



Kalandia camp, West Bank, walled in to prevent stonethrowing

by these measures, the occupation authorities confiscated his land on the pretext that it had become fallow.

Public services provided to Palestinians are curtailed by the Zionist authorities' racist discrimination. The Palestinian masses of the 1948 occupied territories face this racism in their daily life. The financial crisis of the local Arab municipalities, and the discrimination against Palestinian students and employees, attest to this situation. In the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, services are only provided for the purpose of eliminating the militant spirit of the Palestinian masses. The services provided by the 'civil' administration and some collaborators are geared to making the Palestinian population consumption - oriented.

The Zionists employ the iron fist policy for confronting the ever-growing mass uprising, following the failure of other means to subdue the population. The iron fist policy is a true manifestation of the character of the conflict. It means outright murder, detention, deportation, confiscation, collective punishment, etc.

On the political level, several projects have been introduced with the sole purpose of eliminating the Palestinian cause. The most prominent of these plans are:

1. The Allon plan (1970), which was also called the regional solution, calls for Israeli withdrawal from parts of the West Bank, to be turned over to Jordan, while most of the territory would remain under Israeli occupation.

2. King Hussein's United Kingdom plan (1972) complements the goals of the Allon plan by calling for the West Bank's merger with Jordan, and sidestepping the PLO.

3. In the mid-seventies, the occupation authorities organized a general election for the West Bank municipalities, hoping to create a gateway for controlling them. Contrary to Zionist expectations, the elections resulted in the ascendance of Palesti-

nian nationalist mayors. This led to direct confrontation with the occupation forces, climaxed by the terrorist attempts on the lives of the elected mayors of Nablus, Ramallah and Al Bireh. Following the failure to assassinate the mayors, the Israeli occupation authorities fired them and installed Israeli military officers. Later some Palestinian collaborators were appointed as mayors by the Israeli authorities, with the approval of the Jordanian regime.

4. Parallel to the confrontation with the elected mayors, the Israeli authorities attempted to impose the 'autonomy' plan and 'civil' administration, whereby the occupation of the land continues, the inhabitants are granted self-rule in daily affairs, while security remains in Israeli hands. The 'autonomy' plan failed, but it was accompanied by the attempt to impose the village leagues, groups of collaborators created by the occupation authorities, aimed at dividing the masses and their support to the PLO. Though the village leagues were granted certain privileges like permission to carry arms and to help people in getting construction licenses, electricity, etc., the Palestinian masses rejected them altogether and the Israelis had to give up trying to impose them as an alternative leadership.

5. The most recent plan was created under the pretext of improving the Palestinians' living conditions. The occupation authorities' new approach was based on the need to develop a social strata on which they could rely in implementing their liquidationist plans. Therefore, in a joint US-Israeli-Jordanian effort, funds were allocated and some service projects begun, to develop a Palestinian strata to serve as a Trojan horse in the future. The slogan of improving living conditions corresponded with the plan for a division of functions between the Jordanian regime and the Israeli occupation authorities. ►