

before. If the US is able to draw more Arab regimes into a political settlement, this will create a class alliance for a new form of exploitation and oppression of the Arab masses. This will in turn elicit new forms of revolutionary struggle, which the enemy alliance must be prepared to confront.

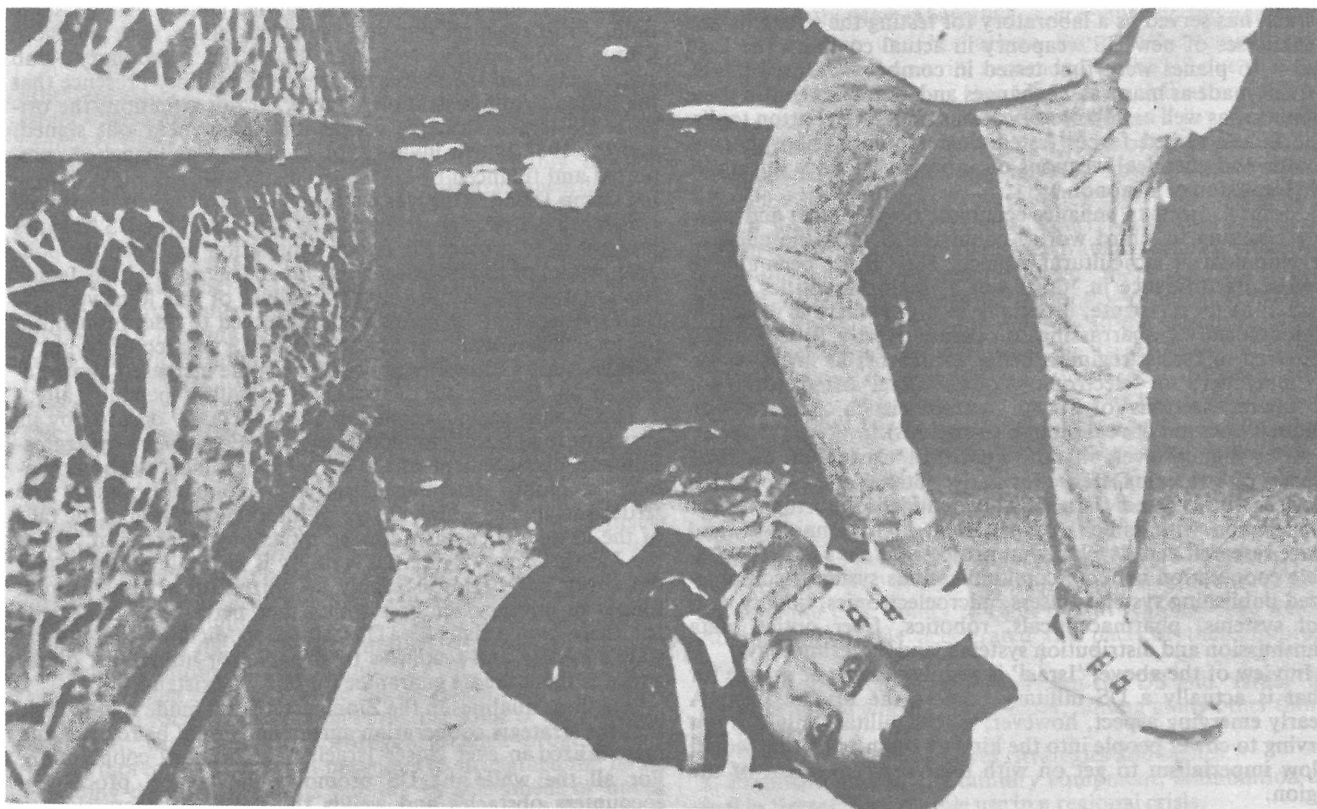
Thus, it is not likely that imperialism will resort to being benignly indifferent to the Middle East. Another factor adds weight to this: The Gulf countries hold an estimated 56% of the world's proven oil reserves, and US specialists predict that the US will be much more dependent on... Gulf oil in the 1990s than today.<sup>15</sup> Schultz has labeled as «absurd» the notion that the US can turn its back on regional conflicts that affect Western interests.<sup>16</sup> It is therefore not surprising that the US is more than ever involved in bolstering 'Israeli' militarily and economically. This is the pillar of US Middle East policy.

'Israel' also has a growing role in the US's global policy, such as delivering arms and other vital aid to pariah regimes like the one in South Africa. 'Israel' has moreover offered itself as the US's partner in Star Wars research which has multiple hightech and military applications, further intergrating the Zionist state into imperialism's military-industrial complex. 'Israel' has thus more openly joined in the Reagan Administration's anti-Soviet campaign, as also signalled by its agreement to housing a new «Voice of America» transmitter

on occupied Palestinian land. Coming after the refusal of even reactionary regimes like Turkey, Egypt and Morocco, Israeli acceptance was especially welcome. The \$300 million the US will spend annually to spread anti-Soviet lies from this transmitter represents a new investment in the Zionist state, a further enhancement of this aggressive strategic «asset».

1. *Wall Street Journal*, February 1986, p. 24.
2. *The Times*, May 30, 1986.
3. *Christian Science Monitor*, December 19, 1984.
4. *A Changing Israel*, by Peter Grose.
5. *Christian Science Monitor*, December 19, 1984.
6. *Wall Street Journal*, May 29, 1985.
7. *Jerusalem Post*, March 8, 1985.
8. *Current Policy: US Department of State*, April 21, 1985.
9. *Defense and Foreign Affairs*, December 31, 1984.
10. *Near East Report*, December 31, 1984.
11. *Foreign Service Journal*, February 1985.
12. *Defense and Foreign Affairs*, January 1986.
13. *Near East Report*, November 18, 1983.
14. Testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, October 10, 1985.
15. *Washington Post*, February 13, 1986.
16. *Mideast Observer*, February 13, 1985.

## The Shin Bet 'Scandal'



Israeli undercover policeman holds down a Palestinian from Ramle - another case of brutality, also in 1984.

Seemingly, the most controversial issue in Zionist circles recently has been the so-called Shin Bet scandal. Western and Zionist media have named it so, not because pistol-whipping two handcuffed Palestinian prisoners to death is considered scandalous. Rather, it is considered a scandal that the murder was publicized; even worse, it came to

light that it was ordered by the head of Shin Bet, approved by then prime minister Shamir, and covered up by the two jointly.

Indeed, «most Israelis are not worried because these two were killed» (*Boston Globe*, January 1st). Their main concern is something the Zionists ironically call «the moral issue». To the

extent that Zionist politicians and the press have focused on «the moral issue», they worry about the moral harm that may come to their *Zionist* society if security officers act outside the stated norms of conduct, enjoying autonomous power and the ability to hide their actions from the Israeli public.