

blackmail countries in the area, and destabilize and/or attack regimes considered unfavorable by these forces. The Soviet Union and the PLO advocate turning the Mediterranean into a zone of cooperation and lasting peace, nuclear-free and free of foreign military bases. They noted the importance of the role the non-aligned countries could play to that end. They praised the resolutions recently adopted by the foreign ministers of the non-aligned Mediterranean countries that met in Yugoslavia.

The Soviet Union and PLO consider that terrorism, and state terrorism in particular, is a great danger to peace, security and cooperation among nations. The two parties strongly condemn terrorist acts carried out by individuals, groups or states. They advocate international cooperation aimed at eliminating all terrorist phenomena by legitimate means. At the same time, they reject the Israeli and imperialist efforts to label the PLO a terrorist group and exploit this false pretext to exclude the PLO from participating in the settlement of the Middle East conflict.

Both parties support the Syrian Arab Republic's initiative calling for the convention of a UN-sponsored international conference for the purpose of defining terrorism and distinguishing this from people's national liberation struggles.

Both parties expressed their intent to continue consolidating the friendly Soviet-Palestinian relations, developing and coordinating work in the struggle to consecrate international security, reinforcing the independence and social advancement of the nations and achieving a just, lasting peace in the Middle East.

On behalf of the Palestinian people and PLO leadership, Farouq Qaddoumi expressed deep gratitude to the Soviet Union and its leadership for their genuine support which is an important factor in the Palestinian people's struggle for their legitimate national rights. The two parties agreed to continue regular dialogue in all fields of common interest. A Palestinian delegation, headed by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir Arafat, is scheduled to visit the Soviet Union. ●

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## Relations with Egypt and Jordan

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The renewed contacts with the Egyptian and Jordanian regimes by some Palestinian officials violate the decisions of the unifying PNC.

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On June 29th, Hani Al Hassan, Yasir Arafat's political advisor, arrived in Cairo. He spent almost a week there, meeting with Egyptian officials. Al Hassan's visit was clearly in violation of the PNC resolutions adopted at the April unification session in Algiers. From Cairo, Al Hassan's next stop was Jordan, where he arrived on July 7th. Twenty days later, Yasir

Arafat met Egyptian President Husni Mubarak during the Organization of African Unity (OAU) summit in Addis Ababa.

Given the Mubarak regime's angry response to the PNC resolution on relations with Egypt, and the Jordanian monarch's disappointment at the cancellation of the February 1985 Amman accord, what has changed in

such a short period?

Before answering this question, we should clarify who Hani Al Hassan represents. Certainly he is not the best person to represent the PLO in negotiations with either Jordan or Egypt. On the contrary, he is very close to representing the Jordanian and Egyptian regimes' policies, rather than those of the PLO. This is particularly the case after the PNC's last session which restored the PLO's unity on the basis of the national program.

Hani Al Hassan is not a PLO Executive Committee member and thus

► Hussein and Mubarak moving in step

