

Two Military Operations in the Heart of the Beast



In the space of ten days, two major operations, requiring complicated logistics, were carried out deep in occupied Palestine by militants of the DFLP and PFLP, respectively. This escalation signifies the determination of the revolutionary Palestinian organizations to support and escalate the daily struggle waged by our masses under occupation, with molotovs and stones. It indicates strategic resolve to continue and advance the armed struggle to the stage of all-out people's war, as the main means for liberating Palestine and establishing a democratic society.

At the same time, such operations are a defiant answer to right-wing Palestinian and Arab circles who try to justify their own surrender by claiming it impossible to confront the Zionist enemy's military prowess. This right-wing trend gained momentum after the PLO's withdrawal from Beirut, but the revolutionary Palestinian forces drew a far different conclusion from the results of the 1982 Zionist invasion of Lebanon: Far from wiping out the Palestinian revolution's military option, a

new set of political and material conditions have been established, whereby the military struggle can be escalated in new forms. Thus, revolutionary Palestinian forces have cooperated closely with the Lebanese National Resistance Front, whose attacks have placed the Israeli occupiers in a state of daily insecurity in South Lebanon. Now, the Palestinian revolution has shown that such insecurity can be spread among the occupiers in Palestine itself.

Escalated anti-occupation resistance serves to bring home the real lessons of the 1982 war and its aftermath: First, prolonged steadfastness and confrontation, as evidenced in the battle of Beirut, the current battle in South Lebanon, and the daily resistance of our masses under occupation, compounds the enemy's crisis, paving the way for the people's eventual victory. Second, the Palestinian revolution and the masses' will to struggle for their rights cannot be eliminated through high-technology, destruction and massacres.

On April 2nd, three commandos of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, who belong to the Sabra and Shatila commando group, launched an armed military operation in the heart of the occupied city of Jerusalem. These three heroic commandos attacked the building of the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism, located at the intersection of St. George Street and Ben Yahoutha Street, and held a number of hostages.

The head of the commando group directed a message to the Zionist leaders demanding the release of a number of Palestinian political prisoners in the Israeli jails. The message also warned the Zionists that they are responsible for any action that may endanger the lives of the hostages. However, as usual, the enemy neglected the warning and stormed the building as ordered by the Prime Minister.

As a result of this attack, a battle occurred between the commandos and the Zionist repressive forces and the settlers causing the death of forty eight people, the leader of the operation, Comrade Abu Rabi' and wounding the other two commandos.

This operation was launched on the Day of the Land to symbolize our people's determination to continue the struggle against the Zionist settler state which aims at transforming the entire Palestinian land, including Jerusalem, into Zionist settlements.

This Day of the Land operation was the first direct confrontation between an armed Palestinian commando group and the Zionist repressive forces in the occupied city of Jerusalem ►