

On this occasion, permit me to express our support to Syria in its confrontation of the Zionist-imperialist aggression. All our Arab people and their nationalist and progressive forces stand by Syria, as do the forces of liberation and progress, especially the Soviet Union, our strategic ally.

We see the necessity of firmly confronting the US military presence by all means, including striking US imperialist interests and intensifying

the national democratic struggle of all the Arab people.

We in Democratic Yemen pledge to strengthen the role of our progressive regime in order to decisively combat all forms of aggression and conspiracies against our sovereignty and national independence. Moreover, we pledge to participate with all our capacity in the struggle of the Arab national liberation movement against imperialism, Zionism and reaction. ●

Arab Socialist Baath Party

Today we celebrate a very significant occasion: the 16th anniversary of the establishment of the PFLP, a revolutionary nationalist organization that has contributed many militant fighters and heroic martyrs to the Palestinian revolution. The Front therefore deserves the full respect of strugglers everywhere...

This celebration comes as the Arab nation is passing through a most dangerous and significant juncture in its confrontation with its enemies. At this moment, conspiracies are escalating through the aggressive imperialist plans in the area. These

plans began with the Sinai agreement, then the Camp David accords, and culminated in US imperialism's move from threatening Arab national security to direct military intervention in Lebanon against the Syrian and Lebanese nationalist forces. This aggression is the direct result of the recently declared strategic alliance between the US and 'Israel'. This alliance aims to subjugate the Arab world to US-Israeli hegemony, rob what remains of Arab resources and isolate the Arab nation from its friends -the socialist community and national liberation movement of the world...

Our position on the Palestinian question, our central cause, is a firm, ideological one. Our commitment to the Palestinian revolution, led by the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, is principled and consistent. No deviationist or capitulationist can distort this solid position. We are for the unity of Fatah and of the PLO, and for ending the internal differences through democratic dialogue, based on strengthening the nationalist political program. We in Syria, as always, are for the unity of the revolution and against any attempt to liquidate it politically or militarily. Based on this, we support the independent decision that confronts the Zionist-US imperialist enemy...

US imperialism and its agents in the area should know that the Arab world will not be a farm or a deserted field for its forces. Moreover, Syria, while confronting the US-Zionist attack, is not alone. It is supported by a solid, internal popular front, the Arab masses, all freedom fighters in the world and their vanguard, the socialist camp and the Soviet Union. In due time, the US and its agents will know that Arab Syria is not to be swallowed at will. ●

Anniversary Celebrations

Lebanon

A mass meeting was held in Akar-Beqaa, attended by a large number of Palestinian and Lebanese people and political leaders. Comrade Salah Salah of the PFLP's Politbureau delivered the main speech, stressing the following: the unity of the Palestinian and Lebanese masses is not just a slogan, but rather a reality manifest in the heroic steadfastness against the Zionist enemy. On the international level, he emphasized that US imperialism is the Palestinian people's main enemy, while the Soviet Union is the Palestinian revolution's strategic ally.

In Nahr al Bared camp outside Tripoli, a celebration was held. Large numbers of the Palestinian and Lebanese masses in the area attended, as did representatives of the Palestinian resistance organizations and the Lebanese national movement. Comrade Mahdi spoke on behalf of the Lebanese Communist Party, saying, "The establishment of the PFLP marked the start of the revolutionary conviction in the importance of the role of the working class in the Palestinian revolution."

Concerning Lebanon, he emphasized that, "Imperialism is following a dangerous course in the area. The collaboration of imperialism and Zionism to change the balance of power in favor of the fascists' program will not succeed." In conclusion, he spoke of the importance of the unity steps between the PFLP and DFLP.

Comrade Abu Taib, PFLP Politbureau member, saluted the masses and the prisoners in occupied Palestine in the name of the PFLP-DFLP Joint Leadership. In his speech, he addressed the importance of the Arab nationalist regimes elevating their relations with the Soviet Union in order to counter the imperialist plans in the region.

Democratic Yemen

In Aden, a major celebration was held. Along with the diplomats of friendly countries and representatives of national liberation movements, a large crowd of Palestinians and Yemenis gathered to celebrate the PFLP's 16th anniversary.

The first speaker was Comrade Mahmoud al Najhe on behalf of the Yemeni Socialist Party. He empha-

sized that Democratic Yemen stands with the Palestinian struggle against imperialism and Zionism, and called for democratic dialogue to resolve internal differences.

From among the representatives of socialist countries, the Cuban ambassador spoke, saying, "We are proud to stand in solidarity with your people's struggle. Also a message was read by the vice-deputy director of the PLO office in Aden, which said, "Your establishment marked a very important stage in the development of the Palestinian revolution."

Finally, Comrade Malouh spoke on behalf of the PFLP, thanking Democratic Yemen for its unconditional support to the Palestinian revolution. He stressed that the Palestinian revolution must not return to internal armed conflict, but must correct deviations within the PLO and attain collective leadership, and build close relations with the Syrian regime which is challenging imperialism's plans in our area. He concluded by saluting the Palestinian people under occupation and also the fighters of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist forces. ●