

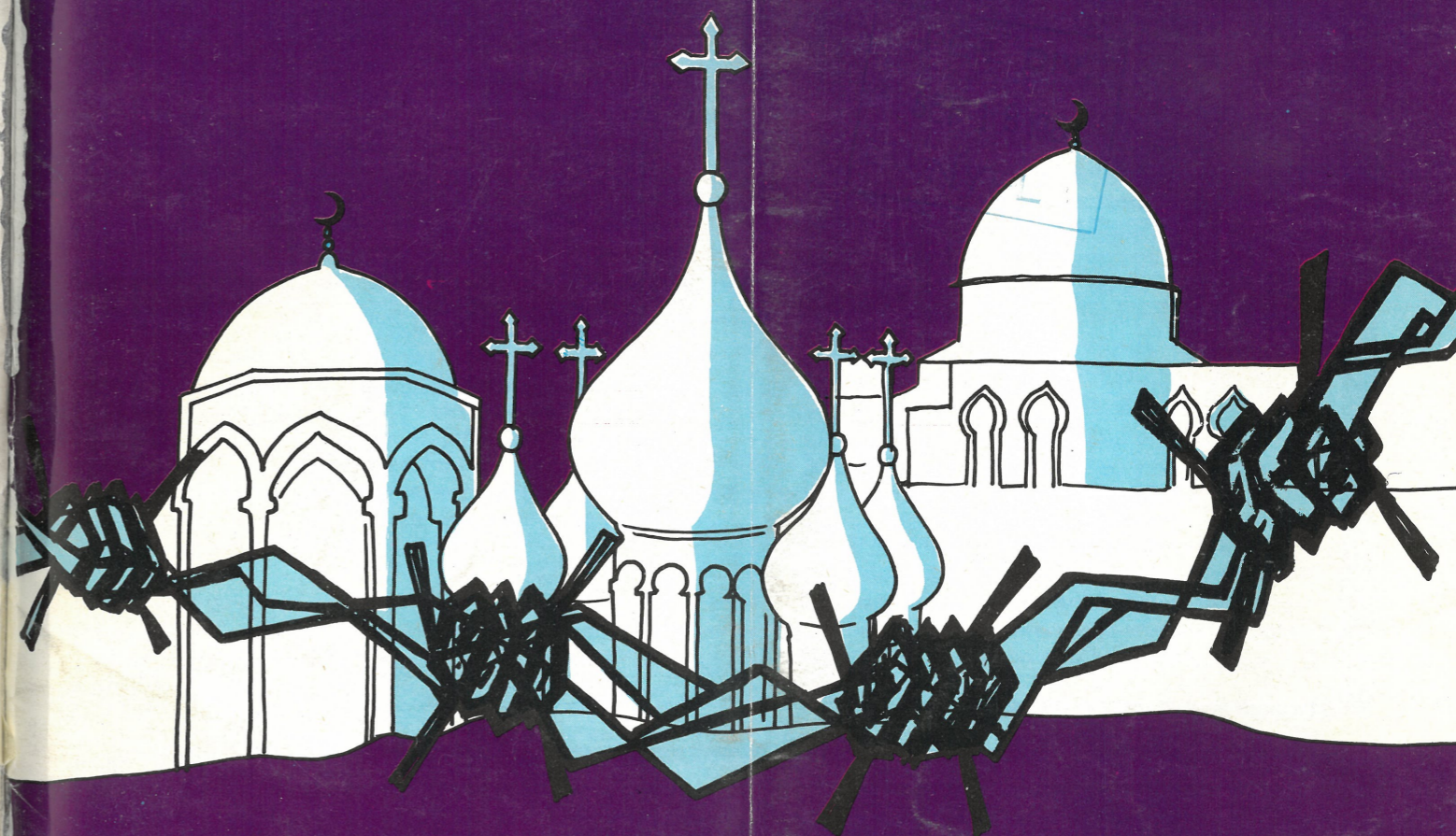
**STOP THE MURDER
OF PALESTINIAN PRISONERS**



Palestine

**P.L.O.
information
bulletin**

Vol. 6, No. 14
1-15 August 1980



**WE WILL CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE UNTIL
THE BELLS OF FREEDOM RING IN JERUSALEM**

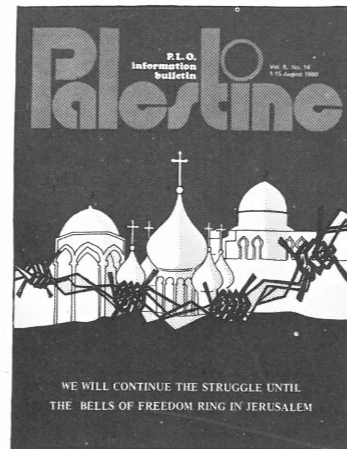
TO OUR READERS

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

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

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

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Palestine

BI-MONTHLY INFORMATION BULLETIN
published in English & French, by
THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANISATION
UNIFIED INFORMATION
P.O. Box: 145168, Tel. 302432
BEIRUT - LEBANON

Partial or total reproduction is freely permitted by
"PALESTINE BULLETIN"

PRICE L.L. 1

Yearly Subscription Rates:

Africa, Asia and Latin America U.S. \$ 16
Europe, USA, Canada and Australia U.S. \$ 20

All cheques should be made out to "PALESTINE BULLETIN" payable to our account
No. 510 805 706 1A, Arab Bank, Ras Beirut Branch, Lebanon.

All copies of "PALESTINE BULLETIN" will be sent by air mail.

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

EDITORIAL

JERUSALEM

The Israeli Knesset decision to annex Jerusalem and to declare it the "eternal" capital of Israel is nothing but a continuation of Israel's annexation policy towards the occupied territories. For those who follow Israeli practices and policies since its creation in Palestine, the annexation decision was not a surprise. Israel was created in 1948 at the expense of the Palestinian Arabs. It violently enlarged its territorial gains through confiscation of Arab land. It built up its military force with the support of Western countries to become the strongest military force to protect those gains and enlarge them.

Begin believes that it's a God-given right to occupy Palestine, to confiscate Arab property and to expell Palestinians from their homeland. The fanatic Begin and his clique believe that God told them to kill Palestinians and destroy their homes. Zionists don't feel sorry to torture Palestinians or detain them. The Zionist mentality has no sense of sorrow or guilt towards their victims, the Palestinians, who are refugees or still resident under their barbaric occupation.

The resolution annexing East Jerusalem was met with a world-wide aversion: eastern as well as western countries criticized Begin's move. Even the best ally of Israel - the U.S. - gave a critical statement on the change of the status of Jerusalem. But Begin made use of the election situation in the U.S. He knows well that he can blackmail presidential candidates with Jewish votes or Zionist money and the mass media.

That is why he thought it would be the right moment to declare so-called "unified" Jerusalem as his "eternal" capital.

But the peoples of the world started to question: How eternal? The Jerusalem statement is a provocation to all Moslem nations because Jerusalem is one of the most holy shrines of Islam and the Moslems of the world will never accept that Jerusalem will be Zionized or Judaized. Jerusalem is a holy place for Christianity and the Christians of the world see in Begin's move a defance to their feelings. The Moslems and Christians of the world make up almost two billion people of the world's population, while Begin's Zionist state encompasses only three million who definitely don't share Begin's fanaticism and blindness.

Begin's step is a declaration of war against the whole world. It will embarrass his friends and sponsors in the West, as well as his friend Sadat who has been placed in a very delicate position. Begin's decision is also a declaration of war against the Arabs and the Palestinians because it will not be a contribution to a lasting settlement or a just peace in the region.

The West should realize that their mighty baby "Israel" is becoming blinded by the huge weapons' arsenal they have been supplying it with. The arrogance and blindness of Israel will definitely lead her to disaster. It is time for the Western countries in general and the U.S. in particular to wake up and stop their protégé who most probably will lead them to disaster.

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PALESTINE NOTES



Chairman Arafat at Maher al-Burno military training graduation in Damascus

ARAFAT SPEAKS AT MILITARY GRADUATION CEREMONY

Chairman Yasser Arafat delivered a speech at the graduation ceremonies of the martyr Maher al-Burno military training course in Damascus on July 31. Referring to the new Israeli law concerning Jerusalem, Chairman Arafat said that the response to this move lay in the hearts of all the Palestinian fighters ready to sacrifice themselves for the Holy Arab City.

"The Palestinian flag will be raised over the city by one of you, for it is only through armed struggle that the liberation of our lands can be completed," Chairman Arafat said.

He added that the latest U.N. resolution which was approved by 112 votes reflects our international power and the weakening of our enemy.

Turning to U.S. foreign policy, which he described as fundamentally imperialist, Chairman Arafat said that the U.S. "will always remain the protector of Israel and the Arab Nation's enemy number one."

Concerning the European initiative, Chairman Arafat said: "We will not misplace our hopes on a so-called European initiative. Our hopes rest in the courage of our revolutionary fighters, who are the Arab Nation's only hope." Singling out Carter, Begin, Sadat and "anyone else thinking of joining the abortive Camp David accords," Chairman Arafat said that "the Palestinian Revolution achieves its victories through its martyrs' blood and the steadfastness of its people in the occupied territories. These people are a time bomb which will explode in the face of the Camp David trio. Our militants in Nafha prison have proved the true meaning of steadfastness for the past three weeks."

"Two have already died and the third is in a critical condition, and the strike goes on as strong as ever, determined to triumph," Chairman Arafat said referring to the hunger strike staged by Palestinian detainees in the Israeli prison in Nagab (Negev) desert.

ARAFAT RECEIVES SOLIDARITY CABLE

Chairman Yasser Arafat on

August 3, received a solidarity cable from the World Federation of Democratic Youth, denouncing the inhuman Israeli practices committed against the Palestinian detainees in Nafha prison. The cable also condemned the recent Israeli law on Jerusalem, describing it as an open challenge to the will of the Arab and international Community.

ARAFAT RECEIVES CABLE FROM EDEK

Chairman Yasser Arafat on August 3, received a cable from Dr. Vassos Lyssarides, Chairman of the Cypriot Socialist Party (EDEK). The cable expressed the party's denunciation of the barbaric Israeli measures against Palestinian political detainees. It also carried condolences for the death of two Palestinian prisoners at the hands of their Israeli gaolers.



Gaston Thorn

ARAFAT MEETS THORN

Chairman Yasser Arafat, on August 4, met with Gaston Thorn, Foreign Minister of Luxembourg and President of the EEC Ministerial Council. During the three-hour meeting, issues related to the Palestinian cause, the EEC's stand towards the Middle East and the national rights of the Palestinian people were discussed.

ARAFAT RECEIVES AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE DELEGATION

Chairman Yasser Arafat on August 2, received a delegation of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee with whom he discussed the Committee's activities on the international level in support of the Palestinian cause. It was agreed to hold an international conference on the U.S. military threat to the Arabian Gulf under the AASC's sponsorship.

KADDOUMI MEETS TUNISIAN PREMIER

Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department, arrived in Tunis on August 1. He declared that his visit to Tunisia came in a framework of continuous consultations with Tunisian officials on issues concerning the Palestinian and Tunisian peoples.

Kaddoumi on August 4, met with Tunisian Prime Minister Muhammed Mazali, who was accompanied by Munji Koli, the Director of the Destour Socialist Party. The meeting dealt with the Palestinian cause and its developments on the international level and the struggle of the Palestinian people inside the occupied territories. Kaddoumi said that after the new Israeli law on Jerusalem, commitment to the resolutions of the last Conference of Arab Foreign and Economic Ministers which approved the taking of sanctions against states transferring their embassies to Jerusalem, must become all the more binding.

PALESTINE RECOGNISED AS MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL VOLLEY BALL FEDERATION

Palestine was unanimously ac-

cepted on July 31, in Moscow as a member in the international volley ball federation. Palestine has already been recognised as a member of a number of sports federations, including wrestling, weight lifting, basketball, handball and ping pong.

PLO REPRESENTATIVE IN TEHRAN VISITS RAFSINJANI

The PLO representative in Tehran on July 29 visited Hashimi Rafsinjani, President of the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Council following the latter's appointment as President of the Islamic Shura Council. The PLO representative offered Chairman Yasser Arafat's and the Fateh leadership's congratulations to Rafsinjani and briefed him on the situation in the occupied territories and Jerusalem and the dimensions of the current conspiracy concocted against Lebanon.

Rafsinjani, in return, sent his greetings to Chairman Arafat and the Fateh leadership, and confirmed the support of the Islamic Revolution for the Palestinian people's struggle against Israel's aggression.

PLO SENDS JERUSALEM MEMO TO EEC

The PLO Political Department on July 29, sent a memorandum to the member states of the EEC concerning Israel's decision to

enshrine its annexation of Jerusalem in law and formally declare the city to be its capital. The memorandum called on the EEC to denounce the Israeli decision on the basis of the latest EEC-Venice Declaration. The Director of European Affairs in the PLO Political Department handed copies of the memo to the embassies of the nine EEC states in Beirut.

ARAFAT RECEIVES CHILEAN UNITED FRONT DELEGATION

Chairman Yasser Arafat received a delegation from the Chilean United Front on July 29. The delegation was comprised of all forces fighting against the Pinochet regime. Chairman Arafat welcomed the delegation and confirmed the Palestinian Revolution's close relations with Former President Salvador Allende. These militant relations must continue with the Chilean progressive forces. The two sides agreed to pursue their meetings and to work together on joint projects in the fields of politics and information.

PALESTINIAN FLAG IN GDR

The Palestinian flag was raised in the city of Ernst Taeleman in the German Democratic Republic on the occasion of the Palestine Day, on July 28. A large scale media campaign was organised including Palestinian photography exhibitions, traditional handicrafts and a film on Palestinian children. The inauguration ceremony was attended by the PLO representative in the GDR, Dr. Issam Kamel.

A delegation of Palestinian children arrived in Berlin on July 15 along with 45 other delegations from 40 countries numbering over 1200 children, to spend a summer of international cultural activities in the GDR.





Chairman Arafat



Nicolai Ceausescu

CHAIRMAN ARAFAT VISITS RUMANIA

At the invitation of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party, Chairman Arafat arrived on July 29, in the Rumanian Socialist Republic on an official visit. Chairman Arafat met with Nicolai Ceausescu, General Secretary of the Rumanian Communist Party. At the meeting the Rumanian side was represented by: Amon Coma, Executive Committee member and Secretary of the Central Committee of the RCP; Istvan Andrei, candidate member of the Political Executive Committee and member of the RCP Central Committee and the Rumanian Foreign Minister. Representing the Palestinian side were PLO Executive Committee member Abdel Muhsin Abu Maizar, Fateh Central Committee member Hani al-Hassan, and PLO representative in Bucharest Khaled al-Shaykh. Following is the joint communique issued after the meeting:

"President Ceausescu and Chairman Arafat expressed their deep satisfaction at their regular meetings and friendly discussions on current international issues, conducted within the framework of the close relations and solidarity between PLO and the Socialist Republic of Rumania.

"The two sides affirmed that their meeting is an important occasion to strengthen the relations between the Rumanian Communist Party

and the PLO, and between the Palestinian and Rumanian peoples.

"During their talks, the two sides reviewed the relations of solidarity, friendship and cooperation between Rumania and the PLO, relations which are developing all the time. The two sides expressed their wish that the good relations between them should continue to thrive and grow, for their mutual benefit and in the interests of peace and cooperation in the world.

"The two leaders exchanged points of view on a wide range of fundamental issues, in particular the latest developments in the Middle East and the means to achieve a just peace in the region. They reiterated the urgent need to find a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, involving Israel's unconditional withdrawal from the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied in 1967. They stressed that a just settlement in the Middle East cannot be achieved without the solution of the Palestine problem, which is the core of the Middle East problem.

"Both sides agreed that the current international situation, more than ever before, required urgent and strenuous efforts to end the Middle East crisis and establish a just and lasting peace in the region, taking into account the interests of all parties concerned.

"Comrade Ceausescu and Chairman Arafat praised the recent resolution issued by the U.N. General Assembly's emergency session for the study of the Palestine problem which was adopted by an overwhelming majority.

"The two leaders confirmed that any just solution to the Mideast conflict required the participation of the PLO, since it is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

"Chairman Arafat reiterated his appreciation for the firm stand adopted by the Rumanian Communist Party, its leadership and the Rumanian people as a whole, in support of the Palestinian people's cause and their struggle to regain their legitimate rights of self-determination, return and establishment of an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian soil.

Comrade Ceausescu finally confirmed the support of his country, its party and the Rumanian people for the Palestine cause and the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the region."



U.N. RESOLUTION ON PALESTINE

U.N. URGENT SESSION CALLS FOR COMPLETE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL



Head of PLO Political Dept., Farouk Kaddoumi at U.N. session

U.N. General Secretary Dr. Kurt Waldheim summoned the U.N. General Assembly to a special emergency session on July 22, to discuss the Palestinian question. Mr. Francois Giliand, U.N. spokesperson on July 21 said that more than the required 50 percent of the 152-member Assembly had asked for the special emergency session on Palestine. The U.S. opposed convening the U.N. special session thereby offering its open support for the continuous Israeli aggression in the occupied Palestinian and Arab lands. The head of the PLO political Department, Farouk Kaddoumi, stressed in his speech at the United Nations that "this session is a danger signal... a cry of warning against an explosion and a total conflagration. The international community must find a solution before the point of no return is reached."

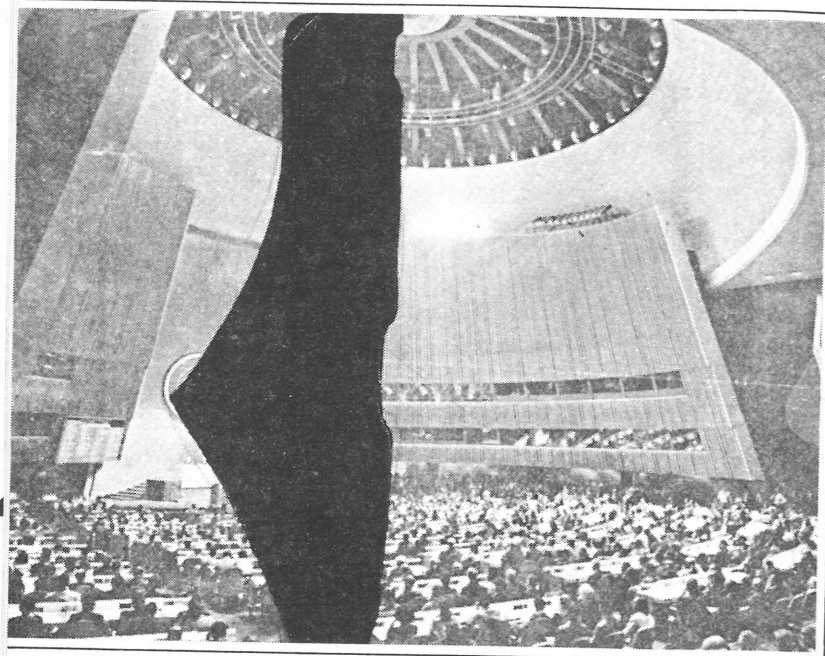
The U.N. debate on Palestine centered on a draft resolution presented by the Non-Aligned countries. Calling for a complete Israeli withdrawal from all the Palestinian and Arab occupied territories, to be carried out under U.N. supervision. The Secretary-General of the Islamic Conference Organization, Al-Habib al-Shatti, delivered a speech confirming the necessity of imposing sanctions in accordance with the U.N. Charter, if Israel persists in its refusal to implement international resolutions. Other speeches were delivered by Cuban Foreign Minister, Isidore Malmierca and Pakistani Foreign Minister, Agha Shahi. The Iranian representative revealed in his speech that Israeli torture equipment was used by the Shah's secret police. He said that Israel was not solely responsible for the denial of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian People, but also those

who support Israel. He denounced the U.S. at the U.N. meeting as an enemy of peace.

Lat April, the 23-member UN Committee for the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People presented proposals to a special session of the Security Council calling for Palestinian self-determination and Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories. These proposals were vetoed by the U.S. After the U.S. veto in April, the Non-Aligned countries decided to present them to the UN General Assembly for discussion. U.N. General Secretary Dr. Kurt Waldheim described the Palestinian national rights in a speech on July 25, as the "right to self-determination, including statehood". The PLO representative at the U.N. characterized Dr. Waldheim's remarks as very helpful, and the Arab League representative Clovis Maksoud said that Waldheim's position "reflects the consensus of the international community. Naturally it helps."

The resolution was adopted by 112 for, including Egypt, 7 states opposed it, with 24 abstentions. The states which opposed the resolution were the U.S.A, Israel, Canada, Australia, Norway, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic. The EEC States were among those who abstained, inspite U.S. pressures to vote against the resolution.

After the UN vote, Dr. Waldheim in an interview on July 31, with Spanish T.V. said that the resolutions of the General Assembly on the Palestine question are an expression of the will of the member states of the UN and their



U.N. URGENT SESSION CALLS FOR COMPLETE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

peoples in their sincere desire to find a solution to this problem.

Waldheim said that it is abundantly clear, after more than 30 years, that the Palestinian cause is the core of the conflict in the Middle East. He said that the establishment of an independent Palestinian state is supported by the majority of world public opinion. The Palestinian people, like any other people in the world, have the right to self-determination and the establishment a state over their land, the U.N. General-Secretary said.

Chairman Arafat said in a speech held at a military graduation ceremony on July 31, that the latest U.N. resolution reflects our international power and the weakness of our enemy. This resolution must be endorsed by Arab forces in order to be implemented, Chairman Arafat

added. The U.N. resolution exposed the hostile stand of the U.S.A. towards the Palestinian people, the Arab Nation and all peoples struggling for freedom and independence. The U.S.A. was at the head of the opposing lobby, the six other states were acting as puppets.

Following is the full text of the operative section of the latest U.N. General Assembly's resolution on Palestine adopted on July 29.

The General Assembly...

1. Recalls and reaffirms its Resolutions 3236 (XXIX) and 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 and all other relevant resolutions pertinent to the question of Palestine;

2. Reaffirms, in particular, that a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East cannot be established, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant United Nations resolutions, without the withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories including Jerusalem, and without the achievement of a just solution of the problem of Palestine on the basis of the attainment of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people in Palestine;

3. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the Palestinians to return to their homes and property, in Palestine, from which they have been displaced and uprooted, and calls for their return;

4. Reaffirms the inalienable rights in Palestine of the Palestinian people, including:

(a) The right to self-determination without external interference, and to national independence and sovereignty;

(b) The right to establish its own independent sovereign state;

5. Reaffirms the right of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, to participate on an equal footing in all efforts, deliberations and conferences on the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East within the framework of the United Nations;

6. Reaffirms the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force;

7. Calls upon Israel to withdraw completely and unconditionally from all the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since June 1967, including Jerusalem, with all property and services intact, and urges that such withdrawal from all the occupied territories should start before 15 November 1980;

8. Demands that Israel should fully comply with the provisions of Resolution 465 (1980) adopted unanimously by the Security Council on 1 March 1980;

9. Further demands that Israel should fully comply with all United Nations resolutions relevant to the historic character of the holy city of Jerusalem, in particular Security Council Resolution 476 of 30 June 1980;

10. Expresses its opposition to all policies and plans aimed at the resettlement of the Palestinians outside their homeland;

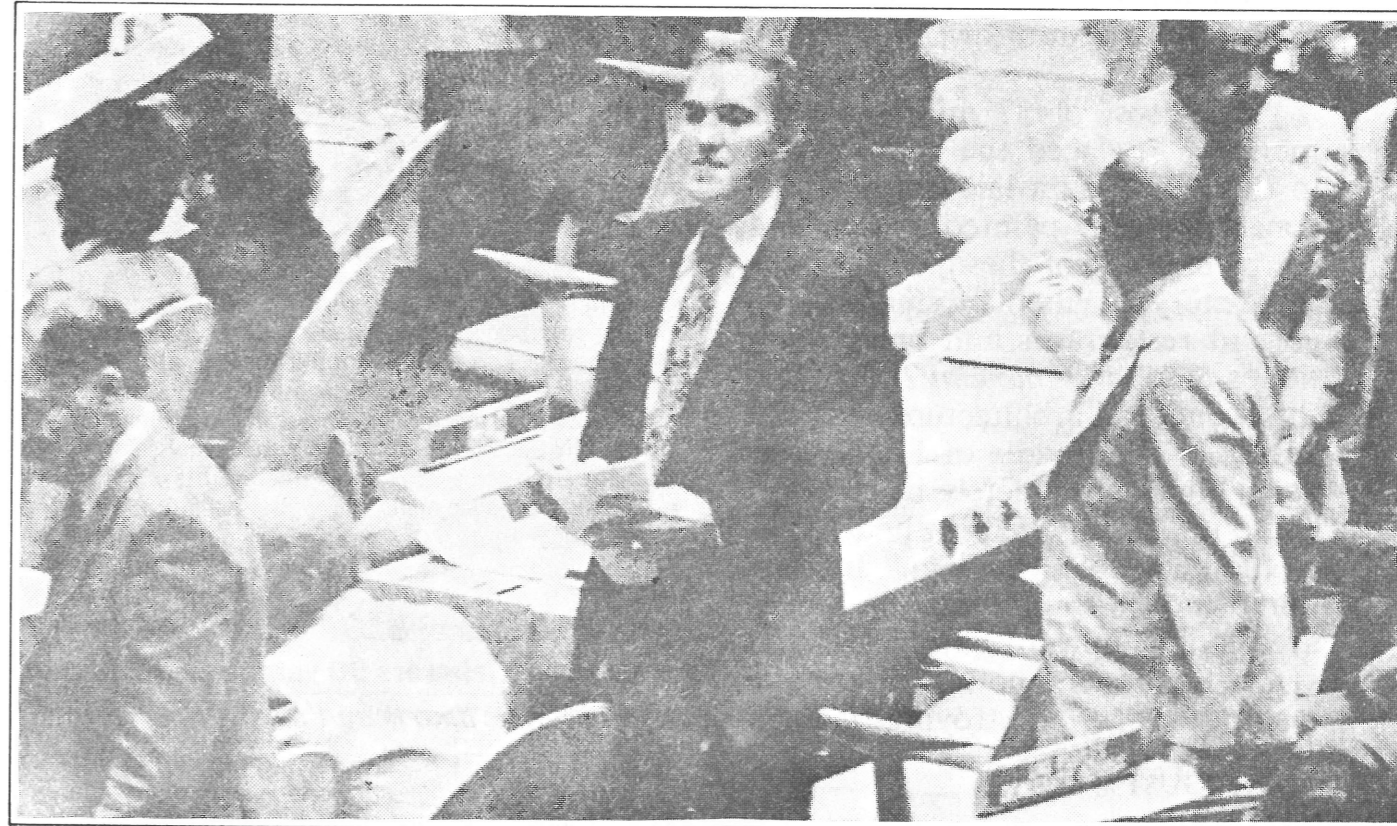
11. Requests and authorizes the Secretary General, in consultation, as appropriate, with

the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to take the necessary measures towards the implementation of the recommendations contained in Paragraphs 59 to 72 of the report of the committee to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session as a basis for the solution of the question of Palestine;

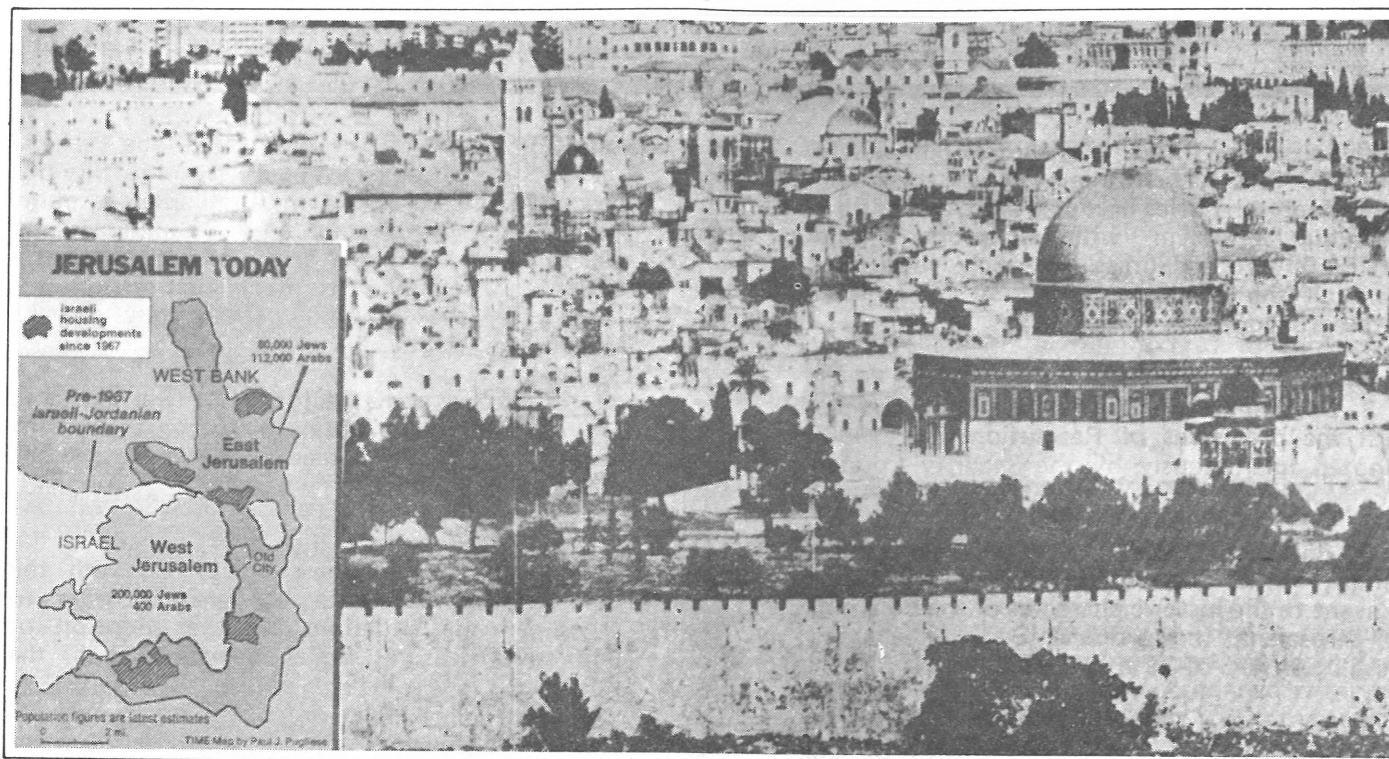
12. Requests the Secretary General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. Requests the Security Council, in the event of non-compliance by Israel with the present resolution, to convene in order to consider the situation and the adoption of effective measures under Chapter VII of the Charter;

14. Decides to adjourn the seventh emergency special session temporarily and to authorize the President of the latest regular session of the General Assembly to resume its meetings upon request from member states.



Arab U.N. delegates walk out when Zionists took the floor



ISRAELI AGGRESSIVE POLICY CONTINUES

RENEWED ZIONIST ANNEXATION MOVES AGAINST JERUSALEM

Israel, continuing its policy of expansionism, passed a law on July 30 annexing East Jerusalem and calling it the "indivisible and eternal capital of Israel." The timing of this new aggression comes at a time when Israel's U.S. sponsor is pre-occupied with its presidential elections assuring that there will be no critics from the U.S. due to its own internal political mayhem. The new Jerusalem law also follows closely on the heels of a UN Security Council resolution condemning Israeli policy affecting "the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem" and a General Assembly resolution supporting the creation of a Palestinian state and calling for a complete withdrawal from all occupied territories by Israel, including Jerusalem. The law was specifically designed to fly in the face of almost complete international consensus against the Zionist annexation of Jerusalem.

In reaction to this, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat sent a message to all Arab heads of States calling for an Arab Summit Conference to be

convened to discuss coordinated action against this Zionist aggression against East Jerusalem. He further asked for the cooperation of all Arab, Islamic and Afro-Asian states in the UN, as well as the Socialist countries, to a call for a meeting of the UN Security Council in emergency session to adopt the necessary measures counteract the new Zionist moves against East Jerusalem.

ISLAMIC COUNTRIES DEMANDS SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL

AFP reported on August 7 that the Islamic countries intend to ask the UN Security Council to impose against Israel for its "annexation" of Jerusalem, the same sanctions asked for by the U.S. against Iran last January. The American resolution presented January 10 and vetoed by the Soviet Union, called for diplomatic and economic sanctions against Iran. It also invoked articles 39 and 41 of the UN Charter concerning

threats to world peace. The proposed resolution will first be submitted to the non-aligned countries for consultations.

The new law has met with international condemnation. In Paris, the French Foreign Ministry issued a statement which called the bill "contrary to international law and UN resolutions." The statement also said that the bill could only lead to increased tension in the area. Belgium also condemned the Israeli decision to pass the bill. In a communique, it said that it would not support anything which would change the status of Jerusalem.

The Soviet newspaper *Pravda* said that the law is "a new annexation" and "an illegal act." The official organ of the Soviet Communist Party said that this proves that Israel was "encouraged by Washington to legalize the occupied territories," and further shows that Israel and the U.S. are isolated in the international community in view of the UN resolutions concerning Palestinian rights and Jerusalem in particular. The Soviet news agency TASS described the Knesset vote as a "cynical act by Israeli leaders."

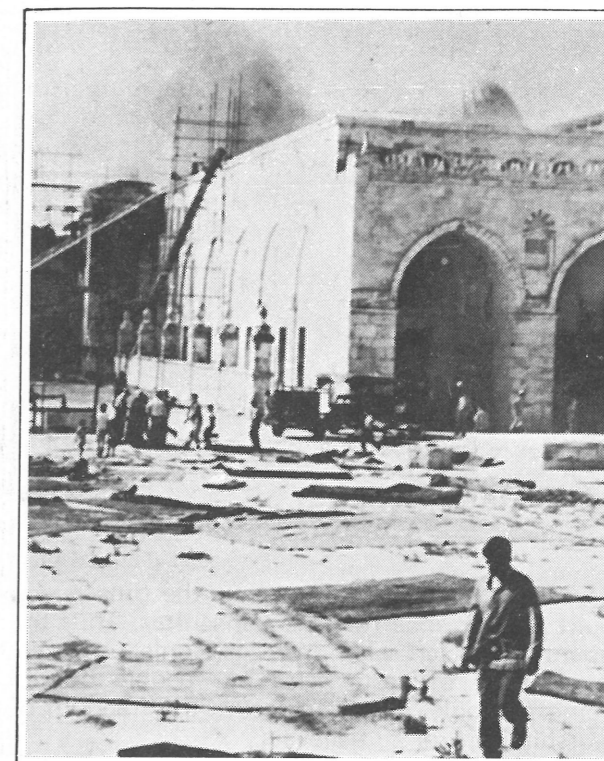
For its part, the U.S. State Department issued a weak and duplicitous statement. Spokesperson John Trattner said that the bill is "not helpful." But showing the U.S. complicity in the Israeli aggressive moves, Trattner added almost in the same breath that the passage of the annexation law would have no effect on negotiations with Egypt and continuing the Camp David process.

The Saudi government stated that it would not "stand idle and will take appropriate measures towards any state who recognizes Jerusalem as the capital of Israel." Venezuela, an OPEC member but one with diplomatic relations with Israel, announced that it has decided to move its embassy from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv.

Sadat has previously stated that the annexation of East Jerusalem is "unacceptable." But the Egyptian regime seemed quite accepting and willing to continue its alliance with Zionism. In recent interviews given by Sadat to the Zionist newspapers *Maariv* and *Al-Hamishmar* but not printed in Egypt, he stated that "Jerusalem could become the capital of Israel." This once again shows the two faces of Sadat and the lengths to which he will bow to please "his good friend, Jimmy Carter."

PLO EMERGENCY MEETING ON JERUSALEM

On August 1, the PLO Executive Committee held an emergency meeting in Damascus to discuss the recent law issued by the Israeli



Al-Aqsa Mosque on fire in 1969

Knesset endorsing the annexation of Arab Jerusalem and declaring the Holy City capital of Israel. The meeting dealt as well with the measures to be taken to confront Israeli aggression through comprehensive Palestinian, Arab, Islamic and international action.

The Executive Committee issued the following statement after the meeting:

"The Israeli measures relating to Jerusalem constitute a flagrant violation of UN resolutions, concerning Jerusalem, and represent, another link in the long chain of Israeli aggressions against the Palestinian people and their national soil. The move also constitutes an aggression against the Islamic and Christian religions. The issuing of this law in the wake of the resolutions taken by the UN concerning the Palestine question and Jerusalem, the latest of which only days before the Israeli law was passed, once more reveals the phenomenon of Zionist settler colonialism as being in absolute contradiction with international law.

"The responsibility for this Israeli aggression on Jerusalem lies first and foremost on the shoulders of the U.S.A. which continues to provide colossal and unconditional material, military and political backing to Israel, thus enabling it to perpetuate its occupation of the Palestinian and Arab territories and to continue to defy international resolutions.

"Jerusalem has been the capital of our

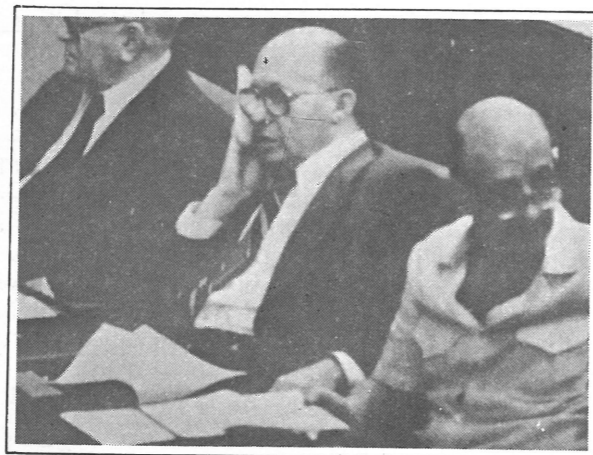


The future of East Jerusalem? ...

RENEWED ZIONIST ANNEXATION MOVES AGAINST JERUSALEM

homeland, Arab Palestine, since the time it was built by our ancestors the Canaanites. Thus the liberation of Jerusalem from its Zionist occupiers is an issue of destiny for our people besides being the only means to secure the freedom of worship in it for all believers.

"The PLO Executive Committee, while appreciating the stands of the states which



Begin sweats

denounced this aggression against Jerusalem, calls on the UN to shoulder its responsibilities and to implement the sanctions mentioned in its charter."

The PLO Executive Committee finally pledged to continue struggle by all means to liberate the national soil of Palestine, at the heart of which lies the holy city of Jerusalem.

RUMANIAN COMMUNIQUE ON JERUSALEM

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Rumania has been empowered by the Rumanian Government to state the following:

Public opinion in Rumania was deeply worried to learn about the decision of the Knesset (the Israeli parliament) to proclaim Jerusalem the capital city of the state of Israel, an act aiming at the annexation of the Arab part of Jerusalem which was occupied in the June 1967 war. This unilateral, arbitrary act which changes the status of Jerusalem flagrantly runs counter to the norms of international law, the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council with regard to the status of Jerusalem, as well as the peoples' legitimate aspirations after a political settlement of the Middle East situation. The Israeli parliament's decision further heightens tension in that part of the world, raises further obstacles to a global political settlement of the Middle East conflict being a source of other serious dangers to peace in the region and the world over.

Public opinion in Rumania disapproves of this action undertaken by the Israeli parliament.

Given its illegal character, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Rumania is authorized to state that the Rumanian Government will not recognize the arbitrary change of the status of Jerusalem and consequently Rumania will not open representations in Jerusalem, will not participate in any Israeli event or action in the occupied part of Jerusalem, and her representatives will have no contact with Israeli authorities in that part of the town.

Consistent with her high-principled stand as regards the peaceful settlement of all conflicts, Rumania has firmly declared for the achievement of a global and durable peace in the Middle East conducive to Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967, from the Arab part of Jerusalem included, to a resolution of the Palestinian people's issue on the basis of its right to self-determination, to set up an independent Palestinian state.

The interests of the political and global settlement of the Middle East conflict, the interests of all the peoples in the region, as well as the interests of the cause of general peace require that Israel give up this arbitrary measure, abide by the United Nations resolutions and cease any action that might aggravate the situation, which would prevent the establishment of a just and durable peace in the area.

PALESTINIAN PRISONERS' HUNGER STRIKE CONTINUES

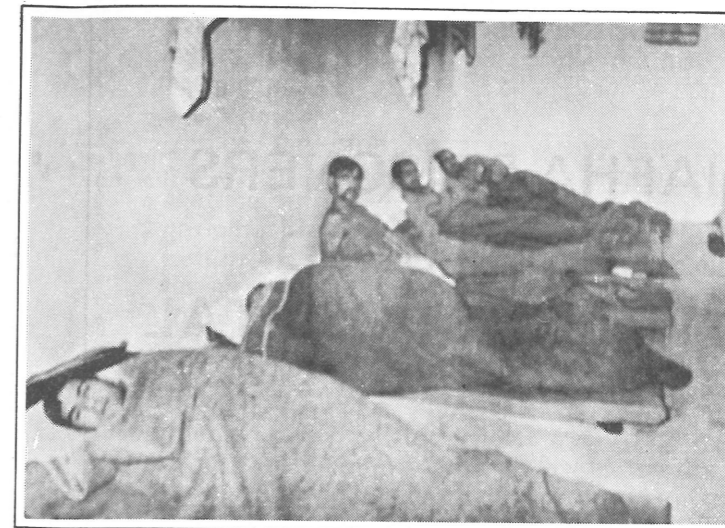
"JEWISH HUMANISM" AND PALESTINIAN DETAINEES

Once again the world has come to hear of the barbaric deeds carried out by the Zionists against Palestinian citizens. This time it is the treatment of prisoners whose alleged crimes range from membership in Palestinian liberation movements to indulging in the legitimate act of resistance to foreign occupation of their homeland.

Nafha prison "opened" last May and has been described by progressive Israeli attorney Felicia Langer as having been designed by a sadist. On July 14, Palestinian prisoners in Nafha went on an open hunger strike to protest their inhuman living conditions. In a message they addressed to Palestinian, Arab and international organizations they pointed out that all they demanded was equal treatment with Jewish prisoners.

The detainees brought to the attention of the world that they are forbidden books or any other cultural amenities and they are forced to sleep on the floor with no blankets. Jewish prisoners, they pointed out, have no such restrictions and sleep in beds. Palestinian prisoners are allowed to receive one visit every five to six weeks, whereas the Jewish prisoners receive visits every week.

Jewish prisoners have special places to eat, while Nafha detainees eat all meals off their straw mattresses, in cells which contain only one open toilet for the 10 inmates. Moreover, Jewish prisoners have good ventilation whereas 10 Nafha detainees are crammed in 3 by 5m cells with holes in the walls for ventilation. The average temperature in the Negev desert is over 100 degrees Fahrenheit.



Striking Palestinians in crowded Nafha prison cell

THE ZIONIST RESPONSE

The Zionist prison authorities' initial reaction to the detainee's demands, and the hunger strike that backed it, was to enforce a complete blackout of news while they resorted to torture to intimidate the prisoners into giving up their demands. But when the news reached the outside world after a week, the reaction in Tel Aviv was as could be expected. At a press conference on July 19 Yitzak Agasi, spokesman for the Interior Ministry declared: "Conditions in the new desert prison are better than those at older jails." He enlightened his audience by adding: "At Ramle there are 40 prisoners in each room and at Beersheba there are 100 prisoners on average in each room. Compared with that, Nafha is like the Hilton." (Times 20/7/80).

On July 22, the Israeli prison authorities brutally murdered one of the Palestinian prisoners. Ali Mohammed Shehade Al-Ja'afari was martyred when Israeli guards stuck a tube down his throat and into his lungs and poured in fluids, suffocating him to death. Again on the July 24 another Palestinian prisoner Qasim Mohammed Halawa met the same fate. The official prison spokesman told correspondents that the deaths were caused as a result of "force feeding". "We had to force feed the prisoners," the official argued, "because of Jewish humanism." (I.H.T. 25/7/80)

So much for "Jewish humanism" as practiced by Zionist hangmen. Following is a text taken from the weekly "Al Fajr" newspaper published in Jerusalem July 20-26. We would like to remind our readers that the text is not taken from a book on the holocaust or any other Zionist publication that talks of atrocities committed by Hitler against Jewish prisoners.

NAFHA PRISONERS TORTURED IN RAMLE HOSPITAL

by Advocate LEA TSEMEL



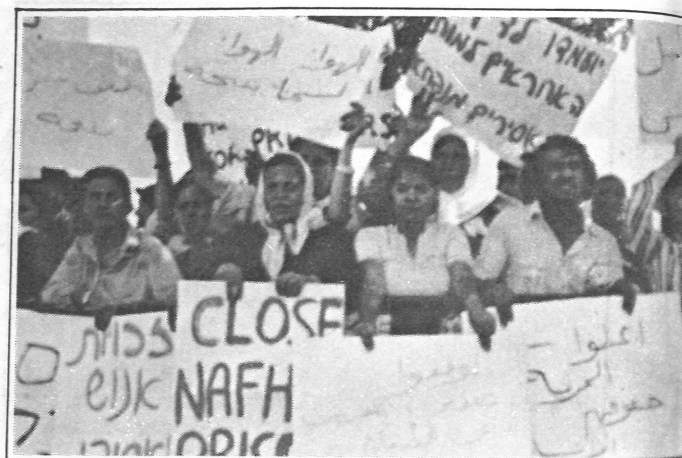
Advocate
Lea Tsemel

Today, 22-7-80, I met five of the 26 Nafha prisoners transferred last night to Ramle detention centre. The meeting with the prisoners took place in the presence of two officers from the detention centre who sat near us and listened to every word. All five prisoners repeated the same story, though they had been held in total isolation of each other. They looked like they had gone through hell. They could barely walk and talked very slowly. The marks of the last night's beatings were obvious. Here are the details:

Late yesterday afternoon, the men were handcuffed, legcuffed and put in a truck, taken to the Ramle Detention Centre. When they reached the prison they were "welcomed" by high-ranking officials and a large number of wardens.

YA'QOUB DAWANI, GIVEN 'THE BOMB'

Ya'qoub Dawani is 34 years old and was imprisoned for life in 1968. While telling me the



Prisoners' families demonstrate in Jerusalem...

experience of the last day, he broke into tears in front of the officers, shivering while speaking. "The moment we arrived at the detention centre, they put us in a row faces to the wall and hit us with clubs and fists in an unbelievable way. I was wounded." (He shows me his left thumb and index finger with open swollen and red wounds.) "They took us to search. Took off our clothes. Took us to the nurse. They weighed me at 59 kilos; I was 68 kilos only a month ago. The nurse told me to sit on a chair and he hit my genitals. Then he made me stand against the wall.

"After a while I was sent to my cell, a small room with a bunk bed. On the floor was a three centimetre thick mattress and three blankets. A guard told me, sleep on the floor if you sleep on the bed, we'll break your arms and legs.' I sat on the floor for half an hour. I heard screams and shouts of agony.

"They took me out and brought me to the clinic. On a table was a bowl of milk and rice. The same nurse who had beaten me before told me, 'Eat!' I refused. He said, 'This is the Detention Centre, not Nafha.' I said, 'Thank you, I'm on a hunger strike, I don't eat.'

"A senior three starred officer looking between 45 and 55 years old told a guard, 'Give him the bomb.' The guard hit my ears violently while, the nurse slapped by face. They swore at me, but I still refused to eat. Then the four started to hit me, led by the nurse."

"Also, 'Albert,' the officer and another guard with three stars, a simple guard, were sitting and didn't hit me. Also an officer with a beard didn't hit me. The savage beating continued for a long time. I fell on the floor. They told me to stand up but I couldn't, so they lifted me. While standing they pulled my legs out from under me, hit my head and I fell. When on the floor, they walked on my neck and face. One ground the



and at the Red Cross

sole of his shoe in my face." (On his right temple there is a swollen wound.) "I told him: 'I had a stomach operation' showed him the scar, 'and I have a heart problem.' Then the nurse asked me, 'Where is your heart? Gave me a strong punch in the chest.' (He showed signs of a beating on the left side of his rib cage.) "I asked him, 'Don't you have children? How will they live with Arabs in the future?' This probably made them madder." (He showed signs of beatings particularly wealts and stripes on his back in the presence of the officer.) "They kept beating me and I said I wouldn't eat even if they killed me.

"Next they brought an empty enema, with an attached tube the size of my little finger. Three times a guard tried to put the tube in my nostril, in and out, without liquid. Then he pushed it in and out of my throat twice and poured liquid in. I am convinced it was salt water I threw up on the clinic floor. Another prisoner was brought to clean up the vomit. It's amazing how such a large quantity of salt can dissolve in such a small volume of water. It was like drinking the Dead Sea. I told the nurse that it went into my lungs and I coughed.

"When they took me back to my room I vomitted again. All night long I felt as if there were a fire lit in my stomach. I didn't even have water to drink. I was feverish and sweating. Only in the morning did they bring me some water.

"I'm crying as I tell you this, not because I was broken, not at all, I cry because of the humiliation and the fact that I was helpless. I am continuing, and will continue this strike as long as the demands of the Nafha prisoners are not fulfilled."

Up to this point, Ya'qoub spoke, in the presence of that same officer 'Albert' that he accused of participating in his beating. Ya'qoub

told me this openly, although he knew he had to return to his isolation cell, under the mercy of the guards.

The story is not his alone. Attiye Sawarka, 34 years old, tells me in the presence of an officer that he suffers from ulcers. Sitting on a chair gripping his stomach, he says the guards beat him in the abdomen and that blood came out of his mouth. Till now he has pain. He was forced to eat rice and milk with a spoon.

Ishaq Maraghd entered the visiting room, very pale, holding his right side, complaining of intense pains in his chest and begging the officers to take him immediately to the doctor. He says he was beaten on his torso and force-fed through a tube. On seeing his condition an officer promised that he will be brought to a doctor. (He is now in hospital. — Ed.)

Jihad Jahshan, speaking in a barely audible voice, shows signs of beating and swelling on the lips and around the eyes. He repeats the same story as the first three.

Hani Issawi, repeats the same details, haltingly and with great effort. He was forced by beating into a chair. The guards then force fed him with salt water through a tube in his nose. He threw up immediately.

Tonight, July 22, the prison authorities announce that three prisoners were hospitalized because of pneumonia in Assaf Ha-Rofeh Hospital in Sarafand. One of the prisoners, Ali Shehadeh Muhammed Ja'fari, in prison since 1968, tried for life. DIED. (July 24, Ghassem Muhammed Halawa, also transfered to Ramle, DIED, Ed.)

One doesn't have to be a doctor or a pathologist to see the connection between brutal force feeding of salt water through a tube inserted in the nose or mouth — into the stomach or lungs — and 'death by pneumonia'

The Nafha prisoners case has become a rallying point for Palestinians living in the occupied territories. The Palestinian detainees hunger strike has spread to include Bir-al-Sabe, Shatta, Gaza, Askalon and al-Ramleh prisons. The relatives and supporters of prisoners at Nafha are holding a continuous sit-in-strike at the Jerusalem office of the International Red Cross. Daily demonstrations are being held in the main streets of Jerusalem, Gaza and many West Bank towns. Israeli troop presence throughout the occupied territories has been massively reinforced, with many arrests being made and a number of citizens being injured by police batons. In short, in the face of Zionist brutality and intransigence an open confrontation is taking place throughout occupied Palestine.

OCCUPATION

MASS DEMONSTRATIONS IN JERUSALEM AGAINST NEW ISRAELI LAW

Thousands of Palestinians came out onto the streets of occupied East Jerusalem on August 1, 1980 to protest against the passing of a law by the Israeli government endorsing the annexation of the Arab sector of the city and declaring "Unified Jerusalem" to be the capital of Israel. The demonstrations followed mass Friday prayers held in al-Aqsa Mosque. Some 6,000 people at the Damascus gate to the old city proceeded to march through the city's narrow streets shouting slogans against the law and against the Israeli occupation. Israeli border guards fired warning shots over the heads of the demonstrators as about 50 people were arrested.

Nablus Mayor Bassam al-Shaka'a defied orders issued by the military occupation authorities banning West Bank mayors from leaving their towns and joined the Jerusalem demonstration. Shaka'a, who lost both of his legs in an assassination attempt against him two months ago, was carried round the city in a chair borne on the shoulders of his supporters. He made a point of visiting the Red Cross Headquarters where the mothers and other relatives of the Palestinian detainees in Nafha jail have been staging sit-in and hunger strike.

RESTRICTED MOVEMENT IMPOSED ON MEMBERS OF NATIONAL GUIDANCE COMMITTEE AND JERUSALEM EDITORS

The Israeli occupation authorities summoned five prominent West Bank Palestinians to the military government HQ in Ramallah on August 7 and notified them of restricting orders against them, preventing them from leaving their respective towns or villages: They are al-Bireh Mayor Ibrahim Suleiman al-Tawil; Ma'moun al-Sayyed,

DIARY

Editor-in-Chief of the Jerusalem daily "al-Fajr"; Akram Haniyeh, Assistant Editor of "al-Shaab"; Bashir al-Barghouti, Editor-in-Chief of the weekly "al-Tali'a"; and Samiha Khalil, Head of the Family Welfare Society in al-Bireh. Additionally, Wahid Hamdala, mayor of Anabta and Ibrahim Daka, leader of the engineers' association in East Jerusalem, were also given restricting orders.

The Zionist banning orders have a two-fold purpose. The first is an attempt to silence the Palestinian press in the occupied territories. The banning orders for the editors of the 3 largest Palestinian newspapers came only 4 days after the offices of "al-Fajr" were bombed.

The second purpose is to crush the structure of the National Guidance Committee in the occupied territories which has led much of the public resistance to the Zionist occupation. All of the Palestinians restricted on August 7 were leading members in the NGC. The NGC was organized on October 1, 1978 to combat the Camp David plan for continuing the Zionist occupation.

In an interview a week before he received his banning order, Ibrahim Daka (Chairman of the NGC) warned that any Zionist move against the NGC was useless. He stated that the NGC was never officially recognized by the Zionists anyway and that they only allowed it a temporary open existence because they thought they could manipulate it. He stated that the resistance movement in the occupied territories had a long experience in adapting the methods and structure of the struggle to meet changed circumstances and that the resistance would not abate with any banning of the NGC. He finally added that in banning the NGC, the Zionists would only pave the way for a younger Palestinian leadership to take the stage and that they were more militant and determined than the older generation.

ARMED RESISTANCE

COMMANDO OPERATIONS IN JERUSALEM AND ON JERUSALEM-RAMLEH ROAD

Palestinian commandos operating inside the occupied territories on August 8 and 9 planted explosive charges in two locations in the Jerusalem region. The first went off in Zion Square in Jerusalem causing considerable material and human losses; the second exploded near a bar in the Latroun salient of the Jerusalem-Ramleh road frequented by Israeli military personnel. At least five soldiers were seriously injured in the blast. These two operations bring the total Palestinian commando attacks against Israeli targets this year to 79.

The Palestinian Military Spokesman issued the following two communiques:

— 75/80 Palestinian militants from Special Unit B operating the early hours of the morning of August 8 planted an explosive charge in the Zion Square shopping centre in Jerusalem. The charge went off at 5:40 a.m. smashing the windows in several showrooms and banks in the immediate area of the blast. A number of Israeli guards were injured. The Israeli police immediately began a thorough search for other charges. Our militants returned safely to base.

— 75/80 Palestinian militants from Special Unit A at dawn on August 9, planted a timed high-explosive charge in the Canada Bar in the Latroun region on the Jerusalem-Ramallah road, frequented by Israeli military personnel. The charge went off at 10:00 a.m. resulting in the death or injury of at least five Israeli soldiers or officers and the destruction of the bar. The Israeli security forces rushed to the scene of the explosion, encircled the area and arrested a number of Palestinian citizens. Our militants returned safely to base.



BASSAM SHAKA'A:

"PALESTINIANS DO NOT DOUBT THEIR RIGHT TO FREEDOM"

Despite the loss of his legs in a Zionist terrorist attack, Nablus Mayor Bassam Shaka'a returned to work last month with strengthened determination to resist the occupation. In an interview in his office at the end of July, Mayor Shaka'a expressed his concern about the striking prisoners in Nafha, the current Zionist moves against Lebanon and the overall repressive situation in the occupied territories. Below are his comments:

The assassination attempts carried out against West Bank mayors and the attempts to deport some of them is nothing but an escalation of the occupation campaign that aims at breaking the Palestinian national will and, as a consequence, trying to spark an evacuation of the area of its native inhabitants. It is obvious that the future of this region is gloomy in the current situation and forebodes more tension since the Israeli government continues to be insistent upon Camp David and the "self-rule" plan. Moreover, it is pushing ahead with Judaizing and annexing the whole occupied territories — especially Jerusalem. Recently, the Israeli Knesset discussed this issue and finalized resolutions concerning it despite the world outcry condemning the moves to annex Jerusalem.

Confiscation of land, building settlements in an attempt to encircle towns populated with the Arab majority, the opening of an extensive settlement road network inside the occupied territories, the repressive practices of the Israeli authorities taken against the people and the ban on the mayors which prevents them from meeting one another — all this is nothing but a continued intention to pursue a campaign of oppression.

Repressive measures do not exclude the prisoners. But the Palestinian prisoners have revolted against this reality and have thus demonstrated the high morale of the Palestinian nation even inside the prisons. Nafha prison embodies one side of the Israeli policy — the inhuman side and the illegal side. The prisoners began their hunger strike to protest these conditions. They want to struggle for human conditions that safeguard their dignity and rights as prescribed in law. But the Israelis continue insulting them and humiliating them. The Israelis have even attempted to force-feed them in a very savage way. Two prisoners were killed while being subjected to force-feeding while many prisoners face a very critical situation.

All this demonstrates that Israel is going on with its horrible campaign. This will cause more tension inside the occupied territories. The people inside the occupied territories do not doubt their right to freedom and their right to live on their own land in independence. All of them will stand steadfast in order to obtain the national rights in which they believe and they will resist all measures carried out by Israel to perpetuate the de facto situation it has depended on since 1948.

I believe that the Israeli aggressive policy will extend beyond the occupied territories to include the Arab world and especially Lebanon. Israel is trying to exploit the situation of Lebanon in order to weaken the Arab will and to counter the Palestinians outside the occupied territories. The military roads that Israel has built in southern Lebanon and the deployment of Israeli soldiers on Lebanese territory near the Syrian border, clearly manifests the fact that Israel is preparing a widescale aggression in order to implement the de facto situation. Israel refuses to recognize the right of peoples to freedom, life and independence.

The U.S., in its policy, continues to support Israeli expansionism and Israel's alliance with Arab agents such as Sadat. This ensures the possibility of new tension which places the whole region in danger. Israeli racist and expansionist policies have created this situation. I am pessimistic about the immediate future for our region and the occupied territories. Despite the change in international world opinion in terms of understanding the Palestinian issue and Palestinian demands both on the official and popular levels, in reality, these changes are not enough to achieve peace in the region as long as there is Sadat and America.

ISRAELI THEFT
OF PALESTINIAN
WATER RESOURCES

**"THE DESERT
IS BLOSSOMING;
THE FIELDS ARE
DRYING UP"**

(The following eyewitness report was published by the leading Norwegian daily "Dagbladet", on June 6, 1980. It gives a detailed account of the way the Israeli occupation authorities are strangulating the Palestinian West Bank village of El Uja and its agriculture by diverting its water to the new Israeli settlement of Gilgal.)



One of the few water taps in Beach refugee camp in Gaza

Tourists coming to the West Bank will compare the Palestinian village of El Uja and the nearby Kibbutz Gilgal and think: Indeed Israel is making the desert bloom! They do not know the connexion between the withering banana plantations of El Uja and the fresh gardens and tempting swimming pool of Gilgal. They do not know that to make the desert bloom in Gilgal, the fertile fields of El Uja had to dry up.

El Uja is situated near Jericho, the Palestinian town that is said to be the oldest continually inhabited town in the world, thanks to the water resources, which have given life to the oasis and to the people who have lived there for 7,000 years. The 2,000 inhabitants of the village El Uja have been growing their bananas and citrus fruits in the northern part of the Jericho oasis. They tapped water from a source in the highlands west of the village and brought it to the village. An open concrete water pipe, built with American help in 1954, leads down to the watering systems in the valley and to the village.

THE DROUGHT

Today the pipe is completely dry. Around El Uja the banana plantations are lying brown and sunburnt, where the plants last year stood like a close, green forest. The orange trees are still alive, but the dark green leaves are yellow and withered at a time when the fruits should hang ready for harvest. Even the pine trees which send their roots deep down into the earth, have the brown warning sign, indicating that drought death is approaching.

NEW WELLS TAKE THE WATER

Around the water source that served the fields of El Uja, the Israeli occupation authorities have drilled three deep wells. Motorized pumps lead the water through a pipe out to the newly-erected settlements. From the time of the first well in 1972, the water level of the water source of El Uja has sunk. In 1977 Paul Quiring, the leader of a U.S. religious charitable organization in the West Bank, declared to the American Congress that the water level had reached a third of the normal level, and that the Palestinians were worried about their source of livelihood. In 1978 well No. 3 was drilled, and in the summer of 1979 the water source of El Uja dried out completely. The last three years have been exceptionally dry, but even heavy rains cannot possibly save the water source now. The water will be caught up by the pumping systems of the settlement wells before the source of El Uja is filled. The channel where once 300 to 800 cubic meters of water streamed in an hour

now runs dry beside the water pipe of the Israeli colonies. You can feel with your hand on the cold metal pipe where the water has gone.

REJECTED BY THE AUTHORITIES

El Uja has appealed to the Israeli military authorities in the West Bank and asked them to stop the pumping away of the water, or at least to let the village have some of the water from the wells that have been drilled on El Uja's land. They also have applied for a permit to drill a village well themselves. The Israeli authorities say "no". They will only permit the local people to fetch household water from a tap on the waterpipe. From this tap those of the El Uja population still left have to fill their plastic cans from day to day and carry it home. Just enough to survive at the mercy of the occupiers.

By the tap, the concrete wall in the now dry channel has been broken down to an opening. It was here that for the first time the occupation authorities attacked the water supply of El Uja. They demanded what they called the "share of water of the people that ran away in 1967", and led it over into their water pipe.

THE KIBBUTZ GILGAL

Gilgal a kibbutz of 80 families is one of the Israeli colonies that gets water from the pipe. According to the tourist manual it was first erected in 1970 as a *nahal*, a military outpost, which is usual for these colonies. It is named after the place where according to the Bible, Joshua and the Israelites camped before they conquered Jericho and destroyed it. On the road to Gilgal you pass empty houses. Those who lived there were driven away by the drought. It is sunburnt, yellow-brown and dusty earth where yellow tufts of grass and bone dry tistles are still holding on. When the water supplies are closed, the desert soon gets the upper hand in the Jordan valley, where the temperature quickly reaches 40 degrees C.

GREEN LAWNS

But in Gilgal new-cut grass lawns and flowering decorative shrubs are waiting, like in Norwegian villa district. The typical prefab-housing sections found in all the colonies both here and in Israel, lie in rows, white-painted and well-kept, and on the outskirts of the colony the swimming-pool is glittering beside a beautiful garden with colourful exotic flowers.

But a person who uses his eyes will see that the big trees that throw shade on the lawns were planted long



West Bank Palestinian wells drying up from Zionist deep drilling techniques

ISRAELI THEFT
OF PALESTINIAN
WATER RESOURCES

"THE DESERT
IS BLOSSOMING;
THE FIELDS ARE
DRYING UP"



Plenty of water for new Jewish settlements

before 1970. And the stones that decorating the side of the drive, must have been used in a watering-channel by people who lived on this land before Israel occupied it in 1967.

THE AREA OF JERICHO

Until 1967, about 79,000 Palestinian refugees lived in the Jericho area. They came from the district of Lydda-Ramleh in 1947-48, when the state of Israel was erected. The sum of the population here was about 150,000. During the occupation in 1967 most of them fled again across the river to Jordan. Only 22,000 are left. In addition 200 Israeli settlers have come here. Today the settlers control 50% of the land around Jericho, confiscated Palestinian property given them by the occupation authorities for a token sum. To entice Israeli "settlers" into living here, they are given ready built houses with air conditioning, cheap and one tractor per two families. Roads, water, a sewage system, electricity and telephones are ready when they move in.

THE STRUGGLE FOR WATER

Plans exist for a total of 8,000 settlers to the West Bank by 1995. Still they will only make up 1% of the

population if the Palestinians remain. That is why the struggle for control of the water is so important. If you don't have water, you have to move. He who controls the water supplies is the lord of the West Bank. That is how the Palestinians explain the systematic efforts of the Israeli authorities to confiscate, not only the earth, but still more important — the water.

El Uja is not exceptional. Among the others who today see their fields die in the drought, is Musa Alami, the Palestinian who with aid from the Norwegian Refugees' Council is running an agricultural school for young boys just east of Jericho.

The UN aid organization for Palestinian refugees, UNWRA, which runs a camp by El Uja, has problems too. Now the camp has to get water supplies driven in by tank car every day.

The Palestinians of the West Bank look at the ghost town El Uja and fear that even Jericho, the 7,000 year old oasis shall be the next victim of the occupation. Two wells are already being drilled near the water source of Ain es Sultan, one of the two water sources which is the basis for life for one of the oldest towns in the world.

ZIONISM IN PRACTICE



Sharon presides over new West Bank settlement

NEW ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN THE GALILEE AND GOLAN

Israeli Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon called on August 1 for the application of Israeli laws in the occupied Syrian territory of the Golan Heights. Speaking to Israeli settlers during an inauguration ceremony of a new settlement "Moshav Yanatan" in Southern Golan, Sharon said that "we must immediately establish settlements in the West Bank to create in an irreversible situation."

Eliahu Isaacson, head of the Union of Israeli Farmers, announced on August 5, that his organization is planning to establish 11 settlement outposts in the Galilee and the Golan to accommodate 1,500 Israeli families. "Four of the settlement posts have already been established," Isaacson said. "They will eventually become full-fledged agricultural settlements," he added.

Israeli bulldozers began work on August 6, on new roads near the villages of Deir al-Hatab and Azmout, to the east of Nablus, in order to link the new settlement of

Elon Moreh to the lands of Rujeib village. This was the originally planned site for the settlement, but a High Court decision, belatedly observed that the Gush Emunim settlers had to move. The new stretches of road are on expropriated land, and many villagers feel that the intention is to make another attempt at establishing a settlement in the Rujeib area.

ZIONIST SETTLEMENT PLANS ALSO IN GAZA STRIP

The Israeli Finance Minister Yigael Hurvitz on July 22, 1980 allocated IL 100 million from the state budget for the current fiscal year for the establishment of a fourth settlement in the Gush Katif complex in the Gaza Strip. The Israeli authorities recently published plans for the establishment of six new settlements in the area. The Israeli daily *Davar* on July 22, reported that the Israeli authorities plan to establish a new settlement outpost in the Golan Heights. The practice of establishing such outposts as a preliminary to building larger settlements has been adopted extensively in Galilee.

ISRAELI SENTENCES

The Israeli military court in Nablus on August 4, 1980 sentenced the Palestinian citizen Ahmad Salah, aged 25, from the village of Bedy, near Nablus, to 25 years imprisonment. He was accused of many charges, including being in command of a cell of the Palestinian Resistance in the occupied territories. The same court also sentenced the rest of his group, including: Muhammad Shanat (15 years in jail); Ibrahim Taha (14 years); and Hussam Ahmad (13 years).

AL-FAJR OFFICES BOMBED

An explosive charge placed in front of the offices of the Arabic language Jerusalem daily "*al-Fajr*" went off at 3:30 a.m. on August 3, causing considerable damage to the premises. This attack follows warnings to the Arabic press in Jerusalem that they face dire consequences if they continue to profess support for the PLO. The attack has provoked an angry reaction from Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Ma'moun al-Sayyed, Editor-in-Chief of "*al-Fajr*" held a press conference on August 3 in which he affirmed that the crime was politically motivated and constituted an attempt to quell the Palestinian opposition to the self-rule scheme. Al-Sayyed stressed that this crime was not the first of its kind, and indeed was not entirely unexpected. Al-Sayyed revealed that he has received a number of threatening messages from Zionist gangs warning him to close his paper down by July 2 or face the consequences. Noting that the Israeli authorities clearly considered that their blanket censorship of the Arabic press was inadequate and had resorted to cruder means. Al-Sayyed said that he and his fellow journalists would continue their struggle until the end.

FACING THE PHALANGIST ONSLAUGHT

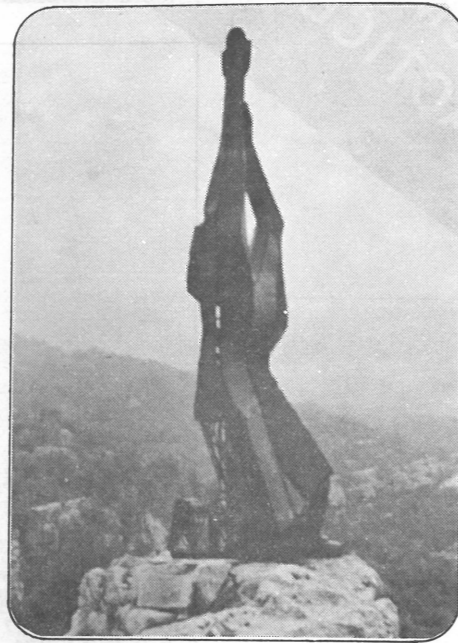
ARMENIANS OF BOURJ HAMMOUD: CHOICE OR ULTIMATUM?

On July 14, following the predictable attack on the National Liberal Party militia, a Phalangist spokesman stated: "The Lebanese Forces suggest that, just as has happened with the National Liberal Party, our differences with the Armenians be resolved without fighting." What are these "differences" between Armenians and the Phalangists?

Armenians, like the Palestinians, have come to Lebanon as exiles. Between 1915 and 1918 the Turkish irredentist regime, supported by Western Imperialism, massacred over one million Armenians and drove the remainder out of the land which had been their home for thirty-two centuries. Since their dispersal, Armenians have contributed to the cultural and economic progress of Lebanon and the Arab nation as a whole.

Most of Lebanon's 180,000 Armenians live in Bourj-Hammoud, Nabaa, and surrounding areas of East Beirut. In 1975, the leadership of the Armenian community announced that Armenians would pursue a policy of "neutrality" in the Lebanese conflict. Although the Armenian Dashnak party collaborated with the rightists during the Nabaa conflict in 1976, and a few Armenian mercenaries fought as Phalangists prior to 1977, the Armenian leadership verbally maintained the position of "neutrality".

The events of the last three years however, have proven cruelly that where fascism is concerned, there is no such thing as "neutrality". Ironically it was the Nabaa conflict of August, 1976 which geographically isolated Armenians of East Beirut from the Palestinian revolution and the National Movement, enabling the rightists to extort, murder, and massacre Armenians without fear of military reprisal. During the civil war, the Phalangists demanded thirty million Lebanese pounds from the Armenians and, through murder and terror they eventually got it.



Armenian martyrs' monument blown up by Phalangists

The October 1978 shelling of predominantly Armenian areas in East Beirut, brought about as a result of rightist presence in Bourj-Hammoud, claimed 1000 lives, and resulted in destruction and damage to half of the houses and eighty per cent of the businesses in the area. In the after-math of the shelling, uniformed rightist soldiers using military vehicles, looted Armenian houses and shops. Since then, the Armenian citizenry has been the target of increased extortion and murder.

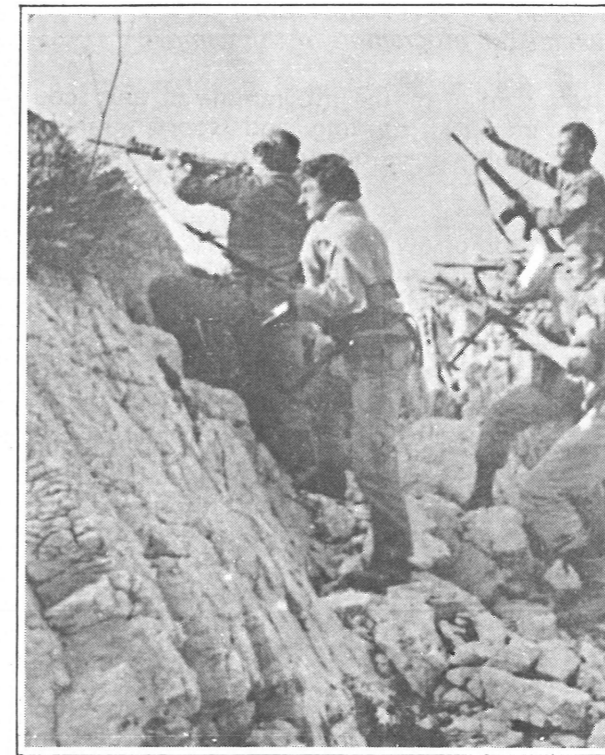
A monument erected in Bikfayah by the Armenian community to show its gratitude to the Lebanese people for aiding survivors of the 1915 genocide was deliberately bombed in November of 1978 by the Phalange. One week before the sixty-fourth commemoration of the Armenian massacres, the rightists confiscated commemorative posters, took over Armenian centers in Ashrafiyeh and held Armenian citizens hostage. Still, some elements of the Armenian leadership refused to acknowledge the imminent danger. (One Armenian parliamentary representative posed for photographs-flanked by Beshir and Amin Gemayel in the shadow of the ruined Bikfayah monument which the Phalange destroyed the year before. At the very moment that the cameras were clicking, five Armenian youths were being tortured with beating and electrical shocks in the Phalangist-occupied "Hayashen" Armenian center.

Two weeks later, Phalangists opened up with machine-gun fire on a group of unarmed Armenians, killing two and wounding several others. This resulted in the heavy Armenian-Phalangist fighting of May 6-9. Four Armenians died fighting, and Phalangist casualties were

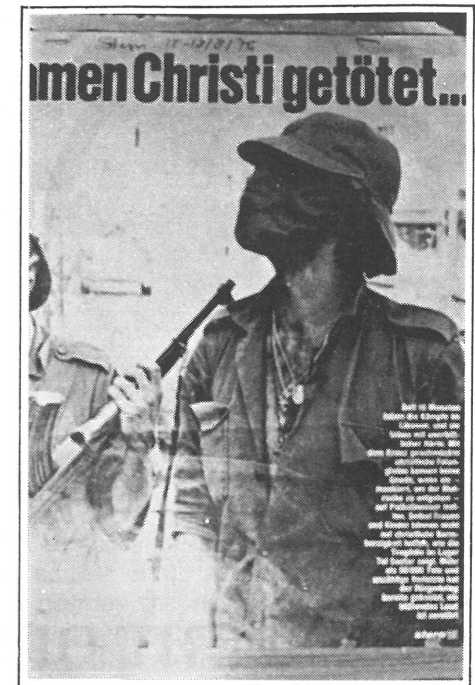
reported at eight dead and many wounded. The Phalangists used rockets, heavy machine guns, and light canon fire. On one occasion during a temporary cease-fire, Phalangists crossed to their enemy's side, saying Armenians should not fight their Phalangist "brothers". After dismantling a sandbag barrier, the Phalangists returned to their positions and fired an R.P.G. rocket through the gap in the barrier. Finally, a shaky cease-fire was negotiated after many Armenian concessions, including the closing of guard posts and defensive positions and general disarmament of Armenian areas.

During that summer, Armenians living in Ashrafiyeh and Bourj-Hammoud were harassed, abducted, tortured, and murdered. Rightist terror extended to individuals and institutions which refused to cooperate with them. "Ara-rat", an Armenian printing press, was destroyed by a Phalangist bomb. "Stika" Devletian, head of the Armenian Hunchakian party militia, and Zohrab Keshishian, head of the Armenian Liberal Democratic Party Militia, also were targets of rightist assassins.

The events of September 1979 were designed by the Phalange to prove to Armenians that they would not stop short of massacre to drive Armenians out of Lebanon. On the 17th of September, Phalangists, under the pretext of closing gambling houses, again attacked the community. They broke into homes, taking hostages (mostly women and children), stopping Armenians at roadblocks and gunning them



Phalangists attack Armenians in September 1979



Phalangist bandit

down on the side of the road. Fifteen hostages were murdered. In the ensuing fighting in which Phalangists used heavy machine guns, rockets, mortars, and artillery, four Armenian fighters were killed and many more were wounded. Another cease-fire was negotiated in late September.

After their most recent attacks on the Ahrar forces, it is clear that the Phalange, in their push to monopolize all power in rightists areas, will move to establish direct military domination over the Armenians of East Beirut. According to the Phalange, Armenians must now "Chose" once and for all whether they are with the interests of the "foreigners" (the patriotic forces fighting for the unity of Lebanon) or whether they are with Gemayel's Zionist collaborators.

It is in the interests of the Zionist state and its U.S. backers to dislocate patriotic forces and Arab nationalist elements from Lebanon. Imperialism and Zionism have seen it advantageous to disperse Armenians-that concentrated and potentially vocal minority with national aspirations-from an area of strategic interest. The CIA-Zionist inspired civil war has served to accomplish just this. Since 1975, 40,000 Armenians have left Lebanon.

The Phalangists, as the remote control device of Zionism have now presented Lebanese Armenians with this choice ultimatum: massacre and mass-expulsion from rightist-controlled areas, or renunciation of national rights and acceptance of military occupation and Phalangist terror.



Tal al-Zaatar Scouts

THE SPIRIT OF TAL AL-ZAATAR SURVIVES IN ITS CHILDREN

On August 12, 1976, the Palestinian camp of Tal al-Zaatar in eastern Beirut fell in the hands of rightist forces. The camp resisted for 51 days against terror, hunger, thirst and disease. The heroic and steadfast spirit of the camp's masses defeated the fascist siege and the 70 attacks to storm the camp. Deception and trickery were the only ways in which the Phalangists and their allies could occupy the camp. Under the deceiving cover of an evacuation of the innocent inhabitants of the camp, gangs of fascists began to shoot at old men, women, and children with machine guns. The outcome a massacre: 3000 martyrs and 6000 wounded. On August 13, 1976, the International Press Service (IPS) reported: "The first thing that strikes you as you approach the camp is the all pervading stench of death. Then, as you make your way into the camp's perimeter with the hordes of rightist looters — most of them wearing surgical masks because of the stench — you begin to see the bodies. Bodies everywhere. On the road into the camp, the mangled and barely recognizable remains of a woman, now being casually crushed into the ground by the cars of the looters. In the twisting alleyways between the huts and shacks which made up the camp, scores of bodies lie twisted among the pathetic contents of their houses, all thrown out into the alleyways..... In the camp itself virtually all the bodies I saw were of women, children and old men." The meager houses in Tal al-Zaatar fell down, but not the revolutionary spirit of its people. Palestinian children carry in their blood the seeds of Tal al-Zaatar.

This summer Beit Atfal al-Somoud (Steadfastness House) of Tal al-Zaatar has been holding a scouting

camp for the children of Tal al-Zaatar and other refugee camps in Lebanon. "Palestine" visited the camp, and had this interview with the supervisors and children of the camp.

LIBERATION OF PALESTINE IS OUR GOAL

Q: (Adnan is a scout supervisor.) Adnan, can you tell us what's the programme of this camp?

A: It is similar to the programme of any scout camp. It includes scouting and sports training, religious and art education, trips to the mountains, and visits to the cultural establishments nearby. Today, we will pay a visit to al-Hanan Childrens Village, and tomorrow, we will visit Issad al-Tofoula School. We likewise invite them to visit our camp and attend some of our activities.

Q: What's your educational programme for the children?

A: We have many cultural and entertaining activities for them. We try our best to make them feel that they are really in a scouting atmosphere. This will help them get rid of bad traits and select useful qualities.

Q: Can you tell us something about the organization of the Palestinian scouts in general?

A: The scouting idea reached the Arab World through two Indian students: Abdel Jabbar and Abdel Ghaffar Khairi. They founded the first group in Lebanon at the American University. Then they

moved to Palestine and founded there the first group in 1907. In 1912, another group had been founded at San George School in Jerusalem. At that time, we joined the international scouting organization, but the 1948 disaster affected Palestinian scouting activities and its organizations were terminated. In 1970, the Palestinian Organization of Scouts and Directors was founded in Beirut. It has four other branches in the Arab countries. It belongs to the High Council of Youth and Sports of the PLO.

Q: Are there any scouting activities in the Occupied Territories, and is there any connection between you and the groups there?

A: The scouting activities in the occupied territories are almost unavailable. There are no real activities, because of the repressive practices of the Zionist occupation forces.

Q: Please tell us from where the children come, and what's their background?

A: Our groups are directly connected with the Tal al-Zaatar establishment (Beit Atfal al-Somoud). So, most of the children come from Tal al-Zaatar families. Others come from Bourj al-Barajneh, Sabra and Shatila Camps. All the children here have lost at least one of their parents. Some have lost all their families. They lost compassion and happiness. We do our best to compensate them for that. We try to create a family atmosphere for them as much as possible. We prepare them to be revolutionaries and make them understand why their parents and families have sacrificed their lives. We do not isolate them from the general Palestinian atmosphere. They visit

other schools and mingle with the children there. All the activities of Beit Atfal al-Somoud and the scouts helped the children to understand their situations and feel proud of what happened to them.

Q: How many children do you have in the camp?

A: There are 80 children in the camp. Their camping has been divided into two periods according to their ages: the first group is 7-11 years old, the second is 11-16.

Q: What are some of the educational activities in the camp?

A: We have a library, and the children can borrow books from it. Some of the children are responsible for its management. There is a periodical announcement issued by Beit Atfal al-Somoud family. This circular includes educational, artistic, military and political subjects, besides the news and activities of the Beit al-Somoud organization. We teach them the history of Palestine and some information about the Arab World.

CHILDREN OF WAR

My name is Najah, I'm 13 year old. I'm from Tal al-Zaatar Camp.

Q: Tell us something about Tal al-Zaatar.

There had been much war in the camp. No water and no food. They killed women who went to bring water. They sniped at them. Great numbers of

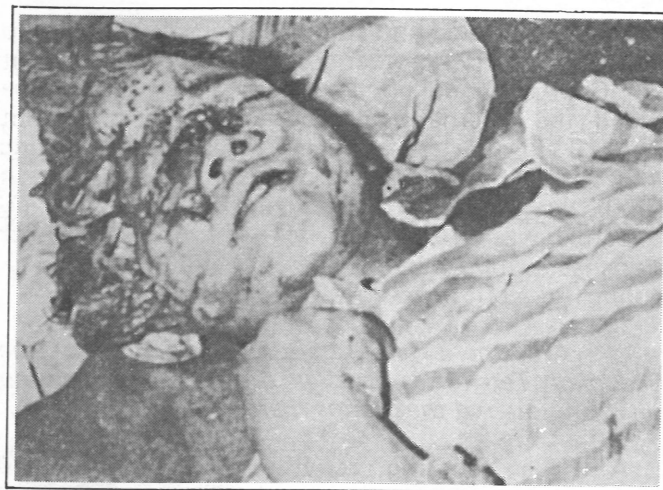


After the siege of Tal al-Zaatar — the spirit lives on



mothers died. They killed men and children. They tied a man called Ali Salim to two cars: one leg to each car, and split him up. My mother died when she went to bring water for us. My brothers were very thirsty and hungry. She had been hit by a shell while she was coming back. Her two legs were amputated. Some people took her to the hospital. Her whole body was hit by shrapnel. My father was killed also. When they let people go out of the camp, my father was holding my small brother. They took my brother, put him on a rock, then slaughtered my father.

My name is Leila. I'm 14 years old. I'm from Tal al-Zaatar.



The victims of Tal al-Zaatar: the children, women and the elderly

Q: Please tell us something about what happened there.

There was no food and no water in Tal al-Zaatar, after a long time of siege. My mother went to bring us some food. A bullet hit her while she was coming back. They buried her in Tal al-Zaatar. We did not see her. My father also was killed in the camp. He was trying to hide us away from the shelling, but shrapnel hit him and he began to bleed. There had been nobody to help my father, to take him to the hospital, or stop the bleeding. We were weeping and shouting. We were really scared, but no help. In the morning, we saw the room full of blood. Some people came and took him. Since then, we never saw him.

My name is Butros. I'm from Gisir al-Basha Camp. I'm 15 years old

Q: Do you remember how you came out of Gisir al-Basha?

The camp was besieged. Suddenly, they attacked the camp with many tanks. The defenders were hit, and there were no more fighters to protect the camp. Then everybody alive ran away. I myself fled through a mountain. Then I passed through the Museum area and went to my relatives in the western part of Beirut. My father was killed at his barricade. They sniped at him. A bullet hit him in the spleen. He survived for only three days, then died. My mother is still alive.

SUMMER CAMP

My name is Ilham. I'm 12 years old, and have come from Beit al-Somoud. I'm in charge of my tent. There are 7 girls in the tent. We wake up at 6 o'clock for sports. Then we take milk, have some rest, and go to bring our breakfast. I tell the girls what they should do, and I myself have some job similar to my colleagues. When we hear the whistle, we run to bring the orders and tell them to our groups.

My name is Siham, from Borj al-Barajneh Camp. I share in different projects. For instance, I set up the tent with my friends. I bring them the food for all of the meals.

Samira: I mostly love lectures, because they help us to understand things we do not know. I also love trips to the mountains.

Nada: I love to guard the camp at night. I like night parties and trips to the mountains.

My name is Azba Ali from Tal al-Zaatar. I love the scouting lectures. They are very useful to us. I write notes from these lectures in my notebook to understand them more and more. They teach us how to tie ropes, how to guard, and how to understand different types of plants. They train us how to be strong, and depend only on ourselves. I also love to climb mountains.

Q: Can everybody explain the activities he loves most?



Morning roll call



Saluting the Palestinian flag

A: Butros (15): I love camping life. It teaches us to depend on ourselves.

Ahmad Mouharib (12): I love to have everything clean in the camp. I wash the dishes, and leave them clean always.

Nadhmi Maroof (12): I love the lectures about leadership.

Khalid Sha'aban (12): I love watching the night. I love to depend on myself.

Ali Debiq (13): I love trips to the mountains. I love to know the people around me.

Haider Shahroor (12): I love climbing mountains.

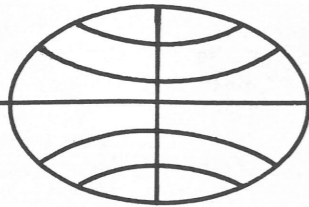
Issa Ahmad (14): I love scouting lectures. They teach us how to tie ropes; how to set up the tent, and how to be independent. The political lectures teach us a lot about our country, Palestine. They tell us what the Zionists did to our people in Deir Yassin and Kafr Qassem. They teach us to explain the Palestinian Cause to others.

Q: Let's hear a song from you:

All the children gathered together and began to sing:

My gun sprang out of my wounds,
Oh, My Revolution,
My gun sprang out,
No power in the world
Could take my gun
From my hands.

When we left the camp, the children were still singing, and their songs' echo spread through nature around them.



BOLIVIAN ARMY MOVES AGAINST DEMOCRATIC FORCES

FASCIST COUP IN BOLIVIA

Once again, the fascist military junta in Bolivia moved and ousted the legitimate civilian president. On July 17, army troops took over strategic points in the main cities, disavowing the authority of the interim president, Mrs. Lydia Gueiler. The coup which was the fourth in the past two years, and the 189th in the country's 155 years of independence, was led by Army General Luis Garcia Meza. The military junta stormed the Government house in the capital of La Paz and arrested president Gueiler along with her cabinet. The troops obliged Senora Gueiler to resign as a first step toward throwing her into exile.

On the pretext of reversing an 'electoral fraud', the military made their way to block the election of the left-leaning presidential candidate Hernan Siles Zuaza, who had won the largest number of popular votes last June and appeared assured of victory in the runoff ballot which was scheduled for early August. Immediately after the takeover, the military disbanded the Congress, imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew. Most key political figures were forced to go under-

ground to prepare for resistance. The military moved rapidly to crush the resistance waged by labour unions, students and peasants who called for a general strike to confront the fascist coup. The murder and witch-hunt waged by the military junta exposes its hostility to democratic elections and human rights, as well as to the movement of the people which has been strengthened as the elections proved earlier. The rightist forces which are receiving implicit support from American aggressive circles, have long been trying to prevent the elections which were about to bring a return to democratic conditions. When their efforts failed, they staged the putsch with the aim of not only silencing the democratic and anti-imperialist forces in this Andean country, but also to hit at the anti-imperialist movement in the whole of the South American continent, which after the defeat of the Somoza dictatorship a year ago and the battles in El-Salvador, has taken a considerable upswing.

ARMY MOVES TO SMASH DEMOCRACY

Last November, Mrs. Gueiler who was the president of the Congress took over following the collapse of the military coup which was led by the hard-drinking Colonel Alberto Natusch. This regime lasted just 16 days and collapsed due to the widespread civilian resistance and



Workers resist...



new fascist leader Gen. Luis Garcia Meza

condemnation abroad. The present coup came as a result of the unhappiness of the military about the loss of the privileges which they enjoyed, and which Mr. Hernan Siles described as "running the country as their personal fiefs."

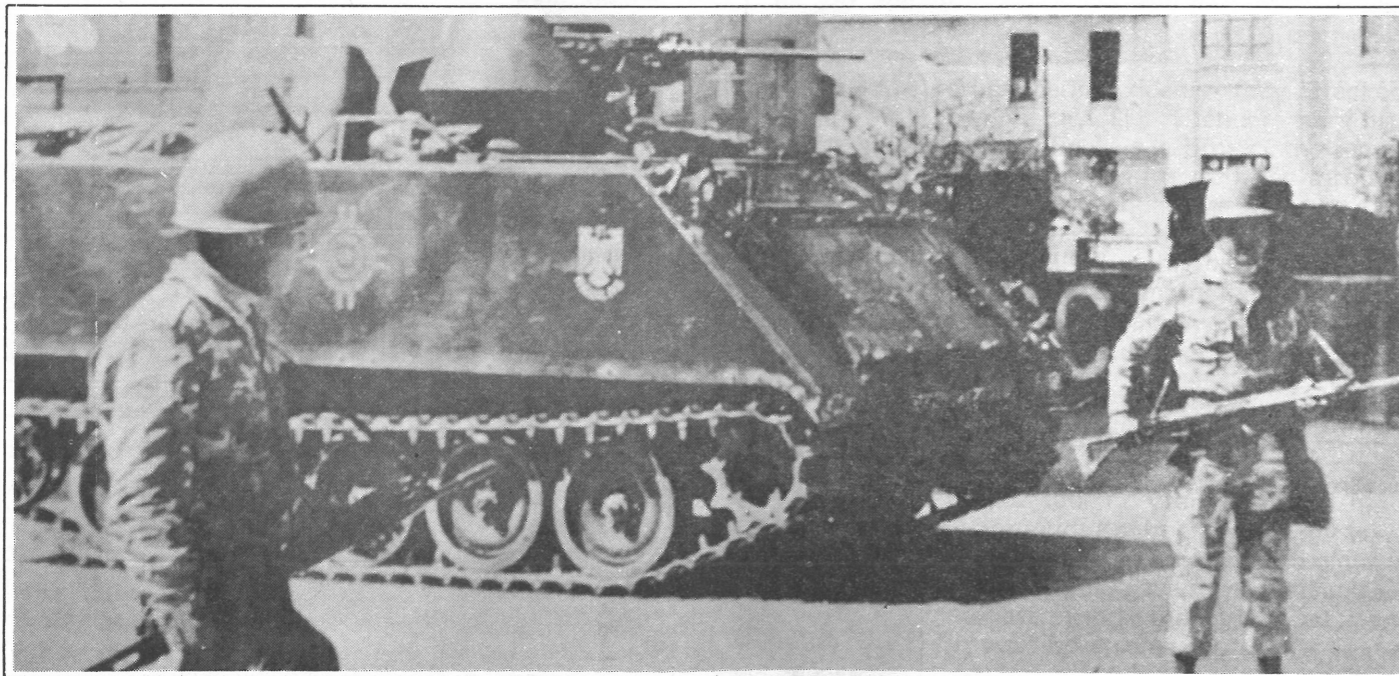
Following the takeover, General Meza announced that no further "electoral adventures" would be permitted in Bolivia. Moreover, the military junta banned the activities of trade unions and professional organisations. In an attempt to clamp down on the raging opposition staged by the tin miners, troops and tanks attacked the mining centres south of the capital La Paz. The *New York Times* reported on July 21, that about 5000 armed miners, mostly Indians blocked roads with trucks and dynamite charges. The Democratic Solidarity Radio Network which was formed by five labour unions, reported heavy clashes in the zinc mining district of Santa Ana, 400 miles south west of La Paz, and reported that workers resisted the advance of the troops. At the same time peasants set up road blocks. The students' union at La Paz University which comprises 50,000 students called for utmost alert. Many Catholic parishes and priests were attacked.

Reports from La Paz said that hundreds of people were arrested in line with lists drawn up jointly with the Argentine military intelligence. The American weekly *Time* reported on July 28, that there were ominous signs that the junta had adopted the chilling terroristic tactics by Argentine bosses." As in Argentina, a number of

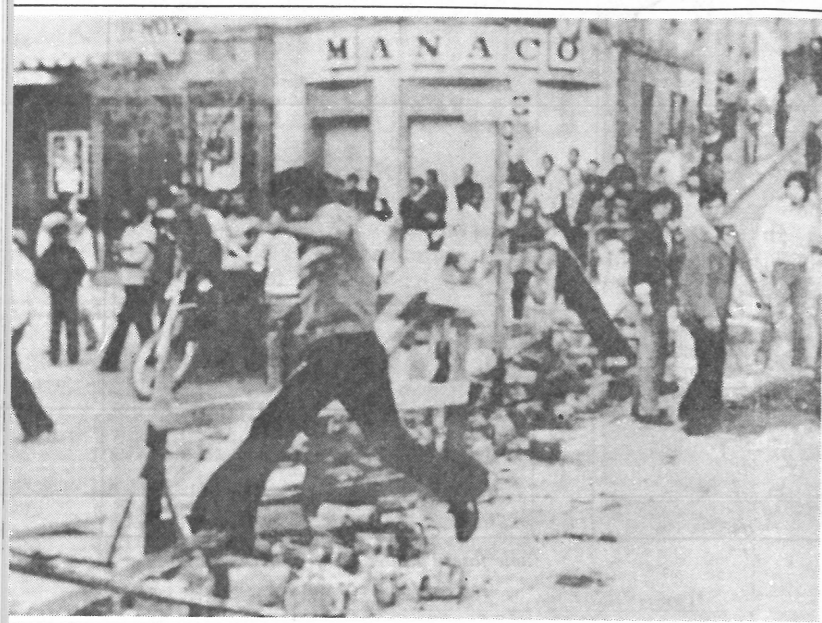
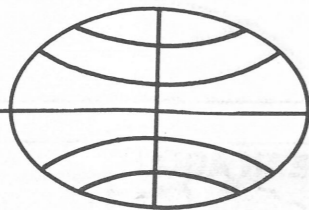
activists simply disappeared after being kidnapped by plainclothed thugs in cars without license plates, or using ambulances. In the context of strangling the mass uprising, the military, Junta outlawed the Central Labour Organisation. The move the military, said was "necessary to banish definitely the influence of those who have used the unions' leadership as an instrument in the service of foreign and anti-national ideologies." The Democratic German news agency ADN reported on August 2, that the military junta has decreed an industrial conscription wherewith every Bolivian is liable to be conscripted for two years of "patriotic" service. The Venezuela paper *El Mundo* reported on August 2, that the military has threatened all journalists with legal action for publishing news and reports not convenient to the regime.

SOUTH AFRICA; EGYPT AND ISRAEL COME TO THE AID OF THE BOLIVIAN JUNTA

The "*International Herald Tribune*" reporting from La Paz, Bolivia, on August 6 stated that "the only nations to have granted formal recognition to the junta are Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, Israel, Taiwan, Paraguay, Uruguay and South Africa." From this club of fascists racists and zionists "Israel and South Africa have offered military and economic assistance." Chile while not net yet, having joined this club is reported to be "looking favorably on the new rulers".



Bolivian army tanks roll in to command the streets of La Paz



Workers' barricades go up in La Paz

A COUP DESTINED TO COLLAPSE

The present regime was received with a great outcry and condemnation both inside and outside the country. The Bolivian opposition parties formed a clandestine government under the leadership of Hernan Zuaza who called on the Bolivian parties to unite in one front to defend democracy. Moreover he called for an uprising against the junta. "We are experiencing repression without precedent in history of barracks revolts", he said.

VIOLENCE CONTINUES IN TURKEY

Turkey has been in the grip of political violence since 1975 with a rapid increase of resulting deaths. According to official figures there were 82 in 1976, 231 in 1977, 832 in 1978, and 1200 in 1979. This year the official figure is already well over 1,500. Western countries, worried by developments in Turkey, are pouring in money in an attempt to avert an economic collapse. But most economic experts argue that Turkey's cure is not in more economic aid alone but structural changes including the reduction of the countries huge military expenditures. Turkey, the poorest country in Europe, has the second largest army in NATO

On July 26, the Catholic Church in Bolivia issued a communique condemning the acts of terror and murder. It called on international bodies to help put an end to acts in violation of human rights in Bolivia. The foreign diplomatic corps in La Paz called on the armed forces to supply information on the prisoners, who include COB leader Juan Lechim, some Catholic priests and ministers of the deposed government of president Lydia Gueiler.

The coup has brought a wave of protests from civilian governments in Latin America. Bolivia's fellow members of the Andean Pact—Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Ecuador—are planning to impose sanctions against the new government. The United States has cut off all but humanitarian aid to Bolivia. An EEC source in Lima, Peru said that the EEC has decided not to ratify a trade deal with Bolivia, and that they condemn the coup without reservation. Several Bolivian diplomats based in Europe have resigned in protest of the coup including those based in London, Rome, Geneva, Belgrade, and Paris. Demonstrations were organised in some Western European capitals in protest of the military rule, mainly in Paris and Copenhagen.

Bolivia is one of the poorest countries in Latin America, with a foreign debt of \$3 billion and a 25% rate of inflation. Added to this is the isolation of the regime in the international arena. There is now strong and well organized resistance by the miners who comprise 65% of the industrial workers. All these factors indicate that the lot of the present ruling junta will not be better than its predecessors.

SALVADORIAN LIBERATION ORGANISATIONS BEAT OFF JUNTA OFFENSIVE

The Salvadorian peoples struggle for democracy and justice has entered its highest stage in response to provocations and acts of terrorism by the ruling junta and its paramilitary organisations. The four armed liberation organisations fighting under a joint supreme command have liberated large parts of northern El-Salvador. On August 6, the junta launched the largest offensive against the patriots so far. Nevertheless, the liberation organisations have beaten off the offensive. The junta had to admit on August 7, that in heavy fighting dozens of its soldiers were killed and many more wounded.

SHORT STORY

The Haunted House

By Sami Hadawi

Sami Hadawi was born in 1904 in Jerusalem. During the past twenty years, he has lectured extensively and written numerous pamphlets and monographs on the Palestine question. He is the author of "Palestine: Loss of a Heritage", "The Palestine Diary 1914-1945" and 1945-1948 and "Bitter Harvest. Palestine

1914-1979." The "Haunted House" was enclosed in a letter sent to "Palestine". In his letter Mr. Hadawi said "although I am a political writer... It hurts no one to dream and helps us old folks into a deep slumber... The enclosed article tells my own story in fiction form."

The Jewish family living in the house on top of the hill in the Katamon Quarter of Jerusalem rushed out in panic screaming that their house was haunted. Their neighbours, hearing the turmoil, came out into the street to see what was happening. In no time, the residents of the area crowded into the road in front of the house, gazing towards it as if expecting to see a ghost emerge at any moment.

No one dared to enter the house for the rest of the night as they kept vigil from the outside; and with the dawn of day, some of the young men took up courage and ventured towards the building entering it cautiously. They found nothing unusual or suspicious and came out and told the others. They said that they believed the residents might have imagined seeing something which frightened them, and suggested that the residents should go back as there was nothing to fear.

Asked to elaborate on what they thought they had seen, the head of the household was most emphatic in his story and said that as they were sitting to dinner when suddenly the shadow of a man dressed in a white robe and carrying a staff in his right hand was seen standing at the doorway and told them in a hollow but distant voice that they were intruders in a house which had been taken away from its Arab owner by force of arms more than thirty years ago and that now he wanted them to vacate it.

The apparition pointed out that the building had been constructed in 1933 by the Arab owner from his own savings, and stated that under the foundation stone the owner had placed—according to Christian Arab tradition—a copy of the Holy Bible with a few silver coins in a tin case for good luck and offered a short prayer in the presence of the builders which he quoted as follows:

"Dear Lord, bless this house which I am about to construct, bless my family which will inhabit it, and make it the shelter and home of my descendants to occupy in happiness and prosperity for all time."

The figure in white then told us that the owner and his wife had two children born to them in the house and that they had lived happily in it for fourteen years before that fateful day in April 1948 when they were ousted by the Zionist forces. On locking the entrance before fleeing, the Arab owner once again offered a prayer in these words:

"Dear Lord, please protect our home from all harm, and allow us to return and resume our living in peace and security for the rest of our lives."

The stranger accused us of being usurpers of property by occupying the home of an Arab owner without any legal right or his permission.

THE HAUNTED HOUSE

He warned that if we wished to see no harm come to us, we should vacate the premises immediately and not return. With this he disappeared as he had come, leaving no trace behind him. On closer questioning, the curious neighbours learned that the apparition was an old man, a Christian from his prayers, and an Arab by reason of his looks. His presence was so real that all members of the family testified to the same thing that they witnessed the same sight and heard the same warning.

As he stood in the street pondering what to do next, the head of the household began to relate to curious by-standers how he came to live in the haunted house. He said that about thirty years ago, he arrived in Jerusalem from the United States with his bride under the 'ingathering of the exiles' programme, and the Israeli Government had allotted to him the property they now lived in at a very reasonable rental.

He said he was lucky to find himself assigned to the Katamon Quarter—one of the outstanding residential areas of the City in which the elite of the Arab and British communities had lived during the period of the Mandate. Each home was a villa by itself, standing in a spacious garden filled with a variety of trees, bushes and flowers. The property he lived in contained a vine-arbor which produced over 300 bunches of grapes a year, five pistachio trees of full bearing, other fruit trees, bougainvillea creepers of different colours, and an empty canary aviary close to the kitchen entrance.

After establishing himself in a lucrative engineering post and living luxuriously in Katamon, it was only natural for him and his wife to decide to settle permanently in Jerusalem. They arranged to sell their home in the United States at a profit, and with part of the price realized, they purchased the Arab property from the Israeli Government at a price far below its market value. Two children have since been born to them and, until the incident, they have lived happily in the house. They never gave a thought as to who were the previous owners, what happened to them, and how the Israeli Government came to acquire the right of disposal of the property for its own benefit.

The appearance of the apparition and the warning he gave made it clear to the occupants that the property was not Jewish owned. They found themselves torn between conscience and ownership, but their fear of the inevitable, compelled them to heed the warning of the apparition and decide not to risk another night in the house but to move to another part of the City where they felt they would be safe.

Another unexplained phenomenon was taking place at the same time in certain Jewish homes in other parts of the city. Families reported the next day the disappearance of parts of their furniture without any logical explanation. No one saw anybody coming in or going out of the houses in question; and the strange thing was that only certain items of furniture disappeared. One family lost its dining-room set; another part of its bed-room set; another part of the sitting-room furniture; another the carpets; and another the kitchen utensils. No one knew that the missing items made up the contents of the home in Katamon before it was ransacked in 1948.

The Police were notified and investigated each case separately. It was revealed to them that all the missing articles had in fact been acquired almost at the same time in May 1948. Some said that they picked them up from abandoned homes in Katamon; others stated that they bought them at bargain prices from salesmen who called on them; and others alleged that they purchased them from stands at street corners. From this interrogation, it was clear to the police that the furniture was stolen Arab property and as such decided they need take no action.

When darkness fell the next day, the neighbours standing on the street in front of the haunted house in Katamon — still baffled by the happenings of the previous twenty-four hours — had another surprise awaiting them. The lights in the house suddenly came on, and there was the sound of a piano playing Chopin. The police were immediately summoned, told of the happenings of the previous night, how the residents of the house had fled taking with them their furniture, and drew attention to the lights indicating that there must be someone in the house whom they had not seen enter.

The police walked cautiously towards the building calling out by loud speaker for those inside to come out with their arms raised over their heads. They waited for fifteen minutes and then announced that they were coming in. With

rifles cocked and ready, the police approached the building and found that the entrance door was wide open as it had been left by the residents after their flight. The police stepped into the vestibule, found the place in darkness, and tried to turn on the electricity but the current had been cut off by the departing household. The police used their flash-lights, searching the place room by room but found them all empty.

The police returned to the street looking obviously perplexed. Suddenly the lights went on and shadows could be seen moving in one of the bedrooms. They rushed back and again they found the place in darkness and empty. Fright got hold of the by-standers as they were now sure that something unexplainable was taking place, and they came to the conclusion that the house was indeed haunted as the fleeing household had stated.

The fear spread among the other residents of the Quarter who began to believe that since such strange things were happening in one house, there was no reason why they should not happen to them too for after all they also were occupying homes taken away from their Arab owners and living on furniture partly plundered from Arab homes in 1948. That night some sought other places to spend the dark hours; and in the following days, others, obsessed by fear, imagined that they too experienced unnatural happenings in their own homes and rather than



risk it, decided to move out to other parts of the city.

The phenomenon grew deeper and more obscure the next day when the Police observed during the dusk hours the shadows of a man working in the garden tending to the plants, while the shadows of about 150 canary birds were flying in the now empty aviary filling the air with their melodious songs. The vines and pistachio trees appeared to be full of their fruit while the flower-beds bloomed in various colours.

The police, believing the man-shadow to be real, entered the passageway of the garden and walked towards him, but he vanished on their approach and the condition of the garden returned to its original state of neglect. The moment the Police withdrew, the shadow of the man reappeared and the shadows of a couple could be seen walking up the passageway towards the house chatting and smiling, although no one saw them enter the garden gate. Each time an attempt was made to enter the property, the shadows would vanish and reappear after withdrawal. The police too were now convinced that something out of the ordinary was taking place over which they had no control.

The matter was brought to the attention of higher authorities, the government realized that it had a problem on its hands as to how to appease the public fear. Before taking any action, those responsible decided to wait for a few days and watch developments in the hope that these strange happenings would go away by themselves. But there was no change in the situation. The moment darkness fell, the lights would go on in the house, certain movements of people would be observed, and the whole place would come to life as it existed prior to 1948. If anybody attempted to enter the building, conditions would revert to a state of emptiness and darkness.

The government decided to put an end to the fear of conscience which gripped the Jewish community of the City by taking the drastic step of blowing up the building; but the phenomenon did not disappear with the destruction as had been expected. As soon as darkness fell, the shadow of the now demolished building would re-appear in its intact form, the lights would go on, and the shadows of the Arab owner and his family would be seen moving about from one room to another.

SOLIDARITY

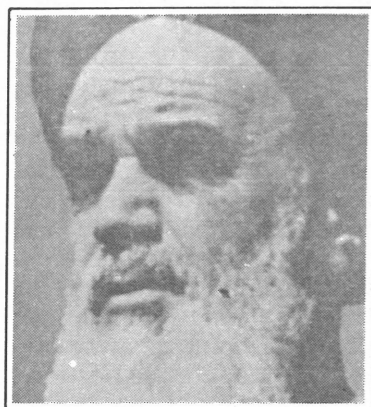


Cyprus photo exhibition

PALESTINIAN PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION IN CYPRUS

A Palestinian photographic exhibition was opened in the Cypriot town of Limassol on July 29. The

opening ceremony was attended by the Mayor of Limassol and the PLO representative in Cyprus. The Cypriot Mayor expressed his country's firm stand with the just struggle of the Palestinian people.



KHOMEINI DENOUNCES ISRAELI LAW ON JERUSALEM

The law passed recently by the Israeli Knesset declaring "unified Jerusalem" the capital of the state of Israel continues to arouse stormy reactions in the Arab world and internationally.

In a statement on August 6, Ayatollah Khomeini condemned the Zionist law and the role played by US imperialism in supporting Israel's expansionist and annexa-

tionist policies. The Iranian religious leader called on Muslims everywhere to come out onto the streets to mark a special day for Jerusalem.

In Taif a joint Iraqi-Saudi communique issued on August 6, condemned the law and the two sides pledged to severe political and economic relations with any state which approved the law or maintained its embassy in the Holy City.

SOLIDARITY MESSAGE FROM FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY

Chairman Yasser Arafat on August 6, received a message of solidarity from Jean Colban, the Secretary of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party (PCF).

The message praised the struggle of the Palestinian people for liberation and dignity, and expressed the Party's particular admiration for the Palestinian detainees currently staging a hunger strike in Israeli jails.

TUNISIAN MEDICAL DELEGATION TO JOIN P.R.C.S.

A Tunisian medical delegation on July 31, arrived in Beirut to work for the Palestinian Red Crescent Society's institutions and offer their services to the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. This step falls within an overall plan of cooperation and solidarity between the P.R.C.S. and the Palestinian-Tunisian Medical Society.

WORLD PEACE COUNCIL CONDEMNS ISRAEL'S ANNEXATION OF JERUSALEM

The World Peace Council on July 31, issued a communique denouncing the passing of a new law by the Israeli Knesset on July 30, declaring Jerusalem to be the "indivisible and eternal capital of Israel." The communique called for UN sanctions against Israel, which has been able for too long to get away with arrogant defiance of UN resolutions and world public opinion. The WPC urged all peace-loving forces in the world to condemn Israel for its illegal acts and expansionist schemes carried out under the umbrella of the Camp David accords. The WPC called for the permanent support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people and their legitimate representative, the PLO.

SOLIDARITY CABLE FROM CHAIRMAN OF SUDANESE LAWYER'S GUILD

Chairman Yasser Arafat received a solidarity cable from the Chairman of the Sudanese Lawyer's Guild on July 30. The Sudanese lawyers denounced in their cable the systematic campaign of terror launched by the Zionist authorities against the Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails. The cable said that the Israeli authorities' attempt to establish a concentration camp in Nafha prison will only increase the Palestinian people's determination to continue their struggle until victory.



LETTERS TO "PALESTINE"

Dear Comrades,

I am a Greek Cypriot refugee and fellow-traveller with you in the same struggle against imperialism. We patriots here in Cyprus know very well that our problem is not really an isolated problem, a conflict between Greek-Cypriots and Turk-Cypriots as the imperialists want to present it. Our problem is an extension of your problem and offspring of the imperialists who want to have a general base in the Middle East for the protection of their interests. Your struggle is our struggle and we know very well that we are fighting in the same trench, side by side.

We strongly condemn the Zionist terrorism and the cowardly assassination attempts against the mayors of Nablus, Ramallah and El-Bireh. We believe that the right of self-determination will finally predominate. Approving of the words of patriot Bassam Shaka'a whose words express the determination of both the Palestinian and Cypriot peoples, I have to mention them again: "Our roots are very deep and imperialism will never eradicate them. All its dark schemes will always face our determination to live! and our claim to our inalienable rights!"

Chrysostomos Chrysostomov
Nicosia - Cyprus
7th July 1980

Dear Sir,

After reading quite a number of issues of "Palestine", I now find the Zionist policy paralleling that of the apartheid system in South Africa. No wonder both systems officiated their policies in that same infamous year 1948, and we hope that both will fall in more or less the same year. In fact your analysis of the Christian pilgrimage February 16-29, 1980 has been affirmed by

my mother, who visited Israel on a religious pilgrimage. She and her fellow colleagues worshipped or prayed under gun point, and it was said that if you made a "false move" you would get it. Now we know who the terrorists are and note the western version of the issue. It is noteworthy that it was the Israelis who engineered the 1961 couo in Uganda and are most to blame for the plight we find ourselves in.

Yours
Stephen Isabirye
Kampala Uganda
July 2nd, 1980

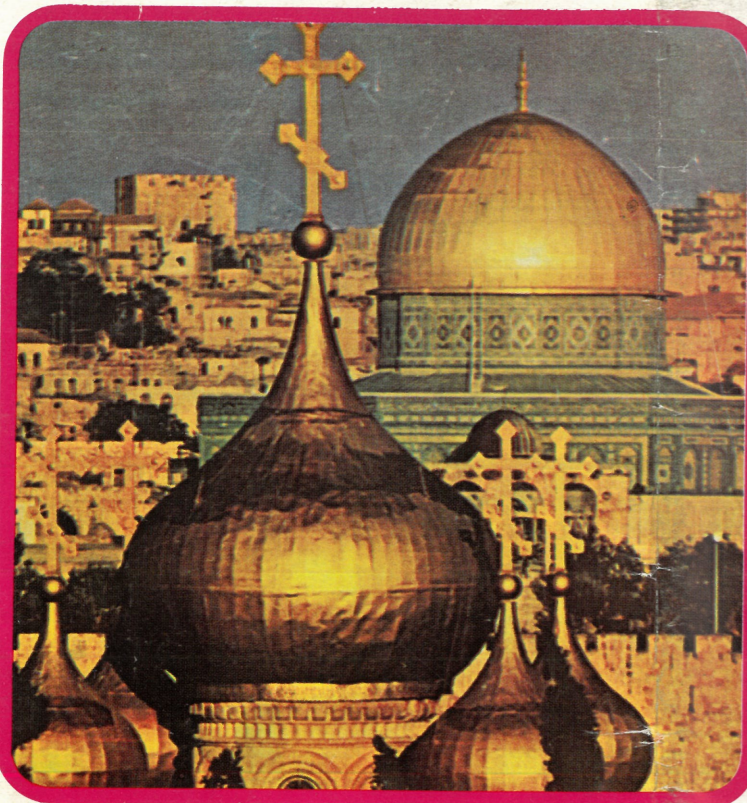
Dear Sirs,

Pro-Zionist criminals on July 7, 1980 set fire to the office of the Dutch Humanist Union in the provincial capital of Utrecht, 30 kilometers south of Amsterdam. They did so because the Humanist Union showed in a television broadcast a week ago, a photo documentary about the most ugly feature of Zionist society, the treatment of Palestinians as second-rank citizens in all aspects of life.

The crime caused great indignation in all circles of Dutch society and once more showed the Dutch population that Zionism is nothing better than Nazism.

With friendly greetings,

Jacques Groen,
HILVERSUM,
The Netherlands.
July 8, 1980



FAMILIES OF NAFHA PRISONERS DEMONSTRATE IN JERUSALEM

P.L.O.
information
bulletin

Vol. 6, No. 17
16-30 September 1980

Palestine

PER. DIV.

NOV 17 1980

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READY FOR THE CHALLENGE