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Letters

In June, a friend in Paris wrote:

The French paper *Le Monde Diplomatique* has published a short article in its issue of June 1984 about your review, giving your address and conditions of subscription. Its few lines number among the rare good news one can pick up here in France.

Information about the actual situation of the Palestinian revolution is indeed so partial, if not sometimes doubtful, that it is very difficult to attain a clear idea of what is happening and argue for it objectively. Your review, as a direct link with the revolutionary Palestinian forces, is from that point of view a necessary complement of information.

Moreover, the most politically advanced positions here, greatly determining the subjective aspect of the mass media, are certainly progressive compared with what they were before the Zionist invasion of Lebanon, and even before the great American defeat in that country, but they still remain an imperialist point of view on the Palestinian and Arab cause: If the national rights of the Palestinian people are at last - and at what price - recognized, it is only in the bourgeois accept of what is a national cause and what is a people. So that everybody seems to be ready here for a big renewed Camp David farce, under the spotlights and high ceilings of some UNO's palace, consecrating in one way or another an internationally recognized partition of Palestine...Such a plan, if it does exist, represents the maximum imperialism can concede, and is far to be sure of success.

Finally, your struggle inside the PLO for a democratic work and clear strategic aims and means appears as the key to everything.

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Editor's Note

Sabra-Shatila Massacre

Our cover marks the second anniversary of the Sabra-Shatila massacre perpetrated by Zionist-fascist collaboration against Palestinian and Lebanese civilians in Beirut, September 1982. This horrendous crime climaxed the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. It rendered a final proof of the enemy's ultimate cowardice: For almost three months the Zionist invaders mercilessly pounded West Beirut from the safety of their US-supplied bombers. Only with the departure of the PLO fighters did they dare to execute their plan for storming the city, directing the Phalangists to slaughter unarmed men, women, children and elderly. Through their terror, the Zionists and the Lebanese fascists aimed to induce a mass exodus of Palestinians. Yet our people remained. The most powerful tribute to the martyrs of Sabra-Shatila came with the mass movement mounted by Lebanese and Palestinian women to return the disappeared, i.e. those kidnapped by the Zionists, fascists and Lebanese Army. (See article in this issue.)

Sabra-Shatila is not only a memory. It is part of the ongoing reality of US-backed Zionist aggression, affecting our people under occupation whether in Palestine or Lebanon. While blatantly fascist Zionists are speaking of ridding the 'Land of Israel' of all Arabs, West Beirut has again become the target of frequent fascist-engineered car bombs. In occupied South Lebanon, mini-Sabra-Shatilas are a constant threat due to the presence of the Zionist occupation forces and their agents, the South Lebanon Army. This danger is on the rise with the increased presence of Shin Beth plainclothesmen who are kidnapping and murdering Palestinian and Lebanese patriots at will. Thus, commemorating Sabra-Shatila means renewing our pledge to protect the Palestinian and Lebanese masses. In the last analysis, this means continuing the struggle against occupation, whether in Palestine or Lebanon.