

part of the army; he was not dismissed, nor were any measures taken against him.

The practice of Lahad's army in the South does not differ from that of the Israeli forces. The Israelis have turned some of their positions and checkpoints over to his forces. The Israelis have repeatedly declared their readiness to withdraw on the condition that 'security' duties can be taken over by Lahad's forces and various other local militias under Israeli command.

**Zionist and imperialist media are painting the picture that the Palestinian revolution is defeated, and that the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza would do better to accept what they can get by cooperating with 'Israel'. What is your comment to this?**

This is the aim of the Zionist and imperialist media, but the reality is exactly the opposite. True, the Palestinian revolution lost one of its positions, but it was able to rebuild its structures and force; it established strong alliances with the Lebanese nationalist forces and Syria; it has partially rid itself of the wrong political trend which Arafat has followed for years. It is a fact that a wrong political line can lead the revolution to defeat if the revolutionary forces do not rise up to correct the situation and chart the correct political line based on the political lessons

of Beirut, the correct strategy and tactics which lead the revolution to victory. This is what is taking place now in the Palestinian revolution, for all organizations have adopted the line of continuing the struggle against the enemy. There is only Arafat and a small part of Fatah adopting the capitulationist line. This line is rejected by the Palestinian fighters and masses. Therefore, it will be defeated.

In 1984, the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese nationalist forces and Syria defeated the NATO fleets in Lebanon. Does this mean we got weaker? The Lebanese-Palestinian resistance in the South of Lebanon inflicts daily losses on the enemy; there is an ongoing reaction inside the Zionist entity due to the losses inflicted by the heroic resistance; there are contradictions between the Zionist leaders and parties ignited and fueled by the continuation of our struggle. Does this mean that the Palestinian revolution was defeated?

Developments after 1982 have proven that the Palestinian revolution has learned from its previous mistakes and gotten rid of many of them. This has a positive impact on the struggle of our masses in occupied Palestine. The strengthening of the struggle in occupied Palestine is an indication of this. This will lead to increased mass, political and military work in occupied Palestine and in the Arab world generally. ●

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## *Mass Rally*

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In late May, a mass rally was held in Yarmouk Camp near Damascus to commemorate the four comrades who were martyred in the operation carried out by the PFLP in occupied Palestine on April 12th. The main speakers were Comrade George Habash, General Secretary of the PFLP, and Comrade George Hawi, General Secretary of the Lebanese Communist Party. Both speeches are printed in summary.

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## *Comrade Habash*

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We meet today to honor the martyrs of the Askelon-Rafah operation: Comrades Jamal Qiblan, Subhi Abu Juma, Mohammad Barakha and Majdi Abu Juma, martyrs of Palestine, the Arab nation, and the movement for progress and peace in the world. We also honor martyr Abu Rabi', hero of the operation carried out by the DFLP in Jerusalem, and salute comrades Carlos and Fuad who participated in this operation.

The importance of such operations at this stage lies in the fact that they affirm the continuity of the armed struggle until the achievement of all the aims for which thousands of our people have been martyred. Such operations tell Arafat, Mubarak, Hussein, Hassan II and all other surrendering rulers that the only solution to the Arab-Zionist struggle is to uproot Zionism from our land. Such operations say that our masses have the power to achieve their aims...

Speaking thus is based on scientific analysis that a just

peace in the area can only be achieved by securing the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, which can never take place with the existence of the Zionist entity.

Everybody speaks of a just, lasting peace in the Middle East. It is natural that our aim is a just, lasting peace in Palestine and all the Arab area. It would be criminal to want to prolong the displacement and instability of the Palestinian and Arab people, to want to prolong instability for the Jews living in Palestine. Yet, what is the way to a just, lasting peace in Palestine?

The Zionist movement succeeded in misleading world opinion in 1948, when 'Israel' was created. It presented itself as a 'national liberation movement' for Jews, with the sole aim of establishing a state in Palestine where Jews would feel they had a homeland and live in peace with their Arab neighbors.