

"Palestine International Week" in Peking

DURING "Palestine International Week" in Peking from May 3 to 8, the Chinese people expressed in various ways their full support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people and their militant friendship with the people of Palestine and other Arab countries.

10,000-Strong Rally

The grand rally of 10,000 people at the Great Hall of the People on May 3 was the biggest event in "International Week." Present at the rally were Li Hsien-nien, Vice-Premier of the State Council; Kuo Mo-jo, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress; Wang Hsin-ting, Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army; Chi Peng-fei, Acting Foreign Minister; Wu Teh, Vice-Chairman of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee; Wang Kuo-chuan, leading member of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries, and diplomatic envoys in Peking of various Arab, Asian, African and Latin American countries and Albania, as well as foreign delegations and friendly personages visiting China. Headed by Abu Ammar Sa'ad, the Palestine Liberation Organization Delegation which came to China to participate in "International Week" activities and pay a friendly visit to China on invitation received a particularly warm welcome at the rally.

N.P.C. Vice-Chairman Kuo Mo-jo, Delegation Leader Abu Ammar Sa'ad, Syrian Ambassador to China Youssef Shakra, who represented the diplomatic envoys of Arab countries to China, and Liu Hsi-chang, Member of the Standing Committee of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee and a leading member of the Conference of Representatives of Peking Revolutionary Workers, spoke at the rally.

On behalf of the Chinese Government and people, N.P.C. Vice-Chairman Kuo Mo-jo warmly welcomed the comrades-in-arms on the P.L.O. Delegation who had come from the front of the anti-imperialist struggle in the Middle East. He said that the Arab nation was a great nation and the Palestinian and other Arab peoples were heroic peoples, and that tempered in war the Palestinian people have become a staunch shock force of the Arab national-liberation movement and their just struggle has won the support and sympathy of the broad masses of the people in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the whole world.

He pointed out: "U.S. imperialism and its collaborator have always regarded the struggle by the Palestinian and other Arab peoples as a big obstacle to their aggression against and control of the Arab countries. They are contending with each other in a desperate effort to expand their own spheres of influence; at the same time, they are colluding with each other in a plot to wipe out the Palestinian guerrillas and strangle

the Arab people's cause of national liberation. However, today is no longer the time when imperialism could ride roughshod over others and rule the fate of other peoples at will. It is only the Palestinian and other Arab peoples and the people of other countries in the Middle East, and definitely not U.S. imperialism and its collaborator and lackeys, who will decide the fate of the people of the Middle East."

Kuo Mo-jo said that the common struggle against imperialism has linked China and Palestine and other Arab countries together. He told the Palestinian and other Arab friends: "Your struggle constitutes a positive contribution to the anti-imperialist revolutionary struggle of the world's people and a great support and encouragement to the Chinese people who are engaged in socialist revolution and socialist construction. The Chinese people learn from you and salute you. We will, as always, firmly support your just struggle."

In a warm and enthusiastic speech, Delegation Leader Abu Ammar Sa'ad said: Mankind's long history of struggle bears out one important scientific truth: For the oppressed people suffering from foreign oppression and occupation, power which determines their fate can only be won through the road of armed struggle, a people's war of liberation. Confronted with Zionism, the Palestine revolution has come to realize through a just war of liberation that her enemy is not only Zionism with its colonialist organs and expansionist and racist schemes, but also the No. 1 enemy of the people of all countries—U.S.-led world imperialism and its lackeys.

He continued: In the occupied territories, our people are being daily subjected to fascist terror. Outside the occupied territories, the reactionary puppet forces headed by the Jordanian reactionaries are scheming to organize attacks aimed at wiping out the Palestine revolution. Internationally, U.S.-led world imperialism is trying hard to push the notorious Security Council Resolution No. 242 and to impose it on the Palestinian and other Arab peoples. We are carrying out struggles in many fields. Our revolution is therefore entrusted with a tremendous task. Our people are determined to fulfil this task and make meaningful sacrifices for this.

Delegation Leader Abu Ammar Sa'ad said: The Palestine revolution, the Arab national-liberation movement and the world national-liberation movement are in fact linked together; this is an important and basic conviction of ours. Our aim is to eliminate the oppression of the Palestinian people so that they will no longer remain homeless; and to eliminate the oppression of the Jews by the fascist Zionist movement. The Zionist movement will not be able to save the Jews. A democratic, progressive state of Palestine will be a

Premier Chou Meets Arab Friends

Premier of the State Council Chou En-lai and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Kuo Mo-jo on May 9 met Abu Ammar Sa'ad, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization Delegation, and members of the delegation Abu Khaled, Abu Ali, Abu Feras, Abu Imad and Hamdi Mahmoud as well as the journalists from Palestine and other Arab countries visiting China and covering "Palestine International Week" activities in Peking.

Premier Chou En-lai and N.P.C. Vice-Chairman Kuo Mo-jo warmly welcomed the Palestinian and other Arab friends who came from the forefront of the struggle against U.S. imperialism and

Zionism in the Middle East and had a photo taken with them.

Premier Chou En-lai and N.P.C. Vice-Chairman Kuo Mo-jo had a long, cordial and friendly conversation with all the members of the P.L.O. Delegation. Premier Chou also answered questions raised by the journalists.

Those present at the meeting included: Wang Hsin-ting, Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army; Chi Peng-fei, Acting Foreign Minister; and Wu Teh, Vice-Chairman of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee.

country without the forces of Zionism and imperialism and free from national and class oppression. As for the state of Palestine being plotted by the imperialists, it is based on the existence of Israel and complete submission to Israel, militarily and economically. That is why we are resolutely opposed to it and also to all other proposals of capitulation.

In conclusion, Delegation Leader Abu Ammar Sa'ad said: The march of events is proving ever more clearly that the revolution of the Indochinese peoples — the Vietnamese, the Laotian and the Khmer peoples — in East Asia and the Palestine revolution of the Palestinian and other Arab peoples in West Asia are a pair of brackets of a parenthesis in the world, which encloses world imperialism and its lackeys, world Zionism and its tool Israel. The two brackets are gradually coming closer together to form an encirclement of the enemies of the peoples. This encirclement will keep on tightening until the peoples' enemies are strangled to death.

Addressing the rally, Ambassador Youssef Shakra said: The people of the whole world, the Arab people and their vanguard force the Palestinian people have come to realize that armed struggle is the only way to the recovery of the occupied territories and their legitimate rights. For that end, the Palestinian people have taken up arms to wage a just war in which all the forces are mobilized until winning the victory which is surely theirs. The entire Arab people, including the Palestinian revolutionaries, know that their struggle will be a long one. In order to win victory, they must on the one hand strengthen the unity between the different guerrilla forces and on the other strengthen their unity with the world liberation movement. "In particular," the Ambassador said, "we would like to praise the friendly Chinese people led by the great Chairman Mao Tsetung. The Chinese people have all along given

boundless support to the anti-colonialist and anti-imperialist struggle of the Palestinian and other Arab peoples."

In his speech, Comrade Liu Hsi-chang praised the Palestinian people's valiant struggle against U.S. imperialism and Israeli Zionism. He said that the Palestinian people have waged tit-for-tat struggles against U.S. imperialism's counter-revolutionary dual tactics, and the Palestinian guerrillas have victoriously stood stern tests. The workers, peasants and P.L.A. men in Peking firmly support the Palestinian people in their just struggle to liberate their homeland and firmly support the Arab peoples in their struggles against U.S. imperialism and Israeli Zionism.

P.L.O. Delegation in Peking

The Palestine Liberation Organization Delegation received a warm welcome in Peking. On May 4, the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee and the Chinese Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries gave a banquet in the Great Hall of the People to welcome the delegation. Wu Teh, Vice-Chairman of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee, and Abu Ammar Sa'ad, head of the P.L.O. Delegation, spoke at the banquet. The next day, Acting Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei met the delegation and gave a dinner in honour of the Palestinian comrades-in-arms after the meeting. The P.L.O. Delegation also visited a Peking unit of the Chinese People's Liberation Army and the Shoutu Iron and Steel Company. It also saw a photo exhibition and attended a film reception, both showing the valiant struggle of the Palestinian people against the U.S.-Israeli aggressors.

To cover "Palestine International Week" activities, 15 Arab journalists from 13 countries and regions came to Peking on invitation. They are: Nazih Abu Niddal,

Leading Editor, and Rashad Abu Shower, Editor, of *Fateh*, Palestine; Abdul Jabbar Al-Shatub, Editor-in-Chief of the weekly *Alef Ba*, Iraq; Ali Ballout, Editor-in-Chief of the weekly *Al-Dastour* and Farid El Khatib, columnist of *Al Kifah* (daily) and *Al Ahad* (weekly), Lebanon; El Fatih El Tigani, Chief Editor of *Al Ayam*, the Sudan; Bader Obeisi, Chief Editor of Syrian Arab News Agency, Syria; Abdeljelil Damak, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of *Assabah*, Tunisia; Arabdiou Mohamed, correspondent of *El Moudjahid*, Algeria; Ahmed Jarallah, Chief Editor of *Al Seyassah*, Kuwait; Mohameden Ould Hamidou, Chief Editor of *Al Shaab*, Mauritania; Hassan Ben Jelloun, representative of the *Africasia* magazine and its correspondent in Morocco; Hamdi Fouad, Diplo-

matic Editor of *Al Ahram*, U.A.R.; Abdel Karim Ahmed Sabrah, representative of the press and broadcasting institutions of the Arab Republic of Yemen; and Abdulla Ahmed Al Oad, Chief Editor of *Al Gundi* magazine, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

On May 5 Peking journalist circles gave a reception to welcome the Arab friends.

Among those at the reception were Djawoto, Secretary-General of the Afro-Asian Journalists' Association, and Members of the Secretariat of the Association, and Frederik Risakotta, Acting Head ad interim of the Executive Secretariat of the Afro-Asian Writers' Bureau and Members of the Secretariat.

Just Struggle of the Palestinian People

THE Palestine National Liberation Movement (Fateh) fired the first shot in the Galilee area in January 1965 and lit the torch of armed struggle. Since the launching of the U.S.-Israeli war of aggression in June 1967, the Palestinian people's armed struggle has developed rapidly. In March 1968, the Palestinian guerrillas shattered the 15,000-strong Israeli aggressors' "mopping-up" operations in Karama, east of the Jordan River. Thereafter, the guerrillas gained renown and grew from strength to strength. Since 1969, they have made frequent attacks on the Israeli aggressors and won one victory after another.

U.S.-Israeli Aggressors Hit Hard

The Palestinian guerrillas' scope of operation has spread everywhere in the Israeli-occupied areas and



A Palestinian guerrilla fighter

territory under its rule. They are active from the Golan Heights to Eilat in the Aqaba Gulf and from the Jordan valley to Tel Aviv, the nerve centre of the Israeli regime. Supported by the broad masses of the people and giving full play to the flexibility and mobility of guerrilla warfare, they often apply the tactics of engaging the enemy at close quarters and at night to attack him by surprise. They ambush enemy troops, attack camps, blow up military vehicles and destroy important military and economic installations, including airfields, pipe-lines, railways and bridges.

The armed struggle of the Palestinian people which is developing in force has dealt a heavy blow at the U.S.-Israeli aggressors. Repeated losses in military power and economic strength have made the situation tougher and tougher for the Israeli Zionists. The Western press has raised the alarm: Israel is unable to cope with the Palestinian resistance which is steadily growing in strength. Israeli "defence minister" Dayan had to admit that he was greatly disturbed over the activities of the Palestinian guerrillas and that "the Israeli forces have not seen any calm there [Israeli-occupied land] since the June War [in 1967]."

Jordanian Reactionaries' Suppression Defeated

The swift development of the Palestinian people's armed struggle has greatly inspired the people of the Arab countries in their fight against the U.S.-Israeli aggressors and has become a major obstacle for U.S. imperialism and its collaborator in plotting to divide the Middle East between themselves.

To wipe out the Palestinian people's armed forces, U.S. imperialism has not only ordered Israel to step up "encircling and suppressing" and "mopping up" the Palestinian guerrillas, but has also used the tactics of "making Arabs fight Arabs," instigating the Jordanian reactionaries to resort to bloody suppression of the guerrillas.

The Palestinian guerrilla forces are mainly based on Jordan. Under U.S. imperialist instigation and with Israeli co-ordination, beginning in 1968, the Jordanian reactionaries have repeatedly carried out military provocations and armed suppression of the Palestinian guerrillas. Last September, these reactionaries even sent more than 40,000 troops supported by about 500 tanks and armoured cars in a vain effort to eliminate the guerrillas at one stroke. Last January, March and April, they mounted more attacks on Palestinian guerrilla bases by means of isolating and encircling them with a view to realizing the criminal plan of "liquidating the Palestinian resistance movement by stages."

Confronted with bloody suppression by the Jordanian reactionaries, the Palestinian guerrilla units fought back valiantly in self-defence. They repulsed one armed attack after another. Especially in last September's onslaught, the Palestinian guerrillas, united as one, fought heroically and wiped out a large number of enemy troops. They halted the frenzied attacks by the Jordanian reactionaries and frustrated their criminal scheme of eliminating the guerrillas. Facts have proved that the Palestinian guerrillas are able to stand all tests and that the fierce flames of the Palestinian people's struggle for liberation will never be quenched. Exposed to frontal and rear attacks in the last 14 months, the guerrillas broke through the blockade and made 6,094 raids on Israeli aggressor troops. All this is a clear manifestation of the indomitable spirit of the guerrillas who dare to struggle.

"Palestinian State" Fraud Opposed

Openly resorting to the counter-revolutionary dual tactics, U.S. imperialism, in collusion with its collaborator, pushed ahead with its political schemes while directing the Israeli and Jordanian reactionaries to use force to deal with the guerrillas.

In the wake of the incident last September, U.S. imperialism and its collaborator have stepped up their plot to set up a so-called "Palestinian state" in a tiny area along the Jordan River. Their sinister purpose is to use political deceptions to inveigle the guerrillas into laying down their arms and extinguish the flames of the revolutionary armed struggle of the Palestinian people, thus liquidating the Palestinian revolution. The Palestinian people, however, have waged a tit-for-tat struggle against the political skulduggery of U.S. imperialism and its collaborator. The Palestinian guerrilla organizations have issued numerous statements, point-

ing out that armed struggle is the only way to solve the Palestinian question. After the September incident last year, leaders of the Palestinian guerrilla organizations and the journal *Fateh* issued statements and articles, exposing and condemning U.S. imperialism and its collaborator for their plot to create a "Palestinian state." The Palestinian National Council reiterated in the Political Action Programme adopted in March this year at its eighth session: "Armed struggle is the sole and irrevocable way to the liberation of the entire territory of Palestine." "Hence our rejection of any attempt at liquidationist solutions or any proposal on creating a 'Palestinian state.'"

Although the criminal "Palestinian state" plan has come to grief because of firm opposition from the Palestinian people, U.S. imperialism and its collaborator are not reconciled to defeat. They are still openly peddling their "political solution" fraud and working behind the scenes to sow discord among the Arab nations and among the various Palestinian forces. In the face of the Palestinian people who are determined to persevere in armed struggle, however, U.S. imperialism's schemes are bound to fail, no matter how it goes from trick to trick.

Unite to Win Victory

The Palestinian people's armed struggle is an important strength of the Arab people in their struggle against the U.S.-Israeli aggressors. It has always enjoyed widespread support from the people of the Arab countries.

Over the past few years, the people of the Arab countries have held many strikes, rallies and demonstrations. They resolutely oppose U.S. imperialist and Zionist aggression, strongly protest the Jordanian reactionaries' atrocities, angrily condemn the political schemes of U.S. imperialism and its collaborator and firmly support the Palestinian people in carrying their armed struggle through to the end. The Arab people have also actively raised funds and given material support to the Palestinian guerrillas. Many Arab youths have joined the guerrillas and fought shoulder to shoulder with them. Such militant unity between the Palestinian and other Arab people is an important factor of the Palestinian guerrillas scoring one victory after another.

In his solemn statement of May 20, 1970, the great leader of the Chinese people Chairman Mao Tsetung pointed out: "The people of a small country can certainly defeat aggression by a big country, if only they dare to rise in struggle, dare to take up arms and grasp in their own hands the destiny of their country." The course of struggle of the Palestinian people against aggression and suppression and against a "political solution" shows that the Palestinian people are invincible and that their just struggle for national rights will certainly triumph.

The Palestine Question

The Palestine question is today a major problem in the Middle East and for the Arab national-liberation movement. It is completely the result of imperialist policies of aggression in the Middle East.

Located in West Asia on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea, Palestine borders on Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and the United Arab Republic. At the junction of the routes linking Europe, Asia and Africa, Palestine is in an important strategic and economic position.

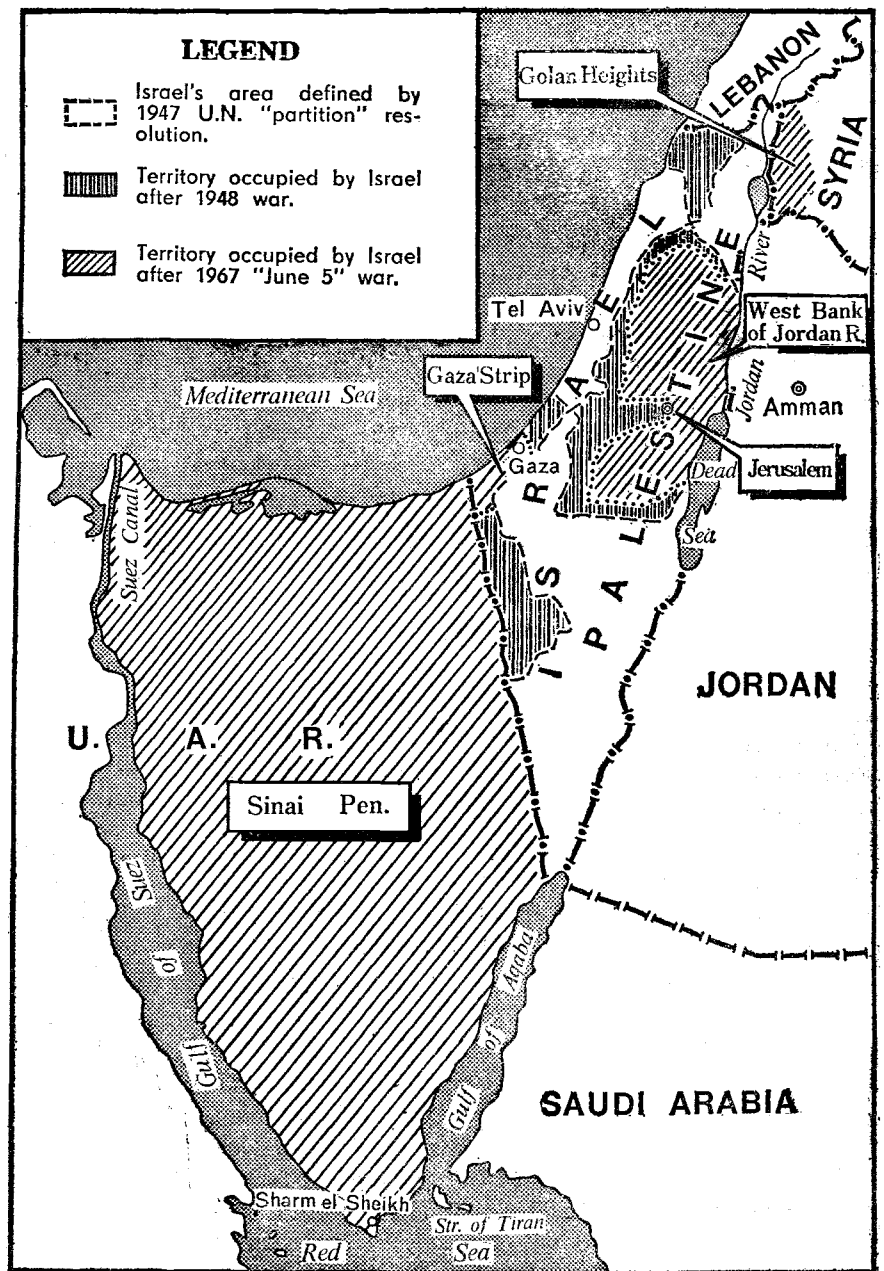
The great majority of the inhabitants of Palestine were Arabs as far back as the 6th and 7th centuries A.D. From generation to generation for over a thousand years, Arabs have lived and worked on this land and were its masters. Historically, although the Jews once lived in Palestine, the vast majority had left there in the 1st and 2nd centuries A.D. and were scattered in Western Europe and other parts of the world as a result of aggression by the ancient Roman Empire. According to Western scholars, there were only some 20,000 or so Jews living in Palestine in the year 1882.

However, during and after World War I, British and U.S. imperialism actively supported the so-called Zionist movement of the reactionary West European Jewish capitalists so as to control and commit aggression against Palestine. In November 1917, British Foreign Secretary Arthur James Balfour in a letter to the Zionist Rothschild openly declared that Britain "favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people." Later known as the so-called Balfour Declaration, it was endorsed by U.S. imperialism in 1918.

Hence, through British and U.S. imperialist instigation and support, Jews who had long settled in various parts of the world poured into Palestine, where Arab people were living, on a large scale. From some 50,000 at the end of World War I, the number of Jews in Palestine rose to some 600,000-700,000 in 1948.

In order to use reactionary Zionism as their tool for aggression against Palestine and other Arab countries, U.S. and British imperialism manipulated the United Nations to pass a resolution on November 29, 1947, calling for "partition" of Palestine into an Arab state of some 11,000 square kilometres and a Jewish state of some 14,000 square kilometres.

On May 14, 1948, the Jews proclaimed the establishment of the "state of Israel" in Palestine and British colonial troops withdrew from Palestine the next day as Israel launched a war of aggression against the Arab



countries which lasted till February 1949. The result of this war was that Israel drove nearly a million Palestinian Arabs out of Palestine and occupied large sections of Arab land. On June 5, 1967, Israel launched a new war of aggression and seized the Palestinian territory on the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip, as well as Syria's Golan Heights and the U.A.R.'s Sinai Peninsula, causing some 500,000 to 600,000 Arabs to become refugees.

It is clear, therefore, that the Palestine question is completely the product of U.S. and British imperialism. The Palestinian people's struggle for more than 20 post-war years is aimed at recovering their lost territories, returning to their homeland and realizing Palestine's national rights.

Israel—Tool of U.S. Aggression

Artificially created by U.S. imperialism in 1948, Zionist Israel is the product of U.S. and British imperialist policies of aggression in the Middle East.

According to the United Nations' 1947 plan to "partition" Palestine, Israel's area was set at some 14,000 square kilometres, but in its 1948 and 1967 wars of aggression against Arab countries, Israel seized a total of some 70,000 square kilometres from Palestine and other Arab countries. This was more than five times its original area.

Israel has a population of about 3 million, most of them Jews. State power is held by the reactionary Jewish bourgeoisie.

U.S. imperialism has given Israel enormous assistance. From May 1948 to June 1967, Israel received directly or indirectly over 12,000 million U.S. dollars in economic and military aid from U.S. imperialism. Since the "June 5" war of 1967, U.S. imperialism has provided another 1,000 million U.S. dollars of aid to Israel, as well as huge quantities of aircraft, guided missiles, tanks and other modern military equipment to slaughter the Palestinian and other Arab people.

From 1948 to now, the world press has reported, Israel has obtained 4,100 million U.S. dollars in contributions and 1,600 million U.S. dollars in loans from the Jewish bourgeoisie in 54 countries.