

taken to allow the Palestinian revolution to achieve its aims and to guarantee, at the same time, the freeing of the Arab efforts from the constraints of resignation, stagnation and despair.»

At the opposite pole, King Fahd spoke on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council, and kings Hassan and Hussein. He called for the return of Egypt to the Arab League, the first time he had ever explicitly called for this. However, the summit did not assent to the kings' demand. On the backdrop of the uprising, it is possible to say «no» to those who have traditionally dominated official Arab politics due to their economic clout. The attempt to accept the Egyptian regime's return was foiled by the position of the Palestinian, Syrian, Algerian, Libyan and Democratic Yemeni delegations. On this point, Syrian President Assad expressed satisfaction to the Palestinian delegation.

In the words of one Arab diplomat at the summit: «Egypt's absence is being felt less and less» (Associated Press, June 10th). This is because of the weight of the uprising. However, the reactionary forces will have another try on this issue at the regular Arab summit scheduled for November in Saudi

Arabia. The legal committee preparing for the summit may recommend a change in the Arab League's charter whereby decisions could be taken by majority rule, rather than having to be unanimous. This would open the way for a vote on the Egyptian regime's readmission.

HUSSEIN VS. THE PLO

After Fahd came the turn of King Hussein who had remained quiet while the summit discussed Egypt's return, hoping to glean support for his upcoming battle against the PLO. The king attacked Palestine and the PLO on three fronts. First, he presented a false reading of the history of Palestinian-Jordanian relations. He claimed that the decision to annex the West Bank to Jordan was not binding, and that the Hashemite monarchy was above suspicion, having sacrificed martyrs for the sake of Palestine (naming King Abdullah as an example).

Second, King Hussein interpreted Schultz's plan in a special way, claiming that it includes an invitation to an international conference with the PLO's participation, in a hopeless attempt to sell the imperialist plan to the summit. Third, King Hussein painted a negative picture of Palestinian options,

aiming for the Palestinians to either accept partnership and confederation with Jordan, or he would absolve himself of all responsibility for the Palestinian cause.

The king's speech was so provocative that it led PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat to depart from the text of his speech to respond to the royal lies. Brother Arafat's speech concentrated on two points. First, he emphasized that what the king had said about the Schultz plan was not what Schultz himself had said about it. Hussein's reading was deliberately slanted in an attempt to secure approval of a plan that had already been rejected by the PLO. Second, brother Arafat straightened the record on the Hashemite monarchy's «martyrs», reminding that King Abdullah had been assassinated for his collusion in the Sykes-Picot agreement (whereby France and Britain divided up the area), and not martyred for the sake of Palestine.

At this point, tension mounted at the summit, and various kings and presidents had to intervene to calm things down. Colonel Qaddafi mocked Hussein's speech, and interrupted him, saying: «Liberate the West Bank and take it, but it is not acceptable that you don't want to liberate it, yet don't want others to do so either.»

This round ended with consensus on putting an Arab yes to counter all the US no's to Palestinian rights. In the end, the final statement included a general condemnation of US policy, but did not mention the Schultz project by name.

SUPPORT TO THE UPRISING

Although the summit agreed in principle to extent full support to the uprising, conflict arose about how to channel material aid. This was related to the two opposing poles on other questions.

Another point of difference concerned the financing states. Here, the Gulf states, especially Saudi Arabia, sought to avoid adoption of a specific resolution on financial support to the uprising, or to specify the amount. There was an attempt to exclude the PLO from the talks on this matter. The Palestinian delegation was surprised to discover it was not invited to this ses-

The following call of the United National Leadership of the Uprising was distributed to the Arab leaders at the Algiers Summit:

1. Seeking international protection for our people in the occupied territories against the Zionist occupation's crimes, to put an end to the occupation and to enforce the Palestinian people's freedom and independence.
2. Cancelling the emergency laws and withdrawal of the Zionist army from the cities, villages and camps.
3. Foiling all the suspected projects which deny the Palestinian people's rights, such as the Camp David accords, «autonomy» and Schultz's initiative.
4. Convening an international conference with full authority and the participation of the permanent members of the Security Council, and of the PLO on an equal footing with the other parties; considering this conference the only way to establish a permanent, just and comprehensive peace.
5. Establishing an independent Palestinian state under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.
6. Making a broad informational campaign to expose the occupation's practices against the Palestinian people, in coordination with the PLO.
7. Releasing Palestinian prisoners from Arab prisons.
8. Allowing the Palestinian people in the Arab countries to establish their institutions and unions for struggling against the Zionist enemy.
9. Establishing a permanent fund for the PLO through which all forms of support should be channeled.
10. Opening the Arab borders for the Palestinian revolution's fighters and establishing training camps for them.