

# Military Operations

## SEPTEMBER

In September, there were 51 military operations, covering all parts of occupied Palestine. There were nine anti-occupation attacks in Jerusalem, twenty in the West Bank, eight in the Gaza Strip and fourteen in the part of Palestine occupied in 1948. The Zionist enemy claimed that their losses in Jerusalem were only one injured, with 31 vehicles and a bus station destroyed. The enemy admitted to three injured and two burned vehicles in the West Bank, and one injured and three vehicles destroyed in the Gaza Strip. In the 1948 occupied area, the Zionists admitted three killed, nine injured and fires in four factories, causing \$8 million in damages, in addition to the partial destruction of the Israeli intelligence building in Naharia, and six vehicles burned.

Of the 51 operations, there were twenty using molotov cocktails, eleven explosions, four using hand grenades, five burnings of Israeli vehicles and institutions, and five stabbings. In addition, there were two attempts to liquidate collaborators, causing the injury of one of them. In two cases, Israeli soldiers were kidnapped, and one of them was killed. In another incident, a Palestinian tried to strip a Zionist soldier of his weapon, but the Israeli patrol opened fire and killed him. Another Palestinian rammed his car into the car of the military governor of the occupied West Bank, injuring him.

Compared to past months, the number of military operations in September was the highest. There were 43 anti-occupation attacks in January, 37 in February, 16 in March, 33 in April, 44 in May, 38 in June, 38 in July and 39 in August. Molotov cocktails continued to be the weapon most frequently employed by the Palestinians confronting occupation. The Israeli authorities have pointed out that there has emerged «a new form of operations, executed by children between the ages of eight and ten years old, who

have great ability to prepare and utilize molotov cocktails precisely and courageously» (quoted in *Al Watan*, September 2nd).

The number of military operations in the part of Palestine occupied in 1948 continues to rise. The most prominent operation there in September was in Naharia. Palestinian freedom fighters penetrated numerous barriers to plant explosives in the Israeli intelligence center. The resulting explosion injured four Israeli agents, burned six vehicles and destroyed part of the building.

## OCTOBER

The great, overall uprising of the masses in October makes it difficult to single out specific military operations. In addition, the occupation authorities frequently imposed a news blackout on the escalating events. Yet despite the Israeli army's state of alert and intensive security measures for confronting

the uprising and armed struggle, the Palestinian masses expressed their anti-occupation feelings with whatever means were available.

The number of military operations carried out in October totalled thirty. According to the Zionists' acknowledgements, four Israeli soldiers and settlers were killed, and nine were injured, in addition to the destruction of several vehicles, buildings and bus stations. Palestinian freedom fighters were in action in all parts of the occupied land of Palestine - in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and the 1948 occupied territories.

The most prominent operation was on October 6th in the center of Gaza city. A Palestinian commando group clashed with Israeli forces in what the Associated Press called a «bloody shoot-out.» Four Palestinian fighters were martyred and an Israeli secret service (Shin Bet) officer was killed. Two of the Palestinian martyrs were among the six Palestinians who escaped

## Computerized Iron Fist

Israeli military rule over the Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank has taken a new, hightech turn with the installation of secret computer. According to the annual report of the West Bank Data Base Project, an independent Israeli research institute, the Israeli military began operating this computer in August, to gather information and control the activities of Palestinians in the West Bank. In addition to business and personal data, West Bankers' political attitudes are being recorded. The computer is programmed by the Defense Ministry to ensure secrecy.

Meron Benvenisti, author of the report, describes the computer as «the ultimate instrument of population control, a computerized carrot and stick operation... By pressing a key...any civil administration official will gain access to lists of 'positives' and 'hostiles' and decide on the fate of their applications, from car licensing to water quotas, import permits and travel documents.»

Israeli military sources say the data collection program is designed to help Palestinians and improve services provided to them! In reality, the computer stands as new evidence that the plan for «improving the quality of life» for residents of the 1967 occupied territories, is just a facade to cover the imposition of more sophisticated forms of control. Like the 'civil' administration which preceded it and the ongoing Israeli-Jordanian collaboration for joint administration of the territories, the plan aims to ensure Israeli control of Palestinian land, water resources and manpower. To this end, the occupation authorities are not easing repression as Peres has glibly promised. Rather, as the computer shows, the Zionists' iron fist is becoming tighter and more pervasive. On the other hand, the installation of the computer reveals that after decades of occupation, the Zionist authorities are still ill at ease, for they have yet to squash the Palestinian people's resistance which is growing day by day.