

In March of the same year, links were forged between Father Joseph Awad (the leading Phalangist proponent in the US) and American Zionist leaders, with the blessing of Israeli Foreign Minister Sharett. US Zionist organizations sponsored a trip by Awad to Lebanon and his campaign among Lebanese Christians for a non-belligerency pact with the Zionist state, in opposition to the Lebanese government's official stand. As a result of Awad's canvassing, Shulamith Schwartz of the American Zionist Council reported to Sharett in 1950 that «the great majority of Lebanese Americans are violently opposed to the present government of Lebanon» and urged contact to the Phalangists. Sharett in turn addressed a memorandum to Walter Eytan, director-general of the foreign ministry: «.... this group is worthy of serious attention on our part. The picture drawn in this presentation - the taking out of Lebanon from the pan-Arab circle and its affiliation with Israel - is extremely heartwarming and opens the door to a far-reaching realignment in the whole structure of the Middle East...»

The Zionist state donated \$3,000 for bribes and vote-buying to the Phalangists' 1951 election campaign, but the results showed that expectations of the Phalangists' following were grossly inflated; they gained not one seat in the parliament. Subsequent Israeli plans recognized the need for military force to impose fascist hegemony and Zionist control of the coveted Litani River waters. One such plan was that of Moshe Dayan, which was recorded in Sharett's diary on May 16, 1954: «According to him (Dayan), the only thing that's necessary is to find an officer, even just a major. We should either win his heart or buy him with money, to make him agree to declare himself the saviour of the Maronite population. Then the Israeli army will enter Lebanon, will occupy the necessary territory, and will create a Christian regime which will ally itself with Israel. The territory from the Litani southward will be

Commemorating the martyrs of the Sabra-Shatila massacre - victims of Zionist-fascist collaboration



totally annexed to Israel and everything will be all right» (quoted in Livia Rokach, *Israel's Sacred Terrorism*, 1980).

Aside from historical interest, the above-mentioned facts serve mainly to belie the intertwined fascist-Zionist propaganda lies such as that the Lebanese Christians intrinsically need protecting and that 'Israel' has no interests in Lebanon except maintaining its own security. In fact, the Zionist-fascist alliance and partitionist, sectarian plans preceded the rise of the armed, organized Palestinian resistance by over a decade. In these years, Christian, especially Maronite, predominance in the Lebanese state and army, as established by French colonialism, was very much intact.

INFILTRATING LEBANON

In the seventies, the Israelis actively cultivated contacts with rightist Christians in South Lebanon, at a time when Rafael (Raful) Eitan, later chief of staff in the 1982 invasion, was head of the Israeli army's northern command. «General Avigdor Ben Gal, who took over the northern command from Raful, added momentum and sophistication to the project. It was he who created Major Haddad, not the man himself, but Haddad as the representative of a concept, namely Israeli intervention in Lebanon through maximum control. To this end, the same kitchen supplied the Christians in the north and Haddad's men in the south. Both sides received tanks and heavy artillery. Both were supplied with Israeli-made army fatigues... Mossad operated in the north and the army in the south of Lebanon. In September 1977, Major Haddad's men for the first time took part in an Israeli military operation, the conquest of Tel Sueifa» (H. Hecht, *Monit in*, April 1983).

From the beginning, the Israeli alliance with the Lebanese fascists merged with the CIA's activities. While the Zionists were cultivating their man in South Lebanon, the CIA was grooming the chieftain who would facilitate Zionist infiltration of the rest of Lebanon - Bashir Gemayel, son of Phalangist Party head Pierre Gemayel and commander of the fascist militias. According to Bob Woodward's just published book, *VEIL: The Secret Wars of the CIA: 1981-1987*, Bashir was recruited by the CIA when he came to work in a US law firm in the early 1970s; he remained on the CIA payroll for years.

The Zionists' military alliance with the fascists in the North was cemented during the 1975-76 Lebanese civil war. In line with the US's post-Vietnam Kissinger-directed policy, 'Israel' joined the CIA and some Arab reactionary regimes in supporting the fascist militias, hoping they would eliminate the Palestinian revolution and its ally, the Lebanese National Movement. In early 1976, officials of the two main fascist parties, the Phalangists and the National Liberal Party (NLP) of Chamoun, met Israeli Prime Minister Rabin and Foreign Minister Allon. Weaponry, including tanks, flowed into the fascist-controlled harbor at Jounieh, as Defense Minister Peres assumed responsibility for the funding transferred by the Mossad. Bashir Gemayel and Dany Chamoun, commanders of the Phalange militias and the NLP's Tigers, respectively, visited the Zionist state. In Rabin's three-year term, \$150 million in military aid was given to the 'Christian' militias (Schiff, Ze'ev and Ehud Ya'ari, *Israel's Lebanon War*, 1984, p. 18). Zionist military advisors were present in the fascists' operations room directing the battle for Tel Al Zaatar, ►