

PALESTINIAN ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS

Palestine

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NAIM KHADER:
PLO REPRESENTATIVE
VICTIM OF ZIONIST
TERRORISM



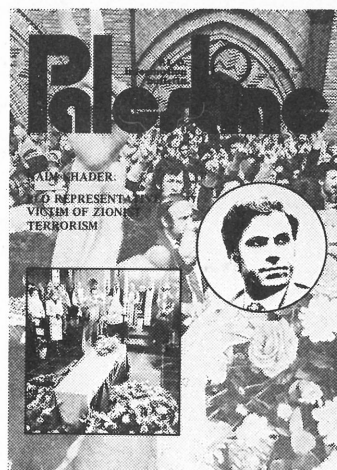
TO OUR READERS

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

"SUPER POWER" ISRAEL

Israel's raid on the Iraqi atomic reactor is a masterpiece of show and superiority in the Middle East. Baghdad is a remote Arab capital and is more than one thousand Kilometers away from Israel. In addition to that, the atomic plant under construction was entirely under the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

On the other hand Israel started to build such atomic plants more than twenty years. The first Israeli atomic plant of Dimona in the Negev was started in late fifties. According to Israeli former statements, and according to secret service information in the West, Israel possesses until now more than twenty atomic bombs of the Hiroshima type. So Israel is the only atomic power, and the only real superpower in the area. Israel is threatening the existence of all Arab states together, not to speak of course about the existence of the Palestinian people, which Israel wants to eliminate completely.

With this act of aggression and arrogance the Israeli Government has isolated itself more and more. It is true that with this spectacular operation Begin has already secured his re-election. But the shameful fact is, that the U.S. Administration has approved of, and helped in, this operation to be executed. If the Israeli planes were flying over Saudi Arabia, so where were

the four or five Saudi AWACS planes? Or are those AWACS still manned by U.S. technicians?

Moreover, the tragic event is that the U.S. Administration refuses to impose any sanctions on Israel and has declared that it will veto any international sanctions to be taken against its "mighty baby" Israel. It is really shameful that a superpower like the USA is implicated in such acts of piracy and terrorism.

Do the U.S. and Israel believe that they can stop the wheel of history? Do they really think that they can stop the scientific progress of the Arab World? The Israelis think that with such acts of aggression and arrogance they can impress the world. They think that they can justify such acts of aggression in claiming that they are fighting for their "survival" in the Middle East. But it seems that their "survival" means the destruction of other peoples' existence and progress.

In fact Israel has become a super power in the region, and it behaves as such. The big super power U.S. creates small super powers every where. The Shah of Iran was a good example for false U.S. investments. Sooner or later the USA will discover that its investments in Israel was a failure.

Palestine

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PALESTINE CHRONOLOGY

MAY 22: YASSER ARAFAT, CHAIRMAN OF THE PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE FORCES OF THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION, MET WITH TUNISIAN PRESIDENT HABIB BOURGUIBA IN THE PRESENCE OF TUNISIAN PREMIER MUHAMMAD AL-MAZALI AND THE PLO REPRESENTATIVE IN TUNISIA, AL-HAKAM BAL'AWI.

The meeting dealt with the current dangerous developments in the region, in the light of the continuing Israeli aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and the Arab Deterrent Forces. The Tunisian President expressed full support for the Palestinian Revolution and the Palestinian people in their cause.

MAY 25: PALESTINIAN-RUMANIAN OFFICIAL TALKS BEGAN IN BUCHAREST HEADED BY PLO CHAIRMAN YASSER ARAFAT AND RUMANIAN PRESIDENT NICOLAE CEAUSESCU. The talks dealt with the deteriorating situation in the Arab region, as a result of the continuing Zionist threats and savage attacks on the Palestinian and Lebanese people and against Syria. The talks also covered bilateral relations between the PLO and Rumania and means of developing them, and a number of international topics of joint interest.

MAY 26: CHAIRMAN ARAFAT RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (BCP), COMRADE TODOR ZHIVKOV, IN REPLY TO AN EARLIER MESSAGE FROM ARAFAT CONGRATULATING HIM ON HIS REELECTION AS GENERAL SECRETARY. In his message, Zhivkov reconfirmed that the BCP and the Bulgarian people will always follow a global policy of solidarity and support for the Palestinian people against imperialism and Zionism for achieving their inalienable national rights.

MAY 27: CHAIRMAN ARAFAT MET WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ AL-ASSAD IN THE PRESENCE OF KHALED AL-FAHOUM, PRESIDENT OF THE PALESTINE NATIONAL CONGRESS, PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABDEL MUHSIN ABU MAIZAR, TALAL NAJI, HAMED ABU SITTA AND MUHAMMAD ZUHDI AL-NASHASHIBI, AND FATEH CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABU IYAD AND ABU AL-HOL. The two leaders evaluated the results of the Tunis Arab Foreign Ministers' Conference, as well as the situation on the local, Arab and international levels, in view of the latest developments particularly Israel's threats against Syria and the PLO and its continued aggression against south Lebanon, as well as the firm national stand in face of the dangers threatening our Arab nation.

MAY 28: THE HEADS OF ARAB DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN MALTA ELECTED THE PLO REPRESENTATIVE IN VALETTA, ABU ISSA, THE DEAN OF THE ARAB DIPLOMATIC CORPS THERE. The Maltese Foreign Ministry and the Secretary-General of the Arab League were informed of the decision, in order that the necessary steps be taken.

EARLIER THIS MONTH, THE PLO REPRESENTATIVE IN LONDON, NABIL RAMLAWI, WAS ALSO ELECTED DEAN OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS THERE.



Late President Zia Ur-Rahman

MAY 29:

CHAIRMAN ARAFAT RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM POPE JOHN PAUL II IN RESPONSE TO ARAFAT'S LETTER WISHING THE POPE A QUICK RECOVERY AFTER THE UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT ON HIS LIFE. The Pope thanked Arafat for his letter and confirmed his total commitment to work towards the victory of love over hate and violence and to pray to God for peace for all the peoples of the world.

MAY 30:

CHAIRMAN ARAFAT SENT A CABLE OF CONDOLENCES TO ACTING BENGALI PRESIDENT ABDEL SATTAR, ON THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT ZIA UR-RAHMAN, AN ACT WHICH ARAFAT CONDEMNED AS OUTRIGHT TERRORISM. Arafat noted that the late President was a consistent supporter and friend of the Palestinian Revolution.

YASSER ARAFAT MET WITH LUCIEN BITTERLIN, PRESIDENT OF THE ARAB-FRENCH FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION. Discussions centred on the latest developments in the area in the light of the Israeli escalation against the Lebanese towns and villages and Palestinian refugee camps in south Lebanon.

Arafat and Bitterlin also discussed the Israeli threats and the Israeli leaders' attempts to drag the Middle East to the brink of war. Bitterlin expressed his full support for the Palestinian people's just struggle to regain their national rights.

YASSER ARAFAT MET WITH MAJ. GENERAL ALI AL-SHAER, THE SAUDI AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON. Discussions focused on the repeated Israeli acts of aggression on south Lebanon, and the latest Israeli air raid on Damour and al-Naa'meh. The meeting also centred on the dangerous repercussions of such attacks.

MAY 31:

YASSER ARAFAT MADE AN INSPECTION TOUR OF THE JOINT FORCES' POSITIONS IN SOUTH LEBANON. Arafat met with the commanders of the front line military positions. He was briefed on the latest developments of the military situation in the light of the escalating and savage Israeli attacks and the growing Israeli military concentrations in the border region.

CHAIRMAN ARAFAT MET WITH THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON, ALEKSANDR SOLDATOV.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE MEETING WERE FATEH CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABU IYAD, ABU AL-HOL AND HANI AL-HASSAN. The meeting dealt with current developments in the region in the light of the Israeli military escalation and concentrations in south Lebanon.

JUNE 2:

SHEIKH ABDEL HAMID AL-SAYEH, HEAD OF THE "SAVE JERUSALEM" COMMITTEE, CALLED UPON ARAB AND ISLAMIC COUNTRIES TO PAY DUE CONCERN TO THE DESTINY OF THE PALESTINE CAUSE, AND TO WORK FOR THE RELEASE OF ZIAD ABU AIN FROM AMERICAN JAILS. In a cable sent to the Arab and Islamic Foreign Ministers assembled in Baghdad, Sheikh al-Sayeh called upon Arab and Islamic countries to concentrate all Arab and Islamic potentials and forces for the liberation of Palestine, saving Jerusalem and supporting the Palestinian Resistance and all Arab forces confronting the Zionist-imperialist conspiracy.

JUNE 4:

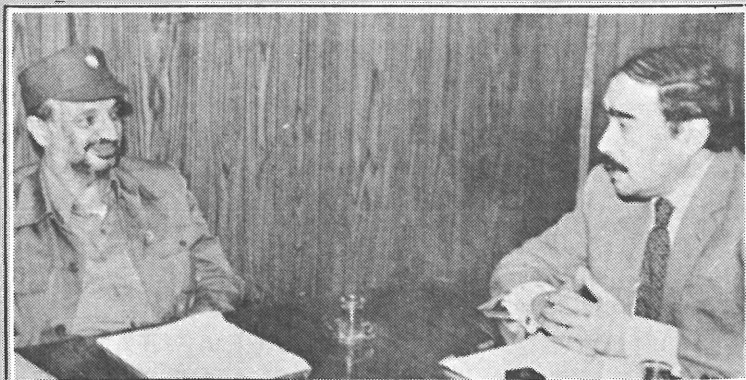
YASSER ARAFAT RECEIVED A CABLE OF THANKS FROM PRESIDENT GUSTAV HUSAK OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOR THE MESSAGE ARAFAT SENT ON HIS REELECTION AS GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CZECH COMMUNIST PARTY.

EVENTS IN PHOTOS

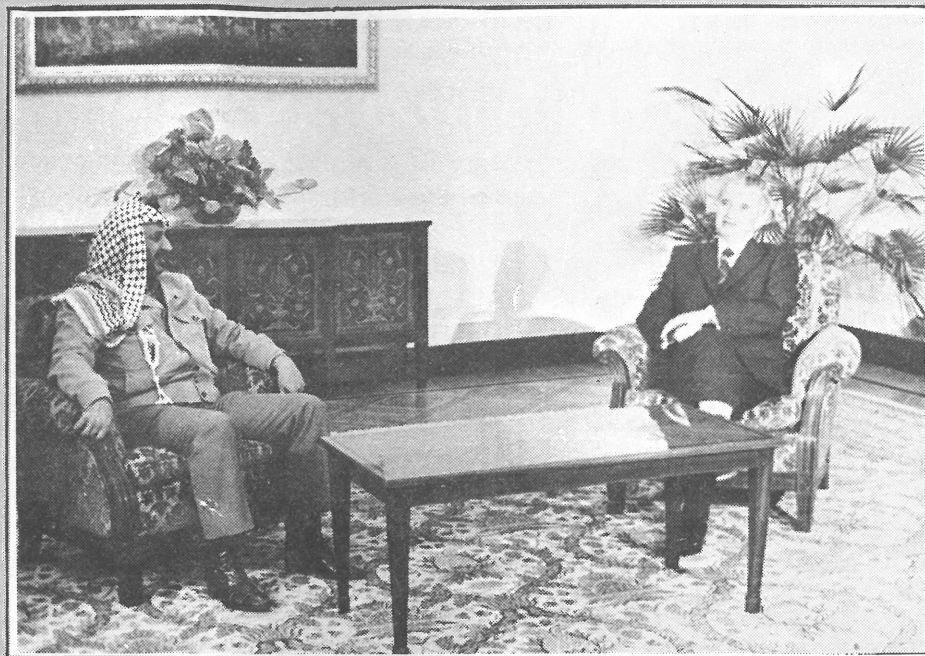
...with Saudi ambassador Al-Shaer



inspecting resistance units in south Lebanon,



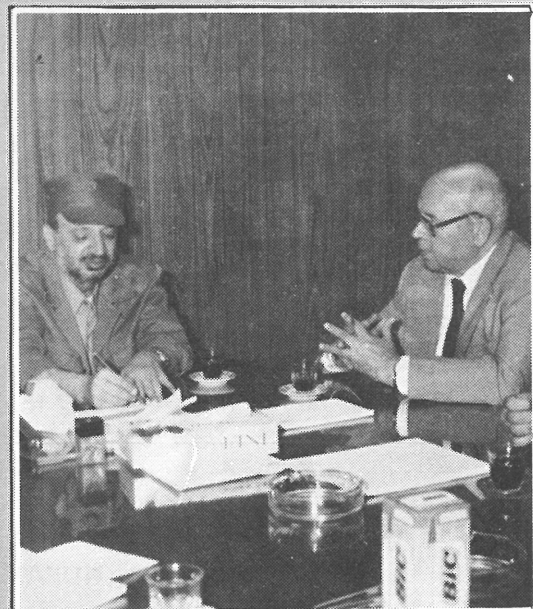
...receiving Lucien Bitterlin,



Chairman Arafat conferring with President Ceausescu,



...meeting with Tunisian President Bourguiba,



and in discussions with Soviet ambassador Soldatov

NAIM KHADER

PLO REPRESENTATIVE VICTIM OF ZIONIST TERROR



It was announced on the morning of Monday 1 June that Naim Khader, the PLO representative in Belgium, had just been shot dead as he was going from his home to his office in Brussels. Israeli terrorism added a new crime to the countless ones it had already been committing against the Palestinian people for nearly 40 years.

Can one describe the cowardly assassination of a lone, unarmed and unprotected man in a street of a European capital as anything other than a crime? How else can one describe the daily bombing for the past several years of defenceless Palestinian civilian targets by Israeli aircraft flying without the slightest risk at a height of several thousand metres? Twenty four hours after the murder of Naim Khader, Zionist bombs rained down on Palestinian refugee camps in the Tyre region of south Lebanon, killing six people and injuring 18, according to the first count announced. At the same time, in occupied Palestine people were commemorating the first anniversary of the attacks carried out on 2 June 1980 against the Palestinian Mayors Bassam Shak'a of Nablus, Karim Khalaf of Ramallah and Ibrahim Tawil of Al Bireh. There is no need to stress the great courage the Israeli killers must have had to commit these crimes.

Murders, bomb attacks, boobytrapped cars, deliberate bombing of civilian targets, expulsions and repression of all kinds are the list of Israeli terrorist actions used against the Palestinian people because they refuse to submit to Zionist rule and because they fight for their national rights and the liberation of the homeland where they have always lived, Palestine.

Naim Khader was in the forefront of this fight. Born on the West Bank, he lived there until he left for Belgium in order to continue his studies, which he completed brilliantly with a Doctorate of Law at the



Many European friends attended funeral ceremony at Greek Catholic church in Br

Louvain Faculty. He married a Belgian wife, Bernadette, and settled in Brussels in order to take charge of the office which the PLO opened there. His very great qualities of intelligence, generosity and sensitivity, as well as his acute sense of human contacts, led him to make very numerous friends in cultural as well as political and journalistic circles, to whom he could explain the Palestinian problem and make the ideas and principles of the Resistance understood and appreciated. His tireless work bore fruit widely in Belgium, and also within the European Community, which a while ago adopted more advanced and positive positions even if they have yet to be followed by facts, in terms of the Palestinian question and the Middle East. Among reactions recorded in Belgium and the European Community after the assassination, Mr. Gaston Thorn, Chairman of the European Commission at Brussels, declared that he "particularly felt the loss of Naim Khader", indicating how great was the respect that Naim Khader enjoyed.

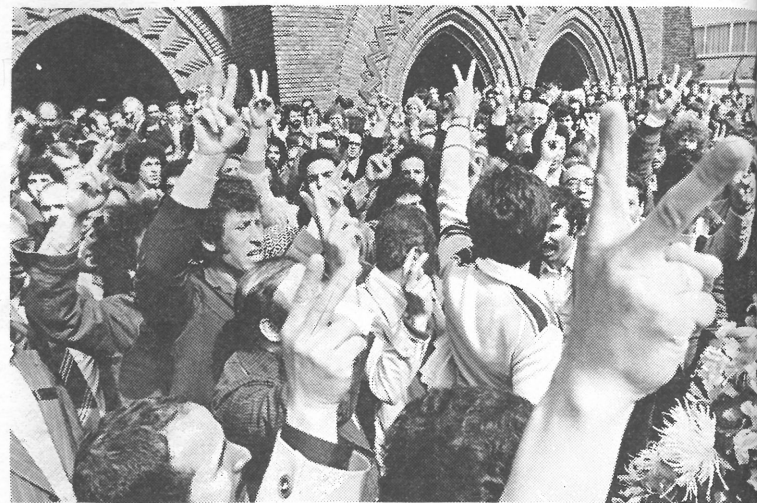
However, for all these reasons, Naim Khader became more than a nuisance for the Zionist authorities, and therefore they did not hesitate to eliminate him, as they have already done to several PLO representatives or personalities close to the Resistance in other European capitals and elsewhere. We should not forget the assassination of Mahmoud Hamshari in

PLO REPRESENTATIVE VICTIM OF ZIONIST TERROR

Paris on 8 December 1972, of Wael Zuaiter in Rome on 16 October 1972, Basil Kubaisi in Rome on 5 April 1973, Muhammad Boudia in Paris on 28 June 1973, Hussein Bashir Abul Khair in Nicosia on 21 January 1973, Mahmoud Salah on 3 January 1977 in Paris, Ali Yasin in Kuwait on 15 June 1978, Zuhair Muhsin at Cannes on 25 July 1979 and Yusuf Mubarak in Paris on 18 January 1980.

The Israeli government, of course, denies all responsibility for the murder of Naim Khader, a position taken up by Zionist circles in Europe, blaming it on "dissident and extremist Palestinian groups". After each of the murders committed against PLO representatives in Europe, the Israeli government put forward the same allegation, when it did not accuse the victim himself of having killed himself with "the bomb he had just made"!

The case of Bouchikhi, a young Moroccan murdered in Norway in 1973, highlighted the methods used by Israeli terrorism as well as the networks at its disposal through Israeli embassies. To recapitulate the facts of this case briefly, on the evening of 21 July 1973, Ahmad Bouchikhi, a waiter in a restaurant at



Brussels in solidarity with the Palestinian martyr

Lillehammer in Norway, was returning home with his wife after spending the evening at the cinema, when he was killed by 13 bullets fired at close range by Israeli secret service killers. The Norwegian police then held an exhaustive inquiry, the only police force to have done this so far in Europe, and this led very quickly to the arrest of six Israeli agents, two of whom were employed at the Israeli Embassy in Oslo. Although little information leaked out during their trial in Oslo in January 1974, nevertheless it was possible to establish that 15 Israeli agents took part in the murder of Ahmad Bouchikhi, and above all that some of them, at least five, had certainly been implicated in the murders of Muhammad Boudia and Mahmoud Hamshari in Paris and Basil Kubaisi in Rome.

and their heroic struggle".

The cable was signed by Klaus de Vies, M.P., co-Chairman; Michel Achille, M.P., co-Chairman; David Goulet, M.P., co-Vice-Chairman; and Jack Hinkils M.P., co-Vice-chairman.

Chairman Arafat also received cables of condolences from:

The French Cabinet Minister Michel Rocard.
The Foreign Minister of Kuwait.
The Italian Socialist Party leader *Bettino Craxi*.

The Iranian Chargé-d'Affaires in Beirut.

Orno Liberation Front.
Peasants' and Students' Front of Peru.
The International Democratic Journalists' Association.

The International Apartheid Committee.
The Chairman of the Palestinian Rights Committee.

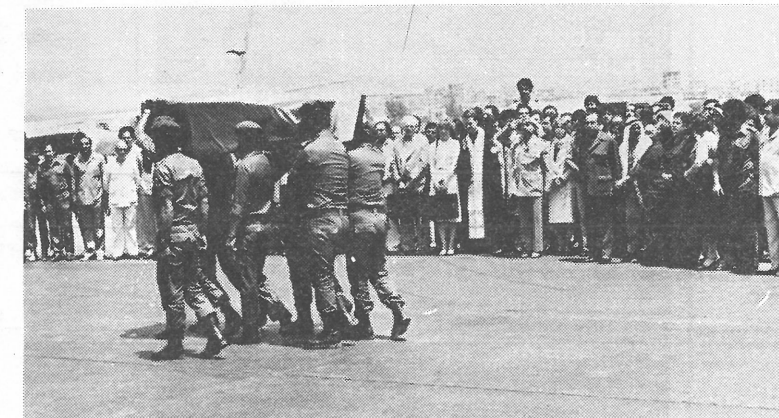


Bernadette Khader:

"Naim, you live among us and for Palestine"

If these arrests and this trial had not taken place, thus leading Israeli terrorism to be implicated directly, Zionist propaganda would have continued to drug world public opinion by disclaiming all connection with its crimes and putting the blame for them on others. It is still trying to do this after the murder of Naim Khader, but the circumstances in which the assassination of the PLO representative in Brussels was carried out leave no doubt regarding the direct participation of the Israeli secret service. The Belgian police stated that it was "the work of a professional" and that "the killer, having done his job, knew that he would be able to escape". There is no doubt that, as shown by the Oslo trial and on every occasion, the Israeli Embassy must again have played an important role in carrying out this crime, and then covered the retreat of its team of killers.

How many more Palestinian victims must there be after Naim Khader, after all those who are killed daily in the refugee camps by Israeli bombs, before the world finally learns the real nature of the Zionist regime, which is one of terrorism institutionalised on a grand scale. It was imposed in Palestine through terrorism, and it has also only been able to survive through terrorism. The crimes committed by the Zionist regime are reflexes of a fear that is penetrating it more and more because it knows that facing it are a determined Palestinian people, united and rallied around their representative, the Palestine Liberation Organisation, which is leading them inexorably to victory. Naim Khader played an active part in it, and for this he was assassinated. The considerable work he achieved in the service of Palestine will be taken up with as much vigour, courage and talent by his successor. But, as your wife Bernadette cried out, Naim, you are not dead, you live among us and for Palestine.



PLO leadership saluting funeral procession in Beirut

Chairman Arafat receives cables of condolences on Naim Khader assassination.

European parliamentarians:

**"HE INSPIRED US ALL BETTER
TO UNDERSTAND HIS PEOPLE AND
THEIR HEROIC STRUGGLE".**

450 European parliamentarians offered condolences and condemned the assassination of the PLO representative in Brussels Naim Khader.

The condemnation came in the following letter signed by four leading members of the European Parliament: "On behalf of 450 European Parliamentarians who felt a profound affection for the courage of the Palestinian patriot Naim Khader, we express to you and through you to the Palestinian nation the sincere grief at his tragic and cowardly assassination. He inspired us all better to understand his people

The French Minister of Cooperation.
The Yugoslav Ambassador to Lebanon.
The Secretary General of the Trade Union Friends of Palestine in Britain.
The Arab Doctors' Union.

Mr Pierre Goland, the President of the Belgian Action Committee for Peace and Development.

Mr Claude Pescalore of the Arab Friendship Association in Luxembourg.

The Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo.
Ambassador Clovis Maksoud, head of the Permanent Delegation of the Arab League to the U.N.

The Coordination Committee of the Arab Students' Union in France.

The Arab and Palestinian Organization in Italy.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

The Joint Forces' Command in Tyre.
The Independent Nasserite Movement Al Murabitun.

The Arab Socialist Workers' Party in Lebanon.

The Lebanese Communist Party.
The Arab Baath Socialist Party in Syria.

The Libyan Revolutionary Council.
The Democratic league of Iraqi writers, Journalists and Artists.

The Iraqi Students' Association.
The General Union of Palestinian Doctors and Pharmacists.

The Palestinian Friendship Association in Montreal, Canada.

The PLO offices in Ottawa, Addis Ababa, Brasilia, Managua and Rabat.

Chairman Arafat also received cables of condolences from over fifty Palestinian and Jordanian national figures and representatives of various national institutions in Jordan.

PLO REPRESENTATIVE VICTIM OF ZIONIST TERROR

Funeral of Naim Khader

On 5 June, everything was made ready at Beirut Airport to receive the body of our martyr Naim. A military band was lined up by the guard of honour, and photographers were waiting on a platform. Opposite was a crowd of people.

The aircraft arrived. Mrs. Khader came down the steps of the aircraft, at the foot of which Chairman Arafat and a number of Naim Khader's many friends were waiting. Five Belgian Members of Parliament and a priest also came down from the aircraft. Then Naim's body was brought down, covered with a Palestinian flag.

From the airport, the body of the deceased was brought to the church of the Capucins, where the funeral service was conducted by Father Ibrahim Ayyad, who is also a member of the Palestinian National Council, in the presence of Chairman Arafat and Naim's widow, Bernadette Khader.

Mrs. Khader said a few words which were more a farewell message to Naim than a speech.

A meeting was organised later at the Arab University by Fateh to pay a last tribute to the memory of Naim Khader.

The five European Members of Parliament from Belgium who accompanied Naim's body were:

Anne-Marie Vanderspeeten
Joris Godelieue
Pierre Galand
Tillo Declercq
Willy Burgeon



Honour Guard



Naim's wife and friends bidding farewell



Church services in Beirut

ZIONISM IN PRACTICE



Tewfiq Zayyad: The next victim?

ZIONIST THUGS ASSAULT THE MAYOR OF NAZARETH

On June 3, Nazareth Mayor and member of the Israeli Knesset Tewfiq Zayyad was assaulted by Zionist thugs but escaped with only minor injuries. The Mayor, who is standing as the candidate on behalf of the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality in the coming Israeli elections, was leaving an electoral meeting when he was brutally assaulted.

Although members of the Israeli Knesset enjoy police protection, the Israeli police have declared that they do not know the identity of the attackers. No suspects have been arrested because of what the police say is "lack of evidence". Many democratic Jewish institutions have condemned the savage attack which was carried out by Zionist thugs suspected of having connections with the authorities.

The Nazareth municipality issued a communique following the attack describing it as being directed against the people of Naza-

reth and of Palestine as a whole. The communique listed the names of two attackers: Issam Abdul Halim al-Zu'bi and Burhan Hassan al-Zu'bi. Both have criminal records. It added: "all the people of Nazareth are well aware of the parties behind the two criminals and their attempts to sow the seeds of discord among our people." In its conclusion the communique called on the people of Nazareth to consolidate their unity and allegiance to the Nazareth municipality, the better to pursue the Arab people's struggle.

The Secretariat of the Nazareth Democratic Front issued a similar communique. It mentioned the previous attempts against members of the Nazareth municipality and Front under the eyes of the Israeli police and with their encouragement. The mayors of the towns and villages in 1948 occupied Palestine also strongly condemned the attack on Tewfiq Zayyad. Other figures to express their condemnation of the assault included: Rakah Central Committee member Tewfiq Toubi; Umm al-Fahm council chief Muhammad Mohameed; democratic Jewish artist Yigal Tumarkin; attorney Felicia Langer; Druze Initiative Committee Secretary Jihad Sa'ad; the editors of *Al-Fajr* and *Al-Sha'ab* dailies, and Rakah General Secretary Meir Wilner.

Municipal councils in the occupied West Bank also condemned the criminal attack and Nablus Mayor Bassam al-Shak'a expressed the solidarity of all the inhabitants of his town with Tewfiq Zayyad and Nazareth. Finally, the PLO's permanent representative in the UN, Zuhdi Tarazi, contacted Tewfiq Zayyad and declared his denunciation of the assault on the Mayor.

THE "PROMISED LAND" IS NOT VERY PROMISING

The Israeli daily *Yediot Aharonot* of May 21 admitted that hundreds of Israeli doctors and university graduates are leaving the Zionist entity to other parts of the world in order to better their living conditions. It added that the inflation rate, which jumped up to 132 percent, and food prices, which hit

the world record by increasing to 300 percent, have forced these people to leave.

The measures that were taken by the Zionist government have caused more social and financial problems to the people. The government froze the salaries of the employees of the public sector in an attempt to fight the inflation rate and decrease the budget deficits.

These measures were the objectives of all the sit-ins and strikes staged by at least three government-run institutions. Those included school teachers, the employees of the departments of transport, telephone and telecommunications, and Radio Israel employees including the technicians.

ISRAELI GRENADE WOUNDS FIVE GAZA CHILDREN

Five Palestinian children in al-Shatti refugee Camp in the Gaza Strip were injured when an Israeli grenade exploded in the camp on Saturday May 23. The grenade had been left by Israeli soldiers with the deliberate aim of terrorising Palestinian citizens. The children injured in the blast are: Nizar al-Hissy, Mufid al-Hissy, Mujid al-Omrani, Mohammad abu Hsein and Ibrahim Abu Han. The occupation authorities, in an attempt to cover up their responsibility, later arrested several of the children's relatives.

ZIONIST SETTLERS SEIZE 400 DUNOMS OF ARAB LANDS

Zionist colonists have recently seized 400 dunoms of land near Jericho in the occupied West Bank. Reports from the occupied territories revealed that a group of Zionist colonists seized the land on Sunday May 24. The land had previously been placed under the control of the Israeli occupation forces and fenced off. The Palestinian farmers who own the land have been barred from entering their plots.

The supposed "autonomous" action of the colonists is seen by observers as one of the many means by which the Israeli authorities are pressing ahead with their colonization plans.

ZIONISM IN PRACTICE

Attacking "German" Nazis while murdering the Palestinians: BEGIN'S RACIST BRAND OF "ANTI-FASCISM"

The Israeli Prime Minister's racist perception of fascism and anti-fascism continues to meet with world-wide criticism. On June 3, 1981 Begin repeated his hateful allegations that the "German" people were "all guilty" for the Nazi



Aharon Abuhatzaira

ETHNIC DIVISIONS IN ISRAEL REACH A BOILING POINT

The deep ethnic divisions between Ashkenazi (European) and Sephardic (Oriental) Jews which have long threatened the Zionist society of Israel have become seriously dangerous especially because of the bitter election campaign.

For the first time since the usurpation of Palestine, voters have the opportunity of supporting a specifically Oriental or Sephardi political party which stands a real chance of exercising power in the new Knesset.

The Sephardic Jews make up 55 percent of the population but, because of widespread underprivilege, are still widely referred to as "the second Israel".

The new political development in Israel, the most significant in recent years, is the result of a corruption trial which ended in May with the acquittal of Mr. Aharon Abuhatzaira, the Moroccan-born Minister for Religious Affairs. The Minister

crimes committed against "the Jews", and that their guilt would not be purged "in 10 generations".

Earlier the Israeli Premier had even stated that "no German" ever had the right to support the idea of a Palestinian state.

Begin's racist way of thinking becomes evident from the fact that he always tries to picture the relation between Nazi fascism and its victims as one between German criminals and Jewish victims. He deliberately neglects the thousands of German resistance fighters and victims of fascism (mainly trade unionists, Communists, Socialists and also church people). And by cynically exploiting the Jewish holocaust, the Zionist leaders scorn the enormous sacrifices of other people in the world in their fight against fascism, above all the heroic Soviet people who gave about 20 million martyrs and the Polish people of whom about 10 million fell victim.

said the charges against him were the result of a deliberate plot by Ashkenazi Jews against the Sephardi community — of which he is one of the most prominent members.

The charge had reflected the prejudice in Israeli society which had left the majority of Sephardim as second-class citizens who saw their status as similar to that of American blacks. (See *The Times* June 5, 1981).

Mr. Nessim Goan, the millionaire president of the influential World Sephardi Federation, warned: "The feeling that there is discrimination, as well as the apparent evidence that within Israel there are two societies, separate and unequal, has reached a psychological boiling-point."

"The manner in which the Abuhatzaira affair was handled has ignited a long simmering feeling of alienation and frustration among the Sephardi community."

The majority of Sephardic Jews came from North African and Middle Eastern countries. Many of them were settled in the new ill-equipped and inhospitable towns in the Negev desert and Galilee where educational facilities are poor. Others were concentrated in overcrowded and unsightly slums on the outskirts of Tel Aviv.

Now, the Sephardim have their own political party which is called "TAMI", headed by Abuhatzaira himself. The seeds for further division in Israeli society have been sown, and it is already struggling to cope with a growing violent split between Orthodox Jews and Zionist groups.

By reducing the problems of Nazism and fascism to a racist contradiction between Germans and Jews, Begin skilfully hides the true political features and roots of fascism. This of course is to prevent and preclude drawing any parallels between the fascist policies of the Nazis and those practised today by the Zionist government itself. Since *only Jews* can be the victims of fascism, the Israeli government by definition cannot commit any fascist crimes against the millions of *Palestinians* under occupation and in exile.

Above all, this sort of Zionist propaganda wants to make the world forget that the Zionist leaders themselves closely collaborated with the Nazis in the persecution of Jews in Europe.

"The government in Tel Aviv does not have the least right to use the Jewish victims of German fascism as an excuse for its policies", Karl-Eduard von Schnitzler, a chief political commentator of the German Democratic Republic, wrote in the foreign policy weekly *Horizont*.

He added that all Israeli governments had pursued occupation policies based on the same

ZIONIST SETTLERS SEIZE 200 DUNUMS IN KAFR QADDOUM

Zionist gangs of the Dedoumin settlement, near Nablus, on June 1 organised a new assault on the villagers of nearby Kafr Qaddoum. The settlers seized 200 dunums of Palestinian-owned land, and uprooted a number of saplings and shrubs. The villagers strongly protested this latest Israeli measure and sent a cable to the Israeli Military Governor General of the West Bank, calling for the return of the seized land to its legal owners.

JEWISH AGENCY ABOUT TO LAUNCH NEW COLONISATION PLAN

The Israeli daily *Ma'ariv* has reported that the Jewish Agency Settlement Department is planning to proceed soon with an extensive new colonisation programme in the West Bank. The newspaper says that the aim of the new campaign is to transform as many settlement outposts in the occupied territories as possible into fully fledged colonies. This will involve moving a

large number of Jewish colonists into six settlement points or small settlements in the Nablus, Ramallah and Jerusalem regions. The settlements to be filled this month are:

Sheked (north of Nablus), Ma'aleh Amos (suburbs of Jerusalem), Takoah B (suburbs of Jerusalem), Makhmash (east of Ramallah), Na'aleh (between Nablus and Ramallah), Yakbur B (near Tul-karm), Mitspeh (near Nablus), Sheve Shomron (near Nablus).

Another Israeli daily, *Ha'aretz*, reported that there is an agreement between the Jewish Agency Settlement Department and the Israeli Finance Ministry under which the latter is obliged to pay 15 million shekels (about 1.4 million dollars) to finance preparatory activities for the establishment of two new settlements in the suburbs of Jericho; Soureh and Ha'arfa B. The daily added that these settlements are part of a wider project to surround Jericho with a ring of settlements and that the Settlement Department is devoting all its efforts to establishing another settlement in Jericho before the coming Israeli elections.

"fascist lies" used by Hitler. "They have carried out an extermination policy against the Palestinians internally and a campaign of annihilation beyond their borders," von Schitzler wrote.

Although he did not refer directly to Mr. Begin's attacks on Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, and the German nation as a whole, the East German commentator alluded to them several times and made clear the article was meant as a rebuff. The Israeli leader has repeatedly accused Herr Schmidt of forgetting the Nazi murder of six million Jews.

Von Schnitzler said all Israeli prime ministers from the late David Ben Gurion to Mr. Begin had acted according to the "fascist lies of a people without living space". "They have carried out and are still carrying out theft of land under the motto 'blood and soil'," he added.

These two slogans *Volk ohne Raum und Blut und Boden* (in the German original) were used by Hitler to justify the annexation of large parts of Eastern Europe. Now, they are used to drive the Palestinians from their land.

AL-ITTIHAD (HAIFA): NO OPTION OTHER THAN PALESTINIAN OPTION

On June 5, the Haifa newspaper *al-Ittihad*, organ of Rakah, stated that there can be no option other than the Palestinian option. In editorials to mark the 14th anniversary of the June war, *al-Ittihad* said that it has become an established fact, appreciated by most of the peoples of the world, that one cannot deny the freedom of a people who have sacrificed over 100,000 martyrs for their freedom. The newspaper saluted the struggle by the people of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and noted that the only way out of the Camp David impasse is a complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from all the occupied territories. "The only way to proceed is in accordance with the Palestinian option," *al-Ittihad* concluded.



Daoud, Hassan and Kassem were murdered

ZIONIST KILLERS MASSACRE LEBANESE FAMILY

Zionist troops committed a new barbarous crime in south Lebanon when they blew up the home of a Lebanese family, killing the mother, the father and three children. Two other children were critically injured.

On Wednesday June 10, fifteen Israeli soldiers crossed the Lebanese frontier into the village of Toleen in south-east Lebanon. Just before midnight, while the family of Muhammad Daoud Awali was asleep, the Israeli murderers wired up the house with various explosives and

blew it up. The seven-member family was buried under the rubble of their home.

The father Muhammad Daoud Awali (60), the mother Khadija Obeid Awali (45), and the three children Hassan (19), Daoud (17) and Kassem (15) were all killed. The two other children: Ali (8) and Abbas (10) were saved by a miracle as they were extracted from the rubble in the morning of June 11 and were rushed to Sidon's hospital in an attempt to save their lives.

In Sidon's Government Hospital, the boy, Abbas Awali, described to news reporters what he called the "death moments" to which he and his family were subjected: "I woke up when the explosives went off, and I heard my family screaming and crying". He added while he was crying: "I have been hit in my head, my hands and my feet, my heart is sore, I can't breathe,.... I have become an orphan."

His young brother Ali said: "The shrapnel went through my belly and my feet while I was asleep. They brought me to the hospital, later they told me that my father, mother and my three brothers were dead."

wounded. Again all the victims were civilians.

On Sunday June 7, as Habib was returning to the area for a second round of meetings, Israeli planes bombed Iraqi nuclear installations. In this completely unprovoked attack, one French technician was killed.

A cynical view being expressed in Western circles is that these barbaric raids are somehow justified as a Begin electoral campaign tactic to regain internal legitimacy for his regime. For its part, the Reagan Administration has issued a host of cautiously worded disavowals of complicity in the raids when it is clear to the least informed that any Israeli military action is impossible without U.S. support.

After the Israeli bombing of the Iraqi nuclear installation, the U.S. State Department had the gall to declare that the event did not deter the U.S. government from its view that the main threat to the Middle East region was the Soviet Union and that the Administration would not alter its policy in this regard. But each new Habib mission brings to the region a new slaughter of Lebanese and Palestinian civilians from Israeli attacks. For the peoples of the region there is no choice but to respond. The military spokesman for the Palestinian command expressed this bluntly on May 29th: "The Palestinian Revolution will not stand idly by in the face of the Zionist war of annihilation against our Lebanese and Palestinian people."

Israeli-U.S. warplanes bomb Iraqi reactor:

THE "STRATEGIC ASSET" OF THE U.S. STRIKES

On June 14, Israel, operating with recently delivered U.S. fighter planes, committed a grave and unprovoked aggression against scientific installations in Iraq. This aggression highlights the meaning of Israel being what President Reagan and his Secretary of State have labelled "a strategic asset to the United States in the area." Following the Israeli escalation in Lebanon, the United States' Zionist bloodhound is to further aggravate military pressure on the entire Arab world, since the latter still resists the Camp David capitulation to U.S. domination. The game has it, that Israel does the dirty military jobs — with afterwards the United States stepping in as the protector and "peacemaker", to which the Arabs should turn if they want to avoid further blackmail. U.S. claims of being "surprised" by the aggression, are an insult to the intelligence of the world. Even the Israeli opposition party knew at least one month in advance about the planned attack.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, addressing a training session in Beirut on June 11, underlined that the attack was carried out with the assistance of U.S. satellites and U.S. radar installations in U.S. fleets in the Red Sea, the Mediterranean and the Arabian Gulf, Arafat added that the operation was approved by the U.S. Pentagon and planned by U.S. and Israeli military personnel."

In a statement issued on June 9, the PLO denounced the Israeli attack against Iraqi nuclear installations near Baghdad. The statement said that the Palestinian Revolution, "subjected to constant Israeli aggressions against it, and fighting in daily defence of the Palestinian and Lebanese people," declares that the Israeli attack on the Iraqi nuclear centre, carried out with U.S. warplanes and the most advanced American technology, is not merely an aggression against Iraq but rather an aggression against the Arab Nation as a whole. This attack proves that Israel poses the principal threat to security, peace and stability in the Middle East. The goal of this attack is to assert Israeli military domination over the Arab states with the support of imperialism, headed by the U.S.A."

The Palestine News Agency Wafa on June 10 commented: "If the Israeli raid has proven one thing, it is that the only power willing and able to strike at the growth of the strategic capabilities of the Arab states is Israel. The corollary to this is of course that the backer, godfather, supplier and financier of the Zionist state, the United States, is no more the friend

and ally of the Arabs than the wolf is the friend and ally of the lamb. In spite of unprecedented expenditures on weapons, the Arab states have not even managed to achieve one of the basic attributes of sovereignty, i.e., control over their own airspace. What more striking illustration can there be of the grotesque misordering of Arab priority than the overflight by at least a dozen Israeli planes of Saudi airspace, without the much-vaunted U.S.-manned AWACS early warning planes giving so much as a peep?"

ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS CALL FOR SANCTIONS

On June 12, the Arab foreign ministers met in an emergency session in Baghdad. They called on, all Arab and Islamic states to come to the help of Iraq against the unprecedented and grave Israeli aggression. They also called on the international community and the United Nations to take serious measures to punish Israel. Following are excerpts from the communique:

"Israel's attack on Sunday June 7, 1981, on Iraq's nuclear installations, preceded by an earlier attack on September 27, 1980, is yet another proof of this entity's aggressive intentions; and constitutes a violation of morality, and of all international treaties and conventions, in execution of the theory of 'Israeli national security'. By this theory, Israel has arrogated to itself the right to attack the sovereignty and independence of the Arab states. This attack moreover clearly reveals the nature of Israeli aggression and its expansionist aims in the Arab Nation. This attack constitutes a dangerous precedent, which threatens the peace and security of the world, and could result in an international explosion which would expose the vital interests of the entire world to danger."

"We confirm the absolute right of Iraq, the Arab States and the states of the world, as sovereign states, to establish their programs of technical and nuclear development for the expansion of their economies and industries for peaceful purposes, and in accordance with their present and future needs."

"Israel's arrogant policy in the region, aimed at expansion at the expense of the Palestinian people and the Arab Nation, could not be carried out without the support of some major powers, led by the USA, including unlimited assistance in the economic, political, technical and military fields."

"We call on the states that support Israel economically, politically, technically and militarily, headed by the USA, to work seriously to put an end to Israeli aggression, and adopt practical measures to halt this assistance. Within the framework of the U.N., obligatory sanctions to be imposed against Israel must be worked out, in accordance with Paragraph 7) of the U.N. Charter."

PALESTINIAN DELEGATION IN VIENNA

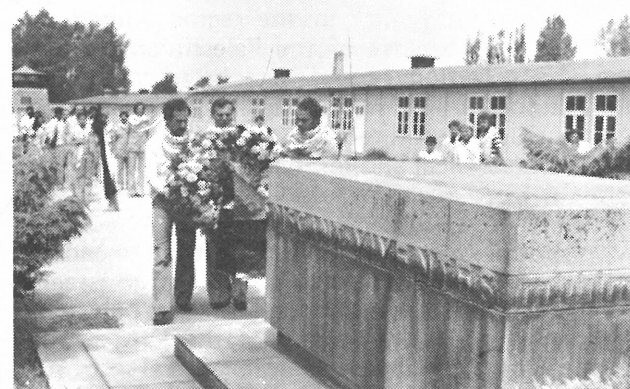


Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky receives head of the Palestinian delegation Mahmoud Labadi

An eighty-member Palestinian delegation headed by Mahmoud Labadi, head of the P.L.O. Foreign Information Department, visited Austria in response to an invitation issued by the Austrian Youth Organisation to participate in the World Social Democratic Parties' Youth Festival which was held in Vienna between June 5 and 11. The Palestinian delegation was very active during the Festival and during its stay in the Austrian capital. After an official reception at the Vienna airport the delegation headed to its quarters.

On June 6, the Festival officially opened with a torch-light parade in which all delegations participated. The Palestinian delegation was welcomed with cheering slogans by the other delegations and by spectators standing on both sides of the street.

On June 7, the P.L.O. delegation participated in a political discussion held in a big hall in Vienna, with over three thousand people at-
Laying a wreath on the Tomb of Victims of Nazi fascism.



From the victims of Zionism in Palestine to the victims of Nazism.



Palestinian delegation at the parade

tending. The Zionists tried many times to save their reeling stakes — in vain. Mahmoud Labadi, the head of the delegation, delivered a comprehensive political speech, in which he explained the aggressive attitude of the Zionist state of Israel towards the Palestinian people and the Arab world, a policy which poses a threat to world peace and security.

This seminar turned into a demonstration of support for the P.L.O. Other speakers insisted on the legitimacy of the Palestinian struggle and stressed, that the P.L.O. is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. They expressed their total condemnation of the Israeli expansionist and oppressive policy in the Middle East. The speakers underlined that there will not be peace in the Middle East, unless the Palestinian rights for self-determination and the establishment of their independent state are achieved.



Performing Palestinian dances

The Palestinian delegation also participated in many other seminars explaining the objectives of the P.L.O.'s struggle. The Palestinian Folklore Group participated in many shows during which they performed dances with Palestinian folklore music in public theatres and even in the streets of Vienna.

The Palestinian delegation also laid a wreath on the Tomb of the Victims of Nazi Fascism saying "From the victims of Zionism in Palestine to the victims of Nazism." The head of the delegation, Mahmoud Labadi, accompanied by



At one of the political seminars



Palestinian folklore in the streets of Vienna

the P.L.O. representative in Vienna, Dr. Ghazi Hussein, was also received by Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky. Later in the day, Chancellor Kreisky received all the members of the delegation in his office, where he declared his support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people by saying: "As a human being chased by the Nazis, I stand firmly on the side of the oppressed people." He added: "I am not a mediator in the Middle East, because a mediator is supposed to be neutral and acceptable to both sides, and I am not acceptable to both sides, because, as I said, I stand on the side of the oppressed people."

Mahmoud Labadi thanked the Chancellor for his understanding of the just struggle of the P.L.O. While pictures were taken, the delegation presented to the Austrian Chancellor a symbolic gift representing Palestinian folk tradition.

A "cancer" in the body of the Jewish state,
— Cannon-fodder in Lebanon:

HOW ISRAEL "PROTECTS" THE CHRISTIANS

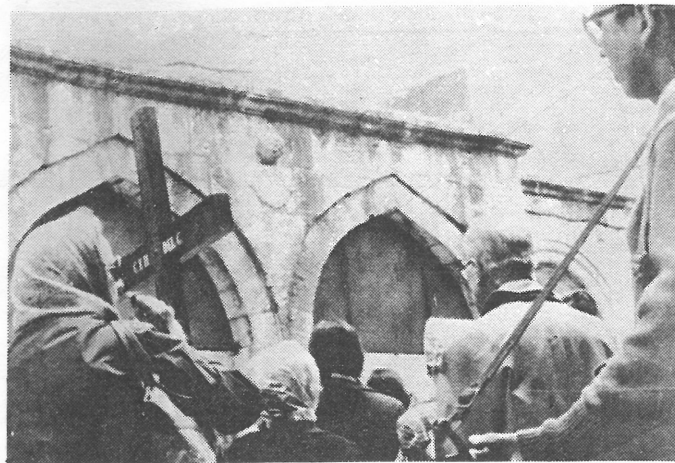
A standing item in the policies proclaimed by Israeli governments is the racist pursuit of "Jewish" exclusiveness to the detriment of other communities. The "Jewish right" to steal the land of the Palestinians "justifies" the seizure of their fields and water, the destruction of their agriculture and the driving of hundreds of thousands into exile, if they dare to resist "Jewish security" demands to incarcerate and torture thousands of "terrorists". The defense of the "dear blood of the Jewish people" (Begin) permits revenge for any resistance operation in the occupied territories by murdering at least ten times more Palestinian and Lebanese civilians abroad. The "security of Israel" makes it necessary that only a "Jewish" nuclear potential is allowed in the Middle East and that Israeli planes may raze to the ground any establishment in any Arab country which threatens the "Jewish" monopoly and superiority. Likewise, "Jewish" biblical rights demand Israeli predominance over the holy sites, whether Muslim or Christian, in Palestine.

However for the sake of international propaganda, the Begin government recently has added another strange — and by no means less racist — slogan: the "protection of Christians"; particularly those in the south of Lebanon and now also those in the centre of the country. Nothing could be falsier, nothing more cynical.

Christian Palestinians Decimated

A large percentage of the Arab people of Palestine, whose persecution and eviction from their land lies at the heart of the unending ordeal in and around the Holy Land, were and are themselves Christians. The history of the Zionist occupation of Palestine is marked by the grave persecution of Christians. They were even more hated by the Zionists than the Muslims, since they were thought to be "responsible" for the pogroms against Jews in "Christian" Europe.

The number of Christian Palestinians driven out of



Israeli soldiers "guarding" Christian procession in Jerusalem

Palestine by the Zionists was comparatively even larger than the number of Muslim Palestinians who lost their homes in 1948. That year, there were about 200,000 Christians living in Palestine. Today, the Christian population is slightly over 65,000. In Jerusalem alone, there were 45,000 Christian Palestinians in 1948. Today, 3 years later, one would expect that number to have swelled. Instead, the Christian community in Jerusalem has dwindled to 10,000.

As early as in May 1948, the Christians in Palestine made public their complaint over Zionist attacks on the Christians and their religious centres. The "Committee of the Christian Union of Palestine," which grouped representatives of all Christian communities in the Holy Land, addressed a formal statement to "religious and political bodies throughout the world" calling for help to put an end to Jewish desecration of Palestine's Christian holy places. In six foolscap pages, the Committee enumerated the religious institutions which had been attacked and occupied by the Jews, naming the monks and priests who had been killed or wounded during those attacks.

They were killed or wounded, along with hundreds of Christians who had taken refuge in those institutions. Among those killed were the monk Peter Saumy, secretary of the Syrian Orthodox Metropolitan, Father Mammert Vionnet of the Assumptionist Fathers (a well-known scientist and judge of the Latin Ecclesiastical Court), and Father John Salah of the Passionist Fathers. Few sects escaped the Jewish assault. Eight refugees were killed and 120 were wounded in May, 1948 when the Jews fired 100 mortars at the Armenian Orthodox Patriarchate from a Benedictine monastery they had occupied on Mount Zion.

Elsewhere in Palestine, the violence against Christian institutions was equally vicious, as indicated by reports sent to the Vatican in July, 1948 by Mgr. Anthony Vergani, vicar general for Galilee of the Latin Patriarchate in Jerusalem.

In his reports, Mgr. Vergani, an Italian citizen, describes in detail case after case in which Jewish fighters broke into churches, convents, monasteries and hospices, herded the priests and nuns out, transported them to other places (where in at least one case the nuns were forced to sleep in a tool shed with the priests), and returning them later, after their institutions had been stripped of their valuable possessions, including crosses and other religious relics.

Mgr. Vergani visited one such institution near the Sea of Galilee — the Benedictine Shrine of the Multiplication of the Loaves, which includes a hospice and farm run by five priests.

About this visit, he writes: "I found the chapel was profaned, the door broken and open, the statues in pieces, sacred vestments torn and thrown on the floor, the tabernacle opened by force, the chalice stolen, crosses broken... furniture stolen or ruined. We found some fields ploughed and a Jewish guard living in the house of the fathers. The altar of the chapel (on the farm) had disappeared."

Among the victims were also villages belonging to the Maronite Christian sect, — the same sect from which today Israel's agents in Lebanon, the Phalangist militias, draw their support. They should not have any illusions about their treatment at the hands of the Zionist fanatics being eventually different. They need only to look at the Maronite villages of Ikrit and Kafr Baraam in northern occupied Palestine.

The Maronite inhabitants of those two villages were driven out of their homes in 1948 for "security reasons", and many of their houses were destroyed. Afterwards, even the Israeli Supreme Court issued an order giving them back their lands and homes, but the order was apparently issued for publicity purposes only. Every year the inhabitants of Ikrit and Kafr Baraam continue to demonstrate for the return to their villages. To this day, they are prevented from doing so.

"A cancer in the body of the Jewish nation"

Discrimination against Christians in Israel has not ceased up till now. On August 9, 1978, the British *Times* reported on an article from the Israeli newspaper *Ha'aretz* headed "Persecution of Christians in Israel: The New Inquisition"; Isaac Letz has written about the current difficulties of Christians in the Jewish State. He has described how groups of orthodox Jews have been vandalizing property belonging to various Christian sects and how, periodically, Christians are attacked so that, now, they are employing Arab guards to protect them. These facts, he explains, are seldom mentioned in the Hebrew press, and he adds: What is hidden from the Israeli public has been made known to important figures in the world, including the Pope and the President of the United States, because Christian churches in Israel



Inhabitants of Ikrit and Kafr Baraam demonstrating in Jerusalem for their return

have sent delegations to both of them to protest about the attacks on Christian churches and their members in Israel."

The *Times* article mentions that the Ecumenical Council's Bulletin, which represents 271 Christian churches in about 100 countries, had protested against a law, passed earlier that year by the Israeli Knesset, and called "for an end to the slander campaign against the Christian churches in Israel." The law in question was one which made it an offence, punishable by five years' imprisonment or a fine of 500 Israeli pounds "to give money or some other benefit in order to persuade someone to convert from Judaism."

The *Times* also mentioned an article by the *Jerusalem Post* of January 16 reporting that a Knesset member, the Aguda Party's Mr Shlomo Lorincz, had complained, in the Knesset, that a radio programme for children had "shown pro-Christian sympathies." He asked "What will you do to prevent such serious incidents recurring, especially where children are concerned?"

The following month the Associated Christian Press Bulletin (No 229) reported that Mr. Binyamin Halevy, a member of the Democratic Movement for Change, had said to the Knesset that he "considered

HOW ISRAEL "PROTECTS" THE CHRISTIANS

the Christian missions a cancer in the body of the nation".

The *Times*, quoting from *Ha'aretz*, also reported on attacks on the Jehovah's Witnesses in Tel Aviv. There have also been arson and bombing attacks — a hand grenade was thrown at a Baptist house in Jerusalem and an anti-Christian leaflet was discovered there — but the police found no suspects.

"The anti-Christian campaign is led by a group called "Yad Leachim" (Help for Brothers) which, says, *Ha'aretz*, has branches in Tel Aviv, Petah Tikvah, Bnei Brak, and Haifa and is financed by rich Jews abroad, especially in New York. The report adds that the organization has impressive archives containing thousands of facts on the activities of the various Christian churches in Israel as well as addresses of Jewish families suspected of contacts with Christians. Information on Christian activities is gathered by a network of agents and the anti-Christian groups have the support of the Israeli Ministry of Religion."

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES: ISRAEL "PROTECTOR" CLAIMS A "VERY DIVISIVE DANGER"

The Geneva-based World Council of Churches (WCC) which speaks on behalf of some 300 Greek Orthodox, Protestant, Anglican and Pentecostal churches with a total congregation of 400 million Christians, has issued two statements in which it uttered its deep concern over the danger of war in the Middle East as a result of Israeli attacks and interventions. Explaining the statements, the Director of the International Affairs Commission at the WCC, Leopoldo G. Nilius, also challenged Israel's claim to be the "protector" of Lebanon's Christians: "A look at Lebanon's Christian community will indicate that Lebanese Christians, sometimes even Christians of the same denomination, belong to different factions," he said. "One does not see why and how Israel should be the protector of the Christians in the area... Israel's claim that it is defending both Lebanon and the Lebanese

Even Christmas trees forbidden on "Jewish" land

"Some months ago, a gang of religious Jews attacked the members of a Christian sect at Rosh Pinah and destroyed their meeting-house. The attackers told a journalist that the Christians had "bought Jewish souls", but *Ha'aretz* found that this story was untrue as no Jews in Rosh Pinah had become converted to Christianity.

"Periodically, groups of orthodox Jews break into schools financed by a Christian church in Jaffa and attempt to drag out Jewish children by force. There have also been scuffles at centres for new immigrants which began last Christmas when Jews demanded that "Christian rites" should be prohibited.

"*Ha'aretz* has explained that having a Christmas tree was looked upon as "a Christian rite" (and it was, therefore, an offence on property built on land belonging to the Jewish National Fund which declared that such property may be occupied by Jews only and that non-Jews — even Israeli Arab citizens — are forbidden to work on this land.)"

"Dirty dogs, go away!"

The list of Zionist provocations can be followed up to the present day. On December 22, 1979, the *Jerusalem Post* published a photograph with the following caption: "Mr. Charles Kob looks terrified at the door of his bookshop. Mr. Kob sells the New Testament and other Christian books. Yesterday morning, when he came to open the bookshop, he found the door splashed with red paint. The writing on the door and the walls read: 'O missionaries! O

Christians seems to contradict the actions it is undertaking. Nilius said "this kind of claim certainly poses a very divisive danger." It "may also be an attempt which may turn out to be one more factor to aggravate Lebanon's existing internal and external problems."

Danger of military adventures: Call for international peace conference

In its statement adopted by the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the WCC at its 35th meeting, convened at Friedwald, West Germany, from May 11 to 15, 1981, the WCC called for comprehensive political solutions to the Lebanese crisis which makes necessary also a comprehensive solution to the Palestine problem and the entire Middle East conflict. Stressing that these conflicts are basically not of a confessional but of a political nature, the WCC calls among other things for:

dirty dogs! Go away from here!"

On January 23, the *Jerusalem Post* reported that the city's mayor, Teddy Kollek, had sent a letter to Israeli Premier Menahem Begin asking him to denounce the Jewish Defense League's "acts of vandalism."

Lebanon: the Israeli noose around the neck of the Christians

No wonder that the vast majority of the Christians in Lebanon reject the "protection" offered in recent years by Israel. Moreover, they have learnt since long that Israel extends its support to the right-wing Christian-Maronites for the exclusive sake of its own Zionist interests. Far from saving the Christians, Israel is trying to exploit them as cannon-fodder. It pushes them into isolation from their Muslim fellow-country men and into a never-ending military confrontation. Through Israeli military "aid" and interference it seeks to bind the destiny of the Christians to the Zionist destiny. Israel does not want any form of stability in neighbouring Lebanon, not even a Christian-dominated one. It just wants to perpetuate war and destabilization there. It uses the "Christian" agent forces to "neutralize" the forces of the Palestinian Resistance, the Lebanese National Movement and the Syrian peacekeeping forces. According to Israeli plans, this should lead to the exhaustion of all sides and the eventual settlement of the Palestinians there, with Israel being the only winner.

Israel has used these tactics in the south of the country, where it instigated the "Christian" Haddad



A "Christian" militia man...

militia since 1976 to combat the patriotic forces, proclaim a "Free Lebanon" and the "liberation of the entire country". The only practical result is the devastation of the entire south including the regions inhabited by Christian majorities, and — for Israel — the creation of a "security belt" around its northern frontier, followed by a step-by-step occupation of southern Lebanon. The Haddad forces have also bombed and destroyed various Christian schools and churches in Nabatiyeh, Tyre and Sidon in the areas controlled by the Lebanese National Movement.

"The termination of Israeli attacks and interventions against Lebanon and Palestinians in south Lebanon, which Israel claims are necessary for its security and a help to Lebanon, because the security of both Israel and Lebanon depends upon Israeli recognition of Palestinian self-determination and the establishment of a just peace with the Palestinians and the Arab countries in general."

In an additional statement issued by the General Secretary of the WCC, Rev. Dr. Philip A. Potter, in Geneva on May 19, the WCC sternly warned against any military adventures in the Middle East and called for a general international conference to establish peace and security in the entire area:

"...The essential issue for regional security is the lack of acknowledgement by Israel of the rights of the Palestinian people. No lasting security and peace can be established in the region, especially among Israel, Lebanon and

Syria, without the determination to solve the Palestinian problem..."

"...The Middle East conflict has become a concern for the international community. Various peace initiatives have been launched, without leading to tangible results. There is a temptation to consider a limited military confrontation as an unavoidable step in the effort to bring the parties concerned to the negotiating table. In such a situation it is necessary to:

— Denounce as cynical and highly dangerous for world peace at large, particularly in the present crisis, any consideration that a "limited war" could advance the efforts to find a solution to the conflict:

— Urge that the partial peace initiatives should be broadened to lead to a general international conference involving all parties concerned in the region, including also the USA, USSR, EEC, and in particular the Palestinian people through their legitimate representatives."

HOW ISRAEL "PROTECTS" THE CHRISTIANS

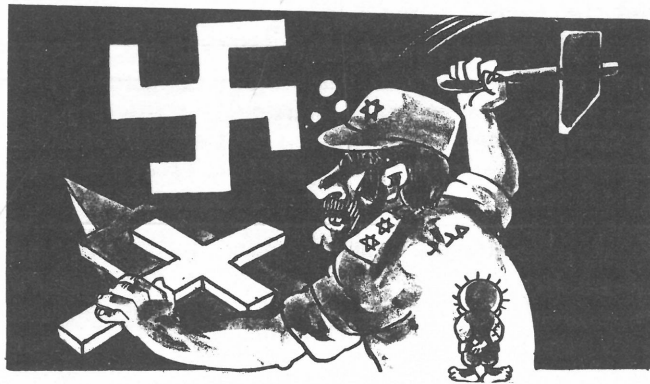
In the north, the majority of the Christians of different sects now live in the areas outside the Phalangist-controlled ghetto. Many have fled the country altogether. Raymond Edde, a presidential candidate in 1976, member of parliament and head of the conservative National Bloc party, who is himself a Maronite and went into exile in Paris, has put the situation of the Christians in Lebanon very clearly (Beirut *Monday Morning*, May 25, 1981):

"We have destroyed ourselves to please Israel, while Israel continues to spread the word that it is the saviour of the Christians, and the Maronites in particular. This, of course, is absolutely false. Israel's goal is to precipitate the exodus of the Christians, especially the Maronites, from this area."

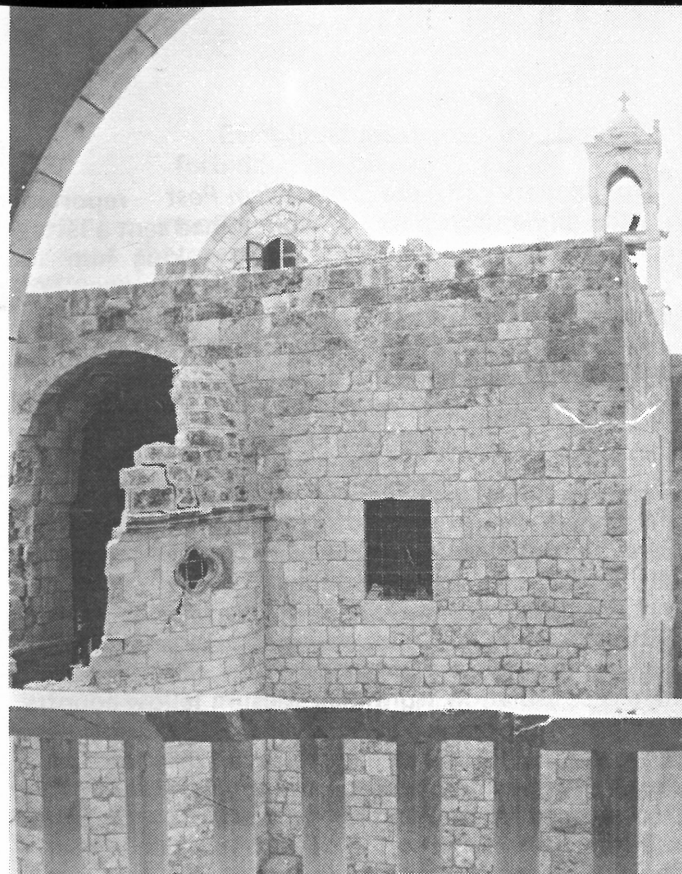
Edde charged that the Phalangist-NLP Lebanese Front alliance of the right-wing Christian militias started the 1978 clashes in Beirut-Ashrafiyeh with the Syrians in agreement with the Israelis. In April 1981, it was the Phalangist militia that started the fighting around the Christian town of Zahle again upon the instructions of Israel. In both instances, the rightists were assuming that the Israelis would intervene in the battles, and in both instances, they realized that they had been misled.

"The Phalangists, upon instructions from Israel, decided to build a road to Zahle, to give the Israelis access to Syria through Lebanese territory," Edde said. "They say they were trying to 'liberate' Zahle. Israel wanted a link with Zahle and a road to Syria, and the Phalangists were willing to oblige."

"The result was that Zahle, which had been living in peace, making the best of a bad situation, was turned into a death trap. Its people were terrorized,



How Beirut press ("As-Safir") views role of Israeli puppet Haddad



Christian Church in Tyre/south Lebanon hit by Israeli shelling

killed and maimed, and their property was destroyed. What happened in Ashrafiyeh (East Beirut) in 1978 as a result of Chamoun's agreement with Israel happened in Zahle last month as a result of the Phalangists' agreement with Israel. The only difference is that the nightmare in Ashrafiyeh lasted a few days, but Zahle is still under siege.

"But what do the Phalangists care? Their leaders are prosperous and happy, so why should they worry if hundreds die and thousands leave the country? What do they care if their activities are spreading the wrong impression that 'Maronite' means 'Israeli' and that the day will come when the Maronites who are earning a living in the Arab world will be driven out?"

Edde's statements came after the Israelis had torpedoed yet another attempt to achieve an inter-Lebanese detente and political solution, by directly intervening on the part of their Phalangist agents and shooting down two Syrian helicopters. At the same time, Begin for the first time openly admitted in the Knesset that Israel was providing weapons, military training, finance and logistic support. On May 1981, he even disclosed that he, Dayan and General Eytan had promised the Lebanese separatists air protection under certain conditions. The West Bank *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, usually taking sides with the Lebanese right-wing forces, on May 25 disclosed the bitter truth: "What will be the fate of the Maronites, around whose necks an electioneering Begin has put the noose, when he declares them — who are living in the midst of an Arab environment — the protégés of Israel...?"

OCCUPATION DIARY

GENERAL STRIKE IN GOLAN HEIGHTS

On June 4, the citizens of the Syrian Golan Heights held a general strike in the towns of Majdal Shams, Ba'ata, Ain Qinya, and Mas'ada in protest against the arrest of five prominent Druze leaders who have refused Israeli identity cards.

In response, the Israeli military commander in the region declared that he would strike the agitators with an 'iron fist' just as he did in the West Bank.

Meir Wilner, Secretary-General of the Communist Party, Rakah, in the name of the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality, denounced the Israeli authorities' detention of the five leaders of the Druze community.

In a cable sent to the Israeli Prime Minister, Wilner expressed his and the Democratic Front's solidarity with the struggle of the Druze leaders to foil Israeli plans to impose Israeli identity

papers on the residents of the Golan Heights.

The cable also demanded the release of the Druze detainees, Kamal Kanj Abu Saleh, Mahmoud Hassan al-Safadi, Hayel Hussein Abu Jabal, Mihna Hussein al-Safadi and Ahmad Ali al-Kadmani, arrested for opposing the Israeli occupation and the authorities' attempts to give Israeli identity papers to the residents of the occupied Syrian Heights. Kamal Kanj Abu Saleh (aged 78) suffers from heart trouble and Mahmoud Hassan al-Safadi's health is deteriorating.

The residents of the Golan Heights requested that Felicia Langer take up their case in court and seek the release of the five leaders. They also stressed their rejection of Israeli nationality.

On June 1, the Israeli authorities in the Golan Heights issued an order for the arrest of the five leaders, who are to be kept under administrative detention orders without trial.

SHAK'A COMPLAINS OF CONSTANT HARASSMENT BY ISRAELI SECURITY FORCES

On June 7, Nablus Mayor Bassam al-Shak'a complained to the Israeli military authorities of the constant harassment to which he and his family have been subjected by Israeli security forces. In a protest memo submitted to the Military Governor of the occupied West Bank, Shak'a listed the complaints he had already made in this regard, noting that these had met with no response from the Military Governor. He added that he did not expect a positive reaction since it has become apparent that the actions against him have the authorities' blessing. Among the most recent instances of harassment, Shak'a mentioned eavesdropping by Israeli soldiers on a meeting last week between the Mayor, the Nablus Municipality members and engineers of the region's power station.

Attorney Felicia Langer also submitted a complaint on behalf of Bassam al-Shak'a to the West Bank Military Governor. She said that for

more than two months her client and his family had been subjected to continuous attacks by Israeli soldiers and border guards. She added that these soldiers examined every visitor's identity cards and recorded his or her name, sometimes preventing them from entering Shak'a's house. Ms. Langer concluded her memo by referring to the attempt on Shak'a's life last year planned by the Israeli authorities and designed to terminate the activities of the mayor.

20 BIR ZEIT STUDENTS ARRESTED

On May 27 the Zionist occupation authorities arrested 20 Palestinian students of Bir Zeit University on charges of participating in the Volunteer Work day held last month in Jericho.

The Zionist authorities intercepted a bus carrying the students, beat up many of them and then arrested them.

Volunteer work by Bir Zeit students is part of the University's academic programme.

On the same day, the Zionist occupation authorities in Nablus arrested Atef Saad, a student at the Najah National University, without bringing any charges against him. It is feared that the student will be kept under administrative detention for an indefinite time and without trial.

MILHEM, QAWASMEH MEET WITH CANADIAN OFFICIALS

On May 28, deported Palestinian mayors Muhammad Milhem of Halhoul and Fahd Qawasmeh of Hebron, accompanied by the Palestinian Representative in Ottawa, met with the Assistant Undersecretary of State for External Affairs and the Director of the Middle East Division at the Canadian External Affairs Department for one full hour. They explained their case and briefed the two Canadian officials on the situation under the Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza. Israeli policies and practices, violations of human rights and aggression on Lebanon were also explained. The Canadian officials enquired about the Pales-

OCCUPATION DIARY



← Deported Hebron and Halhoul mayors
Qawasmeh and Milhem →

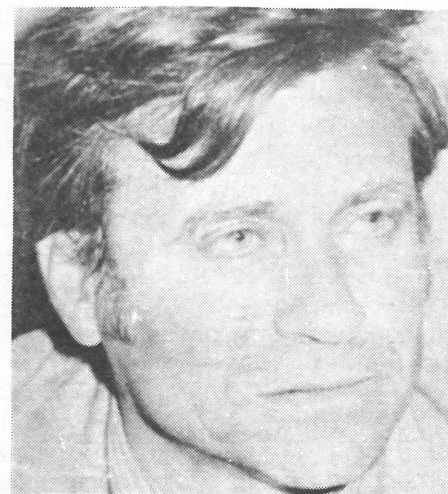
Mrs. Marion Dewar. They lunched with nine members of Parliament from the External Affairs and National Defense Parliamentary Committee, which has members from the three parties. They visited Mr. Stanfield, the former leader of the Conservative Party and a special envoy of the Canadian government to the Middle East, after the Canadian Embassy issue arose some two years ago.

tinian view of how and in what way peace can be achieved in the Middle East. They expressed the concern of their government over the deplorable and unjustifiable act of the Mayors' expulsion, and promised to reiterate their views to the Israeli authorities at an appropriate time.

Earlier in the day, the Mayors also met with the Mayor of Ottawa,

In the evening they attended a banquet in their honour hosted by the Palestine-Arab Association of Ottawa. Several M.Ps, Senators, former ministers, representatives of the press and the Arab Ambassadors were invited.

While in Ottawa, Milhem and Israel Shahak held a joint press conference which was well covered by the media. A special interview



was given by Milhem and Qawasmeh to *The Citizen* newspaper.

The two mayors and the PLO Representative visited Quebec City, where they met with members of the Quebec National Assembly, and representatives of the Parti Quebecois Foreign Affairs Committee and Department of Inter-Governmental Affairs.

HEBRON RESISTS ZIONISATION DRIVE

"During the past 100 years, our people have been in the process of building up the nation, of expansion, of getting additional Jews and settlements in order to expand the borders. Let no Jew say that the process has ended. Let no Jew say we are near the end of the road". (Moshe Dayan, Maariv, July 7, 1968).

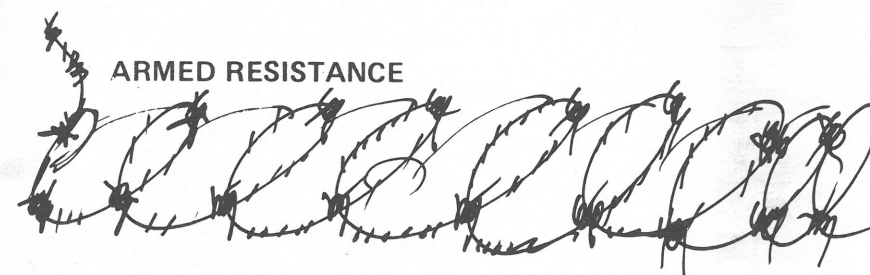
More land is to be confiscated, more Palestinians will be thrown or forced out of their homes to make room for more Zionist colonizers. Though *Maariv's* article is a little bit too old, it explains the Zionists' long-planned expansionist policy in the occupied Arab lands.

Hebron, at this very moment, is the main objective of Zionist oppression, and the target of Zionist racist practices.

The evacuation of Palestinian people, the deportation of the city's Mayor Fahd Al Qawasmeh for his national struggle, and last but not

least the replacement of the Palestinians by some Zionist colonizers who are mainly European and American drop-outs, all caused an unstable situation in the city of Hebron. Protests, demonstrations and strikes were not staged in Hebron only, but throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The British *Guardian* of May 27, 1981 stated that the Zionist authorities suppressed a demonstration by 50,000 Arab inhabitants against the usurpation of the ancient quarter in the historic city when Zionist authorities evacuated some Arab families and replaced them with some Zionist hoodlums, with armed soldiers patrolling the streets and officers delivering warnings. Shopkeepers responded to a one-hour strike call. The acting Mayor of Hebron Mustafa Natsheh was forced to cancel a press conference after the Zionist military governor had threatened to close all municipal services. The British newspaper added that civic delegations from two other West Bank cities, Nablus and Bethlehem, led by their mayors, were turned back at the entrance to Hebron.

However, Deputy Mayor Natsheh managed to



The Palestinian Military Spokesman issued the following communiqués:

PALESTINIAN COMMANDO OPERATION IN HAIFA

No. 28/81:

On May 14, Palestinian commandos of Special Unit "A", operating inside the occupied territories, launched a surprise grenade attack on an Israeli patrol, including two military vehicles, in Herzlia street in Haifa. One of the vehicles was completely destroyed and the other was reported badly damaged. All soldiers in the cars were either killed or wounded.

Our commandos returned safely to base, despite heavy search procedures in the area of the operation. Several Palestinian citizens were arrested in Haifa soon after the operation.

...AND IN GAZA

No. 29/81:

On May 26 Palestinian commandos belonging to the "martyr Rafiq al-Salmeh" unit, operating inside the occupied territories, attacked an Israeli military vehicle patrolling an area near the Nahal Oz settlement in the eastern sector of the occupied Gaza Strip.

The commando unit threw hand grenades at the vehicle, killing one soldier, wounding the other passengers of the vehicle and completely destroying the vehicle.

Israeli forces were immediately called in, encircled the whole area and erected check-points on all roads leading to the settlement. Israeli army units, police and border guards consequently carried out a search operation, arresting

several Palestinians on charges of participating in the operation.

SEVERAL ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED, VEHICLE DESTROYED

No. 30/81

Palestinian commandos belonging to the martyr Maher al-Borno unit on 5 June, 1981 ambushed an Israeli military vehicle while patrolling the road leading to Jabalia camp, north Gaza Strip. The commandos threw hand grenades at the vehicle, wounding the Zionist passengers and destroying the vehicle. Israeli troops were immediately called to the area. They encircled the camp and arrested dozens of Palestinians on suspicion of involvement in the operation.

40 PALESTINIANS ARRESTED IN NABLUS AFTER GRENADE ATTACK

On June 7, forty shops on one of the main streets in Nablus were closed down and their owners arrested by the Israeli authorities in connection with the attack of June 6 on an Israeli vehicle in the town. A Palestinian commando had thrown a grenade at the vehicle injuring several of the passengers.



Zionist settlers began to set up arbitrary checkpoints in Hebron

speak to the few reporters who called his office. He condemned the Zionist invasion of the town centre. The Arab residents, he said, were determined to stand firm on the land of their ancestors and would resist all efforts to expel them from their homes. Natsheh was threatened several times by the military governor that he would join his predecessor Qawasmeh in exile.

The Deputy Minister of Defence of the Zionist entity Mordechai Zippori said, during a tour of Hebron, that the Ibrahimi Mosque is now administered by the Israeli Religious Council (a Zionist institute based in Kiryat Arba settlement). Zippori also said that the Ibrahimi Mosque will be open for the Jewish prayers (Muslim tradition prevents any non-Muslims from entering the holy Mosques).

News agencies reported also from Hebron on May 29 that Zionist colonizers prevented Muslim worshipers from attending the Friday Prayer in the Mosque, by Zionist policemen turning them away from within a few metres of the Mosque.

The Zionisation plan for Hebron requires the evacuation of at least 10,000 Arab inhabitants and the occupation of 500 Arab buildings in order to complete the first stage of the plan. In the second stage, Zionist colonizers will be harassing the Arab population to force them to leave the city centre to the suburbs in order to declare Hebron a Jewish city.

OCCUPATION DIARY



WEST BANKERS MARK ANNIVERSARY OF ATTACKS ON MAYORS

On June 1, huge mass demonstrations were staged in the West Bank towns of Nablus, Ramallah and Bir Zeit to mark the first anniversary of the attempted assassination of Mayors Bassam al-Shak'a of Nablus, Karim Khalaf of Ramallah and Ibrahim al-Tawil of al-Bireh.

The Palestinian people of the three towns set up barricades and stoned military vehicles. They also voiced their protest against the forcing of Palestinian families from their homes in Hebron. Zionist occupation forces intervened and used tear gas bombs to break up the demonstrations. There were also large demonstrations in Jerusalem and other West Bank towns to commemorate the 14th anniversary of the occupation of Jerusalem during the June 1967 War. Banners proclaiming support for the PLO were in evidence at all the demonstrations. Palestinian defiance and demonstrations have been increasing recently in reaction to the continuing Zionist settlement campaign and provocative attacks which have been stepped up to coincide with the Israeli general elections.

On June 2, the three mayors affirmed that the Palestinian people are marching on with unshakeable determination in pursuit of the goals of liberation and independence. In statements published by the Jerusalem daily, *al-Shaab*, the mayors said that the aim of the assassination attempts was to strike at the Palestinian people's resolute defiance of the Camp David conspiracy and the self-rule scheme. Bassam al-Shak'a stated, however, that the assassination attempts did nothing but increase our people's determination, steadfastness and attachment to their soil.

Karim Khalaf, for his part, said that the perpetrators of the assassination attempts were shocked and disillusioned to find our people in one solid line clinging to their rights. On June 1, fanatical settlers from the Israeli colony of Kasrei Shamron, near Nablus, demolished a monument made by the progressive Jewish sculptor Yigal Tumarkin to mark the first anniversary of the assassination attempts against the Mayors. The monument was erected on June 2 on the main road opposite the Israeli settlements in the Hibleh area near Nablus.



Peoples all over the world try their best to provide their children with a happy and normal life. Children everywhere are privileged with colorful clothes, with special food and with utmost care. The poor compensate their children with great affection and love. Palestinian children in the occupied territories and outside are denied any privileges.

CHILDHOOD HUNTED BY FEAR

The world of the Palestinian children is not a world of sweet dreams and carefree games as it should be. They are born into the tragedy of their people. From the moment of their birth they have come to experience imposed misery and dispersal. For those who are born under occupation terror has become synonymous with life. All these children who adore their country as do all children of the world, find themselves in confrontation with the ugly face of the occupation. Israeli army raids against houses in the early hours of the morning, dragging off parents and relatives to prisons, the sound of automatic gun fire by day and night have all become a daily feature of a Palestinian child's life under occupation.

The sight of the Israeli tanks roaring down a street, or the sound of bombing a refugee camp or a town are daily terrifying occurrences for Palestinian children. Children living in the surrounding Arab countries do not escape this horror. The refugee camps in those countries witness regular experiences of Israeli military raids.

This reality has had a damaging effect on the psychology of the Palestinian children. An exhibition of Palestinian children's drawings best reflects this marred psychology. The colors were gloomy and dark, drawings depicted bars, prisons, women crying. An 8 years old child, asked why he drew a crying



woman simply said: "This is my mother after the Israeli soldiers took my father away".

Estimates indicate that children between the ages of 1 and 16 years constitute over 40 percent of Palestinians in the occupied territories. This, by itself, causes a limitless worry for the Israeli authorities. In fact they constitute a target for scorn and disdain by Zionist leaders and Israeli government. Their elimination was called for by the Zionist poet Pialeek. General Raphael Eitan on the eve of the Israeli attack on south Lebanon encouraged the killing of Palestinian children. Golda Meir, the Israeli ex-premier, said in the early seventies that her sleep is disturbed by the birth of every Palestinian child. Why? Probably, because Golda Meir did not want the Palestinian children to disprove her infamous statement: "There was no such thing as a Palestinian people... They do not exist."

And to prove that Palestinians "do not exist" the life of Palestinian children has been turned into terror, imprisonment, torture and exploitation.

Hundreds of Palestinian children were killed by Israeli soldiers during raids on refugee camps or schools. Hundreds if not thousands have been maimed for life as a result of the brutality of Israeli soldiers. A most revealing case was the raid on the elementary school in Beit Jala in March 1978, after a wave of demonstrations. Pictures and details about the crime were published in the "Time" magazine in

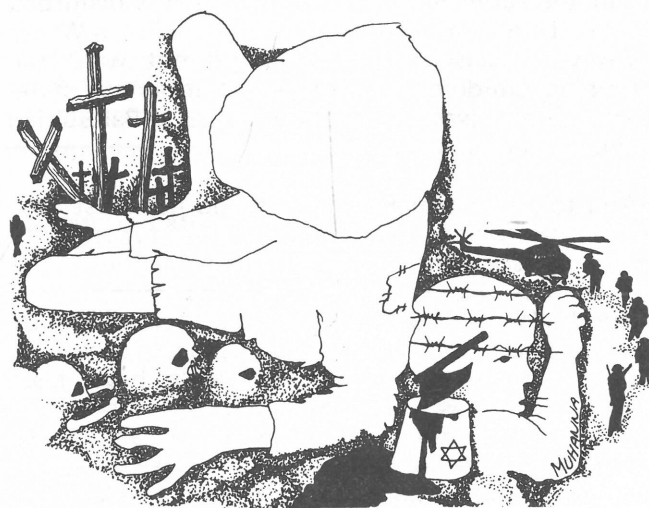


the middle of March 1978. The Israeli soldiers closed the windows of the classrooms ordering pupils to stay inside. Then they threw tear gas bombs and locked the doors. Terrified children jumped out from the third floor windows of the classrooms and broke their legs. Those of them who did not jump were found in the classrooms unconscious. They were between 8 and 10 years old. Pupils of the Beit Sahour school, near Beit Jala, were exposed to the same treatment.

IMPRISONMENT AND TORTURE

Scores of Palestinian children are daily arrested, dragged to prisons, tortured and sentenced to long years of imprisonment and fines exactly as if they were grown-ups. Rough estimates indicate that over 3,000 Palestinian minors appeared before the Israeli courts on charges of "resisting the occupation." It means, participating in demonstrations, writing slogans on walls, raising Palestinian flags, throwing stones at occupation soldiers and similar activities.

A 1977 memorandum by Israeli lawyer, Felicia Langer, issued by the Israeli League for Human Rights in the wake of demonstrations in the occupied territories said: "Prisons are overfilled with children who are beaten harshly even on the way when they are transferred from one prison to another." The



memorandum listed 67 pupils arrested and tortured in Israeli jails.

More recently tens of children from Al-Jalazoun refugee camp, near Ramallah, were arrested in February 1980 on charges of throwing stones at colonial settlers in a nearby Israeli settlement. The children were brutally beaten, threatened and held in custody for a week. After children are arrested their real sufferings start. They are subjected to the most brutal and humiliating methods of torture. It has been verified from children's statements before courts that they are regularly beaten on their heads, feet, sexual organs, stomachs and hands. They are slapped, pulled by their hair, choked by the interrogators and threatened with being themselves raped or their mothers and sisters.

Some children who appeared before Israeli courts stated the following about their treatment by Israeli interrogators: (According to the 1977 memorandum written by Felicia Langer. Excerpts are taken from the book "Naked Children of Palestine" by Abdul Jawad Saleh.)

Mohammed Ahmed Abdullah Mouzir (13 years):

"I was hit on my sexual organs. My head was pushed into an opening in a chair and I was ordered to raise the chair several times. I was pulled by the chair and my head hit on the wall. I was made to sleep on the floor with my face down and my interrogator stood on my back."

Yousef Abdel Rahman (14 years):

"I was hit in the stomach and on my legs. I was also hit with a stick on my ears till they bled."

Ibrahim Abdel Mo'oty (13 years):

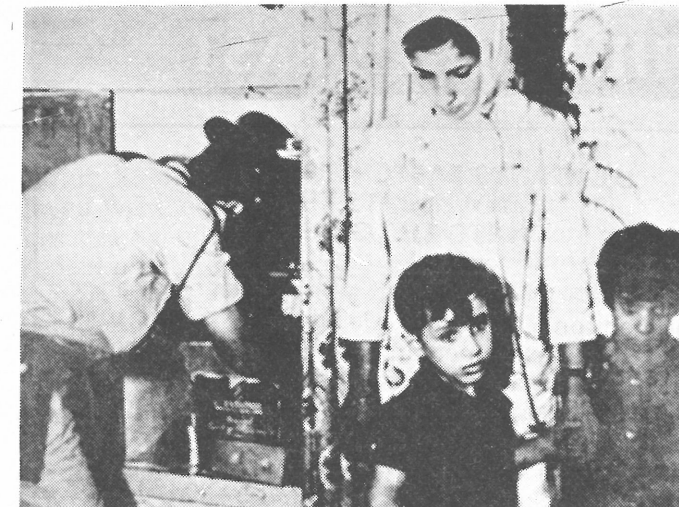
"I was hit with a stick on my sexual organs, slapped and threatened that my mother and sisters would be raped before me."

These are only a few from the hundreds of stories about torture revealed before Israeli courts and torturers identified. But neither the torture was stopped, nor the torturers punished. The children continue to be victims of a senseless brutality which turns their innocent years into a nightmarish hell.

CHILD LABOR

Rafic Halaby, a correspondent for the Israeli television, made a TV film in 1978 about Palestinian child labor in Israel. The film provoked a strong reaction and exposed further facts and dimensions of the situation referred to in the mass media as "The slavery of the children."

The places where children gather waiting for work contractors were referred to as "slave markets." Information was also disclosed about the involvement



A daily experience: Israeli house-to-house searches

of high Israeli leaders in these matters. The Minister of Agriculture, Ariel Sharon, employed children from Gaza on his private farm. It was also revealed that the Jewish Agency employed 12 year old Palestinian girls as cleaners in student hostels in Romema, Haifa.

The children are exposed to the worst form of exploitation and maltreatment. They are locked up by their employers in garages and stores to prevent them from escaping. Their tragedy was revealed when three children from Gaza died as a result of a fire that broke out in a storeroom from which they could not escape.

Israeli employers make a fortune by employing Arab children. Children are paid 30-80 Israeli liras a day while an adult is generally paid IL 400.

In addition they work 14 hours a day. They gather at 3 o'clock in the morning in special areas from where they are carried off to their work and are not taken back before 6 o'clock in the evening.

LACK OF HEALTH SERVICES

The Israeli health and medical policy reveals a clearly racist attitude towards the Palestinian child. Pediatric services, according to Dr. Samir Katbeh, President of the Medical Association in the West Bank, not only has stagnated but seriously deteriorated. This is reflected in the closing down or freezing the growth of pediatric departments in hospitals. In fact the Ramallah hospital is the only one with a major pediatric department in the whole West Bank.

The result is the serious increase in infant mortality. Official statistics show an increase from 30.7 in 1973 to 38.1 in 1975 per 1000 live births. Taking one particular area where live births are an estimated 2,500 - 27 00 per year, we will find that the infant mortality is on the increase; 70% in 1973 and 80.3% in 1975 which is one of the highest rates in the world. Death of infants up to the age of 30 days has also

increased from 238 in 1972 to 303 in 1975, and those from one month to one year from 430 in 1972 to 864 in 1975.

EDUCATION

Education is one of the main victims of the Israeli occupation. The number of children attending schools has sharply declined due to the employment of children which is planned and encouraged by the Israeli authorities. Education is disrupted through limited opportunities, lack of funds, closure of schools and deportation of teachers.

With the occupation, the responsibility for education was assumed by the Israeli military authorities, who were intent on disrupting the curricula in Arab schools. The first thing they did was to delete from curricula all the material referring to the national identity of the Palestinian people. Reference to the Arab role in human culture and history was censored and all ideas considered to be contradictory to the Israeli invaders' concepts were banned. The children are taught a distorted picture of their own culture and the history of their own people, aiming to completely wipe out their national identity and sense of belonging.



Palestinian children are beaten up and arrested

The quality of education has also suffered tremendously in other ways. Pupils in the occupied territories finishing their elementary school can hardly read or write properly. The reasons are the shortage of teachers, the overcrowded classes and lack of funds. Occupation is aiming at transforming Palestinian children into an illiterate, poor lot, easy to control and exploit in accordance with the maxim: keep people ignorant and you can control them.

Palestinian children are the innocent victims who suffer most under the Israeli occupation. Their childhood is turned into nightmare by the sufferings they endure under occupation. They are deprived of happiness, love and care to which their childhood entitles them.

WAR AND PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

NATO GOES "OUTSIDE", SUPPORTS U.S. GULF INTERVENTION

Yielding to strong U.S. pressure, the Western European NATO allies have now agreed to support the U.S. concept for military intervention in the Middle East. Meeting in Brussels on May 13, the NATO defence ministers decided that they would "look favourably on U.S. requests to assist the passage of RDF (Rapid Deployment Force) units" in the case of direct U.S. military intervention in the Middle East and the Gulf (*Guardian*, May 14, 1981). The Western European allies reportedly also agreed to support U.S. military operations at least indirectly, for instance by replacing U.S. contingents in the Atlantic zone and by providing logistic support and supplies. Recent reports from the U.S. Pentagon suggest that the U.S. is planning to shift the entire RDF command structure to Brussels or Stuttgart in West Germany.

While the notorious "European Middle East initiative" has proved to be a complete political failure, the Western European NATO members now have for the first time openly consented to an expansion of the operational zone of NATO into the Middle East. Speaking at the end of the NATO's planning group's session, U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger proclaimed himself "very satisfied". The allies have recognised that events "outside the NATO area could affect the vital interests of the NATO countries," he added.



U.S. intervention forces on manoeuvres in Egypt

U.S. WANTS FASTER TIMETABLE FOR MOVING ITS TROOPS INTO THE GULF

Both Carter and Reagan military planners had counted on the Rapid Deployment Force to be actually stationed in the Gulf region some three to five years from now. As late as April 24, U.S. Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger confirmed the three to five year timetable during which the Force would advance its status from a readiness force based in Florida to its actual intervention in the Gulf region under its own independent command. The *Washington Post* reported on June 1 that the Reagan Administration was dissatisfied with the prolonged development process and wants more immediate action. According to the *Post*, the Reagan Administration "told the RDF command at Tampa to get ready to assume an independent status as soon as possible... There is sentiment within the military to put the new RDF close to the place of possible action, ideally some stable country in the Gulf that would allow a U.S. presence."

U.A.E. PRESIDENT: NO "SOVIET THREAT", "ISRAEL IS AGGRESSOR"

— United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Shaikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al-Nahayan has sharply criticized the intervention policy in the Gulf area set up by the United States with the help of some of its NATO allies.

In an interview with *Al Mustaqbal* weekly published in Paris on June 4, the UAE president said: that the creation of an American Rapid Deployment Force constituted an encroachment on the Gulf states' sovereignty and national pride. The "mere giving of such a name" to the force to "protect U.S. interests" in the Gulf was provocative, he added. He also added that the Arab Gulf states had no intention to discard legitimate foreign interests there.

Replying to a question on whether the Soviet Union represented a threat to his country and other Gulf states, especially now that it had a presence in Afghanistan, Shaikh Zayed said: "I do not believe the Soviet Union poses a threat either to us or to (other) Gulf states so far."

"If you are referring to the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, then I wish to note that the Soviet Union entered that country in response to an official invitation from its legitimate government

and it is still there under this cover. Shaikh Zayed went on to say that "the Soviet Union's presence whether in Afghanistan, Democratic Yemen or Ethiopia is in line with the legitimate relations with the regimes existing in these countries."

"All this uproar in the world about the Soviet presence in Afghanistan and the threat it poses to us is meant to intimidate us and is totally unfounded. We do not consider the Soviet Union to be our enemy so far. The real enemy and the true usurper is in Palestine and in the heart of the Arab Nation, stabbing it daily."

"This Zionist usurper has been stabbing the Arab world for more than a quarter of a century, namely before the Soviet presence in Afghanistan..." he said. "Why are they weeping over what is happening in Afghanistan and creating an uproar over the most trifling matters there, while they do not behave similarly in relation to Palestinian refugees, Israeli attacks on south Lebanon and the destruction caused to both the Lebanese and Palestinians?", he asked.

Meeting Begin in Sharm Al-Shaikh:

SADAT CONSENTS TO ISRAELI AGGRESSION, CONTINUED SINAI OCCUPATION

At the eve of the anniversary of the Israeli aggression in 1967, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat rushed to another capitulatory meeting with Begin, breaking his latest word that he would not meet the Israeli Prime Minister unless there was substantial progress in the sham talks on Palestinian "autonomy". The meeting took place on June 2 in Sharm Al-Shaikh in Israeli-occupied Sinai, at a time when tension in the Middle East is rising again, following Israel's stepped-up raids on the Palestinians and its aggressive interference in Lebanon.

Seeing his Camp David dreams vanishing, Sadat hurried to render new concessions to his U.S. and Zionist masters. In return for an Israeli "pledge" to hand some Israeli-built blocks of flats, hotels and tourist installations at Ophira, just south of Sharm Al-Shaikh, intact to the Egyptians next spring, Sadat made two decisive new concessions: He agreed that U.S. troops would be stationed at the strategic Red Sea post of Sharm Al-Shaikh, and that at least 50 per cent of the entire so-called "multinational peace force", provided for in the Camp David pacts, would be made up by U.S. forces, under an

overall U.S. command. Moreover, Sadat agreed that the huge military air bases, constructed by the Israelis with U.S. help in Sinai, Etzion, west of Eilat, and Eitan, southwest of Rafah, will continue to be used in the future by both the U.S. and the Israelis under a "civilian" cover. In return, Israel generously "conceded" not to destroy these facilities.

Israel will be allowed to build a new strategic road from Eilat to Etzion, and Israeli and U.S. "airlines" will be permitted to use the airbase to fly "holiday-makers" in (*Guardian*, June 6, 1981). Nobody should have any illusions about the military character of these "holidaymakers". Commenting on the latest Sadat sell-out to Israel and the U.S., the British *Sunday Telegraph* noted: "Observers said last night that the two desert bases would be a major strategic bonus for the Americans in planning measures to counter the Russian threat to the Gulf oil region."

It is clear that Sadat has finally broken also his vow "never" to give facilities to the U.S. in Sinai, but "only" elsewhere in Egypt.

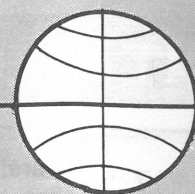
Emerging from his encounter with Sadat, a satisfied Begin announced that Israel terror raids against the Palestinians in Lebanon would continue. A few days later the Israeli militarists launched their aggression against scientific nuclear installations in Iraq.

ARGENTINA REJECTS PARTICIPATION IN U.S. POLICE FORCE FOR SINAI

The United States continues to exert pressure on the Argentinian and other governments to join the U.S.-led "multinational peace" force to police Sinai after 1982, in accordance with the Camp David deals. U.S. Secretary Alexander Haig sent a letter to the Argentinian government in early June, insisting on sending Argentine troops to the Sinai peninsula.

In response, the Argentinian Foreign Ministry made a statement which is viewed as the official refusal of the Argentinian government to comply with Washington's proposals. The document stresses that Argentina has been traditionally sending its troops abroad only at the request of the U.N. Security Council.

So far, only the Canadian government, in an openly hostile move against the Arab world, officially has informed the U.S. of its readiness to participate in the U.S.-led police force.



LIBERATION OFFENSIVE IN EL SALVADOR: TERROR CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

At the end of May, the radio station operated clandestinely by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front inside El Salvador announced that the Front had attacked junta positions in six of El Salvador's 14 provinces. The regime's Defense Ministry admitted attacks in the provinces of Santa Ana, Usulután, San Vicente, La Libertad, Chalatenango, Morazan and San Miguel.

While the liberation forces have been gaining ground, the junta has stepped up its terror campaign. There were 10,000 casualties from the junta terror in the first five months of 1981 alone. Last year the death toll was 13,000. At the beginning of June the bodies of thirty murdered regime opponents were found in various parts of the country within a 24-hour period. Most of the bodies bore the marks of torture. On June 1, military forces ransacked all the capital's shops selling records and tapes and seized all recordings of patriotic Nicaraguan singer Carlos Mejia Godoy and Chilean popular singer Victor Jara, killed by Chilean fascists. On June 4, the body of Carlos Hernández, the representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross, was found among 20 other bodies of people who had been assassinated. The same day, a fascist gang tried to blow up the grave of former Archbishop Romero who was assassinated a year ago while saying mass.

SECRET US. PLAN FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

At the end of May, the *New York Times* published a secret Reagan Administration memorandum on U.S. policy toward Namibia and southern Africa. The memorandum was drafted by Assistant Secretary of State designate for Africa Chester Crocker, and approved by Secretary of State Haig. According to the memorandum drafted on February 7, the U.S. will try to alter the government composition in Angola by threatening continued South African aggression via Namibian territory. The memo stated: "African leaders would have no basis for resisting the Namibian-Angolan linkage once they are made to realize that they can only get a Namibia settlement through us..." As for U.S. official ties with the Angolan government: "recognition is out unless the Cubans leave and

they cut a deal with Savimbi [the South African backed militia commander who makes raids against the government from Namibian territory]... If they won't play, we have other options."

Just before the memo was leaked at the end of May, the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved the proposal of the Reagan Administration on lifting a ban on subversive operations in Angola by U.S. intelligence services.

In South Africa itself, there was a wave of attacks by liberation forces timed to coincide with official celebrations to mark the establishment of the racist regime. On May 25, a police station near East London came under grenade attack and railway lines were blown up near Johannesburg and Durban. The African National Congress claimed responsibility for the attacks.

On June 3, colored students in the Johannesburg area staged several days of demonstrations against the regime and the detention of a student leader. The London *Times* reported on June 5 that police confronted the demonstrators "with dogs and wielding whips and batons." One teacher described the police attacks: "They beat the children when they were outside the classrooms so they ran inside and when they were inside they beat them to go out again. These people are animals. The children were not doing anything."

SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY HOOK-UP WITH LATIN AMERICAN DICTATORSHIPS AND U.S.

The London *Financial Times* reported at the end of May that a "furtive" meeting took place in Buenos Aires between strategic experts from Washington, South Africa, Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay and Brazil. The aim of the meeting was consideration of the next steps to be taken in a long-projected plan to link the countries' armed forces and particularly the navies in a South Atlantic Pact. This has been a long-cherished dream of the racist South African regime. The *Financial Times* reported that the U.S. was to be represented at the meeting by General Vernon Walters, a former Director-General of the CIA, a former head of the U.S. Southern Command and a close confidant of U.S. Secretary of State Haig. The Pretoria government is said to have taken fresh heart in pushing for the pact because of the Reagan Administration's attitude on Namibia.

SOLIDARITY

ARAB DOCTORS' CONFERENCE IN TUNIS PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR PRCS

On June 5, the General Secretariat of the Arab Doctors' Union, which ended its meetings in Tunisia, issued a communique in which they announced their absolute support for the PRCS—Palestinian Red Crescent Society. They also declared general mobilization among Arab doctors, and called upon all Arab countries to unite their efforts for the liberation of Palestine. A delegation from the General Secretariat was formed to make a tour of inspection of Palestinian refugee camps and Lebanese towns and villages.

Dr. Fathi Arafat, President of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society, attended the meeting and delivered a speech in which he outlined the situation faced by the Palestinian Revolution, in particular in Lebanon. Dr. Arafat focused on the health situation and spoke about the hundreds of casualties in Lebanon as a result of the Zionist-Phalangist war of annihilation.

PALESTINE SOLIDARITY WEEK IN BERLIN

A Palestinian delegation headed by Abdallah Hourani and composed of the PLO representative in the German Democratic Republic, Issam Kamel, and a Palestinian cinema delegation arrived in Berlin to participate in the activities of a week of solidarity with Palestine organised by the Solidarity Committee in the GDR. The festival was opened on Monday June 1 and continued until June 7. Among the activities were documentary films about the Palestinian cause followed by discussions concerning Palestinian cinema and its role in the struggle of the Palestinian people.

A communique was issued by the Solidarity Committee and several social organisations in which they confirmed the stand of the German people with the Arab

people in their struggle for peace and national and social liberation.

RALLIES IN BELGIUM AND HOLLAND TO MARK 15 MAY ANNIVERSARY

On May 21, the Arab Students' Union in Belgium held a rally on the occasion of the 33rd anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine. The rally was attended by the late PLO representative in Belgium, Naim Khader, the Palestinian and Arab community, members of international liberation movements and progressive and democratic forces.

The General Union of Palestinian Students, together with the Lebanese Students' Union, organized a rally in Liege on the same occasion, which was also marked by activities in Rotterdam, Holland.

SOLIDARITY RALLY HELD IN HUNGARY

The Hungarian Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee and Peace Council held a rally on June 6 in solidarity with the PLO, Syria and the Lebanese National Movement on the anniversary of the June 1967 war. The rally was attended by the head of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, the Vice-President of the Hungarian Peace Council, several Hungarian Party officials, the PLO representative in Budapest, members of the Syrian Embassy and a representative of the LNM. The Vice President of the Hungarian Peace Council expressed his support of the Palestinian people's just struggle in a statement delivered during the rally. The PLO representative also made speech thanking the Hungarians and Socialist countries for their support of the Palestinian struggle.

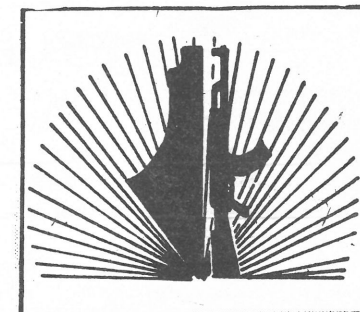
NEW BOOK ON ISRAELI ABUSES

A book on Israeli occupation and the Palestinian Revolution by Klaus Polkehn has been published

in the GDR. The book is published in the series of "Anti-Imperialism solidarity" which is sponsored by the GDR Solidarity Committee.

The 64-page book discusses Israeli expropriation of Arab land, oppression, the annexation of Jerusalem, and the Palestinian Arab Resistance against Israel and the Camp David accords.

The book has been published one week before the opening of the week of solidarity with the struggle of the Arab nation, which the GDR organizes every year.



DEMOCRATIC YEMEN PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION

On May 27, Ali Nasser Muhammad, the Secretary-General of the Yemeni Socialist Party and President of the People's Supreme Council, reiterated his country's readiness to put all its potentials at the disposal of the Palestinian Revolution in its confrontation against the Zionist-imperialist-fascist conspiracy and in order to realize the goals of the Palestinian people.

The statement was made during a meeting between Ali Nasser Muhammad and Abbas Zaki, the PLO representative in Aden.

Zaki transmitted to the Yemeni leader Arafat's greetings to the people, party and government of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the PLO's appreciation of the efforts exerted by the PDRY at all levels, in support of the Palestinian Revolution, the Lebanese National Movement and the Arab Deterrent Forces.

SOLIDARITY

PLO PHOTO EXHIBIT IN OSLO

In cooperation with the photo section of the Unified Information Department of the PLO, the Norwegian "Palestinakomiteen" recently organized a successful photo exhibit in downtown Oslo, in front of the Parliament building. The exhibit was opened on May 15, 1981, in commemoration of the violent establishment of the Zionist state in 1948. About a hundred photos were shown, provided by the PLO photo section and depicting the daily life, hardships and struggle of the Palestinian people. For one week the exhibit was open from the early morning till the late afternoon, and was seen by many people passing through the city centre of the Norwegian capital. Many bought books and magazines about the Palestinian cause, or took part in heated discussions. Some decided to join the solidarity work for the Palestinian people and the PLO. The "Palestinakomiteen" also collected funds to support the Norwegian medical teams, which for several years now have been working at medical centres in southern Lebanon, to help the civilian population there suffering from the daily Israeli attacks.

Following the show in Oslo, the Palestinian



Palestinian photo exhibit in the center of Oslo



photo exhibit also went to Denmark, where it was sponsored by the Danish Palestina Committee. It then returned to other cities and towns in Norway.

Oslo was also the scene of pro-Palestinian demonstrations and celebrations on the occasion of International Labour Day on May 1. The major slogans were: Recognize the PLO! Support the struggle of the Palestinians in the occupied territories! Stop Israeli terror in Lebanon! No peace without the PLO!

NORWEGIAN LABOUR CONGRESS SUPPORTS PALESTINIAN SELF-DETERMINATION

The Palestine question was at the centre of discussions at the latest Congress of the Norwegian Trade Union Movement (LO) held from May 3 to 9 in Oslo. There was a strong trend within the plenum calling for explicit recognition of the PLO by the Congress. This motion was also supported by some demonstrations and in advertisements published for instance in the social democrat *Arbeiderbladet*, and was signed by many trade unionists. Following the discussions, the LO Congress finally passed a compromise resolution. It contained, among other things, the following points:

- The rights of the Palestinians to national self-determination must be realized following negotiations in accordance with the resolutions passed by the United Nations: hereby the PLO has to participate as the spokesman for the Palestinians;

- The Norwegian Trade Union Movement shall promote contacts and negotiations with all

parties concerned in the search for a peaceful solution to the conflict. Hereby the LO will also take up contacts with the Workers' Union of the PLO.

CABLES OF SOLIDARITY TO CHAIRMAN ARAFAT

During the past two weeks Chairman Arafat received many cables expressing solidarity with the PLO and the Lebanese National Movement in their struggle against the attacks by Israeli forces and US and Israeli-backed Phalangist gangs against Lebanese towns and Palestinian refugee camps:

These cables were from:

- Kim Il Sung, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea;
- National Union of Lebanese Students in Rumania;
- Arab Students' Union in Turkey.
- Egyptian Students' Union.
- Political and Student Organizations in Hungary.

POEM:

THE PALESTINIAN

The following poem was sent by the Black American Rev. William Revely, of the Mount Gilead Baptist Church in Washington D.C. Rev. Revely visited the Social and Cultural institutions of the PLO in Lebanon in Late May 1981.

*To want something so bad that you would die
Or kill those who take it away
Is to feel like a Palestinian patriot.
Though expelled, he is determined to stay.*

*It's practising love not strife.
To know the pain of a forced good-bye,
Is to feel the feeling of a Palestinian,
Who though pained refuses to cry.*

*To see your children beaten and slain,
To feel your home at your back,
But standing tall and facing each new sun
Giving extra for whatever you lack.*

*The Palestinian patriot stands tall and proud
With his eye looking homeward today
An intense, deep commitment to stand,
And to return home victorious, someday.*

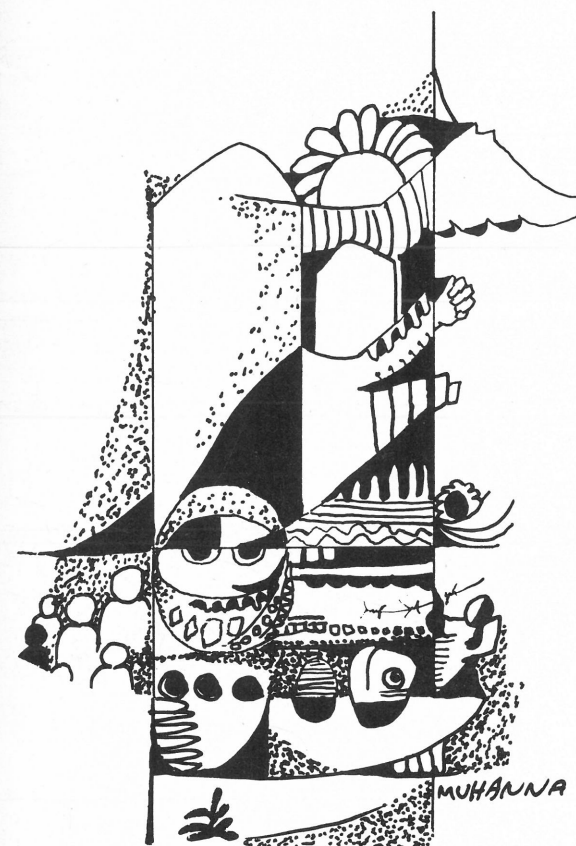
*Teaching the children and the babies
Never to forget their past
And to name their future to preserve
And to fight to the very last.*

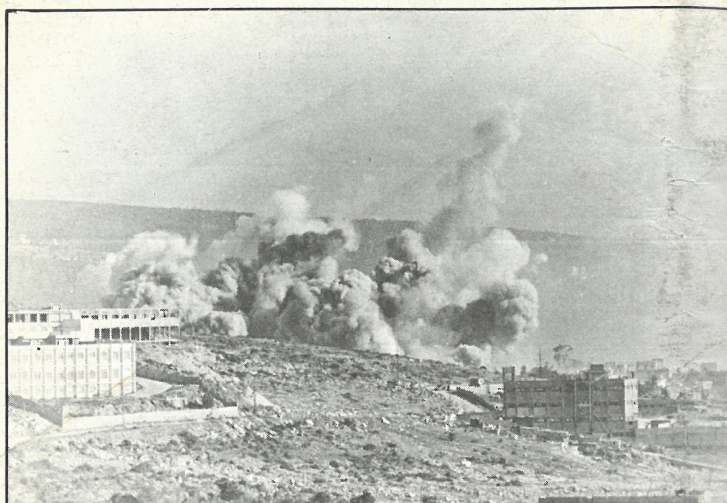
*The Palestinian is more than a people,
They are a real way of life.
It's feeling and being just what you feel,
It's practising love not strife.*

*The Palestinians love their enemies,
They strive to live in peace,
With fighting only as means to survive,
Who really want war to cease.*

*The Palestinian is a real, deep feeling
Its commitment is for the light of All
It's the common goal, the Reason for Being
It's the greatest unification call.*

*Look at the Palestinian Patriot
He lives, he dies, but he stands
To fight, he grasps, he hopes and dreams,
He will be plentiful, as the desert sands.*





MAY 28: ISRAELI AIRCRAFTS RAID DAMOUR AND NAAMEH

Palestine

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TWO SIDES
OF THE SAME COIN

