

ABU SALMA
1907 — 11.10.1980

WE MOURN THE DEATH
OF A GREAT PALESTINIAN POET

Palestine

MAR 2 1982

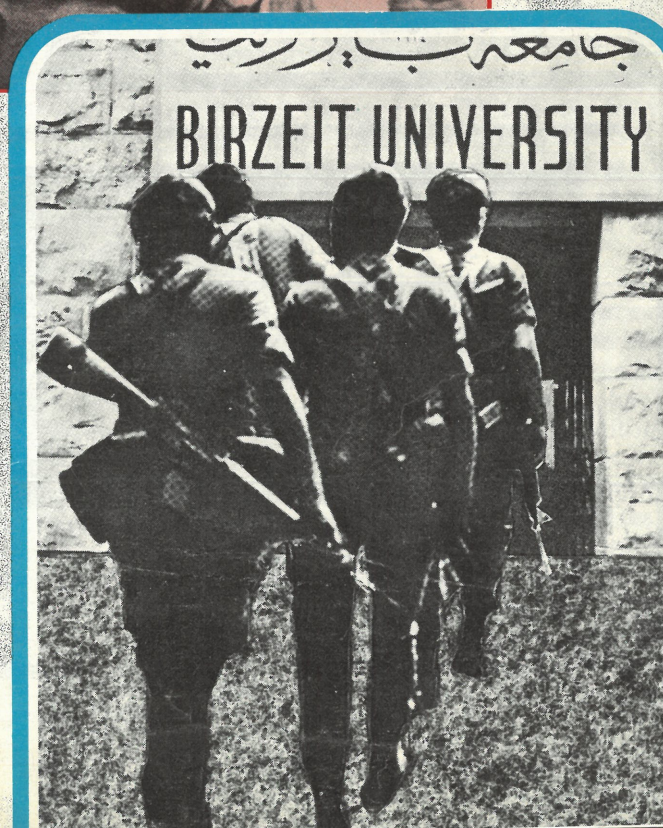
P.L.O.
information
bulletin

16-30 November
Vol. 7, No. 20



Occupied Palestine:

THE
UPRISING
CONTINUES



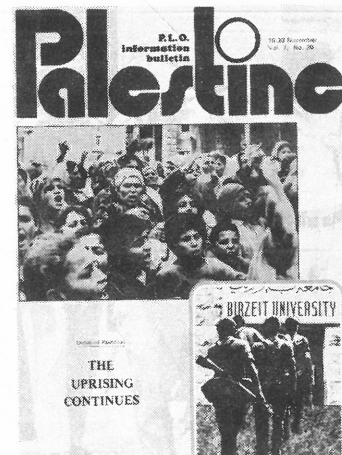
TO OUR READERS

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

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

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

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Palestine

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

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

PRICE L.L. 1

Yearly Subscription Rates:

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

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

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

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

EDITORIAL

U.S.-ISRAELI STRATEGIC COOPERATION

The strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States has been cemented through a treaty between the elephant and the mosquito. But Israel is no more a mosquito in the Middle East, it has become a snake which has poisoned the whole region. But there is a big question which has to be raised; that is, whether Israel needs such a treaty, or whether the U.S. is in need of it?!

There is no doubt that Israel is trying to make herself useful to U.S. interests in the region. More than that, Israel, in spite of being a liability to the U.S., is trying to sell herself as the only reliable ally to U.S. in the region. With this treaty Israel thinks to act as a police force in the region, mainly against any patriotic or progressive move in the Arab World. With this logic Israel is also trying to compete with other reliable friends to the U.S. — like for example Egypt or Saudi Arabia. Israel believes that those regimes are not as stable as Israel, and that the U.S. cannot count on them. For this reason, Israel is launching a ferocious campaign against Saudi Arabia, because it has close relations to the U.S. and is more useful to U.S. interests in the region than Israel, which constitutes more and more a burden to the U.S..

The U.S. government, embarrassed by this treaty of strategic cooperation, is trying to minimize its impact on the region. It tries to convince its Arab friends that Israel did not get what it wanted from the U.S.. They try to sell the poison of the Israeli snake to the Arab countries as if it were honey.

On the after hand the U.S. are sending troops to Sinai in order to replace the withdrawing Israeli forces. Other Europeans are going to take part in those so-called peace keeping forces.

Britain, France, Italy and Holland will assist the U.S. soldiers in this task. They say that they want to ensure the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, and acts as buffer forces between Egypt and Israel. But the reality is that the European and U.S. presence will not be a merely political presence but a military one. Will those forces be part of the Rapid Deployment Forces of the U.S. in the Indian Ocean or in the Gulf? ?

No doubt that this U.S.-European presence in region can be considered as part of a new political and military offensive of the Western alliance in the Middle East. Combatting a Soviet-communist threat? Threat against whom? One has to ask who is threatening whom in the region?

Those who want to combat communist-Soviet threats to the Middle East, should know that we, Arabs and Palestinians, don't feel threatened by the Soviets nor by the communists. The only threat menacing the Arab region is Israel and the Israeli expansionist ideology supported by the U.S. weaponry. This is the way the Middle East feels about the propagated U.S. strategy of combatting a "communist threat." Haig and other U.S. officials tried to sell those ideas to the Arabs, but without success. They have got the message.

The new U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation will push the Arabs to look somewhere else for support and protection. U.S. strategists have to reconsider their plans and strategies, they have to deal with the Arabs as equals. Any mutual cooperation should be based on mutual benefit and respect. The Reagan administration is pushing the whole world towards the cold war period of the fifties and early sixties. We hope it will not be the spark for a third world war.

EVENTS IN PHOTOS

Chairman Arafat conferring
with South Yemen President
Ali Nasser Mohammad...



...and North Yemeni
President
Ali Abdallah Saleh



Chairman Arafat and Fateh Executive Committee member Abu Iyad meeting
with Lebanese President Sarkis (center left) and Lebanese Prime Minister Wazzan (left)



Chairman Arafat receiving Greek envoy

PALESTINE CHRONOLOGY

NOVEMBER 9: Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the PLO Political Department, received a cable from the new Greek Foreign Minister, in reply to Kaddoumi's congratulations cable on his appointment. The cable expressed confidence that relations between the Palestinian and Greek peoples will grow stronger, and expressed hope that the Palestinian people would soon realise their goals.

NOVEMBER 11: In a speech before the UNESCO International Conference on Education in Geneva, Dr. Hanna Nasser, member of the PLO Executive Committee, stressed the vital importance of education and development for oppressed peoples. He further outlined the oppressive Israeli practices in the West Bank, citing the example of the continuing closure of Bir Zeit University, and stressing that this illustrated that despite the camouflage of the change from military to civilian rule Israeli oppression remained and had even been intensified.

Dr. Nasser also called attention to recent arrests of prominent members of the Palestinian National Guidance Committee. He requested that the Conference do its utmost to see that the prisoners are released and Bir Zeit University reopened.

Later Dr. Nasser met with the Director General of UNESCO and discussed with him the general conditions of detention in the occupied territories.

NOVEMBER 14: The PLO participated in the Indian International Fair, which opened in New Delhi and continued until December 4.

Indian newspapers gave wide coverage to the issue of PLO participation and considered it a great political victory for the Palestinians. The director of the Fair said efforts would not be spared to ensure the success of the Palestinian wing.

The PLO presented the products of SAMED, (the Institution for the Children of Palestinian Martyrs) which include traditional Palestinian handicrafts.

NOVEMBER 16: Fateh Central Committee member Abu Jihad, heading a Palestinian military delegation, arrived in Berlin after ending a visit to Hungary.

Abu Jihad met with the Defense Minister of the German Democratic Republic for two hours. The meeting was followed by a lunch in honour of the Palestinian delegation. Abu Jihad and the delegation accompanying him then placed a wreath of flowers on the monument for the martyrs of World War II.

The delegation was met at the airport by the GDR Defense Minister, the Deputy Defense Minister, the Chief of Staff, and the PLO representative in the GDR, Dr. Issam Kamel.

NOVEMBER 16: Yasser Arafat arrived in Qatar and immediately met with the ruler of Qatar, Shaikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al-Thani, in the presence of PLO Executive Committee member Abu Mazen and Fateh Central Committee member Abu al-Adib.

The meeting dealt with the latest Israeli military concentrations in south Lebanon and the anticipated Israeli aggression against the Palestinian and the Lebanese people. Discussions also focussed on the agenda of an Arab Summit meeting, and on bilateral relations between the PLO and Qatar and the necessity of consolidating them. The ruler of Qatar reiterated his country's firm stand with the Palestine cause.

PALESTINE CHRONOLOGY

NOVEMBER 17: Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the PLO and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the Palestinian Revolution, arrived in Aden and met with President Ali Nasser Muhammad, General Secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party and Chairman of the Presidential Committee of the People's Supreme Council. Also present were Brig. Ali Antar, member of the Politburo and Minister of Local Government, Ali Asaad Mathani, member of the Central Committee, and Abbas Zaki, the PLO representative in Aden. The meeting dealt with the latest developments in the Arab region, in the light of the latest U.S. moves which express its aggressive intentions towards the Arab nation. During the meeting, points of view were exchanged about the measures necessary to confront these developments and to foil US imperialist plans, which aim to threaten and terrorize the Arab people and to interfere in their internal affairs.

Chairman Arafat, accompanied by Abu al-Adib, member of the Fateh Central Committee, left Aden to San'a, where they were received by the Vice President, Abdel Aziz Abdel Ghani, the Prime Minister, Abdel Karim al-Iryani, and the PLO representative in San'a.

Immediately after his arrival, Arafat met with Ali Abdallah Saleh, President of the Arab Republic of Yemen, and discussed with him the latest developments in the region, before the Arab Summit held in Fez, Morocco on November 25. During the meeting, Arafat briefed President Ali Saleh and other Yemeni officials on the latest developments in south Lebanon and the Israeli military concentrations there.

NOVEMBER 17: A Palestinian military delegation headed by Abu Jihad, member of the Fateh Central Committee, met in Berlin with Erich Honecker, the General Secretary of the German Socialist Unity Party, in the presence of the GDR Defense Minister.

During the meeting the two parties reviewed the international situation, the Middle East situation, the developments of the Palestinian cause and relations between the PLO and the G.D.R.

Abu Jihad explained the conspiracies and arbitrary campaigns against the Palestinian Revolution, affirmed the Revolution's determination to continue the struggle until the attainment of Palestinian national rights, and confirmed the importance of strengthening PLO - GDR relations on all levels.

Comrade Honecker for his part sent his greetings to Chairman Yasser Arafat and to the Palestinian people. He said that many states of the world are standing beside the Palestinians' just struggle. He described the relations between the P.L.O. and the G.D.R. as well developed, deep and based on long tradition. He said that "we must work for the further development of these relations on political, military and economic levels."

Earlier, the Palestinian delegation held two hours of talks with GDR Defense Ministry officials on fields of cooperation between the G.D.R. Army and the Forces of the Palestinian Revolution.

The Palestinian delegation also visited anti-aircraft missile units and listened to an explanation on these units' operating procedures.

The Palestinian delegation then attended a dinner given by the Deputy Minister of Defense at the unit's headquarters.

NOVEMBER 18: Chairman Arafat met with Lebanese President Elias Sarkis, in the presence of Abu Iyad, member of the Fateh Central Committee, and Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. The meeting, which was described as important, dealt with the current situation in the light of the Israeli military concentrations in south Lebanon. The meeting also dealt with coordination of positions to emerge with a unified Arab stand before the Arab Summit held in Fez, Morocco.

Arafat received the envoy of King Hassan II of Morocco, Abdel Karim Ghallab, who delivered a message from King Hassan, including an official invitation to participate in the Arab Summit in Fez.

NOVEMBER 19: Yasser Arafat received an important letter from the President of Angola, Jose Eduardo Dos Santos. The letter dealt with the latest developments in the Arab and African arenas in the wake of the threats by the US and its allies against these regions.

Chairman Arafat received the Greek Ambassador to Lebanon, in the presence of Abu Ja'far, Director of the PLO Political Department. The meeting dealt with the developments in the region and Palestinian - Greek relations.

Arafat received the Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon, Alexander Soldatov, who handed him an important message from the Soviet leadership.

Arafat in turn gave Soldatov a message dealing with the latest developments in the region.

NOVEMBER 20: The Economic and Social Council of the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for implementation of effective measures to support the Palestinian people, in their fight against racism and fascism.

The resolution stipulated coordination and cooperation between the UN. and the PLO in the latter's capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The United States and Israel voted against the resolution.

Yasser Arafat sent a message to President Moussa Traore of Mali concerning bilateral relations between Mali and the PLO. The message was delivered to President Traore by the PLO representative in Bamako.

Fateh Central Committee member Abu Iyad attended a rally in commemoration of five members of the Lebanese Communist Action Organisation who were struck down by the bomb blast near the Arab University on October 1.

Abu Iyad praised the Lebanese people who have contributed one martyr after another in defence of the Palestinian Revolution and of Lebanon. He pledged that the march of our martyrs will continue.

Abu Iyad also spoke of the current political situation, saying that the coming days will witness some important political events that must be approached with a clear perspective. "We cannot accept a plan or initiative which contains recognition of Israel that still occupies our land," he said.

NOVEMBER 21: The Tunisian Transport Ministry decided to issue stamps about Palestine, which depict historical landmarks. The stamps will be released starting on 30 Nov.

The Tunisian decision represents a contribution from the Tunisian Government to consolidate information and propaganda efforts which are directed at world public opinion, and to support the families of Palestinian martyrs.

The move was accompanied by another decision which stipulates that the revenue from the sale of the stamps would be handed over to the PLO for the support of the martyrs' families.

The PLO offices in Berlin and Sofia held commemorative rallies for the martyr Majed Abu Sharar, member of the Fateh Central Committee. In Berlin the rally was attended by German political and social figures, representatives of Arab and friendly diplomatic missions in Berlin, representatives of liberation movements and students' unions and the Palestinian community in the GDR. Speakers at the rally denounced the assassination of Abu Sharar by U.S.-Israeli agents and praised the role of the martyr in the Palestinian struggle.

In Sofia, Bulgaria, the PLO office held a similar rally. The PLO representative in Sofia delivered a speech in which he denounced the ugly crime and praised Abu Sharar's role in the Palestinian struggle.

NOVEMBER 21: Chairman Arafat met with Syrian President Hafez al-Assad, in the presence of Abdel Halim Khaddam, Syrian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, and Abdel Muhsin Abu Maizar, member of the PLO Executive Committee.

PALESTINE CHRONOLOGY

The three hour-long meeting dealt with the developments in the region, particularly Israeli military concentrations in south Lebanon and the threats made by Israeli leaders against the Palestinian Revolution, the Lebanese National Movement and Syria. The meeting also dealt with the agenda of the Arab Summit and with means of coordinating the Palestinian and Syrian positions so as to emerge with a unified Arab stand capable of facing the challenges against the Arab nation, especially the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance. The meeting moreover reviewed the popular uprising in the occupied territories.

During the meeting, Arafat briefed President Assad on the results of his latest tour which took him to several Arab states.

NOVEMBER 22: Yasser Arafat arrived in Riyadh, where he met with the Saudi Monarch King Khalid Ibn Abdel Aziz in the presence of Crown Prince Fahd and high-ranking Saudi officials.

Arafat left Riyadh for Damascus, where he met with Dr. Rifa't al-Assad, member of the Arab Socialist Baath Party Regional Command.

NOVEMBER 23: PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat met with Kamel al-Asaad, Speaker of the Lebanese Parliament and head of the Democratic Socialist Party, in the presence of Fateh Central Committee members Abu al-Walid and Hani al-Hassan, former Lebanese minister Anwar al-Sabbah, Adnan Akkawi and Na'im Ni'meh, members of the Central Committee of the Lebanese Democratic Socialist Party. The meeting dealt with the latest developments in the region and the Israeli military concentrations in south Lebanon.

After the meeting, Arafat said he and Assad had discussed several issues, particularly the sensitive situation in south Lebanon, which is a result of Israel's aggressive intentions against the Arab nation. Arafat said that these were now mainly directed against south Lebanon, in the form of Israeli military build-ups, or ambitions with regard to Lebanon's territory, people and water resources.

Chairman Arafat headed a joint meeting of the Fateh Revolutionary Council and the Fateh Higher Military Council. The meeting dealt with the military situation in south Lebanon, in the light of the Israeli military build-up and the probability of an Israeli aggression against the Joint Forces. In this regard, the participants adopted several military, security, and organisational measures.

NOVEMBER 25: Deported Palestinian Mayors Fahd Qawasmeh of Hebron and Muhammad Milhem of Halhoul held a press conference in Helsinki, in which they said that the aim of the Israeli authorities' repressive campaign in the occupied territories is to force the people there to emigrate.

These arbitrary practices are designed to make the lives of the Palestinians hell, the Mayors said, describing the array of Israeli measures including the imposition of exorbitant taxes, mass arrests, torture, deportation and land confiscation.

Chairman Arafat sent a letter to Kenyan President and OAU Chairman Daniel Arap Moi, which the latter received as he was departing for Fez to attend the opening of the Arab Summit.

In the letter, which was delivered by Ali Nasi', the PLO representative in Nairobi, Arafat sent his regards to the Kenyan leader and expressed his condemnation of the aggressive and racist policies of South Africa. Arafat also said in the letter that the PLO strongly denounces the so-called independence of 'Sisikei' which resulted in the dispersal of more than two million Africans.

Abu Jihad, member of the Fateh Central Committee and Deputy Commander of al-Assifa forces, met in Beirut with the Charge d'Affaires of the People's Republic of China. Abu al-Walid, member of the Fateh Central Committee and of al-Assifa General Command, was also present at the meeting. They discussed the latest political developments in the area and the relationship between the Palestinian Revolution and China.

NOVEMBER 29.

INTERNATIONAL PALESTINE SOLIDARITY DAY



Once again the world reaffirmed its support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people to realize their legitimate rights, with celebrations in a number of capitals on November 29, the date set by the U.N. as the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people.

This year's celebrations coincided with political and military victories realized by the PLO thanks to the firmness of its militants and fighters. The Palestinians managed to foil all manner of conspiracies and plots, and to defy constant Zionist acts of aggression at a time when the occupied territories are experiencing a marvellous popular uprising in the face of the Zionist occupation and the so called 'autonomy' conspiracy. Beijing, Pyongyang, Havana, Berlin, Moscow, Pakistan, London, New York, Cyprus, Hanoi, Damascus, Baghdad and Beirut celebrated the occasion, and prominent local and Palestinian personalities and delegations attended the festivities, and all came out with statements of support for the Palestinian struggle and condemnation of Israeli aggression.

Speaking in Havana, the Cuban President, Fidel Castro, demanded an end to the war of liquidation being waged against the Arab Palestinian people. On the occasion Castro also sent a letter to Dr. Kurt Waldheim, in which he confirmed his country's support for the Palestinian struggle, and Cuba and the Non-Aligned movement's vehement denunciation of Israel's savage bombardments of Lebanon, which testify to the fact that there exists an aggressive drive against the Arab people in general and the Palestinian people in particular. Castro added that Israel is playing the role of the obedient servant of the US and defender of American interests in the Middle East, a matter which threatens world peace.

In London a massive demonstration was held to express support for the struggle of the Palestinian people.

In Cyprus, the PLO representative received cables of solidarity and support from student councils, as progressive and democratic Cypriot newspapers dedicated their leaders to expressions of solidarity with the just struggle of the Palestinian people under their sole legitimate representative, the PLO. The Cypriot Education Ministry ordered the schools to dedicate the first lessons on November 28 to an explanation of the Palestinian cause, and a number of schools hung Palestinian posters in their halls. Syrian President Hafez al-Assad sent a letter to the head of the UN Palestinian Rights Committee on Solidarity Day. In the letter he reaffirmed support for the Palestinian struggle which he called the central cause of Syria, and pledged that Syria will do its utmost to help the Palestinians regain their lost rights and establish their independent state under PLO leadership. Assad also condemned Israeli aggression and expansionist policies, which serve the interests of world imperialism and threaten world peace.

Iraq's President Saddam Hussein also sent a letter to the head of the Committee in which he said that the struggle against Zionism is bitter and long since Zionism is by nature aggressive and racist; it denies legal rights and ridicules international law and the decisions of world organisations. He also noted that Zionism is bound to imperialist powers. The Iraqi National Council held an extraordinary session in Baghdad on Solidarity Day. It was attended by high level Iraqi officials and several Arab diplomats. Speeches were made stressing solidarity with the Palestinian people and their sole legitimate representative the PLO. The PLO representative in Baghdad, Azam al-Ahmad, addressed the participants.

The PLO office in Tokyo held a music recital for Solidarity Day. A special issue of *Filastin Biladi* was printed for this occasion with a focus on Chairman Yasser Arafat's recent visit to Japan.

In New York, hoisting banners and chanting fervently, about 2,500 supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation marched down Seventh Avenue on Saturday November 28 as part of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. The rally, sponsored by the "November 29 Coalition," was a show of support for the struggle of the Palestinian people, according to coalition spokesman Iskandar Zalami. The demonstrators, chanting, "Long live the PLO", made their way downtown, flanked by heavy police guard, to Union Square, where the rally continued. Shafiq al-Hout, a member of the PLO delegation to the United Nations, told the supporters that the United States should stop military activity in the Middle East. He also said real peace in the Middle East can only be achieved through recognition of the PLO and self-determination of the Palestinian people.

In Moscow Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev on Sunday November 29 congratulated Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat for opposing the "dangerous militarist plans of the United States and Israel". The congratulation telegram on the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, was reprinted on the front page of *Pravda*, the authoritative newspaper of the Soviet Communist Party. Brezhnev said he noted with satisfaction the further growth of the international prestige of the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle for their rights. The telegram commended Arafat for giving a strong rebuff to the policy of separate deals and to the dangerous militarist plans of the United States and Israel.

The German Democratic Republic actively assists the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). This was reaffirmed by Party and State Leader Erich Honecker in a message to Yasser Arafat. "The GDR is observing with concern the attempts of imperialism at reinforcing its direct military presence in the Middle East and West Asia", says the message conveyed on the occasion of the International Day of

U.N. CELEBRATES PALESTINE SOLIDARITY DAY

The International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People was observed in Geneva on November 30th, according to an announcement from UN headquarters. This celebration coincides with UN efforts to inform world public opinion about the Palestinian struggle and the necessity of finding a just solution to all sides of the problem, which guarantees the realization of the Palestinian people's national rights, including the right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent sovereign state.

Solidarity with the Palestinian People. In face of those peace-endangering activities, "the GDR works seriously in favour of a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem. It firmly supports the just cause of the Palestinian people, whose courageous struggle for the implementation of their inalienable rights commands sympathy and respect throughout the world". In a message to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dr. Kurt Waldheim, Mr. Erich Honecker underlined the urgency of a complex peace settlement in the Middle East in view of increasing international tensions which are threatening world peace. "In order to achieve it the GDR feels it is necessary consistently to implement the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council of the UN.

In Vietnam Premier Pham Van Dong warmly welcomed the International Day for Solidarity with the Palestinian People who, he said, "are unflinchingly struggling against Zionist Israeli aggression and U.S. imperialism, for independence and freedom". In a message addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the Committee for the Inalienable National Rights of the Palestinian People, he said: "We deem it more necessary than ever for all the forces of peace and justice in the world to unite with the Palestinian people and other Arab people and to support their struggles against new sinister schemes and actions of U.S. imperialism, Zionism and other reactionary forces which are seeking to crush the resistance of the Palestinian people and impose a defeatist solution on the Arab nation. This struggle must go hand in hand with the struggle against the increasing U.S. military presence in the Middle East, for the independence, sovereignty and security of the nations in that region and other parts of the world.

In Beirut, the Central Communications Bureau, belonging to the Egyptian Patriotic Alliance in Exile, issued a communique in which they expressed their solidarity with the Palestinian people and their just struggle.

Chairman Arafat Receives Solidarity Cables

On the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, Chairman Yasser Arafat received a large number of solidarity cables expressing support for the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people. Among those who cabled Arafat were:

Leonid Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party and President of the Supreme Soviet;

Husak Jablonski, President of the State Council in Poland;

Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of the G.D.R.;

Todor Zhivkov, General Secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party;

Muhammad Khonal Ould Haidallah, President of Mauritania;

The General Secretary of the National Council of the National Front in Hungary;

The General Secretary of the Cypriot Communist Party;

The President of the Arab-Cypriot Solidarity Committee;

The General Secretary of the Chilean Socialist Party.



CHAIRMAN ARAFAT ADDRESSES MESSAGE TO UN

On November 29, Chairman Yasser Arafat addressed a message to the President and members of the UN General Assembly on the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people.

In his message, Chairman Arafat gave a broad overview of the circumstances surrounding the just struggle of the Palestinian people. He also referred to the intransigent policies of the Zionist state towards the Palestinian and Arab peoples, as well as its violation of the resolutions and Charter of the United Nations. Arafat also hinted at the role of the U.S.A in supporting the Israeli aggressors in denying the Palestinian people their legitimate right to live in freedom and dignity. Chairman Arafat wrote:

"The time has come for the General Assembly to ponder Israel's neglect of UN resolutions and recommendations, and to consider the will of the vast majority of its

members. It must study the appropriate means to put an end to this neglect and defiance of the UN and the world, because it has become urgent for the UN to take a firm stand, not only for the sake of the Palestinian people, Jerusalem and the cause of justice, and not only to defuse the threat of a Middle Eastern war, but also to strengthen the status and capabilities of the UN for the sake of a world that is in harmony with the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is no longer acceptable or possible for Israel to retain the honour of UN membership, while its words and deeds contradict such principles, and while it rejects all UN recommendations and resolutions.... Of course this unnatural and critical situation could not have persisted if it were not for the support accorded to Israeli violations, under the roof of the UN and outside it, by the U.S. Government. Otherwise how would it have been possible for a small state, relying for its very existence on foreign aid, to defy the international will, without cover from the USA?"

(The full text of Arafat's message will appear in our annual issue in early January 1982.)

In the Occupied Territories:

PALESTINIAN UPRISING — NO TO ISRAELI AUTONOMY

As the mass uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip entered its fourth week, universities, schools and other public institutions remained closed as students continued their strike in protest against Zionist occupation. The new wave of demonstrations erupted throughout the occupied territories in reaction to the announcement by Zionist War Minister Ariel Sharon that he will strike with an iron fist at anyone who has contributed to the tension in the occupied territories over the past four weeks.

The Zionist authorities have placed most of the cities and villages under curfew following the execution of the collaborator Kazim Al-Khatib on November 17 by Palestinian commandos operating in the occupied territories and the wounding of his father Yousef Al-Khatib, the head of the so-called Ramallah Villages League (a committee of collaborators formed by Sharon in an attempt to find an alternative to the pro-PLO municipal leaders.) The Zionist soldiers had earlier carried out house to house searches in the villages, arresting a large number of Palestinian inhabitants.

The Zionist authorities also issued orders restricting the movements of the municipal leaders, encircling educational institutions and refugee camps with dogs and helmeted troops armed with clubs and automatic rifles. The Zionist government's attempts to carry on with its oppressive policy were illustrated on November 17 when troops blew up the houses of three large families as a retaliatory action for attacks against Israeli military vehicles.

In Bani Na'im near Hebron, several schoolchildren were injured after Zionist troops moved in to break up demonstrations. Several other students were arrested.

On November 18 the Israeli authorities imposed a curfew on several towns in the Ramallah region. As in Silwad, Mayor Musa Mahmoud Musa was placed under house arrest for an unlimited period. Also in Yabroud, near Ramallah, several Palestinians were arrested, following the stoning of Israeli military vehicles passing through the village.

The occupation troops also encircled the Duhaisha refugee camp, near Bethlehem, imposing a curfew and



*The courage of the occupation soldiers:
a young Palestinian gets his treatment*

forcing the residents to gather on the camp's main road, as a form of collective punishment, following the stoning of Israeli soldiers and military vehicles. They also detained several young students and stormed the Khadouri Agricultural Institute following a student demonstration there in a protest against the demolition of Palestinian homes near Bethlehem. In Beit Sahour, a member of the town council has been arrested for no declared reason.

In Jerusalem, as hundreds of Palestinian inhabitants headed towards Al-Aqsa Mosque for Friday prayers, large numbers of Israeli soldiers blocked their way and forced many of them to return home.

In Jenin, students Ayman Abu Bakr and Rula Mahmoud Tawfik were shot by Zionist police during Zionist attempts to disperse the demonstrators who had been marching through the streets raising Palestinian flags and chanting pro-P.L.O. slogans.

Demonstrators not Backing down

In Nablus, fifty new students joined the Najah University hunger strike which started on November 1. The open hunger strike is in protest against the closure of the university, the arrests of students and the Sharon-planned "civil administration". A number of popular and professional delegations and foreign correspondents visited the strikers and expressed their support for them.

Forty other students were arrested in demonstrations at the Ma'azuz Al-Masri and Qadri Touqan high schools. The arrests occurred when Israeli troops stormed the two schools.

However, Sharon's 'iron fist' seemed to be very weak in calming down the protesters, taking into account that the anti-occupation activities are continuing and demonstrators did not seem to be backing down. The curfews were part of the iron fist policy ordered by Sharon which was felt throughout the occupied territories. Aspects of this policy were seen in many cities and towns.

One was in Jerusalem where there has been a total commercial strike, when Zionist soldiers awakened shopkeepers and served writs on them requiring them to open their stores. The shopkeepers were also escorted to their shops. Another aspect of Sharon's tough policy was the closure of Bir Zeit University near Ramallah because students engaged in protests against the so-called civil administration which is in fact a step towards the annexation of the region.

On November 22, hundreds of Arab and democratic Jewish students staged a demonstration in front of Menahem Begin's office in Jerusalem in protest against the collective punishment to which Palestinian people are subjected. A large force of Israeli troops and so-called border guards was brought in to encircle the demonstrators, who chanted anti-occupation slogans and shouted their denunciation of the continued detention of many Palestinian figures and the closure of Bir Zeit University. Among the protesters was Daniel Amit, a Jewish democratic professor who accused the Zionist occupation authorities of oppressing the Palestinian people whether they resided in 1948 — or 1967 — occupied Palestine.

The Zionist troops also turned back busloads of people who were on their way to join the demonstrations. Some people managed to get to their destination by taxis.

Sharon's "Felt Glove" Slips off the "Iron Fist"

With the negotiations over Palestinian "autonomy" hitting a dead end, Israel did not waste any time in attempting to create a *fait accompli* and change the status of the occupied territories. For a start the Israeli occupation authorities banned the municipal elections which were supposed to take place two years ago. At that time, Zionist Chief of Staff Rafael Eitan said that he was sure that the pro-P.L.O. candidates would win. When Menahem Begin formed his second coalition government last July and appointed the long-time Zionist Ariel Sharon as his Minister of War, Sharon announced that he would put new plans into effect in the occupied territories. One of them was the replacement of the military administration by a "civilian one" in order to pave the road for the proposed "autonomy".

Another aim is to create an alternative to the P.L.O. by pushing forward a few collaborators like Mustafa Dudin of Hebron and the executed Kazim Al-Khatib of Ramallah. In order to get these collaborators closer to the people, Sharon declared that his

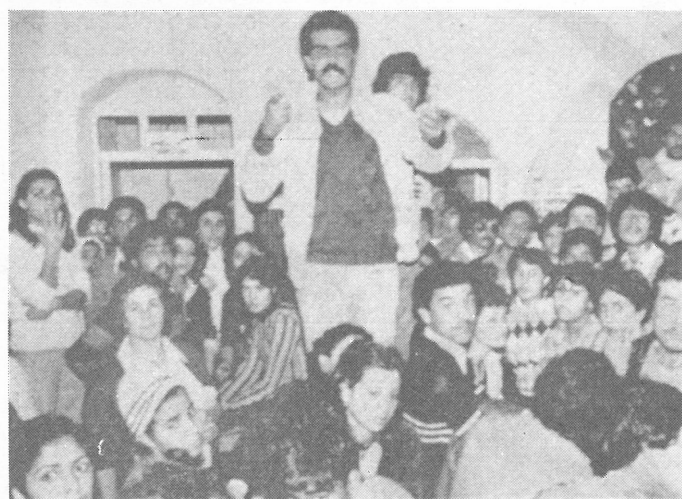


troops will no longer storm schools and universities and ordered the decrease of the number of army roadblocks, so the inhabitants might think that those collaborators are the answers to all their misery and also the saviours, and that cooperation with these puppets is for the people's own good. However, the felt glove worn by Sharon did not stay on for a long time, especially when people decided to put an end to this farce and pushed these collaborators back into darkness and made them feel hated and isolated. This made Sharon drop the mask and go back to his old Zionist practices by demolishing houses, arresting young school students and putting municipal leaders under house arrest.

No Deals with Collaborators

On November 26, Bethlehem students refused to see the head of the so-called "Bethlehem Village League" who had offered to intervene on their behalf with the Israeli occupation authorities to ensure the return of those students who had been expelled from their schools during the massive popular uprising. The students denounced such cheap exploitation and suspect attempts at imposing the collaborating body's authority on Palestinians in the occupied territories. In an attempt to push the collaborators forward, certain officials in the education Department in the Bethlehem area had asked the students to refer their case to the President of the so-called "Bethlehem Village League", who would in turn ask the Israeli authorities to readmit the students to their schools.

Even Egyptian negotiators in the Palestinian "autonomy" talks called on Israel to change its oppressive policies in the occupied territories. (*The Times*, November 11, 1981), Israel's answer to that was the detention of the leaders of unions representing lawyers, doctors and engineers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip; the arrest of the editor of the Jerusalem daily *Al-Shaab* and the closure of the other *Al-Fajr*.



Palestinian students' meeting at Bir Zeit University

CHAIRMAN ARAFAT PRAISES UPRISING IN OCCUPIED PALESTINE

Chairman Yasser Arafat, in a speech delivered over the *Voice of Palestine* and directed towards the Palestinian people under occupation, praised their heroic determination in the face of all the conspiracies concocted by the Zionist enemy from the so-called "autonomy scheme" to the "civil administration" plan. The following are excerpts from Yasser Arafat's speech:

"You, our people in the occupied territories, are creating by means of your mass uprising militant realities in our Arab region. Your brave and great activity complements that of your fighting revolutionary sons to create the framework of your glorious revolution.

"The conspirators have gone to the limit, driven by the fantasy of imposing solutions, projects and accords to usurp our rights and consecrate the occupation of our land. Camp David and its ridiculous 'autonomy scheme' were the zenith of the adventurism of the partners in the conspiracy. They believed that they could impose this conspiracy and force it on the Palestinian people.

"The only truth which has manifested itself on the Middle East equation," Arafat went on, "is that there can be no solution or settlement or peace in this part of the world without the national rights of the Palestinian people, foremost among them being the right to establish an independent state with holy Jerusalem as its capital.

"When the Zionist leaders and their imperialist masters try to manufacture false alternatives to these rights they will only meet with failure. You our people in the occupied lands were perhaps the first to recognize these false solutions starting with the civil administration and ending with the autonomy scheme. You were the first to expose these innovations. The horsemen of Camp David thought that they had the Palestinian people in their grip and under their supervision in their adventures and conspiracies against the Palestinian people and their just and sacred cause."

Arafat went on to say that "despite the military and political battles lying ahead which will try to obstruct us at every turn in the road, we shall finally be victorious." He concluded by drawing attention to the strong hand of the Palestinians which shattered Sharon's alleged 'iron fist'. He finally pledged in the name of all the Palestinians and all the militants in the Palestinian Revolution to continue the march towards the national goal. He said: "The day is not far off when the Palestinian people will raise their flag above Jerusalem and all of Palestine."

WEST BANK, GAZA ORGANISATIONS DENOUNCE ISRAELI REPRESSION

On November 16, representatives of the municipalities as well as educational, technical, charitable, and social organisations in Gaza and the West Bank held meetings to survey the circumstances and events the occupied territories have witnessed since the mass uprising began. The conference in Gaza issued a statement denouncing the oppressive measures taken by the Israeli authorities to stifle the mass uprising of the Palestinians under occupation. They also cited as examples land and water expropriation, new settlements, arrests and house arrests, collective punishment, curfews, demolition of houses, harder economic measures, desecration of holy places, interference in education and inhuman prison conditions.

The statement announced the organisations' commitment to support the Palestinian people's

unity and their right to self-determination and an independent state on Palestinian land; the statement affirmed that all organisations and institutions in Gaza categorically reject any solution which contradicts these objectives, and they especially reject the autonomy conspiracy. The statement demanded that the Israeli authorities put a stop to these oppressive measures and release all those detained, including notably Samir Katbeh, Azmi al-Shuaibi and Akram Hania.

On November 18, the Committee for the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality in Nazareth announced its absolute solidarity with the Palestinians in the occupied territories. The Committee decided to send cables denouncing oppressive Israeli measures to Mayors Hanna al-Atrash of Beit Sahour and Bassam al-Shak'a of Nablus, and the administration and students of Bir Zeit University.

OCCUPATION DIARY

ISRAELIS SMASH PALESTINIAN CAR WINDSCREENS

On November 22, Israeli settlers aided by Israeli occupation soldiers smashed the car windows of Palestinians in Halhoul and Bani Naim near Hebron as a vindictive measure following the continuation of demonstrations in the two villages. Last year, Israeli settlers also went on the rampage smashing car windcreens, in these two villages.

ISRAELI AUTHORITIES BAR NATSHEH FROM GIVING PRESS CONFERENCE

On November 26, the Israeli occupation authorities banned Mustafa al-Natsheh, acting Mayor of Hebron, from holding a press conference. Natsheh had intended to bring up the issue of the Usama al-Munqiz School, which has been occupied by Israeli troops since May 1980. Following the ban the

Military Governor in Hebron summoned all the members of the town's Municipality for interrogation.

Natsheh, local education official and the parents of students affected by the continued occupation of the school have sent numerous cables to the Israeli authorities demanding the school be evacuated and its students allowed to return. Natsheh has also repeatedly demanded that the Israeli authorities lift restrictions on the Hebron Polytechnic and cease their interference in schools in the Hebron region.

INFLATION RATE TO REACH 180% IN ISRAEL

On November 17, *Agence France Press* reported that annual inflation in Israel, which has already reached 130% will be in the order of 180% in 1982, according to a study conducted by three high-ranking Israeli treasury officials. The officials blamed the rise in the rate of infla-

tion on the financial policy of Begin's government.

13 PALESTINIANS TRIED FOR PARTICIPATING IN NAZARETH VOLUNTEER CAMP

The Israeli military court in Ramallah has postponed to 10 December the trial of 13 Palestinians charged with spending the night in Nazareth and participating in the 6th volunteer work camp there, without a permit from the occupation authorities.

The 13 Palestinian youths had been arrested when the Zionist forces stormed the cultural centre (in August) which belongs to the municipality of Nazareth. Over 100 volunteers from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip were also detained at the time. The volunteers were all participating in the work camp which was held in Nazareth. The citizens who are to be tried include three from the village of 'Aboud, two from Bir Zeit, five from al Taybeh, one from 'Ain 'Arik and one from Kafr Na'meh.

OCCUPATION DIARY

Many national foundations and associations denounced the measures taken by the Israeli authorities to try the volunteers and asserted that the authorities intend to fabricate charges to take revenge and thwart the volunteer work camp. Many lawyers have announced their readiness to defend the volunteers before the Zionist court.

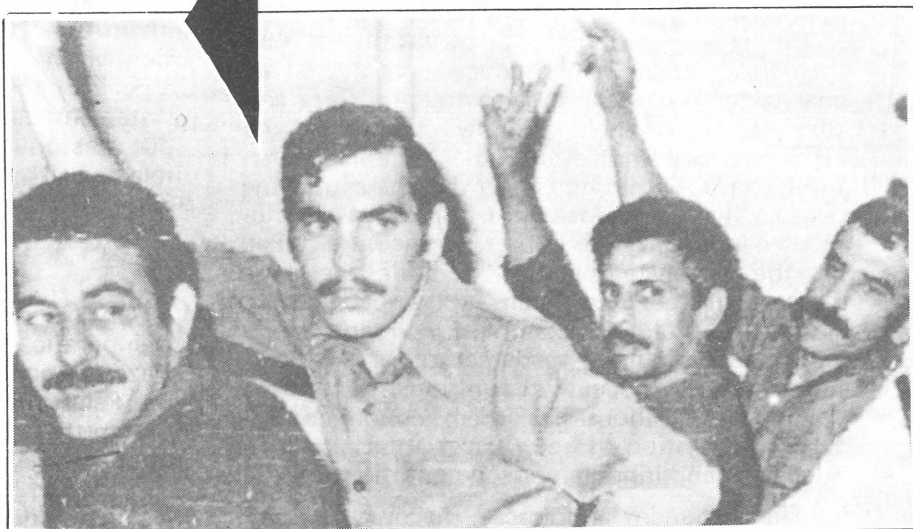
GOLAN RESIDENTS SENTENCED

On November 24, an Israeli military court issued various sentences against residents of the occupied Golan Heights. The defendants were charged with inciting the people of Golan against the occupation and calling for a general strike. Fifty students were brought to court and were either sentenced to jail for 15-45 days, or given exorbitant fines. The same court sentenced to 45 days imprisonment the citizens Hammoud Mahmoud al-Safadi, Nadim Sami and Yousef Ammasheh on charges of incitement to riot.

COMMANDOS OF DIBWIYEH OPERATION CONDEMNED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

On November 17, the four Palestinian commandos who carried out the Dibwiyeh operation in Hebron in May 1980, in which 6 armed settlers were killed, were sentenced to life imprisonment by an Israeli military court in Nablus. Around 200 Zionist settlers attended the trial, most of them members of the fanatical Gush Emunim settlement organisation. Also in attendance was Rabbi Moshe Levinger, the notorious racist leader of Kiryat Arba settlement. When the prosecutor read out the life sentence, the Zionist audience began shouting hysterically and in unison: "Death, Death, Death." The trial was extremely rowdy with the prosecutor's statements being constantly accompanied by the settlers clamouring for the death sentence.

The four defendants, however,



The Palestinian commandos of the Dibwiyeh operation before the military court

stressed the fact that they do not fear death, that life under occupation can never be pleasant or peaceful, and that they are proud to die defending the rights of the Palestinian people who should be able to live in peace, and in a Palestinian state on their own lands.

TWO PALESTINIANS SENTENCED

On November 18, the Israeli military court in Ramallah sentenced two Palestinian students from the Bethlehem area for 'security reasons'. Nasser Jabr Hamamra from Hawan was sentenced to five months in jail and fined 7,000 Shekels while Sa'id Zahran from Duhaisha refugee camp was given a ten month suspended jail sentence and fined 10,000 Shekels. The Israeli authorities had earlier prevented Nasser Jabr Hamamra from attending school, also for 'security reasons'.

PROTEST AGAINST TORTURE OF PALESTINIAN DETAINEES

On November 23, democratic Israeli attorney Felicia Langer sent cables to the Israeli Interior and Defense Ministries protesting against the torture of Palestinian detainees. She said that prisoners in Mosocobiyeah jail in Jerusalem are being subjected to systematic torture and maltreatment.

She also protested at the arbitrary arrest of dozens of Palestinian youths in Beit Sahour and Bethlehem in recent weeks. Ms. Langer has visited Mosocobiyeah jail twice in mid-November, meeting with many of the detained youths. Most of them are members of families whose houses were demolished as a reprisal for the youths allegedly throwing Molotov cocktails at Israeli vehicles. They are Walid George Qamsiyeh, Tarik al-Shoumali, Abdel Nasser Abdel Wahid Musa, Iman Abu-Eita, Amjad Abu-Eita, Hanna Salsa, Ati Musa Tamira and Basim Abdel Wahab Musa.

Ms. Langer said that they had been subjected to savage torture and the marks of beatings can be seen clearly on their bodies. She added that the condition of Walid George Qamsiyeh (16) is particularly alarming since he cannot stand up. Qamsiyeh, from Beit Sahour, has been immobilized by a fractured hip sustained when he was arrested and tortured by Zionist authorities. Detainees have been helping Qamsiyeh move around, according to Felicia Langer.

BIR ZEIT STUDENT LEADER TORTURED IN ISRAELI JAIL

The head of the Bir Zeit University Student Council, Mufid Abd Rabbo, is suffering from severe

back pains and has sustained injuries to his neck as a result of torture by his Israeli jailers. Abd Rabbo was arrested on November 12, during the mass demonstrations which have been sweeping the West Bank for the last three weeks.

HANIA, KATBEH AND SHU'AIBI DECLARE HUNGER STRIKE IN JAIL

In protest against their continued detention, West Bank Physicians' Union head Dr. Samir Katbeh, *al-Shaab* Editor-in-Chief Akram Hania and al-Bireh Councilor Dr. Azmi Shu'aibi today announced an open hunger strike. They have been in jail for 11 days. In a statement clarifying their position, the detainees said that the motive for their arrest was vindictive and had clear political overtones. They have been victimised for their rejection of the 'autonomy' scheme and the 'civil administration' plan, and for their condemnation of Israeli collective punishment against the Palestinian masses in the occupied territories, the statement said.

On November 19, the Israeli military court in Ramallah rejected a petition from attorney Felicia Langer for the three Palestinians' release. The court went on to extend their detention for 18 days. The court based its ruling on an alleged 'secret dossier' submitted by Israeli 'military sources.' Ms. Langer confirmed that the proceedings constitute an act of arbitrary vindictiveness against the Palestinians.

A large number of doctors, citizens, nurses, and pharmacists staged a sit-in in the International Red Cross headquarters in Jerusalem protesting at the continued detention of the three Palestinians. The protesters issued a statement condemning the arrests and the other repressive measures taken by the occupation authorities in the last few weeks. A similar sit-in was held at the Red Cross office in Ramallah.

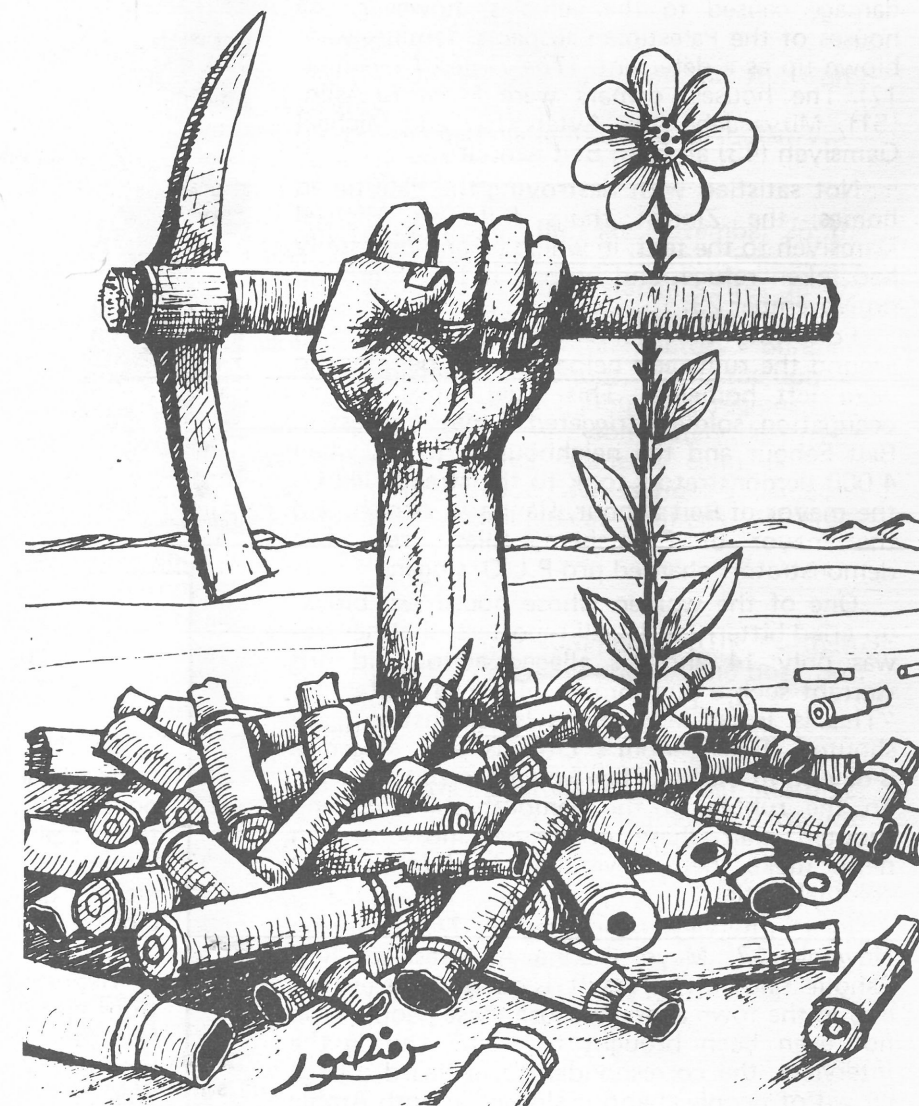
GAZA PRISON STAGES PROTEST STRIKE

On November 19, Palestinian detainees in Gaza prison staged a strike in protest against the Israeli authorities' refusal to meet their demands, for the second time this month.

On the first occasion, sources in Gaza reported hearing gunshots coming from the prison amid sounds of prisoners shouting. A pall of black smoke was also seen rising from the jail. Strange sounds have been heard coming from the jail.

The Gaza municipality issued the following statement on the situation in the prison:

"The Israeli military authorities refused the municipality's requests to visit the prisoners under the pretext that no one has the right to visit the prison except representatives of the International Red Cross. The Israeli authorities also prevented the Red Cross representative from visiting the prison a second time. Immediate intervention in this case is essential so that the prisoners' just demands can be met."



Drawing by Suleiman Mansour (occupied Palestine)

"WE WILL PUT UP TENTS ON THE RUBBLE"

Despising the most basic human needs and rights and mocking at all international conventions including the Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in Time of War, the Zionist occupation forces blew up the homes of four large Palestinian families on November 16, 1981: three in the Christian town of Beit Sahour and one in the Ramallah district.

A Zionist army statement claimed that a youth from each of the families living in the blown-up homes had participated in two fire bomb attacks against military vehicles. According to this army statement, there was no damage caused to the vehicles; however, the houses of the Palestinian suspects' families were blown up as a deterrent. (*The Times*, November 17). The houses' owners were Musa Al-Aslini (51), Mitya Jabr Abu Aytah (51) and Michael Qamsiyeh (43) all from Beit Sahour.

Not satisfied with destroying the Palestinian homes, the Zionist thugs followed Michael Qamsiyeh to the tent, in which he and his family had taken refuge, and burned it to the ground on November 23.

Following the demolitions, Arabs gathered around the ruins and helped the 25 people who were left homeless. This cruel move by the occupation soldiers triggered a mass protest in Beit Sahour and the neighbouring towns when 4,000 demonstrators took to the streets, led by the mayor of Beit Sahour, Hanna Al-Atrash, and the mayor of Bethlehem, Elias Freij. The demonstrators chanted pro-P.L.O. slogans.

One of the women whose house was blown up cried bitterly to Israeli reporters, that her son was only 14 and his alleged action did not warrant such a punishment of the whole family. "This is Israeli law, this is Israeli justice", she shouted. Beit Sahour's citizens also staged a 3-day sit-in strike. They vowed to put up tents on the rubble of the demolished homes and shouted that these oppressive measures can never make them leave their land for Zionist colonial settlers.

In an interview conducted by *The Times* on November 17, Mayor Hanna Al-Atrash of Beit Sahour said: "The result is to make everyone else in the town angry because these people have not even been brought to trial." During the interview, the correspondent also heard a large crowd of people chanting slogans in both Arabic and English. The most frequent cry was a chant of "Yes to P.L.O., no to Israel."

Even the Israeli Labour Party, which itself had more than 1,400 Arab homes demolished while it was in power, admitted through its leader Shimon Peres that the Begin government's measures were totally unjustified. Furthermore, Knesset member Victor Shemtov of the Mapam party took an unusual step by sending letters to the mayors of Bethlehem and Beit Sahour in which he expressed "his shock" at the blowing up of Palestinian homes. He said: "The destruction of homes as a collective punishment imposed on entirely innocent families is an act of brutality in my opinion and it flouts the principles of law and justice." (*The Times*, November 20, 1981).

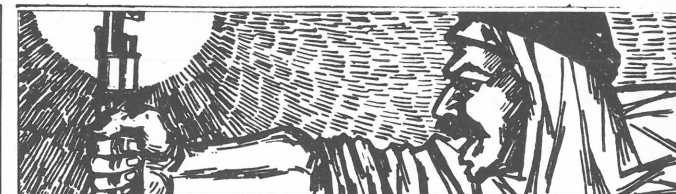


Palestinian family in Beit Sahour amid rubble of their blown up home

DELEGATIONS DENOUNCE DETENTION OF AL-SHA'AB EDITOR AND AL-FAJR CLOSURE

On November 18 delegations from various parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip have been pouring in today to *al-Sha'ab's* offices to express their solidarity with *al-Sha'ab* editor-in-chief, Akram Haniya, who has been detained for eleven days, and their denunciation of the closure of *al-Fajr*.

Representatives of various national institutions and organisations also strongly denounced Haniya's detention and *al-Fajr's* closure by sending cables to the Israeli Prime Minister and War Minister and by advertising against the Israeli authorities' arbitrary measures.



ARMED RESISTANCE

59/81:

Acting on orders from the General Command of the Palestinian Revolution, on November 17 the Commando group of the martyr Dalal al-Moghrabi carried out the sentences of the people and revolution against the agents and collaborators with Israel Yousif al-Khatib and his son Kazim in occupied Palestine. The execution took place near the town of Ramallah while the two agents were leaving their home. The following statement, issued by a Palestinian military spokesman in Damascus, gives the reasons for the operation:

"After giving those who have been tempted by the Israeli enemy a long time for them to return to the side of the people, and after discovering the treasonous role played by the 'village leagues' and their representatives in the occupied territories who are being groomed as a front for the scheme, our militants were compelled to begin the implementation of the will of our people towards this group which is implicated with the enemy. Our people, who have shattered the fantasies of Camp David, and strongly countered the latest plans of Sharon, will not allow anyone to devalue the blood of the martyr and the guns of the Revolution. Let everyone who lets himself be drawn into involvement with the enemy know that the people's retribution is the certain consequence.

"The Palestinian Revolution affirms to our great people that this treacherous isolated group will not escape its inevitable fate. The judgement of the people and Revolution will follow them."

Youssef Ali Saleh al-Khatib was president of the Ramallah 'League of Villages'. At the end of 1980, and on orders from the agent Mustafa Dudin, he established the Ramallah League in cooperation with several Israeli-directed agents. The aim of the League is to strike the patriotic organisations and to sow discord among the

Palestinian people in order to implement the autonomy plan. The agent participated in forging papers for selling lands to Israelis in Deir Qiddis and neighbouring villages. He succeeded in selling about 1,000 dunums of land in Wadi al-Malaqi to Israel. Three months ago he held a reception for the Military Governor of the West Bank in the presence of the Military Governor of Ramallah and the agent Mustafa Dudin.

61/81:

Commando units operating inside the occupied territories planted several timed explosive charges on November 26 near the following military targets in the northern region of Haifa-Kiryat Haim:

- A heavy artillery shells factory adjacent to the paratroopers' camp;
- A heavy ammunition depot;
- The offices and camp of the Air Force Academy;
- Depots belonging to the naval industry.

At 1.40 p.m. on Thursday November 26, the charges exploded one after the other in all the abovementioned targets; starting fires in the paratroopers' camp and in the fuel reservoirs adjoining the ammunition factory. Shrapnel spread in different directions, raising the number of casualties in the neighbouring regions. The ammunition depots were completely destroyed, while the Air Force Academy camp and the naval industry depots were seriously damaged. Losses were estimated at millions of Israeli pounds.

The Israeli police command in the northern region rushed seventy fire engines and dozens of ambulances to the scene. But they were hampered in reaching it because of the continuing explosions. The Zionist settlers were asked to remain in their shelters for an indefinite time, and airspace in the northern region was closed to air traffic. Helicopters were assigned the task of putting the fire out but could not approach the area because it was considered too dangerous. Casualties were extremely high because of the presence of hundreds of military personnel in the factories. Our commandos returned safely to base.

Lebanon:

HABIB PAVING THE WAY FOR NEW ISRAELI AGGRESSION

On November 29, American special envoy Philip Habib returned to the Middle East. His first stop was Lebanon. On the same day and within hours of Habib's arrival, a car bomb exploded in the centre of Damascus killing 60 people and wounding over 130. It was similar to car bombs which had exploded in Beirut and Sidon in September. The car bomb attacks have been an extension of the U.S.-sponsored Israeli war of aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinians in a form which would not appear to international public opinion to be the work of the Israeli war machine. The last visit by Habib to the region in July was followed by an Israeli attack against south Lebanon and the aerial bombing of Beirut. What can be expected from Habib's current tour? Signs of more Israeli attacks and other provocations against Syria, the Lebanese National Movement and the Palestinian Resistance seem imminent.

After Habib's arrival, Beirut newspapers reported that he was carrying an American plan to solve the Lebanese crisis which included reinforcing the Lebanese Army and having security functions assumed by Lebanese government security forces. Perhaps, not coincidentally, a similar plan was announced on the same day as Habib's arrival by Bashir Gemayel, military commander of the Phalangist (Kataeb) militias. Gemayel's plan additionally called for the withdrawal of the Syrian-staffed Arab Deterrent Force and restrictions imposed on the Palestinian Resistance. Habib met with Bashir Gemayel for 2 hours during his first evening in Lebanon.

Days before Habib's arrival, the Israeli press renewed its campaign calling for the withdrawal of Syrian Sam missiles from Lebanon's Beqaa Valley. What is more ominous is that Sharon left for Washington as Habib arrived in Lebanon formally to sign a strategic cooperation agreement with the United States which would call for complete U.S. support for any aggression which Israel deemed to be in the interests of its defence. Lebanon and the PLO are certainly a candidate for such an Israeli aggression.

For three consecutive days before Habib's arrival, Israeli and Lebanese rightist forces in the



Begin "supervising" U.S. envoy Habib at press conference

occupied Lebanese border strip heavily shelled the southern town of Hasbayah. This town is near the point where the Arab Deterrent Force has its last contingent stationed in its southern most position. The shelling of Hasbayah was only a continuation in a series of provocations to inflame the situation in southern Lebanon. On November 16, rightist militias belonging to the Israeli agent Saad Haddad laid siege to the UNIFIL headquarters in Naqoura entrapping 950 United Nations soldiers and 300 civilians. Water pipelines were cut to the headquarters and the siege lasted for three days. The siege was timed with press statements by U.S. Secretary of State Haig that the ceasefire in southern Lebanon was in a very fragile state. If there were to be an Israeli land invasion of southern Lebanon, UNIFIL observation posts would pose a problem in terms of the international attention they would bring if attacked.

Following the UNIFIL siege there has been an increase in Israeli ceasefire violations. The Aishiyeh and Arqoub regions of southern Lebanon have come under sporadic Israeli-Lebanese rightist shelling attacks.

The break-up of the Fez Arab Summit, the American "Bright Star" military manoeuvres in Egypt, the Israeli-American new pact on future

aggression and now the Habib visit all caused a dangerous tension in the region and especially in southern Lebanon. This warning was expressed by the Syrian newspaper *Tishrin*, which stated on November 29 "that each of the previous tours of the U.S. envoy to the region had coincided with a military escalation on the ground provoked by the Israelis in south Lebanon and by the Kataeb in Beirut."

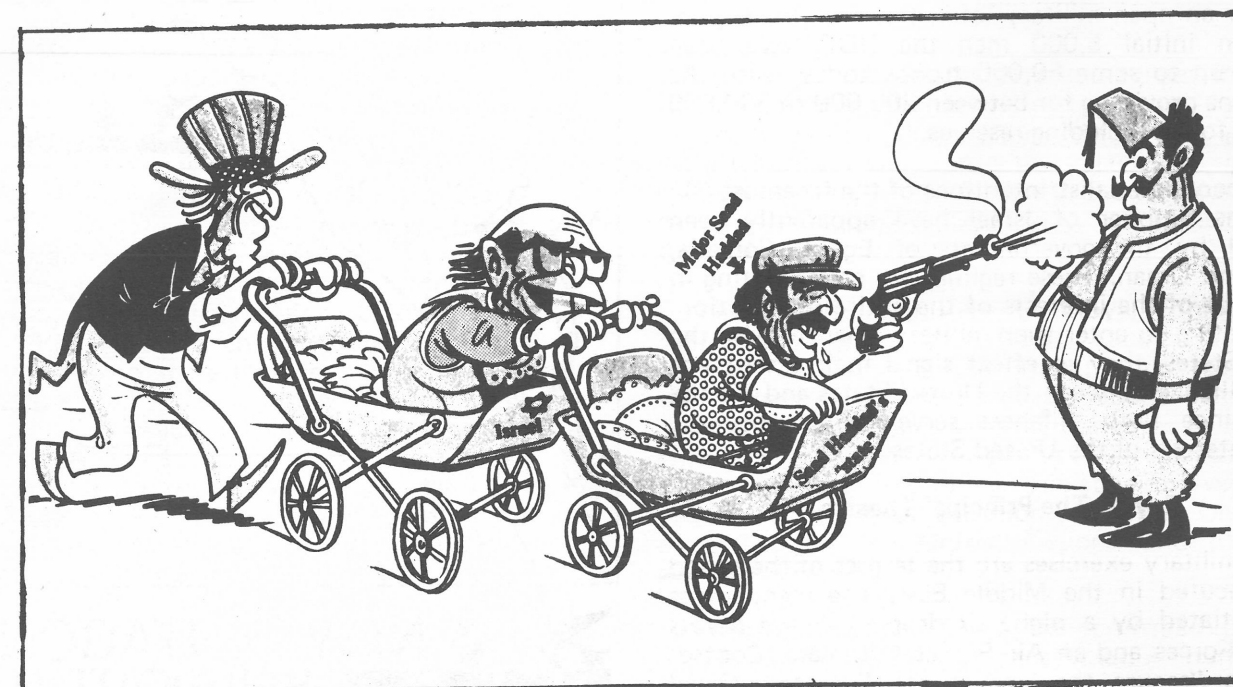
G.D.R. NEWSPAPERS WARNS ABOUT SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

On November 26, the leading East German newspaper *Neues Deutschland* commented that Israel has been responsible for the grave deterioration of the situation in south Lebanon and the related departure from a certain detente in the region. The paper added: "Menachem Begin's prime goal is that Tel Aviv remains in position number one for U.S. policy in the Middle East. Only unconditional support from Washington enabled the Zionist big power chauvinists to realize their expansionist plans at the cost of the Arab peoples and states. Normalization in Lebanon and moreover a ceasefire in the entire region, even if brought about with the participation of the U.S. administration, contravene these aspirations. The provocations of Israel's puppet Haddad and the threatening behaviour of

his backers are aimed solely at inflaming this area of tension. That is why a final and satisfactory settlement in Lebanon can only be reached by a solution to the Middle East conflict, on the basis of the relevant UN resolutions and with all interested sides participating."

REAGAN SUPPORTS ISRAELI OCCUPATION AND ANNEXATION OF ARAB JERUSALEM

Addressing representatives of the Zionist lobby in the United States on November 19, 1981, President Reagan declared that, in his opinion, occupied Arab Jerusalem should "remain individed under Israeli sovereignty". The U.S. President's statement was later confirmed in a communique issued by the White House. It must be seen as an approval of Israel's annexation of the occupied Arab city, which contradicts the rights and sentiments of the entire Arab and Muslim world, as well as the interests of world Christianity. Reagan's statement must be also understood as an outright rejection of the Saudi proposals for a Middle East settlement, put forward in late August, an essential point of which is the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.



(from "Free Palestine")

U.S. "Bright Star '82":

THE SHADOW OF DOOM

The "Bright Star '82" military manoeuvres of the United States leave no room for doubt as to the intentions of the Americans to dominate the region totally. The cooperation of reactionary regimes in Egypt, Somalia, Sudan and Oman serves only to facilitate any American invasion of the Middle East (see illustration). The United States was granted the golden opportunity by these abovementioned governments to gather valuable logistical data about their countries. The U.S. pretends that this would facilitate the "protection" of those countries from possible aggression. The source of the aggression, according to the U.S., is not mysterious as the Americans were downing 3-foot versions of a Soviet fighter plane, the Mig-25, with live missiles in the Egyptian desert.

However, it is the greed of the United States exclusively to dominate the natural resources of the region which is the real reason for the building up of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces (RDF) and the plans for an open military intervention in the region. From an initial 5,000 men the RDF have been stepped up to some 60,000 troops today, with the final plans providing for between 200,000 to 300,000 invasion forces including reserves.

The neo-imperialist intentions of the foremost ally and arms supplier of Israel have apparently been accepted by the governments of Egypt, Somalia, Sudan and Oman. These regimes are collaborating in the sellout of the interests of the entire Arab nation. By accepting to enter such military alliances with the United States, they in effect signal their acceptance of the alliance between the United States and Zionist Israel, since both alliances serve to promote the higher interests of the United States.

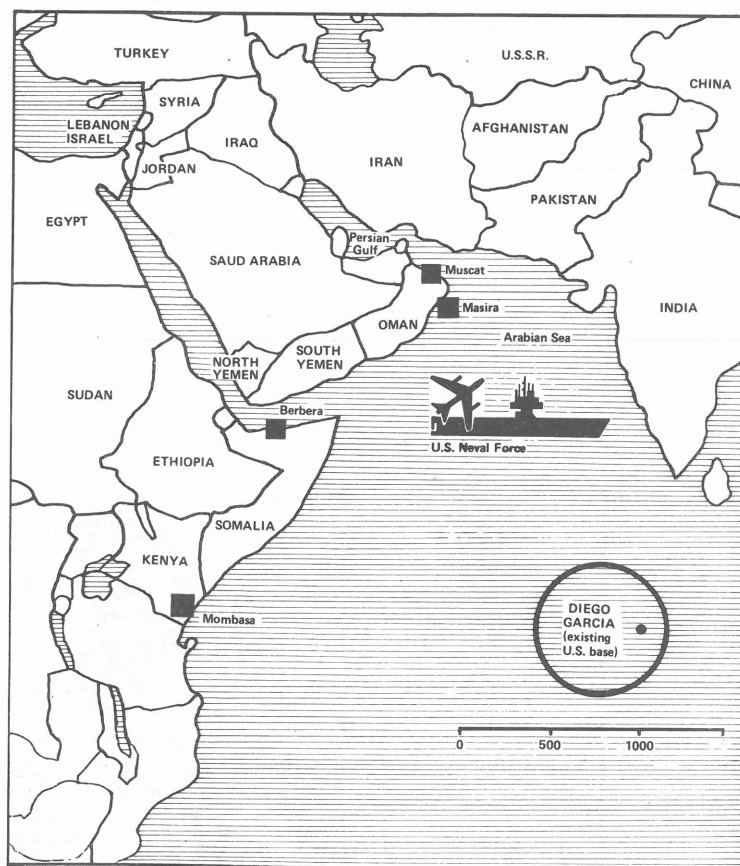
Egypt: The Principal Theatre

The military exercises are the largest of their kind ever executed in the Middle East. The manoeuvres were initiated by a night air drop of *Green Berets* Special Forces and an Air Forces Command Control Team to "secure the landing zone" (*International Herald Tribune*, November 16, 1981). The following morning, November 14, 856 paratroopers of the U.S. 82nd airborne division jumped out of their transport aircraft into the Egyptian desert at a point 5,800

miles from the point of takeoff. The commandos then proceeded to take over a makeshift missile base.

On this note the American invasion began. The jump was preceded by weeks of preparations at costs estimated in the millions of U.S. dollars. The Americans sealifted 500 military vehicles to Egypt ranging from trucks, armoured personnel carriers, self-propelled Howitzers and 155 mm field guns. Moreover, numerous flights by U.S. transport aircraft carried to the Cairo West Airbase an array of support equipment plus M-60 tanks and M-113 armoured personnel carriers. The equipment was manned by 4,000 American soldiers, who were also transported by air to Cairo and commanded by General Robert Kingston, the commander of the RDF.

The Egyptians had to mobilise a like number of troops, under the command of Defense Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazaleh, who joined the Americans in launching a mock attack in the Egyptian desert between November 21 and 24. The action on



NEW PENTAGON SUPPORT BASES IN THE PERSIAN GULF AREA
FROM US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT

November 24 was highlighted by a bombing run carried out by six B-52s that took off from North Dakota, dropped live bombs along the Egyptian-Libyan border and allegedly returned to Dakota without touching ground, refuelling three times while airborne.

The Americans in Somalia...

The "Bright Star" activities in Somalia took on another face. The American contingent, consisting of 300 men, worked with Somali forces, between the 11th and 24th of November, on the construction of a field hospital. The Somalis have given the Americans access to the former Soviet base of Berbera. From there the U.S. will coordinate future military activities, having gained valuable data from the manoeuvres.

... In Sudan...

Meanwhile, in Sudan, the United States has sent a 350-man Special Forces team to link up with a similar number of Sudanese troops who together are practising desert survival techniques between November 27 and December 15.

...And in Oman

The significance of Oman in these and any American military manoeuvres involving Oman is great due to its strategic importance. Since 1980 the Americans have been using the Indian Ocean Island of Diego Garcia as the focal point for transshipment of supplies to their fleets in the Indian Ocean. From Diego Garcia supplies and equipment are flown to the base on Masira Island off the coast of Oman and subsequently the cargo is transported on small aircraft to the American ships in the Indian Ocean and the mouth of the Gulf, the gateway to the oilfields.

The relationship between the United States and Oman has never been better. However despite the open invitation extended to the Americans, by way of giving them unchecked use of the base on Masira, the Omani regime still is subject to the influence of the Gulf Council of which it is a member. As a result of pressures exerted by the other Gulf states, Oman cut down its participation in the American military manoeuvres. Instead of the 2,000 marines that initially were to make an amphibious landing on Masira, and remain on the island for a period of seven days, the exercise now will be carried out in one day by a 1,000-man force that will depart the same day. This exercise will take place in early December.

What Do the RDF Protect?

The thesis that the Rapid Deployment Forces are being kept up for the reason of protecting America's Arab allies from outside intervention is utterly futile, since the United States itself is the only force to interfere constantly and even militarily in the exter-

nal and internal affairs of the states of the region. It has also been rejected by the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front which is comprised of Syria, Libya, Algeria, Democratic Yemen and the PLO. The United States military preparedness to intervene in the Middle East region is seen, by the Front, to be a threat to the sovereignty of all the countries in the region, inclusive of those participating in the "Bright Star '82" manoeuvres.

The remaining Arab States such as Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Jordan see the threat of a super-power confrontation instigated by the American military manoeuvres and intervention plans.

The P.L.O.'s Position

P.L.O. Chairman Yasser Arafat, in a news conference held in Beirut on November 10, declared that the exercises were not only a direct threat to the Arab nation as a whole but an American threat to world peace and mankind. The prime intention of the Americans, Chairman Arafat said, is to dominate the region militarily, politically and economically. Chairman Arafat also linked the current Israeli military exercises with "Bright Star" since, he said, it is not possible to differentiate between the interests of the United States and those of its foremost agent Israel. Despite the writing on the wall, the reactionary Arab regimes cooperating with the Americans believe that America intends to protect their interest and not further its own. These same regimes know quite well that America will not jeopardize the "security of Israel" which is in direct contradiction to the interests of the Arab nation as a whole.

Arab Reaction

Arab reaction to the exercises agreed in seeing them as contrary to the interests of the Arabs. *The Kuwait Times* for instance warned that such exercises could drag the Gulf "into the vortex of big power rivalries, dealing a serious blow to the very concept of keeping the region free from superpower confrontation."

The Foreign Ministers of Libya, Ethiopia and Democratic Yemen met in Addis Ababa on November 15 and 16 to discuss this "threat to the security of the region." The meeting came about due to the friendship treaty binding these countries to consider an attack against one of them as an attack against the other two. The three foreign ministers resolved to file protests with the Organisation of African Unity, the Arab League, the United Nations, and the Non-aligned Movement.

Meanwhile Libya and Syria confirmed that the "Bright Star" manoeuvres constituted a "humiliating aggression" against Egyptian sovereignty and a "rude provocation" to the Arab nation.

The Arab League strongly criticised the American intervention in the area. An Arab League spokesman



Troops of the U.S. 24th Infantry Division arrive at Cairo airport during the war games

said that these manoeuvres "risk to compromise the neutrality of the states in the region who prefer to maintain their non-alignment" (*L'Orient Le Jour*, November 16, 1981).

American Salvation For Egypt and Sudan?

The Egyptian rulers, on the other hand, see their salvation embodied in strengthening their ties, on all levels, with the United States. They welcome any American presence in Egypt and have recently concluded an arrangement with the Americans for the renovation of the Ras Banas base at a cost of 106 million U.S. dollars that will be footed by American taxpayers.

Numeiri of Sudan is shuttling between Cairo and Khartoum to make sure that he remains in the picture. Numeiri is in dire need of his American masters since he is that much more desperate for any handouts that he may beg from Washington. However, the internal unrest Numeiri is facing will not be saved by any face — lifting measures, as labour union unrest and unemployment are entering an alarming phase in Sudan.

Arab National Liberation Confronts U.S. Neo-colonialism

U.S. intentions to dominate the strategic oil resources of the Middle East to the detriment of the rest of the world lie at the heart of America's direct intervention in the region. The United States is not ready for peaceful economic and political cooperation with the Arab world in the mutual interests of both sides. Besides, all the nations of Europe, Asia and Africa are in need of the vital petroleum supplies. Or the other side, given the growing instability of U.S. imperialism, the United States seemingly no longer trusts the protection of its interests by proxy, not even by Israel. The "Bright Star" manoeuvres attest to the United States' adventurous intentions to establish a direct military hegemony over the region.

The Americans' economic domination and policing of the Middle East has prevailed since the estab-

lishment of Israel in 1948 and later the coup d'état against Muhammad Mossadegh in Iran in 1952 that was engineered by the CIA. With the fall of the Shah a very eager Sadat offered Egypt to the Americans to take up where the Shah left off. The Bright Star manoeuvres thus bring to a culmination the efforts of American "diplomacy" to protect the status quo it has been enjoying for the past thirty years.

The physical presence of the Americans today is a direct result of the increase in Arab awareness of the importance of their natural resources and, more importantly, the important role that national movements are playing in bringing about this Arab awareness. At the forefront of the Arab national movements is the Palestinian Revolution which, more than any other Arab movement in recent years, has promoted the cause of Arab nationalism.

The American policy of fabricating a Soviet threat to win the allegiance of some Arab regimes to its side was drawn on the drawing boards of Wall Street in New York City. The Soviet Union's support of Arab national liberation movements and its policy of non-intervention is uncontested. On the other hand, the aggressive and adventurous American approach in foreign policy is politically disruptive. The U.S. intervention strategists remain ignorant of the liberation struggles waged by the oppressed Egyptians, the Lebanese, the Palestinians and other peoples. As long as the Americans continue to ally themselves with reactionary and racist regimes in the region and to trample on the national interests and will of the people they shall also, like in Iran, face the unanimous opposition and resistance of all popular and patriotic forces in the area.

(from "Chicago Sun")



"This Is Very Stable Sand."

WORLD-WIDE PROTESTS AGAINST U.S. MANOEUVRES

The provocative U.S. war games in the Middle East have triggered a wave of international protests.

A rally against the military manoeuvres of the United States in the territory of Egypt, Sudan, Somalia and Oman has been held in Aden, the capital of Democratic Yemen on November 16. The rally denounced the aggressive, provocative essence of the policy of U.S. imperialism in the Middle East and the Horn of Africa, which is an integral part of Washington's expansionist course in the international arena. The participants in the rally stressed that the "Bright Star" manoeuvres should be regarded as direct encroachment of U.S. imperialism on the independence of Libya and other African states in the region.

In Nicosia, Secretary General of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL) Ezekias Papaioannou sent a message to Dr. Kurt Waldheim expressing emphatic protest of the Cyprus public against the use of Cyprus as a transshipping point for the provocative "Bright Star" manoeuvres. The message indicated that the people of Cyprus demand the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Cyprus and dismantling of foreign military bases on its territory.

In Tunis progressive parties and movements of all Arab countries regard the current military manoeuvres, code-named "Bright Star" as a provocative action and direct encroachment of U.S. imperialism on Arab territories, the newspaper "al-Tariq al-Jadid". Wrote on November 16. The U.S. administration in seeking to intimidate all the states which are opposed to the U.S.-Israeli aggression, especially the Arab member states of the National Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, in order to subordinate them to imperialist diktat and place the entire Arab region under U.S. control. In Addis Ababa a press release of the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry stated that the aggressive and provocative policy of the U.S. administration poses a serious threat to peace and security. The current NATO military manoeuvres in Africa and the Middle East, the document points out, may have harmful consequences for universal peace and, especially, for African countries. These exercises are a part of imperialist machinations directed against progressive states and national liberation movements. The press release stresses that Ethiopia emphatically condemns the NATO military manoeuvres.

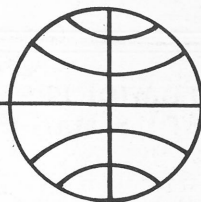
In Teheran, Iranian Prime Minister M.H. Musavi-Khamenei has called on the peoples in the region to rebuff the U.S. imperialist machinations in the Middle East. Resolutely denouncing the U.S.-organised "Bright Star" manoeuvres, he said that such aggressive steps on the part of Washington should evoke further activation of the peoples' struggle against the U.S. policies.

The main purpose of the "Bright Star" exercises is to expand the American military presence in the Middle East, to intimidate the progressive countries and national liberation movements in the region, the newspaper "Haragvi" wrote in its commentary on November 17. The newspaper expressed the protest of the public against the use of British military bases on Cyprus as a stronghold for the American forces involved in the "Bright Star" exercises. This fact shows, the commentary emphasised, that Washington regards Cyprus as a springboard for aggressive actions against neighbouring states.

In Cuba, the Foreign Ministry issued a communique on November 18 denouncing the "Bright Star" manoeuvres, saying that there is "sufficient evidence to consider the suspicions founded, according to which, this concentration of forces directly threatens the progressive governments in the region and, in particular, the Libyan revolution. It is of urgent necessity to unite the voices and actions of all peace-loving peoples offering our militant solidarity with the Libyan people to block the road of imperialist adventurism."

In the Soviet Union, the official media repeatedly warned against the dangers of the U.S. military provocations in the Middle East and Indian Ocean region. On November 17, the *Literaturnaya Gazeta* wrote:

"Preparations for the seizure of the Arab oil producing countries in the Gulf — of course, if need be, as the Pentagon wants to put it — have actually begun in the course of the Bright Star — 2 exercises. Meantime, the Americans are consolidating their military presence in the Middle East and in the Horn of Africa. Having lost Iran in February 1979, the United States would not want to be left without a foothold in the Arab world even at the price of having to wage a war (undeclared) on those Arab countries which tend to approach their problems and the Middle East settlement from the point of view of their own national interests," the article said.



ARAB SUMMIT POSTPONED AFTER PASSING RESOLUTIONS ON LEBANON

The 12th Arab Summit was convened in Fez, Morocco on November 25. Chairman Yasser Arafat attended the conference at the head of the Palestinian delegation. The summit approved a working paper on Lebanon placed on the agenda by the Arab Foreign Ministers' preliminary conference following a request by the Lebanese Government. After passing some resolutions concerning Lebanon, King Hassan II of Morocco announced the conference's postponement until an unspecified date. The move came following four hours of discussions between the assembled heads of state and their representatives. Among the resolutions passed were:

A draft of a comprehensive Arab strategy aimed at preventing Israel from carrying out aggression and laying down a plan to confront Israeli aggression should it occur, particularly against southern Lebanon. The strategy should include: exerting political, diplomatic and economic pressure on all the countries that support Israel, particularly the United States, to deter it from carrying out its aggression; exerting all forms of pressure to urge the Security Council to implement Resolution 425 and its annexes fully-including Israel's total withdrawal to the internationally-recognized Lebanese borders, which would bring the south under the sole control of the Lebanese authorities and turn it into a zone of peace and stability — and taking all the necessary measures through Arab representatives at the U.N. to lay down a program for the implementation of Security Council resolutions on the south and the consolidation of the cease-fire; the need for all the Arab countries to share in carrying the burden of this strategy, each according to its capacity, in order to end the war of attrition which the Israeli enemy is waging against Lebanon; support the efforts of the Lebanese government to enable it to deploy the Lebanese army in the south; assist Lebanon in restoring the authority of all state institutions, particularly in the south; and reiterate the need to implement the Fourth Resolution of the Tunis summit, which stipulates giving financial aid for the reconstruction of Lebanon.

U.S. MIDEAST POLICIES DENOUNCED AT U.N.

In the debate held by the Special Political Committee at the U.N. General Assembly on November 24, a majority of participants agreed that the U.S. is an active partner of Israeli policy which is characterized by butchering and terrorizing the Palestinian people.

The representative of Syria, Mr. Farouq al-Adhami, stressed that it was the U.S. which encouraged Israel to launch its attacks against the Arab countries and practice an outrageous racist policy. Due to the blind American support for Israel, more than 20,000 Palestinians were subjected to torture in Israeli jails. The representative of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen at the committee emphasised that despite the international denunciation of Israel's annexationist policy, the U.S. continues its unconditional support for Israel, especially at the UN Security Council. The representatives of Algeria, Libya and Iraq denounced the Camp David accords and all the recent U.S. attempts to revive those accords which totally ignore the national rights of the Palestinian people.

India's representative on the Committee confirmed that a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East crisis cannot be reached unless Israel withdraws from the occupied Arab territories and recognizes the rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to establish an independent state on their native land.

ISRAELI CONTINUES VIOLATING SAUDI AIRSPACE

According to Israeli radio, on November 17 Tel Aviv notified Washington that it will continue sending its warplanes on intelligence missions over Saudi Arabia. Several days before, Israel's U.S. AWACS spy planes in that sovereign Arab state "failed" to spot the invading aircraft and, what is more, Washington did not even censure the piratical raid. Tel Aviv's "notification" serves further proof that Israel is bent on continuing, with Washington's connivance, to violate the basic norms of international law in respect of Arab countries.

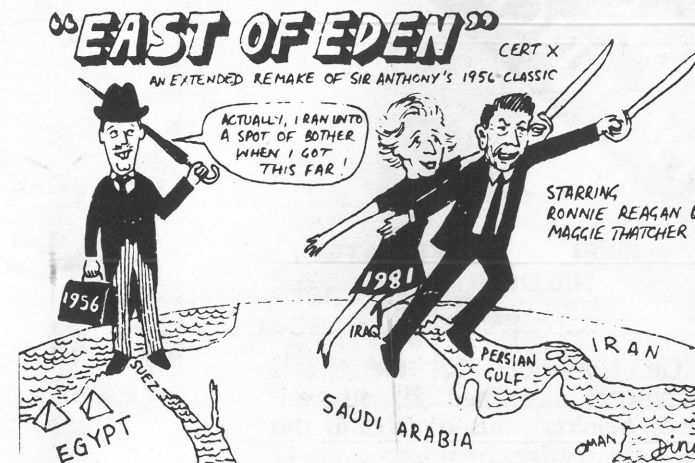
GREECE UNWILLING TO BACK CAMP DAVID

The government of Greece confirmed its willingness to participate in any attempt to solve the Middle East crisis, so long as it falls in line with the previously stated stands of the Greek government, especially the right to establish a Palestinian state. Reporting a communique which the Greek government issued on November 23, the French news agency AFP said that the Greek government is unwilling to approve of any measures relating to the Camp David accords and the multinational Sinai force.

STEADFASTNESS FRONT MEETS IN ADEN

The Political Committee of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front comprising Syria, Libya, Algeria, Democratic Yemen, and the PLO, held an ordinary meeting in Aden between 17 and 18 November, 1981. In the meeting, the Committee reviewed the Arab and international situation and developments on the Palestinian level. The Committee also discussed the agenda of the 12th Arab Summit in Fez, exchanged points of view, and decided to raise its proposals and the results of consultations to the heads of states of the Front. In this regard, the Committee affirmed that Arab solidarity provides the basis of confrontation of the real enemy of the Arab nation, namely Israel and its ally, the United States. The military option should remain open together with the political option.

The Committee reviewed the U.S. policy of aggression in the Arab region, as revealed by the U.S.-Israeli agreement of strategic cooperation and the U.S. military exercises currently taking place in Egypt, Sudan, Somalia and Oman. The Committee considered these a serious threat to Arab national security and a dangerous escalation of tension, posing a threat to the security and political independence of the region's states, and to world peace and security. The Committee viewed the strategic cooperation and military exercises as a continuation of the US attempts to impose hegemony on the Arab region, control its wealth and destiny, erase the national achievements of the region's peoples, and enable Israel to exert political, economic and military domination over the Arab nation. The Committee views the U.S. policy as destructive to the basis of a just peace in the Middle East, which can only be achieved through making Israeli forces withdraw from all the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, and restoring the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to return, self-determination and the establishment of an independent state over their national soil, according to the UN



resolutions, the PLO being the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people inside and outside Palestine.

E.E.C. Participation in Sinai Force Condemned

The Committee also discussed a boycott of European and other states taking part in the multinational force in Sinai, which it said would represent "a new occupation, a blatant interference in the affairs of the Arab countries and a threat to their security, sovereignty and independence, as well as a consolidation of the Camp David accords and the capitulationist Israeli-Egyptian treaty, the line and contents of which have been condemned by the Arab states." The Committee confirmed its resolve to foil this plan and to pursue its isolation of the various parties involved in it.

The Committee praised the friendly stand of the Socialist states, led by the USSR, and of the Non-Aligned and African states. It discussed the latest Israeli threats and concentrations in south Lebanon, and the aggression which the Israeli enemy is planning against the Lebanese and Palestinian people and against the Palestinian Revolution, with the aim of disrupting national accord in Lebanon, harming this state's unity and Arab character and drawing it away from its natural place in the fight against imperialism and the Israeli enemy.

In this context, the Committee expressed appreciation for the positive role of the Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon. It stressed the Front's solidarity with the Arab people of Egypt in their struggle against the Camp David line and accords, and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and its symbols. It hailed the heroic struggle waged by the people of occupied Palestine and the Golan against the occupation and the 'autonomy' conspiracy, and praised their rallying around the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

ZIONISM IN PRACTICE

ISRAEL TO CONFISCATE 500 DUNUMS OF SILWAD LAND

On November 12, the Israeli authorities informed Silwad residents owning plots of land in the southern section of the town, near Ramallah, of their arbitrary decision to confiscate 500 dunums in that area. The agricultural plot of land is the main source of livelihood for its owners.

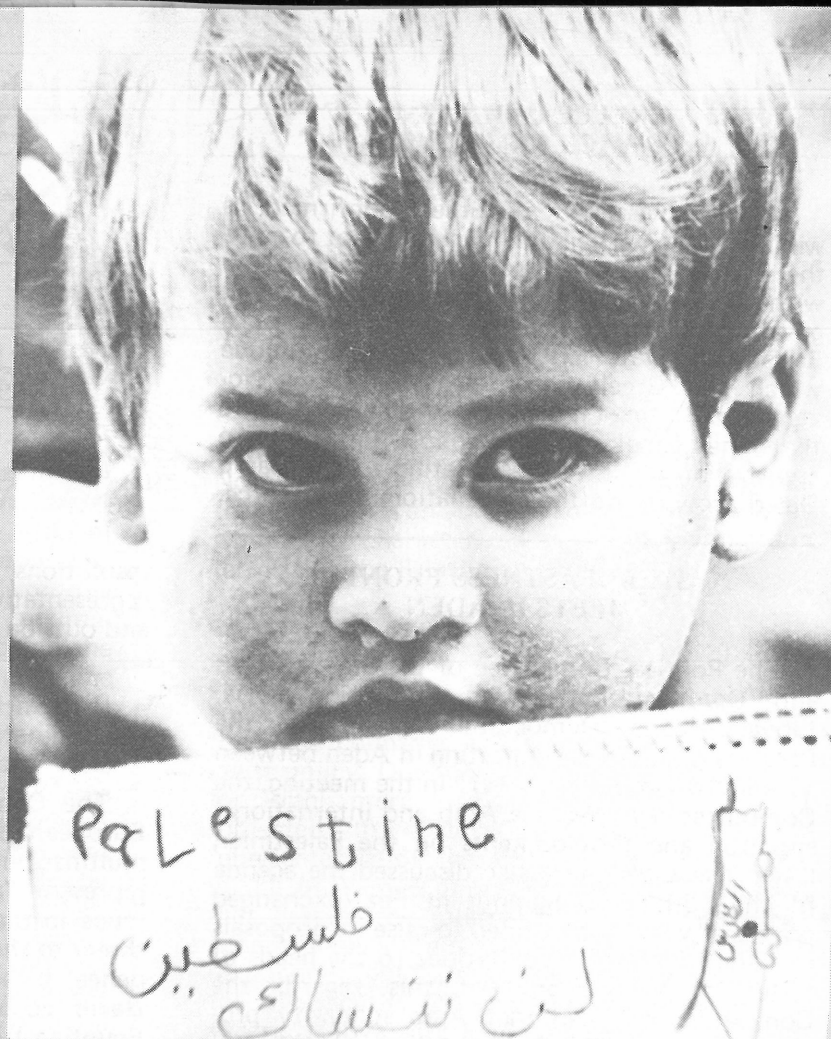
... AND 3 SQUARE KILOMETRES IN HEBRON AREA

On November 16, the Village Council in Beit Sourif, Hebron district, denounced the decision of the Zionist occupation authorities to seize three square kilometres of the village's land in the Abu al Shouk region, for "military reasons". In a cable to the Israeli War Minister and the Military Governor General of the West Bank, the Village Council demanded the immediate annulment of the decision, since the land, mainly olive groves, is legally owned by the Beit Sourif villagers.

JEWISH AGENCY SUBMITS PLAN FOR INCREASING WEST BANK SETTLERS TO 1.2 MILLION

On November 17, Israeli radio revealed that the Jewish Agency has submitted a plan to the Israeli Prime Minister and Defense Minister aiming to increase the Jewish settler population in the West Bank to 1.2 million within thirty years. The ultimate goal of the plan is to make the Jewish population of the West Bank equal to or greater than the Palestinian population.

The radio report said that the first stage of the plan envisages increasing the number of settlers from the present figure of 20,000 to 100,000. The radio said that in each of the 100 settlements in the West Bank (excluding Jerusalem), there are an average of 50 families, and that the principal aim is to raise



They expel even 4 year-old Palestinian children

this to 500 families. The Head of the Jewish Agency Settlement Department was quoted as saying that he will work hard to convince Zionist families to emigrate to Israel on his forthcoming visit to the United States and Colombia.

ZIONISTS ANNOUNCE PLAN TO ESTABLISH EIGHT NEW SETTLEMENTS

The Israeli Minister of Agriculture and Settlements announced a project for the construction of eight new settlements in the occupied West Bank. On November 20, Israeli radio's Hebrew Service said that five settlements will be established north of the so-called "Judea" Mountains. The three others will be located in Wadi 'Araba in addition to the establishment of several observation posts. The radio also mentioned that the Ministry of Agriculture and the Jewish Agency are drawing up plans for the settlement of over 100,000 new Jewish immigrants in the West Bank by

1985. The radio claimed that there was enough land in the West Bank for this project, and for the housing of 100,000 new settlers during the coming four years. He added that 25,000 housing units must be built for this purpose, at an average of 7,000 units per year. This year, however, he said only 4,000 units will be built according to the Housing Ministry.

ISRAELI AUTHORITIES EXPEL FOUR YEAR-OLD BOY

On November 11, the Zionist occupation authorities forced a four year-old Palestinian boy, Bada-wi David al-Kalutti, to leave his town, Shu'fat in occupied Jerusalem. The boy had been sent by his father to Shu'fat last June to live with his grandmother after his mother's death in Sweden. The Israeli authorities had detained the boy's father in 1972 for a month after which he and his wife were expelled from the occupied territories.

AL-FAJR CLOSED DOWN FOR ONE MONTH

On November 25, the Israeli Interior Minister Yosef Borg issued an order for a 30-day closure of the Jerusalem daily *al-Fajr*. The reason given for the measure was the newspaper's alleged incitement against the Village League and Israeli collaborationists, and to breaches of law and order in the occupied territories. Earlier, the Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin accused *al-Fajr* of inciting the masses in the occupied territories and causing disorders.

The military authorities issued a ten-day closure order against the newspaper in early November for alleged violations of "censorship rules". *Al-Fajr's* editor-in-chief then appealed to the Israeli Supreme Court, which issued an injunction

against the closure order and ruled that Israeli military censorship should only be applied to articles pertaining to security and military affairs. One day before the termination of the 10-day period, the newspaper resumed its publication, now once more suspended in defiance of the Supreme Court injunction.

PRINTING PRESS IN ACRE STORMED

On November 22, Israeli police stormed a printing press in Acre belonging to the Palestinian citizen Ibrahim Zaybak. The raiders alleged that they were searching for publications which expressed support for the PLO. They found no such publications, but nevertheless took in the owner's son for interrogation. The owner himself had earlier been summoned for interrogation several times.

U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CONDEMNS ISRAEL

The United Nations' Human Rights Commission has decided to investigate Israeli crimes in the occupied Arab territories. In a communique distributed on November 17, the Human Rights Commission said that Israel's policies were the source of the continuing tragedy of the Palestinian people. It condemned the construction of colonial settlements and the eviction of thousands of Arab families for unsubstantiated reasons, such as need of the confiscated land for use by the Israel government and other so-called "security reasons". The Committee also confirmed that the condition of the approximately 3,000 Palestinian prisoners who live in inhuman conditions and suffer daily beatings and torture is a situation that arouses concern.

U.S. SPURS ON ZIONIST AGGRESSION

On November 30, 1981 in Washington, Israeli war minister Ariel Sharon and his U.S. counterpart Caspar Weinberger, signed a formal document on U.S. - Israeli "strategic cooperation" which had emerged from Begin's talks in Washington in mid-September. The agreement has far-reaching military and political significance.

With the signing of the accord, the U.S. has accepted full responsibility for the Zionist military aggression in south Lebanon, the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear power plant last June and the massacre of Fakhani in July when Israeli planes bombed a residential area in Beirut. Furthermore, Washington has given the green light for continued military aggression against Arab states, to continue the occupation of Arab territories and to deny the right of the Palestinian people to live in peace on their own land.

The plan will lead to a permanent American military presence in occupied Palestine, threatening the entire Arab world, firstly by escalating joint naval and air exercises in the east Mediterranean and then by the use of Israeli territory by the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force. Israel will furnish the U.S. Army with a logistical infrastructure, involving primarily the increased use of Israeli ports for repair and maintenance of the U.S. 6th Fleet.

The treaty also carries a secret paragraph

which, according to Israeli military circles, relates to the use of American spy-satellites and the storing of U.S. military equipment and ammunition on Israeli territory.

According to Sharon, the agreement previews joint military manoeuvres to counter so-called "Soviet threats." For the first time, the Zionist leadership has openly turned the "Promised Land for the Jews" into a forward military base of the U.S. anti-Soviet front. A missile carrier and two destroyers of the U.S. 6th Fleet have already used Israeli ports recently and a Pentagon delegation has been in Israel for two months now to study plans for further arms agreements.

Commenting on the agreement, Sharon concluded: "Contrary to the prophets of doom, Israel has obtained a wide-ranging agreement on cooperation, satisfying most of its demands."



"Strategic cooperation"

STILL A SPRINGBOARD TO THE EUPHRATES

Since the occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights began in 1967, the Golan citizens have foiled repeated efforts by the Zionist authorities to annex the region. The Syrian Arab citizens of the Golan Heights have also intensified their resistance against Zionist occupation. They firmly refused Israeli nationality and asserted their loyalty to the Syrian Arab Republic, despite the brutal Zionist measures practised against them.

In a heated television debate, just five days before the Israeli election, Menahem Begin and Labour's leader Shimon Peres were arguing over who will expropriate more Arab lands and who will impose more brutal measures against Arab inhabitants. They both pledged to annex the occupied Arab territories (*International Herald Tribune*, June 26, 1981). That debate between the leaders of the ruling Likud coalition and the Labour Party opposition shows exactly what Zionist aims are.

In the scheme of establishing a Jewish state in Palestine which ultimately envisaged the creation of Greater Israel extending from the Nile to the Euphrates, the Golan Heights occupy a special place.

"Israel will not return the Golan Heights to Syria, even in return for a peace treaty with Damascus". These were the words of Menahem Begin during his news conference in Washington in mid-November 1980, which was also televised in the United States and Canada. The Israeli leader also added flatly: "Israel cannot descend from the Golan Heights. This is the general consensus I can now express. Israel will be on the Golan Heights" (*Guardian*, November 17, 1980).

Most recently, on October 23, 1981, the Israeli Chief of Staff, General Eytan, while addressing a gathering of armed Zionist colonisers on the Golan, trumpeted that the Golan was "indispensable for Israel's security". He called on more settlers to flock in and make the occupied Arab territory an "integral part" of Israel.

Obviously, all Zionist leaders basically are joining forces in working for the annexation of the Golan, the same way they did in passing the provocative law on the annexation of Jerusalem last year. However, the Jerusalem law has led to worldwide hostile reactions and protests, including a token condem-

nation from Washington, and the withdrawal of foreign embassies from Jerusalem. This is the only reason why some Zionist leaders, having learnt from the fall-out of the Jerusalem bill, are trying at the present time to delay action on the Golan annexation and have decided to work at a different level, in order to avoid U.N. condemnation and worldwide criticism.

29 Colonies for 8,000 Settlers

Since the June 1967 war, the Israelis have built 29 colonial settlements in the Golan Heights for more than 8,000 Zionist settlers. (*International Herald Tribune*, August 28, 1980). They also expropriated thousands of dunums of Arab land in order to bring more American, South African and other foreign Zionists to settle in it. Many Syrian citizens were forced to leave their properties due to the oppressive measures and harassment imposed on them by the Israelis.

Knesset Member Joseph Rum made a tour in the Golan Heights on August 20, 1981, after which he called on the Israeli authorities to take firmer measures against the Golan inhabitants proposing an encirclement of the whole region, restricting the movement of all persons except those collaborating with Israel who would be given special pursuits (*Radio Israel* August 20, 1981). Geula Cohen, the right wing extremist Zionist member of Parliament, also called on the Israeli government to speed up the annexation of the region because, in her opinion, it is a part of "Greater Israel".

The Zionist authorities tried unsuccessfully to force Golan citizens to accept Israeli identification cards and citizenship documents, a step that made the Syrian citizens intensify their struggle. The people stepped up their opposition to the occupation authorities and forced them finally to set up an office, to which those 384 Golan citizens who had earlier been forced to accept Israeli citizenship as a result of blackmail, bribes and pressure have returned their cards.

Radio Israel reported on August 26, 1981 that those citizens were suffering from complete ostracism by the majority of the Golan inhabitants. The report also showed the psychological situation of the collaborators. It quoted a Golan citizen who had taken Israeli citizenship. This man, Salman Abu Saleh, said that the ones who accepted Israeli citizenship now felt ashamed from the complete isolation imposed on them by the people of the Golan Heights. Their condition was one of complete social, religious and economic boycott. Salman Abu Saleh is a director of a Golan primary school. His home was raided by villagers in Majdal Shams when he accepted Israeli citizenship.

Tactical Withdrawal in the Face of Popular Resistance

In a meeting with Golan leaders on September 24, 1981, a representative of the Israeli war minister

promised the cancellation of the forced citizenship plan. He also promised freedom for the five Golan leaders who were arrested last April on charges of resisting occupation and mobilising the opposition to the fascist Zionist authorities. The war minister's representative also promised the cancellation of restriction of movement orders imposed on most of the Golan leaders (*Radio Israel* August 26, 1981).

Despite its oppressive measures towards the Arabs, the Israeli government was criticised by the colonial settlers who were formerly planted in the region, for yielding to the pressures of the Arab inhabitants. The criticism came during a meeting of the Settlement Committee in the Golan Heights held in the colonial settlement of Katseer (*Radio Israel* October 1, 1981). During the meeting, settlers suggested returning their own Israeli identity cards to the

The myth of the Heights' security value

Israel always argues that the Golan Heights are vital for the security of her 'vulnerable' settlements in the Hula Valley in the north east of occupied Palestine, which the Heights overlook. Before the 1967 war, these settlements were frequently shelled by Syrian artillery stationed on the Heights, the result of Israeli violations of the 1949 Armistice Agreement. Under this, a demilitarised zone was created along the border, comprising Arab-owned land. Israel, however, decided to 'misinterpret' the terms of the agreement, deploying military personnel in the zone and sending in settlers to farm the land.

It is a myth, however, that the settlements have been rendered safe from Syrian artillery simply because the Golan Heights have been occupied. As Israeli General Matityahu Peled wrote in the Hebrew daily *Ha'aretz* on 30th October last year, 'As for the peace enjoyed by the regions close to the Syrian border, this cannot be explained by Israel's control over a thin strip of the Golan Heights. Today, the Syrian artillery occupies almost the same place as before Six Day War.'

He continued: 'All the Hula Valley settlements are within firing range of the Syrian artillery, just like before our conquest of the Golan.'

The real reason for the absence of Syrian shelling now, he explained, is that the terms of the ceasefire agreement currently in effect are much tighter, and therefore less open to violation by Israel, than those of the 1949 agreement. He placed responsibility for the shelling before 1967 squarely on Israel: 'Israel preferred to display its strength, although we knew this would result in sharp Syrian reactions and bring

government in protest against retreat in the face of Arab pressures.

Oppressive measures did not accomplish any progress towards the annexation of the Golan Heights. But the Zionist authorities will never give up their attempts to judaize the Golan as long as the dream of Greater Israel continues to be their aggressive slogan. The Israeli flag itself expresses that, as the two blue strips on it are the symbols of the two rivers, the Nile and the Euphrates. To turn the dream into reality, Zionist Israel would not be satisfied, even if the plans for the annexation of the Golan Heights and the occupation of south Lebanon became bloody reality. For Israel and Zionism those two areas are but springboards to the Euphrates. The bombardment of the Iraqi nuclear plant again has shown the extent of their ambitions.

suffering to the Israeli settlements in the area. It was a calculated risk, accepted by all Israeli parties and public agencies.

The argument that the Golan Heights are vital for the security of Israel's settlements in the Hula Valley also rings hollow in view of the 30 new settlements Israel has established on the Heights themselves, even closer to the Syrian artillery than those in the Hula Valley. These would surely not have been established if the sole aim was the protection of Israeli settlers from artillery attacks.

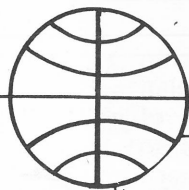
It was, in fact, the Golan settlements that demonstrated the falsity of that other argument used by Israel to justify her expansionism — that the illegal settlements in the 1967 occupied territories are themselves vital for her security. In the early days of the 1973 Middle East war, several of the Golan settlements were overrun by the Syrians, and Israel had to divert forces desperately needed to stem the Syrian advance to rescue the settlers, who had taken refuge in the old fortifications that constituted the pre-1967 Syrian front line.

(From *Free Palestine*, May 1981).

"A Colonizing Adventure by Armed Force"

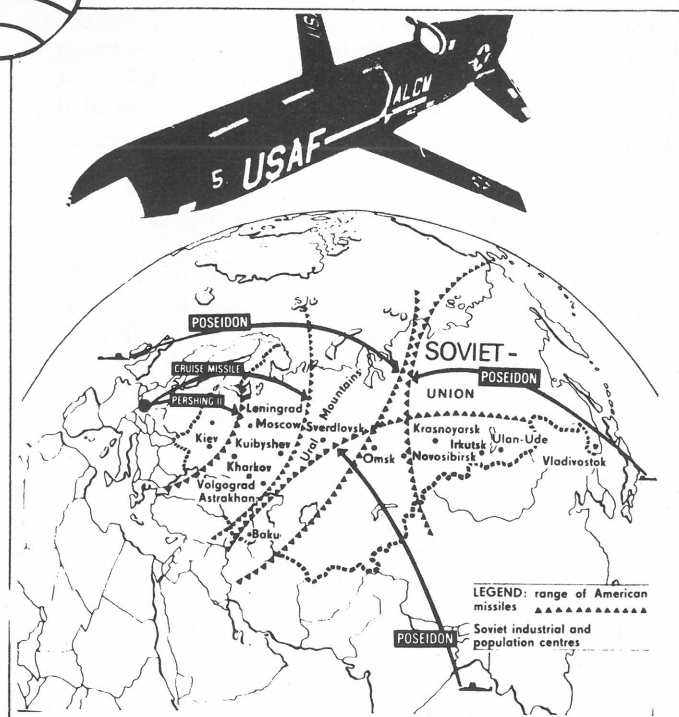
"If you wish to colonize a land in which people are already living, you must provide a garrison for the land, or find a benefactor who will maintain the garrison on your behalf ... Zionism is a colonizing adventure and therefore, it stands or falls on the question of armed force."

(Zeev Jabotinsky, the ideological father of Menahem Begin and one of the founders of Zionism, in *"The Iron Law"*, 1925).



REAGAN NUCLEAR PROPAGANDA STUNT BEFORE OPENING OF ARMS CONTROL TALKS

The Reagan Administration is set to enter its first round of arms control talks with the Soviet Union in Geneva on November 30. Days before Soviet President Brezhnev was to meet with German Chancellor Schmidt, Reagan held a press conference to announce that, all of a sudden, the U.S. would propose to scale down the number of nuclear missiles stationed in Europe and push for a "zero option" nuclear policy. But just two weeks before U.S. Secretary of State Haig had told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee: "There are contingency plans in the NATO doctrine to fire a nuclear weapon for demonstrative purposes, to demonstrate to the other side that they are exceeding the limits of toleration in the conventional area, all designed to maintain violence at the lowest level possible." Could a nuclear trigger-happy Reagan Administration abruptly transform itself into campaigners for nuclear disarmament overnight? Neither the Soviet Union nor much of the West European press were very convinced.



begin negotiating with the U.S. in January to begin withdrawing its military bases from Greece. Papan-dreou would like to see Greece pull out from the military wing of NATO altogether. He also stated that Greece would begin withdrawing nuclear weapons from its soil in an effort to set an example for the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans. He also criticized the American "Bright Star" military manoeuvres taking place in Egypt which he said jeopardize peace in a sensitive and inflammable part of the world.

NEW U.S. THREATS AGAINST NICARAGUA

The Reagan Administration is trying to grapple with its failing Latin American policy by making new threats against the Nicaraguan government for allegedly receiving new arms shipments from Cuba and the Soviet Union. The Nicaraguan government has flatly denied any arms build-up. Additionally, the *Guardian* of November 25 reported that "the State Department's accusations of Cuban intervention in El Salvador via Nicaragua have not been verified in either country. There are Cubans working in Nicaragua — largely in health and education, from what can be seen — but their alleged role as interventionists is hard to document." Nonetheless, the *Times* reported on November 25 a statement by U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger that "the Nicaraguans should be aware that the United States would tolerate only so much interference in an area it regarded as being of vital interest." Secretary of State Haig also added to the campaign by trying to encourage Mexico to join in the fray against

NEW GREEK PRIME MINISTER CALLS FOR AMERICAN MILITARY WITHDRAWAL

Newly-elected Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu delivered a speech before Parliament on November 22 and said that his government would

Nicaragua during a trip he made on the November 24. Haig has recently threatened Nicaragua with a naval blockade or aerial bombardment. The full force of the anti-Nicaragua campaign is to be unveiled by Haig at a meeting of the Organization of American States on December 2. The *Guardian* of November 25 quoted one Sandinista official as stating: "If we were exporting cocaine to the United States like Bolivia or torturing dissidents like Argentina we would enjoy the support of the Reagan Administration."

SOVIET GAS TO WESTERN EUROPE

At the beginning of November, the Reagan Administration re-started a faint-hearted campaign to try and persuade West European governments to reconsider participation with the Soviet Union in construction of a Siberian gas pipeline which when completed will supply Western Europe with the equivalent of 700,000 barrels a day of oil. The project will bring the Soviet Union \$7.5 billion annually in hard currency and the construction agreements will mean thousands of new jobs in Western Europe which is currently sliding into recession. The Reagan Administration campaign was too late. Most of the contracts were signed before Soviet President Brezhnev met with German Chancellor Schmidt on November 22. In a final touch to the agreement President Brezhnev consented to a West

U.S. PROFITS FROM SOARING ARMS SALES

The United States increases arms sales abroad with each passing year, cashing in on military business. *Time* magazine wrote at the end of October that in 1971 the United States sold \$18 billion worth of arms abroad. In 1980 the volume of arms sales increased almost ten fold and topped \$17 billion. Leading experts estimate — and the officials admit it — that the total sum of military exports this year is to surpass last year's figure by almost \$2 billion. However, the data published by the government are clearly understated, as they do not include any information on private arms sales by American corporations.

Pursuing its strategic, political and economic goals, the United States intentionally saturates practically all potential trouble spots of the world with weaponry and supplies arms to dictatorial and puppet regimes in Latin America, Asia and Africa.

The list of the principal buyers of U.S. manufactured weapons includes such countries as Israel, Egypt, Pakistan, Sudan, South Korea, Uruguay and Chile. The United States bears the main responsibility for the arms race in the oil-rich Arabian Gulf region and the Middle East. This area accounts for 70 per cent of the entire military export of the United States to the developing countries. U.S. manufactured



West German pipes for gas pipeline shipped to Soviet Union

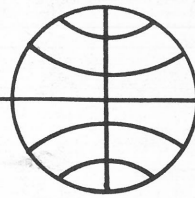
German request that gas from the pipeline be supplied to West Berlin. The new deal is of great economic and political importance not only for Europe but for East-West relations in general.

weapons go in a steady flow to Asia as well. there, the principal clients of the United States are the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand.

A secret memorandum prepared by Richard Allen, National Security Adviser to the U.S. President, says that from the point of view of the administration, arms deliveries are an effective instrument for pursuing U.S. foreign policy and will continue to be the main lever for achieving Washington's aims.



THE NORTH-SOUTH MONOLOGUE



U.S. LIES CAMPAIGN AGAINST CUBA

President Fidel Castro declared that reports of Cuban troops in Nicaragua are part of a campaign of falsehoods and lies by the U.S. government aimed at setting the stage for a military action against Cuba. Secretary of State Alexander Haig threatens Cuba with invasion and the State Department is also looking at the possibility of economic sanctions against the first Socialist country in Latin America.

Fidel Castro also reiterated his denial that there is any Cuban military presence in El Salvador. Nearly two months have gone by since Cuba categorically denied the false American charges and challenged Haig to present the evidence he claimed to have. He said that the U.S. came up with these lies evidently in order to implement its plans for which it sought a way to justify its aggression in the eyes of North American and world public opinion.

He added, "Cuba found out that Haig had begun to contact a series of governments to notify them of the purported Cuban military presence in Central America. The economic policy of the Reagan administration is already discredited inside the U.S. and

throughout the world and its foreign policy is meeting with mounting resistance from the peoples of the world." Castro added that Washington tries to muster the complicity of some governments in Latin America for its plans of aggression against Central America. "They are going to create an intricate problem if they should decide to use South American troops to intervene in Central America," warned Castro.

The U.S. anti-Cuban plans have caused world-wide indignation. On November 16, over 5,000 Parisians gathered to demonstrate their solidarity with Cuba. Meanwhile in Budapest the International Trade Unions have called on their 25 million members to counter U.S. imperialism's threats of intervention in Cuba by stepping up solidarity with the latter.

The Vietnamese Fatherland Front has condemned the preparation of military adventures against Cuba.

In Ulan Bator the instant cessation of all threats and machinations against Cuba has been demanded by Mongolia's trade unionists. American imperialism had to be forced to respect the right of the peoples of the world to free development. *Tass* adds, from New York, that official Washington's unbridled threats to Cuba gave rise to serious concern among the U.S. public. They are considered to be a prelude to concrete provocations and armed actions against Cuba.



Leaders of Nicaraguan and Cuban exile mercenaries preparing for invasion in Florida/U.S.A.

Arafat at Rally Commemorating Abu Sharar:

"WE WILL DEFINE THE POLICY IN THIS REGION"

The PLO Executive Committee, the Lebanese National Movement (L.N.M.) and Fateh co-sponsored a rally on November 20 at the Beirut Arab University to commemorate the lapse of 40 days since the death of Majed Abu Sharar, member of the Fateh Central Committee, who was assassinated by U.S. and Israeli agents in Rome on October 9, 1981. The rally was attended by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, several members of the PLO Executive Committee and the Fateh Central Committee, leaders of the various groups of the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese National Movement, representatives of Arab and international liberation movements, cadres of the Palestinian Revolution and the L.N.M. and a crowd of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens.

Chairman Arafat began his speech by saying: "It is our destiny that we often have to bid farewell to dear ones, as it is our destiny to shoulder more responsibilities as we bury those dear ones. Our only consolation, however, is that their souls have preceded us to Palestine. But this is our fate which we decided upon when we launched our Revolution."

Arafat added that Begin's threats and military concentrations in south Lebanon, which are an inseparable part of the 'Bright Star' manoeuvres and of the U.S. conspiracy and policy of war, neither frighten nor threaten us. He stressed that neither the Camp David conspiracy nor any other conspiracy will be implemented in this region, "because we believe that only the gun carried by one of the *Ashbal* (members of the Palestinian Youth Organisation) of the Palestinian-Lebanese Joint Forces can determine policy in this region. He then pledged to the martyr Majed that the political map of the region will only be drawn by the guns of the revolutionaries and heroes, "just as only the children in the occupied territories can draw the map of the occupied homeland, through their daily uprisings."

Addressing the Arab leaders, Chairman Arafat said "they should not turn the Fez Summit against us, for we shall make these tragedies topple every deviationist in this Arab region. The battle is clear and the conspiracy is clear, and the adventure, as put forth by Haig, is also obvious."

Majed Abu Sharar's widow, In'am, then spoke, recalling how she had accompanied Majed so many times to this hall and had sat with the audience listening to him. "And today I am



Chairman Arafat at commemorating rally for Majed Abu Sharar

accompanying Majed again, but now I see him in a different context... I see him in the determination on your faces, the determination to carry on our Revolution until victory. I see him in the Palestinian unity and its cohesion with the Lebanese National Movement. I see Majed in the sincerity of our friends and their support for our cause, for which Majed lived and which he died defending." She said that Majed knew full well the realities of the Palestinian situation and would not accept any choice except that of Revolution. "He knew that compromises built on false premises would never be fulfilled except at the price of bloodbaths, and the liquidation of those who reject these compromises."

RALLY IN DAMASCUS FOR MAJED ABU SHARAR

The PLO and Fateh movement on November 10 held a mass rally at Damascus University to commemorate the lapse of 40 days since the death of Majed Abu Sharar, member of Fateh Central Committee, who was assassinated in Rome by U.S. and Israeli agents. Fateh Central Committee member Qadri delivered a speech in which he praised the martyr for his role in the media, in the trade unions and in promoting the Palestinian cause.

Qadri then praised the uprising in the occupied territories and said that the struggle of the Palestinian people will foil all the conspirators. Other speakers at the rally were Khalid al-Fahoum, President of the P.N.C., Jamal al-Sourani, member of the PLO Executive Committee, Youssef al-Ahmad, member of the Central Committee of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party, Saleh Ra'fat, member of the Executive Committee of the Palestinian-Soviet Friendship Association and the Director of PLO Unified Information in Syria. Other rallies for the martyr were held in Kuwait and Rumania.

SOLIDARITY

U.S. Journalists after Visit to P.L.O. and Lebanon:

"U.S. MIDDLE EAST POLICY: A THREAT TO PEACE"

In August 1981, a group of American journalists of the National Alliance of Third World Journalists visited the P.L.O. in Lebanon. In the following we publish the report which the participants in the tour issued after their return to the United States under the headline: "U.S. Middle East policy: A threat to peace, a signal of war";

"A nine-member delegation of journalists who toured the devastated areas of Beirut and southern Lebanon has concluded that the United States government's one-sided policy fosters Israeli aggression and continued conflict in the Middle East. The eight day fact-finding mission, including observations, interviews and first-hand information, revealed a perspective on the region's crisis seldom presented in the American press.

"We found no evidence to support the Zionist charge that the Palestine Liberation Organization is a terrorist group. However, it is clear that the P.L.O. represents the will and aspirations of the Palestinian people, determined to gain a free and independent homeland. The P.L.O. also directly addresses the social and economic needs of the displaced Palestinians and other people in the Arab world who seek health care, employment and education.

"Tours of P.L.O. hospitals, schools, factories and bombed out refugee camps confirmed that Zionist aggression extends far beyond 'military targets'. It is, in fact, defenseless children and civilians who suffer from Israel's relentless attacks and untold atrocities.

"One crystal example is the Rashidiyah refugee camp in the south of Lebanon, ten miles from the occupied territory. Rashidiyah, once the settlement for 17,000 Palestinians and other Arabs, now houses only 7,000 people. Since 1973, the civilian settlement has been shelled 703 times from air, sea and land. Its most recent bombing was during the Zionist initiated July war which claimed approximately 2,800 casualties in Beirut and southern Lebanon. These strikes were carried out with a wide array of U.S. made weapons, including 3,000 pound cluster bombs which are internationally banned.

"As American citizens, we are concerned that this government's strengthened military alliance with Israel will lay the burden of blame on Americans for escalating aggression, conflict and war. The Begin-



Chairman Arafat receiving the American journalists

Reagan talks this week signal the sure termination of a cease fire and the disintegration of constructive peace initiatives.

"Furthermore, renewed ties with the Israeli government represent a push for an active U.S. military presence in a region that has withstood more than its share of strife and foreign intervention.

"As U.S. taxpayers, we are aware that President Reagan's budget cutting measures that severely slash social programs, will present a dismal future for the poor, the elderly and the ailing cities of our nation. While human services are cut and relegated to the bottom of the government's spending priority list, Israel will this year enjoy 2.9 billion dollars in direct aid, more than half the aid given by the U.S. world-wide.

"During several interviews and discussions with Palestinians, ranging from P.L.O. Chairman Yasser Arafat to a teenage soft-drink vendor in a crowded refugee camp, they all expressed a common bitterness and contempt for Israel's intransigence. More forcefully, however, they condemned the U.S. as the Israelis' major supplier of arms. While the U.S. government is virtually issuing death certificates in the Middle East, the Palestinians insist, the U.S. people hold the key to a solution. In simplistic terms they urged us to rectify the injustices being perpetrated against their people and tell the American people the truth."

PHOTOS OF FAKHANI MASSACRE STIR AMERICAN STUDENTS

On September 21-22, 1981, at the Mary Graden Centre of the American University in Washington, the Organisation of Arab Students, jointly with the American-Iranian Club, held an exhibition of photographs depicting the death and destruction caused by the vicious Israeli bombing raid on Beirut last July. The photos on display were clear evidence of the unparalleled Zionist violence in the Middle East.

A spokesperson for the students, Val Moghadan, said the only intention of the display was to present the truth and that the exhibition was an attempt to educate the American people and American University students about the situation in Lebanon. She said that the American news media are distorting the facts about the situation and presenting an unfair viewpoint.

John Maamaryn, the group's president who is from Lebanon, said he was trying to educate the students about the atrocities the Israeli pilots had committed. He pointed out the pictures of the murdered children, but also said that the argument is not with Jews but with Zionists. Another student, Farid, compared the Zionists with the fascists. He said that the policies of Israel are closely related to the policies of the Nazis in Germany forty years ago. He went on, "We are fighting for freedom."

The exhibition attracted various student responses from concerned sympathisers and some violent confrontations with students of the Zionist-directed Jewish Students' Association, one of whom is an employee of the Israeli Embassy. Maamaryn was shadowed by campus security for two days and has received numerous death threats from Zionist elements. On the whole though, this did not mar the exhibition's effectiveness, it received a sympathetic response from the students who were deeply shocked about the Fakhani massacre by the Zionist air force jets.

Ned Woodward, a second-year student at the university, who attended the display and the debates, said that it was pure ignorance to call the PLO a "terrorist organisation". He said the exhibition had shown to a "deaf and blind" world what the Palestinians are suffering in their exile.

The photo exhibition is due to be shown throughout university campuses in the United States.



The Cuban photographers participating in the exhibition

CUBAN PHOTO EXHIBITION IN BEIRUT

At the invitation of the General Union of the Palestinian Plastic Artists a photography exhibition of 11 Cuban photographers was inaugurated on November 11, 1981, at Dar Al-Karamah gallery, opposite to the Arab University of Beirut. The pictures reflected wide aspects of the Cuban people's life.

On this occasion, a press conference was held in the exhibition hall. The Cuban graphic artist Artino, along with Ario, Head of the Photographic Section of the Union of Cuban Writers and Artists, and Professor Joannis of the Higher Institute of Fine Arts, together issued the following press statement, through which they expressed solidarity with the Palestinian people:

"Through the crystallised picture of the Cuban people, it is well understood that the relation between our country and the Palestinians is based on the joint struggle against imperialism. The Cuban people are well aware of the new American thrust, which is not the first or the last one. Our people fight this thrust. Therefore, our people's preoccupation is how to help other oppressed peoples. We consider any Israeli air raid on Shatila or Sabra (two Palestinian refugee camps near Beirut) a blow directed at the heart of the Cuban people."

The Cuban artists concluded by saying: "We now exclaim: hands off the Palestinians; the same way as P.L.O. leader Chairman Arafat exclaimed one day: Take your hands off Cuba. We repeat our president's words: The Palestinian cause will be victorious in the end. Down with imperialism, long live Cuba and the Palestinian people!"

SOLIDARITY

PALESTINIAN ART AND THEATRE IN NORWAY

In Norway, on November 7, the two main Norwegian Palestinian solidarity groups, the "Palestine Committee" and "Palestine Front", inaugurated an exhibition for Palestinian artists, painters and sculptors at the House of Artists in Oslo.

"The aim of this exhibition, which includes 125 works, is to introduce Palestinian art and culture to the Norwegian people," said Mr. Thorstein Rittun, the director of the House of Artists. "We introduce the other positive aspects of the Palestinian people which should be recognized by the Norwegian people". He continued: "During my visit to the PLO in Lebanon, we found that the PLO performs many different and positive activities on all levels in favour of their humanitarian society. We found that the PLO runs workshops, hospitals in which free medical services are offered to everybody regardless of nationality. They also have many artistic activities such as drawing, painting, cinema and photography. Besides this they have numerous cultural and humanitarian activities like a substantial state. So we decided to introduce Palestinian art, culture and literature to the Norwegian people through our House of Artists. We are proud and pleased to be doing so, because the Norwegians still think that the PLO expresses itself only through the rifle and the machine gun. Instead, we saw the daily Israeli bombing and shelling of the Palestinian refugee camps causing extensive damage. My colleagues and I are sure that what happens to the Palestinian people is unhumanitarian and unjust."

The exhibition, widely covered by Norwegian mass media, was also attended by many prominent politicians and artists.

The Palestinian exhibition is scheduled to be displayed for a period of three weeks in Oslo. Later it will be transferred to other Norwegian cities. There is also a plan to transfer it to Stockholm and other European capitals.

Other activities

The "Palestine Front" invited the Palestinian theatre group Al-Hakawati from occupied Jerusalem to perform an evening play called "Mahjoub Mahjoub" at the Hall of Theatre and Music in Oslo on November 16. All tickets were sold in advance.

In addition a Palestinian evening was held on November 18. Among the guest speakers were the former commander of the United Nations'

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forces to the Middle East, General Odd Bull, who spoke about the history of the Palestinian cause. Also there was the famous theatre artist and dramatist, Jan Haaten, who read some selected items of Palestinian literature.

On November 21, a Palestinian folklore handicrafts fair was opened at the Oslo Municipal Centre, to continue to November 29, the national Palestine Solidarity Day.

The "Palestine Committee" also will organise a musical concert in solidarity with the Palestinian people in Chateau Neuf Hall in Oslo. The hall has a capacity of 1500 seats. Many music groups from Norway and Sweden will participate.

The Palestinian art exhibition as well as all the other activities recently performed in Norway in solidarity with Palestine are an encouraging sign. They are a proof that the Norwegian people as a whole increasingly understand and support the struggle of the Palestinian people, a struggle against Zionism, colonialism and imperialism for the return of their homeland and the establishment of their democratic state.

"A GLASS OF JUICE"

*will you please stretch your maimed hands and receive
my glass of juice...
a juice of my solidarity
a fluid of my love for you
a drink of my fight with your enemy
have it drink it have it quaff it*

*what song should I sing for you
with my anger at the Israeli July bombings?
was it a start or an end?
the rainbow of your cause tells us in Africa that
it was a continuation
it was a chain
a long chain of hassles and combats
you must be thirsty now
have a glass of juice
have my greetings*

*Salaam Aleikum my dear Palestinian brother and sister!
weep no more cry no more for here am I dressed in a jacket-suit
of the Namibian shoes, the Argentinian socks, the Vietnamese
bangle...*

*I carry the spirit of traditional fighters:
masses of martyrs in the name of Van Troi, Tu Huu, Che Guevara,
George Jackson, Patrice Lumumba, Bobby Sands...
quaff the juice of my solidarity!
drink the love of your cause!
drink it all my hatred for your enemy my optimism
for you shall win
you shall win
not today, not tomorrow, but you shall win
it is not the first time
this your cause!*

*freddy macha
Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania.*

This poem was sent to us by our friend Freddy Macha in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania as an expression of his solidarity with the Palestinian people. He is an avid reader of Palestine Bulletin and says that its contents reflect the cause for freedom and that he heartily appreciates the magazine.

UNITED NATIONS
International Day
of Solidarity
with the
Palestinian
People

29th NOVEMBER



SUPPORT
THE
PALESTINE
LIBERATION
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