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# Palestine

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ONE OF THE CHILDREN WOUNDED IN ISRAELI AIR RAID AGAINST SOUTH LEBANON, MARCH 2, 1981



## TO OUR READERS

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

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

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

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## EDITORIAL

# THE PALESTINE QUESTION AND WESTERN LOGIC

Westerners in general and Americans in particular always ask the Palestinians and their sole representative, the PLO, to recognize Israel's right to exist. That is to say that they ask the victims to recognize the aggressor whose existence is not endangered, neither by the Palestinians nor by the Arabs in general. In fact, Israel is the strongest military force in the Middle East and threatens the existence of all the Arab states together. Thanks to the continuous U.S. military supplies, Israel possesses the largest military arsenal in the Middle East area. Western logic is similar to Nazi logic which used to say that the Polish, Czech, French and other peoples should have recognized the Nazi Reich and its occupation of all Europe. Of course, the Nazis badly needed "Lebensraum" because Germany was becoming too small for the "Aryan race."

The Israelis also have a similar mentality. They believe that they are the "super race" in the Middle East amongst the racially lower situated Arabs and orientals.

"The victims should recognize the aggressors." This is what the Westerners ask the Palestinians to do. The daily imprisonment, torture, collective punishment, the confiscation of land, the expulsion of patriots, besides killing them — all of these are acts of "active" defense against the victims who might think to raise their heads against the aggressors.

"The PLO is a divided organization," the Westerners say, "and that is why it cannot promote peace." That means that the occupation should continue because the PLO is divided. Westerners claim that the PLO has extremists amongst its ranks. But what about the Western countries themselves? What about the Israelis who have more than 15 different political parties?

The PLO is proud of being an umbrella

organization for six major resistance movements and two smaller factions which are not represented within the Executive Committee of the PLO. It is the most democratic institution in the Middle East because all of its decisions are taken by the majority or unanimously.

Westerners claim that the PLO Charter calls for the "destruction of the state of Israel." Well, this slogan is an Israeli one and Israeli propaganda always operates as if Israel is fighting for its "survival in the Middle East."

The Israeli propaganda machine always needs oil in order to continue its functioning. Israel's basic propaganda has always been built on the assumption that Israel is poor, weak, isolated and surrounded by war-mongering Arabs who want to destroy her. It is also built on propagating the terrorist image of their Palestinian victims. Whenever the Israeli propaganda machine lacks oil, it has to fabricate new arguments — false arguments — in order to keep their propaganda going.

It has to be clearly said that Westerners should not always fall prey to the Zionist propaganda machine. They should not expect that the Palestinian victims will ever put in their Charter as paragraph no. 1 "Long live the state of Israel," and no. 2, "The PLO gives up its right to its homeland so that selected people can live in peace and prosperity in it," and no. 3, "The Palestinians accept the grace of God and the Westerners to live for Israel in the desert." and so on...

Nobody can force the Palestinians to love their oppressors and tyrants. This Western logic is nothing logic. Westerners should stop repeating old-fashioned Israeli slogans. The Palestinians are determined to live in peace and freedom in their homeland.



# PALESTINE NOTES

## ARAFAT RECEIVES IRANIAN DELEGATIONS

On February 19, Yasser Arafat held a reception in honor of a visiting Iranian delegation headed by Dr. Jalal Eddine al-Farsi, of the Iranian Islamic Shura Council (Parliament). During the reception, Arafat briefed the delegation on the latest developments in south Lebanon, in light of the Israeli military escalation and continuing attacks against the Palestinian and Lebanese people. Chairman Yasser Arafat on February 20 also received Hujattoleslam Haqani, Vice President of the Shura Council. The meeting, attended by Hani al-Hassan and Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani, reviewed the issues of mutual interest between the Palestinian and Iranian revolutions, and Israeli attacks against south Lebanon.



*Palestinian leadership conferring with Iranian Shura Council delegation*

Ceausescu to Chairman Yasser Arafat.

## ABU IYAD: FIGHT U.S. HEGEMONY

Fateh Central Committee member, Abu Iyad, called on the Islamic Revolution in Iran to concentrate their efforts against the regional hegemony of the U.S. He said: "We in the Palestinian Revolution, can in no way place the USA and the Soviet Union in the same rank." Abu Iyad was addressing a rally organised by the Arab Organisation for the Support of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, on February 20. The rally, which was held following the Friday prayers in the Al-Omari mosque in Sidon in southern Lebanon was attended by an Iranian delegation headed by Dr. Jalal Eddine al-Farsi, member of the Iranian Shura Council, Dr. Salim al-Hoss, former Lebanese Premier, Dr. Nazih al-Bizri, the Lebanese Minister of Health and a number of other Lebanese politicians and Palestinian cadres.

"The only thing we see over south Lebanon are American war-

planes with Zionist markings," Abu Iyad said. "So we can in no way place both superpowers on the same footing. It is the U.S. which pursues its policies of humiliating the Arab Nation. And who was behind the Shah of Iran? Who was supplying him with the arms to suppress the people of Iran? We all know it was the U.S." Abu Iyad concluded that the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples will remain steadfast despite the daily Israeli shelling and bombardment.

## ARAFAT CONGRATULATES JUAN CARLOS ON FAILURE OF PUTSCH

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the Forces of the Palestinian Revolution, on February 27 instructed the PLO representative in Madrid to express his congratulations to King Juan Carlos and the Speaker of the Spanish Parliament on the failure of the coup attempt, and the victory of constitutional legitimacy and democracy in Spain, which is linked to the Arab world through historic ties of friendship and culture.

## COMMEMORATING FAYEZ SAYEGH

The PLO and the General Union of Palestinian Writers and Journalists on March 2 held a meeting in commemoration of Dr. Fayez Sayegh at the Beirut American University's Assembly Hall. The meeting was attended by Fateh Central Committee member Abu Iyad, Dr. Abdullah Sa'adeh; the Kuwaiti Ambassador to Lebanon Abdel Hamid al-B'eijan and a number of cadres of the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese National Movement. Abu Iyad delivered a speech in which he praised the late Dr. Sayegh's contributions to the Palestinian Revolution. He then spoke of the present situation in light of the escalating Israeli aggression against south Lebanon, warning that Israel is currently preparing for a widescale operation against the Palestinian and Lebanese people. "But we will remain steadfast in confronting the enemy's brutal aggressions," he concluded. Speeches were also delivered by Dr. Abdallah Sa'adeh for the Lebanese



*Commemorating Fayez Sayegh at Beirut American University*

National Movement; Clovis Mak-soud, head of the Arab league's permanent delegation at the UN, and Dr. Youssef Sayegh, brother of the deceased.

## CHAIRMAN ARAFAT RECEIVES ITALIAN DELEGATION

On March 6, Chairman Yasser Arafat received a large Italian parliamentary delegation comprising 13 members of all major political parties. The delegation was visiting the area on a fact-finding mission, at the time when the barbaric Zionist aggression against the people in south Lebanon continues unabated. During the meeting, the head of the delegation declared: "We are aware of the delay in our government's recognition of P.L.O., but we, the representatives of the three major political parties in Italy, the Christian Democratic Party, the Socialist Party, and the Communist Party, are urging for this goal being

achieved, something in which we believe.

Chairman Arafat briefed the delegation on the present situation in the area, saying: "Your visit happens at a time when the whole area is facing a great danger. For the first time since the Vietnam war the American military presence is expanding in this area. The danger also lies in the continuing Israeli occupation of our land and the increasing Israeli raids in which the most sophisticated American weapons are used, including weapons which are internationally prohibited. I assume you are aware of these daily aggressions which are launched from air, sea and land."

During their stay in Lebanon, the delegation also visited several Palestinian camps and institutions.

## REPRESENTATIVES OF PALESTINIAN SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND VISIT SAUDI ARABIA

A delegation representing the Palestinian Society for the Blind on February 19 ended a five-day visit to Saudi Arabia. The delegation visited various institutes for the blind and met with Saudi officials who work with the handicapped. The delegation was in Saudi Arabia at the invitation of the Regional Central Committee for the Blind in the Middle East.

## ARAFAT CONGRATULATES MONGOLIAN PRESIDENT

Yasser Arafat on March 3 sent a cable of congratulations to the President of the People's Republic of Mongolia, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the Mongolian Revolutionary Party. The cable praised the role of the Revolutionary Party in liberating the Mongolian people and developing the potentials of the country in the social, cultural, economic and political fields.



## PALESTINE NOTES

### Chairman Arafat: U.S.-ISRAELI MOVES FOR NEW AGGRESSION IN LEBANON

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the Forces of the Palestinian Revolution attended on February 22 the rally on the 12th anniversary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). During the rally, Arafat delivered a speech in which he said that Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir's visit to the U.S. is aimed to provide Israel with the green light for the onslaught of a final U.S. plan in Lebanon which would strike at the Palestinian Revolution and Lebanese national and progressive forces. Arafat also said that the new

autonomy plan presented by Israeli Labour Party leader Peres, and designed to be implemented after Begin's term of office ends, was made in agreement with Sadat, but would be foiled through the will of the Palestinian people both inside and outside of the occupied territories. Arafat referred to current Israeli air, land, and naval attacks on south Lebanon, and the reception given to Shamir, who was wanted by Interpol for his according activities during the British mandate period, including the murder of U.N. mediator Count Folke Bernadotte. Arafat also mentioned that Israel had given the isolationist gangs in Lebanon more U.S. weapons, the latest of which were forty Super-Sherman tanks, but he said that even in addition to the 70 tanks they have already received from Israel, these would not suffice to overcome the Lebanese-Palestinian Joint Forces.

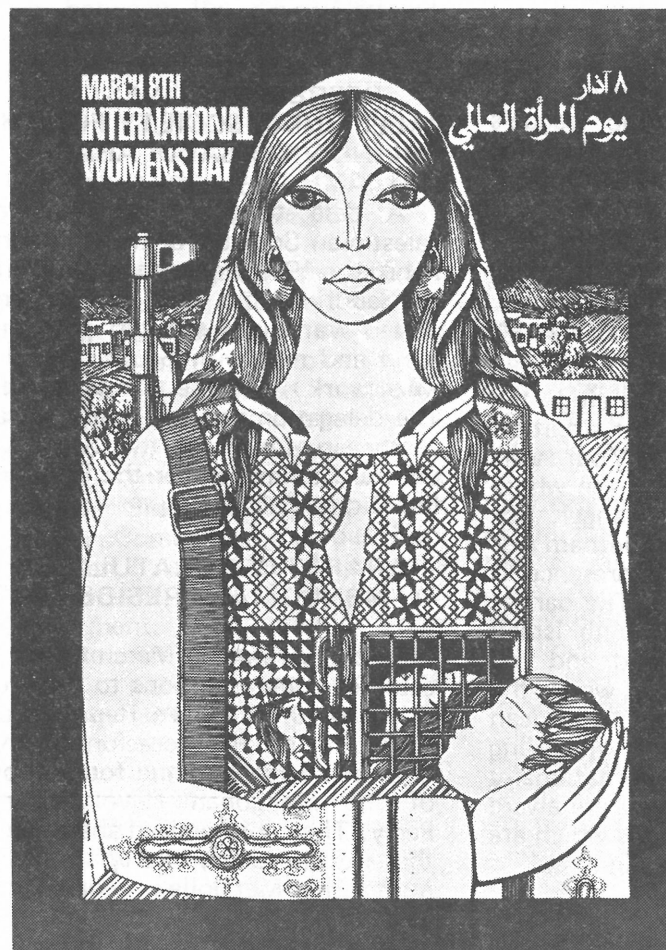
### PLO attends 26th Congress: USSR REITERATES SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

A Palestinian delegation led by Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department, and including PLO Executive Committee members Yasser Abd Rabbo and Talal Naji, as well as Abu Maher al-Yamani, member of the PFLP Politburo, arrived in Moscow on February 10 to take part in the 26th Congress of the Communist Party. The Palestinian delegation was met by the Soviet Deputy Prime Minister and Vice Chairman of the State Council for Economic Affairs, who reiterated that the Soviet Union will remain faithful to the ties of friendship between the Palestinian and Soviet peoples until the Palestinian people realize their just goals of return, self-determination and the establishment of their independent state. Farouk Kaddoumi in turn praised the stands of the USSR, stressing that the Palestinian people will never forget the material, moral and political support it offers them. He then expressed confidence that the 26th Congress of the CPSU will take historic and decisive resolutions, reflecting the aspirations



PLO delegation led by Farouk Kaddoumi at Lenin's Tomb

and ambitions of the Soviet people, guaranteeing world peace and playing an important role in backing peoples striving for liberation and independence from imperialist and Zionist domination. On February 28, he met with President of the Peoples Republic of Vietnam Lu Thiang with whom he discussed developments at Arab and international levels. During the meeting, the Vietnamese President sent his greetings to Yasser Arafat. Kaddoumi on March 1st left Moscow for a visit to Prague. Present at his departure were the First Deputy of the Soviet Premier and several officials of the Soviet government and the Communist Party.



### G.U.P.W. on occasion of International Women's Day:

#### "WOMEN'S STRUGGLE INSEPARABLE FROM PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE"

The General Union of Palestinian Women addressed the following open letter to the world's women on International Women's Day, March 8, 1981. to the world's women on International Women's Day, March 8, 1981.

Sisters,

In the name of Palestinian women, the General Union of Palestinian Women conveys to you its warmest greetings on the occasion of International Women's Day. Fraternal and militant greetings to all the women who took part and are still taking part in efforts to consecrate this day by erasing all forms of discrimination against women in this world, and in order to create a more humane society in which justice and dignity can be realized for all, and in which peace will prevail.

Sisters, Palestinian women, together with other women the world over and especially women from the Third World, suffer from social oppression based on sexual discrimination. In addition, Palestinian women, like the rest of the Palestinian people, have been victims since 1948, of oppression, exploitation and dispersion outside their homeland and inside it as a result of Zionist settlement. This imposes on Pales-

tinian women a series of social, health, economic and political problems, which are multiplied by the continuous state of instability and constant relocation resulting from Zionist aggressions against Palestinian camps.

Despite their difficult circumstances however, Palestinian women were able to register numerous accomplishments on the way to the consolidation of the Palestinian woman's status in the society and within the family. There are nevertheless many tasks that still lie ahead.

Since the launching of the Palestinian Revolution in 1965, Palestinian women took the initiative of joining the Revolution's ranks and participated in social, economic, political and even military activities, particularly in developing woman's status and alleviating her burdens, through the establishment of professional training centers, nurseries and kindergartens. Palestinian women also played a role in care for the handicapped, in cooperation with the Palestinian Red Cresoent Society.

Sisters, The General Union Of Palestinian Women, which represents one of the bases of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), shares the problems and sufferings of the Palestinian people, and struggles for the solution of these problems. It stresses that the causes and problems of Palestinian women are an inseparable part of the causes of the Palestinian people as whole, which can only be solved together

with it, by restoring their rights to return to their homeland, and to exercise self-determination.

Sisters, our Union declares its commitment to the causes of all oppressed peoples and forces the world over, and stresses its belief that women are subjected to the ugliest forms of exploitation. The Union therefore considers itself part of the Front of anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist, anti-fascist and anti-reactionary forces, and calls for further struggle and solidarity with the aim of abolishing discrimination against women throughout the world. It also calls for solidarity with the oppressed peoples struggling for their liberation and independence.

On this occasion, we ask you to express more solidarity with the struggle of our Palestinian people for the realization of the goals of their Revolution. We also hope to see greater support for Palestinian women detained in the jails of the occupation, and for the projects put forth by our Union, so as to enable the latter to develop its programs and improve the condition of women and children, as a step towards the liberation by our people of their land and the establishment of their democratic state in which justice, equality and dignity for all will prevail without religious, sexual or racial discrimination.

General Union Of Palestinian Women

President,  
Issam Abdel Hadi



## PALESTINE NOTES



HELP RELEASE  
ABU AIN

A.U.S. court in Chicago on February 18 decided to hand over the Palestinian Ziad Abu Ain to the Israeli authorities to face charges of participating in a Palestinian commando operation. Abu Ain has been in detention for months awaiting the court's decision, reached after extensive pressure from the Israeli authorities and Zionist forces in the USA. The Charges against him were based on a 'confession' extracted from another Palestinian who had been subjected to torture.

In protest against the decision, Ziad Abu Ain has maintained a hunger strike lasting already three weeks. His lawyer said that Ain's health had deteriorated and his weight loss was more than twenty kilos. The lawyer added that the prison authorities had prevented Ain's relatives from visiting him after he had refused to wear the prison uniform in protest against his detention and extradition to Israel.

Arab ambassadors in the USA on February 25, agreed to submit a memorandum to the U.S. Secretary of State, requesting him, on behalf of their governments, to stay the decision to extradite Ziad Abu Ain and hand him over to the Israeli authorities. The ambassadors, who met at the Arab League headquarters in Washington expressed their anxiety over the fate of Abu Ain who is still under custody in a Chicago prison. Commenting on the U.S. federal court's ruling on Abu Ain's expulsion, Audeh al-Rantisi, acting Mayor of Ramallah, said the U.S. government was acting against its own citizens because Abu Ain was a U.S. citizen and therefore enjoyed the full rights of any other American citizen.

To end the Iranian-Iraqi war:

## PLO ACTIVE IN ISLAMIC PEACE INITIATIVE

The Islamic Peace Commission set up to solve the Iranian-Iraqi dispute convened on February 28 in Jeddah. The Third Islamic Summit Conference which was held in Taif, Saudi Arabia, on January 30, set up this commissions to follow up PLO Chairman Arafat's efforts to bring the Iraqi-Iranian war to an end. Chairman Arafat had visited Baghdad and Teheran last October where he insisted in his talks with officials in both countries that this war was instigated by imperialist forces. For its part, the Islamic Peace Commission realized the disastrous consequences of the war for both countries as well as for the Arab position in the Arab-Israeli conflict. The continuation of such a war, the Commission realized, would serve to maintain imperialist and Zionist occupation of Arab territories, as well as their brutal daily aggressions inside and outside the occupied Arab territories. Besides Chairman Arafat, the Commission included the presidents of Guinea, Gambia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, the Turkish Prime Minister, the Foreign Minister of Senegal, the special envoy of the Malaysian Prime Minister and al-Habib al-Chatti, Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

Following two shuttle visits to Teheran and Baghdad where the Islamic Peace Commission held intensive talks with high-ranking officials in both countries, the Commission put forth the following proposals to end the dispute between the two brotherly Islamic countries.

### Part A:

- 1 - Respect for Iranian and Iraqi national sovereignty and territorial integrity from both sides.
- 2 - Iraq and Iran should reaffirm that acquisition of territories by force is unacceptable.
- 3 - Both countries should reaffirm their non-interference in one another's internal affairs.
- 4 - Both countries should reaffirm their

acceptance of the principle of settling international disputes by peaceful means.

5 - Acceptance by Iran and Iraq of the freedom of navigation in Shatt al-Arab.

### Part B:

Elements for a comprehensive peaceful solution:

1 - A ceasefire between Iraq and Iran to be put in effect on March 13 at zero hour.

2 - The withdrawal of Iraqi troops from the Iranian territories will start on Friday March 20. The withdrawal has to be completed in four weeks under the auspices of a military sub-committee.

3 - The ceasefire and the withdrawal of Iraqi troops will take place under the supervision of military observers from countries which are members of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and approved by both countries.

4 - The issue of Shatt al-Arab would be presented to a sub-committee comprising members of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, and accepted by both Iran and Iraq, with the aim of setting the principal, system for this waterway.

5 - Following the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from the Iranian territories, negotiations to reach a peaceful solution for other disputes should be held.

6 - Iraq and Iran should exchange commitments for non-interference in one's another internal affairs.

7 - The member countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference will be in charge of guaran-

teeing the commitments approved. Observers on both sides of the borders would be deployed, if necessary and for a definite term.

### Part C:

Temporary measures for freedom of navigation in Shatt al-Arab:

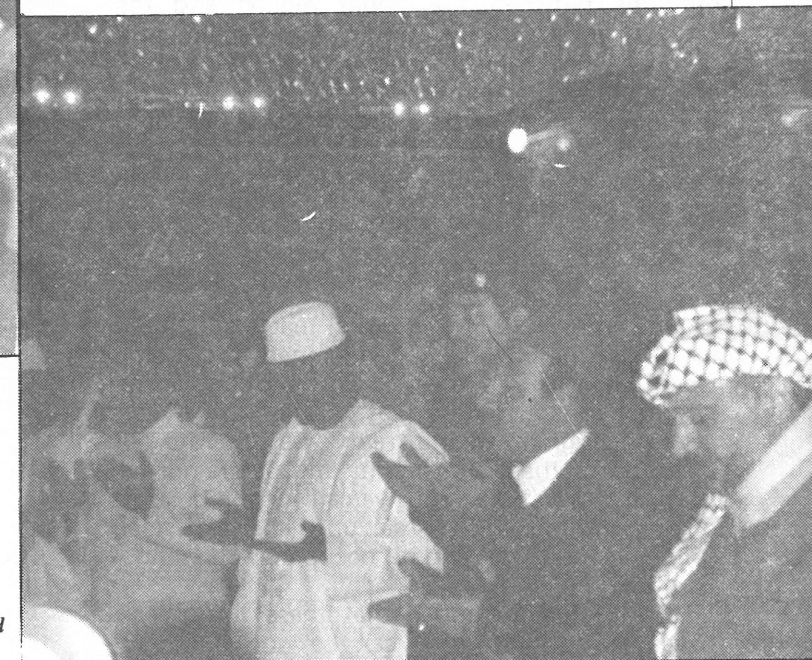
1 - Navigation in this waterway - from the time ceasefire takes place until reaching a final agreement - will be under the control of a special apparatus that would be under the auspices of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

2 - The Islamic Peace Commission will form a sub-committee to help both parties to implement the arrangements for a comprehensive peace solution.

The Christian Evangelical School in Sidon was also the target of Haddad's terror campaign. On March 3, the school suffered a direct hit from an artillery shell at 10:45 AM in the morning, just as the school children should have been attending classes. The school was closed as a precaution against the previous days' shelling. The Haddad shelling of obvious civilian targets has provoked an angry world reaction, forcing even the U.S. State Department to denounce the terror campaign. But Haddad's actions are only possible in the context of Israeli protection.



Islamic Peace Commission conferring with Imam Khomeini in Iran...



... and meeting with President Saddam Hussein in Baghdad



# WAR AND PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST



A member of the Egyptian Bar Association raising the Palestinian flag

## FOLLOWING BURNING OF ISRAELI FLAG: SADAT ARRESTS LAWYERS

On February 26, the first anniversary of the "normalization" of relations between Egypt and Israel, Egyptian lawyers held a rally at the headquarters of their syndicate in the center of Cairo to protest against the normalization of relations between the Sadat regime and the Zionist entity. They burned the Israeli flag, raised a huge Palestinian flag over their office, and chanted slogans for Palestine and calling for the downfall of Sadat. The slogans included: "Inform the traitor in Abdeen Palace that Palestine will be victorious", and "Down with the traitor Sadat".

The lawyer Muhammad al-Mismari, head of the Association of Democratic Lawyers, which groups around 20,000 lawyers, read a statement in which he strongly condemned the Camp David accords and the Zionist-Egyptian capitulationist treaty. He said that "Today, three years after the signing of the treaty, we reiterate our rejection of these agreements and of the normalization of relations; and we call for the boycott of any dealings with Israel until the last Israeli soldier leaves Sinai and all occupied Arab land."

The statement added that these three years have proved that there can be no talk about

peace while occupation and aggression continue; and it expressed support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people under PLO leadership. The statement moreover urged Arab states to end their differences, unite and mobilize their potentials to liberate Arab land.

On the occasion of the first anniversary of the "normalization" of relations between Egypt and Israel, the Egyptian National Progressive Unionist Grouping also issued a statement denouncing the Camp David accords and the policy of "normalization."

On February 27, the Egyptian authorities arrested dozens of Egyptian lawyers and citizens who had participated in the demonstrations. Egyptian troops were also positioned around the headquarters of the Democratic Lawyers Association in the Center of Cairo where Thursday's protests took place.



President Sadat: crying for U.S. intervention forces?

## EGYPT TO ALLOW U.S. NUCLEAR WARSHIPS TO USE SUEZ CANAL

Arab and Western press reports of mid-February say that the United States is secretly negotiating with the Sadat regime to allow U.S. nuclear warships to use the Suez Canal. Such a move would help the military build-up of the U.S. in the Middle East and the Indian Ocean and pave the way for increasing links with the NATO potential in Western Europe and the Mediterranean.

The U.S. is suggesting to Egypt to set up regulations on safety standards for nuclear shipping designed in a way that they could be met by the U.S. type of nuclear naval vessels but would probably bar Soviet nuclear submarines.

In addition, the U.S. is proposing to install a system of "safety" checks along the canal. This reconnaissance system which would cost millions of dollars would be paid for by the U.S. The calculation is that the Soviet Union would not want to risk its submarines being exposed to close Western intelligence.

For years Egypt has been barring all nuclear vessels whether or not they were carrying nuclear weapons.

## BRITAIN TO SUPPORT U.S. INTERVENTION FORCES IN THE MIDDLE EAST

In another move to step up NATO interference in the Gulf area Britain's Prime Minister Thatcher on March 1 openly came out in favour of U.S. intervention in the Arab and Persian Gulf area. Speaking in Washington after her talks with President Reagan, Mrs. Thatcher pledged Britain's support and participation in a special Western rapid deployment force to safeguard Western interests under the pretext of the "defense" of the states there. This latest impudent interference in the affairs of sovereign states has met strong indignation and rejection on the parts of all the Gulf countries concerned.



President Brezhnev addressing party congress

## SOVIET LEADER CALLS FOR JUST MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT

Soviet President Brezhnev called for a new internationally convened peace conference including representation of the PLO. His plea was delivered as part of his address to the 26th Soviet Communist Party congress which opened on February 23. Regarding the Middle East, Mr. Brezhnev stated: "It is high time to get matters off the ground. It is high time to go back to an honest collective search for an all-embracing just and realistic settlement. In the circumstances, this could be done, say, in the framework of a specially convened international conference."

"The Soviet Union is prepared to participate in such work in a constructive spirit and with goodwill. We are prepared to do so jointly with the other interested parties — the Arabs (natu-

rally including the Palestine Liberation Organization) and Israel."

On the same day as Mr. Brezhnev's address, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat issued the following statement to the Palestinian news agency WAFA in response to the call for a just settlement in the Middle East:

"In the name of the PLO and the Palestinian people, I express my deep appreciation for Leonid Brezhnev's speech, in particular as regards the Middle East and the Palestine cause. The stand taken by Comrade Brezhnev provides confirmation of the sincere desire on the part of the Soviet Union and all peace loving forces to realize peace in the Middle East; a peace based on recognition of the Palestinian people's national rights, including the right of return, self-determination and the establishment of an independent state; a peace focusing on the role of the PLO in finding a solution for the Middle East, with the Palestine question as the central issue in this region. The PLO regards the constructive position taken by Comrade Brezhnev as a good and acceptable base on which to establish a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and to extinguish at its source the Israeli aggression which has been imposed on the Palestinian people and the Arab Nation."

Arafat also expressed his hopes for the success of the 26th congress, for more progress and prosperity for the Soviet peoples, and for strengthening the role of the Soviet Union and peace-loving forces in the struggle for world peace.

Yasser Arafat received the Soviet ambassador to Lebanon, Alexander Soldatov, who handed him a message from the Soviet leadership. The meeting was attended by Fateh Central Committee member Abu Jihad. During the meeting, Arafat expressed his appreciation for Leonid Brezhnev's opening speech at the 26th congress of the C.P.S.U.

President Brezhnev's proposal has been met with cautious reactions in the West. The new Reagan Administration preferred to restrict its reactions by declaring the Soviet President's proposals "interesting." Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on February 23 declared: "It would be unwise for the United States or for anyone committed to peace in the Middle East to toss aside President Brezhnev's wish to become once again involved in a search for a peace settlement." The Western European governments which themselves are worried about U.S. aggressive moves towards monopolization of the Middle East, would in principle welcome a return to detente extended also to the Middle East but see themselves under strong U.S. pressure to follow their U.S. masters.



UN Commission on Human Rights:

## SEVERE CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL'S OCCUPATION POLICY

(Part II)

During its 37th session, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights on February 11 passed two important resolutions severely criticizing Israel's policy in the occupied territories of Palestine.

Following is the integral text of part (B) of the resolution concerning the "Question of Violation of Human Rights in the Occupied Territories" which was passed with 41 "Yes" votes, with the U.S.A. casting the only "no" vote; as well as of the second resolution concerning "The Right of Peoples to Self-Determination and its Application to Peoples Under Colonial or Alien Domination or Foreign Occupation". The first part of the resolution was published in the last issue of *Palestine*.

### Resolution I, part (B):

#### "The Commission on Human Rights,

1. Expresses its deep concern at the consequences of Israel's systematic refusal to apply the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War in all its provisions to Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem.

2. Reaffirms that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War is applicable to all the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem.

3. Condemns the failure of Israel to acknowledge the applicability of that Convention to the territories it has occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem.

4. Calls upon Israel to abide by and respect the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments and rules of international law, in particular the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, in Palestinian and

other Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem,

5. Urges once more all state parties to that Convention to exert all efforts in order to ensure respect for and compliance with the provisions thereof in all the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem,

6. Requests the Secretary General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all governments, the competent United Nations organs, the specialized agencies, the regional inter governmental organisations, the international humanitarian organisations and non-governmental organisations.

### Resolution II

#### The Right of Peoples to Self-Determination and its Application to Peoples under Colonial or Alien Domination or Foreign Occupation.

(This resolution was passed with a vote of 25 "yes" to 9 "no", with abstentions. However a special vote on paragraph 1 ("Reaffirms the inalienable rights...") had 41 "yes", with the U.S. again casting the only "no" vote.)

#### "The Commission on Human Rights

1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination without external interference and the establishment of a fully independent and sovereign state in Palestine,

2. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the Palestinians to return to their homes and property from which they have been displaced and uprooted, and calls for their return in the exercise of their right to self-determination,

3. Recognizes the right of the Palestinian people to regain their rights by all means in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

4. Reaffirms its concern that the Camp David accords were concluded outside the framework of the United Nations and without the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,

5. Rejects those provisions of the accords which ignore, infringe upon, violate or deny the inalienable right of the Palestinian people, including the right of return, the right to self-determination and the right to national independence and sovereignty in Palestine, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and which envisage and condone continued Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967.

6. Strongly condemns all partial agreements and

separate treaties which constitute a flagrant violation of the rights of the Palestinian people, the principles of the Charter and the resolutions adopted in the various international forums on the Palestinian issue.

7. Declares that the Camp David accords and other agreements have no validity in so far as they purport to determine the future of the Palestinian people and of the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

8. Urges all states, United Nations organs, specialized agencies and other international organization to extend their support to the Palestinian people through its representative, the Palestine Liberation Organisation, in its struggle to restore its rights in accordance with the Charter,

9. Requests the Secretary General to make available to the Commission on Human Rights and to the sub-commission on prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities the reports, studies and publications prepared by the Special Unit on Palestinian Rights, which was established by General Assembly resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977.

### PALESTINIAN PRISONERS LIVES ENDANGERED

The PLO representative in Geneva, Daoud Barakat, on February 19 sent a letter to the President of the UN Human Rights Committee's 37th session informing him of the difficult conditions of Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons. The PLO representative mentioned that the lives of Muhammad Shihadeh, Yusef Ahmad al-Khatib, Abdullah Jaloud, and Naji Idlibi, who are presently being detained in Israeli prisons, are in danger as a result of the brutal methods of torture practised by their Israeli jailers.





## ISRAELI MILITARY FAILS TO SUPPRESS TEACHERS' STRIKE



7,000 Palestinian teachers are continuing their two-month strike. Public school teachers in the West Bank on February 23 responded to the call of their general committee for a sit-in at the Zionist military court in Beitin in the Ramallah district. Despite the measures taken by the occupation authorities by means of patrols and check-points, hundreds of teachers began to gather at the appointed places in the early morning.

In Ramallah and al-Bireh, the teachers' demonstration was attacked by Israeli soldiers who pursued and beat up the teachers, and confiscated the ID cards of several of them. Other forces tried to prevent journalists from covering the events. The demonstrations then marched from Beitin to the education directorate in the district, via Nablus street in the center of Bireh. There, it was joined by hundreds of students, representatives of national institutions and various citizens, in solidarity with the teachers. At the education directorate, one of the teachers delivered a speech, reiterating the teachers' demands. The director of education in turn expressed his colleagues' total support for the teachers and denounced the authorities ignoring of their just rights.

In Nablus, around 2000 teachers from Nablus, Jenin and Tulkarm organized a silent march to Beitin but were stopped half-way by Israeli check-points. During this stop, one of the teachers delivered a brief address in which he held the Israeli authorities responsible for any eventual consequences. Banners written in Arabic, Hebrew and English were raised during the demonstration.

A large Israeli force intercepted a teachers' march from the Bethlehem and Hebron districts before they reached Ramallah. Five teachers were arrested. A number of banners and identity cards were confiscated. The march was supposed to end up in Beitin.

### News black out; threats against Shak'a

The teachers' demonstration was subjected to a complete news blackout. On the official level, the military governor of the West Bank, Gen. Benyamin Eliezer, threatened to cancel the teachers' wages for days on strike. He also made some insinuating allusions to nationalist figures in the West Bank, in particular Nablus Mayor Bassam al-Shak'a, who he accused of instigating the teachers to pursue their strikes and demonstrations. Nablus mayor Bassam al-Shak'a reaffirmed the West Bank national institutions' full support for the public teachers' open strike. Speaking before a large number of teachers at the Nablus Municipality, Shak'a confirmed that the West Bank national institutions will pursue their attempts to bring a just solution to the public teachers' strike.

Israeli occupation forces in Nablus clashed again on March 2 with hundreds of Palestinian teachers during a demonstration in which teachers were protesting against low pay and the Israeli policy of interference in the educational



On strike: teachers and students join in solidarity

affairs of the occupied territories. A large force of Israeli troops fired their weapons and threw tear-gas grenades at the demonstrators, who defended themselves with sticks and stones. Several protestors were detained by the Israeli police.

The Israeli Movement of Arab and Jewish Democratic Women, in a cable to the General Committee of Public School Teachers, expressed their solidarity with their demands.

### MILITARY GOVERNMENT FORBIDS EMPLOYEES UNION

On February 24, Israeli military authorities in

the West Bank issued an order forbidding the registration of an employees union of the universities and private academics in Nablus. The order also forbade the holding of meetings. An officer of the Labour Affairs department declared that the order was issued on 18/2/81 but "special reasons" had forced the authorities to postpone making the order public. The union had called for a meeting, scheduled for the next day, to carry out elections for the selection of an administrative committee. It is worth mentioning that the Israeli authorities had, a few days ago, detained Wa'el al-Qadi, one of the union's candidates whom they interrogated regarding his activities and his opinions on Education order number 854.

### EVEN DOCTORS ARE NOT SPARED

The Israeli authorities issued orders on February 23 for the dismissal of 10 percent of the doctors working in the West Bank hospitals and four teachers employed in the welfare society in the Tulkarm region. This illegal measure is part of the Israeli authorities' policy of systematically reducing the social and medical services available to Palestinian citizens in the occupied territories.

### MASS ARRESTS OF ARABS IN 48-OCCUPIED PALESTINE

Israeli and other press reports at the end of February reported, that scores of Arabs have been arrested in villages along the pre-1967 armistice lines over the past month. Some weapons were seized. Zionist authorities refused to release any details. Some of the detainees, charged with belonging to an illegal organization, have already been sent to prison on one-year terms by a military court. The trials of the main suspects will be held behind closed doors also before military tribunals. The West German pro-Zionist daily *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* on February 28 commented as follows on the affair:

"The secret trial against Arabs of Israeli citizenship, accused of



Arrests in al-Khalil (Hebron) during demonstrations

### MURDER OF WOMAN PASSENGER

Israeli soldiers on February 27 fired at a car carrying several Palestinian citizens from al-Naqab, killing a Palestinian woman passenger. The Israeli authorities claimed that the car was travelling in a military zone and the driver had disregarded the orders of Israeli soldiers.

### ISRAELI AUTHORITIES PROHIBIT SCIENTIFIC MAGAZINE

The Israeli Military Governor of Jerusalem on February 19 issued an order prohibiting the publication of a new scientific weekly entitled "Progress Magazine", published by Dr. Najwa Makhoul. The request for a permit has been under study for over nine months. The Israeli Military Governor's decision is totally unjustified.



## OCCUPATION DIARY

having formed a terrorist group, shows what has changed in Israel... Integrated Arabs have become conscious of their special identity... Begin's policy and the land robbery extended even to the old Israeli territory have pushed the Arabs to side with the Palestinians. The loss of a feeling of being integrated on the part of the Arabs holding Israeli passports is challenging Israel more than the armies of its many enemies."

### ARREST CAMPAIGN IN GAZA

Reports from the occupied territories revealed that on February 28 the Israeli military authorities launched an arrest campaign throughout this week against Palestinian inhabitants of the Gaza Strip. Israeli troops were sent into the various towns and villages in the strip and spread a wave of terror among its inhabitants. Barricades were also

erected in and around the main towns and on the main roads. Radio Israel said that the Israeli authorities planned on sending large numbers of Israeli troops following the escalation of Palestinian commando operations in the strip.

### WELFARE OFFICIAL, MAYORS AND EDITORS KEPT UNDER HOUSE ARREST

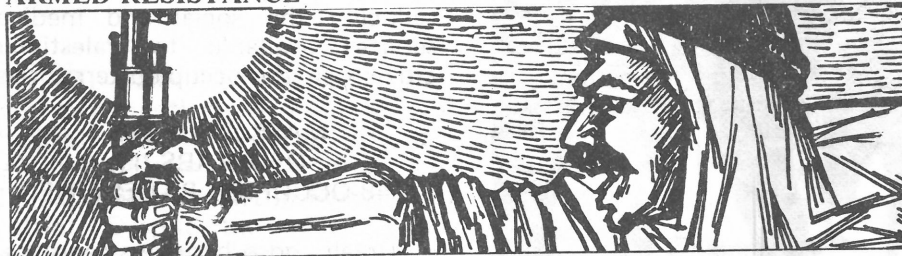
The military governor of Ramallah on February 24 notified Samiha al-Khalil, chairman of the Family Welfare Society in al-Bireh, that the restriction of movement order forbidding her from moving from her area of residence would be renewed for another period of six months. A military appeals committee had on early February renewed for a period of another six

months the restriction of movement orders imposed on three Palestinian editors-in-chief of three Jerusalem newspapers.

In other arbitrary moves, the occupation authorities confined the mayors of al-Bireh and 'Anabta to their home towns. Two days before, Israeli forces had stormed the al-Bireh municipality, where a meeting was being held, to discuss the West Bank teachers' strike and the expropriation of 4000 dunums of the region's land.

A military appeals committee on February 26 notified Abdel Hadi al-Khatib, a Palestinian from al-Khalil (Hebron), that the restriction of movement order imposed on him a year ago, would be extended until March 19th, at which time the committee would again reconsider its renewal. Prior to the restriction order, al-Khatib had spent three years in Israeli jails.

### ARMED RESISTANCE



### COMMANDO OPERATION IN JAFFA

The Palestinian military spokesman issued the following communiqués in Damascus:

#### No.7/81:

Palestinian militants belonging to the special units acting in the occupied territories at dawn on Monday, February 23, placed a timed explosive charge inside a military store in Jaffa. The charge went off and set the store on fire, killing and injuring an unspecified number of soldiers and caused heavy material losses. The Israeli forces evacuated the casualties, encircled the region, and erected check-points to arrest Palestinian

citizens on suspicion of their involvement in the operation, but our militants returned safely to base.

### MILITARY CENTER NEAR JERICHO ATTACKED

#### No.8/81:

Palestinian militants belonging to special unit "A", on Tuesday, February 24, placed a timed explosive charge inside a military center, located South of Jiftlick, on the Jericho road. The military center includes a restaurant, a gas station and a transportation terminal. At 9:30 P.M., the charge went off, killing and injuring an unspecified number of Israeli officers and soldiers and causing heavy material losses in military

vehicles. The restaurant, and the two stations were also severely damaged. Israeli forces immediately closed off the military region and launched an arrest campaign on Palestinian citizens living in the region. Our militants returned safely to base.

### 16-YEAR OLD YOUNGSTER ARRESTED FOR RESISTANCE. AND MAKING A GUN

Ibrahim Sabra Abu Hashash from Fawar Camp, near Hebron is now 16. He was arrested in late December 1980 and since then has been kept in solitary confinement. he is accused of being a member of Fateh since age 14 and of subsequently recruiting five other teenagers into the organization. The prosecution also accuses him of having trained the cell with a weapon he made himself of wood and an iron pipe. The arresting officer swore that the gun worked. The six accused will be charged with arms training. *Al-Fajr*, Jerusalem, February 28, 1981.

### Schools bombed:

## MURDEROUS ISRAELI ATTACKS ON LEBANESE TOWNS

Zionist air attacks and troop incursions into south Lebanon are increasing in intensity and in their regularity as we go to press. In addition, the Lebanese renegade Maj. Saad Haddad and his rightist militiamen in the Israeli controlled border enclave have launched indiscriminate artillery attacks against the populous southern city of Sidon. A spokesman for the PLO stated on March 4 that the Israelis were preparing themselves for a new strike against the south. The PLO spokesman added that, "An invasion of the kind as the one in March 1978 should not be excluded."

The intensified Zionist attacks escalated on the night of February 22-23 with the largest troop landing since last December. A large force of Zionist troops landed by helicopter in the village of Kfour, three Kms northwest of Nabatiyeh at about 10:30 in the evening. The force tried to attack a position held by the Lebanese-Palestinian Joint Forces, but were soon surrounded. A fierce 4-hour battle ensued in which the Zionist troops found difficulty in evacuating their wounded from the area. Palestinian sources estimated the Israeli casualties at about 15-20 dead or wounded. Three fighters from the Joint Forces were killed. Four Lebanese civilians were wounded and 3 houses were destroyed by the Zionist troops.

The Zionist attack was accompanied by dummy helicopter raids on the surrounding area. Israeli artillery heavily shelled a broad area concentrating on Beaufort Castle, al-Hamra, al-Jarmaq and al-Nabatiyeh. Israeli naval vessels shelled the southern regions of al-Babiliyah and Tafahta.

After this intensive attack the Joint Forces responded by shelling the Zionist settlements of Metullah, Miskav 'Am and Beit Hillel. The Joint Forces also shelled Israeli artillery positions in the Haddad border enclave. The artillery exchanges went on until the early hours of the morning.

A more murderous attack came on the afternoon of March 2. Israeli jets bombed Lebanese villages in the Abu al-Aswad region north of Tyre. This aerial

bombardment was specifically aimed at civilian targets. Twelve people were killed, among them four children and two women. Beirut newspapers reported that more than 40 Lebanese were wounded. Most of the victims killed or wounded were Lebanese peasants who were returning home from work in the fields just as the bombing began.

In the evening Israeli artillery along with that of their rightist Lebanese allies bombed the Palestinian refugee camps of Rashidiyah, Burj al-Shamali and the area of Ras al-Ain south of Tyre. Later in the evening the shelling increased to include the cities of Tyre, Sidon, Nabatiyah and surrounding villages. Joint Forces artillery responded by shelling the Zionist military positions in the Galilee settlement of Kiryat Shimona where five persons were wounded. The Joint Forces response came only after three hours of the beginning of the Zionist attack.

### Terror against Sidon

Under the cover of Israeli protection, the Lebanese rightist Maj. Saad Haddad has begun indiscriminately shelling the city of Sidon. Haddad defected from the regular Lebanese army during the 1975-76 civil war to make an outright alliance with Israel in exchange for setting up a puppet enclave along the southern border strip. For a time Haddad troops had been paid regular salaries by the Lebanese government. But the illusion that he is anything more than a direct Israeli agent has been hard to maintain as his terror attacks against Lebanese villages continue unabated. Finally, the salaries stopped.

In coordination with the intensified Zionist attacks against the south, Haddad has suddenly launched indiscriminate artillery attacks against the city of Sidon. He has used as a pretext that the Lebanese government is supposedly 20 million Lebanese lires in arrears in back pay for Haddad's troops. Haddad now is threatening to cause 20 million LL in damage to the center of the city of Sidon. Until a year ago, Haddad's artillery couldn't reach Sidon, but the Israelis have provided new long range artillery pieces which are jointly operated.

The shelling of the center of Sidon began on February 28. On March 1, two rockets fell in the center of the commercial district destroying about 20 cars and causing damage to buildings. That afternoon Haddad stated openly that the artillery bombardment of the civilian and commercial quarters of Sidon was aimed at "causing destruction and making victims."

The intermittent shelling of Sidon continues as we go to press. On March 3, Haddad artillery shelled the Druze village of Hasbaya in the Bekaa Valley. Fifteen Lebanese homes were destroyed or damaged. The main target was the village school which was in session at the time of the bombing. Nine students between the ages of 5 and 15 were wounded.

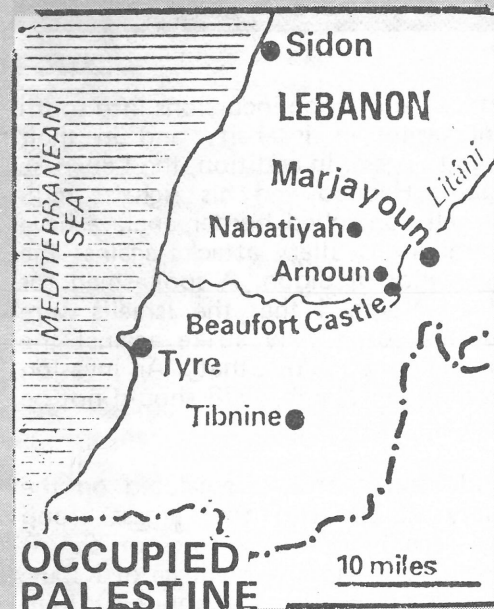


## MURDEROUS ISRAELI ATTACKS ON LEBANESE TOWNS

Sidon's schools weren't spared either. During school-time on Tuesday, March 3, an Israeli shell hit a classroom in Sidon's Evangelical School for Women. A terrible bloodbath was only avoided due to the fact, that the schools had already been closed down in the early morning in precaution. Israel's criminal activities drew world-wide condemnation and forced even a U.S. State Department spokesperson to take verbal distance from what its clients are doing in Lebanon. Haddad, however, didn't seem to worry that the flow of Israeli and U.S. arms would be restricted: "We will continue to take all the necessary military measures against the Palestinian terrorists in Sidon and elsewhere," he commented.



Agent Haddad chatting with an Israeli "entertainment troupe" touring the occupied Lebanese border ship



## ARAFAT SALUTES JOINT FORCES FIGHTERS AFTER LATEST ISRAELI ATTACKS

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and General Commander of the Forces of the Palestinian Revolution, on March 3 addressed a message to the steadfast fighters of the Joint Forces in south Lebanon following latest Israeli air raids and shelling of the area.

He said that "every day, Zionist aggression takes on a new even more ugly face, while you register new epics in steadfastness and heroism through your resistance to the Zionist aggressors, preventing them from achieving their aims of forcing the Revolution, the Lebanese National Movement and the Arab masses, to capitulate. By your brave confrontation the Zionist attacks, and your unity with the Palestinian and Lebanese masses, you have destroyed links in the on-going U.S.-Zionist conspiracy

against the Palestinian Revolution and the Arabism, unity and sovereignty of Lebanon. You have taught unforgettable lessons to the Zionist aggressors who hide behind the most modern U.S. weapons of destruction; you have inflicted important material and moral losses on them and you have established on the soil of south Lebanon, a model of steadfastness in this naiton. You have proved the ability of its Palestinian-Lebanese vanguards to remain in the forward trenches defending the present and future, the rights and the coming generations of the Arab Nation".

Arafat concluded by saluting the heroes of the Joint Forces who confronted with their faith, determination and weapons, the Zionist-US raids in order to defend their people, refugee camps, towns and villages. He also saluted the steadfast population of south Lebanon and urged them to show more alertness and readiness to answer the enemy's crimes.



Israel "persecuting Palestinian terrorists":  
Children wounded in air raid on Al-Aswad near Tyre



The bombed classroom in Sidon's Evangelical School for Women





Inam Raad From The Lebanese National Movement:

## "WE CARRY THE WEIGHT OF 300,000 REFUGEES"

With expectations of more Zionist military attacks against south Lebanon, *Palestine* interviewed Inam Raad, leader of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party in Lebanon, to gain the perspective of the Lebanese National Movement on current events in the south. Mr. Raad is the vice-chairman of the LNM. As well as surveying the situation in the south, Mr. Raad also commented on internal Lebanese developments. The interview was conducted on February 6, 1981.

*Q: What is the Lebanese National Movement (LNM) doing to mobilize its forces to defend the south of Lebanon?*

*A:* I think that there are two basic issues here which we have to tackle, both the material and moral issues. Concerning the material issue: we really need more financial support to uphold the steadfastness of the people who have been carrying more than any people, except perhaps for the people of Vietnam. The south since 1969 has been under bombardment and facing the escalation of military hostilities on the part of the Israelis which culminated in the invasion of 1978. Later, the months passed with a complete escalation in aerial and land bombardment. We carry the weight of not less than 300,000 Lebanese who were evicted from their homes which were destroyed and then followed by the occupation by the Israeli army. This necessitates real financial support to boost the steadfastness.

We believe that the Arabs at large haven't done



Inam Raad addressing LNM rally

their duty. They have fallen quite below what is minimally required. \$400 million was the amount decided upon at the Tunis Arab Summit. After 10 years of havoc in south Lebanon, the Arabs were awakened just this year to support us with \$400 million. What's \$400 million for such a fact and for such steadfastness? I think that this amount is spent in a few nights in Las Vegas by our oil princes.

Concerning the political and moral side of the question: we believe that the people of the south who have abundantly given so much, have a full right which bears upon us all whether in the Palestinian Resistance or the LNM, to let them face the Israeli aggression — which they have faced very boldly — without any transgressions on our part against their civic rights. This is something which we should keep as a moral code in our behavior towards the people of the south. The arms we bear are arms to defend the land and the people and not to commit any transgressions. All armies commit transgressions in times of war. We believe that the popular resistance, whether it's Palestinian or Lebanese, should have the morality of a very high standard of idealism. A revolution only flourishes when it has mass support.

There is a well-known saying which says that: "Revolution is like a fish which needs the sea of the masses. Without it, the fish will suffocate." We really need the support of the masses. The support of the masses is to be maintained both materially and morally firstly, and then you can mobilize. Mobilization is based on these two things. We have to keep the south in order to take from it. And it has given us so much over the past years. On the other hand, we in the LNM do not put aside the duty to mobilize. Our party is taking part and has been taking part in this over the past 5 years without stopping. I have asked about which of our military bases you have visited because we have a lot and not only in one district, in full cooperation and coordination with the Palestinian Resistance, especially with Fatah.

I want to point out another thing. I think that the UN troops have shown good will. Yet their withdrawal from five Lebanese villages during the past two years under the pressure of Saad Haddad and the Israelis (Saad Haddad is just a facade for the Israeli occupation) — has shaken the credibility of UNIFIL as such and of the UN resolutions attached. This, of course, has led to hostilities against the villagers. The Israeli troops come into a village and just blow up houses — even within UNIFIL zones. This is a great handicap for the resistance, although the resistance is continuing and struggling. But you don't feel that you are protected by UNIFIL from the Israelis and



Israeli terror commandos returning from raid into south Lebanon, February 23, 1981

their aggression. We have pointed this out to the UNIFIL headquarters here and to the UN General Secretary's assistant when we had the chance of meeting him in New York in the name of the LNM a year ago. We have submitted to the UN several memoranda signed by me as vice-chairman of the LNM, concerning this point and other points.

**"The nucleus is a Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese National steadfastness"**

*Q: How do you assess the current work of the LNM in the south? Some press reports want to make the public believe that the people are discouraged and tired. Is this true?*

*A:* The Zionist-imperialist plan is to create a rift in relations between the Palestinian and Lebanese steadfastness in the south. It has been a miracle. It was a miracle that people who were unarmed at the beginning and then armed with rifles at the end, with no air protection except that which we acquired last year with the intervention of the Syrian Arab Air Force, without anything — they were just clinging to their land with honor and facing the Israeli occupation with all the boldness which the people have shown. The Palestinian Revolution did not stay in the south for ten years because the people were against it. It was the shield of the people which kept it here. This proves the real political consciousness and national awareness of our people who consider that the destiny of Palestine and Lebanon are one and is at stake in the face of the Israeli aggression. This is due to the important presence of the LNM in its parties which have clung to the national cause even before the founding of the PLO. Our party is going to celebrate the 50-year anniversary of its founding next year. The LNM is built upon parties which have been on the stage for several decades. It's not a movement which came into being as a result of recent events in Lebanon.

*Q: How does the LNM view the official Lebanese government's policy towards south Lebanon and the role played by Saad Haddad in the border enclave in the south?*

*A:* On the 13th of June, 1978 there was an official memorandum on the part of the Lebanese Minister of Foreign Affairs to the United Nations stating that Haddad is part of the Lebanese Army. A modest term to use for this is that it was a "big blunder," if we don't say that it was collaboration. Haddad is an Israeli protégé. Once you consider him as part of the Lebanese Army, you are stamping the Lebanese Army with something which we refuse. We reject that the Lebanese Army be stamped with this. Haddad is an Israeli. Concerning Lebanese President Sarkis' speech at the Islamic Summit in Taef, where





he vaguely referred to the Arab strategy in south Lebanon, we say that there is a nucleus without which no Arab strategy towards southern Lebanon could be designed.

The nucleus is a Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese national steadfastness. This is a step. It's in the field. You have the Syrian air force. You have the Lebanese-Palestinian Joint Forces. Now this is the foundation for the strategy of steadfastness for the Arabs concerning south Lebanon. If you come into contradiction with the PLO, you have begun to refuse and reject any Arab strategy. Without coordination with the PLO and Syria, you can't plan an Arab strategy concerning south Lebanon. So it we take the official Lebanese position, this is our interpretation of it.

**"The Lebanese Question is another face of the Zionist project"**

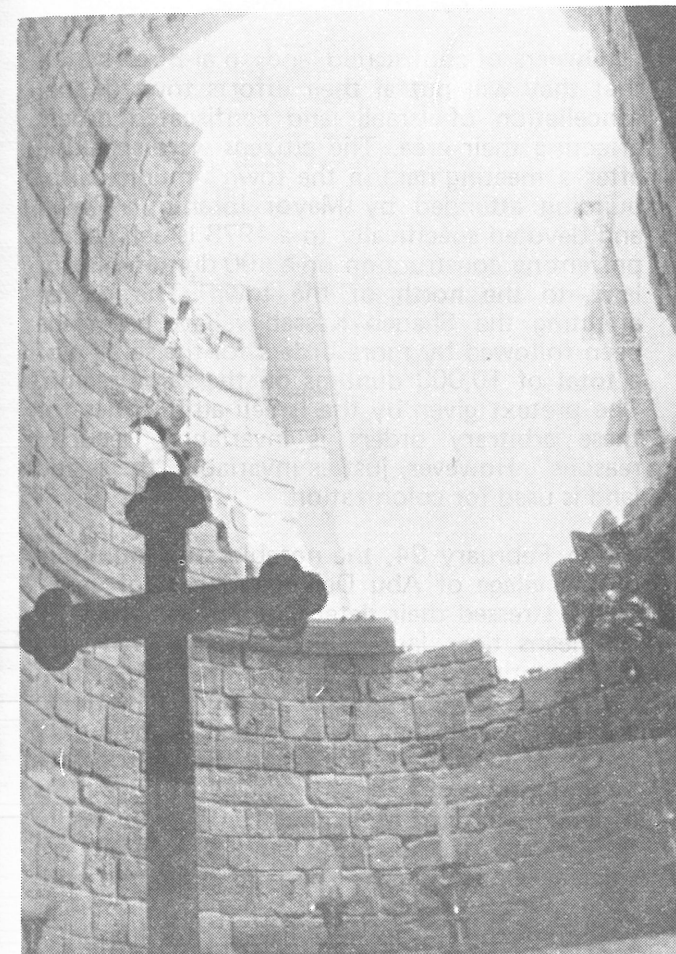
*Q: The Lebanese official position toward the south isn't isolated from moves taking place in the Beirut area and in Lebanon all over.*

*A: Yes, that's a very important point. We always talk about the south and we are liable to focus on the south because there you have direct Israeli intervention and aggression. But the *complot* is bigger*

than direct intervention. The Palestinian question is still the fundamental national question, not because the people of Palestine are better or more important or have attracted more attention in the Arab world than other Arab peoples. But because the Zionist project started in Palestine. But really the Zionist project is an imminent danger to all the surrounding area, to all the people of the surrounding area — to Syria and our southern area first, and then to the Arab world at large. The Zionist danger is an imminent danger to our national existence. It started in Palestine with the colonial settlement there in uprooting the people, in evicting them from their homes, but it's a plan for the whole area, not only for Palestine.

We said once before that the Palestinian issue is one where you hit at a part, but you aim at the whole. They hit at Palestine, but they mean the whole Arab world which is facing the danger of Zionist aggression. The same with the Lebanese question. The Lebanese question is another face of the Zionist project. If the Zionist project in Palestine was colonial settlement, the Zionist face in the Lebanese question is the process of Zionization.

The Lebanese Falangist party now collaborating besides Saad Haddad with Israel came into being during the French Mandate over Lebanon and with the support of the French, quite the same way



*"Most Christians are opposed to the Zionist project": Christian church in Tyre damaged by Israeli shelling*

Zionism was patronized in Palestine under the British Mandate. It is a party which was established in 1936 in order to stand as a bulwark against the spreading of our party, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, especially in northern Lebanon which is mostly Christian, because our party was unitary, secular and national. Therefore, the French colonial power wanted to form a sectarian ultra-Christian party or organization which would stand against the spread of this secular, national, unitary party. This is the cause for the foundation of the Falange. The Falange from its very beginning preached the alienation of the Christians and seeking foreign protection.

In understanding this then, we come to the conclusion that the fight which is taking place in Lebanon is not only facing direct Israeli aggression in the south, but also the project of Zionizing a part of the people in part of the capital and in parts of the mountains. Here, I think is the distinctive role of our party within the LNM, because our party is really still carrying the fight in the midst of the mountains, in Christian quarters where we have mass support and where we are the real truth and evidence that the

fight is between Lebanese and Lebanese. And not only that, but Christians against Christians — Christians who believe in the national progressive cause against isolationists who have an alliance with Israel. This is an answer to what Zionist propaganda has tried to stress in the western mass media.

Once I was in the States in Washington and Chicago and I had press conferences there. I said that you have a wrong concept here when you say that the fight is between Christian rightists and Muslim leftists. Before they had said "Christian and Muslims" and then they gave this epithet. I said, "First of all there are Christian rightists who are against the Falangists. Take Suleiman Frangieh. Take Raymond Edde and others. And secondly, not all the Muslims are leftists. So the fight is not between Christians and Muslims." They want to make it like this.

Now they are hoping on a reconciliation on the basis of Christians and Muslims. Why? Because their plan is to have the same pattern in our national quarters. In our national quarters we have maintained the unity of the people, irrespective of religious faith. Christians and Muslims live here together. Sixty-three percent of the Christians live outside of the Falangist ghetto and are against the Falangists. Even in the Falangist ghetto we have half of the population there against the Falangists. The answer to this by the *complot*, by the regime, is to tell you, "No, it's not a national fight against anti-national people collaborating with the enemy, but it's a Christian-Muslim formula." They want to bring into our national quarters several sectarian divisions so that this area will also become an annexation of the other and therefore to have a federation of sects. This, of course, is one of the big challenges which the LNM is fighting against in radicalizing its position and bringing back its reform principles of its secular solution to the problem. Our party is playing a role in this because it's known as a secular party and a national party from its very foundations.



*Members of the Joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces*





Additional Budget:

# FRANTIC SETTLEMENT DRIVE

Despite worldwide condemnation, the Israeli authorities continue to establish new settlements on expropriated Palestinian-owned land. The Israeli Finance Ministry approved an additional Shekel 1.7 billion budget for the establishment of six new settlements in the West Bank and for the enlargement of several others, Radio Israel said on February 24. The Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* also reported that the head of the settlement section in the Jewish Agency has finalized a settlement plan, which aims at expropriating large plots of land in Galilee. It added that Israeli settlers had already finished construction of several settlements and other nuclei on the outskirts of Nazareth, and in Kawkab Abul Hayja, Saklinin and 'Arraba. The Israeli daily *Davar* reported the same day that Israeli settlers fenced off around 390 dunums in the village of Sakhin which belonged to 20 Palestinian families.

Israeli Prime Minister Begin declared to pressmen that there was no change in his government's settlement policy and that 10 more colonies will soon be established in the West Bank. On February 24, Menahem Begin cited a recent statement by U.S. President Reagan to justify his government's continuing of expanding settlements in the occupied West Bank. Mr. Begin's remarks have come after a series of angry diplomatic messages to Washington from Arab leaders. Ariel Sharon, Minister of Agriculture in the Zionist regime, is working flat out to "create facts" in the occupied West Bank in order to block any possible solution that might be proposed in the future.

Thousands of acres of land in the occupied West Bank are now being claimed by the Israeli military authorities for new settlements despite the rights from local Arab residents who own the land privately *Sunday Times* February 15, 1981. The Zionist government finds itself in a race against time to find enough Zionist settlers ready to live there as soon as Arab natives are evacuated.

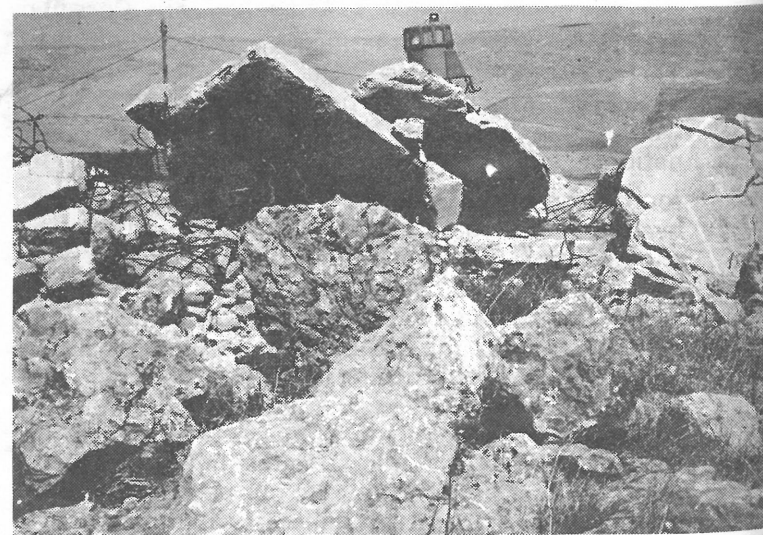
## Al-Bireh, Abu Deis, Al-Khalil... fierce resistance against land robbery

Owners of confiscated lands in al-Bireh stated that they will put all their efforts towards the cancellation of Israeli land confiscated orders affecting their area. The citizens were speaking after a meeting held in the town's municipality building attended by Mayor Ibrahim al-Tawil and devoted specifically to a 1978 Israeli decree preventing construction on a 400 dunum plot of land to the north of the town. The decree affecting the Shaqab Kassab valley, has since been followed by more orders for the seizure of a total of 10,000 dunums on the same region. The pretext given by the Israeli authorities for these arbitrary orders is invariably "security reasons". However, just as invariably, the seized land is used for colonization.

On February 24, the notables and mukhtars of the village of Abu Deis, south-east of Jerusalem, stressed their determination to defend by all means their land which is threatened with expropriation. They said that the occupation authorities were trying to pressure Palestinian citizens to sell their land, which is their only source of livelihood. The occupation authorities on mid-month of February fenced off huge plots of land, estimated at around 15,000 dunums, in the village of Abu Deis and prevented the villagers from using it. The land is planted with olive trees, vines and all types of vegetables which are the source of livelihood for hundreds of Palestinian families.

On February 27, acting mayor of al-Khalil (Hebron) Mustafa al-Natshe, protested during a meeting with an Israeli military official, the fencing off by settlers under the protection of

Ruins of a Palestinian farmer's house bulldozed



to make way for an Israeli settlement at Hamra, in Jordan valley



army forces of large areas of land belonging to Palestinian citizens for whom these lands are the only means of subsistence. *Haaretz*, quoting a military source on February 25, said that the Israeli authorities had since last October expropriated around 20,605 dunums of land in the West Bank and 4,300 dunums in Hebron alone, all of which will be distributed between present settlements and among ten colonies now under construction.

In mid-February, Israeli forces fenced off around 60 dunums of land belonging to the villages of Beit 'Amr and Beit Jala in the Bethlehem region, with the aim of expropriating it for colonization. In related news, the remaining eastern parts of the land of Beit Skaria village, near Bethlehem, was annexed to two Israeli settlements: Ras Surif and Elon Shvut. The Western part of the villages' land-7000 dunums had been seized last month.

Officials from the Israeli Land Administration Department, accompanied by border guards and members of the Israeli Agricultural Ministry Militia, the 'Green Patrol', over February 20 began ground clearing work on 13,000 dunums of cultivated Palestinian-owned land in the far south of the West Bank. The land is to be used for the establishment of two new settlements, Ze'ev and Carmel.

## Peres: we will go on

The Head of the Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency declared that 400 housing units projected to accommodate 3,000 settlers will be established in the next four months. He disclosed that between 1967 and 1977, 72 settlements were set up in the West Bank and Galilee, while 165 settlements were established by the Likud government since 1977.

Meanwhile, the head of the Labour Party, Shimon Peres, was quoted as saying at an administrative board meeting of the Labour Alignment on February 26 that 'Israel's borders start at the Jordan River.' He added that the Alignment would not evacuate any colony in the occupied territories should it take over the government next June.

## FASCIST SETTLERS ATTACK PALESTINIAN VILLAGE

A large group of Israeli settlers from the Shilo Colony, including members of the Gush Emunim and the Jewish Defense League on February 28 went on the rampage in the village of Sanjal, in the Ramallah district. The armed settlers smashed house windows and damaged cars, while the Palestinian residents watched helplessly. The damage to property in the village is estimated at 6,000. It is important to note that the Israeli authorities have done little to prevent this kind of fascist behaviour, which is also illustrated in the lack of any official action against settlers who earlier this month called for the physical destruction of the Palestinian people. Settlers had written slogans to this effect on walls in the towns of Ramallah, Hebron, Nablus and Al-Bireh.

Israeli troops arrest Palestinian youth during demonstration



against land seizures near Tel Jaber in the occupied West Bank



# ZIONISM IN PRACTICE

## INVESTIGATE DEATH OF TWO PALESTINIAN PRISONERS IN NAFHA!

On February 19, Israeli attorney Lea Tsemel asked the military supreme court in Jerusalem to investigate the death of two detainees in Nafha prison last year. The petition, submitted by Tsemel and signed by a number of Palestinian detainees, demanded the trial of the Ramleh prison director and

investigation into the death of Rasem Halaweh and 'Ali al-Ja'afari, which occurred during last year's strike. The petition also demanded an investigation into the refusal to inter al-Ja'afari's corpse in the family tomb and an examination of the general conditions of Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons.

## PARENTS OF DETAINEES STAGE PROTESTS

Parents and families of Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails on February 23 staged a sit-in at municipality buildings in the West Bank in protest against the maltreatment of their relatives under detention. The prisoners were exposed to routine brutality and violence such as the regular storming of cells by soldiers and beatings with fists, clubs and rifle-butts. They said that visiting sessions were limited to five minutes only, books were banned, and that the relatives were mistrea-

ted during visiting periods.

Parents of detainees met with al-Bireh mayor Ibrahim Tawil, who later cabled the International Committee of the Red Cross and appealed for an investigation into the appealing conditions of prisoners. Following their meeting with Tawil, the protestors, together with secondary school students, staged a sit-in at the ICRC headquarters in al-Bireh.

In related news, the Vice-President of the local council of Majd al-Karum, disclosed at a press conference on February 27 at the Press Center in Tel-Aviv, that 4 recently detained Palestinian residents of the town were severely beaten at the Karmel police station in the presence of high-ranking officers. He also called for a meeting on Saturday February 28 to protest Israeli brutality.

The Israeli authorities have released the Imam of the mosque of



Their hunger strike is their only weapon: Palestinian prisoners in Nafha

the bedouin in the Jerusalem region, Sheikh Abdel-Rahman Hussein Hamidan, after detention for 26 days. The Sheikh's arrest came during a wave of arrests against religious figures last month on charges of "anti Israeli-activities".

## FEBRUARY 1981: 82% OF SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRANTS FAIL TO COME TO ISRAEL

75 percent of the Jews allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union in January 1981 didn't come to

Israel. By the middle of February the figure reached even 82 percent, according to the *Jewish Chronicle* quoted by the Israeli daily *Haaretz* on February 25, 1981. According to the *Jewish Chronicle* 679 Soviet Jews have been permitted expatriation in January, most of them from Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Charkow and Odessa. Only 122 of them have decided to establish themselves in Israel. During the first half of February only 98 out of 562 Soviet Jews have come to Israel. Most of them prefer to be taken care of by two American

Jewish organisations, "Joint" and "Hias".



## RACIST ATTACKS ON ARAB STUDENTS IN HAIFA

Following the brutal beatings of three Arab Technion students by Jewish extremists in mid February and their threats to continue to assault Arab students until they leave all Israeli universities, the National Union of Arab Students (NUAS) and CAMPUS, (an Arab-Jewish leftist group active on socio-political issues,) announced at a press conference in Jerusalem;

"After midnight, on February 10, ten masked members of 'YESH' (Our Israel), an extremist right-wing movement, equipped with knives, clubs and chains, broke into a dormitory room at the Technion Institute in Haifa and started beating the three sleeping Arab students present," said Isam Makhoul, NUAS chairperson, during the conference. Barakat Al-Haj, head of Technion's Arab Students Committee, Atif Omari, and Wafa' Elias were seriously wounded. One of the attackers was stabbed when one of the Arab students tried to defend himself."

A dormitory neighbour of the injured three, Namroud Ba'il, a representative of the Technion's Anti-Semitism and Anti-Terrorism Committee, had not been at home. "The next morning," he told journalists. "I went to visit them. To my surprise their doors were ajar and the floors, walls and beds were covered with blood. It was a shocking scene."

Ba'il overheard journalists who had come to the room to report on the incident say that it looked like an attempted assassination.

## Further Threats

Meir Kahane, head of 'Kach', (another ultranationalist Zionist movement,) and who was put under six month administrative detention last year for planning to blow up Muslim holy sites, threatened to take revenge on Arab students. In a February 12 interview in the Israeli newspaper, *Yediot Aharanot*, Kahane said he would avenge "the shedding of sacred Jewish blood" by an Arab, referring to the stabbing of one of the Jewish students involved in the Technion attack.

Yossi Dayan, Kahane's deputy, telegraphed the director of the Technion on February 12, warning him to expel "the PLO supporters, or we will do this ourselves." *Kastel*, a right-wing student group active at Hebrew University, called an 'emergency' meeting on February 16 to plan for 'strict measures' against what they called "university protection for PLO incitement."

Arab students in Israeli universities were verbally provoked and physically attacked several times last year. In June, serious injuries were inflicted on nine Haifa Arab students.

Given the record of the attacks

to date, the most recent one constitutes a strong warning of difficult times ahead for Arab students. Arab and democratic Jewish students consider the Technion action as the most severe attack on Arab students and on academic freedom in general in recent years.

The fact that the assault was not a result of a heated argument or shouting match, at a protest rally of a demonstration, indicates a new direction: the raid was premeditated and very carefully planned. The attackers had keys to the students' rooms.

Last my, YESH distributed a leaflet, signed by the "Organization for the Liberation of Eretz Israel (the land of Israel)," stating:

(1) An Arab cannot live under a democratic regime.

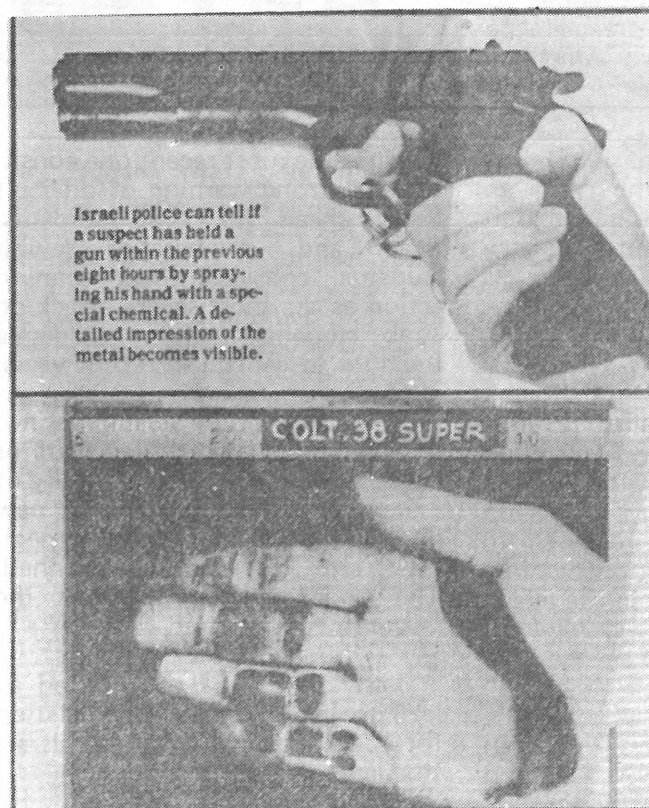
(2) Arabs will abide by the law only under military government. Therefore, military government must be reinstituted over all the Arabs in Eretz Israel.

Isam Makhoul told the press conference that last year the Haifa Arab Students Committee sent a letter to the university president protesting the YESH leaflet and demanding that he stop the violent acts of the fascist organization. The president did not respond.

(This report by Awad Abdel Fattah was published first in the Palestinian weekly *Al Fajr*, Jerusalem, on February 28, 1981).



## Crime, drugs, desertion: SOCIAL DISEASES INVADE ZIONIST ARMY



Israeli police can tell if a suspect has held a gun within the previous eight hours by spraying his hand with a special chemical. A detailed impression of the metal becomes visible.

COLT 38 SUPER

New techniques won't reverse the soaring crime rate

Crime in Israel has become daily news that covers the front pages of the Zionist newspapers. The rise in crime is due to the kinds of colonizing immigrants or other countries' drop outs, who hail into occupied Palestine to replace deported or evacuated Palestinian natives.

Many of these immigrants are wanted by the law in their own countries of origin, where some of them committed dangerous crimes and had a bad influence on the societies they came from. In Israel they get the protection they need, even if some of them are wanted for murder or robbery, because the Zionist regime needs them for its own killings and robberies in occupied Arab territories. Now, these criminals are enjoying new identities, new passports and sometimes, parliamentary immunities.

Samuel Flatto Sharon is a living example of this

trend. He has been sentenced up to 5 years imprisonment and fined \$7,000 by a French court, on several fraud charges and crimes he committed while he was a French citizen. Presently, the man is a member of the Knesset (Israeli parliament) enjoying the protection provided by his parliamentary immunity.

Crime Minister Menahem Begin himself, the 1979 Nobel Prize winner, was also wanted by the British authorities on several murder charges in the late 40's. This exterminator mass-murdered hundreds of innocent people when he blew up the King David Hotel in Jerusalem. At that time Begin was the head of IRGUN, a gangster group formed from professional killers and international outlaws to terrorize native Palestinians.

Furthermore, the Israeli Foreign minister Itzhak Shamir is wanted by Interpol for his participation in the assassination in 1948 of special U.N. envoy to the Middle East Count Bernadotte. His commission was trying to bring about proposals for a peaceful solution to the Palestine conflict.

There is recent news that Aharon Abuhazeira, Minister of Religious Affairs accepted bribes and committed fraud. Things are not very religious. Also there are former Prime Minister Rabin's famous bank accounts in the U.S. (*Guardian* March 16/77). If these criminals are the elected figures of the Zionist society, what kind of society is it?

### The Armed Forces

We can not separate civilians from soldiers when crimes or criminals are mentioned in a state like Israel. Everybody has to serve in the army or networks related to it in a way or another.

Colonel Mikhail Ghal said in January last year that 60 percent of the crimes in Israel are committed by civilians. In other words, the other 40 percent are committed by soldiers, the regular soldiers. The social diseases which has penetrated this international gangster society, has also penetrated its armed forces.

The most effective lessons Zionist soldiers get are when they start their criminal duties and are indoctrinated in an ideology that considers force and violence



Israeli soldiers mistreating prisoners during occupation of south Lebanon in March 1978

the practical ways to achieve gains against the Palestinians.

When things get tight sometimes for these soldiers they use the same methods they already learnt in the army to make a "fast Buck" when they need it. The inhuman acts, which they use to direct against the Arab neighbouring countries and against Palestinian national identity, now backfire and threaten Zionist society and its military organization.

About the increasing crime rate in the army, Mr. Zeif Yafet observed in *Haaretz* on July, 7, 1977, that crimes among soldiers have increased when a decision has been taken by the command of the army accepting ex-convicts and people with criminal backgrounds in its barracks. Lieutenant Colonel Robin Ghal, the president of the psychology unit in the army, commented on January 1, 1980 that 15 percent of the admitted soldiers in 1979 were ex-criminals and some of them have committed very dangerous crimes. Four kinds of crimes have penetrated the Zionist armed forces: theft, drug addiction and marketing, rape or sexual assaults, and army desertion.

Weapon thefts have become common among soldiers in the barracks. The soldiers steel from each other. Almost every day of the year one soldier reports a missing weapon. *Yediot Aharanot* reported on September 30, 1979 that 98 soldiers were taken into custody on charges of theft during the Litani operation when Zionist soldiers robbed Lebanese villagers and their household. The same newspaper reported on May 23, 1980, that theft files in military courts have become very embarrassing. Large amounts of weapons have been stolen from army barracks and sold to extremists and hoodlums whose credo is to terrorize Arab women and children and make it impossible for them to stay and live on the land of their ancestors. The *Gush Emunim* group, *Kach* movement and *Sons of Zion* have ideologies which are the extension of Begin's criminal ideology.

Ezer Weizman, the former Minister of Defence,

admitted that 144 weapons have been stolen from army stocks in 1978 alone. In March 1979, the Zionist authorities discovered a big quantity of explosives and 37 maps in a house occupied by a soldier. 13 soldiers were arrested. (*Yediot Aharanot*, May 23, 1980). Jakob Hatzroni a specialist in army regulations, said recently that weapons' theft happens mostly when the soldier finds himself in need of buying drugs.

Sometimes, weapons even find their way to Arabs who in turn pass it over to Palestinian resistance fighters operating in the occupied territories. Weapons include machine-guns, handguns, grenades... etc...

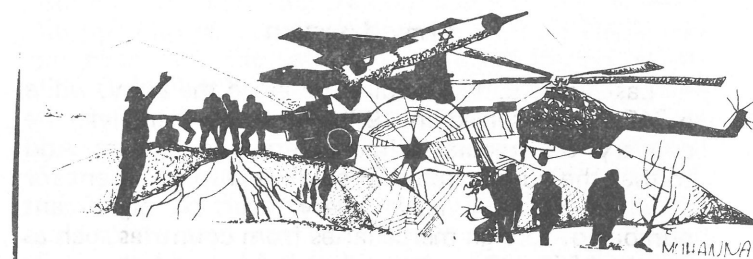
### Drug addiction and marketing

Due to the shortage in manpower, Israeli generals are not in a position to be choosy or picky when taking volunteers for the armed forces. As in the past some soldiers were using drugs just to have an excuse to get out of military duties, but these days things are different and the opposite has been happening. The army has become the center of drug addiction and marketing. In 1973, nine soldiers were tried and convicted, and in 1975 already the number had increased to 120 trials. (*Al Hamishmar* December 27, 1979).

During 1976-1977, Israeli authorities arrested 700 soldiers on drug charges. (*Jerusalem Post* February 2,

1978), and in 1978 police arrested two soldiers in Kiryat Ono and found 12 Kg of hashish and 600 grams of opium in their possession. After a full-scale investigation, authorities found out that the leaders of the gang were officers in the intelligence service. (*Ha'aretz* September 19, 1979).

The present gloomy situation, the shocks of the 1973 war when the Zionist army was near collapse, and the state of war that has been continuously persisting — all these facts have left the Israeli soldier with a negative attitude and a disturbed personality. He sees drug addiction is the only way out.





Crime, drugs, desertion:  
SOCIAL DISEASES INVADE  
ZIONIST ARMY



The Israeli occupation army has become a school for crime

#### Rape and sexual assaults

Officers are ashamed to wear their uniforms, the President of Israel said once due to the scandals that are erupting from time to time concerning sexual wrongdoings of famous ranking officers. For example, when Navy Commander Abraham Barkai attempted to rape a female sailor who was working under his command; or Moshe Dayan's affairs with female officers, volunteers, and officers' wives in the late seventies, not to mention the stag and swing parties he attended at the offices and apartments of other ranking officers. A number of 1,127 cases of rape and sexual assaults have been reported to the authorities during 1980 alone.

#### Army desertion

Last year, 5, 136 soldiers deserted the army, while 5,345 had deserted in 1979. Most of them left the country. 828 regular soldiers were among them. Add to that the huge number of soldiers who go absent for a while without leave every year. A significant number of foreign mercenaries from countries such as South Africa, Canada, and Britain desert the army and leave the country on their foreign passports.

According to statistics, 25 percent of Israelis obtain medical reports claiming disabilities for milita-

ry duties, with other 15 percent disobey orders issued by the general command to join the army. (Al Hamishmar, July 27, 1979)

There is a permanent stock of approximately 1,500 soldiers serving terms up to 18 months in military prisons. Soldiers serving longer terms are usually transferred to civilian jails.

#### Zionism itself is the basis of crime

Soaring crime in Israel is not a matter of accidental decay and corruption. It is but the outward expression of the overall state of Zionist affairs. Zionism as a whole is a movement based on crime: the attempted genocide committed against the indigenous people of Palestine; organized mass terror; the eviction of a peaceful people from their land to be stolen and taken over by the Zionist intruders; an occupation rule based on violence and repression. As always, crime eventually turns against the criminals; thus Zionism now starts to engulf its own followers which for so long believed that the victims would be always the others, the Palestinians, the Arabs. The Jews must understand that, unless they get rid of the basically criminal nature of their present existence in Palestine, they will never find either security or peace.

Conference on the Palestinian Issue in the 1980s,  
American University Beirut/Lebanon:

## EUROPEAN POLITICS AND THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION

By Dr. Charlotte Teuber

*In the following we publish a study delivered at the Conference on the Palestinian Issue held on January 2, 1981 at Beirut American University. Dr. Charlotte M. Teuber is from Emmanuel College of Boston/Mass. in the U.S.A.*

#### Historical Overview

While American involvement in and American power to move, the face of Palestine and the Palestinians is barely three decades old, European powers created most of the problems of the region for the past two thousand years. European learning, as well as European politics had a proprietary approach to that tortured "Holy land" long before modern colonial and mandate times. What happened within and between European powers was the moving factor in European policies towards the Orient,<sup>1</sup> and within that vague "Orient," the Palestine was conceived, as vaguely, as the spiritual heart of the (Christian) Occident, to be "protected" and held against whoever was actually living there but not of the Occidental Christian profession. The ideological and the political interacted in creating a continuum of European fascination with Palestine. From Pierre Dubois' 14th century appeal to the princes of Christian blood to reconquer and colonize Palestine as a means to bring peace to — Europe,<sup>2</sup> to Theodore Herzl's call for the Jewish colonization of Palestine with the double purpose of escaping from European anti-Semitism and creating a thoroughly European civilization there,<sup>3</sup> the fate of the Palestinians themselves seemed irrelevant. The hostility to Islam was nourished by the continuous warfare between the East European countries and the Ottoman Empire, an ideological element that connected the medieval/feudal fascination with the Middle East with modern geopolitics. During the nineteenth century, when England and France had brought most of the worlds territories either into outright possession or at least spheres of interest, the destruction of the Ottoman Empire brought the people of the Middle East into focus — but again only as a means to break the power of the Sublime Porte over them. At the same time, most European countries saw the ascendancy of anti-liberal nationalistic trends from the right or the



The refinery of Abadan set ablaze in the Gulf war: the West Europeans will be the first victims of the going destabilization in the Middle East

left, which in most cases was concomittant with the growth of rabid anti-Semitism, England being the exception.<sup>4</sup> The end of World War 1 also spelled the end of the Ottoman Empire and its European archfoes, the Austrian and Russian Empires. The Islamic people of the Middle East became subjects of clients of the Christian powers England and France, against all promises made to the Arabs when it was a matter to incite them against the Ottoman rule. Britain prevaricated on both fronts — between broken promises to the Arabs and not quite kept promises to the Zionists.<sup>5</sup> When Hitler came to power in Germany and the threat to the German and central-European Jewery was soon transformed into a hitherto unthinkable reality of extermination, Britain still needed Arab support during World War 2. Thus the vacillation between outright support for Jewish immigration and lessening support for the Palestinians went on.<sup>6</sup>

The end of World War 2 saw the complete hegemony of the United States, and its total commitment to the creation of Israel. The European allies of the United States, as well as the Soviet Union, saw in their support of the American stand a means of avoiding an open dispute with the United States about the dismantling of their empires. And the ex-ally, the Soviet Union, voted for the creation of Israel as a goodwill gesture towards the United States, also with an eye to consolidate its hold on Eastern Europe where strong Jewish support was needed. Europe stayed true to form — its own problems and interests were the sole moving factor in its policies. The Cold War saw the old foe, Germany, or rather both parts of the former Reich, accepted as an ally by NATO and Warsaw Pact. As almost all continental European countries have a record of anti-Semitism which ranged from dubious to outright bestial, a way to expiate guilt was to give enthusiastic and unqualified support to Israel. And some of the pet slogans of anti-Semitism could be easily transferred to the Semitic Arabs of Palestine, if their existence was at all considered.<sup>7</sup> When the Arab world began to stir and



## EUROPEAN POLITICS AND THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION

to threaten British interests in Egypt, and French power in Algeria, Israel became what Herzl had dreamed about – an important outpost of European colonialism. The attack on Egypt 1956, a joint British, French and Israeli venture, was stunted by American and Soviet protests. The important role of Israeli military intelligence in the Algerian struggle against the French was less publicized, but not less real, and, at least for a while, quite effective.

In the decade after Israel's coming into existence, both public opinion and the political leadership of Western Europe completely embraced the American view of Israel and tried to emulate her policies. That meant a complete black-out on Palestinian matters. The suffering, the brutalities and injustices wrecked upon the Palestinians were buried in occasional reports on Palestinian refugee camps, often juxtaposed to reports about the political hay the Arab states made out of the Palestinian refugees while letting them rot in internationally supported camps.

The War of 1967 which brought the conquest of the rest of Palestine by Israel, also occasioned a passing interest in the Palestinians. That interest passed so fast that Prime Minister Golda Meir could declare, at a meeting of the Social Democratic International in 1969, that there are no such people as the Palestinians, without making any stir in the European press. It is a sad fact, that the Palestinians entered European consciousness through the desperate acts of terror. Despite the fact that it gave the Palestinians a very bad press, they began to exist in the minds of the public. There were some voices asking for the grievances which led people to such desperate acts as the one at the Munich Olympics of 1972, and some voices tried to answer. Slowly, and from different political strata, the existence of a Palestinian problem and the necessity of becoming acquainted with it emerged in Europe, on both sides of the Iron Curtain. While the Western Europeans needed the jolt of the Arab Oil Boycott of 1973,<sup>8</sup> the Eastern European countries, with or without prodding from the Soviet Union had, already in the early 1960s, begun to assist, verbally and materially, the Palestinian cause. This matter in turn became an asset to Zionist propaganda, as the Palestinians, and especially the PLO could now be portrayed as tools of Moscow.



Chairman Arafat at Vienna meeting with Chancellor Kreisky and S.I. Chairman Brandt

### Recent Developments

Thus, the European record on the Palestine and the Palestinians is a sad one, still I would disagree with the recently voiced opinion of a Palestinian leader that there is no hope for any progressive steps on behalf of the Palestinians by the Common Market Countries and the majority of the Europeans. Without entertaining any illusions about the potential for moral heights of European statesmanship, or for attempting an apology for policies past and present, I would submit that there are some aspects of a more optimistic nature than Abu Jihad's predictions would one lead to believe.<sup>9</sup>

In my view there are three basic developments which warrant a guarded optimism. The first is that, in contrast to the rather simplistic American view of seeing the Middle East problem as simply a general Arab vs. Israel conflict, threatening the vital oil supplies for the Free World, there is an understanding in Europe that the Palestinian problem is influenced by, but separate from this, as well from the alleged Soviet-move-into-the-Arab-Gulf problem. The development in Iran over the past two years showed that the policies of an American-European appointed local gendarme against the Arabs failed as a policy, and that, by the sheer facts of geography the Soviet Union cannot be kept out of a comprehensive settlement. In the general policies of Detente, a more sober evaluation of Soviet oil intentions and plans, helped to understand the connection with, but separateness, of the Palestinian question from the whole set of problems in the Middle East. A general trend for a concerted European policy, increasingly independent from Washington, can be discerned. The second development, which is of great significance, is the fact that the younger generation of Europeans, untainted by the sins of their fathers against European Jewry, increasingly rejects the simple equation of anti-Semitism and questioning of the righteousness of any action and policy of Israel. Also, the wars of 1967 and 1973 made the, up till then, prevailing

picture of brave heroic Israel, trying to stay afloat in a sea of hostile Arabs, harder to maintain. Youth that had begun to ask unpleasant questions about their elders cooperation with, and involvement in the politics that led to Auschwitz and Lidice, was apt to question the purity that led to Deir Yassin.

The third, and I would submit, most important factor leading to a changed West European attitude towards the Palestinians, derives from political developments within a number of European countries themselves. While there is, undoubtedly, a resurgent anti-Semitism, often propagated by leftovers of the old Right but carried to ugly extremes by the new fascistoid groups, the parties least tainted with anti-Semitic policies in the past, the Social Democrats, under the leadership of Austria's Bruno Kreisky, began to address themselves to the efforts to make the Palestinian issue an integral part of a Middle Eastern settlement, and that as a specific European contribution,<sup>9</sup> based on the trust that Israeli Social Democrats would welcome this peace effort. It was not to be, Kreisky was denounced by all members of the Israeli labour Party, and his efforts to put the Palestinian question on the agenda of the meetings of the Socialist International, met with bitter denunciations and derision. However, the efforts of some of the Social Democratic leaders went on. The British Labour Party began to articulate a policy towards the Palestinians,<sup>10</sup> and even the Federal Republic of Germany, or better, the leading SPD, began to follow a more even course on the Israeli-Palestinian Problem. As the councils of the EEC were publicly, and internally, committed to the American stance of unqualified support for Israel, a way had to be found to get a European forum for a new concerted approach to peace in the Middle East with the quest of the Palestinians for justice and liberty as an integral part of any plan. That forum was found in the European Parliament in Strassbourg. The Social Democratic majority in the European Parliament, under the leadership of the British parliamentarian Andrew Faulds (a British Labour M.P., who had been the driving force to change Labour's attitude to the Palestinians), established a Euro-Arab Parliamentary Association in 1975. This association is continuously collecting and dispensing information about the Palestinian question to all members of the European Parliament. Specifically, the European Parliament recognizes the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinians, thus paving the way for its formal recognition by the members' home government.<sup>11</sup> While the coming to power of Margaret Thatcher's conservative government in Britain, and the set policies of the Guiscard d'Estaing government in France prevent these two powers from resisting U.S. pressure for non-recognition of the PLO, Social Democratic governments are increasingly risking American dis-favour by, tacitly or officially, striving for formal recognition.

At the 15th Socialist International Congress, Madrid, November 1980, the following statement was contained in the final communique:

Middle East: We note the important statement by Boutros-Ghali, of the National Democratic Party of Egypt, Willy Brandt, Bruno Kreisky and Shimon Peres of November 14, 1980.<sup>12</sup> We consider the Israeli Labour Alignment, led by Shimon Peres, the only viable force for peace and with Israel. We call upon the Israelis, the neighbouring countries and the Palestinians to negotiate peace. The Socialist International will continue to play an active role in bringing about a just and comprehensive peace which guarantees the security of all the parties to the conflict and also realizes the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.<sup>13</sup>

I have quoted this tame, and by no means progressive sounding statement on the Middle East in its full text, lest I should have given the impression of undue optimism in my previous portrayal of discernible changes in European politics with regard to the Palestinian question.

But I persist, in my analysis, that the chances of European actions on behalf of the Palestinians are far better than those for a breakthrough on the American side. No European country has anything nearly as powerful a Zionist lobby than the United States, therefore no considerations of domestic policy inhibit their governments from changing position on the Palestinian question. There is also a generally better understanding that increased military maneuvering in the volatile Gulf region may endanger rather than secure the badly needed oil from that region, as well as the natural gas supply from the Soviet Union, and thus a certain hesitancy to follow U.S. calls to arms.

In conclusion, I want to talk about the significant shift in public opinion about the Palestinian cause. From willed ignorance about the existence and the sufferings of the Palestinians since 1949, to a hostile recognition of this existence during the times of terrorism, all stemming from an unqualified acceptance and even admiration of Israeli policies, there has been a gradual lessening of interest in Israel, parallel to a growing dislike of her flaunting all international conventions. Also, many Europeans still remember the times of occupation during and after World War 2, and Israel as an occupying power has lost a lot of attraction. Another important factor in the subtle consciousness-raising of the Europeans was a Zionist ploy that worked in the United States but not in most European countries – the equation of anti-Semitism with anti-Zionism, and the concept of anti-Zionism as anything that does not applaud every action of Israel and the Israelis. The fact that the first voices calling for justice for the Palestinians came from well known anti-Semites and that political actions came from parties least tainted with anti-Semitism, began to penetrate the consciousness of the people before press and media became more distanced from the straight Israeli propaganda line. The almost uncritical support of the United States, together with the hardening of Israel's foreign policy, and the latter's actions in the occupied territories, especially the settlement policy there, encounter no, or at least very little sympathy in Western Europe, and open hostility in the East Bloc. The spectacle of the mighty United States bowing to every whim of Israeli policy, caused derision and – worry on either



## EUROPEAN POLITICS AND THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION



World Conference in Solidarity with the Arab People  
and their Central Cause, Palestine, Portugal, November 1979

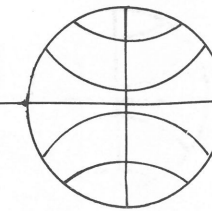
side of the Iron Curtain.<sup>14</sup> Finally, the change in modes of thought, especially of the younger generation of Europeans, about the Third World peoples and their predicament of internal as well as external European colonization, was bound to bring a new dimension of understanding for the Palestinians. In trying to 'digest' recent and past history, Europeans become less inclined to continue the sins of their fathers, and see Europe's imperial past not any more as a matter of pride, but as a new, and negative insight. Thus the Europeans may be better equipped to get rid of the imperial dream than the Americans who experience empire as a way of life, while being convinced that the United States never was, and never will be an imperial power.

There may be a number of avenues for active European participation in resolving the Middle East conflict, and bringing about a genuine and just solution for the Palestinians. The Europeans could help to extricate the United States from its impale-ment on Israel's demands. By bringing the Geneva Conference together again, the forum could be broadened and the Soviet Union brought in against and the East Europeans as well as the neutrals added to the process. A joint initiative by Gaston Thorn, the next Chairman of the EEC, President Ceausescu of Rumania, and Chancellor Kreisky of Austria could lay the groundwork for such a truly comprehensive peace action, which had to be worked out with the active co-operation of the Arabs and, above all, the representatives of the Palestinian people, the PLO. The revitalized Geneva Conference would then put the stamp of approval on a well prepared plan, which could be realized in the face of Israeli resistance.<sup>15</sup> Then, and only then would Europe have begun the process of restitution to the people she had wronged for such a long time.

### REFERENCES:

1. For a penetrating study of the "European idea of the Orient" see Edward W. Said *Orientalism* (Vintage Books, 1979).
2. Pierre Dubois *De recuperatione Terrae Sanctae*, 1310 (mod. edition by Henri Langlois, Paris 1931).
3. Theodore Herzl *Der Judenstaat* (Vienna, 1896). In speeches and pamphlets Herzl clearly demonstrated that the European Jews who would populate the homeland would replace the irrelevant population of the region and create an English style liberal European society. He even disdained Hebrew as lingua franca of the "many-nationality" Jewery. In the early days of his Zionist propagation, he saw Palestine only as the "rallying idea" for uneducated and unassimilated European Jews.
4. The strange constellation of this emerging antiliberal right, left and Zionism in the Vienna of the late 19th century is brilliantly portrayed in Karl Schorske *Fin-de-Siecle Vienna* (New York, 1980), Ch.5: "Politics in a new Key: an Austrian Trio."
5. For documentation of this time, see Dorzen Ingram *Palestine Papers 1917-1922 Seeds of Conflict* (London, 1972).
6. A comprehensive picture of the politics before the founding of Israel can be found in Walid Khalidi's *From Haven to Conquest* (Beirut, 1971).
7. A guarded portrayal of the state of European public opinion was presented by Thomas Chorgherr at the United Nations Seminar on the Question of Palestine, Vienna, Austria, August 1980.
8. A positive exception to the almost united Front of ill will and non-reporting was and is "Le Monde" especially the writings of Eric Rouleau.
9. The bitter clash between Kreisky and Golda Meir at the meeting of the Second International in Vienna, 1972, was not widely reported.
10. Against the wishes of Harold Wilson, Labour M.P.s were instrumental in establishing "Palestine Action", an association dedicated to bring understanding of the Palestine and palestinians to both university and working youth.
11. As of Fall 1980, all East European countries, but only four West European countries, and Turkey, had recognized the PLO as the legitimate political representation of the Palestinians.
12. I was unable to obtain a copy of the statement and had to rely on oral reports.
13. Final draft of the Resolution of the Fifteenth Post-war Congress of the Socialist International, Madrid/Spain, Nov.16, 1980.
14. An Excellent analysis of European reactions to United States subservency to Israel can be found in Andrew Fauld's address to the Thirteenth Annual Convention of the AAAUG, Cambridge, Mass. November 21, 1980.
15. These ideas follow mainly the sketched plan for a European action in the stalemate of Middle Eastern peace efforts by Andrew Fauld at the before mentioned AAAUG Conference.

## WORLD



## EVENTS:

While U.S. and Israeli rangers  
flock into Salvador

### CUBA PREPARES TO MEET U.S. THREATS

The Reagan Administration has debuted its new foreign policy with a virulent attack on the Cuban government to cover for an escalation in U.S. military support for the fascist junta in El Salvador. In a series of carefully orchestrated media spectacles, Reagan officials have tried to allege that the popular uprising in El Salvador is not due to the bloodbath policies of the fascist junta, but rather to supposed Cuban arms shipments to the Salvadoran liberation forces. Underlying the anti-Cuban campaign is a larger Reagan Administration theme of pushing U.S. imperialism into a global confrontation with the Soviet Union and currently purporting that El Salvador is the last line of defense.

On February 22, both Reagan's top advisor Edwin Meese as well as Secretary of State Haig simultaneously fueled the anti-Cuban campaign. Meese insinuated to reporters that the U.S. would initiate a new blockade of Cuba to stop alleged arms shipments to the liberation forces in El Salvador. The *Guardian* of February 23 reported Meese as saying that, "nothing will be ruled out. I think it is to Cuba's own self-interest to halt the arms shipments right now — and this transmittal of subversion into Central America."

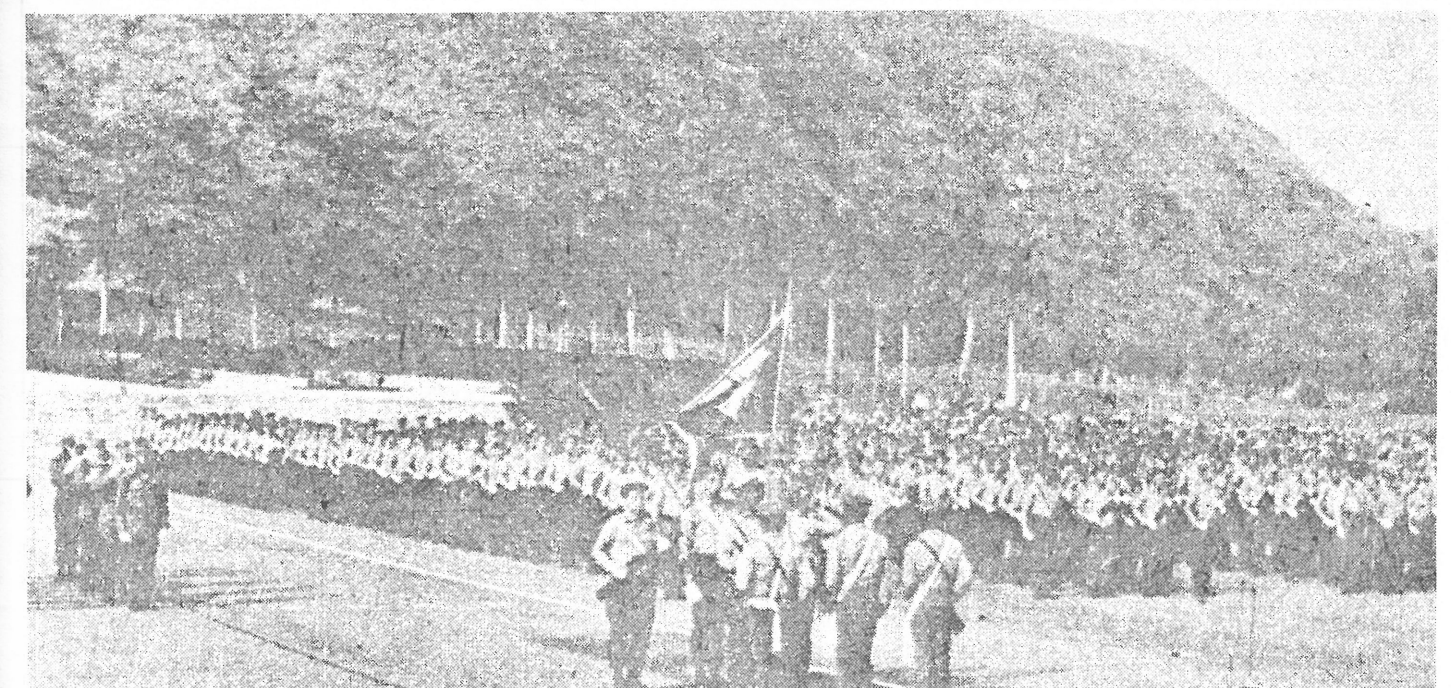
Meanwhile, Secretary of State Haig met with European ambassadors in Washington to brief them

on the intensified anti-Cuban campaign. He told them: "I will be meeting key foreign leaders, as they visit Washington, to discuss the issue in greater detail... It is a threat, in our view not just to the United States but to the west at large... We will, however, in some way have to deal with the immediate source of the problem — that is Cuba." Haig again reiterated this theme in a joint press conference with British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington in Washington on February 27.

So far, the European allies have been watching this spectacle with reticence, but the U.S. military escalation has begun.

U.S. Arms and advisers,  
Israeli soldiers  
to save the junta

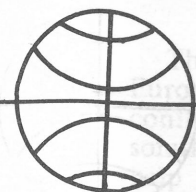
The Carter Administration already began the military escalation. The U.S. provided some \$100 million in aid to the junta in 1980. Some of the "aid" was in the form of training Salvadoran counter-insurgency teams at U.S. military facilities in Panama, but much of the aid also went into land reform schemes to try and undercut the peasant base of the Salvadoran liberation forces. The new policy decided upon in the last days of the Carter Administration was designed to dispense with the economic show projects and completely concentrate on military overkill to attempt to defeat the popular movement. Just days before Carter left office on January 20, he



Cuban Territorial Troop Militia ready to defend their country



## WORLD EVENTS:



approved an emergency \$10 million worth of military supplies to the junta as well as military advisors.

The Reagan Administration has picked up where Carter left off. The East German news agency ADN released Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front reports on February 26 stating that, "The U.S. has considerably strengthened its military support for the Salvadoran junta. About 100 American transport planes with bombs and tanks landed at Ilopango Airport here in the last few weeks. 800 U.S. rangers, 450 Israeli soldiers, members of the former national guard of Somoza and military personnel from other Latin American states are already in San Salvador."

Finally, after several weeks of the anti-Cuban campaign, the BBC broadcast on March 3 that the Reagan Administration had decided to increase direct military aid to the junta by \$25 million. Immediate military aid would include helicopters, light weapons and radar systems. In a style reminiscent of the beginnings of the first direct U.S. troop involvement in the Vietnam war, the Reagan Administration openly stated that it was also sending 54 military "advisors" to assist in weapons training.

### Cuba prepares for the challenge

The Cuban government has seriously considered the fact that the direct U.S. military escalation in El Salvador could lead to a direct attack against Cuba itself. The Cuban government has launched a mass mobilization campaign to ensure Cuban sovereignty against the eventuality of U.S. attack. The campaign was begun just at the time when the Carter Administration was stepping up military aid to the junta in El Salvador. All adult men and women who are not already part of the armed forces are being trained and organized into a Territorial Troop Militia.

### \$ 32.6 BILLION MORE: REAGAN TO OUTDO CARTER IN ARMAMENT SPENDING

On March 4, the new U.S. Secretary of Defense, Caspar Weinberger, asked the U.S. Senate for another increase in military spending by 32.6 billion dollars for the coming financial year alone. That means the highest increase ever in peace time in U.S. military spending and a new overall record Pentagon budget of \$ 222,200,000,000. The increase is targeted mainly for more nuclear weapons and the increased build-up of a U.S. military presence and intervention force in the Middle East.

In a speech delivered on the same day as Reagan's inauguration as president, Jan. 20, to graduating trainees, President Fidel Castro stated the aims of the new militias: "In the Territorial Troop Militia will be young workers and peasants and, above all, the students who have not yet been summoned for active duty in military service; the workers who can't leave their factories given their role in production and our heroic and tempered revolutionary women who have always displayed their capability, tenacity and courage."

"The Territorial Troop Militia is organized into small units which will form battalions and regiments on a municipal and provincial level, where their headquarters will be located. In every municipality and province, officers of the FAR (Revolutionary Armed Forces), together with the presidents of People's Power, have been assigned the task of strengthening the work related to the Territorial Troop Militia. All units of the militia will be included in the defense plans of the armies, which will assign the combat missions."

President Castro directly addressed the current U.S. threats saying: "That openly aggressive policy against Cuba has made it necessary for us to double our defense effort — double or triple it: — to prepare ourselves to defend the country.... Our countryside, our mountains can be invaded, but they will never be occupied as long as one combatant remains in any of these hills, under any of these trees, or even where aren't any trees! "



Mahmoud Labadi addressing Front conference

## PLO DELEGATION AT SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE IN NORWAY

On invitation from the Palestine Front solidarity group in Norway, a Palestinian delegation headed by Mahmoud Labadi, Head of the PLO Foreign Information Department, arrived in Oslo on February 13 to attend the fifth annual conference of the Front. The conference comprised the local organisations of the Front and some 15 members representing various solidarity groups, trade unions, youth organisations and parties all over Norway.

The conference began its discussions by giving the floor to Mahmoud Labadi who gave a broad analysis of the political developments in the Middle East and the Palestine cause. In his address, Labadi stressed the importance of solidarity work with the Palestinian cause and the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He emphasized the necessity to expose and refute the Zionist maneuvers through which the Israeli Labour Party tries to save Zionism through what has been termed the "Jordanian option." "It is an Israeli option backed by the American Administration," he said. The Palestinian official warned of an Israeli invasion against south Lebanon and Syria as a means the Israeli Prime Minister Begin would resort to in order to distract the Israeli public opinion from Israel's economic, political and social crises. He stressed the necessity to tip the international balance of power in favour of the Palestine cause. "An EEC initiative independent from the U.S. can contribute to peace and stability in the Middle East area, but Europe has to recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the

right of self-determination for the Palestinian people, and their right to establish their own independent Palestinian state on the national soil of Palestine" he concluded.

The conferences concentrated their discussions on the means to support best the Palestinian cause and the PLO. At the end of the deliberations the conference adopted the following resolutions:

1 — The conference reaffirms its solidarity with the Palestinian people and its sole legitimate representative, the PLO.

2 — The conference will intensify its contacts with Norwegian trade unions, parties and youth organisations with the aim of strengthening the relations with the Palestinian trade unions and the PLO.

3 — The Palestine Front will stage a massive solidarity campaign to call on the Norwegian government to recognize the PLO.

4 — The Front will stage a broad donation campaign in solidarity with the village of Deir al-Assad in occupied Palestine.

5 — The Palestine Front will continue dispatching medical teams to Lebanon in coordination with the Palestine Red Crescent Society. It will carry on in its efforts to establish a handicapped centre in the Ain el-Helweh camp in south Lebanon.

6 — The Front will do its best to support the Palestinian students inside and outside occupied Palestine.

The conference ended with a dinner party in honour of the Palestinian delegation. During the party a play stressing the PLO role in foiling all imperialist conspiracies against the Palestinian people was performed. The party ended with the Palestinian national anthem "Biladi Biladi".

During their stay in Oslo the Palestinian delegation also met with the Palestine Committee solidarity group in Norway. The delegation moreover held talks with responsables and parliamentarians from all Norwegian parties, as well as with the Head of the Political Department in the Norwegian Foreign Ministry. In his talks with the Norwegian officials and M.P.s, Mahmoud Labadi stressed the need to develop the stands of the Norwegian officials and Government and recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people including their rights for self-determination, return to their homeland and the establishment their own independent state on Palestinian national soil.

The PLO delegation left Oslo on February 18, following a press conference that was attended by reporters and correspondents of all leading newspapers and the TV in Norway.



# SOLIDARITY

## 28<sup>e</sup> ANNIVERSAIRE DE LA C.U.T.

CENTRALE UNIQUE DES TRAVAILLEURS DU CHILI

*Solidarité avec le peuple palestinien  
pour le droit de vivre dans nos patries*



Avec la participation de: QUILAPAYUN - GROUPO LLAIMA  
DJAMEL ALLAM - DANIEL SALINAS - PATRICIA PERTIER  
VENDREDI 20 FEVRIER 1981 A 20H PALAIS DE LA MUTUALITE PARIS 5<sup>e</sup>  
ENTREE LIBRE

### CHILEAN-PALESTINIAN WORKERS SOLIDARITY

On the occasion of the 29th anniversary of its establishment, the Unified Union of Chilean Workers organised a festival of solidarity with the Palestinian people in the Mutualité Hall in Paris on Friday evening, February 20, 1981. The festival comprised dances and national songs performed by art troupes from France, Chile and Algeria. The festival was attended by cheering crowds of Chilean and French workers.

Speeches were delivered by the representative of the French General Confederation of Workers (CGT) and by comrade Navaro, head of the Chilean Union of Workers, and by Musa Jreis, the representative of the general secretariate of the Palestinian Union of Workers (Lebanon Branch). Jreis concentrated in his address on the conspiracies contrived against the Palestinian Revolution by Zionist, imperialist and reactionary forces. Jreis also spoke about the coercive and suppressive measures daily applied by the Israelis against the Palestinian workers in the occupied territories. He conveyed best regards from Chairman Arafat and the Palestinian freedom fighters to the Chilean workers. He

pointed to the cohesion of the workers' struggle of the two peoples in the face of imperialism. Zionism and fascism. Musa Jreis took the opportunity during his stay in France to meet with representatives of the foreign relations department of the CGT.

### VIETNAM REITERATES SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION

The Peoples Republic of Vietnam on February 28 confirmed its full support for the struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their legitimate rights. The Vietnamese official welcomed the participation of the Palestinian Revolution in the fifth General-Conference of the Vietnamese Communist Party, due to be held by the end of this year. He also sent his greetings to the PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasser Arafat. On February 25 Huang Kok Fen, head of the Vietnamese National Liberation Front accepted an invitation from the PLO to visit the Palestinian Revolution's institutions so as to see at first hand the conditions in which the Palestinian people live.

### PALESTINE SOLIDARITY RALLY IN FRANCE

The Moroccan National Students Association, in cooperation with the General Union of Palestinian Students (GUPS) in France organised a mass rally in Cannes, France, in solidarity with the Palestinian people and their just struggle, at the end of February. During the rally, a film entitled "The Palestinians in Lebanon" was shown. The head of the GUPS in France spoke briefly on the latest developments and stages of the Palestinian struggle. A representative of the Federal Bureau of the Moroccan National Students Association expressed his solidarity with the Palestinian struggle under the leadership of the PLO.



The Artists' House in Oslo

### NORWEGIAN ARTISTS' DELEGATION PREPARING EXHIBIT IN OSLO

In early February 1981, a Norwegian artists' delegation visited the PLO's Plastic Arts Section. The delegation was comprised of Thorstein Rittun, a painter and Chairman of the Board of the House of Artists in Oslo and Arve Hoovig, member of the Board of the House of Artists in Oslo. *Palestine* met the delegation which gave this account of their visit.

"The purpose of being here is to arrange an exhibition of Palestinian art for our House in Oslo to be held in November of this year. We received an invitation from the Palestinian Plastic Arts' Section to come here and discuss the procedures for setting up this exhibition.

"The Palestinian artists' work we have seen is quite wide-ranging. It is not always directly political in the initial sense of the word. I think this is interesting because one would probably expect that in your particular situation, in your war situation, that much of the artistic work would be very directly political. But it is good, because one can say an important thing in many ways. It may be stronger than being expressed in a direct way. Concerning some of the Palestinian artists' work we have met here, we found that their course is very clear. They know well what they think and what they need. That is shown in their works. I think it is richer than I would have expected.

"What I think is very important to stress, is that when some people claim that there is no Palestinian culture, I see this as a very ridiculous thing. The opposite is shown in what we have seen in handicrafts, in making dresses and all other things. That is why it is very important to arrange an exhibition in order to show that even under an extremely difficult situation people are continuing working in the arts. That is a part of their own identity.

"We have seen several artists' work and we have been to the Plastic Arts Section. I think it will be important to get those artists' works in that exhibition as they are of high artistic quality. We think this is very important for the continuity of cooperation between Norway and Palestine, and Palestine and any other nation.

"However fantastic this exhibition would be, we are facing a lot of criticism and we expect some to attack us on political and artistic grounds. But if the quality of the artistic works is high, it will not be easy for others to criticize us. Nevertheless, most of the criticism will be on political grounds.

"It is some kind of a paradox that our House in Oslo is sponsored by the Norwegian Government which up till now does not recognize the PLO. It might be within a short time when they do this. But the House of Artists has taken a decision to show whatever they want to. Though we and the Board are selected by some 1000 Norwegian artists, some pro-Zionist members will not support having a Palestinian exhibition in Oslo. But any way it is impossible for them to change it now. They cannot stop it.

"The Artists' House in Oslo is not of the commercial kind and we have no pressure from outside. We have also freedom to show experimental kinds of art. But at the same time we have some economic problems because we need money to arrange art exhibitions.

"I would like to say some few words about our visit to a Palestinian refugee camp. It was the first visit and it made a very deep impression on us. What we found was a surprise for us. Of course it is an incredibly miserable situation, but it was in a sense a positive kind of situation. A lot of people with whom we met were very alive and very alert. They were fighting very strongly and mentally as well. This made me feel as if, I was the miserable one. They were so full of spirit, that I became envious."





MARCH 8:  
INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S DAY

# Palestine

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information  
bulletin

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Stop the Colonization

