

Arab-Jewish Fratricidal War Grows in Palestine

By AL FINDLEY

The UN recommendation for the partition of Palestine has resulted in the deaths of approximately 20 Jews and 20 Arabs in Palestine during the past week. In addition to the bloodshed in Palestine, riots in other Arab countries bring the total dead to well over 100.

Up until Sunday, all acts of violence in Palestine were confined to a handful of the more extremist Arab nationalities. Even the Arab Higher committee, led by the mufti, protested the violence. The Sunday action of Haganah in firing and blasting three villages may see a new

turn in the fighting. Most of Palestine has remained quiet. Friction took place in "internationalized" Jerusalem and in the border area between Tel-Aviv and Jaffa, which is to be an enclave within the Jewish state.

Violence and strife will inevitably continue as long as the situation remains in its present hazy and amorphous stage. The continued existence of an "interim period" under British rule, to be followed by another interim period under UN control, must inevitably lead to violence.

The time to minimize the bloodshed in Palestine is NOW. In this regard,

it is urgent to point out the dangers existing in Jerusalem. This city of 100,000 Jews and 100,000 Arabs represents the greatest starting point for conflicts which can later spread to the rest of Palestine. Jerusalem will probably become the center of "irredentist" sentiments in both groups. Why? Because Jerusalem is to be governed by a foreign power, the UN Trusteeship Commission, and thus the population of that city will be denied its national rights, giving rise to agitation to "revise" the entire arrangement. No section of Palestine requires, or can be served by, foreign rule.

ECONOMIC UNITY NEEDED

Economically, too, the need of Palestine is for complete immediate independence from UN control, to bring about real economic unity between the Jews and Arabs. Neither the Jewish nor Arab section of partitioned Palestine can exist without the other. The Arab section will have a huge deficit if it does not share in the tariff revenue of the industrial section of Palestine, which is in the Jewish area. The Jewish area needs markets to sell its products and is in turn the only market for Arab agrarian products. Both the Jews and the Arabs need large-scale irrigation products like the Jordan Valley Authority to raise their agricultural production.

Continued foreign economic rule via the UN will result not in Arab-
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Tours Will Cover All WP Branches

By NATHAN GOULD

Organization Sec'y, Workers Party

The Program of Action adopted by the recent National Active Workers Conference of the Workers Party is already in operation. Implementing another phase of this program, the National Committee of the Workers Party announces the organization of three tours to be conducted by representatives of the National Committee in the months of December and January. These tours are to be conducted by E. R. McKinney, national secretary, by Max Shachtman,

these tours will highlight and implement the political and organizational planks of the Program of Action!

The public meetings will feature talks on the situation of American labor. Here the program of the Workers Party will be presented in answer to the price and rent gouge. The speakers will advocate a fighting program against inflation, against racial discrimination, against the government's encroachments upon the civil rights of the working class, and against America's preparation for a new world war. They will seek to

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Jewish unity but only in the subordination of Palestine economy to imperialist interests, with the resultant stifling of the economic development of the country.

Not only does the Palestine situation require IMMEDIATE POLITICAL and ECONOMIC independence, but the suffering of 250,000 Jews in DP camps makes it imperative. Most of these are the survivors of the Nazi extermination of 6,000,000 Jews. For two years and two horrible winters they have suffered the deprivation and above all the physical and mental corrosion that is the result of life in the miserable overcrowded DP camps.

All that the UN partition plan does is BEG the British to evacuate a port area by February 1 and thereby allow approximately 6,000 Jews to enter each month. Zionist leaders have announced that they are discontinuing "unauthorized" immigration and will rely on the possibility that England will comply with this request in February—after half the winter has already inflicted its punishment on the DPs.

OPEN AMERICA'S DOORS

Our support of the right of all those who want to go to Palestine to do so, must not in the least detract from our determined efforts to open the doors of the U. S. to the remaining DPs. In fact it should serve as a spur* to finally solve the problem. Now that the actual possibility of moving some thousands into Palestine exists, a determined effort by the countries of the world could empty the DP camps of the one and a quarter million people forced to live there.

Even before the UN vote, the struggle for power in the forthcoming Arab and Jewish states began. The Arabs have decided to proclaim a provisional government-in-exile for all Palestine. The only thing that is delaying its proclamation is the struggle between the mufti and his Hus-

seini Party and the rest of the Arab groups. The mufti refuses to accept opposition groups into his government.

Economically, Jewish Palestine is capitalist. In industry and trade the "socialist" sector of the economy (co-operatives, etc.) represents about three to five per cent, according to Revusky's book, "Jews in Palestine." In agriculture, where the Kibutzim, Kvutzat (collectives) and co-operatives are strongest, they represent approximately 10 per cent of the cultivated land and about the same proportion of the Jews engaged in agriculture. The percentage may have increased slightly since the book was written, but not substantially. Marxists have always maintained that socialism cannot be built in one country—let alone on one farm.

Politically, the Mapai, the reformist Labor Party, is in office in the "government within a government" that exists in Palestine. But Jewish Palestine faces a real struggle between the labor movement and the Jewish capitalist class which has tolerated it up to now. The bourgeois mayor of Tel-Aviv and those of all other major towns of Palestine have demanded reorganization giving them control. They have established a committee of the Right to rally all the forces of the bourgeoisie. Together with the Union of Industrialists they are giving aid to the strike-breaking, anti-Marxist, black union set up by the Revisionists—the Federation of National Labor. They have the support of the Revisionists, who polled 24,500 votes in the last election, approximately 10 per cent of the total. In the future, the Revisionists' party as such will take a back seat, but the Revisionists will work through the Irgun, which has announced that it will transform itself into a legal party. The Revisionists will attempt to enforce their hated domestic policies, under the cloak of the Irgun's prestige as an anti-British resistance force. Together

with the clericalists of the Misrachi (5,000), Agudah (5,000) and possibly the Paole Hamisrachi (24,000), the right wing forces can possibly muster 50 per cent of the vote. What is more important, they now—by grace of the labor reformist leaders—control the municipalities and the police, to which will be added the military power of the Irgun and the economic power of the Union of Industrialists.

JEWISH LABOR MOVEMENT

Many workers are now restive. During the last year a left wing of the Mapai broke off and, together with the left Poali Zim, formed the Achduth Avodah Party. The Hashomer Hatzair, too, appeared for the first time as an independent political party in the last elections. Each group received 24,000 votes as compared to the 40,000 votes for the Mapai. At present, negotiations for unity between the Hashomer Hatzair and the Achduth Avodah Party are far advanced. Should these two groups unite, they will form a new mass Marxist-Centrist party. The fate of Palestine will depend on the adoption of a correct policy by this group. In the past both have voted for Dr. Weitzman. What they will do in the future depends in part on the influence the revolutionary Marxists can exert.

Besides the question of the struggle against the rightist reaction, there remains the question of what policies to adopt toward the large Arab minority in the Jewish state. Are all the Arabs to be driven by false policies into a homogeneous national opposition, or will class interests cut across both national groups? Are the present exclusive policies of the Histadrut to continue or will Arab workers be organized in the same unions as Jewish workers? Will the Arabs be recognized as equal citizens with equal national and civic rights in the new Jewish state, or will they be a denationalized minority? On the answer to these questions the future of Palestine considerably depends.