is no distinction in Angola between women and men when it comes to military training. When Angolan youths turn 18 they receive military training to defend our revolution.

Schools are open to everyone, girls and boys alike. Education is free and mandatory for the primary and intermediate classes. Under the colonial regime, women were prevented from pursuing their studies.

At the present time our organization is sponsoring literacy classes in order to teach reading to Angolan women, the majority of



Angolan women's delegation

whom are illiterate.

Q. What was the role of the Angolan Women's Organization during your liberation struggle?

A. During our struggle against colonialism we organized women to aid in the guerilla war. They were instructed in the fields of education and social and medical assistance. They helped the fighters by bringing food and munitions to them. Many women participated in the combat itself, under difficult conditions. Many of our militants were put in jail, arrested by the Portuguese or other enemy factions working for the imperialists. We had many martyrs.

Q. What problems do you face today?

A. During our struggle a number of fathers and husbands prevented their wives and daughters from participating in the revolution. However, the political consciousness of the masses was raised by the revolution itself, bringing great positive changes about. In any case we should not forget that women's freedom must be struggled for and will not be handed to us on a silver platter.

Q. What impressions have you gained of Palestinian women?

A. We admire the courage of the Palestinian women, and their determination to overcome all obstacles and difficulties. We have seen them at work on our visits to the Palestine Red Crescent and the school for children of Palestinian militants. We met Fatmeh Bernawi, who told us about her life in Israeli prisons. Palestinian women have been martyred, others have been imprisoned in the Zionists' jails. Nevertheless Palestinian women are determined to struggle on until the full national rights of the Palestinian people are restored.



## THIRD CONGRESS OF PALESTINIAN WRITERS



Chairman Arafat inaugurating the Congress

The Third Conference of the General Union of Palestinian Writers and Journalists was inaugurated on Saturday 19 April, 1980 at the Gamal Abdel Nasser Hall of the Beirut Arab University under the sponsorship of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. The Conference was attended by the Secretary-Generals and the representatives of the various groupings in the Palestinian Revolution, the Lebanese National Movement and National Front, Palestinian and Lebanese organisations and unions, together with a number of Arab and foreign delegations.

Yasser Arafat delivered a speech, in which he said: "We are proud of our democratic Revolution and of the democracy in the LNM and the National Front, and in all Lebanese nationalist ranks that stand steadfast in south Lebanon where, in the name of all the free men of the Arab world, they are confronting the imperialist-Zionist conspiracies." Concerning the extension of the Camp David autonomy talks after May 26, Arafat said: "They can extend it to August 26, till next year, and for as long as they wish. But they ought to know that the Palestinian people inside the occupied territories constitute a time bomb in the face of Carter, Begin and Sadat. The Palestinian people are the vanguard of the Arab Nation fighting, to the last woman, child, and old man, against the Zionist enemy and all the conspiracies concocted by the U.S.A., Israel and Sadat."

Arafat then expressed regret that two Arab states — Oman and Somalia — had offered facilities to the U.S.A. in Masira and Barbara; and that Kenya had also offered facilities in Mombasa. He said: "I do not want to repeat what the agent Sadat also gave them in Egypt. In

any case, the darkness in Egypt will not remain for long, for the people of Abdel Nasser and Orabi will ultimately rise." The Conference was then addressed by Muhsin Ibrahim and Bassam Abu Sharif.

In the first session of the Conference on April 20, a new Presidential Committee was elected to supervise conference activities according to the agenda. In the evening session, the General Secretariat of the Conference presented its resignation, after reading a report on its activities since the second Conference, which was held in Tunis in 1977. The Conference then discussed the report, and referred it to the special committee for further discussion. On the morning of April 21, the special committees: the Political Committee, the Internal Regulations Committee, the Democratic Freedoms Committee, the Professional Committee, and the Financial Committee continued their discussions of the report of the resigned General Secretariat.

The Democratic Freedoms Committee, which was formed as a result of the deep concern of the participants in the Conference for the cause of democracy in the Arab world, and the necessity of escalating struggle in defence of human rights, formed a subcommittee to write a report on democratic freedoms which will be treated as a document and included in the recommendations of the Conference.

During the discussions of this report of the Democratic Freedoms Committee, the participants reaffirmed the importance of securing the democratic rights of Arab and Palestinian writers and journalists to express their opinion freely.



### THIRD CONGRESS OF PALESTINIAN WRITERS

The Conference reaffirmed the unconditional right of the Palestinian masses to political action and organisation in all Arab countries in the context of their struggle to liberate Palestine. The Conference also stressed the importance of the struggle for the rights of Palestinian writers and journalists in the occupied territories, and the work for the liberation of those detained. The Conference finally called for the establishment of a permanent Committee for Democratic Freedoms to defend and help those writers and journalists who are subjected to a violation of their human rights.

On April 24, the Third Conference of the General Union of the Palestinian Writers and Journalists ended its sessions by electing a new General Secretariat. The national unity list, which won in the elections, includes: Yahya Yakhlef (100 votes), Abu Salma (96 votes) Mahmud Darwish (94 votes), Rashad Abu



Congress in session

Shawar (90 votes), Naji al-Ali (90 votes), Majed Abu Sharar (88 votes), Jamil Hilal (87 votes), Bassam Abu Shariff (84 votes), Bilal al-Hassan (84 votes), Ahmad Abdel Rahman (85 votes), Mu'in Bsiso (81 votes), Fayez Qandil (79 votes), Ziad Abdel Fattah (78 votes), Abdel Aziz al-Sayyed (77 votes), Ghanem Zreikat (76 votes), Hassan al-Kashif (75 votes).

### "THERE IS A CHANGE IN PUBLIC OPINION"

After the Third Conference of the Palestinian Union of Writers and Journalists was over, the head of the *British* delegation Taylor Downing told us: "In a revolution like that of the Palestinian people, I believe the role of the writers is going to be particularly important. Writers inside the Palestinian Revolution have to produce the poetry and the writing to keep alive the spirit of the revolution among the Palestinian people. As I myself said when I addressed the conference on the first day, the role of the writers and journalists outside the Arab world, in the West, is even more important, because it has to put across the word, to put across the argument which is being received with more and more sympathy in the West. In England, where I come from, in Ireland, France, and Germany, it is fair and honest to say that there is a big change in public opinion taking place. Public opinion has traditionally been pro-Zionist in these Western countries, but as more and more people are beginning to hear about the Palestinian struggle and are being introduced to the institutions of the Palestinian Revolution, I think there is more and more sympathy being generated in The West for the Palestinian people. So to conclude, I would say that the role of writers is clearly not only important for the

people of Palestine, but also they have an important role to play to the world outside, where opinions are changing considerably." Taylor Downing works in the "Thames Television": We will be hoping to arrange a season of Palestine films at the National Film Theatre, in London, which will be exciting, and I hope it will be a worthywhile event."

### UNITED IN THE STRUGGLE

The head of the *Cyprus* Delegation, brother Stafcos Angelidies, said: "I have seen that there are several currents in the Palestinian Revolution, but they are all united in the struggle to establish a progressive and democratic state, which I consider a great guarantee for the success of the Palestinian Revolution. I have visited some camps. I noticed that the determination of the Palestinian people has been established there, and the high spirit even of young people qualified in the training to face any Israeli aggression. I noticed also the cohesion between the Lebanese National Movement and the Palestinian Revolution. In some cases one could not distinguish which is the difference between the Palestinians and the Lebanese. So this is also another big achievement, which I think will guarantee the success of the struggle of the Palestinian people."

## SOLIDARITY

### "BOYCOTT ISRAEL" MOVE INSIDE EQUITY

The British Actors Union, Equity, on March 31 defeated by only four votes a motion tabled by British progressive actress Venessa Redgrave calling for a boycott of members working in Israel, and for a ban on the sale of films and T.V. programmes there. The motion was defeated by 90 votes to 86. This vote reflects the growing influence of the progressive elements within Equity, which has about 26,000 members. Vanessa Redgrave, known for her support of the just Palestinian cause, said in her speech before the conference that "the rights of Palestinian artists are inseparable from the rights of the Palestinian people."

She described Israel as a racist state and called for genuine Palestinian self-determination, including recognition of the Palestinians' right to return to Palestine.

### ISLAMIC WORLD LEAGUE: JERUSALEM IS ARAB

The Islamic World League held its second conference in the holy city of Mecca from April 8-11. Islamic endowments ministers from all Islamic countries took part in the conference. The League made a number of decisions, among which were the following:

— The reaffirmation of the resolutions and

recommendations dealing with Jerusalem which were made by Islamic Summits, Islamic Foreign Minister's meetings and by the Jerusalem Committee.

— The Liberation of Palestine and al-Aqsa Mosque and the rest of the holy places is a duty of all Muslims.

— Arab sovereignty over Jerusalem is a matter on which no concessions can be made. Moreover, no party has a right to recognize Israel or reach a settlement with it resulting in obstacles in the face of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to liberate their land. In addition to all this, the conference agreed to publish a book on the history of Jerusalem, emphasizing its Arab character, and to work for the inclusion of the subject of the Palestinian cause in the program of all schools in Islamic countries.

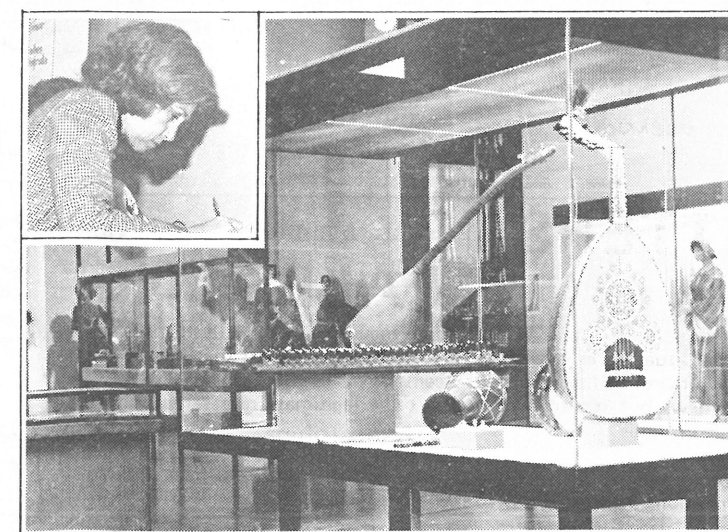
### GDR DAILY: ISRAEL RESORTS TO OPEN AGGRESSION

"Despite the flight of 300,000 people due to Haddad's terror campaign in South Lebanon, the situation there is not developing in Israel's favour," wrote the G.D.R. daily *Junge Welt* on April 14 in a comment on the latest criminal attacks by Israeli soldiers and Haddad militamen on the South Lebanese population. "The attacks on Palestinian camps and the attempted division of Lebanon through the activities of Haddad's

### SPANISH QUEEN OPENS PALESTINIAN POPULAR ART EXHIBITION IN MADRID

An exhibition of Palestinian popular art was opened at the Archeological Museum of Madrid on April 14, by Spain's Queen Sophia. The Queen was received by the general director of the museum and the chief of PLO office in Madrid. She was accompanied by the minister of culture, the director of Middle East affairs in the foreign ministry and Arab and foreign ambassadors who received the invitation. The exhibition was arranged by Ismail Shammout, secretary general of the General Union of Palestinian Artists, together with Union members Tamam Al-Akhal, Michael Najjar and Jammal Gharbiyeh.

The exhibition displayed original Palestinian popular costumes, artistic popular work from Palestine such as ornamental shells, embroidery, and old Palestinian stamps and coins, besides photographs which represent traditional social



life in Palestine. A special section was set aside for children's paintings, books and posters. The exhibition will last 45 days in Madrid and then will move to other towns in Spain.



## SOLIDARITY



militia were not crowned with the success that Israeli politicians had hoped for. The growing world-wide recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization is strengthening Palestinian resistance. In addition, a national reconciliation process has begun in Lebanon which has strengthened the struggle by progressive forces for a unified Lebanon, "Junge Welt" said. Inside Israel itself, on the other hand, public discontent is becoming increasingly noticeable, and the Camp David accords have led to a foreign policy impasse, the paper went on, which is why Tel Aviv, as so often in the past, has once again resorted to the only way out it can find — open aggression.

### WORLD PEACE COUNCIL CONDEMNS ISRAELI AGGRESSION

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, on April 14 received a solidarity cable from Romesh Chandra, Chairman of the International Committee for Solidarity with the Palestinian People and President of the World Peace Council. The cable condemned the latest acts of Israeli aggression on south Lebanon and described it as inseparable from the context of the implementation of the Camp David accords and the recent meeting between Carter and Sadat. The cable expressed full support for the struggle of the Palestinian people against Israeli aggression, and pledged that the World Peace Council would mobilise world public opinion to protest against this aggression.

appalled by what happens when our government is "protecting its interests." (Palestine, Iran, etc... not to mention our past, Vietnam.)

I know that any letters that you receive from the U.S. will be pretty hard to believe and that it can be very difficult to trust any American because of the intelligence (CIA) people everywhere, but I ask no trust without proof. I leave it to you.

Looking forward to receiving my first issue of "Palestine."

Your Sister in Spirit,  
Jean D. Cowan-Coppola  
Roslindale, MA 02131  
U.S.A.

Dear Sirs,

First of all I'd like to thank you very much for the great sample of the P.L.O. Information Bulletin (Vol. 6 No. 1 Jan. 80) you've sent me. If you have any other information or special material I'd like to receive them too.

By the way I'd like you to know that in the article Zionism and Militarism in the sample above mentioned, there's a mistake. At page 88, third paragraph, Brazil is mentioned as a purchaser of Israeli arms. This is a wrong information since Brazil has never had any military links with Israel. This can be easily checked in any specialized military magazine as Military Balance, Defense Affairs, Jane's etc. It also should be reminded that Brazil has signed the U.N. vote against Zionism in 1975.

Please I'd suggest you to correct this mistake in a forthcoming edition. I'm distributing copies of the articles of the P.L.O. I.B. to magazines and newspapers here in Brazil. Hoping to have my name placed in your mailing list and hear from you soon.

CLAUDIO E.A. AGOSTINI  
SAO PAULO, BRAZIL

Editor's note:

Dear Claudio, we thank you very much for your letter and we will see to it that your name is placed in our mailing list. With regards to your inquiry over the validity of the information we printed on Brazil's military links with Israel we would like you to refer for an example to the West German magazine "Der Spiegel" of April 17, 1978. There have been several such reports on Brazilian purchase of the Israeli military transport plane "Arava."

### HAJRAS SCULPTURE EXHIBITION:

## EXPRESSION OF THE STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION

To mark the fourth anniversary of Land Day, the progressive Egyptian artist Muhammad Hajras and his student Khalil Muhammad Khalil held an exhibition of sculpture and carvings in the Soussol Hall of the Arab University of Beirut. The Exhibition, which ran from April 1-10, was inaugurated by Abu Jihad, member of the Fateh Central Committee. Abu Jihad called on committed artists to produce more revolutionary works as expressions of support for Palestinian militants.

A progressive sculptor and a believer in liberty and struggle, Muhammad Hajras refused to be a tool in the hands of the Sadat authorities in the latter's campaign against the Egyptian people. His belief in liberty led him to the Palestinian Revolution. Once he said, "I want to go to Palestine. I want to spend the rest of my life constructing the Palestinian Revolution through my sculptures and designs." The Palestinian Revolution welcomed Hajras, who in the Land Day exhibition expressed his feelings and attitudes towards Palestine.

The exhibition consisted of many stone and bronze sculptures, rough carvings, clay pottery, and ceramic sculptures. "The Lover" is one of



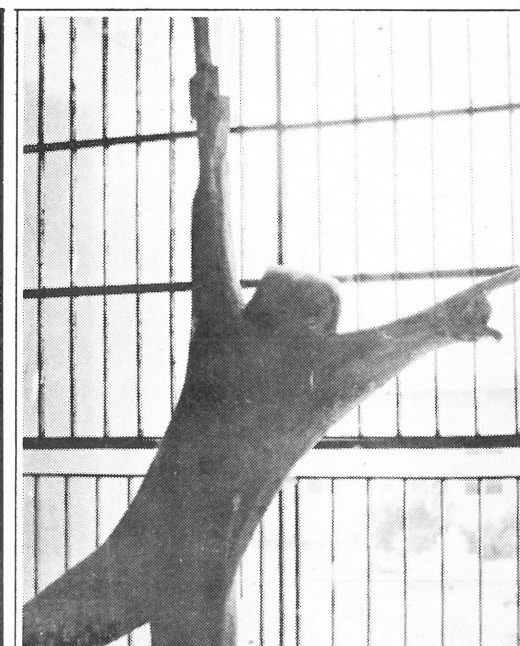
"The Lover"

the main sculptures. It is constructed of stone and is 350 cm high. "The Lover" represents the passionate relationship of eternal love between the Palestinian militant and his beloved Palestine. The militant is tall, strong and forthright. He stands steadfast, a loaded gun to his left, looking fiercely and directly at his goal. Embracing his beloved Palestine to his heart with one hand, while lifting up the other as a demonstration of his determination to resist, struggle and make sacrifices for her sake, "The Lover" symbolizes the symbiotic unity between man and the land.

"Tal el-Zaatar" is another sculpture by Hajras. It is a cry to the conscience of humanity. A human figure is shown, his stomach gouged and hollow because of starvation, the result of the fascist siege. But the figure's fist remains raised in a symbol of defiance. In "Lebanese-Palestinian unity" Hajras expresses the oneness of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. It is a sculpture of a tree with two branches clinging to each other. Its roots run deep. It is like two wings of a bird flying through space.

The sculpture "Fascism" represents a huge monster devouring a dove. The wings of the dove are crushed on the ground, but its head remains lifted up high. It is an image of strife between fascists and oppressed people, between liberty and tyranny, between a people's right to live peacefully and the usurpers of that right.

The other sculptures exhibited, "The Cry," "The Delivery," "The Will," "The Steadfastness of South Lebanon," "The Uprising," "The Dance of Death," and "A Woman from the South," all portray the cry of anger and the atmosphere of struggle of the Palestinian and Arab people against the odious plots of their enemies. On the fourth anniversary of Land Day, Hajras' sculpture exhibition showed how art can be a genuine expression of a people's struggle for liberation.



"The South Resists"

## LETTERS TO "PALESTINE"

For some time I have wanted some means of getting fresh information about the situation as it is right now in Palestine. Of all the pamphlets and other information I have seen, this seems to be the best. Not only does it get me the news but it also helps support the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

If you want any help in this area other than what you have already or public relations (in a small way to start) just write and ask.

For most of my life I believed everything I saw on the television news or read in the papers here in the States. This is very easy to do because everyone wants to believe that their own country is right. No one wants to believe that their government could support or literally build a government that has been openly persecuting the Palestinians; killing them, bombing the camps, denying their children basic necessities for survival (if not just directly killing them.) Denying the Palestinians what our government so vehemently supports: BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS. Then, when the Palestinians fight for their right and their land, our government turns around and calls them terrorists! I am



# Palestine

P.L.O.  
information  
bulletin

Vol. 6, No. 8  
1-15 May 1980



ISRAELI  
REPRESSION  
IN HEBRON



FREEDOM FOR PALESTINIAN  
PRISONERS IN ISRAELI JAILS

WEEK OF SOLIDARITY WITH  
PALESTINIAN PRISONERS 17-23 APRIL