

and wounded at the junior school of Bureij camp. There was a large demonstration in Gaza, and five Palestinians were brought to hospital, having been severely beaten by the Zionist troops. In Nazareth, high school students went on a sympathy strike with their brothers in the 1967 occupied territories, while women from Rakah (the Communist Party) staged a sit-in, protesting the shooting of children, and the occupation as such.

Israeli military sources announced that 16 settlers had been injured by stones, and 50 Palestinians arrested - a gross underestimation: 200 had been arrested in the Gaza Strip alone; in the West Bank, there were 30 arrested only in Duheisheh camp. On December 11th, Israeli radio said that Palestinians were being brought to trial in groups of 25, which attests to the large number detained since the start of the uprising. The radio also mentioned that five students from Sangel secondary school in the Ramallah area had disappeared under 'mysterious circumstances'. A number of Israeli settlers from Shilo settlement, located near the school, raided it. All indications point to the fact that these students were kidnapped by the settlers.

Meanwhile, the Labor Party's newspaper *Davar* revealed that the Israeli army officer thought to have shot the Bir Zeit students in 'self-defense', was known for his links to extreme rightist settlers. It was also revealed that, especially in the Ramallah area, settlers had joined the official troops in shooting at demonstrators, playing the reserve role for which they have been trained. *Haaretz* reported on December 11th, that the Israeli settlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip are in possession of approximately 10,000 pieces of arms, with permission from the military authorities or the Interior Ministry. According to Israeli army regulations, a firearm carrier cannot use the weapon unless his/her life is threatened; in such a case, a warning should be given first by shooting in the air, then at the feet, and finally shooting to kill.

As demonstrations continued on December 11th, the Zionist forces committed a new double murder. Two Palestinian girls, Maha Abdul Hadi and her sister, Nuha, were shot dead by Israeli soldiers in Tulkarm in the occupied West Bank.

On December 14th, there was a strike and large demonstration in Jenin. One youth was wounded in the head by the rubber bullets fired by the occupation troops, raising the parallel with the brutality of the British occupation troops in Northern Ireland. In Nazareth, thousands marched in protest of the Israeli murder of demonstrators and for an end to the occupation.

## SOLIDARITY IN THE GOLAN

Of special note was a demonstration in the Golan Heights on December 13th. Several hundred people marched in Majdal Shams, raising slogans denouncing the occupation and the iron fist policy against the residents of the occupied territories. A statement was released expressing solidarity with the Palestinians in the refugee camps in Lebanon.

On December 16th, the students of Al Najah University organized a demonstration protesting the murders at Bir Zeit and the occupation authorities' actions over the foregoing week. The demonstrators kept the Zionist troops out of the campus by erecting stone barricades; they threw stones at the occupiers and proudly raised the Palestinian flag. Students at Abu Dis College of Science and Technology staged a demonstration and strike, protesting Zionist brutality and specifically the demolition of the home of a local Palestinian.

Although the intensity of mass resistance decreased in the ensuing days, the repercussions of the uprising continue. Arrests and other forms of repression continue. Duheisheh remained under siege. *Al Fajr* newspaper was ordered closed for the last week of December and the first week of the new year, on the pretext of its coverage of the uprising. The strictest 'security' was enforced in Bethlehem to ensure that the world would think Christmas is celebrated there in a beautiful, mystical way, free of the blemishes of occupation; in the preceding days, Israeli paratroopers raided and searched many houses in the city. Court proceedings started, with the Zionist authorities trying to convict various persons of 'incitement' to cover the fact that it is their occupation itself that incites unrest and is responsible for the state terrorism reigning in occupied Palestine. Though dovish Zionists raised the brutality of the troops in the Knesset,

there is no outlook to change in the Israeli policy. Speaking on Israeli television in mid-December, Shmuel Goren, military governor of the West Bank, admitted that 'the last few days have been irregular,' but he said that the Defense Ministry would not consider changing its policy in the occupied territories: 'In no way, shape or form. We will not change this policy... We will also strengthen it.' In the course of the uprising, an Israeli military leader was asked by a journalist about how the Israeli army would treat the new phenomenon of Palestinians' refusal to disperse, even after the army shoots in the air or at their feet. He answered, 'This phenomenon is not disturbing, and we will know how to handle it properly.' War Minister Yitzhak Rabin justified the Israeli army's actions during the demonstrations by saying, 'The forces have intervened everytime the disturbances seemed to get dangerous and when there was the risk of a traffic jam.' However, he admitted that the demonstrators 'feared neither tear gas or bullets.'

Regardless of the Israeli reaction, this uprising has had an impact that will become clearer in the future. Mainly, it has shown that neither the Israeli-Jordanian unofficial cooperation, the plan for 'improving the quality of life' in the occupied territories, nor the Jordanian 'development' plan have fooled our masses or lessened their resistance. The main question continues to be the people against the occupation. The Palestinian masses have fought another round with the occupiers, gaining experience and expressing their true position at a time when not only imperialism and Zionism, but many an Arab regime, concur on the necessity of liquidating the Palestinian revolution and the PLO. The uprising, like the defense of the camps in Lebanon, shows the impossibility of the enemy alliance's dream. The people cannot be silenced, and their cry is for genuine liberation.

# Military Operations

The following is a list of military operations carried out in occupied Palestine in late November and December.

Three hand grenades were found in an Israeli bus station in Hertzalia in 1948 occupied Palestine. The Israeli police defused them and arrested several Palestinians. On December 1st, two military vehicles were set afire and burned completely in Jerusalem. On December 3rd, a factory was set afire and completely burned down in the

industrial area of Ramleh in 1948 occupied Palestine. The same day, a hand grenade caused a large explosion in Tigha Street in Haifa; two Israelis were injured; the enemy radio attributed the explosion to a gas canister.

On December 5th, three bus stations were set afire in different quarters of Jerusalem: Kiryat Moshe, Shadrou