

CELEBRATION IN WEST BERLIN

On March 24th, a celebration was held in West Berlin in anticipation of the Day of the Land. It was sponsored by the General Union of Arab students and attended by large numbers of supporters of the Palestinian revolution, from among the Palestinian and Arab community and progressive Germans. The program included Palestinian national folkdance and song, as well as speeches delivered on behalf of the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese National Movement and the Lebanese Communist Party. A common theme in the speeches was affirmation of the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and emphasis on the importance of unity in the PLO. All violations of the decisions of the Palestinian National Council were condemned, as was Arafat's visit to Cairo.



women of whom four were over the age of fifty five. The reports from the occupied land stated that these prisoners were transported in trucks to Al far'a prison near Nablus.

In the Gaza Strip, the number of prisoners reached 472, including seven women, one of them a sixty year old woman. There were also two female students and nine men over sixty years of age.

In the Triangle and Galilee, 329 nationalists were arrested, among them 13 girls and women.

The reports from the occupied lands estimated the enemy's loss in the West Bank, the Triangle, and Galilee, during these celebrations, to have exceeded one hundred destroyed cars. Among them are the cars of the military rulers of Nablus and Ramallah. In addition to that, the telephone lines in the settlements were all cut off and Zionist flags were burned. This is not to mention the number of soldiers that were wounded.

THE SECOND DAY OF THE DEMONSTRATIONS

Our masses with full strength carried their celebration through to the following day. Zionist sources admitted that for the second consecutive day, the army and police were engaged in direct confrontation with the demonstrators.

These demonstrations and confrontations took place in Beir Zeit University near Ramallah, Kalandia camp near Jerusalem and Duhisha camp near Bethlehem. Palestinian sources mentioned that an Arab youth was injured by the enemy's bullets when they were trying to disperse the demonstration in Dahisha camp. The youth was Mirwan Amer al-Attar (14), and was taken to the Palestine Hospital for treatment.

According to news reporters, Beir Zeit University witnessed a tough battle with the occupation forces. The students built barricades of stones and burned tires at the university entrance, thereby closing the way in front of the enemy. They were also chanting anti-occupation slogans and raised Palestinian flags. The occupation authorities closed the university area after seizing it, and ordered its closure. It also arrested many of its students and wounded one with bullets as they fired on the crowd of students.

During this time, the Gaza Islamic University was also experiencing similar activities and was also seized.

Indeed, the Day of the Land this year witnessed outstanding mass demonstrations and celebrations throughout all of the occupied lands. The heroic military operations that were carried out separately by PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of

Palestine, were qualitative in nature. They both challenged and defeated all the enemy's security measures. The PFLP freedom fighters shelled the Zionist settlements in Galilee and seized a bus and DFLP commandos carried out the Jerusalem operations, making the grounds tremble under the feet of the Zionists.

The Day of the Land has always been the symbol of the unity of our Palestinian masses everywhere in spite of the great geographical distances of separation. Our people especially under occupation through their daily resistance and the special activities of the Day of the Land affirmed their national identity and resistance to occupation. They were able to put an end to the Zionist false propaganda of «there is no such thing as Palestinians». The Day of the Land this year was full of resistance and demonstrations combined with two major military operations that affirmed our people's determination to continue their struggle till victory. The celebrations this year came to indicate that our people who have been denied their homeland and right of self-determination and have been subjected to the stick and carrot policy have not diverted from their national path. They stand united to challenge all those that deny their national identity, or claim it to themselves. ●