

Occupied Palestine

Military Operations

While the Israelis escalate the iron fist policy-repressive measures, deportations, and political arrests-against our masses in occupied Palestine, the Palestinian militants continue to escalate military operations. In spite of the fact that the Zionist radio daily announces the discovery of revolutionary cells, the Israeli leaders admit they are unable to counter Palestinian acts of resistance. In the past weeks, there have been scores of military operations.

ACROSS THE JORDAN VALLEY

On the night of April 12th, the PFLP unit named after the martyr, Al Khawaja, moved across the Jordan Valley towards Arghman settlement in occupied Palestine. As the group reached the settlement, four kilometers west of the Jordan River, it clashed with an Israeli patrol. The freedom fighters used machine guns and grenades, and many Zionist soldiers were killed or injured. As usual, the Zionist enemy did not acknowledge the casualties, but was forced to admit that there had been a clash. One Palestinian was martyred and another captured and imprisoned. With the two militants, the Zionists found three klashnikov machine guns, 15 magazines and a pistol.

This operation has a number of significant implications due to its details, timing and outcome in terms of the casualties and confusion caused in the enemy's ranks. First and foremost, it confirms that armed struggle proves to be the most effective method for confronting the Zionist enemy. The experience of the Palestinian revolution in South Lebanon and across the Jordanian border, shows that armed struggle remains the best method for mobilizing the Palestinian and Arab masses in the battle with the enemy. This heroic operation by PFLP militants stands in sharp contrast to the ineffectiveness of the rightist Palestinian leadership's bets on the US and Arab reactionary settlement plans. The failure of these plans in being proven daily.

Secondly, this heroic operation attests to the significance of the Jordan Valley as a strategic base for launching military operations. It is common knowledge that, of all Arab borders with occupied Palestine, the Jordanian is the longest (600 kilometers). This makes it impossible for the Zionist enemy to control it completely. In addition, the Jordanian border is closest to the Zionist settlements and thus to the Zionist entity. It is also known that the Jordanian regime protects the borders and the Zionist settlements on this front. Thus, this heroic operation points to an urgent task for the Palestinian revolution, i.e., continuous struggle to return the revolution to its strongest supportive operational

base - Jordan. This cannot be achieved through relations with the regime, but by consolidating the Jordanian national movement and mobilizing the masses in Jordan to struggle for democratic change. This would facilitate the return of the Palestinian movement to Jordan, the importance of which was proven by the experience of armed struggle across the Jordan Valley in 1967-70.

The third significant thing about this operation is the character of one of its heroes: Comrade Hamdan Al Rajbee, father of ten, was martyred at the age of 60. He had been a fighter with the PFLP since 1968. Comrade Hamdan lived through the Palestinian people's struggle and setbacks for more than half a century. Despite his family responsibilities and advanced age, Comrade Hamdan continued to carry the gun. The lesson we learn from the story of this martyr is the determination of our people to continue the struggle, despite the Zionists' attempts to demoralize them.

ZIONIST VEHICLES ATTACKED

Two bombs were thrown at a military vehicle on April 27th, near Qalandia camp outside Jerusalem. The Zionist forces swept through the camp and made many arrests in a feeble attempt to find the attackers. On April 29th, there were two separate attacks on Zionist military vehicles in the Gaza Strip, one by fire bomb and the other by remote control explosion. Again, on May 1st, guerrillas detonated remote-control explosives against a vehicle of Zionist settlers as it passed Jabalia camp in the Gaza Strip. The Zionist forces imposed a curfew on the camp for days, and made extensive searches and arrests. On May 3rd, Palestinians of Duheisha camp in the

West Bank stoned a Zionist military vehicle, injuring two soldiers. On the same day, freedom fighters in Gaza threw a hand grenade at a Zionist patrol. On May 4th, there were three bomb attacks on Zionist targets in the Jerusalem area. In one, an explosive charge was placed in a bakery in Kiryat Moshe, to explode at a time when it is full of Israeli soldiers. There were heavy casualties, but the Zionist radio only acknowledged the loss of two vehicles. Many Palestinians were arrested for interrogation. On May 5th, a night club frequented by Zionist soldiers was set on fire. There was a complete media blackout on the incident.

Acts of resistance against collaborators rose, especially in the Gaza Strip. A collaborator from Jabalia camp was killed on May 3rd. There were three other attempts to liquidate collaborators in the Strip. A collaborator from Abu Ghosh village near Jerusalem was stabbed to death on May 4th.

On May 7th, the Zionist authorities arrested twenty Palestinians, alleging that they were members of the biggest guerrilla cell in the occupied West Bank. The leader of the cell is 30 year old Alaa Al Deen Abu Al Zain, who was imprisoned in 1981 for killing a German tourist. He lost his sight in an explosion when he was trying to plant a bomb in a collaborator's car. A recently published Israeli report said that forty other Palestinians, who had been freed in the May 1985 prisoner exchange, were rearrested. They are subject to constant interrogation and torture.

In the second week of May, there were at least five separate attacks on Zionist military vehicles and posts in the Gaza Strip alone. On May 12th, the fields of Netzirim settlement, south of Gaza, were set afire by burning tires. In the

