

FOR A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

ISRAEL

Below follow excerpts from documents issued by the Communist Party of Israel illustrating its struggle for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

A resolution of the eighth session of the Central Committee published September 16, states in part:

The Central Committee notes with apprehension that the policy of the Golda Meir-Dayan government aims at frustrating international efforts to find a political solution of the crisis in the region, a solution which would establish a just and lasting peace conforming with the rights of all states and peoples of the Middle East, including Israel and the Arab people of Palestine.

The government is intensifying its aggressive actions against the Arab countries and accelerating and expanding the colonization of the occupied territories. This policy can lead to a resumption of war in our region and endanger world peace.

The Israeli Air Force operation of September 12 in Syrian air space is a link in the chain of aggressive government-inspired actions. The government is carrying out actions planned in advance.

The plan of military escalation was set forth earlier in the semi-official newspaper *Davar* (August 24, 1973), which wrote that Israel should step up its military threat and strike fiercely not only against terrorist organizations, but against Arab armies as well. The hour, according to the paper, had struck.

The Central Committee condemned the so-called "Galili Document" (the ruling party's election program named after its author, Israel Galili, state minister and Golda Meir's chief adviser) adopted by the government coalition as a plan for the coming four years. It is a provocative plan directed against the Arab peoples. It is a plan of accelerated colonization of the occupied territories and expropriation of their Arab inhabitants providing for the take-over of their lands, which forces them to abandon their homes, a plan for the liquidation of refugee camps. It is a racist plan for the liquidation of the Arab people of Palestine as a nation. It is a plan that runs contrary to Israel's genuine interests of peace and security.

The Central Committee of the CPI calls upon all peace-loving forces to oppose this militarist and racist plan, warning that the

government's policy could lead to a new war, bloodshed and tears for thousands of families.

On October 6, 1973, the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Israel issued a statement declaring:

"Again, hostilities have broken out between Israel, on the one hand, and Syria and Egypt, on the other. Again, Jewish and Arab blood is being spilled.

"We, Communists, have warned over and over again, that the continued occupation of Arab territories, seized in 1967, and the Israeli government's rejection of peace without annexations, could precipitate renewed hostilities and bloodshed.

"Now war has broken out anew. The occupation does not achieve security, on the contrary, it causes permanent insecurity and ceaseless bloodshed.

"The Israeli government, with the backing of the rulers of Washington, undermined all peace initiatives by the United Nations Organization and other international quarters, in order to perpetuate the occupation of Arab territories in accordance with the "Galili document."

"The cabinet ministers Dayan and Eban have repeatedly stated that the Arab countries are ready for peace with Israel, if Israel consents to peace without annexations. It is the government which rejects such peace offers.

"Therefore, we blame the Israeli government that peace and security are absent as well as of responsibility for the situation of deterioration into war.

"In the face of the grave situation and renewed bloodshed we acclaim to the people: There exists a possibility for peace, and peace alone gives security.

"We call upon citizens to give a hand to peace by the full implementation of the Security Council Resolution No. 242, including withdrawal from the territories seized in 1967, guarantee the right of sovereign existence of the State of Israel and the legitimate rights of the Palestine Arab people.

On October 22, 1973, the Political Bureau of the CPI published a statement hailing the Security Council resolution calling for a ceasefire in the Middle East and the establishment of a just and lasting peace on the basis of Security Council Resolution No. 242.

The CPI called upon the Israeli government to adhere strictly to the ceasefire and act to promote the strict implementation of Security Council Resolution No. 242. A just and lasting peace can be established only on the basis of withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories seized in 1967 and recognition of the sovereign rights of all states and peoples of the region, including the legiti-

mate rights of the Palestine Arab people.

The CPI warned against the conditions with which the Israeli government links its agreement to the ceasefire and implementation of Resolution No. 242, noting that the government misinterprets the resolution and continues to insist on territorial annexations.

The statement stresses that such a policy can create a new threat to the prospects of peace and lead to a resumption of hostilities.

The CPI highly assesses the Soviet Union's decisive contribution aimed at putting an end to the bloodshed in the Middle East and opening the way to peace and security for the people of Israel and the Arab peoples. The statement appeals to the youth, the workers and the people of Israel to give every effort to the struggle to turn the ceasefire into a just and lasting peace.

On October 24, 1973, the Central Committee of the CPI issued the following statement:

Several members of the Knesset for the GAHAL bloc and other reactionary forces charged the rostrum while CPI General Secretary Meir Vilner was addressing the chamber and tried to push him off and tear up the text of his speech.

The fascists' aim is to discredit the Knesset and open the way to a dictatorship. If the violence used by Right-wing extremists in the Knesset against peace-loving forces is not nipped in the bud, it will open the way to fascist terror and military dictatorship. Most ominous, the chairman of the session in effect supported the rampaging members, surrendered to their brazen demands and denied Vilner his right as member of the Knesset to continue his address.

It is not accidental that this violent outburst by representatives of the GAHAL group and its supporters took place in the Knesset at this time. Events in the world, the Middle East and Israel itself are running against their policy. The bloody war of the last few weeks has served to undermine the confidence of broad public circles in the policies advocated by the extreme Right and government "hawks."

The mounting mass demands for an end to the aggressive policies are causing growing alarm among the extreme Right and the "hawks." That is just why they were so enraged when M. Vilner showed in the Knesset that the new war could have been averted and peace with the Arab countries established if the government and extreme Right ceased to seek territorial aggrandizement and to reject all peace efforts.

The CPI calls upon all democratic forces and peace champions to raise their voice against the fascist outrage in the Knesset and rally to bar the way to fascism in Israel.