



by Mohammad al-Shaer

## The Palestinian Women's Struggle

# Palestine

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## Palestine Lives



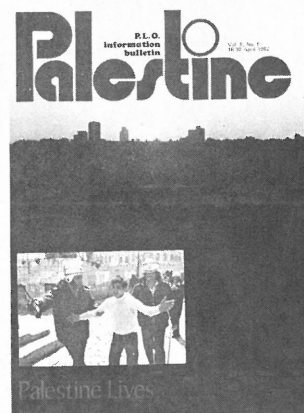
## TO OUR READERS

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

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## EDITORIAL

### SINAI WITHDRAWAL .... WHAT NEXT?

The bilateral peace treaty between Egypt and Israel has been more or less accomplished. Some minor border disputes are still left to be resolved, as expected from the Israeli side. The multi-national forces led by the U.S. forces have been installed. The Israelis have made a big propaganda campaign over the Yamit settlers, trying to show that they have made a big concession in delivering Sinai to its rightful owners.

Well, the so-called "painful" withdrawal from the Zionist settlement of Yamit which was hailed in the Western press (thus adopting the Israeli-Zionist arguments) can be considered as a shame, if not connivance with the aggressor and occupier. Israeli propaganda exploited the vandalism of the fanatic settlers of Yamit to show the "great" concession Israel is offering for peace with Egypt. The Israeli leaders declared that this is the last Israeli settlement to be dismantled from any Arab occupied territory in exchange for peace. Begin even wants to pass a resolution in the Knesset prohibiting the dismantling of any Zionist colony in the occupied territories.

But what next? Is there peace in the Middle East? Has the bilateral peace treaty with Egypt pacified the region?

The fact is that the Middle East is still an explosive region. Israel still occupies the whole of Palestine and has been oppressing its people for 34 years. The West Bank has been renamed by the Israelis "Judea and Samaria" and the Gaza has been bleeding for 15 years. The Israeli settlers and Israeli soldiers are shooting at unarmed civilians, women and children almost everyday. Palestinian young people demonstrate against Israeli repression, asking for their freedom and independence. Israeli fanatics are desecrating Moslem holy places and shoot at the people praying in the Aqsa Mosque.

On the Golan Heights, the Israeli repressive measures are continuing. The local Syrian population is refusing all the oppressive measures of

annexation, including Israeli identity cards.

The Israeli leaders declared, on the day of the Sinai withdrawal, that eleven new Jewish settlements are to be built in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. Southern Lebanon is still a flashpoint due to Israeli threats of a large-scale invasion to liquidate or smash the PLO forces.

Taking all of these events into consideration one has to ask: Is there peace in the Middle East? The fact is that the Middle East is still far away from peace. Peace is not compatible with injustice. Real peace cannot take place between the oppressors and the oppressed as long as oppression persists.

Again, one has to ask: Who is to blame for this vicious circle which has continued in the Middle East for 34 years? Definitely one has to blame the aggressor and his allies — and they are well-known. The aggressor is Israel — and the allies of the aggressor are successive U.S. administrations and Western governments.

The reason for this connivance: short-sighted imperialist or strategic interests covered by a false guilt complex towards European Jewry killed or harassed during World War II in Europe. It is hard for a neutral observer to find the logic behind this Western connivance with the Israeli aggressors. But since the inception of mankind, when did the aggressor ever have any logic?

The situation as it looks now is very explosive. The Middle East is still expecting more and more wars, more and more blood to be shed. The Israelis are still arrogantly threatening to crush or liquidate or smash their victims with imported U.S. weapons. After five years from the date of the late Sadat's "peaceful" visit to Israel, the situation is still unchanged because the crux of the Middle East conflict is still unsettled. Sinai was never the main issue of the conflict. It was a repercussion of the Palestine problem. A swallow makes no summer.

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## BEGIN'S BLOODY EASTER SUNDAY



Palestinians defend al-Aqsa Mosque from Israeli terror

On Easter Sunday, Zionist gunmen launched a premeditated bloodbath on al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem. At 9:20 local time, an American mercenary with the Israeli army, Alan Goodman, forced his way onto the Haram al-Sharif square brandishing an army issue M-16 assault rifle and opened fire indiscriminately on the worshippers.

Immediately, gangs of Zionist settlers backed by Israeli "security" forces stormed the area from several directions simultaneously, killing at least two people and wounding over sixty.

Other reports like *Agence France Presse* of April 11, 1982, speak of nine Palestinians being killed. The Israeli authorities later admitted two dead, but banned any further information and even sealed off access to the hospitals in order to prevent the truth from coming out.

Immediately after the crime, a massive demonstra-

tion surged through the streets of Jerusalem to defend the mosque, in response to appeals from the minarets of the city's mosques.

Zionist stormtroopers repeatedly fired at the demonstrators, from rooftops and walls. Firing and explosions rent the air for more than two hours as demonstrations raged throughout Jerusalem. Troops fired wildly into the crowds of unarmed protestors and scores of tear gas grenades were used.

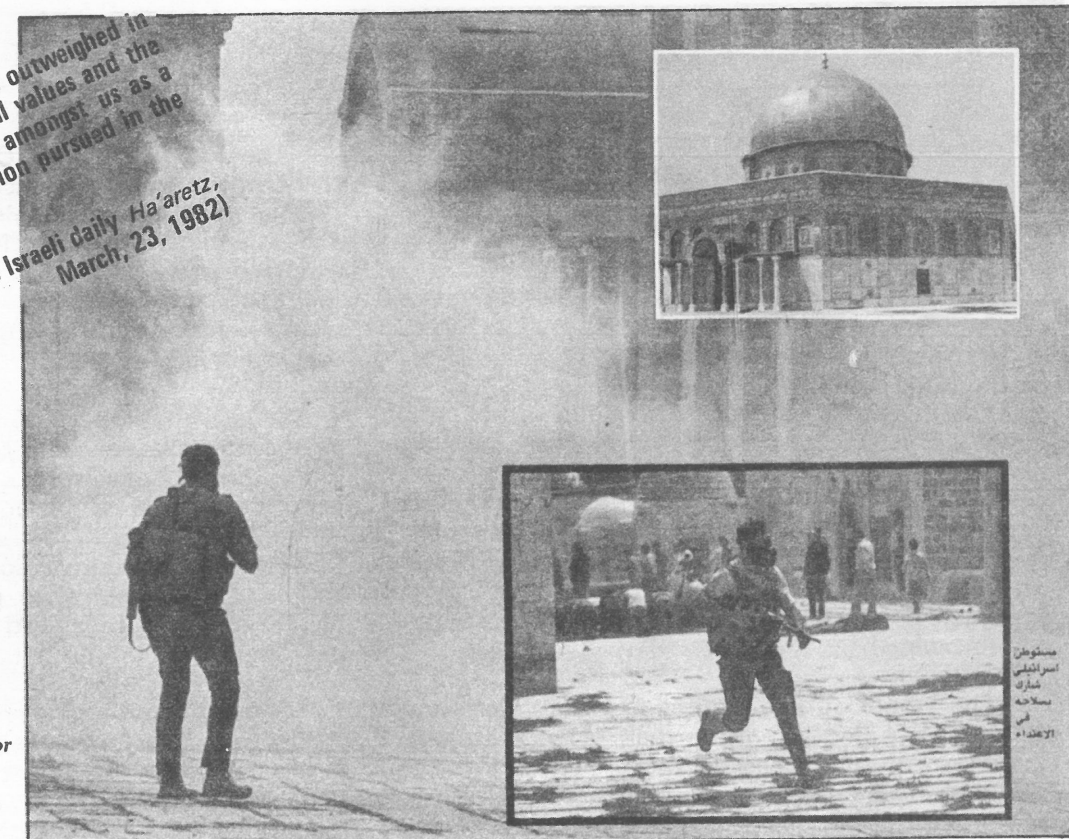
The Islamic Maqassed Hospital issued an urgent appeal for blood, and West Bank hospitals were all placed on alert. Two of the dead have been identified as Hajj Muhammed Yemeni, the 65-year-old custodian of the mosque, who was gunned down in the first assault, and 19-year-old Jihad Badr. In one hospital alone (Mount of Olives), Dr. Rateb Abu Remeileh said that at least 30 Palestinians were being treated for gunshot wounds, some in a serious condition.

### THE ISRAELI "CULT OF BRUTALITY"

"The ideology of the Greater Israel is outweighed in the face of the degradation of the moral values and the cult of brutality, which is spreading amongst us as a consequence of the policy of repression pursued in the occupied territories."

(the Israeli daily Ha'aretz, March, 23, 1982)

Zionist settlers join in planned terror against al-Aqsa



### Premeditated Murder

The Israeli version claims that the "shooting" was the work of a "deranged person". But this lie raises more questions than it answers. First, why was a "psychopathic" killer accepted into the Israeli army? Second, how many more dangerous lunatics are there in the Israeli "security" forces? And third, if Goodman is deranged, then what can we say about Menachem Begin, the man who led the slaughter of men, women, and children in Deir Yassin in 1948, the man who launched the holocaust last July in the Fakhani residential area of Beirut, the man responsible for the barbarism being executed in the West Bank and Gaza today?

In fact, eye-witness reports, including those of Sheikhs Saadedin Alami and Muhammed Jamal, confirm that a number of snipers were firing on worshippers and the Dome of the Rock. Sheikh Jamal noted that the soldiers allowed the criminal Goodman to escape while they opened fire on the citizens.

### Crime Shows Begin's Fingerprints

Expert forensic evidence shows that the building was exposed to shots from inside and outside, in numerous places and on various levels. Israel Radio on April 16 admitted, that an investigative body discovered at least 3,000 bullet cartridges in the vicinity of the Mosque. The evidence led to the

conclusion that gunmen must have been firing from the south-east, from the Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives.

Only three days before, Palestinian citizens discovered a suspicious package near the main gate of al-Aqsa mosque. On opening the parcel, it was found to contain a radio transmitter and a vile threatening letter from Zionist gangs. The message boasted: "This is our first attempt against you, in answer to your opposition to the civil administration and village leagues." The message warned there would be other operations.

This is not the first time al-Aqsa has been threatened since the start of this racist occupation. In May 1980, huge quantities of explosive were found near to the mosque, to be used in an attempt at destroying it. Recently a number of Israeli racists have clashed with the mosque's guards and worshippers. A number of watchmen have been stabbed by Zionist intruders.

It is blatantly obvious that this criminal and seemingly insane act of murder was a coldly-calculated operation instigated and blessed by the terrorist government of Begin and Sharon.

### Kach, Begin, Racist Violence

The racist Israeli occupation authorities claim that this and other ugly crimes are committed by "independent" extremist settlers. Goodman is a member of



### The Al-Aqsa Easter Sunday Massacre:

#### PLO COMMUNIQUE ON JERUSALEM BLOOD BATH

The PLO Executive Committee on April 11, issued a communique on the massacre at the al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. Following are excerpts:

"The racist Israeli occupation authorities today (April 11, 1982) committed an ugly crime which has shaken the Arab, Islamic and international consciousness. A group of Israeli soldiers stormed the al-Haram al-Sharif, the al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, opened fire and threw hand grenades. When worshippers tried to defend their holy places, groups of Israeli soldiers rushed into the Haram, shooting and throwing hand grenades.

"The result of this deliberate attack was several Palestinians killed and more than seventy wounded, among them custodians of the al-Aqsa and several men of religion. Innocent blood flowed over the soil of the al-Aqsa Mosque in testimony of another Israeli crime condemned by all religions.

"This new ugly Zionist crime is an important part of a phenomenon repeated since the start of the Israeli occupation of the Islamic and Christian holy places. The Israeli occupation government disguises itself behind the screen of fanatic settlers. It arms them with all kinds of weapons, and launches them to implement its crimes against our holy places, thoughts, and our Palestinian people who stand steadfast in the face of the fanatic, blind racist occupation.

"The PLO Executive Committee, in the face of this crime of the Israeli occupation authorities against the first Qibla and the third Haram, warns the Arab and Islamic world, the Non-Aligned and friendly states and the democratic forces of the world about the deliberate nature of Israeli crimes, which are planned and implemented under the protection of the occupation authorities.

"Silence in the face of these programmed attacks on the only places would be a step on the way to the Zionisation of Palestine, to the interment of its history and of its Islamic and Christian holy places.

"The PLO Executive Committee calls on the Arab and Islamic nations, their peoples and governments, to confront this barefaced crime, and to put an end to these attacks on our holy places.

"The Arab and Islamic nations are facing a blatant challenge to their existence, values and their holy places. In front of this challenge, which aims to uproot our history and heritage, the states and peoples of the Arab and Islamic nations must rise to the level of responsibility and to the challenge of history following this attack on the al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock. If Israel's arrogance calls for an Islamic and national stand, the attack on the holy places, the killing of worshippers and the violation of holy Islamic sanctuary, demand action to liberate the territories of Arabs and Muslims from the Zionist occupation. This premeditated attack requires condemnation of and a practical stand against the United States who give their blessing, support and protection to the Israeli occupation."

Israel's first leader, hid behind Begin's Irgun Zvai Leumi after the Deir Yassin massacre, so Begin the terrorist hides behind the Kach or Gush Emunim movements to execute his filthy crimes.

The outright complicity between the Israeli occupation army and the Zionist settlers was conspicuous during the attack on al-Aqsa, as it has been throughout the uprising of the past months.

In a message to the people of the Occupied territories, broadcast on the *Voice of Palestine* radio on April 12, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat declared:

"This new crime recalls those earlier crimes which began with the occupation, and which have not yet ended. This was a mass murder reminding us of the Qibya, Kfar Qassem and Deir Yassin massacres.

the extremist Kach movement led by another U.S. citizen, Rabbi Meir Kahane who openly advocate the expulsion of the entire Arab population of Palestine as opposed to the tacit approval of the Zionist state to this gross idea. But this latest incident is only one in a long chain of barbaric crimes committed by the Zionist entity behind the screen of fanatic colonial settlers.

In fact, these "extremist groups" are a direct extension of the Zionist entity. They are supplied with arms and financial resources by the Israeli government to carry out some of the more dirtier areas of Zionist colonial policy. Just as Ben Gurion,

### Violently Breaking the Internationally Arranged Ceasefire:

## ISRAEL RESUMES AIR STRIKES AGAINST LEBANON AND PLO

Israeli terror from the air, destruction in Doha



While U.S. 'special envoy' Walter Stoessel was still conferring with the international terrorist Begin, Israel launched a new crime murdering and wounding dozens of people with its fighter bombers. Protected by the U.S. government, it once more cynically violated all international law and blatantly breached the nine-month-old ceasefire concerning Israeli and Palestinian military activities across the Lebanese border.

At 14:30 p.m. three formations of U.S.-Israeli F-15s and F-16s started to bomb the coastal areas south of the Lebanese capital Beirut, while more planes were screaming over the capital itself spreading panic and terror amongst the civilian population. The planes alternately bombed Lebanese and Palestinian targets in the villages of Sa'diyyat, Na'meh and the hills of Doha and Ein Mazbud, as well as the main coastal road. The warplanes used heavy rockets, cluster bombs, time bombs and heavy machine-guns. Among the targets hit were cars and passers-by on the coastal highway and nearby houses. The frightened villagers and motorists from the crowded highway fled for cover in nearby orchards while the planes continued their attacks until 16.00 p.m. The first raid lasted for half an hour, and at 15.40 p.m., the U.S.-Israeli warplanes returned, performing a series of mock raids over Beirut residential areas, and drawing heavy anti-aircraft fire from Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian batteries. Later, at 19.10 p.m. Israeli airplanes were intercepted by Syrian planes over the Beqa'a valley in Eastern Lebanon. A Syrian spokesman later announced that two Syrian planes were shot down in the air battle, with the pilots bailing out safely, and that one Israeli plane was also shot down.

According to Lebanese government sources, 25 people were murdered in the raids, of whom 10 at least were civilians. About 60 people were wounded, a large proportion of them being also civilians. The raids also caused large fires to break out in fields and orchards which were put out by the area's inhabitants, as well as by fire-fighting teams who rushed to the bombed areas. Civil defence units also hurried to remove casualties from the rubble of the demolished buildings, as the Israeli planes continued to drop rockets which could be heard exploding in Beirut.

This latest brutal and murderous aggression committed by Israel against its neighbours and the Palestinian people shows the true nature of the Camp David "peace" to be "completed" with Israel handing over the occupied Sinai peninsula to a U.S. and NATO-led "multinational" occupation force. The terrorist attack was not only instrumented and carried out with U.S. arms supplied for the "defence" of the Zionist state; it also obviously had a direct "green light" from Washington, since Reagan's special envoy Walter Stoessel was conferring with Begin during the day of raid. The U.S. government continues to extend its unlimited support and protection for any state crime and act of terror which its most "strategically" in the area commits against the Iraqi scientific centres, the Palestinian and Lebanese women and children, the Syrian Golan Heights and their heroic population, the defenceless Palestinian people struggling in the occupied territories and the Islamic holy sites at al-Aqsa in Jerusalem. After the latest Israeli aggression, a U.S. government spokesman commented cynically that the



# Ut av Sinai - inn i Libanon?

Out of Sinai - into Lebanon?

From Palestina - Nytt, Published by Palestine Front in Norway

U.S. government "deplored" the raids executed with U.S. weapons, and called on "all (sic) parties for restraint".

While the raids were still going on April 21, PLO Chairman Arafat headed a meeting of the PLO's Higher Military Council which took the necessary measures to confront the aggression. Chairman Arafat also immediately sent a message to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar urging the UN bodies to stop the frenzied Israeli terror.

After a series of intensive discussions, the President of the UN Security Council, Kamanda Wa Kamanda, on April 23 issued a statement on behalf of the entire Security Council expressing his profound preoccupation with the Israeli air attacks against Lebanon. He launched an urgent appeal for the immediate cessation of all acts of hostility and called



Remains of a civilian car in Khaldeh, south of Beirut

## LESSONS TO BE LEARNED

The political commentator of the Palestinian news agency WAFA wrote the following comment on April 22:

"In examining the reasons behind Israel's air raids on Lebanon of April 21 and the lessons to be drawn from them, we can rapidly pass over the pretexts invoked by Israeli Chief of Staff Gen. Eitan on Israeli television on April 21. Israel responded, he claimed, to 'unbearable provocations', specifically attacks on Israelis inside the occupied West Bank and Gaza strip, in the occupied border enclave in southern Lebanon, and abroad. All of these, he said, were violations of the ceasefire, which nevertheless according to Eitan's curious logic, remained in force.

"These statements are so grotesque as to be almost laughable, were it not for the fact that they were indirectly reflected in a United States declaration issued after the raid which implicitly equated these 'violations' and Israel's aerial bombardment. What is at work here is a sinister double standard. According to the logic of Washington and Tel Aviv, Palestinians who resist their occupiers, whether with stones or hand grenades, violate the ceasefire, while Israeli soldiers who have shot and killed 16 of these Palestinians many of them children do not! The killing of an Israeli intelligence officer in Paris by unknown assailants is a 'violation', while Israel's murder of

Fateh Central Committee member Majed Abu Sharar in Rome last October is not. A land mine planted inside occupied southern Lebanon(!) killing an Israeli officer and wounding a soldier is a violation, while a 90-minute series of bombing raids by dozens of planes which leaves scores of people dead or wounded is not.

"What then are the real reasons for this attack? Clearly the timing, the same day as the Israeli Cabinet decision on the Sinai withdrawal, gives us a clue. For what Israel is underlining with this attack is that the deal with Egypt was the return of Sinai in exchange for a free hand for the Zionist state in Palestine and points to the north and east, both as far as Egypt and the U.S. are concerned. And the feeble response from Washington and Cairo after the raids confirm that the deal is still on.

"As for the lessons, they can only be directed at the Arab states, which once again have stood by open-mouthed at the sight of Palestinians and Lebanese dying under Israeli bombs and rockets as Palestinian anti-aircraft gunners and Syrian planes try to protect them. Only if the hypnotic spell of April 25 and the mirage of Egypt's return to the Arab fold can be dispelled, only if a clear stand can be taken against the U.S., the manufacturer of these bombs and the paymaster of these pilots, can we say that these lessons have been learned."

strongly upon all parties to exert maximum moderation so that the ceasefire, in force since July 1981, will be reestablished and maintained."

A military spokesman for the leadership of the Palestinian Revolution on April 22 issued a statement saying: "The Zionist aggressor has carried out a new operation breaking the ceasefire with an attack on Lebanese territory and against Palestinian concentrations... The whole world has heard the Israeli threats directed at the Palestinian Revolution over the past three months... In the face of this new Israeli violation of the ceasefire the Revolution knows well when and how to respond and defend the Lebanese and Palestinian masses."

The latest Israeli aggression has raised worldwide concern and indignation. It was condemned by the governments of the Socialist and many non-aligned countries like Cuba, India and Bangladesh, as well as the Japanese, the French, the British and the Italian governments.

In the occupied territories of Palestine, where our people continue their heroic uprising against Zionist occupation, land theft and colonial settlement expansion, violent demonstrations took place in Ramallah,



Victims of Israeli bombing arrive at Sidon hospital

al-Bireh and other towns and villages in protest at the bloody Israeli air raids. In the United States, a mass demonstration with several thousand participants took to the streets in New York and protested in front of the Israeli mission and the UN headquarters against the Israeli aggression.

## TASS: "WASHINGTON PROVIDES THE COVER"

The Soviet news agency TASS on April 22, 1982 carried a commentary by Leonid Ponomarev on the latest Israeli bombing raid on Lebanon and the world-wide condemnation it had raised.

The Soviet commentator stated that the moment chosen by the Israeli authorities to launch a massive new air raid against the southern suburbs of Beirut and other localities in Lebanon attests to the fact that Tel Aviv and Washington continue to coordinate their actions with respect to their common anti-Arab policy in the Middle East, both on a diplomatic and political level. There is no doubt that the veto imposed by the United States in the UN Security Council on the resolution proposed by the Arab and Muslim group of countries which condemned the terrorist acts of the Israeli authorities in the Arab occupied territories by opening fire on worshippers in the al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, served as a signal for new aggressive acts committed by Tel Aviv against its Arab neighbours. Washington officials systematically provide the political cover for every expansionist act of Israel in the Middle East. One such cover, as a general rule, is accompanied

by military assistance amounting to billions of dollars. This assistance itself guarantees Israel military superiority in the region.

Despite the appearance Washington would like to give, it is undeniable that the bombs dropped on the Lebanese are American manufactured and the planes are delivered by the United States. The impudent actions of the Israeli authorities attests to the fact that Tel Aviv is planning new wide-scale actions against Lebanon in which ground troops would equally take part. It is not merely by chance, that the Israeli authorities have been engaged in a new act of aggression against Lebanon just four days before the retreat of its troops from the Sinai as foreseen in the Israeli-Egyptian accord. The leaders in Tel Aviv are seeking to paralyse Egyptian activity, placing it in an embarrassing situation, compromising it still more in the eyes of the Arab peoples as it is forced to pass as an unconditional ally of Israel. In light of this U.S.-Israeli policy, Cairo sees itself affected more and more by the march of Camp David which, as is known, is aimed against the best interests of the Arab countries and serves only to encourage Israeli aggression and to camouflage the military infiltration of the United States into the Middle East.



## ISRAELI BULLETS FAIL TO PUT DOWN OUR HEROIC PEOPLE

The bloody Zionist massacre on Easter Sunday at al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem was no isolated incident. For more than five weeks, the Zionist occupation authorities and gangs of colonists have been trying in vain to brutally suppress the protests of the Palestinian people.

The al-Aqsa incident followed ten days of popular demonstrations and crude repression since the mass uprising on Palestinian Land Day (see *Palestine* Special Issue, Vol. 8, No. 7). The people of the occupied territories have been solidly following a total general strike called by national leaders on March 19, after the illegal disbandment of the democratically elected municipalities of al-Bireh, Nablus and Ramallah.

On the thirteenth day of the strike, April 1, the demonstrations of the previous days to celebrate *Yom al-Ard* (Land Day) were followed by a series of brutal and fascist acts. The West Bank towns of Jenin, Ya'abad, Balata, Askar, Nablus, Halhoul, Zahiriyeh, Sayir, Yatta, Duheisha, Bethlehem and Beit Jala remained under curfew, some for more than a week.

### Attacks on the Press

In Jerusalem, Zionist settlers stormed the offices of the Palestinian *al-Bayadir* magazine. The editor was badly assaulted, and later had to be taken to hospital. She had received numerous threats before and recently a car had tried to run her down. The Israeli authorities took no steps to investigate the incident. A later issue of the magazine declared that it would continue along with other national institutions to defend the Palestinian masses and their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state under PLO leadership.

There were further attacks on the Palestinian press in Jerusalem that day. New restrictions were imposed on *al-Fajr* and *al-Sha'ab*; new permits would be valid for only three months instead of six as at present and there would be army inspection of distribution in the West Bank. The new restrictions received the firm rejection of the editors. Later, in Duheisha refugee camp, the editor of *al-Shira'* magazine Hamdi Farraji was arrested.

Meanwhile, *al-Tali'a* newspaper reported that



Zionist stormtroopers violate Jerusalem streets

Israeli troops tied a ten-year-old Palestinian child to an electricity pylon in Ramallah and tortured him. This outrageous act of sadism was followed by a mass demonstration. Protestors threw stones and bottles at an Israeli bus carrying troops. Three girls were sentenced for participating in the demonstrations.

Violent incidents occurred in the Bethlehem and Hebron areas. In Duheisha refugee camp, an Israeli soldier tried to rape a Palestinian girl. She was saved by a group of women who came to her rescue. In nearby Ta'amira village, Zionist settlers stormed a school, vandalising its contents. Altogether, more than eighty people have been arrested in the Bethlehem area.

In solidarity with the uprising, 600 progressive Jews held a demonstration on April 1 outside Begin's office condemning Israeli measures in the occupied territories. Israeli lawyer Felicia Langer presented a letter of protest concerning the maltreatment of al-Bireh council members Saleh Hamdan and Tawfiq Dars being held for interrogation. The Israeli authorities also arrested al-Bireh councillor Dr. Azmi Shu'aibi and cut the telephone lines.

### Occupied Palestine under Siege

On April 2, women's organisation continued their sit-in at al-Nasr mosque in Nablus, in protest against Israeli measures against West Bank mayors while armed patrol and paratroop units continued to deploy in Nablus. A number of arrests were made during the day including the headmaster of Balata

Girls School Huda Abdel Hadi, Bir Zeit student council member Anan Atiri, and a student from Balata refugee camp Muhammed Rashid.

In the Bethlehem region curfews continued on Duheisha refugee camp and the villages of Husan, Khodr and Beit Sahour. A tight curfew remained on Ya'abad after the killing of two young Palestinians who died from wounds inflicted by Israeli troops. All telephone lines were cut and the village totally isolated. In nearby Qabatya, dozens of people were arrested.

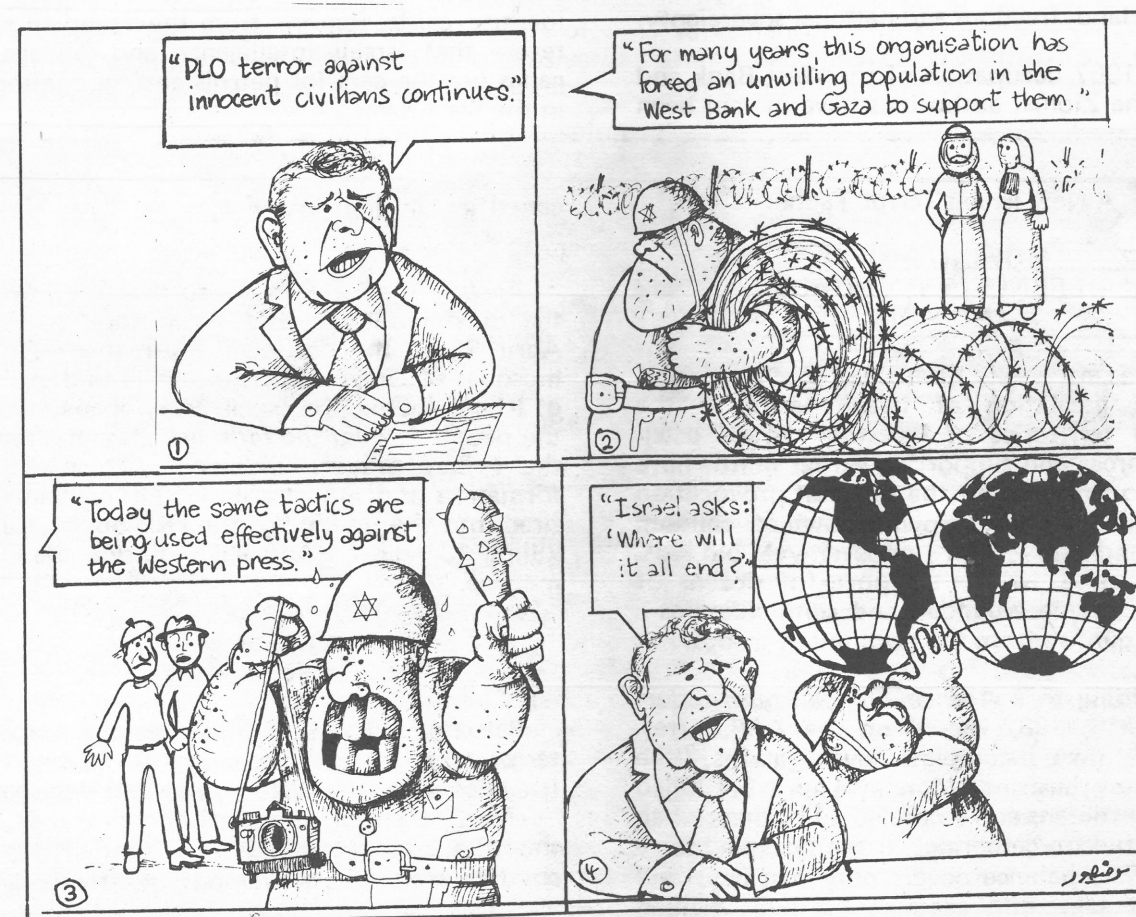
In the northern village of Deir al-Ghousoun near Tulkarm, the Israeli authorities seized the olive press of Abdel Majid Qasimeh, head of the village council, for refusing to form a "village league" in the region.

The following day, attacks on the Palestinian newspapers continued with the banning of *al-Fajr* and *al-Sha'ab*. The published editions were confiscated at Israeli military checkpoints. Israeli General Igal Karmoun who supervised the confiscations claimed that he was doing this because of what he called a "shortage of manpower in the army". However, there seems to be more of a corrupt interest in the matter — the confiscated papers were sold to Israeli paper factories and the profits went to the Israeli army.

Meanwhile, Israeli "security" forces increased their presence in the streets of Ramallah and al-Bireh, and in Nablus, the Najjah National University was surrounded by Zionist troops. Several students were detained following clashes between protestors and occupation forces who fired bullets and tear gas.

In 1948-occupied Palestine, protests and strikes continued in solidarity with the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In Nazareth, the secondary school went on protest strike against the arrests of a professor and other teachers. The staff issued a communique denouncing the Israeli practices and calling for the release of the detainees. Dozens of Palestinians in Galilee and the Triangle have been arrested — five in Sakhnin, eleven from Arraba al-Batouf, twelve from Nazareth, three from Qassel, four from Ain Mahel and four from Ba'ini. More were arrested in Jaffa, Acre, and Umm al-Fahm.

As the Israeli authorities carried out a massive arrest campaign in order to stifle the voice of protest, the reopening of schools in Gaza led to an immediate renewal of mass demonstrations in Khan Younis and all the main refugee camps. Seven Zionist settlers were injured when a hand grenade was thrown into a military vehicle. Scores of students were later detained.







On the West Bank, the Israeli authorities, consistent with their goal of trying to destroy all Palestinian mass organisations, closed down the head offices of the Carpenters' Union in Hebron.

On April 5, school and college holidays were extended for the second time in less than a week, in an attempt to prevent further demonstrations. Israeli troops continued to patrol the streets, squares and rooftops of Nablus, Ramallah and al-Bireh. For the third consecutive day, the blockade of Najjah University remained in force.

### "Civil" Administration through the Barrel of a Gun

Forced with the Palestinian people's total rejection of Zionist occupation, the Israeli authorities resorted to issuing military orders to force citizens to deal with the Israeli "civil" administration and the military committees which took over from the dissolved municipalities. In Nablus, the Mayor Bassam Shak'a and the municipal council issued a communique recalling that the "civil" administration was rejected because its purpose is to legitimise the oppressive Israeli occupation and thereby make the Palestinian population accept the status quo and give up their rights to their land, freedom and national sovereignty.

Since the 1967 occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Zionist authorities have in vain been



Bassam Shak'a: "Our only option... is to struggle"

searching for groups of collaborators in an attempt to impose a bogus "national" leadership on our people. Scraping the barrel, they eventually dredged up a band of social flotsam who were combined into the "village leagues" — goon-institutions propped up by Israeli shekels and the Uzi submachinegun.

The mafia-like gangs of the "village leagues" are working in close collaboration with the Israeli authorities to carry out further repressive actions. The occupation authorities confiscated private cars and identity cards. Reports from the occupied territories reveal that Israeli Intelligence and "village league" gangs use the cars for patrols and for chasing citizens in the West Bank.

### A New Israeli Terror Tactic:

#### MOWING DOWN DEFENCELESS CROWDS AND KIDS

The recent weeks have seen another unprecedented escalation of Israeli terror in the occupied territories of Palestine: Israeli occupation forces and supporting settler militia have started to fire without the slightest provocation into civilian crowds, mowing down at random women and three-, four-, or seven-year-old kids. No day passes without reports of dozens of unarmed people wounded and some killed as a result of gunfire from the occupation troops.

According to a *Agence France Presse* report of April 16, 1982, based on the AFP correspondent's own incomplete investigations, "the Israeli army has since Monday (April 12) killed three Palestinians and wounded 111 others when opening fire on gatherings in the occupied territories." The balance covers only five days and does not take into account the huge civilian

casualties during the Easter Sunday Al-Aqsa massacre.

*Agence France Presse* also describes two of the most bloody events which took place on April 16 in the occupied Gaza Strip: At the mosques of Omer and Beni Sohala in the village of Khan Younis, the Israeli army opened fire on the people leaving the mosques after the end of the Friday prayers, in order "to prevent the formation of demonstrations". The soldiers even fired into the interior of the religious buildings, killing 18-year-old Abu Neimr inside the Omer mosque.

#### Zionist Gunmen Target Little Children

Palestinian children have become a special terror target of Zionist gunshots. At times the Israeli soldiers afterwards claim that they had to "defend" themselves against the tiny kids, but the true cynical calculation is that hitting the children is an effective method of terrorizing the entire civilian population.

In Jerusalem, journalists and employees of Palestinian newspapers staged a two hour sit-in at the headquarters of the International Red Cross in protest against censorship and other repressive measures. The headquarters was immediately surrounded by Israeli troops. *Al-Fajr* newspaper received hand-written threats which said severe reprisals would be taken if it didn't stop publishing articles against "village leagues" and repression.

Meanwhile, the campaign of mass arrests continued. Twenty-four Palestinian students from the Lutheran Union Academy in Beit Hanin near Jerusalem were detained and 60 inhabitants of Aroub refugee camp were arrested and held for further interrogation. In Jenin, 50 people were charged with throwing stones at Israeli military vehicles and sentenced with heavy jail terms and fines.

In the Gaza Strip, violent demonstrations continued in Nuseirat refugee camp, Deir al-Balah, Khan Younis and Rafah. Palestinian flags were raised over mosques, electricity pylons, and the municipality building of Khan Younis. Demonstrators erected barricades of rocks, burning tires and dustbins. When Israeli troops attempted to disperse the demonstrators, they deliberately tried to destroy the water tanks in Nuseirat.

On April 7, in Nablus in the West Bank, Israeli troops encircled Nasr street in the Qasba section of the old town claiming that there was an explosive charge. However, there was no evidence of a bomb



Israeli "border guards" attack Palestinian in Nablus

and it is clear that this was only another provocative act aimed to support terror and prevent gatherings. More reinforcements were sent to Nablus following the incident.

Balata refugee camp also came under increased "surveillance" — a curfew was placed on the camp after a hand grenade was thrown at a military vehicle. Several inhabitants of the camp were arrested.

A three-year-old girl was wounded in the head and at least two other persons wounded the same day at the "Beach Camp" which shelters several thousands of Palestinian refugees. According to one of the wounded admitted to the Shifa' hospital in Gaza and quoted by *Agence France Presse*, a dozen armed personnel carriers with heavily armed Israeli soldiers surrounded the mosque of the camp where about 500 people were attending the Friday services. "In his sermon the sheikh only spoke about religious matters, and when leaving the mosque we didn't even have the intention to demonstrate. Nevertheless, the soldiers started firing at us. We took refuge in the mosque, but they threw tear gas grenades inside."

According to *AFP*, two youths were killed in Gaza alone on April 16, and among the some 40 wounded were five children less than ten years old, and four grownups in serious condition.

Another 7-year-old Palestinian child had been murdered on April 13, when Israeli troops opened fire indiscriminately in the Gaza refugee

camp of Jabaliah. Little Suhail Abdel Fattah died instantly, when the bullets ripped open his stomach. Israeli sources later claimed that Palestinian crowds had "delayed" his transport to hospital. According to the British *Guardian*, of April 14, another "21 Arabs from a four-year-old boy to a 26-year-old pregnant woman, were wounded." The body of little Suhail was buried at midnight. None of his family was allowed to attend.

Furthermore on April 13, altogether 26 children between the ages of 6 and 16 from the Palestinian refugee camp, of Nuseirat in Gaza, were hospitalised with bullet wounds.

The same day in the Duheisha camp in the occupied West Bank six people were wounded by indiscriminate gunshots including a 6-year-old girl. Faced with the complete political bankruptcy of its occupation and settlement expansion policy, the Zionist Begin government obviously now calculates that by slaughtering the Palestinian children, he can terrorize the Palestinian people into submission.



## Attack in Bethlehem

As the stooge "village leagues" already emaciated membership dwindles, more and more the hard core of corrupt bandits resort to terror and violence. An armed gang from the Bethlehem "village league" on April 7 stormed Bethlehem University. They carried Israeli army weapons and were backed by Zionist settlers and "border guards". The gang was headed by Samir Qamsiyeh, the son of the head of Bethlehem "village league". The Dean of Student Affairs was injured in the attack.

Meanwhile the Greek Orthodox Club in Beit Sahour was attacked by another group of Bethlehem "village league" gangsters. The attackers wounded several women who were holding a meeting of the Women's Labour Committee, and damaged furniture and office equipment. The same group attacked a cafe in Beit Sahour injuring some 30 people. The Israeli military governor recorded the incident as having been instigated by "unknown persons."

The Mukhtar of Bidya village, Mustafa Taha, was dismissed by the Israeli authorities for refusing to participate in the "village league". Furthermore, the Israeli occupation forces have barred Tulkarm Mayor Hilmi Hanoun from attending court trials in the town. Also barred are Anabta mayor Wahid Hamdallah, three local teachers and the student leader Anan Atiri. On the same day, the Israeli daily *Haaretz* said it expects Wahid Hamdallah to be deported after a Tulkarm military court charged him with breaking a restriction of movement order imposed on him since 1980.

In Jericho, the Israeli authorities summoned the mukhtars of 'Anja region and threatened them with collective punishment if they didn't form "village

leagues." The mukhtars rejected the Israeli threats, noting that they are already being subjected to collective punishment.

The morning of April 8 witnessed a massive demonstration at Bethlehem University denouncing the occupation and the criminal attack by "village league" gangsters, Zionist colonists and "border guards" against the University and the Greek Orthodox Club in Beit Sahour. After the demonstration the students staged a sit-in at Bethlehem municipality. Both the university and the municipality were surrounded immediately by Israeli troops.

## Violent Threats on Al-Aqsa

In Jerusalem, Palestinian citizens found a sinister-looking package at the gate of al-Aqsa Mosque. The parcel contained a radio transmitter and a threatening letter from Zionist gangs and "village leagues" to the Islamic Waqf Council in Jerusalem. The message read: "This is our first attempt against you, in answer to your opposition to the civil administration and the 'village leagues' — a warning of the massacre to follow.

Violent demonstrations erupted in Beit Hanina, north of Jerusalem. The demonstrators denounced the collaborationist "village leagues" and the Israeli occupation. They barricaded roads with rocks and burning tires. Clashes broke out when Zionist troops moved in to disperse them. Meanwhile, yet another member of the Bethlehem "league" resigned.

In Nablus, employees and section heads of the municipal council were taken by force for the second day to the military governor, then forced to remain in the municipal building. After they refused to obey

orders, many were arrested for interrogation. They were accused of abstaining from work, in a move towards their being brought before a military tribunal. The workers rejected the charges and held to their decision not to cooperate with the Israeli officer appointed to take charge of the municipality.

In Ramallah, a student conference issued a communique rejecting Israeli occupation, "civil" administration and the "autonomy" scheme. The statement gave full support to the mayors of al-Bireh, Ramallah and Nablus. They called on all democratic, peace-loving and progressive forces to support the Palestinian struggle. In nearby Silwad, Israeli soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian woman, Aziza Hamad aged 40, who was working on her land. The area remained extremely tense.

On April 9, a huge sit-in was staged at al Aqsa mosque to protest against threatening letters. The Israeli police attempted to break the sit-in by force, but protestors confronted them and refused them entry to the mosque. In his sermon, Sheikh Muhammed Hajal condemned the Zionist threats and provocations and called on citizens to continue the sit-in after prayers.

In a further attempt to impose the "village leagues" on the people of the occupied territories, the Israeli authorities dismissed the Mukhtar of Mardah village in the Nablus region. After Radwan Khafsh refused to participate in the stooge institutions, his ID card was confiscated.

The threats received by al-Aqsa mosque turned into a bloody massacre on April 11. Two people were killed and about forty injured when a Zionist terrorist burst into the mosque and machine-gunned the congregation.

## Israeli Crowd Control: Shoot to Kill

After the brutal attack on the mosque, the Palestinian people rose up in a wave of protest against the Israeli occupation and its methods. The Higher Islamic Council called for a general strike. Zionist provocation came thick and fast.

On April 12, a peaceful procession headed by West Bank religious leaders was beaten with rifle butts and clubs by "security" forces, following a press conference in Jerusalem. All 37 religious notables have been arrested and detained.

Spontaneous demonstrations erupted throughout the West Bank. Battles raged in Jerusalem between Palestinian citizens and Zionist settlers. Again, the Israeli army was given the command to fire at random into the crowds of protestors.

On the 13th, eleven people were wounded when

troops opened fire on demonstrations in the Jabalia, Breij and Nuseirat refugee camps in the Gaza Strip. Troops also opened fire to disperse a riot in the Maghazi refugee camp near Khan Yunis, wounding six people. The citizens erected barricades at the main entrances to the camps and the Palestinian flag was flown over the rooftops of mosques and homes.

## Total Resistance to Israeli Fascism

The general strike was total despite the mass arrests and victimisations. In Nablus in the West Bank, violent demonstrations occurred regardless of the Israeli-imposed curfew. Just outside the town, the body of a student Said Mansour was found cut up in several pieces near an Israeli army camp.

In Ramallah and al-Bireh, soldiers attempted to reopen shops by dragging shopkeepers from their homes, and under threat of injury forcing them to open up their shutters. In terms reminding one of Latin American fascist juntas, Israeli spokesmen claimed that shopkeepers had "just been waiting for coercion" for an excuse to open up. (*International Herald Tribune*, April 14, 1982)

In Bethlehem, Beit Sahour and Beit Jala, violent clashes took place, and in Duheisha refugee camp outside Bethlehem, a 60-year-old man died because Israeli troops refused appeals for him to be taken to hospital.

As *Palestine* goes to press, the strike remains solid. The West Bank and Gaza are under a tight curfew, and mass arrests and Israeli-perpetrated mass violence continue.

The Zionist entity is facing a political dead end. As the total resistance of the Palestinian people increases, the Zionists resort to even cruder and bloodier methods of suppression. Faced with unarmed demonstrators and peaceful protest the Zionist soldiers flail wildly with their machineguns. Gangs of Zionist colonial settlers and the Mafia of the "village leagues" are brought in to complement the dirty work of the Israeli "security" forces, as it becomes clearer to them that the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories are in no way going to accept the Zionist plots concocted against them and sanctioned in Camp David, such as the "civil" administration and "autonomy" scheme. Such imperialist-inspired conspiracies are nothing but the prelude to outright annexation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Bassam Shak'a, Mayor of Nablus, on April 3 poignantly gave the Palestinian case:

"The Israeli forces deal with us as animals on a farm. They repudiate our culture, thought and philosophy, challenging international laws and norms.

"Our only option as Palestinians is to continue our struggle for self-determination and the establishment of an independent state. For this objective, we will struggle with all our strength.

"We are united in confronting aggression and we are struggling to consolidate this unity. We expect further action to get rid of the occupation."



Israeli stormtroopers deliberately target children



Golan People Enter Ninth Week of Strike:

## ISRAELI COLLECTIVE TERROR UNABLE TO BREAK GOLAN RESISTANCE

In mid-April the heroic Arab citizens of the occupied Syrian Golan Heights were continuing their general strike for the ninth consecutive week. They are protesting the Israeli decision to annex the Golan Heights which was announced last December shortly after the proclamation of the U.S.-Israeli "strategic alliance". While the Israelis have sealed off the territory and are exerting a brutal role of repression, they have been unable to break the strike or to force the Arab workers from the Golan back into Israeli companies.

In their attempt to force Israeli IDs on the Golan Arabs, Israeli soldiers have even started to break into the homes of the people. Seizing the previous identity papers issued by the military occupation authorities, the soldiers try to foist on the Syrian inhabitants new Israeli documents prepared in advance. Those who refuse to comply are brutally beaten with rifle butts and clubs.

The Israeli authorities have announced that all persons over the age of 16 in the Golan Heights are required to hold Israeli IDs, and they have threatened the Arab inhabitants that they would be prosecuted for failing to obtain the new cards. They would be unable to renew driving licenses, cash cheques, register their children for school or receive hospital treatment without them. However, the courageous Arabs didn't even take these threats into consideration and refused the new IDs outright. They either returned them back, burnt them or tore them up. This has resulted in the arrest of scores of persons. In some cases, Israeli troops shot at and wounded the Arab citizens who rejected the new IDs. Three thousand soldiers in Majdel Shams alone participated in this campaign. Some of those wounded are only between 10 and 14 years old. Among those injured in the latest incidents are Hiyam Hamzeh, Alia Saleh (10), Mohammad Saleh Ibrahim, Nayla Samour, Sameh Ali Ibrahim and Nai'la Ibrahim.

On April 2, four Druze Arabs in the Golan Heights were injured when Israeli fascist troops used live ammunition to break up peaceful demonstrations. The demonstrations were held in protest against the Israeli annexation of the Syrian territory, and the arrest and detention without trial of many inhabitants including 12 national leaders. All of the Golan Heights' four towns witnessed and are still witnessing huge demonstrations and protests, especially Masa'da and Majdel Shams.

In order to confront this kind of protest, the brutal Israeli authorities tried to use every possible kind of repressive punishment against the people demanding their legitimate rights. One month ago, the Israeli authorities committed another arbitrary act: they imposed a military siege on the Arab Heights and placed restrictions on journalists covering events in the Golan. This forced even Israel's Union of journalists and the Editors' Committee to appeal to Begin to lift these restrictions. Moreover, the Israelis have cut off electric current and phone lines connecting the Golan villages to prevent news of the extent of the Israeli violence from reaching the outside world. There is a serious lack of medical facilities in the area and dozens of citizens have been wounded in clashes with Israeli troops. The Jewish-Arab Committee in solidarity with the Golan citizens distributed on April 4 pictures of inhabitants of the Heights receiving treatment as far away as Haifa. The committee said that the siege has led to serious health hazards.

Despite all of these brutal and arbitrary Israeli measures, the heroic Arabs of the Golan Heights are stepping up their opposition to the barbarous policy of the Israeli authorities and they have announced that nothing will prevent them from protesting against the extension of Israeli law to their Arab area and the arrest of scores of people including the illegal detention of 12 leaders, the Israeli authorities have accused of inciting the Arab national population against Israel. *Agence France Presse* reported a teacher from Golan as saying, "Our strike will continue until Israel rescinds the annexation law... Nothing can terrorize us, because we are demanding our legitimate rights."

In early April, the Israeli annexationists came to realize that their brutal repression had not been able to break the resistance of the civilian population from maintaining its national Arab and Syrian identity. So they tried the carrot instead of the stick by announcing the end of the siege. However, this was of no effect either, on the inhabitants of the Golan, who are continuing to refuse the illegally imposed annexation.

The Israeli occupation itself has admitted that by April 9 around 70% of the identification cards distributed to Golan Heights citizens have either been destroyed or deposited at the headquarters of those organizing the strike, to be returned eventually to the Israeli Interior Ministry. Radio Israel also reported that a group of young inhabitants went around gathering Israeli IDs and about half of the community handed theirs to the village heads. The Radio Israel correspondent reported that the head of the Golan community, Sheikh Salman Taher, has reaffirmed his refusal to carry an Israeli ID, and asserted that the strike will continue in the occupied Golan villages. The correspondent added that during a recent tour of the Heights villages, he found that the national leaders swore to die rather than recognize Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights.

### Israeli Soldiers Reveal:

"FASCIST ORDERS":  
OFFICERS CALL ARABS  
"INSECTS TO BE EXTERMINATED"

Some Israeli soldiers, disgusted by the brutality with which the Israeli army is hunting down Palestinian civilians in the occupied territories, have filed a complaint to the administration of their kibbutzim about the orders and conduct of some Israeli officers. The Israeli daily *Yediot Aharonot* on April 19, 1982 revealed details from the complaint of the soldiers.

"In the instructions which these officers gave us concerning the maintenance of order in Gaza, there were orders worthy of a fascist military regime," wrote the soldiers who also complained that the administration of the kibbutzim did not intervene to protest against "operations not of a military order."

The soldiers belonging to Nahal units (soldier-pioneers), affirmed in their complaint that one of the officers described the Arab residents of Gaza as "insects to be exterminated."

"We saw him beating up a Gaza Arab for no reason at all, and we saw other officers running their cars over fields, destroying the crops."

### Former Israeli Intelligence Chief:

ISRAELI POLICY "REPRESSIVE",  
PRECLUDES COEXISTENCE,  
LEADS TO WAR

Former Israeli secret service chief Abraham Ahitov, in an article published in the Israeli *Haaretz* on April 16, 1982, criticized the policy of the Begin government concerning the occupied territories as "repressive" and as precluding any "Israeli-Palestinian" coexistence in the future. The former Israeli secret service chief declared amongst other things: "Any attempt to impose a policy will per se raise with it opposition and agitation. Today, Israel seems to choose between two roads, "autonomy" or "annexation" which are likewise both imposed solutions."

Ahitov also denounced the "villages leagues", propped up by the Israeli government to create a counterweight against the influence of the PLO in the occupied territories, and observed sarcastically: "The identification of the Palestinian

### THE ISRAELI "CULT OF BRUTALITY"

"The ideology of the Greater Israel is outweighed in the face of the degradation of the moral values and the cult of brutality, which is spreading amongst us as a consequence of the policy of repression pursued in the occupied territories."

(the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*,  
March, 23, 1982)

### "Israeli Democracy"

"Occupation under any name is not a policy that can long be sustained by a democracy."

*Jerusalem Post*, April 9, 1982

population with the PLO will not diminish through the presence of some dozen machine-guns assuring the protection of so-called influential Palestinian leaders."

Commenting on the popular uprising in the Golan, Ahitov said: "I doubt very much that the (Druze) population will accept to kowtow, at least unless a new war in the north weakens the situation of Syria in the region."

Ahitov concluded: We must be aware, that even if we succeed in crushing the revolt of the Palestinians for the sake of an imposed solution, this will not result in an Israeli-Palestinian co-existence."

The former head of the Israeli intelligence service had resigned from his post in autumn 1980, following reports that Israeli crime minister Begin had personally ordered him to halt the investigations into the murder attempts against the Palestinian mayors Shak'a, Khalaf and Tawil on June 2, 1980. Israeli intelligence allegedly had found out the involvement of government-protected settler gangs in the bomb blasts.

ISRAELI VOICES  
ON THE UPRISING



## Easter Sunday Massacre at Al-Aqsa in Jerusalem:

The following article by Alexander Cockburn, a columnist for the New York weekly *Village Voice*, was first published in the Wall Street Journal of April 15, 1982. We reprint it here without any cuts or changes:

## INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND DOUBLE STANDARDS

Let us start by imagining what would have happened if a Palestinian had attacked Jews at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem last Sunday morning, opening fire with a rifle, killing two and wounding more. Let us also suppose that the police discovered pamphlets in his lair linking him to a Palestinian group in the U.S., the leader of which had recently published a book, also published in the U.S., calling for the expulsion of all Jews from Israel as currently constituted.

I can imagine a somewhat fiercer reaction than was apparent at the start of this week. One may easily envisage calls from officials in the Reagan administration, from the Congress, from heads of Jewish-American organizations and from editorial columns, urging full investigation of the "terror network" that had in all likelihood interjected the gunman into Jerusalem.

Nor, we may be sure, would Prime Minister Begin have confined himself to a statement that the assassin was "a mentally ill man." It is not inconceivable that the outrage at the Wailing Wall would have been taken as the justified excuse to launch the long-awaited invasion of Lebanon, perhaps with a preliminary bombing of Beirut.

But of course it was not a Palestinian firing his rifle at Jews before the Wailing Wall, but Alan Harry Goodman, a dual U.S.-Israeli citizen, firing and killing at the Dome of the Rock. His rampage and its aftermath was certainly covered in the newspapers and on television — but in a style markedly different from that which would have obtained if the reverse situation, outlined above, had obtained.

On the simplest linguistic level, for example, I doubt if the *New York Times* correspondent who described Goodman being escorted by Israeli soldiers "through a howling mob of Muslims" would have written "howling mob of Jews." And in terms of narrative structure, if somehow Arab soldiers had

been administering tear gas to an indignant crowd of Jews, laughing the while (which is perfectly feasible), I doubt if such hilarity would have been relegated to the 28th paragraph of a 32-paragraph story.

Yet this was the placement of the *New York Times* correspondent's observation that "Just before going, one of them [Israeli soldiers] with a laugh, threw a tear gas grenade near the mosque, upwind of the main door.... worshippers came out coughing and wiping their eyes. One elderly man was carried to an ambulance. A few of the troops walked away laughing." (In all fairness, given the usual standards of reporting from Israel, it was startling to find such activities included in the story at all.)

Though Goodman had printed material from Rabbi Meir Kahane's movement in his lodgings, this naturally does not inculpate the Jewish Defense League or Kach Party as promoters of his attack. The Jewish Defense League is obtaining Goodman a lawyer. But one may easily imagine a more intense uproar if a Palestinian assassin had in his rooms leaflets of a movement headed by a man of Kahane's extreme views in reverse.

Kahane's recent book, "They Must Go," published by the reputable U.S. house of Grosset & Dunlap, concludes with David removing Goliath's head from his shoulders, hence symbolically humiliation from Israel. "Let us remove the Arabs from Israel," Kahane goes on, "and bring the redemption. THEY MUST GO." (Emphasis his.) Kahane's Kach Party in Israel ran an advertisement in the Hebrew press last year, suggesting a law be passed by the Knesset, article 2 of which proposed: "To deter those who came to seduce the daughters of Israel to desecration and assimilation we propose a mandatory jail sentence of five years with no possibility of parole. This is for any non-Jew who has sexual relations with a Jewess."

Can one imagine a major U.S. publishing house promulgating with some fanfare the work of a Palestinian, advocating legislation so reminiscent of the Nuremberg laws?

But this is to embark on more example political and cultural contradictions. The links between Goodman and Kahane's movement consist of the leaflets, and thus people of detachment should make no further inferences about the forces motivating Goodman. Arabs should not conclude that Israeli official policy coincides with Goodman's lone sortie to the Dome of the Rock. Yet on Monday Defense Minister Sharon, citing the murder of an Israeli diplomat in Paris and the murder of a sergeant in Gaza, called for an invasion of Lebanon. With the general acquiescence of U.S. public opinion, Israeli officials make leaps in deduction and response permitted no one else.

Goodman is a joint U.S.-Israeli citizen, permitted to leave Baltimore, join the Israeli army and advance in uniform with his rifle unimpeded toward the Dome

of the Rock. Such privileges for a Palestinian born in Israel or in the occupied territories are naturally inconceivable.

Under new regulations, settlers — including Gush Emunim and Kach Party members — are permitted to guard as members of the Israeli military reserve the settlements in which they reside: a well-equipped, semi-official settler army. How lonely a "bad apple" was Goodman? How much of a "fringe extremist" is Kahane, who has served in uniform in the occupied territories?

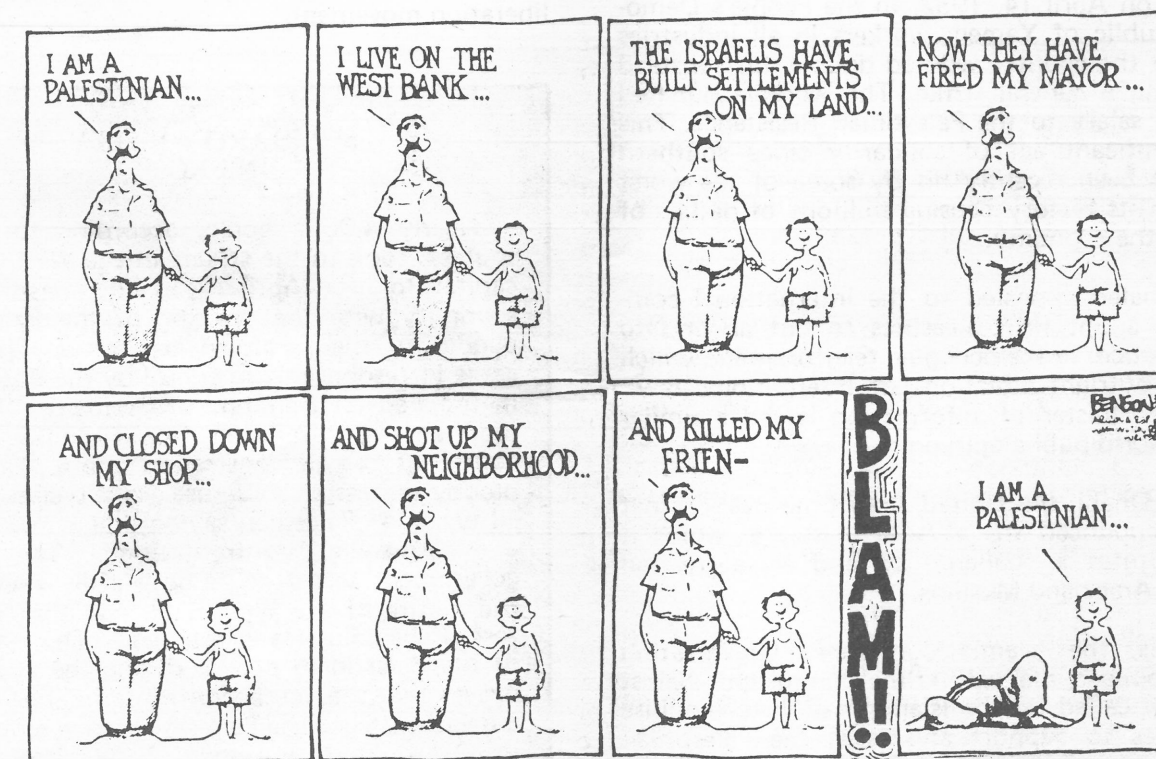
Somehow the prevailing journalistic and political laws governing discussion of "extremism" or of "terrorism" seem to be suspended when Israel or the presumptive actions of not only its settlers but of its armed forces or secret services might come under consideration.

Experts on terrorism leap hungrily on every moral linking Palestinians, the PLO, the Libyans, the Red Brigades and so forth, in international conspiracy. Silence in this country greeted the final summing up of the Rome Court of Assizes last year of the circumstances surrounding the murder of the Palestinian Wa'el Zu'aiter in Rome in 1972. On the account of Italian journalist Livia Rokach, the court found the assassination to have been carried out by "an organization belonging to the state of Israel" which "is a complex, powerful and threatening organization" which has "unlawful pre-set objectives" and

constitutes a "threat to law and order." There has been further silence about reports in Italy of overtures made by the Mossad to the Red Brigades in 1973 and 1977.

But outside the swamps of international conspiracy-mongering there is almost total silence here about who exactly is provoking whom on either side of the Lebanese border. In the *Christian Science Monitor* for March 18, Robin Wright reported what UN officials termed "brinkmanship" by Israel: the introduction of Israeli tanks into Lebanon on January 20, with 5,000 rounds of machine-gun fire, labeled by UN observers as "intensive, excessive and provocative"; on February 8, 600 to 700 well-armed Israeli troops crossing the border in 32 buses for a training manoeuvre; on March 8, a border crossing by 300 Israeli military vehicles. And back on January 25, the interception by Israeli ships of seven Lebanese fishing boats inside Lebanon's territorial waters. The ships opened fire, sinking two of the fishing boats. UN officials, according to Wright, praised the PLO's "unusual restraint."

Double standards in reporting and analysis in the U.S. are not only reprehensible per se. They also foster the sort of incomprehension and miscalculation to manifest when the U.S. media and public and finally to realize that enough a hero to the U.S. networks, Anwar Sadat was in his own country an unpopular and isolated figure.



THE GUARDIAN, April 18, 1982



## WORLDWIDE CONDEMNATION OF ISRAELI MASSACRES AND EASTER BLOODBATH

Israel is trying to suppress the mass uprising of the Palestinian people against the brutal occupation and the policy of continued aggression by mowing down women, youth and even kids by the dozens and hundreds in the streets. The continued Israeli atrocities have aroused Arab and world-wide condemnation, especially the bloodbath on Easter Sunday in which at least two worshippers were killed and over fifty wounded at the al-Haram al-Sharif site within the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

In his capacity as President of the Islamic Conference Organisation, King Khaled of Saudi Arabia called for a one-day general strike by all Muslims in the world, in solidarity with the popular uprising of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. This strike was observed by at least 26 countries all over the world on April 14, 1982. In the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, workers in all industries throughout the country worked double shifts instead of observing a general strike. The workers donated their day's salary to the Palestinian Resistance. This was a significant act of solidarity since southern Yemen has been recently hit by some of the worst flooding in its history causing millions of dollars of damage to the economy.

King Khaled appealed to the international community to adopt firm measures to put an end to Zionist practices in the occupied territories and which constitute outright violations of international laws. The Saudi Minister of Information issued a similar appeal to world public opinion.

In Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates' cabinet strongly denounced the al-Aqsa massacre, which it said constitutes a challenge to and an aggression against, all Arabs and Muslims.

In Tunis, the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) denounced the ugly crime committed against al-Aqsa and called on the Islamic nation to mobilise all resources to support and assist the Palestinian people and their just struggle. The PLO called on the UN to adopt the appropriate measures in this regard.

President Bourguiba of Tunisia expressed deep concern over the latest developments in the occupied territories.

In Kuwait, the cabinet declared a one-day general strike, to stop all flights, and cut off all telephone and telex lines with the outside world in solidarity with the popular uprising.

In Beirut, the Higher Islamic Shiite Council called for a further general strike on April 16. The Sunni Mufti Hassan Khaled also issued a statement which described the massacre as "yet another proof to public opinion of the dangers confronting Muslims everywhere". The Progressive Socialist Party described the popular uprising as one of the most important in the history of the contemporary Arab liberation movement.

### SOLIDARITY RALLY IN FRG

Nearly 4,000 people, according to official sources, took to the streets in the West German capital Bonn on April 17, in a demonstration of solidarity with the uprising of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. The rally came in response to an appeal by the PLO office in the Federal Republic of Germany. The PLO representative Abdallah Frangi spoke in the course of the demonstration about the recent bloody repression in Jerusalem and elsewhere in all occupied Palestine, saying that it was part of a "permanent confrontation". The Israeli government wants to impose a decision about the future of the West Bank and the Gaza by force," he said. He concluded: "The resistance of the Palestinian people during the last weeks proves that the actual confrontation has entered a decisive stage. The Palestinian people identifies itself through its resistance."



Popular mass demonstration in Democratic Yemen condemns Israeli terror policies

In Cairo, the Egyptian National Progressive Grouping condemned the massacre.

In Karachi, the World Islamic Congress sent a warning to the UN to end all desecrations of Islamic places.

In Moscow, the Soviet news agency Tass accused the Israeli army of supporting the Zionist settlers in their aggressions against the Palestinians under occupation.

In Athens, the Greek Government strongly condemned the act as a desecration of holy places.

### Easter Sunday Massacre:

#### UN CONDEMNS ISRAELI TERROR

The UN Security Council opened a debate on the situation in the Israeli-occupied territories of Palestine on April 14. The meeting was asked for by Morocco which presides over the Jerusalem Committee of the Islamic Conference Organisation.

Except Israel and the United States, all 22 delegates who have spoken in the council debate, expressed their condemnation of the atrocity committed in Jerusalem's al-Aqsa mosque on April 11, Easter Sunday, and pinpointed Israel's as well as the United States' responsibility for the policy of terror in the occupied territories.

The Spanish representative Jaime dePinies said that without Israel's withdrawal from the

occupied lands and the exercise of the Palestinian people's rights, there would be no solution to the problems of the Middle East and Palestine. The Libyan delegate Awad Burwin urged the council to help prevent south Lebanon becoming the next victim of Israel's annexationist ambitions.

A very moderate resolution which did not even blame Israel for the al-Aqsa massacre was vetoed by the U.S. This follows a personal note from Begin to Reagan on April 17, asking the U.S. administration to oppose any resolution condemning Israel. Jeane Kirkpatrick, the U.S. representative, "explaining" the veto said that a passage of the preamble could be interpreted as accusing Israel of responsibility for the atrocity.

However the matter is far from ended. The UN General Assembly is now in its Seventh Extraordinary Session on the Palestine Question, and there will be an appeal in the Assembly to revoke the membership of Israel in the United Nations.



## WORLDWIDE CONDEMNATION OF ISRAELI MASSACRES AND EASTER BLOODBATH

In Paris, the Jewish Renewal Movement strongly condemned the al-Aqsa massacre.

In Berlin, the International Student Committee condemned the Zionist crime and expressed full support for the just struggle waged by the Palestinian people.

In Tehran, Hojatoleslam Rafsanjani, President of the Islamic Shura Council, said that the Iranian people will join in the general strike, and called on all Islamic states and peoples to support the Palestinian people.

### Vietnam Voices Support for Palestinian People

The barbaric repression of Palestinians in Israeli-occupied areas was strongly condemned by a spokesman for the Vietnamese foreign ministry on March 30. Recalling the latest acts of terror of the Israeli occupation forces, the spokesman declared, "these frenzied actions have failed to crush the struggle of Arab Palestinians now raging west of the Jordan river, in Gaza, on the Golan Heights and even in Jerusalem." His government strongly condemned these criminal acts and demanded that the Israeli aggressors put an immediate stop to them and respect the Arab Palestinian people's inalienable basic rights. "The Vietnamese people will consistently support the just cause of the Palestinian people. We firmly believe that the latter, with the support of the Arab people as a whole and of the peoples of the non-aligned countries and of the whole of progressive mankind, will thwart all criminal plots and moves of the U.S. — abetted Israeli aggressors."

The National Union of Women in Mexico and the General Union of Palestinian Women issued a joint communique in Mexico which strongly condemned Israeli oppression in the occupied territories and the dismissal of the West Bank mayors. The National Union of Women in Mexico confirmed its full support for the struggle waged by the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO and stated their determination to appeal to world organisations for the saving of the lives of thousands of Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails.



Strike in solidarity with the Palestinian people, Qatar

In Havana, the Executive Secretariat of the Organization of Solidarity with the Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America (OSPAAAL) issued a statement praising the heroic steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the face of American-backed Zionist oppression.

### SOLIDARITY MESSAGES:

Solidarity with the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories continues to be manifested worldwide in the form of cables, communiqués and rallies expressing support for the Palestinian struggle. Cables came among others from:

- The Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba;
- The Tunisian Parliament;
- The Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi;
- The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee;
- The Central Committee of the New Communist Party in Britain and its paper, the "New Worker";
- The "Four Continents" Organization in Rumania;
- The Central Committee of the Yugoslav Communist Party;
- The Nicaraguan Committee of Solidarity with Arab Peoples;
- The Nicaraguan Committee for Peace;
- Arab and international students union's in Cuba;
- Arab students and political organizations in Poland;
- The General Union of Palestinian Students (GUPS) Rumania branch;
- The National Mujahidin Organization in Algeria;
- The Islamic Broadcasting Organization in Kuwait;
- The Popular Organization in Benghazi;
- The Tunisian Young Lawyers Association;
- The Executive Office of Tunisian Students;
- The GUPS Peking Branch.

## LEBANON: AN "UNORTHODOX" ISRAELI INVASION?

Since early December, 1981 the Begin government has contemplated a large-scale invasion of southern Lebanon. Verbose threats have been issued on a daily basis by Zionist War Minister Sharon, Foreign Minister Shamir and Begin himself. The invasion of Lebanon would be an integral component of Sharon's "war against the PLO" which he first initiated in the occupied territories in November with the imposition of the civil administration plan.

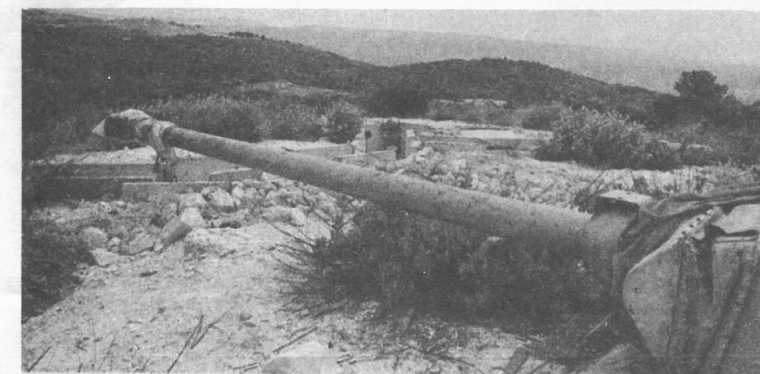
On Friday April 9, the invasion seemed on the verge of actually occurring. PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was in Kuwait attending a meeting of the Coordination Bureau of the Non-Aligned countries convened to discuss the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza. Before the final communique had been issued, Arafat rushed back to Beirut in the morning to attend an urgent meeting of the Higher Military Council of the Palestinian Revolution. That evening Arafat told a meeting of the Central Political Council of the Lebanese National Movement that the PLO had received information from the Soviet government that an Israeli invasion was imminent within the next 24 hours. He told the Council that it was likely that the attack would be launched on three axes: one would be the Tyre coastal area; another in the Nabatiyeh-Jarmak-Rihan central sector; the last would be against Damour on the outskirts of Beirut. Abu Jafaar of the PLO Political Department had conferred in the morning with the Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon, Alexander Soldatov.

The day before, the Soviet news agency TASS accused Israel of preparing with the support of the United States, "a major incursion into the interior of Lebanon to destroy the Palestine Liberation Organization." TASS stated that a suspicious assassination of an Israeli diplomat would serve as a pretext. "The Israeli leaders intoxicated by bellicosity and exacerbated chauvinism are laying the bases for a new military conflagration in the Middle East. Four Israeli divisions are still on war-footing and are prepared to invade Lebanon where they would be aided by rightist separatists in the work of liquidating the PLO and of dismembering Lebanese territory to establish a puppet regime in the pay of the Israelis."

Beginning on April 9th, Chairman Arafat made daily tours of Lebanese-Palestinian Joint Forces positions in south Lebanon and met with regional military commanders to prepare for the expected attack. At this writing, Israeli troops have not crossed from the occupied southern Lebanese border strip. The danger still exists. Israeli military preparations are continuing in the border strip and troops concentrations continue in the north of Palestine. Something else happened.

### No Zionist War Consensus as Yet

While the Begin government was preparing for its invasion of Lebanon, it was also being shaken by its occupation policies in the West Bank, Gaza and Golan. All three areas are still in the grips of general strikes which are continuing to gather momentum



Israeli tank overlooks south Lebanon

despite the cost in lives as the Palestinians face Israeli troop attacks with stones and their own bodies. The deadline is also approaching for the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai under the terms of the Camp David Accords. Lurching from crisis to crisis, Begin earlier in the week of April 9th attempted to form a national unity government with the Mapam opposition. Labour leader Peres was summoned to an urgent meeting along with three former Labour Army Chiefs-of-Staff. Begin was looking for a consensus for the Lebanon expansion, but didn't find one. Labor still has doubts about the costs of a major Israeli military adventure in Lebanon. Former Labour Chief-of-Staff Bar-Lev said after the meeting that he didn't see the necessity of an invasion of Lebanon when the war against the PLO could just as well be carried out by "unorthodox" means.

The Begin government in the following days was undeterred by the failure to gain a Zionist consensus for a new military expansion in the north to compensate for the "loss" of the Sinai. The "war against the PLO" would go on. New fronts would be created. The "hot war" intended for southern Lebanon was launched inside the occupied territories. On April 11, the al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem was attacked with some 50 dead and wounded Palestinian casualties. In the following week the casualty figure almost





Israeli tanks roll over the rubble of south Lebanon

doubled when Israeli troops rampaged through the West Bank and Gaza randomly gunning down young Palestinian demonstrators. Even the Mubarak regime would now be painted as a collaborator of the PLO and at this writing the Begin government is once again raising the spectre of not withdrawing from the Sinai. Mubarak has done everything to appease the Israelis. On April 15, Mubarak ordered the execution of 5 men accused of assassinating Sadat just before he was to meet Zionist War Minister Sharon in the afternoon to deny any loyalty to the Palestinian struggle. Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon seemed to pale in significance. Or did it?

#### Bar-Lev's "Unorthodox" Invasion?

On April 3 while U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Walter Stoessel was meeting with Zionist leaders to allegedly quiet the Egyptian front, southern Lebanon was engulfed in a series of what appeared to be internal Lebanese clashes. Fighting broke out between rival Lebanese factions in about 20 southern villages throughout the south. Not coincidentally the clashes centred around two of the axes which PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat had described four days earlier as the likely target of an Israeli land, sea and air invasion. There was heavy fighting around the coastal town of Tyre at the southern most tip of the national areas. Likewise the central sector near Nabatiyeh was hit. Additionally villages above the Litani River between Tyre and Sidon and inland, became the scene of factional conflict. Palestinian forces were called in by all sides to separate the contending factions. However, Lebanese rightist forces charged the Palestinians with being at the centre of the conflict.

Within two days the clashes spread to Beirut, the third axis which Chairman Arafat had spoken about earlier. Hardest hit were the southern suburbs and areas adjoining the demarcation line dividing the national area of West Beirut from Lebanese rightist forces in East Beirut. Again Palestinian forces remained out of the clashes despite serious provocation. The Palestinian camps of Sabra, Shatilla and Bourj al-Barajneh were constantly shelled by Lebanese rightist forces from the East.

The internal Lebanese clashes beginning on April 13th, have all the characteristics of the "unorthodox" attack suggested by Bar-Lev. With nominally Lebanese parties engaged in the conflict, the Israelis outwardly appear absolved. But the effect is the same. All the points of what the Begin government would target as an attack have been the scenes of confrontation. The current instability provoked by Israel subversive terror and agents in the country in these areas could well be a softening operation intended to pave the way for an actual Israeli invasion.

The Palestinian Revolution continues to be alert to the fact that a large-scale Israeli invasion of Lebanon might occur at any time. On April 14, an emergency joint meeting between the PLO Executive Committee and the General Secretaries of all factions within the Palestinian Revolution was held to instruct all Palestinians in Lebanon not to reply to provocations. The Palestinian leadership affirmed that the main task at the present time is for the Revolution to channel "all its efforts towards following up the events of the widespread popular uprising in the occupied territories in defence of our holy places and homeland after the attack on the Holy Aqsa Mosque, and also towards confronting the Israeli military build-up and threats against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples."

## ZIONISM IN PRACTICE

### NABLUS MILITARY COURT HANDS OUT TOUGH SENTENCES

On April 18, the Israeli military court in Nablus sentenced Salim Khilleh, to 2 years imprisonment and three years suspended, for affiliation to the Palestinian Revolution. Salim was arrested on November 4, 1981. The same court sentenced Maher Diqqah (17) from 'Ateel near Tulkarm to seven months in prison and 15 months suspended on the same charges. Maher Sa'adi (17) from 'Ateel, was given the same sentence for the same charges. The trial of Hazem Ashkar (18), also from 'Ateel, and charged with affiliation to the Palestinian Revolution, has been postponed until May.

The Israeli military court in Nablus also tried 10 inhabitants of Beit Sahour between the ages of 16-18 on charges of "affiliation to an illegal organization", allegedly having thrown a Molotov cocktail

at an Israeli military vehicle, demonstrating, circulating inflammatory pamphlets, and raising the Palestinian flag.

The ten youths were named as Tariq Shoumali (one and a half years in jail and two and half years suspended); Amjad Abu 'Itah (20 months in prison and 18 months suspended); Raja Qumsiyeh (one and a half years in jail and one and a half years suspended); George Salsa' (one and a half years in prison); Ali Atiyah (8 months in prison). The trials of the five other Palestinian youths, Walid Qumsiyeh, Ayman Abu 'Itah, Abdel Nasser Aslini, Basim Aslini, and Hana Khair, were postponed.

### DETENTION OF SHU'AIBI EXTENDED

On April 20, the Israeli authorities decided to extend the period of detention of al-Bireh councillor Azmi Shu'aibi a further 15 days. He was detained three weeks ago, and has yet to be charged with any offence. The detention of Palestinian journalist Hamdi Farraj, who is a member of the Journalists' Union in the occupied territories, was also extended for 15 days by a military court in Ramallah. He was arrested 18 days ago when Israeli troops stormed his house in Duheisha camp. He has been charged with possessing banned literature.

### NEW ZIONIST POLITICAL CRISIS

On April 23, an Israeli court handed out a 4-year suspended sentence on Aharon Abuhatzira, one of Begin's ministers, after being found guilty on charges of fraud.

Abuhatzira, a Sephardic (of Eastern origin) Jew from Morocco, held the religious affairs portfolio from 1977-81, and until now, was minister for social affairs. His small Tami party joined Begin's Likud coalition in the 1981 elections, gaining three Knesset seats. Begin brought all three into ministerial posts. Even before the June 1981 Israeli elections, Abuhatzira was on trial facing similar charges, but was acquitted for lack of evidence. This case lifted the veil on the way public money is used in Israel for buying political support.

Abuhatzira's followers demanded a "Sephardic state" considering his case as an example of racial discrimination by Ashkenazi (European

### ZIONIST THREATS CANCEL REDGRAVE SHOW

On April 4, the North American *Boston Globe* reported that the Boston Symphony Orchestra had received threats from Zionists forcing it to cancel the performances of Vanessa Redgrave, the well-known British actress and supporter of the Palestinian cause and its leadership, the PLO. The BSO gave way to the Zionist pressure and cancelled Vanessa's performance of "Oedipus Rex" billed for April 15-17 at Boston Hall and from April 21-22 at New York's Carnegie Hall.

Outraged at the Zionist threats, a large number of musicians signed a petition supporting Vanessa's right to her beliefs. The Washington-based Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee issued a statement saying: "We are deeply disturbed by the decision to rescind the invitation of Vanessa Redgrave to appear with the Orchestra in Boston and New York. By bowing to threats and protests from Redgrave's opponents, the BSO has turned an artistic event into a political dispute." This is not the first time that the Zionists have launched a propaganda campaign against Vanessa Redgrave's films.

origin) Jews. The case and the Tami party's interpretation of it, threatens Begin's majority of one in the Knesset and could bring down the ruling Likud coalition.

This is not the first time that Israeli politicians and officials have been charged with corruption, fraud and even robbery. The former Israeli Labour Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was associated with illegal foreign currency holdings in a Washington bank which were revealed in March 1977. In November 1980, Ezer Weizmann former Israeli war minister, was dismissed from Begin's Herut party, in power at the time, for his connections with American political corruption.

The high level of political corruption in Israel foreshadows greater political crises, which should hasten the disintegration of the racist Zionist entity. At the same time, the Abuhatzira case once more reveals the deep-seated racial cleavages within the Zionist social composition. Both the corruption and racism cannot be eliminated without the abolishment of the Zionist set-up.



## INSIDE ZIONIST JAILS

The main object of the Zionist jailers is to make Palestinian prisoners succumb to various types of physical, moral and psychological torture. Another object is to sever all relations and associations that attach the Palestinian to his land, his people and his just cause. The Palestinian prisoners remain a source of fear to the Zionist authorities despite their incarceration in damp dungeons.

Personal grudges and sadistic behaviour prompt the Zionist jailers to carry out individual or collective crimes against the Palestinian detainees. However, torture is a deliberate systematic and well-organised policy, blessed and sanctioned at the highest level of responsibility in the Israeli government. It is in a way an attempt to compensate for the Israeli failure to suppress the spirit of resistance in the occupied territories.

Since the violent national uprising in the occupied Arab territories is understood as part of the growing strength of the PLO, Israel's anxiety has found expression in brutal measures against the Palestinians who live under Zionist occupation, particularly those who fell into the hands of the Zionist jailers. The Zionist authorities



*Psychological torture in a Zionist jail*

force the Palestinian prisoners to make clothes and weave camouflage nets for the Israeli army. The prisoners are aware of this Zionist exploitation and resist it. They consider their period of confinement as part of their national struggle. Despite the Zionist cover-up attempts and news censorship the harrowing ordeal of Arab prisoners in Israeli jails has become well-known through messages smuggled from the terrible cells to prisoners relatives.

Torture is carried out in order to obtain false

### SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE ON PALESTINIAN PRISONERS DAY

An international conference was held on April 18-19 in Beirut, Lebanon, to express solidarity with Palestinian prisoners held in Zionist jails. The conference was attended by representatives from jurists and law syndicates from many Arab and foreign countries. Speakers included the Secretary-General of the Pakistani Jurists Union, and representatives of the National Lawyers Syndicate in the United States, the Turkish Lawyers Union, the Jurists Union in the German Democratic Republic, the Japanese Lawyers Union, black American organisations, the Rumanian Jurists Society, the International Union of Democratic Lawyers, the Lebanese Jurists Syndicate, the Italian Jurists Syndicate, and delegates from Afghanistan, Libya and the

African National Congress.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat addressed the conference, and condemned the policy of the U.S. He said that "the use of the American veto in the Security Council against the Arab draft resolution condemning the killing of students in the occupied territories, proves that this administration is a partner in the aggression."

The two-day conference ended its deliberations on April 19. The final communique stressed the importance of world solidarity with the Palestinian prisoners and people and called on all progressive and peace-loving forces to express their support of the just struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their inalienable rights under the leadership of its sole legitimate representative, the PLO.

confession and to break the prisoner's will. Torture in Israel has become so brazen that it has caught the attention of the world. The Swiss League of Human rights has given a partial summary of the kinds of torture used against Arab prisoners in Israeli jails. The Swiss report mentions as the most common methods:

- Beating with hammers, canes, batons and heavy sticks.
- Pulling out nails from their roots.
- Forcing prisoners to stand naked under the sun in summer.
- Spraying the body with chemicals that cause inflammation.
- Water torture. The prisoner is subjected to the fall of a drop of water in a periodical way leading to madness or nervous breakdown.
- The "tiger cage": a cell where the prisoner is kept for hours without movement.

- Electric shocks.
- The stubbing of cigarettes on the body.
- Threatening imprisoned women with rape and forcing prisoners to assault their sisters or mothers.

Despite their appalling conditions the Palestinian prisoners lead a continuous struggle of resistance. They demand to be treated as prisoners of war according to the Geneva convention. The prisoners have launched hunger strikes many times against the brutal and unhealthy conditions inside their jails especially in Nafha prison in the Negev desert and in Ramallah prison where many died due to the infectious diseases which they suffer from as a result of the Zionist torture and the lack of medical treatment in Israeli jails.

Chaim Weizmann, the first Israeli head of State, once said: "I am sure that the world shall judge the Jewish state according to how it deals with Arabs." How prophetic these words sound today!

### FBI FABRICATED TESTIMONY AGAINST ZIAD ABU AIN

Ziad Abu Ain, the Palestinian national from Ramallah in the West Bank, was extradited by the American administration and handed over to the Zionist authorities on December 12, 1981, after two years of imprisonment in a Chicago jail without trial and despite worldwide protest.

Ziad is expected to go on trial before an Israeli military court in the second half of April, on a charge of collaborating with the Palestinian Resistance. The London based *Middle East* magazine, in its April issue, published new testimonies from Ziad's defence lawyers confirming the collaboration between the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Israeli intelligence service Mossad in fabricating evidence against Ziad.

The magazine revealed that the FBI attempted to lure Ziad's sister, brother-in-law, and friends to buy



*Ziad Abu Ain*

weapons from its agents. The FBI also paid a witness, a cellmate of Ziad in Chicago Prison to testify against him. The latter, Jerome Radick is serving a sentence in the Cook County jail for armed robbery. Two years ago Jerome was an inmate in Chicago Prison after

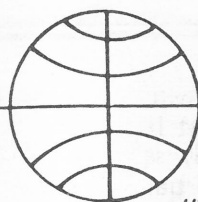
being convicted of illegally selling guns to federal agents.

On February 26, 1982, Radick signed an affidavit declaring that the FBI offered him cash and an early release from prison if he would testify before a U.S. Grand Jury investigating Ziad. He was instructed to tell the Jury that Ziad had confessed to the bombing for which he is now on trial in Israel. After doing this, Radick went before a Chicago court on December 13, 1979, and Thomas Sullivan, the government prosecutor in Ziad's case asked the court to release him. The FBI and the court sealed the terms of his release. He was arrested again in 1980, and this time he was told by the FBI that he would be killed unless he testified at the trial in Israel.

This is evidence of a clear plot woven carefully between the Zionist torturers and their American masters against the Arabs, especially the Palestinians.



## WAR AND PEACE IN



## THE MIDDLE EAST

### TASS: BEGIN A "PROFESSIONAL TERRORIST" BACKED BY THE U.S.; MOSSAD BEHIND PARIS ASSASSINATION

The official Soviet news agency TASS on April 4 published the following comment, written by its political observer Boris Chabaev, on U.S.-Israeli plans for a new wide-scale aggression in Lebanon and the Middle East:

"The leaders of Israel, in the clutches of chauvinism, persist in kindling a new war blast in the Middle East. One cannot describe otherwise the unveiled preparations undertaken for a large-scale aggression, and the massive terror launched against the Arab population of the West Bank and the Gaza strip.

"While indulging in these provocations, Tel Aviv invokes the assassination in Paris of an Israeli diplomat, and raises a hollow noise inveighing against the Palestinian Resistance. The Zionist leaders stir up hysteria and claim the necessity to stamp out the terrorists. This is how Washington and Tel Aviv call the Palestinian patriots. Begin and his ilk completely neglect the fact that the version about the PLO's complicity in this attack has been officially rejected not only by the PLO, but also, by Claude Cheysson, the foreign relations minister of France. It is of course self-evident, that the professional terrorist which presides over the Israeli ministerial cabinet, will never admit that the assassination in Paris was carried out, as many sources reveal, by his own secret services which received the order to fabricate a pretext with regard to a 'deep cut' into Lebanon projected for a long time.

"Four Israeli divisions on the ready, and the Lebanese right-wing formations of separatist bandits supporting them, obviously aim at a far-reaching goal, which is dismantling the PLO, compelling Syria to turn its back on Lebanon, the dismemberment of the Lebanese territory and the creation of a pro-Israeli puppet regime at the northern border of the Israeli state.

"At the same time, another chapter of the 'Sharon Plan' is about to be executed in the southern parts of the occupied Arab territories. This chapter foresees the 'clearing out' of the territories of all elements sympathising with the PLO. However, even the western press recognizes that these 'elements' form the majority of the population. The author of this 'plan' claims that hereby the conditions would be created to 'assure autonomy in accordance with the Camp David accords.' However the French magazine *La revolution* comments, not without reason, that the term 'autonomy' used by Tel Aviv, basically means 'annexation'.

"Thus the sense of the anti-Arab arrangement of Camp David becomes entirely clear. In exchange for the evacuation of Sinai by the Israelis, the places of whom American troops are already occupying under the banner of a 'multi-national' force, Washington gives the 'green light' for its ally for an aggression of unprecedented dimensions against Lebanon and for the annexation of the occupied Arab territories.

"It cannot be overlooked that these aggressive designs of Tel Aviv come well within the framework of the global American strategy in the Middle East and in the zone of the Persian Gulf. In fact, their realization would mean accomplishing the dream of the American strategists: to eliminate the PLO and the progressive forces of the Arab states as the principal obstacles in the way of expansion of American policy in the area.

"It is not by accident that Secretary of State Alexander Haig is busy recently trying to justify the actions of Tel Aviv and to diminish the latter's responsibility for the extremely dangerous aggravation of tension in the region.

"Blinded by their ambitions, the 'piranhas' of Tel Aviv and their American protectors undermine the basis of peace in the Middle East. It would be good if the one and the other consider, before it is too late, that they will have to pay the price for their adventurous policies."

### SINAI CHANGES OCCUPYING FORCES

**SHARON:** "We are not retreating from Sinai... We are preparing for new battles."

Israel made its final withdrawal from the Sinai on April 25, and now the Egyptian desert is being occupied by a new military occupation force headed by the American 82nd Airborne Division which is an integral part of the Pentagon's Rapid Deployment Force. Zionist War Minister Sharon gave a military order on the day of the withdrawal. It began with the words, "We are not retreating from the Sinai..." The order stated that instead, the Israeli Army would be preparing for new battles and confrontations. The next battle in Sharon's view, is further Israeli expansion in the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan. The military order didn't say so specifically, but after the Israeli air raid against Lebanon on April 21, southern Lebanon should also be listed as an area intended for future Israeli expansion. The Sharon order stated, "...in the Sinai and Yamit, we have reached the red line of our concessions." Finally, Sharon urged that the Zionist "settlement thrust" continue with new urgency in the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan.

### SABOTEURS CONVICTED IN DEMOCRATIC YEMEN

Twelve CIA-trained saboteurs were sentenced on April 17, in Aden, the capital of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. A 13th man was also found guilty and jailed for 15 years. The sentences are subject to confirmation by Democratic Yemen's Supreme People's Council. The imperialist supported terrorists had smuggled explosives into the country, to destroy, factories, including oil storage facilities, in Aden. The men admitted that they had been trained by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency in a neighbouring country (*International Herald Tribune*, April 8).

This sabotage attempt is more evidence of the destabilisation campaign being carried out by the U.S. and its henchmen in the Middle East region, against Yemen, Libya and Syria who, along with the PLO and Algeria, form the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. The Front has been prominent in the struggle to foil the Camp David conspiracy between Israel, Egypt and the U.S. which would lead to total imperialist hegemony in the region.

### "GALLANT EAGLE" FALLS TO EARTH

The U.S. Rapid Deployment Force, to be used for intervention throughout the world wherever "vital" imperialist interests are concerned, recently carried out war games in the Mojave desert, in California. More than 40,000 troops from the army, navy, air force and marines participated in the exercise coined "Gallant Eagle 82".

However the "gallant eagles" soon had their wings clipped as the war games turned into a fiasco. In the largest parachute jump since World War II, 3,000 troopers of the 82nd Airborne division of Vietnam notoriety bailed out of 90 C-141 cargo planes into 40 mph winds. Four paratroopers were killed and 71 injured, including three critically, (*UPI* reporting from Fort Irwin on March 30).

The airdrop was supposed to be a simulation exercise for the U.S. intervention force, now stationed in the Sinai desert. From these bases, they can strike well into the heart of the Middle East. Imperialism's cutting edge will be backed up by their lackeys in the Middle East, Zionism and Arab reaction. This is a very dangerous provocation to the national liberation movement in the region. However, the White House-Pentagon-Wall Street combine plans are built, on sand. No U.S. weapons can save those regimes who try to sell out their countries and suppress the people struggling for national liberation and independence.

### DEFENDANTS IN SADAT'S CASE EXECUTED

Five of the organizers and participants in the assassination of Sadat were executed in Cairo on April 15, after a more than three-month-long trial, according to the Egyptian Ministry of Defense. Military officers Khaled Islambuli, alleged leader of the group, and Hussein Abbas were shot, whilst the civilians Abdel Hamid Abdel Salam, Ata Tayel Rahil and Abdel Salam Farang, were hung. Besides these five men, five other persons were sentenced to hard labour for life and another 12 to prison terms of between five and fifteen years. It is significant that Israeli war minister Sharon was holding talks in Cairo on the same day.

The Egyptian National Front, a coalition of several democratic and progressive parties, rejected the verdict due to considering it "a death sentence for the majority of the Egyptian people and condemnation of their free will".

In a communique released in Beirut, the Front made an appeal for solidarity with the 22 defendants "whose crime was to defend the honour of Egypt and the Arab people stained by Sadat".

In spite of the enforcement of the state of emergency following the assassination of Sadat, and the arrest of all persons suspected of the alleged conspiring against the government, the broad opposition movement resulting from Sadat's policy has gained greater strength in Egypt.

### QABOUS HANDS OUT OMAN TO U.S.

The Minister of External Relations of Oman, Yousef Alawi, said that his country is expecting an additional \$200 million besides the one thousand million granted by the U.S. for military purposes. In an interview with the daily *Washington Post*, in early April, Alawi stressed that this assistance will be in exchange for granting facilities in Oman to the U.S. "Rapid Deployment Force", in case of any emergency military operation in the Middle East. "We are thinking of allocating those \$200 to \$250 million to the purchase of military equipment, among them, modern combat planes", he said. He pointed out that the U.S. will possibly invest \$1.5 million in the development of four airports: Seeb, in the outskirts of Muscat, the Omani capital, Khasab, in the Strait of Hormuz, Thamarit, in the southern province of Dhofar and on Massirah island.



## THE UPRISING OF APRIL 1936

Forty-six years ago in April 1936, a mass uprising and general strike which was to last for six months erupted throughout British-occupied Palestine. The Arab uprising was the result of increasing Jewish immigration into Palestine, Zionist land expropriations and the resultant impoverishment of the Arab peasant population.

Popular resistance to the occupation had been led by Sheikh Izz ad-Din al-Qassam until he was killed by the British in November 1935. Qassamite groups continued to operate and on April 15, 1936, a car convoy was held up on the Nablus — Tulkarem road. Three Jewish passengers were killed and this was followed by violent confrontations between Palestinian peasants and Zionist colonial settlers in Petah Tiqvah, Tel Aviv and Jaffa. The rioters were dispersed by British police and troops, a curfew was imposed and emergency regulations promulgated.

Within five days, an Arab national committee was set up in Nablus to provide leadership and coordinate the rebellion. Before the end of the month national committees were to be found in all towns and large villages throughout Palestine. On April 21, the Nablus group and five Arab party leaders joined in a united front to call for a general strike until the British accepted Arab demands, the foremost of which was the stoppage of further Jewish immigration. They also pressed for a national government with a representative council.

On May 7, a conference of national committees held in Jerusalem, called for a campaign of civil disobedience and refusal to pay taxes. Another communique called for the stoppage of all municipal government. The strike was very effective. Labourers, transport workers and shopkeepers brought all business to a halt. Acts of spontaneous violence occurred, including the mining and barricading of roads, cutting telegraph wires, derailing trains and cutting the oil pipeline in northern Palestine. Armed bands formed in the hills. Distribution centres for food were set up in urban areas and government officials contributed 10% of their pay to the strike fund.

### British Terror and Repression

The colonial authorities' answer was to issue on May 18 a new immigration schedule for the next six months — 4,500 Jewish immigrants.<sup>1</sup> The strike developed into a siege. Jaffa port went out of action. There were widescale demonstrations and attacks on



British patrol the streets of Jaffa, 1936

British forces took place. Patriotic volunteers flooded in from Syria and Iraq.

The occupation force resorted to increasing repression. There were mass arrests of Arab leaders and members of the Arab Higher Committee were interned in concentration camps in early June. Methods of suppression included collective fines on villages in the vicinity of an attack, house demolitions, and forced residence. Emergency regulations were particularly unjust, ranging from twelve years imprisonment for possession of a bomb to two weeks for possessing a stick.

One of the most repressive actions was the demolition of 20 homes in Jaffa leaving 6,000 persons homeless. Another 825 homes were demolished in other parts of the area, including 350 in Sheikh Murad, 300 in Abu Kabr, 100 in Jabalia and 75 in Arab al-Dawdi.<sup>2</sup>

### British — Zionist Complicity

It was at this time that the British accepted the "importance of the organic link between the safety of British interests and the success of Zionism in Palestine."<sup>3</sup> On May 23, the Zionist leader Weizmann had pledged the Zionist forces to British imperialism.

The Sadats of the 1930s, the Emir Abdullah of Trans-Jordan and Prime Minister Nuri Said of Iraq, tried to mediate to end the strike. However, the people were determined. The Arab forces became stronger under the leadership of Fawzi Kawaqji. Acts of sabotage increased, the oil pipeline in the Plain of Esdraelon was repeatedly damaged and roads were systematically mined.

In mid-August, Zionist settlers began to act in concert with the British government. 2,800 Jews were enrolled as "supermumerary constables". Rifle licences were issued to settlers and arms supplies to the



British troops open fire on Palestinian demonstrators

Zionist gangs of the Haganah were begun.<sup>4</sup> On September 23, the Arab forces suffered heavy casualties at the battle of Tulkarem.

On the previous day, British reinforcements had arrived bringing the number of troops in Palestine to 20,000, as well as the police, Royal Air Force and Zionist paramilitary organisations. Martial law was imposed and anyone found in possession of a firearm was subject to summary execution. There was also mounting economic pressure on the Arabs with the orange — picking season approaching.

On October 11, the Arab Higher Committee issued a document by Arab rulers calling for an end to the strike. Worn down by six months of hardship and sacrifice, the Palestinian people finally ended the strike. The rebellion lasted intermittently until 1939. It was the most prolonged period of national liberation struggle in the Middle East before the Algerian Revolution. Nearly 5,000 Palestinians were killed and 14,000 wounded through British actions.<sup>5</sup>

### The Uprising Today

As the Palestinian people today rise up against the dual burden of imperialism and Zionism, the parallels with the uprising of 1936 are conspicuous. The Zionist occupation utilises the British Mandate Emergency Laws with even more brutality. Arab homes are destroyed, Palestinian people are detained without trial and Zionist gunmen roam the streets with the freedom to shoot to kill. The uprising against this repression will continue until the Zionists withdraw from all occupied territories and their reign of terror overthrown.

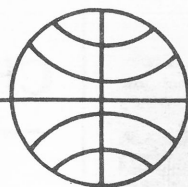
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- (1) Robert John and Sami Hadawi, *The Palestine Diary* page 260. Palestine Research Centre, Beirut.
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- (3) *Ibid.*, page 19.
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## CHRONOLOGY:

- 1882 Zionist immigration into Ottoman Palestine begins.
- 1917 In the Balfour Declaration, the British Government promises the "establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people."
- 1920 British Mandate begins with rule of Sir Herbert Samuel, the first High Commissioner.
- 1929 Serious communal disturbances over Wailing Herbert Wall in Jerusalem.
- 1933 Hitler's rise in Germany gives added urgency to Zionist immigration.
- 1936 Arab general strike against Britain and Zionists becomes general rebellion. The strike continued for six months.
- 1937 Peel Commission proposes partition of Palestine into separate Jewish and Arab states. Zionists accept reluctantly but Arabs oppose it.
- 1939 British Government shelves partition and limits Jewish immigration.
- 1942 Zionist Movement calls for a Jewish state in Palestine and urges free and unrestricted immigration.
- 1947 UN General Assembly recommends partition.
- 1948 Britain withdraws in May and war breaks out between Zionists and Palestinians. By the end of the war the new State of Israel controls an area one third larger than allotted by UN plan.
- 1949 Israel admitted to UN but refuses to allow Palestinian refugees to return home. West Bank annexed to Jordan.
- 1956 After recent agreement with Britain and France, Israel attacks Egypt and occupied Sinai and Gaza Strip. Later forced by international pressure to withdraw to the 1948 cease-fire lines.
- 1965 Al Fatah makes its first armed resistance act against Israel.
- 1967 Six-Day's-War gives Israel control of Syrian Golan Heights, West Bank, Gaza and Sinai peninsula. Half a million Palestinians made homeless.
- 1973 October War brings partial victory to Israel but at great cost in human life and at expense of its international standing; Arab oil embargo further weakens its position.
- 1974 Rabat Arab summit conference recognises the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.
- 1976 PLO supporters win municipal elections in West Bank.
- 1977 President Anwar Sadat visits Jerusalem, promises "no more war."
- 1978 Camp David agreement makes peace between Egypt and Israel in return for Sinai. PLO rejects proposed autonomy scheme; Israel invades south Lebanon.
- 1980 EEC's Venice Declaration calls for PLO "association" with peace process. UN General Assembly adopt resolution recognising Palestinians' right to establish "independent sovereign state."
- 1981 President Sadat assassinated.
- 1982 Israel due to complete withdrawal from Sinai on April 26.





### MASS DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST U.S. SUPER-ARMAMENT ALL OVER THE WORLD

A new wave of demonstrations is sweeping through Europe, the United States and other parts of the world against the U.S. and NATO course of superarmament at the expense of civil development and social spending. Protests were also directed against the deployment of new strategic missiles, especially in Western Europe close to the Soviet Union. During Easter, about 480,000 people gathered in West Germany alone to demonstrate against the dangerous deployment of new U.S. strategic nuclear missiles, and for peace and disarmament. Other powerful demonstrations took place in Britain against the purchase of new U.S. Trident missiles, in Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, Austria, Denmark and Luxembourg. In Japan tens of thousands demonstrated against the stepped-up nuclear arms race.

At the same time in the United States, 60,000 people gathered in Chicago to protest against the Reagan administration's policy of trying to get rid of the problems of the world by cuts in social and development spending and by speeding up armament and supporting aggression. Another demonstration took place in front of the Pentagon in Washington. In Canada, more than 100,000 Canadians have signed an appeal calling for disarmament and international détente.

In early April, an international convention of doctors concerned about the effects of a nuclear war took place in Cambridge, England, with a series of lectures on the devastating power of atomic weapons. A Soviet scientist, Leonid Ilyin, stated that a "comparatively restrained" nuclear war in Europe would kill about 168 million people. A further 150 million would be seriously hurt, he said. "Some 318 million people, or nearly the half of the population of Europe, would become victims of the nuclear exchange," he said. The estimate was supported by Joseph Rotblatt, an English professor, who said that the atmosphere would be so contaminated that it would be dark in daytime, agriculture would collapse and survivors would probably die of starvation.

Meanwhile in a speech held at the University Centre for Strategic and International Studies on April 6, U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig rejected the proposed freeze of nuclear weapons and even recent calls for renouncing the first use of nuclear weapons by the United States.



The American people: End nuclear arms!

### SALVADOREAN "ELECTIONS" TO LEGITIMISE FASCISM

The only result of the so-called elections in El Salvador is the political legitimisation of fascism, Guillermo Ungo, president of the Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR) told journalists in Bonn, West Germany on April 2. Reiterating the liberation movement's readiness to negotiate a democratic settlement to the Salvadorean conflict, he said: "We are ready to cease war and to negotiate, but we are also prepared to continue the struggle as long as necessary." Guillermo Ungo, however, ruled out a dialogue with

Roberto D'Aubuisson, the chief of the fascist ARENA (Nationalist Republican Alliance) and the leader of the death squads.

The liberation movements FDR and FMLN (Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front) said in a joint statement released on April 1, that the junta had exerted crude pressure to force the people to the polls. Public employees received their salaries only on presentation of their identity cards, marked with the official election stamp. Numerous banks and private businesses applied similar practices. The liberation movements have again emphasized that the March 28 elections are no solution to the conflict.

On April 2, heavy fighting took place between the liberation fighters and the junta's armed forces. One of the centres of the clashes was the town of Usulután where the junta put special units into action. The U.S.-trained "Atlatl" special unit, which is notorious for its brutality, is to carry out mopping-up operations in Usulután. According to FMLN's radio station *Venceremos*, various parts of the town were bombed by junta planes, killing and wounding many civilians. Heavy fighting also took place in Morazan, Cabanas and Chalatenango provinces.

### U.S. TO STAGE MORE NAVAL EXERCISES IN THE CARIBBEAN

On April 6 the U.S. Department of the Navy announced the Pentagon's plan to stage the third major military exercise in the Caribbean in less than a year, involving also British and other NATO naval units.

The exercise code-named "Ocean-Venture-82" involving all services of the United States armed forces will be held from April 27 to May 16. The Pentagon has said that 60 ships, 350 planes and 45,000 troops and sailors would take part in the exercise in order to practice an "invasion of Puerto Rico" with the use of B-52 strategic nuclear bombers, two carrier task forces and AWACS planes.

There would also be a landing aimed at reinforcing mobilization at the U.S. base at Guantanamo, Cuba. These exercises confirm the intention of the United States to maintain its aggressive military presence in the region, if possible with the help of NATO. The plan was met with opposition in some countries of the area. The president of the National Organization of Women of Grenada denounced the upcoming American military manoeuvres in the Caribbean as a "shameful rehearsal to invade" countries of the region.

### U.S. ADVISERS TRAINING 13-YEAR OLD KIDS TO SAVE HONDURAN JUNTA

In addition to the large number of Honduran troops which are currently undergoing training by the notorious U.S. Green Berets in the United States, American military advisers are reported to be training kids in Honduras, according to the U.S. magazine *Newsweek*, April 5, 1982.

Honduran children as young as 13 are being trained for combat and paratroop duty by the Green Beret military advisers. Publishing a photograph of an American adviser talking to two small soldiers wearing combat uniforms, the magazine said that the smallest Honduran soldiers trained by the military advisers "stand knee-high to an M-16." The magazine reported that the paratroop contingent, trained at an airfield outside the Honduran capital of Tegucigalpa includes "20 kids under 15 and three 13-year-olds."

Quoting Honduran officials, *Newsweek* said that 13-year-olds are allowed to join the army if "they pester their recruiters long enough." It is said that the youths must carry weights to reach the minimum 110 pounds to make a jump.

### PRETORIA WANTS TO BLACKMAIL ANGOLA

With threats, troop concentrations at Angola's borders, and continual military attacks, the South African racist regime is making fresh efforts to blackmail Angola and to force it to give up its support for the Namibian people's liberation struggle under the leadership of SWAPO. SWAPO is to be weakened and pressed to accept a settlement which would meet the interests of only the imperialist powers. Observers in the Angolan capital Luanda noted that the latest South African attacks on southern Angola were staged but a few hours after the departure from Luanda of the delegation of the Western "contact group" for Namibia on April 6.

Pretoria is currently concentrating 20,000 troops, including mercenaries from the United States, Britain, Portugal and other countries, as well as military aircraft in the north of illegally occupied Namibia. The increasing number of South African flights over southern Angola — fifty violations of Angolan airspace were registered in March alone — and the new acts of aggression resemble the situation in August 1981, shortly before South Africa's large-scale invasion. As a result of that aggression some 50,000 square kilometres of Cunene province are still occupied by Pretoria.



## PALESTINE NOTES

### ARAFAT RECEIVES CABLE FROM ALI KHAMENE'I

On April 19, Chairman Yasser Arafat received a cable from President Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The cable which was in response to an earlier message from Arafat, stressed the importance of the PLO's role in the march of the Palestinian Revolution. He described this role as historic, crucial and extremely valuable.

President Khamene'i said that the Islamic Republic of Iran regarded Palestinian and Iranian issues as being linked, and that any victory for the Palestinian Revolution would be a victory for Iran, and any blow directed at the Palestinian Revolution would be a blow against the Iranian Revolution. He finally affirmed the need to utilise the capacities of all Islamic governments against the aggressor and his backers.

### PLO OFFICE IN TEHRAN BECOMES AN EMBASSY

The Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent on April 2 an official memorandum to the PLO Political Department affirming that the Islamic Revolutionary Government of Iran has raised the status of the PLO office in Tehran to a full embassy level.

### FRENCH MUNICIPALITY TO TWIN WITH AL BIREH

The Municipal Council of Sete in the south of France has announced that it will work towards concluding a twinning agreement with the Municipality of al-Bireh. This move came during a meeting between the Mayor of Sete and the PLO representative in Paris, Ibrahim Souss. The French Mayor cabled al-Bireh's dismissed mayor, Ibrahim al-Tawil to notify him of the decision.

### GANDHI ATTENDS RECEPTION AT PLO EMBASSY IN DELHI

The PLO Embassy in New Delhi

on April 13, held a reception in honour of the Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, attended by members of the Arab and foreign diplomatic corps. In a short speech, Gandhi confirmed India's support for the Palestinian struggle led by the PLO. This is the first time that Gandhi has responded to an invitation of this kind from an embassy in India.

### VIETNAM ACCORDS EMBASSY STATUS TO P.L.O MISSION

The Vietnamese government on April 8 accorded the PLO mission to Hanoi embassy status. The announcement was made by the Vietnamese Deputy Minister at a meeting with the PLO representative there. The Vietnamese official also reiterated his country's firm support for the cause and struggle of the Palestinian people, under the sole and legitimate leadership of the PLO, in confronting imperialism and Zionism.

### SRI LANKA ACCORDS P.L.O. FULL RECOGNITION

The Sri Lanka Minister of Foreign Affairs handed PLO Chairman Arafat on April 8, in Kuwait, an official invitation from the President of Sri Lanka to visit the country and informed him of his government's decision to raise the Palestinian diplomatic representation there to that of a full embassy.

### "OCCUPIED PALESTINE" SHOWN IN AUSTRALIA

Last February was the month of Palestine in Australia. The progressive British actress Vanessa Redgrave arrived there where the film (*Occupied Palestine*) was shown. Thousands of Australian people watched this film with admiration. It gives a clear explanation of the Palestinian problem, and it expresses the oppressive and arbitrary Zionist measures applied against the innocent Arab people of Palestine. The film also details the history of the Zionist movement and its close connection with imperialism.

### PALESTINIAN-LAOTIAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE

The People's Democratic Republic of Laos and the PLO on April 13, issued a joint communique following an official visit by a PLO delegation, headed by Fateh Central Committee member Qadri at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Laos People's Party and the Laotian government.

Both sides condemned American policy and U.S. military presence in the Middle East and the Indian Ocean. They stressed that world security and peace have seriously been threatened by the arms race escalated by the U.S. and the planned deployment of American nuclear weapons in Western Europe. The Palestinian and Laotian sides agreed to develop cooperation and exchange in the fields of information, propaganda and visits.

The Laotian side confirmed full support for the Palestinian people's struggle under PLO leadership, condemned the latest Israeli actions in the occupied territories and threats against south Lebanon.

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PALESTINE — RESISTS