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A SHORT SURVEY
OF THE
PALESTINE PROBLEM

by

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Palestine A Land Of The Arabs

1. Palestine is that part of the Arab Homeland which is bounded by the Mediterranean Sea from the West, Lebanon from the North, Syria and the Jordan River from the East, and the Red Sea and the Sinai Peninsula from the South and the South-West. Its area equals 27,024 square kilometres. Often it was called « Southern Syria », since Palestine forms a natural continuation of Syria.

2. The strategic geographical position of Palestine made it, throughout history, a meeting place for many cultures and civilisations. The later phases of its history gave it its Arabo-Islamic identity.

As far as recorded history goes the Cananites, who came from the Arabian Peninsula, settled in Palestine. They intermingled with the Amorites and the Palestinians, and as of 2500 B.C. they ruled Palestine for 15 centuries.

In the period lying between the 10th Century B.C. and the Arab Conquest of the 7th Century A.D., Palestine witnessed a succession of invasions by a number of kingdoms and peoples such as the Hebrews, the Greeks, and the Romans. In addition there were always waves of im-

migration, varying in their importance, from the Arabian Peninsula. These culminated finally in the great wave of the 7th Century A.D. which was a turning point in the history of the Ancient world and its peoples including the Arabs, and which finally conferred upon Palestine its explicit Arab identity.

Since the second half of the 7th Century A.D. and until the establishment of the state of Israel in the second half of the 20th Century, Palestine has been a part of the Arab World, i.e., during the period of 13 centuries its land, language, history, culture, and destiny have constituted an integral part of the Arab world without any interruption.

3. The strategic situation of Palestine has conferred upon it its unique position throughout history in the civilisation of the Ancient World. The same strategic situation has also conferred upon it, in modern times, far-reaching political importance both on the level of Arab politics as well as international affairs. Concerning the former it is easy to note that Palestine forms the heart of the Arab Homeland being the connecting link between its African and Asian parts. This makes Palestine a central point in any complete scheme for the unification of the Arab States. On the international level, Palestine is a meeting point of the connecting links among the three continents: Africa, Asia, and Europe. Also it is a strategic centre for controlling the southern shores of the Mediter-

anean Sea and those of the Red Sea. These facts have made Palestine of central importance in the plans of world imperialism since the beginning of this century.

What Is The Palestine Question ?

I The Palestine question can be viewed under two inseparable aspects : a tragedy and a crime.

A. It is the problem of a people whose homeland (and that of their forefathers) has been expropriated and dispossessed by force of arms in order to accomodate an alien European group of people with no particular ties to Palestine either historical or human.

B. On the land of the Arab people of Palestine an alien, racist, and closed society was established. This was done with complete disregard for 45 centuries of the history of Palestine, and for the principles of sovereignty and the right of self-determination.

The state of Israel represents a peculiar strand of imperialism, different from the traditional forms of simple political and economic domination. Its peculiarity lies in that it rests upon the illegal appropriation of the land of a people and the violation of their rights.

C. The indigenous population of Palestine has been

uprooted and ousted from its land after Israel has seized its property. And since 1948 more than 1,200,000 of the Arab people of Palestine have turned into refugees living in camps and huts on donations from the United Nations.

D. The Palestinian Arabs remaining in Israel number 270,000 people living in « security zones » under martial law.

II In order to have a complete picture of the tragedy of Palestine we should survey the main features of the development of the Palestine problem since its occupation by Britain in 1917 until it was turned over, by the Mandate Government, to the World Zionist Movement in 1948.

A. In 1917 the total population of Palestine numbered 700,000; 644,000 were Arabs, and the remaining 56,000 were Jews. In other words the number of the Jews in Palestine before British occupation was less than one tenth of the number of its Arab inhabitants.

B. The Arabs of Palestine at that time owned $97\frac{1}{2}\%$ of the land, while the Jewish minority owned only $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ of the land.

C. When Britain turned over the Palestine problem to the United Nations, in 1947, the Jews owned no more than 6% of the total land area of Palestine. In other

words, when the Partition Resolution was adopted (1947), the Arabs of Palestine still owned 94% of the total land area of Palestine, in spite of 30 years of British rule favourable to Zionist interests.

D. In 1948, the population of Palestine numbered 2,115,000, out of which 1,380,000 were Arabs, and 700,000 were Jews. In other words, when the state of Israel was established, and the majority of the Arab people of Palestine were expelled, the Arabs still formed two thirds of the total population of Palestine ; in spite of 30 years of Jewish immigration under the auspices of the British Mandate.

E. Since 1948, the picture has been reversed :

The Jewish minority (which was less than one tenth of the number of the Arab inhabitants of Palestine) has been swelled by two million foreign immigrant Jews gathered by the World Zionist Movement from different parts of the world.

The Jews (who owned in 1947 only 6% of the total land area of Palestine) have come now to own four fifths of the total land area of Palestine.

It could be easily noticed that an organised, conscious, and continuous effort has been exerted for 30 years in the history of the Palestine problem, to change its

human, economic, and political structure in preparation for its tragic fate.

How And Why Was The Palestine Problem Created ?

The alliance between British imperialism and Zionism resulted in the creation of the Palestine problem. Britain was the leader of world imperialism in the 19th and early 20th Century. The Zionist Movement formulated its political ideas and programmes in the latter part of the 19th Century. Although differences existed between them as colonial forces yet their common interests brought them together.

In fact, the illegal seizure of Palestine, and the creation of the state of Israel was not really an immediate result of the 1947 Partition Resolution, but the result of an old colonial plan. The imperial powers found in Zionism a fitting instrument for the execution of their plans. The history of the Palestine problem is part of an all inclusive imperialist strategy aiming at the domination of the Arab, African and Asian countries.

British Imperialism

1. The beginning of the 20th Century witnessed a British colonial policy aimed at the consolidation of its

presence in India, Egypt, and other parts of Africa ; and at the protection of the supply routes connecting its colonies. Furthermore, new developments appeared on the international scene. Competition among the world colonial powers reached its peak especially with the rise of new powers with strong colonial ambitions. The strength of these ambitions out-weighed the previous agreements reached among them concerning the partition of the world into spheres of influence. Besides this, new areas were opened in the Arab Middle East for competition among the colonial powers as a result of the collapse of the Ottomann Empire. It should be mentioned also that the beginning of the 20th Century witnessed the rise of « independence movements » in the colonised territories.

New plans were required for Britain to face all these new developments. It was evident that Palestine, due to its strategic position, would play an important role in the future of British imperialism.

Palestine is particularly important for the defence of Sinai and the Suez Canal. It is also a base of vital importance for any future expansionist plans which might be contemplated, after the fall of the Ottoman Empire, into Syria, Jordan, Iraq, and the Arabian Peninsula.

2. Britain saw at that early stage that the mere inclusion of Palestine within its sphere of influence was not sufficient to protect its vital interests around the

world. A surer method would be to implant an alien sovereignty on the soil of Palestine, that would serve British interests in the area. British documents are full of cogent evidence regarding this point.

The Zionist Movement

I At the time when Britain was formulating its early plans concerning Palestine, and was searching for the means for their implementation ; we find that Zionism had already come into being and had taken a few steps in the direction of formulating its political ideas as expressed by Moses Hess, Leo Pinsker, Theodor Herzl, and Chaim Weizmann.

A. Zionism took advantage of the persecution of the Jews in some East European countries. It presented itself, from the beginning, as an organised political movement aiming at finding a new and comprehensive solution for the Jews of the world. In 1892, Leo Pinsker, one of the earliest Zionist leaders, wrote in his book **Auto-Emancipation** that the world despises the Jews because they do not form a nation. The only solution for the problem is Jewish nationalism which will afford the Jews to live in a country of their own. Thus, Zionism was from the very beginning a political movement aiming at the conversion of Judaism from a mere religion to a national conscious-

ness that would eventually exemplify itself in a state containing the Jews of the world.

B. The above-mentioned call was completely strange to the Jews of the world until the latter part of the 19th Century, since the majority of the Jews used to look at their faith as a religious bond rather than as a political tie. They also considered that the solution of the Jewish question was in the integration and assimilation of the Jews, as citizens, in the nationalities of their respective countries. For this reason the call was not received positively, on the contrary, it was initially rejected by most of the Jews of the world, and was looked upon as an unbalanced response to the persecution of the Jews in some of the East European countries ; and as an unrealistic by-product of the age of nationalism as a whole.

The expression of Zionist ideas remained limited to sporadic writings and small groupings until Theodor Herzl succeeded in taking the first practical steps (in the latter part of the 19th Century) towards the realisation of Zionist ambitions. In 1895 he published his book **The Jewish State**, and two years later he succeeded in organising the first Zionist Congress in Basle.

C. This Congress was a turning point in the history of the Zionist Movement. It recorded the first practical success for Zionism in some Jewish circles. It, also, brought out to the open the direct political aim of Zionism

when it stressed that its goal is the establishment of a home for the Jewish people in Palestine. The Congress also formulated a practical programme for the Zionist movement based on three major points : the organisation of the Zionist movement; the planning, financing, and supervising of the process of colonisation; and the exertion of diplomatic pressures to produce political conditions that would permit, facilitate, and protect large-scale colonisation.

Thus, the preliminary plans for the strangest and cruelest of imperialist usurpation of fundamental rights in modern history were drawn in Europe, by people who had never seen or lived in Palestine.

D. The Zionist movement upon starting its long political journey began looking for a great power to support the idea of the Jewish National Home. First, it resorted to the Ottoman Empire offering large financial inducement in return for allowing Jewish immigration to Palestine, and the establishment of Jewish colonies on its land. Second, it resorted to Germany with an offer to set up a commercial company for the exploitation of land in Palestine under the patronage of the German Empire. Third, it resorted to Britain with an offer to establish a Jewish state in Sinai as a first step towards the seizure of Palestine. The three attempts failed one after the other.

Yet the Zionist movement, which knew the interests

and aims of British imperialism realised with the approach of World War I, that the British Empire was the only force ready to actually back the Zionist dream. Thus, the Zionist movement gave up its hopeless attempts to co-operate with the Ottoman Empire and Germany, and turned to Britain with constant assurances that the Jews in Palestine would form an inseparable part of the British Empire. In 1914, i.e., three years before the Balfour Declaration, Weizmann wrote to the editor of the **Manchester Guardian**: « We can reasonably say that should Palestine fall within the British sphere of influence, and should Britain encourage a Jewish settlement there, as a British dependency, we could have in twenty to thirty years a million Jews out there perhaps more; they would form a very effective guard for the Suez Canal. »

II This peculiar imperialist force, Zionism, has had, since its inception, racist and exploitative inclinations both ideologically and in practice. These inclinations have taken definite shape in the Zionist State of Israel.

A. Zionism, from the start, was based on the idea of the illegal appropriation of the whole of Palestine, and the expulsion of its indigenous population. It was not created for the sake of finding a secure place for the persecuted Jews, nor for finding a Jewish grouping in Palestine, nor even for the purpose of establishing a Jewish state on part of the land of Palestine. Zionism, which was regarded by some as an answer to the waves of Jewish

persecution, quickly corrected this misconception by stressing that the aim behind Jewish immigration and Zionist colonisation of Palestine was to turn it to a Jewish National Home which would find its political expression in the « One Jewish State ». This early general expression regarding the usurpation of Palestine and the establishment of the state of Israel is clearly expressed in the early writings of Zionist leaders, in the resolution adopted by the first Zionist Congress, and in the rejection of all offers regarding the settlement of the Jews outside Palestine. It was best expressed by Weizmann in the Peace Conference held in Paris in February 1919, when he declared that the goal of Zionism was that Palestine « would ultimately become as Jewish as England is English.

B. Zionist philosophy has explicitly expressed a racial theory. Zionism as an ideology is based on the notion of the creation of a Jewish National Home. The call for this home was propagated among a majority of Jewish circles who conceived Judaism to be a faith and not a national political union. They also believed that the solution of the prevailing Jewish conditions lied in the development of world liberal movements, in the success of the call for equality, and in the assimilation of the Jews in the nationalities of their respective countries.

In the absence of the basic assets which form a nation, namely a common language, history and geography, Zionism could not find except racism a basis to justify

the idea of the Jewish National Home, and to fight the call for assimilation. Instead of Judaism being merely a religion, it should be inculcated as a racial doctrine ; and instead of the call for assimilation the banner of collective racism should be promulgated. Moses Hess explained this philosophy in his book, **Rome And Jerusalem**, published in 1862, when he wrote that the « Jewish people » survived because it had preserved its « racial instinct.» In his book, **Auto Emancipation**, published in 1892, Leo Pinsker stressed that the Jews have « a common, unmixed descent, an indestructible vigor... » Theodor Herzl in his book, **The Jewish State**, published in 1895, wrote that the Jews have remained one people, and a distinct race, because the laws of marriage have been hindering « .. rather than aiding the fusion of races.... »

The prime enemy of Zionism and anti-semitism had been the advocacy for assimilating the Jews in the nationalities of their respective countries. Thus, racism was the essence and *raison d'être* of Zionist philosophy. It is a historical irony that the understanding of the Zionist meaning of racism coincided with that of the Nazis. Such a conceptual agreement led to the use of the same methods, as exemplified by racial discrimination practically applied by Zionism against the Arabs before and after the establishment of the state of Israel.

C. Zionism, since its inception, tended towards stressing its superiority, which is a natural offspring of

racism. The fact that the Jews resented assimilation in other nationalities was not the result of unrealistic nationalist aspirations, but was the basis for expressing that superior tendency. Zionism, in order to serve its interests, converted the classical religious idea of a «chosen people» into a completely different meaning, best expressed by Ahad Ha'am when he wrote : « The nation of Israel as a superna'tion — the modern version of the chosen people — can in this way be expanded into a true system. » The Jewish people are looking for « some firm resting place... in order that it may have the opportunity once more of developing its genius... and of fulfilling its mission as a supernation. »

III A. By the outbreak of World War I the Zionist colonisation of Palestine had met with only modest success in over thirty years of action. Zionists were still infinitesimal minority of about 1% of the Jews of the world. Their activities had aroused the fear and opposition of other Jews, who sought the solution of the «Jewish problem» in assimilation in Western Europe and the United States of America, not in self-segregation in Palestine. Zionist colonisation proceeded very slowly. After thirty years of immigration to Palestine, Jews were still under 8% of the total population of the country, in possession of no more than 2½% of the land. Zionism had also failed to obtain political endorsement from the Ottoman authorities controlling Palestine, or from any European power. It seemed that Zionism was reaching a dead end.

B. The war, however, created new circumstances which were destined to improve considerably the fortunes of Zionist colonisation in Palestine. It was obvious that such a war would bring about the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. Britain realised that it was the right time for the execution of its colonial plans. Thus, an alliance between British imperialism and Zionist colonialism was concluded in 1917 which succeeded in accomplishing the objectives of both parties.

Preparing For The Crime

In 1917 the British army entered Palestine with the help of the Arab forces who stood with Britain against Turkey, after the former gave the Arabs pledges that it would ensure the independence and unity of the Arab world. After securing itself in Palestine, Britain went back on its previous promises and immediately started to pave the way for Zionist seizure of Palestine.

1. The first step which Britain took in this direction was the proclamation of the Balfour Declaration on 2nd November, 1917, promising the Jews the right to establish a national home in Palestine. Arthur Koestler, a Jewish author, describes the Balfour Declaration in the following manner « A first nation promises a second nation a land which belongs to a third nation. » The Balfour Declaration was the first political document which

the Zionist movement received in support of its aims. Britain's attitude regarding the colonisation of Palestine was expressed in a letter sent by Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen to Lloyd George on 25th March, 1919, in which he said : « We are very wise in allowing the Jews to establish their National Home in Palestine ; we have also freed the Arabs from the Turkish yoke and we cannot forever remain in Egypt... The British position in the Middle East today is paramount... We cannot befriend both Jew and Arab. My proposal is based on befriending the people who are more likely to be loyal friends — the Jews. »

2. The second step in the « Judization plan » after the Balfour Declaration, was putting Palestine under the British Mandate. In 1922 the League of Nations approved the provisions of the Mandate System, which encompassed the practical plan for the implantation of the Zionist state in Palestine. This is clearly expressed in Article 2 which reads thus : « The Mandatory shall be responsible for placing the country under such political, administrative and economic conditions as will secure the establishment of the Jewish National Home. »

In the light of British military rule, branded with the signature of the League of Nations, the act of creating the state of Israel was executed according to the above-mentioned plan.

a. First, it was necessary to procure a sufficient

number of Jews in order to justify theoretically the idea of the Jewish National Home, and to establish practically the Zionist state. Thus, Britain opened the door of Palestine for Jewish immigration, and extended its protection over illegal immigration.

During the 35 years prior to British occupation, the number of immigrant Jews into Palestine did not exceed 25,000. During the first four years of British occupation Jewish immigrants numbered more than 26,000. After ten years of occupation this number reached 100,000 ; and after 17 years 250,000. When Britain occupied Palestine the Jewish population was only 56,000; and when Britain left the country there were 700,000 Jews. In other words, the number of the Jews became 12 times more during the period of British occupation.

b. After procuring the people it was necessary to provide them with the land. When the policy of financial inducement adopted by Zionism did not succeed in forcing the Arabs sell their land, Britain took such measures as promulgating prejudiced agriculture laws, oppressing the Arab landowners with heavy taxes, thus impoverishing the Arab farmer, in order to force him sell his land to the Jews. In addition, Britain started to transfer large areas of public property land to Zionist bodies. In spite of all these attempts the land owned by the Jews prior to 1948 did not exceed 6% of the total area of Palestine. But it was enough to establish Zionist settlements, and to absorb the immigrant Jews.

c. It was necessary to establish a Zionist administrative body to organise those people on the land to be the nucleus of the future government of the Zionist state. Accordingly, the Mandatory Government refused to discuss any kind of self-government or even a constitutional government, because such an act, as Churchill expressed it, would contradict the pledge given to the Jews of establishing a national Jewish home in Palestine. At the same time Britain recognised the Jewish Agency and admitted the Jews on a large scale to participate in administering the country, in such a manner that allowed Zionist bodies in Palestine to become « a state within a state ».

d. Finally, it was necessary to create an organised military force to protect on one side the growing Zionist presence, and on the other to fight for the establishment of the Zionist state. Thus, the Mandatory Government permitted the Jewish Agency to set up the Haganah military organisation, and other terrorist groups such as the Stern and the Irgun. Besides this, the Mandatory Government helped in the military reinforcement of Jewish settlements, which were built on a strategic basis. Also the Mandatory Government participated in the military training of Jews. These steps were taken by the British Mandate at the time when life-imprisonment and capital-punishment awaited any Arab caught carrying arms.

Arab Resistance And Zionist Terrorism

1. The Arab people of Palestine did not take a

passive stand vis-à-vis the imminent danger of Zionism. Since the proclamation of the Balfour Declaration, the adoption of the Mandate System, and until 1948, Arab popular peaceful and violent outbreaks took place, starting with resistance movements in 1920 through 1933, followed by the famous nation-wide strike of 1936, and the massive popular revolt of 1937.

2. As a result of Arab resistance, which reached its climax in 1938, and as a result of the coming of World War II, Britain pretended that it had conceded to the Arab claims, and published in May 1939 the White Paper, in which it unequivocally declared that « it is not part of their policy that Palestine should become a Jewish state. » The White Paper also repealed the partitioning of Palestine which was recommended by the Peel Commission of June 1937. As for immigration, the White Paper provided for the admission of 75,000 Jews beginning in April 1939 and for the next five years, after which period no further Jewish immigration would be allowed. It also proposed the termination of the Mandate and the establishment, within ten years, of an independent state in Palestine with a two-thirds Arab majority.

3. The Zionists rejected, and bitterly condemned the proposals expounded by the White Paper. They also declared that immigration should continue ; and that the Jewish National Home postulates the establishment of the Jewish state. In 1944, Zionist terrorism moved

into a new stage, namely that of blowing up British official departments, the hanging of a number of British soldiers, and the destruction of bridges, buildings etc... In addition Lord Moyne, British Minister of the Middle East, was assassinated. All this took place while the Arabs kept quiet awaiting the fulfillment of the 1939 British promises.

The Execution Of The Crime

1. In 1947 Britain announced its intention to withdraw from Palestine because it could no longer control the deteriorating situation, and passed the Palestine problem to the United Nations. On 29 November, 1947, the United Nations' Partition plan was adopted by a vote of 33 to 13 with 10 abstentions.

a. The Partition Resolution gave the proposed Jewish state 56.47% of the area of Palestine, at the time when the Jews totalled one-third of the inhabitants and owned only 6% of the land of Palestine.

b. The Jews formed only half of the inhabitants of the proposed Jewish state, and owned 9.38% of its land.

c. The Partition Resolution sanctified the usurpation of Palestine and the implantation of the state of Israel at the point-of-intersection of Asia and Africa

without the free approval of the people of Palestine, the Arab nation, or any Asian or African country with the exception of the Philippines, Liberia, and South Africa, itself ruled by an alien minority.

2. With the publication of the Partition Resolution the preparation for the final chapter of the crime started. The plan agreed upon by Britain and Zionism was executed in a period of six months, between November 1947 and 15 May 1948. The plan could be summarised as follows : Britain would gradually withdraw from Jewish sectors in order to make the arrival of arms, and the free movement of men easier ; while Britain would remain in the Arab sectors, thus, crippling the Arab resistance movement, and enabling the Jews to conquer the largest area possible of the land of Palestine before the complete withdrawal of Britain on 15 May, 1948. The means adopted for the execution of the above-mentioned plan involved armed terrorism in which Zionism surpassed the means adopted by the Nazis in persecuting the Jews. Thus, Palestine witnessed a Series of massacres aimed at forcing the Arab people to migrate to neighbouring Arab States.

On 15 May, 1948, Britain withdrew from Palestine. The establishment of the state of Israel was announced, and the United States of America recognised it few minutes after its proclamation. As for the Arab armies which entered Palestine, part of it was under the control of British officers, and the rest was taken care of as a result

of political pressure exerted by the Great Powers on the Arab Governments.

In May 1949 Israel was admitted into the United Nations, and the Palestine question entered a new phase in its struggle against world imperialism.

Results Of The Crime — The Tragedy

1. The immediate result of the establishment of the state of Israel was the creation of an Arab refugee problem. Since 1948 one million Palestinian Arabs (less than one and a half million at the present time) have been living in camps on an average of seven cents a day per person. They are deprived of essential health requirements and education opportunities. Israel was not satisfied with the expulsion of the people of Palestine from their land, it also seized all their money and property assessed for two billion sterling pounds. Since 1948, the United Nations has adopted 16 resolutions pertaining to the right of the Palestinians to return to their home. Israel refused, and is still refusing, to comply with those resolutions.

2. The remaining Arabs who have continued to live in Palestine (numbering 200,000 in 1948, and around 270,000 in 1966) have their own « bantustans », their « native reserves », their « ghettos », namely that they live in « security zones ». These Arabs live under martial law, and are subject to the pass system, which harshly

restricts their movement and travel. Arabs are denied the basic rights of expression, assembly, and association. They are not permitted to publish newspapers or to form political organisations. Educational opportunities for Arabs are severely restricted ; the higher the level of education, the more discriminatory the restriction of opportunities. The Arabs have limited access to employment and they are denied the right to « equal pay for equal work ». The agricultural lands and homes of the Arabs are subject to confiscation by administrative degree. Finally, the Arabs are considered to be « class B » citizens.

Israel Today

The establishment of the state of Israel does not only embody a usurpation of power, but also an extension of world Zionism. In other words, it is the paradigm case of racism, usurpation and invasion, historically connected with imperialism. Thus, it is a threat to the security and integrity of the Arab States, and to the cause of anti-colonialism and liberation in the Afro-Arian countries.

1. Israel represents an imminent danger of expansion and aggression :

- a. Israel encompasses four fifths of the total land area of Palestine, thus violating the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1947.

Since its establishment Israel has been refusing to comply with these resolutions. (Ben-Gurion : The resolutions of the United Nations are dead and will not be revived again. We are going to keep all of what we have taken).

b. The history of Israel is full with aggressive acts. Between 1949 and 1962 Israel waged 21,240 military attacks on the territories of the neighbouring Arab States. Israel was condemned five times by the Security Council, and six times by the General Assembly, in addition to condemnations passed by the Mixed Armistice Commission; while no Arab State was condemned in return.

c. The aggressive nature of Israel is best expressed in the expansionist policy of Israel embodied in the slogan « from the Euphrates to the Nile is the land of Israel. »

Israel is now only a part of « Eretz Israel », and the Zionist mission remains incomplete until Israel encompasses its « historical boundaries ». Ben-Gurion addressing the students of the Hebrew University declared : « This is not the right behavior for Israel. You have to struggle without stop in order to establish, by invasion or diplomacy, the Israel Empire which encompasses the area extending between the Nile and the Euphrates. »

d. The plan of Israel aiming at the assembling of five million Jews in this small area, with relatively lim-

ited resources, has only one meaning and one outlet, namely expansion.

2. Israel is an imperialist base implanted in the heart of the Arab World at the point of intersection between Africa and Asia. Thus its historical connection with the Anglo-American imperialism, and its strategic position have advanced the meeting of interest between imperialism and Zionism to the point of blended destiny. The history of Israel pertaining to Arab and Afro-Asian problems have confirmed this fact. Israel has supported more than once the policy of apartheid propagated by the white minority rule in South Africa in contrary to the stand taken by the Afro-Asian countries. Israel has supported French imperialism against the Algerian revolution. Israel has been supplying Portugal with arms to be used against the national liberation movements in Angola. Israel has co-operated with Britain and France in the Tripartite Invasion of Egypt (U.A.R.) in 1956.

3. This co-operation between Zionism and imperialism is beginning to have new shapes which will fit the age of national liberation and the awakening of the peoples of the « third world ». Neo-colonialism which has casted off its old military tactics, finds in Israel an ideal tool to be the spearhead of its plans, and one of the main bridges for penetration once again into Africa and Asia.

The People Of Palestine Revive Their Struggle

An accomplished fact does not eradicate the crime. Nations do not accept an accomplished fact when it threatens their existence, and when it excludes them from taking part in human liberation movements. The Palestinian Arabs have been refusing to legitimize this multifaceted *fait accompli* for the last 18 years. The Palestinian Arabs are determined to go back to their home (Palestine). The struggle of the Arab people of Palestine has entered a new phase with the establishment in 1964 of the Palestine Liberation Organisation ; thus manifesting an organised national consciousness to carry the struggle for the liberation of Palestine a step further in the direction of fulfilling its hopes and aims. The Palestine Liberation Organisation will continue its work in the field of national liberation in accordance with the resolution adopted at its First National Congress calling for « leadership that will mobilise the potentials of the Arab people of Palestine, » thus asserting the « inevitable battle for the liberation of the occupied sector of Palestine. »

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