

demned the cooperation between 'Israel' and the apartheid regime in South Africa.

The Arab nationalist regimes are also called upon to confront the Zionist penetration of Africa. They should raise this issue at all coming Arab

summits and study the means for continuing the boycott of the Zionist state. Strengthening relations between the nationalist and progressive forces and regimes in Africa and the Arab world, in cooperation with the socialist countries and liberation movements

worldwide, will not only confront the Zionist penetration of Africa. It will establish a basis for common struggle to abolish Zionist, imperialist and reactionary presence both in Africa and the Arab world.

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## 'Israel' in Africa

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# Part of US Global Strategy

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Israeli Prime Minister Shamir's June visit to Africa was the latest step in the Zionist state's drive to restore relations with Black Africa. While specific Israeli political, economic and military aims are involved, the overriding aspect of this venture is reconstructing a project begun in the sixties whereby the US funded Israeli aid to African states as a means of perpetuating neocolonialism on the continent.

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The new phase of cooperation in Africa was hatched at Camp David, as part of the US-Zionist globally-oriented strategic alliance. This aims to bolster reactionary regimes, such as the one in Zaire, against the tide of national liberation sweeping southern Africa. Training Mobutu's armed forces is not an isolated Israeli enterprise. In the early eighties, Zaire doubled the size of its army and received substantial US military aid. The importance the Reagan Administration attaches to Zaire's military role was underlined in April when US army special forces staged an exercise with Zaire troops at the Kamina air base in Shaba province in the south of the country, site of great mineral wealth and repeated revolts against Mobutu's rule. Kamina «is reportedly the installation the CIA has been using to transfer the bulk of \$15 million in covert military aid to Mr. Jonas Savimbi's guerrilla forces (UNITA) fighting the Angolan Government» (*Guardian*, April 20, 1987). Counterrevolution in Africa is an ever more urgent imperialist-Zionist concern as the mass struggle against the apartheid regime in South Africa gains irreversible momentum.

On the diplomatic plane, initial Israeli success in restoring diplomatic relations with Zaire (1982) and Liberia (1983) was followed by a lull until 1986 when President Houphouët-Boigny of the Ivory Coast, who advocates relations with South Africa and has even met Foreign Minister Botha, reopened an embassy in occupied Palestine. However, Zionist political, economic and military activities have been ongoing in step with renewed US interest in vitalizing the 1981 agreement signed with 'Israel' on joint ventures in Africa. In 1983, teams from the US State Department and Israeli Foreign Ministry began regular meetings on African affairs. Secretary of State Schultz reportedly ordered US embassies in Africa to be at the disposal of Israeli representatives. With the November 29, 1983 US-Israeli memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation, a joint political - military committee was formed to coordinate activities in the 'third world'. New agreements allow for US aid recipients to use these funds for purchasing Israeli weapons. In 1984, the US Congress approved a \$2 million package for setting up the US-Israeli Cooperative Development Research program (CDR). According to the *Jerusalem Post*, December 28, 1984, this will provide US fun-

ding for Israeli efforts to solve 'third world' problems via the US Agency for International Development (AID) - often a conduit for CIA-inspired projects.

«Israel has also become a participant in the newly-created and somewhat mysterious US Presidential Task Force on International Private Enterprise. Israeli Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche (one-time Mossad operative and more recently participant in the Iran/contragate affair) testified before the Task Force in early October - the only non-American to do so. Kimche subsequently reported that he had achieved 'an important breakthrough' for US financing of Israeli projects in developing countries» (*Israeli Foreign Affairs*, February 1985). All in all, the Zionists' activities in Africa are merely the other side of the coin of their role in the US's global aggressive schemes, such as funding the contras in Nicaragua.

### AID OR SABOTAGE?

Besides shielding the Pretoria regime from its inevitable demise, the Israeli role in Africa has served a variety of the Reagan Administration's pet schemes, such as the vicious campaign against Libya. To this purpose, covert Israeli efforts were joined with French intervention in the civil war in Chad, at a time when Libya was backing the opposition to Habre's regime. In August 1983, troops from Zaire landed in Chad's capital, Ndjamena, and took delivery of \$10 million in US arms; they were accompanied by Israeli advisors (*Israeli Foreign Affairs*, July/August 1985). Zaire troops trained in 'Israel' trained the French-backed Habre forces. In the 1983 Vittel Franco-African summit, 'Israel' encouraged Habre and Mobutu to go against the prevailing consensus among African states, by rejecting a negotiated settlement in favor of trying to reconquer the areas held by the opposition. With Israeli guidance, Mobutu has also proposed a new organization of sub-Saharan states, ostensibly as a counterpart to the Arab League, but actually as a device for weakening the OAU and African - Arab friendship.

Israeli relations with Liberia were also restored parallel to the Chadean civil war as both the US and 'Israel' tried to employ President Doe in their anti-Qaddafi plan. These relations were also turned against the progressive nationalist