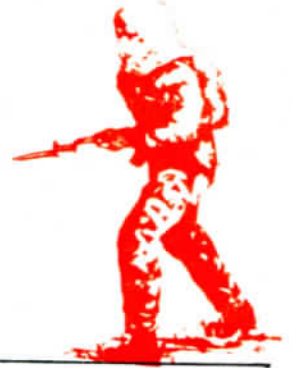


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JOURNAL OF THE PALESTINE SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN



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MAY 1970

SIXPENCE

SUPPORT PALESTINE WEEK

On May 15th Imperialism and Zionism created the State of Israel and in so doing uprooted the Palestinian people en masse. One of the greatest political and human crimes of modern times was thus cold-bloodedly implemented.

Twenty two years after, the Palestinian people are engaged in an armed struggle to liberate their homeland. To mark Palestine Week the PSC will be holding a number of events in London to promote understanding of the Palestinian Revolution and to strengthen the British movement of solidarity with the Palestinian and Arab people's struggle against Zionism and imperialism. The occasion provided by these events must be used by PSC militants and supporters to explain to the British people the important political relevancy to them of the conflict in the Middle East often erroneously termed the "Middle East crisis" by the bourgeois press in the West (as if the whole decisive confrontation in that region of the world between the forces of progress and reaction can be simplified into a diplomatic crisis).

The British people need, in fact, a special awareness of what is going on in Palestine. Historically British imperial policy was the main backer of the Zionist movement and of the racist oppressive structure that now occupies Palestine and is spreading its tentacles not only militarily across Arab lands but also politically and economically

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Palestinians and Jordanians demonstrating against the proposed visit of U. S. Undersecretary of State Joseph Sisco. Many American installations in Amman were attacked and burnt to the ground including the American Information office. The masses, led by the fedayeen, succeeded in preventing the visit and foiling the 'political solution' plot.

PALESTINE WEEK 1970

Events to mark a week of solidarity with the Palestinian people:

PALESTINE WEEK this year will see a mounting of activities in support of the Palestinian people's struggle. Since the first PSC conference, more and more people have been taking part in the numerous activities of the centre and the branches.

Apart from the various functions organised by the branches for the Week, central activities include a public meeting at Kensington Town Hall, May 15 with speakers from the Palestinian Fedayeen and the NLF of Vietnam. Also speaking will be Reg Birch (AEF and working class leader) and John Ryan MP. On Sunday May 17

a mass rally will be held in Trafalgar Square with speakers from many British revolutionary and progressive organisations. The rally will be followed by a march to the Israeli Embassy. The march will halt at Grosvenor Square where the US Embassy is located. There the demonstration will protest against imperialism, the enemy of the Palestinian and Arab peoples as well the oppressed people of Asia, Africa and Latin America, for their continued backing of Israeli aggression.

On May 12th. NW London branch is organising a social evening with a photo exhibition and film show.

Israeli neo-colonialism in Africa

The withdrawal of the colonial powers - in name at least - from the majority of the countries of Africa has left an opening for other imperialist powers to attempt to spread their influence, to increase their markets, and to secure their exploitation interests. Among these are, inevitably, Japan, West Germany and the United States. Of great, though unrealised importance, however, is the influence and activity of Israel, which, since the achievement of "independence" by the African states, has spread through sub-Saharan Africa, both in progressive and neo-colonialist countries.

The strategic design of Israel, seeking to secure friends in the Afro-Asian world, seeking to ensure that the continent of Africa is divided on the issue of Israel, seeking to subvert and harass the Arab world from the south, is coupled to an economic desire to expand markets in the African continent, and to secure a foothold in the new neo-colonialist scramble for Africa. Although the economic rationale behind Israeli expansionism in Africa is important, it should not be forgotten that the main reason for the activity is the strategic and political one.

The nature of Israeli activity in black Africa is significantly different to that of other neo-colonialist countries. While the United States, for example, pours in money and advisers to reactionary regimes, like that in Kenya, Israeli activity is in a lower key - offering advisers but not massive sums of money. The "advisers" are used in several fields - the most important however, are used in agricultural development, the training of military forces and the establishment of youth corps. In several African countries, Israelis are assisting in the development of kibbutz-like agricultural schemes: projects which have been described by American officials concerned with "aid" to the "third world" as being a form of "socialism" that is acceptable to the "free world". Youth corps are being developed as a para-military arm of the

ruling party - as, for example, in Malawi, also a centre of South African expansionism. Armies are being trained by Israeli military missions. Although the Israelis themselves are unwilling to admit how many military missions they have in Africa, they are known to be active in Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Chad, and Congo (Kinshasa)

And it is these missions which play perhaps the most significant role in Israeli strategy towards the continent. The mission in Congo (Kinshasa) collaborates with the Americans in training the army of Colonel Mobutu. It also works closely with Holden Roberto, leader of the CIA-backed "Revolutionary Angolan Government in Exile (GRAE)" who has for some years helped to divide and hold back the advance of the Angolan liberation movement. In all these countries the Israelis are engaged in a mission of subversion against the Arab world that reveals their true interest.

In Ethiopia, Israeli forces, in considerable numbers have taken over from the Americans as the main supporters, in the field, of the feudalist Haile Selassie regime. The guerillas of the Eritrean Liberation Front who have been fighting for nine years to free Eritrea from Ethiopian domination are orientated culturally and politically towards the progressive forces in the Arab world. The ELF, for example, has worked closely with Fateh since before the June war. A victory for the front would mean that the whole of the Red Sea was bordered by a country hostile to Israel. The Emperor - the Lion of Judah - can rely, therefore on Israeli help to preserve his throne against the Eritreans and against internal unrest.

In Kenya, the Israelis are implicated in the suppression of the Somalis and again, Kenya is a country where the Israelis are quite active. In Uganda, although a broadly progressive government is in power,

the Israelis are active in supporting the rebels in Southern Sudan, as, indeed they are also doing in the Congo. At least six Israeli officers are known to be training Southern Sudanese rebels in the refugee camps in the north of Uganda. Sudanese forces have captured Israeli arms and anti-aircraft guns from the rebels. Although the involvement of the Israelis has been known for some years, it is significant that since the Sudanese revolution of May 1969, the involvement has been greatly increased. With the determination of the Sudanese Revolutionary Government to throw its full weight behind the Palestinian Revolution, the Israelis are seeking to subvert the Sudan. In Chad, the situation is different. Amin's reactionary government in Chad is under heavy pressure from the guerrillas, representing the progressive forces of the majority of the population. If Chad is liberated from its puppet regime then the country will begin to play an active role in the anti-Israel struggle - the political programme of FROLINA declares that Israel and South Africa are the only two states that it would not recognise. Therefore, Israel is collaborating with France in propping up the Tombalbaye regime. The pattern of Israeli involvement political, economic and military, in Africa poses a direct threat to the Arab world, and is aimed at diverting Arab resources away with frontal conflict with the Israel state. The fascist powers at either end of the continent - Israel and South Africa - are both seeking to advance into the centre, where they collaborate, trying to out-flank anti-imperialist and progressive countries in the continent.

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LOCAL PSC BRANCH LASHES 'LAW'

Nervous at the prospect of a solidarity movement gaining momentum, the local authorities in Britain are doing their utmost to stamp out any activities which support the Palestinian struggle.

The Brent Borough Council is no exception. The NW London Branch of PSC planned a public meeting and filmshow in April, hiring a council building, Anson Hall, Cricklewood for the purpose. But at the eleventh hour three branch members were arrested, detained and despatched to the magistrate for the puny "offence" of affixing a leaflet to a wall in Willesden.

The police made no secret of their antagonism to this political activity and subsequently alerted the higher echelons of Brent Council, suggesting that the meeting was "dangerous". Thoroughly agreeing the officials hastily launched their schemes to sabotage the meeting. The branch committee was sent a harassing note which included a "reminder" that no charge for admission was to be made even though a sum of money had been paid for the right to do so. Nor was a collection to be taken.

Annoyed with the branch's determination to continue the meeting the council mobilised a trouble-shooter to wreak some more damage. "Why have you chosen an area with so many Jews in it?" he demanded. When told that the Palestine Revolution was not anti-Jewish and had many Jewish supporters he tried a more direct approach. "You cannot sell literature on the premises." When taxed on this he blandly stated "I am the law".

But his "trump card" was yet to come. Shortly before the meeting a large contingent of police complete with Black Maria descended on the hall. With the 80 strong audience somewhat perturbed by the presence of this security "force" guest speaker Faisal Khadra remarked that the "atmosphere in this hall is slightly, only slightly, reminiscent of the atmosphere reigning in Palestine for the past 50 years". The meeting proceeded successfully and the police disappointed at the absence of any opposition elements, went home.

Israel intensifies attacks on civilians

Israel committed a further crime against the Arab peoples by the bombing of a primary school at the Nile delta. The school, a six room, one storey building in a farming village in Egypt suffered direct hits from

U.S. supplied Phantoms. The school was flattened to the ground soon after the children aged between six and ten started their lessons. 47 children were killed and 50 more injured, several with severe injuries.

Only six weeks before, in February, Israeli aircrafts bombed a metal-works factory near Cairo killing 86 workers and wounding over 100. That time the Israeli authorities claimed that it was a "technical error". One couldnt but be reminded of the numerous "technical errors" of the Americans in Vietnam killing scores of Vietnamese men, women and children in the process. Israel came up with a different story this time to justify their wanton murder of Arab children. The Israelis claimed that Bahr al Bakar, the village bombed was in fact a military establishment and that it is the Egyptians who are to blame for putting the school right in the middle of it. What atrocious logic, the logic of gangsters. The facts of this raid show that it was carried out both with impunity and precision. The raid was carried out in daylight. Only the school, a one-storey building was destroyed while other buildings surrounding it, including an office block adjoining were hardly touched. Western correspondents who visited the village after the attack reported that the school was part of a set of concrete buildings. The five classrooms were attached to an office block used by the sites (an agricultural site) engineers. "Whereas the school was levelled, the office blocks escaped with only window and furniture shattered" (Times April 13th). The Zionists were obviously after a prime military target, Bahr el Bakar Primary School and succeeded in their mission of April 8th.



The ruins of the Egyptian school

The Zionists have always followed a policy of intimidation by terror and murder, ever since Zionist settlement began early this century. As the resistance of the Palestinian people increased so Zionist terror increased and became more organised and systematic. Nowadays bombing attacks are carried out daily by the Zionists' newly acquired Phantom jets against villages in Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Lebanon; Palestinian homes dynamited out of existence in the occupied territories etc. The purpose of this is to cow the Palestinian people and the Arab peoples in general and force them to accept the Zionist settler state. But as history proved over and over again, the more the imperialists and their stooges oppress the masses, the more the masses resist and fight against the oppressing forces. The Palestinian flag is now flying over the ruins of the school at Bahr al Bakar in defiance of the Israeli aggressors and their U.S. supplied phantoms.

PALESTINE WEEK

SUPPORT PALESTINE WEEK

continued from
front page

through Africa. The victimisation of the Palestinian people, the napalm bombing of Arab villagers, workers and children, the torture and oppression characteristic of the Zionist government can all find their source here in Britain where previous and present governments, aided and abetted Zionism and conspired with it

Let no-one be fooled into thinking that Britain's direct imperial role has somehow vanished because of total subservience to the interests of American imperialism. A look at South Africa maintained by British finance can serve as one example of the fact that British imperialism is alive and well and living in Whitehall and Lombard Street. Britain's support for Israel goes beyond financial aid generously provided under the masquerade of "charities", and enjoying the patronage of such noted personalities as the Duke of Edinburgh. A constant source of British tanks flows to Israel to serve in strengthening the latter's hold on Arab territory. The latest British tank, the Chieftain, is expected to soon further enhance Israel's armoury of hardware.

The Palestinians are fighting a war of liberation which directly involves the British government and its policies and thus must positively relate to the interests of the British people as a whole, particularly the working class. This is the lesson to Britain, of Palestine Week.



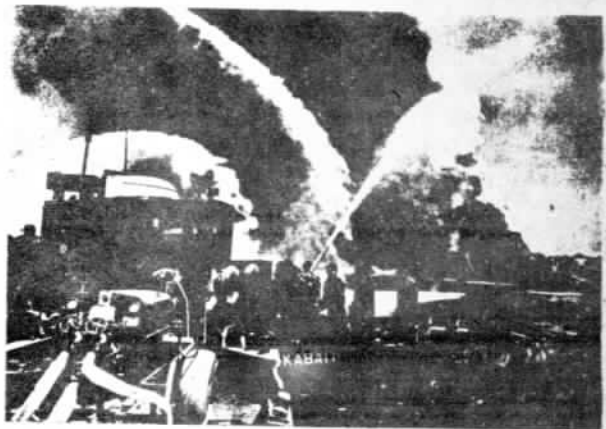
PALESTINE WEEK

Palestinians demonstrating against British rule in 1933. British imperialism served as an umbrella for Zionist colonisation.

Zionist troops forcing their way into a Palestinian home after the latest wave of Zionist expansion in 1967.



The scene at Haifa in 1969 after an operation by the fedayeen.



Palestinian women in 1934 taking active part in the armed struggle against the British occupation.

From a displaced ^{refugee} refugee to a fighter for liberation. The great contemporary achievement of the Palestinian Revolution in the final stages of the Palestinian people's confrontation with Zionism and Imperialism.



Amnesty Accuses Israel

For anyone at all familiar with the Zionist activities in Palestine, the report published by Amnesty International on April 1st was no surprise. The report cited four cases from amongst many others, of torture used by Israeli interrogators and soldiers against the civilian population of Palestine. The cases included a girl aged 18, beaten with a metal rod, kicked and punched, once in front of her mother, who was also arrested; another, a motor mechanic, aged 26, suspended by his wrists from a window bar, whipped and had electric current passed through his genitals; another after the electric shock was given a glass of urine to drink etc. What is probably more interesting than the actual cases of torture of which there are scores to be told by the Palestinians, is that Amnesty, a well known international organisation with great influence on public opinion in the West should publish such a report in spite of Israeli and Zionist pressure in general.

For a second time in five months, Israel withheld co-operation from Amnesty International and refused to allow an international team to investigate the evidence of torture. The Israeli authorities however, offered their own "investigation". It is like Eichmann heading an investigation in the murder of Jews in Nazi Germany. Amnesty correctly refused such an "investigation". The last time Israel held their own "investigation" late last year was on evidence submitted by Amnesty on treatment of Palestinian suspects. In the "full" investigation, Israel found that in none of the cases submitted was there any grounds to consider the complaints since those arrested, the Israeli authorities said, were not "prisoners of conscience" but members of liberation organisations and thus presumably normal human rules do not apply to them.

Amnesty's report was very upsetting to the Israeli authorities who try their utmost to portray Israel as a "democratic" liberal state. To shift the emphasis away from the report, the Israeli government

PSC supports Irish liberation

When British imperialism first sought control of the Arab lands it had already 700 years experience of persecuting, oppressing and exploiting a colonial people - the Irish. There is no crime which the British capitalist ruling class have not committed against the Irish people - from Cromwell's mass butchery and the selling into slavery of men, women and children in the seventeenth century to the enforced starvation of millions in 1848 and the police terror, praised by South Africa's Vorster, which rules in the north today.

Just as the heroic Palestinian people are today confronting the Zionist and imperialist enemy with gun in hand, so too the valiant Irish people, with centuries of brave resistance behind them, are taking up the gun to end British rule. We in the Palestine Solidarity Campaign support the just struggle



attempted to make a big fuss about the report being published while so called negotiations were going on between Amnesty and the Israeli Embassy in London. Firstly the time of publication of the report does not change its content or authenticity, and secondly, the so called "negotiations" were nothing but an attempt to delay the report indefinitely. The Israeli objective, as the Israeli Ambassador to London stated in a letter to Martin Ennals, the Secretary general of Amnesty, was to "prevent this problem from becoming a political ball in the hands of militants". The liberal image that the Zionists have been careful in painting for the outside world has been slowly but surely shattered with the Israeli atrocities becoming more and more blatant and harder to hide.

against the British capitalist rulers, enemies alike of the Irish people, the Palestinian and Arab peoples, and the British working class. The Irish people, who are persevering in the spirit of that great working class patriot and martyr James Connolly, are bound to win final victory.

PSC hosts Fatah visitors

After a stay of three weeks in Britain during which he was a guest of the PSC the official representative of Fatah recently concluded his very successful visit to this country. The visit, the first to Britain of a public spokesman of the Palestine National Liberation Movement, provided the PSC with a unique opportunity for presenting to the British public a first-hand impression of the nature and aims of the Palestinian Revolution.

In a large meeting in Conway Hall attended by over 400 people Abu Omar was enthusiastically welcomed and his speech, outlining the revolutionary road being followed by the fedayeen, was received with a standing ovation.

Earlier during his visit Abu Omar was the guest of the Easter conference of the Young Liberals at Skegness, where a resolution was adopted in support of the fedayeen's aim for a liberated, democratic Palestine. A statement later issued by the YLs demanded the abolition of the Israeli state as a condition for the establishment of the democratic Palestinian state.

The representative of Fatah was the guest of several meetings arranged by the national PSC and the branches as well as by fraternal revolutionary and progressive organisations. He also made a number of appearances on television in which he successfully overcame the blatant hostility of the interviewers and presented in a clear manner the overwhelmingly just cause of the Palestinian people.

In the light of the very positive results of this visit, PSC is now planning for other visits by representatives of the heroic Palestinian fedayeen.

ISRAEL'S «ECONOMIC MIRACLE» or U.S. FAVOURITE POODLE?

When the U.S. government recently announced a postponement of its decision on the supply of further Phantom aircraft to Israel (current supplies are not due to terminate until 1972 providing ample time for "re-assessment"), Zionist apprehensions were immediately allayed by the promise of 100 million dollars in aid. This was especially welcome to the Israelis in a period where excessive defence costs have drained their balance of payments reserves.

In an age where neo-colonialism is a widespread feature of imperialist domination, it will come as no surprise that Israel is a beneficiary of economic, military and technological assistance from the Western imperialist countries. What may come as a surprise to those unfamiliar with the nature of the Israeli economy is the colossal sums of money involved in the maintenance, from outside, of the Zionist State of Israel.

"Time", the famous organ of American imperialism and a staunch pro-Zionist publication recently announced that America has supplied Israel with 2,000 million dollars of American aid since its inception in 1948, an undoubtedly conservative estimate. According to this calculation, each Israeli has received from the U.S. the sum of 1,000 dollars in aid.

Again, according to "Time", the total of U.S. aid can be divided almost equally into 1,000 million dollars of "private" aid and 1,000 million dollars of direct government aid.

But Western aid to Israel does not stop with direct American aid. It is a well established fact is a well established characteristic of American policy that in order to bring about certain favourable political consequences in Africa and Asia (and to avoid unnecessary and embarrassing direct identification) third parties are often used to act as middlemen for the transfer of American economic

and military aid. Thus Israel is used as a tool for infiltration into the countries of Africa and for providing counter-insurgency training for reactionary forces on that continent. In the case of aid to Israel, the United States has found it politically expedient to transfer vast amounts of military hardware and financial assistance through the medium of West Germany.

When the German "proxy" arrangement for sending arms to Israel was uncovered in 1965 America once again reverted to direct military aid, culminating in the current delivery of Phantom offensive fighter-bombers. The most contemptible method for transferring imperialist aid to Israel was devised early in the 1950's under the guise of German "reparations" for Nazi war crimes. According to the German magazine Der Spiegel (April 1965) the total amount of reparations to be paid by West Germany to Israel amounts to 32 thousand million DM (8,000 million dollars) of which 20 thousand million DM (5,000 million dollar) had been received by that date.

All this money used by Israel for military aggression, expansion and mass murder is, incredibly

supposed to represent "indemnification" for the Nazi crimes against the Jews. Nowhere can be found a more abhorrent abuse and exploitation of the tragedy of those who fell victim to the Nazi terror.

It is ironic that, in the same way as Zionists collaborated with the Nazis in order to secure the expulsion of Jews from Germany, they are now collaborating with the inheritors of Nazism for the sake of upholding of fascism and imperialism in the Middle East.

The dimension of Western aid to Israel can be appreciated not only in the absolute sense, but also when compared to aid provided to other countries, keeping in mind the fact that Israel is not regarded as an underdeveloped country. Going back to direct American aid, figures published by United States Department of Commerce indicate that up to the end of 1965 Israel received 1,150 million dollars of aid from the U.S. (not including aid received from Zionist fund-raising in America). Taking into account

continued next page



"U. S. POODLE" continued from page 7

the Arab and Israeli population, American official aid to Israel was 13.5 times that to the Arab world and this despite the fact that many Arab states enjoyed then and still enjoy today American political and economic support.

When account is taken of the German reparation arrangement and of the funds raised in America, Western Europe, South Africa and Latin America by Zionist agencies specially linked to the State of Israel then the picture becomes considerably more remarkable. A recent estimate in the School of Oriental and African Studies publication "Afrasian" puts external capitalist aid to Israel at five times per capita of any other single country in the world, including South Vietnam and Taiwan.

The reasons why Israel receives such solid backing from the West are not difficult to find. The artificially created Zionist state is not duty bound simply to forestall internal "subversion" as with other neo-colonialist situations. It has been created as a dynamic, ever-expanding force with a view to challenging the liberation forces not only of the Arab world, but of Africa and Asia as well. Such an ambitious investment by Western imperialism must be maintained, whatever the cost. That is why Western capitalism, through diverse means and agents, has written a blank cheque for Israel.

psc news

Many P. S. C. branches have organized meetings at which Abu Omar has proved a big attraction for local audiences.

SWANSEA

Looking back on a period of sustained activity, the Swansea branch notes in its report, "We can say that we have achieved in making the names, "Palestine" and "Fedayeen" known to many people in College". Leaflets are frequently issued and lively meetings with up to 70 people are often held. "Since the British Press seem to be waging a campaign to distort the Palestine issue, it is our duty to reply with the true facts".

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On Yasser Arafat's recent visit to Vietnam with a delegation from Al Fatah, he was presented with a portrait of the late President Ho Chi Minh.

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Cambodia : PSC STATEMENT

The Palestine Solidarity Campaign in Britain joins with all anti-imperialist forces around the world in condemning the new aggressive attack by the U.S. on Cambodia. This murderous assault, aimed at wiping out the revolution in Indo-China by further expanding the Vietnam war, will result in ignominious failure. It will strengthen the unity of the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia and will thus hasten the final defeat of the U.S. in Indo-China.

Nixon's escalation exposes once and for all the fraud of the "Nixon doctrine". The policies of "troop withdrawal" and "Vietnamization" were propaganda tricks, vainly designed to lower the vigilance of the Indo-Chinese fighters to lull people everywhere into apathy. The U.S. and its lackeys can no more impose a peaceful, negotiated solution on the Vietnam conflict than on the Palestine question.

The Palestinian Fedayeen and the revolutionaries of Indo-China are fighting People's Wars against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys at opposite extremities of the Asian continent. Let all the world's people, including British workers, students and progressives, join this struggle so that imperialism may be driven not only from the continent of Asia but from the entire world.



MANCHESTER

Recent activities of the Manchester branch have included a picket of Zionist films, while up to a 100 "Fedayeen" have been sold on the streets.

BRADFORD

The Bradford PSC has been refused permission of meeting facilities by the University, the first time this has happened in the University's history.

LONDON

The West Ham, NW London, Kensington-Paddington and Regent St Poly branches of PSC have all organised successful meetings with highly receptive audiences of often close to 100.

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