

stable base for the struggle against Zionism. Jackson and the Rainbow Coalition have given an example of what will be required to transform the popular pro-Zionist consensus in the U.S., what forces will be key to this motion--and a glimmer of what price will be exacted by the imperialist/Zionist axis as we struggle to do so.

It is certainly true that since the invasion of Lebanon there has been a new openness among progressives in the U.S. to challenge certain of the most onerous aspects of Israeli policies. Yet the challenge to the U.S. left lies not in conciliating the widespread attempt to condemn Begin, Sharon and Shamir as aberrations from «democratic Israel» as envisioned by liberal Zionism. Rather, the goal must be to split the Zionist movement altogether, to force a break from any sort of Zionism for those forces claiming any shred of political or even moral consistency. Tactical alliances with liberal Zionism will undoubtedly have to be made to isolate Israel's drift to outright fascism, but there should be no strategic conciliation of it in the process.

In light of the dangerous rightward turn in both U.S. and Israeli policy, the stakes in this fight are quite urgent.

Tensions have heightened in the region as the Israelis have failed to crush the resistance of the Palestinian and other

Arab people. With direct U.S. involvement on the rise, new tasks are posed for the U.S. and international progressive movements. The role of the U.S. Marines on the ground in Beirut, the preparation of bases for the Rapid Deployment Force, the new military agreement with Israel, the stationing of U.S. naval armadas in the Mediterranean Sea, the Indian Ocean, and the Persian/Arab Gulf, are all ominous signs of an escalated U.S. military role that threatens peace not only in the region but in the world.

Thus, the struggle against Zionism is a key question, both for the international struggle against imperialism and the formation within the U.S. of a politically stable working class movement. Herein lies a focal point of our proletarian internationalist and our national tasks. This struggle challenges all the most deeply rooted race and class dynamics of U.S. capitalism, and evokes an unbridled response from the most powerful and rabidly reactionary forces in the country. For this reason it is critical that the progressive movement be built on a firm anti-Zionist basis and with a clear sense of the stakes and forces involved. Only in this way can the U.S. people be forged into a serious component part of the international struggle for peace, democracy and socialism at home and abroad.

CULTURE

Palestinian Folklore in London

On the invitation of London's municipal council and the committee for solidarity with the Palestinian people, the Palestinian folklore ensemble *Al Ard (The Land)* toured Britain in early

November, performing in several places.

In London, 900 people attended an evening performance expressing solidarity with the Palestinian cause and

opposition to Zionism's racism. The *Al Ard* ensemble presented a variety of folk dances and songs, including a special dance entitled *Sabra*, depicting the massacre carried out by the Israeli occupiers and Phalangists in the camps of Beirut, in 1982. On the following days, *Al Ard* performed in Manchester and Brighton.

