

FATEH

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PALESTINE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT
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VILLAGER FROM SOUTH LEBANON
AND REMAINS OF ISRAELI ARMOR
IN ARKOUN

ISRAELI AIMS FRUSTRATED AT ARKOUN

A massive, 36-hour air-supported Israeli armored raid into the Arkoun region (dubbed "Fateh Land" by the enemy) in South Lebanon on May 12-13 turned out to be a massive military and political failure for the Zionist settler-state.

That this was the case is evidenced by the "chronological" run-down of world press statements about the battle appearing on p.2.

The estimated 3,000-strong Israeli armored and infantry brigade committed to the assault crossed the occupied Golan with a twin-fold objective:

*To "search for" and "destroy" Fateh and other Palestinian commands and command bases and equipment in the Arkoun region, and

FATEH ESCALATES OPERATIONS

Aside from frustrating a massive Israeli raid on South Lebanon, Fateh commands escalated their raids against occupation troops throughout Palestine in May.

At the average rate of more than two operations a day during the month, Fateh revolutionaries fought violent confrontation battles at the outskirts of Safad and Acre in the north and Ain Bayda on the west side of the Jordan Valley. They struck against factories in Haifa and vital installations in Nahariya -- both on the Mediterranean coast. They blasted two restaurants in Jerusalem, an oil pipeline between Eilat and Beersheba in the south and a railroad in Gaza. They also pounded most if not all border settlements along the northern frontier and in the Jordan Valley.

Fateh received May 17 the following cable from Hanoi:

OCCASION MAY FIFTEENTH EXPRESS MILITANT SOLIDARITY AND TOTAL SUPPORT TO HEROIC PALESTINIAN PEOPLE FIGHTING AGAINST ISRAELI AGGRESSORS AGENTS OF US IMPERIALISTS FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION STOP WARMLY ACCLAIM PALESTINIAN ARMED FORCES FOR BRILLIANT EXPLOITS STOP CONVINCED PALESTINIAN PEOPLE WITH SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT OF ARAB AND WORLD PEOPLES WILL SCORE NEW SUCCESSSES IN JUST CAUSE
VIETASIAFRO

*To intimidate the masses in South Lebanon in an attempt to isolate them from the Palestinian Revolution and to encourage counter-revolutionary elements to move against it.

Both aims were frustrated.

The fighting ability and alertness of our commandos enabled them to minimize their losses -- 14 dead, 17 wounded and 11 lost in Fateh ranks and four dead from the Arab Liberation Front.

Moreover, mass support for the Palestinian Revolution in South Lebanon increased rather than diminished.

More specifically, the battle of Arkoun demonstrated:

1. The skill of Fateh commandos to fight confrontation battles against air and armored forces, thus proving their preparedness to turn into a popular army that would lead the war of liberation.

2. The competence of Fateh's military command in taking the right decisions at the right times.

3. The mobility of Fateh forces and their ability to move-in reinforcements when and where needed.

4. The alertness of the politically organized masses, particularly the popular militia which filtered to the battle area to reinforce our armed forces.

5. The enemy's failure to isolate the Lebanese front. While Palestinian and Lebanese fighters engaged the invading force, Syrian aircraft intercepted enemy fighter-bombers while Iraqi and Jordanian artillery in northern Jordan and Egyptian artillery along Suez pounded enemy positions.

BATTLE OF ARKOURB IN WORLD PRESS

"YOU CAN SEE WE ARE STILL HERE"

According to Israeli officials, seven Israelis were killed and 18 wounded in attacks during the past 10 days by Lebanese-based guerrillas, who are said to have staged 61 "terrorist acts," since April 1, in which 22 Israeli settlements were hit by rocket, mortar, bazooka or small arms fire. Morale in some of the settlements began sagging.

(Tom Lambert, International Herald Tribune, May 13)

Israel appeared to have committed a full armoured brigade into the Al Arkoub region.

(Eric Dowdton, Daily Telegraph, May 13)

Guerrilla forces in southern Lebanon have put up strong resistance against a "search and destroy" force of Israeli troops which moved in at dawn yesterday...

I watched heavy skirmishes continuing in the Green Hills near Metulla 12 hours after Israeli columns crossed the border at two points.

The sound of submachine gun and rifle fire was punctuated by the clump of mortar and bazooka shells. Black plumes of smoke rose high in the afternoon haze from the slopes of Mount Hermon where the battle had raged earlier.

The Israelis pressed forward six miles inside Lebanese territory. Al Fatah guerrillas were dug in at vantage points, trying to throw the Israelis.

(Norman Kirkham, Daily Telegraph, May 13)

Israeli troops admitted later that the fedayeen had fought well; one guerrilla calmly fired 16 rockets at advancing tanks before he was finally killed.

(Time Magazine, May 25)

Edmond Gribier, a West German television correspondent who accompanied the Israeli forces, told a correspondent's briefing tonight that before the force pulled out this morning Arab guerrillas attacked the Israelis with small arms and hand grenades. He said that the fighting lasted three hours but the Israelis suffered no casualties.

(UPI, International Herald Tribune, May 14)

But the prisoner bag of 11 Arabs suggested the Israeli armored forces -- its numbers of men and vehicles undisclosed -- had neither flushed nor swept up as many guerrillas as it hoped to encounter.

(Tom Lambert, International Herald Tribune, May 13)

The impression is that the Israeli forces achieved less than they hoped for in physical terms even if the main purpose was a psychological blow...

Al Fatah claims that the Israelis disengaged with difficulty were supported by the Reuters correspondent who said fresh armoured reinforcements had been called in during the night.

(Richard Jones, The Financial Times, May 14)

Hundreds of Palestinian guerrillas were filtering back into the Arkoub area, in the south eastern tip of Lebanon, today as the remnants of the Israeli invasion force withdrew after its day-long search and destroy mission.

Arriving in cars and lorries from Lebanon, Syria and Jordan, the guerrillas began to build anew where the Israelis had left off...

What is clear is that if the Israeli objective was to mop up the guerrillas and their bases, they did not make much headway. In spite of the magnitude of the operation and their powerful air umbrella, the casualties inflicted were minimal.

The fact that the withdrawal was delayed for nearly a day lends some credibility to the theory that the opposition that met the Israelis was more than they had bargained for.

(Paul Martin, The Times, May 14)

Today, 24 hours after the Israeli raid, the Arkoub region that encompasses Hebbariye and the other five villages briefly assaulted by the Israelis, was again controlled by guerrillas.

(Jesse W. Lewis, Jr., The Washington Post, May 15)

"Earlier it (Israel) built an effective security belt -- mines and wire along the Jordanian border. Now

it will be under pressure to build another belt along the borders with Lebanon. Politically Israel's problems are getting more difficult, the more so because officially it does not recognise that the Palestinians compose a people with a right to a national homeland.

"This policy of nonrecognition is unavoidably giving Israel trouble from the Palestinians' insistence on establishing their state.

"Until that gap is bridged, no force of retaliatory raids will put down the Palestinian cause. If and when it is bridged, the nature of the Mideast conflict will have been transformed."

(The Washington Post, May 13)

Within days of the American incursion into Cambodia, Israel's strike against Lebanon on Tuesday coming after repeated warnings by Defense Minister Moshe Dayan again raises the perennial problem of "sanctuaries" and "right of pursuit." The same arguments were heard during the Greek civil war, during the Korean war and in the battles between the French and Algerian guerrillas in North Africa before 1962.

(Le Monde, Weekly Selection, May 13)

The major Israeli ground attack against South Lebanon appears, in the view of observers here, to have resulted once again in almost the reverse of the intended Israeli goals.

As was the case in the dramatic Israeli raid on the Beirut airport in December, 1968, the tank assault into South Lebanon has strengthened rather than weakened the Arab commando's position...

After the Israeli attack on Karameh in the Jordan Valley, King Hussein made his famous statement: "We are all fedayeen."

And in Lebanon this week, the stress was not on controlling or repressing the commandos, but on the army's cooperating with them.

"The Israeli raid," said one close observer, "was only the beginning and not the end of a situation that appears to draw Lebanon deeper and deeper into the conflict with Israel."

(William E. Tuohy, International Herald Tribune, May 13)

Twelve hours after the Israeli raiding force withdrew Palestinian guerrillas were shelling Israeli settlements again and had reoccupied their bases in the Arkoub area in South-Eastern Lebanon.

They are now more firmly entrenched there than before because the battle has made it almost impossible for the Lebanese Army to consider moving against the guerrillas.

(The Observer, May 17)

In a gesture of defiance, the commandos struck at two Israeli villages and a kibbutz only hours after the last Israeli tank had pulled out of southeast Lebanon in a 34-hour punitive raid designed to deter commando attacks...

But whatever the truth about the tactical military situation, observers here said it was already clear that the Israeli raid had failed in its two aims.

First, it had failed to deter the commandos themselves from striking at Upper Galilee, as Wednesday night's attacks showed. All reports from the battle area agree that fedayeen morale is high, despite their reported loss of at least 30 or 40 commandos killed in the battle...

Reuters reported that the commandos showed great flexibility in quickly moving in hundreds of reinforcements from refugee camps elsewhere in Lebanon, and also from Syria under air cover provided by Syrian MIGs.

(Ian Macdonald, The Daily Star, May 15)

Although originally scheduled to last only from sunrise to sunset, the Israelis had been forced to remain in southern Lebanon 32 hours... Worse yet, within hours of the Israeli withdrawal, the fedayeen had returned from their mountain retreats to begin rebuilding their bases. And that same day, a commando band slipped across the Lebanese border and fired on an Israeli kibbutz. "Fatah is not weakened," Palestinian commando leader Yasser Arafat told correspondents during a tour of the embattled area. "You can see we are still here."

(Newsweek, May 25)

ARKOUB**BATTLEGROUND****VIEWS**

All Commando Groups Agree:

PLO IS FRAMEWORK FOR NATIONAL UNITY

The Unified Command of the Palestinian Resistance Movement, set up in the wake of the crisis of last February 10 in Jordan, was able May 6 to agree on an organizational formula for Palestinian national unity.

Signed by Fateh, the PDPFL, the PFLP, the Arab Liberation Front, the Arab Palestine Organization, the PLO Executive Committee, the Popular Palestinian Struggle Front, Sa'eqa, the PFLP (General Command), the Action Committee for the Liberation of Palestine and the Popular Organization for the Liberation of Palestine, the organizational formula for national unity was expressed in these words:

A. All resistance movement groups regard the Palestine Liberation Organization as the broad framework for national unity.

B. Matters agreed upon commit (all groups) collectively while matters still in suspense are left for each group to deal with as it deems fit. Matters related to the security of the revolution commit the groups collectively.

C. All groups shall participate in the forthcoming Palestinian National Congress and the institutions emanating from the Palestine Liberation Organization. The question of the percentage representation of each of the organizations in the National Congress shall not become a point of issue among the commando organizations.

D. By a National Congress decree, a Central Committee shall be formed, with the participation of all resistance groups, to assume its leadership role in the resistance movement. The Central Committee emanating from the National Congress, shall replace the current Unified Command. The Central Committee shall comprise the Executive Committee of the P.L.O., representatives of the commando organizations, the head of the Palestinian National Congress, the head of the Palestinian Liberation Army and a number of independents.

The Palestinian Resistance Movement, represented by the Unified Command and following long discussions, agreed that the points listed herebelow represent, together with the Palestinian National Pact and National Congress resolution, the broad framework for joint political and military action:

1. The working, toiling and all other forces of the Palestinian and Arab masses that have an interest in the stage of national liberation and in the complete liberation of the Palestinian homeland constitute the forces of the Palestinian Revolution.

2. The Palestinian struggle springs from the faith in the unity of the people on the Palestinian-Jordanian terrain as well as from the faith in that the people of Palestine are part of the Arab Nation and that the land of Palestine is part of the Arab Land.

3. The Palestinian Revolution is an integral part of the contemporary Arab revolutionary movement and an integral part of the world national liberation movement against world imperialism and Zionism.

4. The enemies of Palestinian national liberation are represented by Zionism, Israel, imperialism and all lackey forces that are, dialectically or self-regardingly, linked to imperialism and colonialism.

5. The objective of the Palestinian struggle is the liberation of the whole of Palestine to establish a community in which all citizens will coexist with equal rights and obligations within the context of the Arab nation's aspirations for unity and progress.

6. Popular revolutionary war is the main path to the liberation of Palestine.

7. The people of Palestine and their national liberation movement struggle for all-out liberation and reject all peaceful, stifling and submissive solutions; all reactionary and colonialist conspiracies to establish a Palestinian state on parts of Palestinian territory; and the stifling United Nations resolution of November 22, 1947.

8. The Palestinian Revolution considers Arab land surrounding Israel as legitimate ground for Palestinian struggle and any attempt to close down any Arab country to the Palestinian resistance would be tantamount to treason to the objectives of the people of Palestine and the Arab nation in liberating Palestine.

9. The Palestinian Revolution declares its complete independence from all Arab regimes and rejects all attempts to circumscribe it, tutor it, contain it or subordinate it.

10. All resistance groups consent to the formation of a unified military committee to develop armed struggle and move into a new stage of commando action and popular liberation warfare.

11. To arm the masses of our Palestinian and Arab people in the Arab countries bordering occupied Palestine, to protect the resistance from attempts to crackdown on it and liquidate it and to participate effectively in confronting any Zionist/imperialist invasion of the Arab territories bordering Palestine.

12. Israel, by virtue of its structure, represents an exclusivist, racist society tied to imperialism. As such, the limited progressive forces within it cannot effect any basic change in its Zionist, racist and imperialist structure. This is why, the aim of the Palestinian Revolution is to dismantle this entity with its political, military, social, syndical and cultural institutions and to liberate all of Palestine.

FATEH OFFICIAL CITES MAIN ASPECTS OF NATIONAL UNITY

"Fateh's dedication to Palestinian national unity is only equalled by its determination not to drop the guns from its hands before the complete liberation of Palestine."

This is what a Fateh official had to say in commenting the seventh session of the Palestine National Congress opening in Cairo May 30.

He said national unity of both the masses and organizations is essential in this stage of national liberation. That is why, he explained, whereas no differences over a political program are expected, the Congress should concentrate on three important aspects of national unity:

"1. Military unity capable of shouldering the burdens of keeping up the armed struggle while a system of life, a system of struggle and a system of armament are hammered out from a unified experience.

"2. Fund-raising unity that would channel contributions to one fund on which the Palestine Liberation Organization (or any other name it would assume) would draw to spend on the military forces which it commands and which are committed to the specific and known line of the revolution.

"3. Internal and foreign information unity capable of communicating the development, escalation and objectives of events at all levels..."



FATEH MEN STRIKE DEEP IN NAHARIYA, JERUSALEM SAFAD, HAIFA AND ACRE

Following is a summary of only the major Fateh operations during the month:

MAY 2: Three Fateh units entrenched on the heights of Safad (Zefat), the biggest occupied town in Upper Galilee located 17 kilometers inside the northern Palestine border, battle with Israeli forces for nine consecutive hours, mostly in daylight. Enemy losses are far greater than in any other engagement with commandos since the Karameh battle of March 21, 1968, when Israel officially recognized 100 casualties. Some 500 enemy troops supported by artillery, tanks, armored vehicles and helicopters besieged the three Fateh units about 11 a.m. Fateh revolutionaries battled with the enemy force for nine consecutive hours and finally succeeded in breaking the siege under cover from a four-man suicide squad. All members of the squad were killed covering the retreat of their comrades. They are 1st Lt. Marwan Muhieddin, Lt. Ahmad M. Juma'a, Mohammad M. Mussa and Hamdan K. Hebe. Despite the enemy's subsequent five-hour hot pursuit involving all his military resources in Safad and Upper Galilee, the three Fateh units succeeded in returning safely to base after losing a fifth commando (Sami M. Daba'i) in a 30-minute clash around midnight in Ras el-Ahmar area.

*Other Fateh units were busy pounding Kefar Yuval settlement in the Hula Valley with heavy rockets.

MAY 3-4: Fateh guerillas engage huge enemy force estimated at 1,500 supported by helicopters and over 35 tanks at Ain Bayda near Nahal Mehola settlement south of Beisan and north of Jericho on the west side of the Jordan Valley. The Fateh commandos inflict very high casualties on the enemy and substantial losses in equipment and installations. Twenty-one commandos are killed or injured in the battle described by a senior Israeli officer quoted by Winston Churchill in the London Times of May 5 as "the largest clash in Israeli-controlled territory since the six-day war." Fighting lasts more than 24 hours and spreads throughout the northern Jordan Valley front as commandos shell Beisan town and the Arida, Kefar Ruppin, Tirat Zvi and Yavneel settlements. An Israeli army spokesman admitted that Beisan town and two nearby settlements came under heavy Katyusha rocket fire from commandos but refused to give the number of casualties.

*Meanwhile, other Fateh commandos blow up on the night of May 3-4 a Ford plant north of Petah Tikva on the main Haifa-Tel Aviv highway. Enemy losses are estimated at several thousand Israeli pounds.

* (On May 7, the Palestinian Red Crescent Society cabled the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva to conduct an immediate investigation into the murder by Israeli troops of the wounded commandos captured at Ain Bayda).

MAY 6: Fateh unit fights violent battle with enemy force on the Majd Elkurum-Acre road, five miles east of Acre and 15 miles from the northern frontier. At 4 p.m., the same unit ambushes an enemy patrol. Helicopter-borne reinforcements called in by the enemy fail to besiege the Fateh unit which loses four men (Mohammed Saleh, Lutfi Tamtam, Khaled M. Tabel and Ali Hassan) on its return to base. (The Israeli military spokesman recognizes the death of three soldiers, including one officer, and the injury of two).

*Fateh commando rockets and mortar shells also pound enemy camp in Um Nakhle in the Ghor, Khisfin settlement and Abu Rajem posts in the occupied Golan, and Kiryat Shemona townlet and Margaliyyot settlement in Upper Galilee. Enemy admits two deaths at Kiryat Shemona and a number of injuries. (Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan visits the settlement and tells newsmen "Nothing we do in Kiryat Shemona is able to prevent sudden rocket attacks...One has to live with this fact".)

*At 8:30 p.m. in Haifa, Fateh incendiary and explosive charges rip wood factory located in Liwa street.

MAY 8: Fateh commandos rocket Kiryat Shemona and attack enemy patrols in Upper Galilee. Enemy spokesman admits four soldiers were wounded when a patrol came under commando fire near Metulla. He said two more were injured when a second patrol came under fire along the road parallel with the northern frontier and that a



SAFAD FIGHTS KIRYAT SHMONA FOLLOWING
FATEH ROCKET ATTACK ON TOWN MAY 2.

border policeman and a "civilian" were also injured when their vehicle was attacked in Upper Galilee. He said this brought Israeli casualties (from Fateh commando attacks) to five killed and 16 wounded in 48 hours.

MAY 9: Three waves of Fateh rockets whip Kiryat Shemona while similar rockets and mortar shells hit Kefar Yuval and other neighboring settlements. Two Zionist restaurants in Jerusalem are also hit with hand grenades.

MAY 13: Vital installations in Kefar Ruppin in Beisan Valley are rocketed by Fateh guerillas.

MAY 14: Fateh task force rockets kibbutz Manara in Upper Galilee. Enemy troops besiege area and clash with Fateh force which succeeds in breaking through after losing four dead (Moussa Saleh Effendi, Ali Mahmoud el-Haj Omar, Ahmad Diab and Mohammed M. Hiehel) and carrying back to base a seriously injured comrade-in-arms.

*Beisan town and Beit Yosef settlement are shaken by Fateh rockets. Fire erupts at both locations while casualties are believed to be high.

*Barrages of Fateh rockets also dash into several enemy settlements in northern Palestine, including Malkiyya, Ramot Naftali, Kiryat Shemona, Metulla and Margaliyyot.

*Fateh commandos also rip open enemy fortifications in Central Ghor and around Shawayer camp in Jordan Valley.

*Special Fateh task force rockets Nahariya town on the Mediterranean coast.

MAY 15: Fateh freedom fighters launch mortar attack on Kefar Ruppin.

MAY 16: Fateh men blow up parts of railroad in Jabaliya camps in Gaza Strip.

MAY 17-18: Enemy fortifications in Jordan Valley are torpedoes. Fateh artillery shells also score direct hits in Masada Kibbutz in Jordan Valley.

MAY 19: Enemy camp near Kefar Eziyon settlement in the vicinity of Hebron is attacked by special Fateh task force.

MAY 20-21: Large section of the enemy oil pipeline between Eilat on the Red Sea and Beersheba, 130 miles north, is blasted by Fateh commandos. Oil gushing out from pipeline catches fire.

*Rocket attacks are also launched on Beit Yosef and Neve-Ur in Jordan Valley and Um Menevra in southern Negev.

MAY 23: Fateh commandos engage enemy patrol for three hours in Khatib region in Jordan Valley after over-running enemy observation post in Junaidiyyah. Two commandos (Fawaz Ahmad Abbas and Mahmoud Salem Arabi) are carried back to base.

MAY 24: Fateh unit over-run enemy camp at Jebel Zeit in occupied Golan destroying several barracks and fuel tanks.

MAY 26: Rocket attack on Khisfin in the Golan and Neve-Ur in the Jordan Valley. Several enemy positions and posts in the valley are also raided.

WORLD CHRISTIANS STAND BY PALESTINE

The World Conference of Christians for Palestine May 20 wound up its deliberations with a resounding condemnation of Israel as an illegal state based on violence and the violation of international law.

It announced plans to establish national commissions in countries of the participants and two permanent committees -- in Beirut and Paris -- to follow up the work of the conference and expose the crimes of Zionism.

The conference ended on a note of great satisfaction with delegates stressing that what had been achieved was far greater than what they had hoped for. Georges Montaron and Gabriel Habib, the two secretaries of the conference, said that they were more than satisfied.

The foreign press was there. Correspondents of television and radio networks, national newspapers and weeklies followed the final session with keen interests and planned to report it in detail.

The most touching part of the four-day conference in which some 400 delegates from 31 countries took part, came minutes from the end when two Palestinians -- a girl and a boy dressed as commandos -- read a poem entitled "Writé dans l'air" while little children walked between the audience distributing white carnations and sharing loaves of bread with the church dignitaries and delegates. While doves were also released.

The final session began with the projecting of the film "Not at All Made in Israel" one of the existing conditions of the Palestinian refugees and commandos accompanied by the testimonial voice of the Lebanese singer Feyrouz, in a song whose meaningful wording was translated into English and simultaneously projected on the screens.

After the warm applause, a short session of prayer was followed by a number of brief speeches.

Abbey Pierre of the large French delegation said that "we are witnesses to all that has happened here -- we go, leaving with you the confidence that the documents we have obtained will be followed by further works, how we must convince our brothers abroad, we must eliminate all fear, and meet again in Jerusalem to say the words "Our Father" together."

Kamal Haer of the Palestine Liberation Organization then took the stand saying, "On behalf of Palestine, I thank you. Through your efforts, man will emerge much stronger in his humanity. Palestine discovered in you its universal brother."

"Yesterday while the conference was in session, Zionist planes were dropping bombs on Beirut and Lebanon. We will endeavor to throw seeds of hope on that same soil by bringing out the truth," stated Georges Montaron. "If Zionist action amounts to 1000, we will counter it with 2000 in Africa, Asia and Europe -- our weapon is the truth, the truth of peace and justice which will spread all over the world."

He then added that the conference was just the first step, that research would continue long after its end, and ended by extending his thanks to all participants, sub-committees and all those who had helped it be such a success.

Added if he was satisfied with the outcome of the conference, Montaron said, "It turned out better than I had hoped for. The number of people who attended were more than I had

expected, the unanimity of the participants and the quality of the debates were all very satisfying."

The final resolutions adopted by the legal commission of the conference were then read by Charles Vernier:

He said the Legal Committee:

1. Ascertains once again the unqualified illegality of the creation of Israel, a de facto state founded on violence and on the violation of public international law and municipal law considered in all its aspects, thus constituting a colonial fact on the level of the law of nations.
2. Ascertains further that the government of Israel resides upon a political ideology of a religious nature, which is racist, discriminatory and expansionist and that it submits the Jewish people to a systematic apartheid which is legally consecrated by its jurisdiction.
3. Affirms that the Christian conscience cannot allow this grave injustice and clear prejudice to law and morality and urges support for the legitimate struggle of resistance and revolution of the Palestinian people.

4. Notes from the documents, evidence and reports submitted to our conference that there is decisive evidence proving that Israeli authorities have perpetrated war crimes and crimes against humanity including inter alia, torture, deportation, expropriation of private property, collective penalties, destruction of villages and property for private persons, prospect for honor, and religious convictions in violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention and the Regulations of The Hague relating to the protection of civilian populations.
5. Condemns with particular vigor the use of nuclear and other prohibited weapons.
6. Recalls that all these serious denigrations have already been denounced and condemned by all international instances which have had occasion to know about them, among which are the United Nations and the Human Rights Commission, the International Committee of the Red Cross and several non-governmental organizations, as well as several international conferences.

7. In consideration of the situation referred to above and taking into account the historical and legal context, considers that these acts constitute a threat to the peace and to world peace and a violation of our Christian conception of the rule of law.
8. Therefore expresses its wish, consistent with its concern for avoiding the aggravation of the conflict and helping bring about its solution, that all the national commissions created after this conference will undertake a careful and thorough study as a prelude to effective implementation of a peaceful solution of the conflict and the creation of a democratic state of Palestine recognizing the rights of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights according to the right of self-determination.

Internally appreciates the example of human brotherhood given by Lebanon to all countries and will consider that any attack on Lebanese sovereignty, territorial integrity or independence, and the existence of the state would be a loss for humanity.

This was followed by the report made by the Organizing Commission.

The organizing committee was unanimous in considering that the World Conference of

Christians for Palestine was not an end in itself but rather a step forward. The hopes which have been engendered by this conference must not wane once each participant has returned to his country. Its work must be made known. Public opinion the world over must be made aware of the importance of the work accomplished during our discussions. Contacts and exchanges between participants must lead to action in the coming months. That is the first recommendation of the commission.

The resistance struggle of the Palestinian people, the Arab people's fight, and the considerable force of Zionist opposition, makes it necessary for us to undertake a major drive to inform and explain the facts to Christian communities who are, for the most part, heavily influenced by Zionist propaganda. The commission considers that this specific task within our Christian communities must not be considered as a single objective.

In every country of the world there are "Palestine committees" or other groups which work toward political understanding and solidarity with the Palestinian resistance. It is not for Christians, aware of the Palestinian reality, to replace existing groups and committees with competing Christian committees.

Our task should, on the contrary, complement the action of these groups and committees. The committee urgently requests the delegates to this conference to avoid limiting their action to their own groups and thereby shirking a real political commitment. We have involved us in making a specific concept of the Christian commitment avoiding this aspect. Therefore, our task involves us in allowing an increasing number of Christians to give their commitment a specific content, in solidarity with the Palestinian people should lead to a political action. The committee recommends the recommendation of the committee.

How shall we continue the work begun at this conference? The committee has a certain number of recommendations to

which it hopes all the participants will agree.

- 1) Making the Appeal known to Christians.
- The appeal we are about to hear must be very widely distributed to all parts of the world. The committee hopes the text will be discussed, commented upon and proclaimed in all the Christian communities of the world. We request every participants to take the responsibility of bringing it to the attention of his home community.
- The committee also proposes that an effort be made so that various groups and individuals within every country represented at this conference will be informed of the results of our work. These include:
 - Hierarchies of all the churches present at this conference.
 - Leaders of specialized movements and youth organizations of the various churches and religions of each country.
 - Christian or non-Christian organizations whose task is to work for peace among nations.
 - Charitable movements, whether they be Christian or not, who are concerned with international problems and with the countries of the Third World.
 - Political or trade union organizations (wherever possible) in government (wherever possible), political or cultural youth organizations.
 - Existing groups and committees partially or totally involved with the Palestinian problem.

Jewish communities and particularly anti-Zionist Jews and Jewish groups.

This list is not exhaustive and may be completed according to the conditions prevailing in each country but the committee emphasizes the need for a special effort to be made to communicate the Beirut Appeal to all the daily, weekly, and monthly newspapers and periodicals and other mass media such as radio and television in each country.

The committee proposes that each delegate or each country specify to the conference secretariat the number of copies of the appeal and the desired language.

The role of the Paris Committee and the Standing Committee of the World Conference of Christians for Palestine.

To extend the spirit and action of this conference, the organizing committee unanimously proposes:

- a - The Creation of National Commissions of Christians for Palestine.
- The role of the National Commissions will be:
 - to inform Christian circles about the Palestinian question and explain it with the help of documents and information furnished by the standing committees and the other national commissions.
 - to prepare, wherever possible, national conferences of Christians for Palestine.
 - to respond to Zionist propaganda whenever it appears in the religious field, and to re-establish the truth, and denounce confusion of political and religious issues.

As of now, national commissions are going to be organized in Algeria, Belgium, Egypt, England, France, Jordan, Hungary, Italy, Lebanon, Spain, Switzerland and the United States. This list is not exhaustive.

b - The Standing Committee of the World Conference of Christians for Palestine. This Committee will have two poles:

- One in Beirut which will continue information about the Palestinian resistance and in a more general way about the Arab countries (especially the Christian communities of the East).
- The other, in Paris, for reasons based on convenience and on the fact that addresses were compiled in that city.

The Beirut pole will have an executive secretariat the secretariat of this Conference. However, as far as inter-Arab orientation and coordination is concerned, a regional committee with the participation of Palestinians and one or two representatives for each country will be created to assist the Beirut Secretariat.

The Paris pole will have representatives from all the participating countries and Palestine. The role of the Paris committee will be to assure general coordination, to bro-

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The 78-member French delegation is the largest. The other delegates and observers come from Algeria, West Germany, Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Columbia, Cuba, Bahamas, Spain, Finland, British Guadeloupe, Haiti, Holland, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Madagascar, Morocco, Mexico, Nicaragua, Pakistan.

The trip featured visits to commando bases, Palestinian camps, schools, work shops and medical facilities as well as meetings with Fatah officials and members.

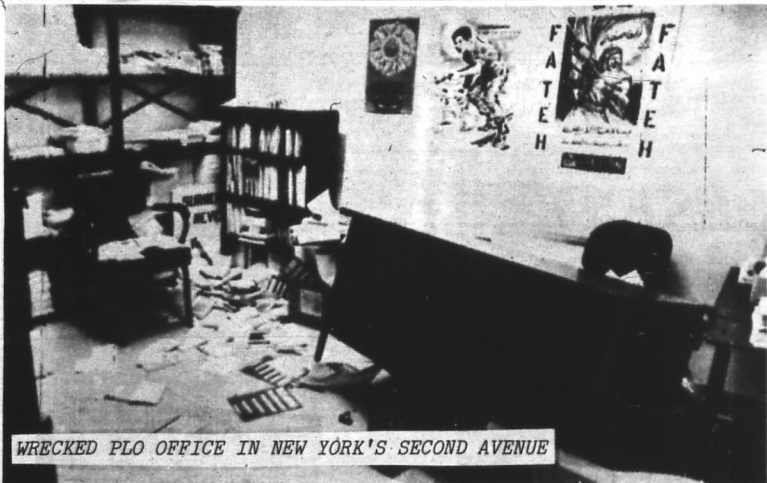
Affirming that the Gospel reveals a Messiah whose kingdom is not of this world while it is being manifested in this world, we reject the manipulation of Biblical texts for the purposes of political power. Being contrary to the spirit of Christianity, the Zionist political interpretation seems to us as unacceptable for Christians as it is for Jews faithful to the spiritual message of the Old Testament. It leads in effect to a scriptural legitimization of the grave injustices which the Palestinian people and other Arab people have undergone, in the face of which the human con-

We consider that the evacuation of occupied territories is a

A. — Christians obeying the judgment of God and led by his merciful grace, we ourselves undertake, and invite you, Christians of the whole world, to acquire a better knowledge of Arab problems and to support the Palestinian people in its resistance and in its struggle, which constitutes one of the most significant expressions of the struggle for man and for liberty.

1. The majority of the British participants express their solidarity with the Palestinian people in its revolutionary struggle against oppression.
2. We feel that all too often the churches have created a false dichotomy between peace and war. The Palestinian situation is inherently violent. The alternative to the perpetuation of the existing violence of poverty, exploitation and imperialism.
3. We note that the revolution has produced regeneration of the Palestinian nation.
4. We call upon the churches of the world to recognise this regeneration and to increase their aid to inherent Palestinian welfare and educational organizations.
5. We consider the political creed of Zionism to be the negation of the Christian Message. It is indivisible and, for this reason, we reaffirm our belief in plural states, epitomized by the concept of a secular Palestine where Christians, Jews and Moslems can play an equal part in building a nation.
6. We are aware that traditional religious associations with Palestine have been allowed to obscure the nature and aims of the contemporary Israeli State. We therefore encourage churches to counteract the political creed of Zionism by disseminating the correct information and the theological approach.

The Majority of the British Participants.



WRECKED PLO OFFICE IN NEW YORK'S SECOND AVENUE

U.S. ZIONISTS ATTACK OFFICES OF PLO AND ACTION COMMITTEE IN NEW YORK

Saadat Hassan, Secretary of the Palestine Liberation Organization bureau in New York, was manhandled and clubbed in his office May 22 by seven U.S. Zionist hoodlums of the "Jewish" Defense League.

The rooms occupied by the Palestine Liberation Organization were ransacked. Pap-

ers were strewn over the floor and desks and chairs were overturned. Hassan was taken to hospital.

In a second attack six US Zionist hoodlums invaded the office of the Action Committee on American Arab Relations. Dr. M.T. Mehdi, Secretary General of the committee, and his assist-

ant, Ghazi Khankan, were beaten with sticks and injured. Both men were removed to a hospital for treatment.

Following both attacks, the invaders escaped, police said.

Rabbi Meir Kahane, national chairman of the "Jewish" Defense League, a radical

Zionist organization, would not say if his group was involved, but praised the action as "a wonderful thing."

"It shows Arabs that Jewish blood is not cheap," he said.

It might save more lives if it acted as a deterrent to the Arabs, he said.



Fateh Posters Appear on U.S. Club in Malta

VALLETTA, Malta, May 16 (Associated Press)—Posters showing Arab hands clutching machine-guns and saying "My Faith: My Blood, My Name, Palestine Arab" appeared Saturday on buildings in the town of Silema near here.

The word "Fateh" appeared prominently on the posters and police believe they are connected with the Palestine Liberation Movement.

Police are reported to be trying to find out who stuck the posters, one of which appeared outside an American servicemen's club.

The posters followed news that several people in Silema had received mailed copies of a 16-page newspaper said to be issued from Fateh's Information Office.

Written in longhand on the backpage was a note saying the paper was being distributed by the Communist Party of Malta and those wishing to continue receiving it should write to their address.

Malta is particularly touchy about involvement in any way in the Israeli-Arab dispute, particularly since the Egyptian paper "Al Ahran" last year reported that the Israelis were busy turning the island into a base.



N.Y. POLICEMAN AND SECRETARY GO THROUGH DEBRIS AFTER ZIONIST GANGS BROKE INTO PLO OFFICE

GUPS to Sponsor World Conference on Palestine

The General Union of Palestine Students will sponsor the Second World Conference for Palestine in Amman Sept. 2-6 according to an official announcement made in Beirut May 28.

Conferees are expected to exceed 200, including international figures and representatives of national liberation movements in the Third World as well as student, youth and popular unions and organizations.

GUPS, the Palestine Liberation Organization and a number of international perso-

nalities yet to be named by the Preparatory Committee will figure among the list of speakers who will tackle various aspects of the conference's three major themes:

1. Zionism
2. The Palestinian Revolution, and
3. The Palestinian Alternative to the Zionist Entity.

The progress for the five-day conference will feature visits to commando bases, camps of evicted Palestinians and social institutions i.e. schools, workshops, the Palestinian Red Crescent etc..

Canada MP's Rap Israel

OTTAWA, May 22 (AP) — For perhaps the first time, Canadian Members of Parliament from all four political parties in the House of Commons have criticized Israel directly or by implication, for an attack on an Arab state, Rael Caouette, cradle leader, has described the May 12 Israeli attack on Lebanon as scandalous.

He has suggested that Canada

protest strongly to Israel.

The Commons criticism of Israel was begun May 13 by Ralph G. Stewart, Liberal MP for Cochrane, who said that he, had tried to maintain relative neutrality in the Middle East. He added that there are 80,000 Canadians of Lebanese origin.

Democrat MP Tim Shanning put this question to External Affairs Minister Mitchell Sharp, "The list of the objectives of the minister of the Canadian people to the invasion of Cambodia by United States troops, has the minister been able to convey the same feeling to the Israeli foreign minister, who now is the target of the objection to the country's invasion of Lebanon?" Sharp gave a noncommittal reply.

Caouette the next day described the Israelis as aggressors. Sharp was not in the Commons to comment.

RETIREMENT

JERUSALEM — David Ben Gurion, first prime minister of the Zionist settler-state of Israel, resigned May 18 from the Knesset (parliament).

Ben Gurion, former head of the ruling Labor Party and now leader of the small State List, said he was resigning because he was no longer taking an active part in the workings of parliament. He was Israel's premier and minister of defense from 1948 until 1963, with only a short interval as Mepai Party leader.

Since his resignation as premier in 1963, he has been living on settlement Be Soker in the Negev Desert, reportedly working on an autobiography.

He was born in Plonsk, Russia.

"We Feel Like Sitting Ducks"

TEL AVIV — The long-suppressed effects of repeated Katyusha rocket attacks by Palestinian commandos against Beit-Shean (Beissan) town in the Jordan Valley and the townlet of Kiryat Shemona and a dozen kibbutzim and settlements strung out along the northern border in Upper Galilee have started to surface.

The Israeli government was officially reported May 21 to be drafting plans to give Zionist settlers in these localities a tax break of up to 40 percent as a "duress allowance" accorded other Israeli border settlements.

Wrote Walter Schwarz in the May 17 edition of The Observer:

"Virtually all of the 63 miles of Israel's border with the Lebanon south of Mount Hermon and the sea are now controlled by Arab guerrillas..."

This town of Kiryat Shemona, with 1,000 immigrants, and a dozen villages and settlements strung out along the border, now suffer the fate of the Hula valley settlements that were at the mercy of Syrian guns on the Golan Heights before the war.

When the rockets start up again in earnest, Israel's dilemma will be acute. Tuesday's raid was intended primarily as a warning of more to come -- but more of the same could hardly be more effective...

Not only in Kiryat Shemona was Tuesday's raid seen as less than successful.

The raid had four aims: to punish the guerrillas, to persuade villagers that it was not in their interests to help the guerrillas, to teach Beirut that it cannot afford to shirk its sovereignty in remote areas, and to restore sagging morale among the bombed settlers and townsfolk. None of the aims was fulfilled.

Morale among the

rocketed settlers was indeed restored on Tuesday and Wednesday. They showered the returning raiders with flowers as if they had been liberators. But the familiar scream of the rockets was heard again on Thursday...

May 24 Schwarz wrote in the same daily from Avivim in Upper Galilee saying "both the young and the old are saying that they have had enough. They say they want to be moved back and let someone else have a turn at the border."

Tom Lambert, another press correspondent with LAT, wrote on the same subject saying:

"For more than one year now, Katyusha rockets have been crashing into and about this town, fired by Palestinian commandos, and they have caused a variety of effects and reactions here..."

"We feel like sitting ducks" exclaimed the young wife of a rabbi.

"Several of the town's rocket deaths so far this year occurred within the past two weeks. Several times in those two weeks Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Golda Meir, warned Lebanon and the commandos that such continued attacks could not be tolerated.

"Morale here began to sag, not dangerously, but noticeably."

"The Israeli government thus was faced with two issues -- shoring up morale so it would not erode further, which could jeopardize not only Kiryat Shemona's future but possibly some other Israeli border settlements, and proving its ability to safeguard Kiryat Shemona and thus its other settlements and citizens.

"On May 12 an Israeli force supported by jet fighters struck about 10 miles

into South Lebanon.

"On its way home, the task force rumbled through Kiryat Shemona. Its residents turned out by the thousands to hail the troops.

"Within 12 hours after the parade, the Palestinian commandos fired another Katyusha volley. Residents of Kiryat Shemona had expected the Israeli raid would end the Palestinian resistance..."

Palestinians Harassed in Turkey

Fateh and the General Union of Palestine Students have both rapped Turkish authorities for arbitrary measures against Palestinian students enrolled in Turkish universities on alleged charges that they were affiliated with Fateh.

Five such Palestinian students were arrested, tortured and deported in early May while scores of others were threatened with the same fate at the hand of Turkish authorities granting all possible facilities to Zionist agents.

Lauding the friendly Turkish people, Fateh defined its stand as follows:

1. Turkish authorities are asked to reinstate the five students at their universities, particularly that their exams are coming up shortly and that most of them are about to graduate.

2. Turkish authorities are requested to stop all deportation, assassinations, surveillance and search measures against Palestinian students.

3. Fateh reserves for itself the right to take the appropriate measures to face the hostile attitude the Turkish authorities are taking against Palestinians and their just cause.

GUPS:

A REVOLUTIONARY PILLAR



WILLIAM NASSAR AND KAMAL NAMARI, FORMER STUDENTS AFFILIATED WITH GUPS, NOW SERVE LIFE TERMS IN ISRAEL. BOTH HAVE JEWISH MOTHERS.



TAYSEER QUBA, FORMER GUPS PRESIDENT NOW SERVING PRISON TERM IN ISRAELI JAIL



GENERAL VIEW OF GUPS CONGRESS IN SESSION

PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION

As one of the bases of the Palestinian Revolution, the Union is seeking, in this sphere:

1. To make available the young, alert and educated elements required for the political and armed struggle waged by our people.
2. To link the mass of Palestinian students to the revolution directly, both in thought and action so that these students could channel their potentials to the service of the revolution upon graduation. Our Palestinian Revolution needs the engineer, the physician and the economist as much as it needs the revolutionary fighter. The former become fighters too in a comprehensive revolutionary war if they participate in the struggle.
3. To help develop a scientific approach to collective relationships among the masses.

THE ARAB NATION

The Arab nation is currently overcrowded with movements and trends which are all connected, directly or indirectly, to the Palestinian people's struggle. Here lies the importance of establishing contact with these movements and trends so that the strategic impact of the Palestinian Revolution may permeate Arab thought and conscience in depth. In this context, GUPS is seeking:

1. To establish strong ties with student federations and student leagues throughout the Arab World through its branches which are disseminated in the various Arab countries. These ties should be bolstered by cultural, political and social activities supporting our people's struggle.
2. To open a dialogue with progressive forces and trends of thought over the need to consolidate progressive Arab forces for the battle of destiny.

3. To prepare various studies about the problems confronting the masses of Arab students and to work for Arab student unity.

4. To work jointly on the international level with Arab student federations and leagues for winning over world public opinion to the liberation struggle of the Palestinian and other Arab peoples.

THE WORLD

The importance of the union's role in the world at large springs from the fact that student organizations throughout the world have turned out to personify the revolt of the young against Establishments, colonialism and imperialism. They also pool the future leaders in their respective societies and are naturally endowed to influence world public opinion.

In this sphere, GUPS is undertaking:

1. To establish relations with world student organizations and leagues and to attend their conferences so as to broaden contact with world masses.
2. To obtain scholarships for Palestinian students so that a greater number of them may continue their intellectual pursuits and benefit from the experiences of others.
3. To establish contact with world intellectuals and scholars and present to them scientific facts about the Palestinian struggle against the racist Zionist entity.

Since its inception, the General Union of Palestine Students (GUPS) brought together the educated and revolutionary Palestinian youth and served as an institution of the Palestinian mass struggle. It was also used by Palestinians as a forum to address Arab and world public opinions, including students, reiterating our people's determination to keep up their struggle for liberation and self-determination.

Throughout the past decade, which witnessed the birth from its ranks of many young revolutionaries currently leading the Palestinian armed struggle against Zionist presence in occupied Palestine, GUPS was, and continues to be, one of the most prominent Palestinian popular organizations which helped crystallize Palestinian thought and action as futile and impotent argumentations gave way to serious and productive endeavors by our people's armed revolutionary vanguards.

GUPS continues to mould scientific, revolutionary cadres capable of developing revolutionary action at all levels, particularly because of the following considerations:

1. GUPS is the natural organization which pools together the young, educated and revolutionary Palestinian elements that are most likely to have a high degree of incentive, motivation and creativity.
2. GUPS represents the mass of Palestinian students who, in turn, represent our people's future leaderships.
3. As an institution of the Palestinian mass struggle, GUPS forms educated, creative and revolutionary leaderships capable of affecting armed popular struggle to achieve the highest degree of effectiveness.
4. As an organization with branches in Europe, Africa and Asia, GUPS can muster student and other public opinion support in the world for our people's just struggle.

SCOPE OF WORK

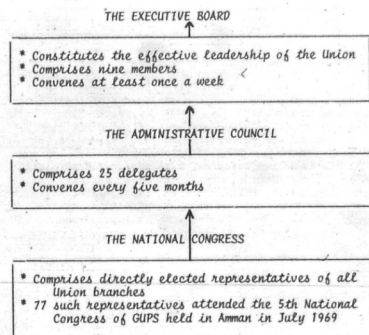
GUPS's scope of work covers four major areas: that of the mass of Palestinian students, the Palestinian Revolution, the Arab nation and the world at large.

PALESTINIAN STUDENTS

The mass of Palestinian students constitute the backbone of the union. Its role in this scope is:

1. To create the revolutionaries liable to participate, effectively and positively, in recuperating the dignity of our Palestinian people and in reconstructing the Arab nation.
2. To forge the necessary scientists, scholars and technicians liable to meet the pressing needs of our people. This can be achieved through cultural missions that would study and assimilate the experiences of others.
3. To develop social, cultural and political activities within the union's branches to bolster the sense of belonging among the Palestinian students themselves and to establish relations with other student unions in order to get acquainted with their experience.
4. To serve as a link between the rank and file on the one hand and the union leadership on the other through direct contacts, open discussions and other communications media.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF G.U.P.S.



THE NATIONAL CONGRESS

The National Congress is the highest organizational, legislative and policy-setting body of the General Union of Palestine Students.

During recess of the National Congress, its functions and authorities are assumed by the elected Administrative Council.

The National Congress comprises representatives elected by Palestinian student members of the various GUPS branches. The proportional representation of each branch is determined by the preceding Congress and embodied in the Union's constitution.

The functions of the Congress are:

1. To review and evaluate the work of the subsidiary bodies emanating from it.
2. To amend the constitution if and when the need arises.
3. To review Palestinian, Arab and international conditions and draft the necessary resolutions in the light of such review.
4. To review the Union's relations with other Arab and foreign student federations and "internationals" and draft the necessary resolutions in this respect.
5. To review internal relations within the Union as well as the ways and means of developing them and to draft the resolutions, regulations and programs necessary for controlling the Union's internal affairs. This function is important in the sense that the Union is still in the stage of growth and development in many parts of the world where Palestinian students are enrolled.
6. To review the Union's finances, endorse its previous budget and draft a new one.
7. To review information affairs and lay down information campaign programs.
8. To elect the Administrative Council and authorize it to plan and control implementation of the resolution it has endorsed in the various fields.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Currently, the Administrative Council comprises 25 members representing Palestinian students enrolled in most parts of the world and affiliated to the Union through its various branches. It is only natural to expect the number of Administrative Council seats to increase as new branches are founded between the National Congress sessions. Such an increase, however, can only be voted by the National Congress itself.

The Administrative Council currently in office includes seven members representing Palestinian students in the UAR; two representing Palestinian students in each of Lebanon, Yugoslavia and West Germany; one representing Palestinian students in each of Syria, Iraq, Turkey, Spain and Austria; five members of the former Executive Board who were instituted by the Congress; and two members who were named by the Congress for outstanding contributions to the Union in their former

capacities as Executive officers (by virtue of Article 15 of the Constitution).

The functions of the Administrative Council are:

1. To lay down the necessary plans and controls for implementation of the Congress resolutions through the Executive Board which it names in the course of its first meeting after the Congress. The Administrative Council delegates its authority to the elected Executive Board to run the daily work of the Union. The Council reviews, approves and/or amends the Board's work when it convenes every five months.
2. To supervise the Union's budget and control the accounts of the Executive Board.
3. To lay down the necessary by-laws governing Union elections, membership and affiliation fees.
4. To take the necessary resolutions concerning new developments in the Palestine cause in the light of the National Congress resolutions.
5. To have its members present periodical reports about their respective branches.
6. To vote or withhold confidence in the Executive Board as a whole or in individual Executive officers.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board comprises nine members elected from the Administrative Council. They constitute the effective Union leadership and manage the daily work of the union within the context of resolutions passed by both the National Congress and the Administrative Council. All Executive Board members are temporarily headquartered in Cairo and none of them holds office in any Union branch.

The Board policy is based on the principle of democratic centralization in order to safeguard student unity and maintain effective control over the various branches.

The Board also represents GUPS at all national and international conferences, coordinates work among the branches and controls their finances through its treasurer.

Public Relations

The Board's functions in the field of Public Relations are assumed jointly by the president and secretariat. The scope of work in this field includes the maintenance of archives and files, the preparation of Board and Council meetings, the follow-up on reports and the establishment of political contacts with national, regional and international organizations.

Foreign Relations

In the field of Foreign (student) Relations, the Board functions are assumed by the vice president and secretary for foreign affairs together with a student committee.

Internal Relations

In the field of Internal Relations, the Board functions are assumed by the vice president and secretary for internal affairs together with a student committee. The scope of work in this field centers around guidance to the Union's 81 city branches and offices in 23 countries (seven in the Arab World, 13 in Europe and three in Asia). Four more branches are currently being set up in Libya, Hungary, Jordan and Sudan.

GUPS branches are its front-line organizations. As such, they shoulder the direct responsibility of recruiting Palestinian students for membership in the Union. Their budgets are voted by the National Congress while financial assistance to branches founded in an interim period between two congresses is allocated by the Executive Board.

Each branch enjoys internal and financial autonomy within the framework of the Union's general policy.

The National Congress has approved unified by-laws for branches in the Arab World and different by-laws for other branches. It has also authorized the Executive Board to draft the necessary by-laws to set up confederations in countries having three GUPS branches or more.

Information

In the field of Information, implementation of the resolutions in this connection is the responsibility of the vice president for information whose scope of work covers films, publications, posters, political statements, a monthly organ, conferences and other related matters.

Finance

Financial affairs are handled by a treasurer with a committee elected by the Congress serving as comptroller.

Mao Statement

"WHO FEARS WHOM?"

PEKING—In a rare public statement broadcast by Peking Radio May 20, Chairman Mao Tse-tung said it was not the people of Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Palestine and other countries who feared U.S. imperialism but it is U.S. imperialism which fears the people of the world.

He said: "A weak nation can defeat a strong one, a small nation can defeat a big one."

"The people of a small country can certainly defeat aggression by a big country if only they dare to rise in struggle, take up arms and grasp in their own hands the destiny of their country. This is a law of history."

Chairman Mao said: "The danger of a new world war still exists and the people of all countries must get prepared."

"But revolution is the main trend in the world today."

Chairman Mao said he warmly supported the government in exile formed by deposed Cambodian head of state Norodom Sihanouk in Peking early this month and anti-American alliance formed by Indochinese leftist forces.

"Strengthening their unity, supporting each other and persevering in a protracted peoples' war, the three Indochinese peoples will certainly overcome all difficulties and win complete victory" he added.

Chairman Mao said: "U.S. imperialism which looks like a huge monster is in essence a paper tiger, now in the throes of its deathbed struggle."

"In the world of today, who actually fears whom?"

Chairman Mao said it was not the people of Indochina, Palestine and other countries who feared U.S. imperialism.

"It is U.S. imperialism which fears the people of the world" he said.

"It becomes panic-stricken at the mere

rustle of leaves in the wind. Innumerable facts prove that a just cause enjoys abundant support while an unjust cause finds little support."

Mao said President Nixon's government was beset with troubles internally and externally and there

was "utter chaos at home and extreme isolation abroad."

The mass protest movement against U.S. aggression in Cambodia had swept the globe and the situation in the Indochina war of resistance was getting better and better, he said.

U.S. AIDS ISRAEL

WASHINGTON—The United States has agreed to furnish Israel with 45.2 million dollars in commodities this year under a new food for peace aid contract.

Agriculture Department officials said May 7 the agreement was signed by Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco and Israel Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin at the State Department.

The agreement provides funds to cover Israeli purchases on a 40-year credit.

It provides for 500,000 metric tons of feed grain valued at 25.2 million dollars; 250,000 tons of wheat at 13.6 million dollars; 15,000 tons of vegetable oil at 4 million; and 200 tons of tobacco at 400,000 dollars.

Officials said the commodities will be supplied during calendar 1970. Israel already has purchased in advance of the agreement about 37,000 tons of wheat and 318,000 tons of feed grain.

State Department officials on the other hand, confirmed May 19 that the United States is supplying bombs to Israel as part of a continuing U.S. military assistance program.

The sources rejected suggestions that the Pentagon was handling deliveries on a secret basis and that the State Department had been kept in the dark about the bomb shipments.

Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey told a press conference that the U.S. government was providing Israel with a

number of items of military hardware under the existing U.S. Israel military aid agreement.

He said there was no secrecy about this, although he declined publicly to identify the items involved apart from the supply of 50 Phantom jet fighter-bombers, which has long been on the public record.

But department officials said there was no doubt that bombs were included in the aid program.

Two days later, on May 21, Senate minority leader Hugh Scott said Israel will get the Phantom jets it wants and get them on long-term credit.

"The President is aware that the survival of Israel is essential to U.S. defense," Scott told the American Jewish Congress, meeting in convention. "Israel should have the jets, it should have them on long-term credit and it should have them now," the Republican Senator said.

Meanwhile in Tel Aviv an American study team has completed closed door discussions with the government on Israel's economic requests.

The five-man team of economists from various U.S. government agencies reportedly did not negotiate, but only collected facts and analyzed information submitted by Treasury officials.

Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir reportedly has asked for 1.5 billion dollars in loans from the United States during the coming five years.

'Creeping Annexation'

TEL AVIV — Israeli Deputy Premier Yigal Allon has said the first homes for Zionist settlers in occupied Hebron will go up in three months.

Allon told members of the ruling alignment May 21 that 250 housing units would be ready in Hebron end of 1971.

He said the Israeli cabinet also had plans for the building of new homes for the present group of 140 Zionist settlers already established in the town.

Plans to build an

additional large Zionist urban quarter in the occupied town, which has a population of some 40,000 Palestinian Arabs, were still open, he added.

Last month, Israeli military authorities cordoned off and took over a 740-acre area near the town's military government for alleged security reasons.

Mercenaries With Israel

CAIRO — About 15,500 foreigners are now serving as volunteers with the Israeli armed forces.

According to Cairo's weekly "Rose al Youssef" 3,500 of the total were non-Jews of twelve nationalities, including the United States, Britain, South Africa, Rhodesia, Canada and Australia. The rest are Zionist Jews holding dual nationality, mostly from Western and Latin American countries.

Most of these volunteers serve in the air force, air defense system, and the navy.

Nablus out Of Bounds For Tourists?

JERUSALEM — Tourism Minister Moshe Kol, said May 4 he had proposed dropping the occupied city of Nablus from tourists' routes following a commando attack there last month.

Six foreign "tourists" were among 21 people wounded when a grenade was hurled at their bus.

Speaking to a delegation of American visitors, Kol said "a city which does not know how to receive guests is not entitled to earn a living from them."

Kol said after similar acts in the Gaza Strip the area was closed to tourists.

"I do not see where Nablus is more important to tourists than Gaza" he claimed

U.S. Mayors Visit Israel

TEL AVIV — A dozen United States mayors who were on a week's visit to Israel as guests of the ministry of tourism and El Al Airline left here May 5.

The leader of the group, Sam Massel of Atlanta, summed up the visit by saying Israel had gained 12 ambassadors of goodwill.

Massel said the members of the group had political influence and following their visit were now enthusiastic supporters of the Zionist settler-state.

On May 7, former U.S. Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey ended a four-day visit to Israel and left for home after promising to lobby for additional U.S. arms shipment to Israel.

Humphrey said at Tel-Aviv airport that giving U.S. weapons to Israel is a "step for peace and not for war."

"I'll bring Israel's demands for weapons and especially Phantom jets to the American people."

Meanwhile, the mayor of Ottawa, Canada, Kenneth H. Fogarty and his wife arrived in Tel Aviv May 8 as guests of the municipality of occupied Jerusalem.

ECONOMIC BATTLEFRONT

Israeli Trade Deficit Rockets; Devaluation Seems Inevitable

Israel's trade deficit in the first quarter of 1970 rose to \$146 million — 25% more than the deficit in the last quarter of 1969 and 50% up on the last quarter of 1968.

The Central Bureau of Statistics said imports (net) totalled \$352 million in the first quarter of 1970 while exports (net) reached \$206 million.

A revealing article on the Israeli economy, entitled "Economic Battlefront," appeared in The Financial Times of May 5.

Written by Richard Johns, Middle East Correspondent of The Financial Times, the article stated in part:

Investment growth

Although gross investment in the economy rose by 44 per cent in 1968, admittedly over a relatively low base following a period of recession and again by 24 per cent last year when it reached a record level of \$1,600m. This intense economic activity in itself would have seriously strained the balance of payments by stimulating imports, consumption and imports of capital goods.

With the additional burden of the need to buy defence supplies from overseas, the Government faced the New Year — and, indeed, the decade — with a payments crisis of critical proportions. In 1969, foreign exchange reserves fell by about \$200m. to \$282m, well below the \$500m. that the Bank of Israel sees as the "safety net" and the \$800m. at the close of 1968. The visible trade deficit yawned from \$139m. in 1967 to \$311m. in 1968 and \$400m. last year.

Equally serious has been the escalating cost of what are known officially as "Government services" — predominantly defence imports — which showed a deficit of over \$300m. in 1969 and 1968. According to Mr. Pinhas Sapir, the Minister of Finance, in all some \$500m. was spent on the import of arms and materials for defence in 1969. The current deficit amounted to nearly \$900m. in 1969.

Since its earliest days, Israel has been dependent on a big net capital inflow, not only as a means to self-sustained growth in the long run, but also to cover its endemic trade deficit. By contrast with other developing countries (which have had no comparable defence burden), Israel has been fortunate in receiving a large volume of unilateral transfers — in particular, private imports of capital by settlers, German restitution payments and Jewish funds from abroad. Last year these ran at nearly \$500m., while aids of Independence and Development loans abroad, together with other aid, brought about more than \$200m. But, whereas in 1968 net current aid just over \$750m. was sufficient to cover the current deficit, last year the shortfall was more than \$200m.

Price paid

This is the price that Israel has had to pay for holding the ceasefire line: the fast growth in high rate of investment which have been, inextricably linked with the defence effort, despite the positive by-product of the war-gear economy. There was sufficient slack in the economy in 1967 for the expansion to take place under no too much pressure on industrial capacity or the

labour market (where the situation has been eased by the employment of Arabs from the occupied territories), despite the long periods of reservist duty being served.

With the scope for monetary devices almost exhausted, the need for a deflationary fiscal policy was clear long before Mr. Sapir introduced his budget in February. It is arguable that the measures in it should have been introduced several months before last November's election. Now the majority of economic experts question whether it can really control the widening deficit. With a cut in defence spending impossible to contemplate and investment sacrosanct for the future economic strength of the state, it is hard to squeeze private consumption.

In the event, the \$1,900m. budget was nearly 25 per cent more than the previous year's original figure (which was subsequently adjusted in the course of the year). A precise prediction of the state of the budget is difficult because of the extra-budgetary allocations in 1969-70 and the same situation is likely to give a fuller account than hitherto of actual spending. The 1970-71 budget (\$1,500m.) including associated civil defence items, accounts for 40 per cent of total spending and nearly three per cent of revenue. Servicing of debt-foreign and domestic — is to account for no less than 20 per cent of spending.

The pay-price package deal that accompanied the budget raised wages nominally by 8 per cent, but half of this is in the form of compulsory six-year savings bonds and is matched by a similar contribution from employers. Increased contributions to the National Insurance and Equalisation Funds, the conversion of last year's voluntary loan into a defence one, bigger levies on luxury goods and nearly three per cent of most some \$1,400m. for the Treasury.

The average Israeli will be a great deal worse off — it is claimed that the wage rise has already been wiped out by higher prices, even though part of the deal was that employers raise their prices. It is estimated that the package will raise overall costs of output by 4.5 per cent — an increase that is unlikely to be covered by greater productivity across the board.

In the first two months of the year the trade deficit was running at a level 48 per cent above last year's rate. The heavy imbalance on current account will probably be about \$1,100m. despite the positive by-product of imports of goods and services expected to rise by 14.5 per cent and exports by 15 per cent.

However, the Government has rejected devaluation on the grounds that the economic

momentum cannot be slowed down below a 9.5 per cent growth rate because of the overriding demands of security, investment and immigration.

It is argued that a more realistic but feasible, a change in parity would do nothing to improve the balance of payments.

As it is, the reserves had been held steady in the first quarter and this has helped to cover the 1970 deficit by increasing capital imports. Nearly \$600m. will come from unilateral transfers, but the rest will only increase long-term debt commitments which are already becoming a heavy burden. Last year the foreign debt rose by \$300m. to \$2,300m.

Capacity will be released for export production, but rising labour costs could affect Israel's competitiveness in overseas markets marginally. More important, most of the \$1,400m. will not, in effect, be taken out of the economy but will go to boost Government spending and imports. In addition, an estimated \$100m. will be provided by deficit financing.

The forecasts of spending and imports will be made on the chances are that Government borrowing, with its inflationary potential, will be much more than it was in 1968-70 when the projected deficit of \$1,600m. became one of \$1,200m. This has led the Governor of the Bank of Israel and the country's three leading academic economists to the conclusion that the fiscal measures have not solved the problem of the dollar drain and that devaluation may be inevitable.

The Bank of Israel has calculated that the current account deficit will be put in balance by the end of the decade if exports went up by 15 per cent, a year and the annual rise in imports limited to 10 per cent. But, according to recent Press reports, the Economic Planning Authority has forecast that the aggregate payments deficit in 1971-75 will be about \$6,000m. — or \$1,500m. a year. The gravity of the situation is underlined by recent reports that the request to the U.S. has been raised from \$1,000m. to \$1,500m. for the next five years. In this situation, it may be relevant to ask not whether Israel needs more Phantoms and Skyhawks, but if it can afford them.

Palestine Conflict: Social, Economic Factors

By George Corm

"The social and economic facts of the Palestinian conflict are often overshadowed by the political and religious aspects which are of a more sensational character in this case. However, it has often been the case, and even more so in the case of Palestine, a honest analysis of the social and economic factors is the best means of understanding the dynamics of material interests, and situations of exploitation hidden behind the façade of religious or political idealism. History unfortunately provides us with more than one example of material interests acting as a catalyst for religious fanaticism. In the case of the Palestinian conflict the powerful Zionist propaganda machine, from the earliest colonial days, succeeded in its efforts to do so by basing its case on a large number of misleading and false social and economic facts in the image which it attempted, and partly succeeded to make of itself for the world.

As a matter of fact, the basic reality, the one which the historical and religious propaganda contrives such to ignore, is that the social and economic facts of the Palestinian conflict are in every way similar to those found in any colonialist enterprise, particularly colonialist settler movements. The indigenous population is expelled to the hinterland and the best lands forcibly appropriated by the settlers. Elsewhere, the ultimate aim of this colonialization is an integration within the wider framework of the invader's social, economic, cultural and political structures, and the large degree of imperialism that the original inhabitants will tire of and resign themselves to this situation which is supposed to be secure to the colonial settlement and the imperialist forces which support it. The permanent economic domination over large markets.

In fact, Zionist colonialism of Palestine was characterized from the beginning by the classical features of colonial oppression, which aimed at maintaining the total social, economic and technological supremacy of a settler minority, the objective being to cancel out the simple relation of population forces unfavorable to the occupant. The immigrant settlers have only been able to secure this supremacy through the use of force and violence with respect to the local population. Thus all the social, economic and cultural structures of the indigenous population were from the beginning exclusively reserved to the Jewish element, to the exclusion of all local elements (Muslim or Christian). To take, for example, the field of health representing only 10 per cent of the total population in 1944, the Jews managed to secure over 70 per cent of the hospital care and, in non-Jewish hospitals, accepted considerable numbers of Jews, the Jewish establishment only took in a negligible number of non-Jews. The same phenomenon may be observed in the schools where the Jewish population of 474,102 in 1941 had 63,000 children in school with 1,287 teachers, while the Arab population, with a population of 1,111,394 at the same date, had only 56,000 children in school with 1,456 teachers. The same must be said for the financial organization of the country, under which the Jewish element in 1944 held only 3 per

cent of all deposits, while the Anglo-Palestine Bank, the official institution of the Zionist movement, held 45 per cent of the deposits and 90 per cent combined with Barclays Bank and the Citibank. Furthermore, the Zionist colonization had at its disposal a network of 44 credit co-operatives, 30 mortgage banks, all these Zionist institutions were set up through the financial aid of the international Zionist movement. The Jewish Agency (created by the British Mandate for Palestine, Haifa, Jaffa, etc., which subsequent to 1947 received as much as 60 per cent of their resources from Jewish communities in the United States, in addition they were simply aided by the Mandatory Government, in spite of the fact that they discriminated against the Palestinian population, and the Zionist movement goes even further. Using socialism as a pretext, the Jewish colonialist establishment has succeeded in the Arab labor in Jewish establishments and institutions.

In spite of this situation of colonial domination, the Zionist movement has a solid economic defense: On the eve of the great spoliation of the land, the settlers had not been able to acquire more than 5 per cent of the country's land and the Palestinians still took 90 per cent of the revenue from agriculture (the citrus fruit industry was already ruined, while the olive tree, the Zionist colonists) and 40 per cent of the trade and services of the country. The Zionist movement had to take by force more than two billion dollars worth of property and real estate, in order to acquire this source of illegally-acquired and permanent assets, considered by the Zionists as the only way to come in order to consolidate the work of usurpation and advance the settlers to the stage of social and technological development privileged in relation to the indigenous population. This consolidation would make all potentially nonviolent decolonization and more difficult, even if the expansionist dynamism of the Zionist entity were to disappear.

Here again, few figures alone which we have obtained from Israeli sources permit us to appraise the extent of certain economic facts. In the period of 1949-1967 alone, Israel received 7 billion dollars in aid officially registered as such, and 10 per cent of which are, approximately the aggregate of the 1966 national income of the neighboring border states of Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, and Lebanon. There is no doubt that the foreign aid received annually by each Israeli citizen since the creation of the Jewish state in 1948 has been greater than the average per capita gross income of each Egyptian, Syrian, or Lebanese citizen, and greater than the average gross income of most African states. In the early 1960's, Israel has received per annum around 500 to 600 million dollars in foreign aid, and has thus consumed approximately 10 per cent of the aid given by the rich countries to the countries of the Third World. In other words, the rich countries have allocated to a population a thousand times smaller than the Third World, a number of have-nots in the world 10 per cent of the aid (marked for the under-developed regions).

China: "With Palestine Always & Forever"

Chinese Premier Chou-en Lai addressed May 25 the following letter to Yasser Arafat in his capacity as PLO Executive Committee chairman and official spokesman of Fateh:

With American imperialist support, Israel lately sent with insolence a large number of its troops to invade the southern Lebanon in a desperate attempt to liquidate Palestinian commando units. Together with the peoples of Arab countries, both military and civilian, the Palestinian commando units hastened to resist heroically and succeeded in repelling the enemy's outrageous attacks and in crushing his shameful attempts. Your victory substantially boosted the morale of revolutionary peoples and squashed much of the enemy's arrogance. We are extremely proud of your revolutionary spirit in not fearing sacrifices and in resisting heroically. We express our strong condemnation on the new aggressive actions committed by American and Israeli reaction.

At the present moment, a new big tide of struggle by world peoples against American imperialism is underway. The armed revolutionary struggles waged by world peoples against American imperialism and its lackeys is currently fanning like fire -- which is a source of strong support and encouragement to the Arab peoples and the peoples of the whole world in their struggles against imperialism.

In tightening the rope around the neck of imperialism in the Middle East, you are directing successive blows to the American and Israeli aggressors and presenting, in turn, strong support and encouragement to the three peoples of Indochina and the peoples of the whole world in their struggles against imperialism.

The great leader of the Chinese people, Chairman Mao, recently appealed: "PEOPLE OF THE WORLD, UNITE AND DEFEAT THE U.S. AGGRESSORS AND ALL THEIR RUNNING DOGS!"

The revolutionary struggles of the peoples in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the whole world against American imperialism are all progressing now in leaps and bounds. The revolutionary mass movement has also been launched at an unprecedented level within the United States of America, which constitutes a slap in the face to the reactionary American imperialist regime. The day is not far ahead yet when American imperialism and its running dogs will be buried.

Mr. Chairman, Your struggle is a just struggle enjoying the support of revolutionary peoples throughout the world. China, with its people and government, supports your struggle indefatigably and persistently. We stand by you always and forever. We are firmly convinced that the Palestinian people and other Arab peoples engaged in the revolutionary struggle against imperialism will certainly be able -- through perseverance in unity and the long-term popular war -- to overcome all obstacles on their path, to crush all the enemy's plots and intrigues, to repulse the aggressors and to achieve complete victory.

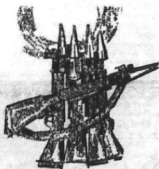
WANTON SHELLING

BEIRUT-- Twenty people were killed, including seven women and children, and 40 wounded in a five-hour wanton Israeli shelling of four Lebanese border towns May 22.

More than 80 houses were destroyed by the Israeli artillery attack on Bint Jbeil, Yaroun, Aitaroun and Bleda -- all in the Bint Jbeil and Marjoun districts.

Israel launched the artillery barrage against Lebanese civilian targets less than an hour after a commando bazooka attack on an Israeli bus travelling from the village of Bar Am to Dovor on a military road often used by Israeli military patrols along the borders with Lebanon.

The enemy claimed the loss of 11 dead and 22 wounded in the bus ambush.



ABJAN-- Israeli troops killed 51 Palestine Arabs in occupied territory during the first four months of this year while firing on people following hand-grenade attacks on Israeli patrols.

Some 400 other civilians were wounded during the same period. During the final four months of last year 17 people were killed and 103 wounded.

Eban Meets Protests

OTTAWA-- Palestinian and other Arab demonstrators marched on parliament hill May 14 and shouted at Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban as he drove off from meetings with Canadian external affairs officials.

The demonstrators paraded slowly in the warm sunshine chanting "Long Live Fateh" and "Long Live Palestine."

Eban's departure was heavily guarded by Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Security officers far outnumbered the demonstrators. The protection included plain-clothesmen perched atop roofs of

the parliament buildings.

The day before, security men swooped on Eban's plane as it prepared to take off from London enroute to Canada.

The flight was delayed 20 minutes while checks were made.

As the foreign minister sat aboard the jet the late arrivals' luggage was spread out on the runway and they were asked to identify each bag.

Earlier, all other passengers had been taken through a boarding gate fitted with an electronic eye 'Frisker' which can detect metal of the density of a gun, grenade or heavy knife.

Israel's Daily War Expense: £1 Million

TEL AVIV, May 5 (R)-- The director general of the Defense Ministry Yehoshua Levi said here Tuesday Israel spent 10 million Israeli pounds (over one million sterling) daily on its war effort.

He also said in an interview in an army magazine that Israel produced nearly all the ammunition required by its army.

When ammunition was bought elsewhere it was for economic reasons and not because of technical difficulties, he claimed.

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