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8/68

Statement of C.C. of C.P. of Israel  
concerning situation in Czechoslovakia

A prophecy of continued bloodshed

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EL=AL plane

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Nuclear Weapons

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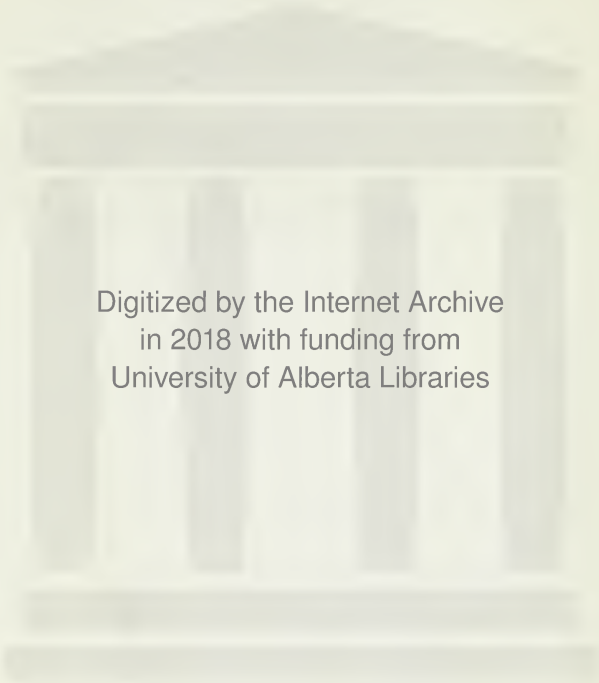
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INFORMATION BULLETIN  
COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL

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COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL  
CENTRAL COMMITTEE  
FOREIGN RELATIONS DEPARTMENT  
INFORMATION BULLETIN  
POB 26205, Tel-Aviv, Israel.

26th August, 1968

S T A T E M E N T

OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL CONCERNING  
SITUATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

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The C.C. C.P. of Israel held a special plenary session on 25.8.68 with participation of members Central Control Commission, in order to discuss late events in Czechoslovakia.

Comrade Abraham Levenbraun was chairman of session.

The Plenary session of C.C., heard a report on the subject by comrade Tawfiq Toubi, member politbureau and secretary of Secretariat C. C.. After discussion, the report was approved, and the following statement was adopted :

1. The C.C. of C.P. of Israel announced at beginning of this year, its support of measures undertaken by C.P. of Czechoslovakia to rectify mistakes in management of national socialist economy and to get rid of infringement on socialist law and to develop socialist democracy and strengthen socialism in Czechoslovakia.

We made clear this position in statements of our Party and in talk held between representatives of our party and representatives of the C.P. of Czechoslovakia.

2. During the last months we noticed many signs indicating that reactionary and anti-socialist forces in Czechoslovakia have exploited the efforts of the C.P. of Czechoslovakia to correct mistakes and carryout reforms, and that these forces are widening their activities against socialism.

Directly supported by imperialist and reactionary forces from outside, headed by West-Germany and USA, the anti-socialist forces in Czechoslovakia launched an attack on the gains of socialism there, an attack on the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and on its guiding role, an attack on the unity of the socialist camp aiming at restoring capitalism in Czechoslovakia.

3. The C.P. of Israel supported the efforts of the socialist countries headed by the USSR for bridling the dangerous activity

hostile to socialism within Czechoslovakia and outside. We supported the letter sent to the presidium of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia by the Central Committees of the Communist and workers parties in the socialist countries following their meeting in Warsaw in 15.8.68. We particularly paid attention to the following paragraph included in this letter and which stated:

"At the price of enormous sacrifice the peoples of our countries achieved victory over Hitler fascism, won freedom and independence and the possibility to forge ahead along the road of progress and socialism. The frontiers of the socialist world shifted to the centre of Europe, to the Elbe and the Sumava mountains. And we shall never consent that these historical gains of socialism, the independence and security of all our peoples, being placed in jeopardy. We shall never consent to imperialism driving a breach, by either peaceful or non-peaceful means, from within or without, in the socialist system and changing the balance of forces in Europe in its favour".

It was clear to our party that efforts to dismember Czechoslovakia from the socialist countries family, Czechoslovakia which is placed in the heart of Europe and on the borders of revanchist West Germany, it was clear that these efforts are direct threat to the security of the socialist camp, a help to the revanchist forces of West Germany and a direct threat to peace in Europe and the whole world.

We received with support the declaration issued by the Bratislava meeting of 3.8.1968 signed by all participants in the meeting including the leaders of the C.P. of Czechoslovakia who undertook to defend socialism in their country, strengthen unity of the socialist camp and continue the foreign socialist policy of Czechoslovakia.

All representatives of Communist Parties in socialist countries, who participated in Bratislava meeting, including the representatives of the C.P. of Czechoslovakia, agreed that it is necessary to "safeguard these gains, (socialist gains) to fortify and defend them. This is the internationalist duty of all socialist countries", as was stated by the declaration.

Following upon the signing of the Bratislava declaration it was clear to the Czechoslovak leaders and to all the the world communist movement that the socialist countries will not allow any damage to socialist gains in Czechoslovakia, will not leave the working class a prey to local reaction, and will not allow aggressive NATO to gain control in Czechoslovakia.

Our Communist Party supports the internationalist principle concerning the duty of the socialist countries to defend together

the socialist gains in every socialist country. Such a principle bridles imperialism from aggressive intervention, safeguards gains of socialism, prevents changing the international balance of forces in favour of imperialism and war mongers and safeguards world peace. This principle is in the interest of workers of all socialist countries, in the interest of their independence.

4. The C.C. of C.P. of Israel expresses its regret that the common undertakings accepted in Bratislava were not carried out in Czechoslovakia. It became clear that in the ensuing conditions there was no alternative to undertaking the drastic step of the entering of the Warsaw Pact forces to Czechoslovakia in accordance with the request of party and state leaders in Czechoslovakia.

After the Bratislava conference, the anti-socialist forces in Czechoslovakia intensified their provocative activity, incited against the Bratislava conclusions, called it a betrayal and acted to prevent their application. The anti-socialist forces exploited their control on means of mass communications radio, press, television - and spread anti-socialist and anti-soviet poison.

These forces organised a public terror campaign against communist internationalist cadres faithful to cause of socialism in Czechoslovakia and were openly encouraged by revanchist forces of Bonn.

The Communist Party of Israel, had experience with some "important guests" from Czechoslovakia who visited our country and in the name of "liberalisation in Czechoslovakia" gave open and demonstrative support to the militarist forces in our country who with their appetite for territorial expansion prevent a peaceful settlement and enable imperialism to play with the fate of the Israeli and Arab peoples. Some such "important guests" found their way to the rulers of Israel and to the nationalist group of Mikunis-Sneh.

To our party it was clear that the entry of the Warsaw Pact forces to Czechoslovakia does not mean interference in the way of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia for socialist up-building in its own country in accordance with existing special conditions, on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. The step undertaken by the socialist countries concerning Czechoslovakia came to foil the designs to undermine socialism in Czechoslovakia and restore capitalism.

Our Party upholds the principle of independence of every communist party to decide its way for socialist up-building in its own country taking into consideration the interests of the whole world revolutionary movement. Every action on the part of the remnants of reactionary bourgeoisie in a any socialist country aiming at liquidating socialism and restoring capitalism, is not only the internal issue of the country concerned.

5. The hysterical campaign of international reaction headed by the rulers of USA and West Germany against the Soviet Union, indicates that their evil designs against Czechoslovakia have failed. Their hopes to liquidate the socialist system in Czechoslovakia through sabotage from within with the help of counter-revolutionary activities were smashed.

Imperialism and international reaction once again got to realise that it is within the power of socialism in our time to prevent turning - back the wheel of history. It was within the power of the Soviet Union to prevent the smaching of the revolution in Cuba lying on the borders of the USA. Reaction miscalculated when thinking that it can smash socialism in Czechoslovakia lying on the borders of the Soviet Union.

The wild incitement against the Soviet Union cannot for ever mislead straight forward people and progressive circles from seeing that at the head of the anti-soviet front stand the heirs of Hitler in Bonn and the murderers of the people of Vietnam.

Our party is of the opinion that it is the duty of all forces of peace, socialism, national independence and progress to estimate correctly the importance of the fraternal assistance extended by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries to the Czechoslovak people. There was a real danger of counter-revolution succeeding and a terrible blood bath taking place, which would have escalated to a dangerous international situation.

Also in our country, whose rulers undertake an active part in anti-soviet and anti-communist incitement, progressive people will not agree to be for long in one front with fascist and extreme reactionary circles, with revanchist and war mongering circles.

No sane person can accept seriously the fake concern of the rulers of Israel to the freedom of the Czechoslovak people at a time when they themselves occupy territories of other peoples, oppress their freedom and refuse to comply with the resolution of the Security Council of 22nd November, 1967.

We call upon all straight-forward and progressive people not to forget the experience of the counter - revolution in Hungary in 1956. It became clear that the reactionary forces in Hungary - who the rulers of our country called to support - were cooperators with German fascists, were criminals and anti-semites.

6. The C.C. of the C.P. of Israel, is of the opinion that lack of unity within the world communist movement, that lack of unity between socialist countries helped imperialism and reaction in Czechoslovakia to bring this tragedy to the people of Czechoslovakia and to the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. This tragedy underlines the necessity to work incessantly to fortify the unity of the world communist movement and the unity of the socialist countries, to rebuff splitting activity within the communist movement, to strengthen proletarian internationalism and to strengthen solidarity with the Soviet Union.

Our party is of the opinion that reality necessitates more than any time to exert every effort for the success of the world conference of the communist and workers parties which will take place in Moscow in December this year.

7. The C.C. of C.P. of Israel expresses its solidarity with the Czechoslovak working class, with the Communists and all builders of socialism in Czechoslovakia standing on guard of socialism in their country and rebuffing the offensive of counter-revolution.

The Communist Party of Israel expresses its solidarity with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in their concern for the interests of the Czechoslovak working class, and its Communist Party and for the fate of socialism in Czechoslovakia. We take note that these countries have announced before hand that they accepted the call to enter the territory of Czechoslovakia only in order to defend socialism and prevent the danger of a new world war and that they will not interfere with the will of the Czechoslovak people to build socialism according to its own way and that they will evacuate their forces when their duty is carried out, when there will be no danger to socialist Czechoslovakia.



The Communist Party of Israel hopes that the present talks being carried these days in Moscow with the leaders of Czechoslovakia will be crowned with success in the interest of the people of Czechoslovakia, in the interest of socialism in Czechoslovakia, for the good of all the socialist camp and the strengthening of the forces of socialism and peace all the world over.

The Czechoslovak people who learnt from their own experience that the Soviet Union is their faithful friend, the Czechoslovak people who were liberated from Hitlerite Yoke through great sacrifices by the Soviet people, Red Army soldiers, the Czechoslovak people receiving all-sided support from the USSR will again realise that for their own defense and for the defense of socialism ; the Soviet Union again stood by their side.

The Communist Party of Israel condemns the wild anti-soviet campaign in Israel and calls the people of Israel, the Israeli working people and all progressive forces not to tail behind this incitement which will only strengthen the extreme right forces in our country who are undermining the cause of peace which is the supreme interest of the people of Israel.

The Communist Party of Israel is sure that this crisis will pass, that truth will burst its path, that our world communist movement will overcome these difficulties, will be more tempered, strengthen its unity and carry out its historic role in the interest of all peoples in the interest of peace, progress and socialism.

The Central Committee  
Communist Party of Israel.

Tel-Aviv 25th August, 1968

## A PROPHECY OF CONTINUED BLOODSHED COUNTERS

### A REAL POSSIBILITY FOR PEACE:

By Observer

Addressing a gathering of Histadruth activists in "Heikhal Hatarbut" (Mann Auditorium) in Tel-Aviv on August 1, 1968, Prime Minister Levi Eshkol said: "I do not know how long we have to live without peace. Now it is not to be seen on the near horizon." (Ha'aretz, daily - 2.8.68)

Moshe Dayan, the Defence Minister, prophesied the same dark future of no-peace in a more rough and blunt tone. Addressing a cadet officers' graduation ceremony (Ha'aretz - 2.8.68.), Dayan said :

"We have been condemned to live in a state of continuous war with the Arabs and there is no escape from bloody sacrifices. This is the reality, and if we are anxious to continue with our work against the will of the Arabs, we are compelled to take into consideration these sacrifices..."

This brutal, bloody perspective, drawn by the rulers of our country, stands in total contradiction to the rosy promises distributed after last year's June war, that the military victory would bring about the desired peace on the basis of total capitulation by the Arab states.

The rulers of our country continue, as for many years before, to place the responsibility for such a bloody reality of relations and for such a permanent hostility on the refusal of the Arab states, particularly the UAR, to come to a peaceful settlement which would recognise the rights of Israel.

But many people in Israel who want a peaceful settlement and also Arab recognition of the just right of Israel, ask whether the Israeli Government is really interested in a peace settlement and whether they are ready for a peace settlement which would also recognise the just and internationally recognised rights of the other side, of the Palestinian Arab people and the Arab states.

Israeli rulers, in their new utterances and deeds, have given new evidence that their determination to impose a capitulatory settlement, a settlement denying the just rights of the Palestinian Arab people, a settlement of territorial annexations, blocks, as in the past, the road to peace and contradicts the real desires for peace, harboured by the people of Israel themselves.

Dayan's declaration at the Labour Party parliamentary group meeting in the Knesset (June 8, 1968) that Israel should not accept in any way the Security Council Resolution of November 22, 1967, unmasks the diplomatic manoeuvres of the Foreign Minister Mr. Aba Eban to cover up the real policy of the leaders of our country.

Replying to four proposals for the Knesset agenda on the question of the Refugees, the Prime Minister, Mr. L. Eshkol, rejected in a cynical and cold-blooded speech (7.8.68) any effort to help resettle Palestinian Arab refugees even in territories occupied at present by Israel, and declared that any resettlement of Arab refugees in Israel is a "time-bomb" which we should reject, and added that Arab refugees should be settled only in the Arab countries...

This is of course no new position on the part of the leaders of Israel, a position which in the past blocked the path before any progress to a settlement and only fed ultra-nationalist and chauvinist positions of certain Arab circles. What is now significant is the rejection by Eshkol of the proposal to resettle refugees, even partly, in territories recently occupied by Israel, as proposed by some of the movers for the agenda, Knesset members from amongst Eshkol's coalition benches.

The annexationist positions of responsible leaders repeated on every occasion stand in glaring defiance of the UN Security Council Resolution of 22nd November, and of the efforts and desires for a just peaceful settlement.

In the same speech before the Histadrut activists in Tel-Aviv on 1.8.68, Eshkol outlined the "peace" that he looks for (Ha'aretz, 2.8.68.). He said: "We look for a peace which will ensure for us the border of security in the east, freedom of navigation in the west and control over the water inlets leading to us in the south..." (Eshkol had declared on many occasions that the "border of security" in the east is the Jordan river).

Yigal Allon, Deputy Prime-Minister, said lately that "relinquishing the Golan Heights means the dismembering of the State of Israel..." Such demagogic propaganda to cover up expansionist designs that have always guided the policy of the rulers of our country and obstructed perspectives of peace, is sometimes more outspoken and straight-forward.

Moshe Dayan, addressing on 5.7.68 a gathering of youth of the Mapai Kibbutz movement in El-Hamma (near the Golan Heights occupied after the June 1967 war), said (according to the evening paper Yediot Ahronot (12.7.68): "Ever since the return to Zion 100 years ago, two processes continue:

settlement and expansion of the borders. In such a way, the people in Israel grew from 600,000 in 1948 to nearly three millions in our days. But this is not the end of the road and not the full-stop. This is a process which must continue: it is the people of Israel who will determine the borders of the state."

For Moshe Dayan and his like expansion of the borders is a process which has not come to an end yet; he has not yet put a full-stop, and therefore the logical consequence is "continued warfare"... "permanent hostility" and everlasting bloody sacrifices"...

But this is contrary to the wishes, desires and interest of the people of Israel who look not for continued expansion of the borders but for peace and understanding with the Arab peoples.

The Communist Party of Israel has pointed out continuously that permanent national strife, "continued warfare" and "everlasting bloody sacrifices" between Israel and the Arab countries are not inevitable, as the leaders of our country try to convince the people of Israel. There is a way out, there is an alternative, a way of peace and mutual cooperation; but this can be arrived at by a different policy than that practised by the leaders of our country for many years, by a policy of recognising the just national rights of the Arab people of Palestine and by relinquishing the policy of annexation and expansion and discarding the policy of pressure and aggrandisement in the service of imperialist interests against the Arab countries.

The sincere acceptance and implementation of the UNO Security Council Resolution on the part of Israel and the Arab countries is a way out of the impasse. The official adherence of the UAR to this position and the recurring announcement about its preparedness to carry out this resolution in toto, creates a real practical possibility for a settlement.

The interests of peace which is the way to security, prosperity and cooperation, demand that the Israeli Government sincerely and faithfully adhere to and cooperate for implementing the UN Security Council Resolution.

In debate on affair of hijacked EL-AL plane  
in Knesset on 5.8.1968

T. TOUBI, M.K., CONDEMNS ISRAELI AIR-RAID ON JORDAN  
AND CRITICIZES HIJACKING OF EL=AL PLANE

T. Toubi, M.K. said in this debate :

"The hijacking of the "EL-AL" plane two weeks ago and its being taken by force with its passengers and crew to Algeria constitute a dangerous adventurous act which cannot be reconciled with the freedom of civil air transport and with the right of Israel to free flight in international arteries of communication. We repudiate this adventurous act, because we consider it as harmful to the complex of Israeli-Arab relations which are complicated as it is, as well as harmful to the efforts made to turn back the wheel of tension, and it renders direct assistance to those interested in diverting international public opinion from the problem of occupation, and from the urgent efforts made for the peaceful solution of the present crisis in the region.

"We are also convinced - and this we tell those who think they are thereby defending and serving the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people for its just rights - that this adventurous act serves no other purpose but incitement of instincts, and that it will not bring about any benefit and not serve any just cause of the Palestinian Arab people.

"We are convinced that the Algerian Government will act correctly if it decides to release without delay the plane with its crew and all its passengers. The Algerian Government has done well to free the majority of passengers, also the Israeli women and children. But the Algerian Government's decision to procrastinate aggravates and complicates the matter. At the same time, the Algerian Government's statement, which has now been heard, that it is prepared to discuss the release of the plane with the International Aviation Organisation, encourages and strengthens the line of reason.

"We demand the release of the plane, the rest of the passengers and the crew without delay. This will suit proper international law and order, which all states are bound to preserve and act accordingly. This will also suit the efforts made to prevent an additional deterioration of the Israeli-Arab relations, in particular at the level between states, a deterioration which of necessity will impinge on the efforts to find a way to find a solution of the present crisis by peaceful means and agreement.

"At the same time we wish to make some remarks directed at the interior :

The Prime Minister has for some reason hastened on the day following the hijacking, to accuse Egypt, in his speech at a public meeting in Ramle, as being responsible and he has threatened to take steps against her. It is Israel's right to protest against this injurious act and to demand from the Algerian Government to return the plane and crew. But to set foot on the way of threats of reprisals against Arab states, as the P.M. has done again and again at several occasions, is invalid and harmful, and we condemn this.

"M.K. Gross has hastened to state, for instance, that the bombing of As-Salt yesterday was an advance payment, and M.K. Bibi demanded the annexation of some of the occupied areas in response. We reject these adventurous attitudes which lead us down the slope. In our opinion one has to avoid any stand and act that are liable to further deteriorate the conflict between Israel and the Arab states, a thing that would not profit any of the sides. "The intelligent and correct way is to seek assistance from the international institutions, the UNO bodies, and any factor that maintains friendly contacts with both sides. We reject tendencies and efforts of the adventurous and militaristic elements, which have no way and no answer, except military and adventurous action, which would only complicate the situation.

"The claims of the Government of Israel that it is essential and necessary to respect international law and one's neighbour's rights, are correct. But these claims would gain greater moral validity and be considered as more sincere if the Government of Israel itself behaved like that toward its Arab neighbours and the Palestinian Arab people, if it respected the elementary, fundamental rights, which have also been recognized by all peoples of the world, such as the rights of the refugees. When the stream of refugees continues and their number continues to increase as a result of the occupation policy, it certainly does not suit international law.

"Conquests and annexations of territories of other states, such as the annexation of East Jerusalem, in contradiction of last year's UNO General Assembly, are certainly not things which suit international law and international morals. Also requisition and expropriation of properties in Jerusalem, for instance, expulsion of hundreds of Arab families and demolition of their homes do not suit international law and morals.

"If the actions of the Government of Israel and its policy toward the neighbouring peoples, in particular toward the Palestinian Arab people, were without blemish, its protests and claims regarding the infringement of international law would be

better received by people and would have greater moral force behind them.

"Does the attack by the Israeli Air Force carried out yesterday in the As-Salt area of Jordan suit international law and the respect of our neighbour's rights?..."

Shmuel Tamir, M.K. (Free Centre) interjects :

"Certainly".

T. Toubi continues :

"There is no justification for this aggressive action which has caused much damage and destruction of life and of property caused to innocent citizens. The results are, according to Jordanian sources, about 30 killed and more than 80 wounded. There is no justification for this action, whether it is connected with the question of the plane and whether it is not, even when it is wrapped in the routine argument of "punishing saboteurs and destruction of their bases".

S. Tamir (Free Centre): "What has happened in Gaza does not interest you ?"

T. Toubi continues: "Every drop of blood that is spilled interests me and I will come to this point immediately. Don't you rush me into protesting against every drop of Jewish and Arab blood spilled on this soil. I am not in need of your assistance. Don't you rush me into saying things earlier, things which you will soon hear, because you are not entitled to demand this of me, you who protects every aggression and every annexation and every infringement upon your neighbour's rights!

"There is no justification for this action. The air attack on Jordan is an aggressive act which has to be condemned as contradicting the cause of peace as well as the security of Israel herself, in the name of which her rulers conduct such an adventurous policy.

"If one expects this punitive action to impose political arrangements and 'Diktats' for the perpetuation of occupation - the real result will be aggravation of relations and not relief. This has been proved by bitter experience. And if the sponsors of this operation think that by such actions they will succeed in intervening in the internal struggle in the Jordanian Kingdom, and assist their US bosom friends to impose their absolute domination over Jordan, they will miss this target.

"Not by punitive operations and oppression will Israel guarantee her security and peace, as the captains of this policy claim. Peace can be attained by abolition of occupation, and consequently by abolition of resistance to occupation, and

by striving for a peaceful solution, which will respect the just rights of the two peoples - a thing which is feasible on the basis of consent to the Security Council Resolution and its implementation.

"Members of Knesset, the case of the plane as well as other cases of violence and bloodshed of Jews and Arabs, whether in Gaza or on the River Jordan on either bank, or at the Suez Canal on either bank - these bloody events are signs of the dangerous situation which exists and which must be ended. These events are alarm signals calling for intensification of the effort for a solution of the existent crisis, a crisis which has sharpened after the June War. They are alarm signals for the necessity of ending occupation and for the settlement of the Palestinian problem and the Israeli-Arab conflict by peaceful means, based on mutual respect of rights.

"We have called and will continue calling upon the Government of Israel to support and to act sincerely for the implementation of the Security Council Resolution of November 22, 1967, as the foundation for solution of the present crisis in the Middle East and the conflict between Israel and her neighbours. The welfare of Israel and the Arab states necessitates mutual agreement and cooperation for loyal implementation of this Resolution.

"Discussing the concrete question of the hijacked plane, we of course demand the return of the plane with its crew and the other passengers, and call upon the Government to use for this purpose only political and diplomatic means, relying on support and assistance on UNO institutions and on states that are friendly with both governments, the Israeli and the Algerian."

S. Mikunis, M.K., said: "Our fight against the terrorist guerilla war is a just, essential and necessary fight. Israel conducts it very successfully and destroys the illusions of AL-Fath and its masters, the Arab rulers, to ruin and undermine the existence of Israel. But the question of timing and of the dimensions of each military action against the murderous Arab terrorism must be taken into account."

S. Tamir, M.K., knight of the expansionist" Movement for a Whole Land of Israel", which aspires to bring under Israel's rule the entire area of the biblical Holy Land, called out:

"Bravo, Mikunis!"

U. Avneri, M.K., (Ha'olam Haze), remarked to Mikunis :  
"Consider well why he says to you 'bravo!'"

S. Mikunis replied proudly:

"He says 'bravo' to my patriotism, not to my communism."



## STRAIGHTENING OUT THE TACTICAL LINE

.....

A review of the Israeli press, appeared in "Zo Haderekh", 24.7.68.

By A. Eitan

A two-day visit of a high-ranking U.S. delegation was paid to this country last week. The delegation was headed by George Ball, the new US representative to UNO. In the days preceding the visit, which they had not initiated, the Israeli ministers did not feel very comfortable. There was some anxiety as to the Americans bringing with them a firm demand for the change of the rigid Israeli line. This apprehension was expressed, among others, by A. Ginai in the evening paper "Yediot Ahronot", who wrote before the talks that they "would, in fact, constitute the confrontation between the views of America and those of Israel concerning the ways to making peace in our region".

But these misgivings were soon dispelled, and it became clear that the Americans had not come to demand any concessions in matters of principle, but only tactical coordination in some fields, in accordance with their interests. This, however, was demanded most vigorously. Arriving in the country, the American politicians asserted at first that they had come only "to hear and learn", but it became clear that they also made themselves heard, giving "friendly advice".

G. Ball said before leaving the country: "The exchange of opinions will also help Israel understand the US and its President's views."

### The reaction of the Israeli press

Y. 'Harif retorted in the evening paper Ma'ariv (17.7.): "The meaning of this last point is, I believe: not only what Israel says is important, but what the US says is 'also' important. Things were phrased in a modest form: The exchange of opinions will help Israel too..."

### D A V A R

The daily Davar said in its leader on 16.7, under the heading "Identity and difference in positions":

Israel's stand at this stage of political development was made clear at the meetings with the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister - and even if it were naive to assume that the American stand is identical with ours, it has once more been made clear that the US continues to uphold the policy outlined

by President Johnson last year, which is based on the creation of a stable peace in the region and the laying-down of secure and recognized frontiers. Israel can identify itself with these two principles - and, in fact, the differences in attitude of the two states are expressed, at this stage, mainly relative to the form of the negotiations."

#### HA'ARETZ

Next day (17.7.) the daily Ha'aretz said in its leader about the talks:

"It seems that the correct definition is (that these talks constitute - transl.) an examination of positions and views, with an element of friendly pressure on part of the Americans upon Israel for the straightening out of the tactical line."

As to the Americans' demanding that Israel renounce direct negotiations, the Ha'aretz has already straightened out the line, writing:

"To be sure, this is reasonable advice; it is not clear how a rigid attitude precisely on the question of the form of the negotiations would benefit us, if what we are interested in is the content of the settlement, and not the ways of achieving it; but it seems the Americans did not strongly press on this point; they only remarked that our international position is being harmed by our intransigence on a subject of formality, and left it to the Israelis to draw conclusions from the illumination of the situation."

#### MA'ARIV

Summing up the visit in his article "No programme, no pressure, just advice" (19.7), Y. 'Harif makes an attempt at soothing his readers:

"All those misgivings preceding the clarification talks as if we should be subject, at least during the talks, to "pressure", were proved wrong, just as there had been no foundation to the conjectures that the Americans had crystallized a clearly defined plan for the solution of the crisis in the region, and the whole visit had been made only to present it to the Israeli Government, It has been clarified that this has not been so at all. On the contrary, apart from George Ball's public announcement that the Americans had no such plan, and they had no intention at all to impose any plan, since it is their principle, as already stated by Pres. Johnson, that the parties concerned have to be the parties which deal with the peace (problem-transl.) - apart from

this there followed less public, but significant, revelations."

Then J. 'Harif tells that J. Sisco, the American Assistant Foreign Secretary, had said in one of his talks that the USA supports the Israeli interpretation regarding "recognized and 'secure frontiers".

But J. 'Harif too is obliged to write about points of different attitudes taken by the USA and Israel. He writes about American opposition to Israel's demand for direct negotiations:

"George Ball and his colleagues tried to explain to the P.M. and Foreign Minister that Nasser will not consent to direct negotiations, to bring about a peace agreement and that perhaps this is a matter of cause and effect, since a peace agreement is usually the result of direct negotiations. By the way, in this question, the Americans are not the only ones who assert this. An east-European statesman who had recently visited Israel, and

other persons too in different places, who had contacts with Egypt's ruler, try to create the impression that - in reality, and contrary to all public pronouncements - Nasser is prepared for a political settlement and perhaps even to reach a certain contractual settlement, but only if he is not forced into entering direct negotiations. The Israeli Government denies that this is so."

#### SHOWING THEIR CARDS

At the end of his article, its writer reveals what was the main demand put by the guests before the Israeli Government:

"The next weeks will constitute the test. The next, and perhaps last tour, of Dr. Jarring in the region, to be begun next month, will have a different character. This time he is expecting a showing of cards. The American representatives don't consider it a sign of weakness if one side reveals before the UNO envoy, discreetly, of course, for what it is prepared in exchange for a peace settlement. Israel thinks differently. The Government has taken an explicit decision that it will reveal its intentions only at the green table, face to face with the Arab states, or each one separately. Washington asserts that adherence to this formula might leave her isolated in the international arena, for the 'world' is not prepared to accept this formula.

"The Israeli Government will now have to determine whether it will accept the 'friendly advice' of its main prop in the international arena, - the United States of America."

This American demand is not based on "Love for Israel", but on the calculations of American imperialism on an international scale. About this J. 'Harif had written in his paper three days before (16.7.), reporting about the talks:

"As there are still political battles to be expected in the UN arena, the USA wishes to insure itself against a situation, where it will stand isolated. This became clearly visible yesterday at the talks with the American representatives. It has turned out that, out of tactical reasons, the Americans find it comfortable to 'stand apart', and that Dr. Jarring will be the one to deal with the Middle East crisis. But in order to enable the continuation of his mission by the UNO envoy, who, according to everybody's opinion, became involved in a delicate situation, the USA wishes that Israel on her part 'lighten' his position. This undertone appeared several times throughout the talks with the Foreign Minister as well with the P.M."

\* \* \* \* \*

The Israeli press dealt only with G. Ball's and his colleagues' visit in Israel, and avoided any interpretation of their visits in several Arab countries. The American politicians certainly went to those countries, in order to "coordinate" ... American interests. It may also be assumed that they acted against the Arab movemnet for national liberation in the Middle East.

FROM THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMUNIST GROUP  
IN THE KNESSET

.....

By Yossef Algazi, Secretary to the Communist Group  
in the Knesset.

During the summer session of the Knesset, the Communist group spared no effort in order to raise the burning problems of Israel in Parliament, and by this means before public opinion, big problems as well as smaller ones, at the political, economic and social levels. The Communist Group took the initiative to bring before the Knesset specific problems of all strata of working people. The following summary will exemplify the activity of the Communist Group which acted in conditions of limitations put on the activities of the smaller groups in the Knesset.

This situation was defined by M. Vilner, M.K. in the debate about the bill, accepted by the Knesset, for limitation of meetings and demonstrations opposite the Knesset building. In this debate M. Vilner, M.K., said: "There exists a group of persons in power which prevents the Knesset from decisions and now also prevents it from debate. Since the drastic curtailments of parliamentary freedom of action, not only was the possibility of decision lessened, but so was also the possibility to hold a debate about the big problems of our country. The impression was created that someone in the Knesset wishes deliberately, with malice aforethought, to curtail the jurisdiction of the Knesset, perhaps in order to liquidate democracy (26.6.68).

From Speeches in Political Debates

At the political level the Communist Group settled accounts with government policy, in several important debates.

- 1) In the debate about the increase by a half milliard Israeli Lira in the budget for military expenditures, at the expense of the development item, which was cut down in the budget, and by the imposition of an obligatory loan on wage earners.

Then, retorting to the saying coined by the then Finance Minister, Pinhas Sappir, Tawfiq Toubi, M.K. stressed the fact that the occupation kept peace at a distance and put a heavy burden on the people. He said :  
"The conquest did not only bring no security, but undermined it still more. Innocent victims from both sides are falling every day. The war did not lighten

the situation of the people; it aggravated it still more. Minister Sappir has said that the war, which is still continuing, has already cost three milliard Israeli Lira (IL.) and the barrel is without bottom. The interest of Israel, the interest of peace, the securing of a happy and prosperous future for Israel in this region necessitate a fast and fundamental change of governmental policy.

- 2) In the debate about the motion for the agenda put forward by the Communist Group in the matter of the declaration made by Defence Minister, M. Dayan in the Labour Party Group against the acceptance of the Security Council Resolution of November 1967, Emile Habibi, M.K. said at the opening of the debate :

"We move that the Knesset debate the Defence Minister's declaration before members of the Labour Party Group on the 18th of this month, because these declarations have aroused differences of opinion in the Government; these differences of opinion prove the lack of a uniform and clear policy as to the way to the solution of the present crisis in the Middle East. This our proposal we have put out not in order to afford a platform for this or that minister to explain his announcements and clarify them but in order that a debate be held about the tottering policy of the Government, which constitutes today the most serious obstacle for a peace settlement, and in order to propose to the Knesset conclusions that will advance the cause of peace." (26.6.68)

- 3) In the debate about personnel changes in the Government (the appointment of Almogi to the Ministry of Labour and the appointment of Minister Allon to the newly created post of Deputy to the P.M.), M. Vilner, M.K. said :

"The changes in the Government, announced by the P.M. in the Knesset, will not change the policy of the government called "Government of National Unity", but continue it. Therefore our group will vote against the addition of Mr. Yossef Almogi, M.K. of the ex-RAFI Group to the Government as Minister of Labour, out of our absolute opposition to the governmental policy, which, so we are convinced, contradicts the interest of peace and security of the State of Israel." (8.7.68)

- 4) In the debate about the vote of non-confidence proposed by the "Free Centre", a right-wing group standing for annexations, E. Habibi, M.K., said :

"Our group will abstain from voting on the proposal of the "Free Centre" to express non-confidence in the Government. There is in our abstention no weakening of our vigorous opposition to the governmental policy: an adventurous policy which has intensified the enmity, isolation and the dangers threatening security. It is our opinion that life itself will in the end compel the Government, to abandon this policy.

"But we cannot and do not want to support the vote of non-confidence of the Free Centre. We oppose their arguments and their aims. We consider this proposal an expression of the selfsame political blindness which the Government is afflicted with, and expressed in its policy of territorial expansionism, its rash declarations about the annexation of Arab Jerusalem and its proclamations that the cease-fire lines are the natural and secure boundaries." (10.5.68).

- 5) In the debate about the distribution of 200 million dollar worth of "Bonds" in the USA, T. Toubi, M.K., said :
- "The State of Israel Bonds which are distributed in the USA and which by this bill are to be supplemented by additional bonds to the tune of 200 million dollars, have been and are an expression of the ever increasing dependence of Israel on foreign capital, particularly American." (25.6.68.)
- 6) In the debate about the additional increase by 130 million IL. of the State Budget, M. Vilner, M.K., criticized the Israeli Government's striving for aggravating the armament race in its effort to purchase Phantom planes in USA, and condemned the plan of the "great oil pipe" which has adventurist political tendencies.

#### The Danger of Neo-Nazi Ascent in Bonn

On the initiative of the Communist Group the Knesset debated the danger of rising neo-nazism in West Germany. Substantiating the motion for the agenda of the Communist Group, M. Vilner, M.K. said:

"We propose to put on the agenda of the Knesset the question of the rising power of neo-nazism in West Germany and the danger resulting from this to the cause of peace and to our people in particular. We propose that the Knesset pass a

resolution expressing anxiety at the growing influence of Hitler's heirs in West Germany, and demand of the Bonn Government to prohibit the NDP of Herr Adolf von Thadden." (29.5.68)

The Knesset voted unanimously to pass the subject to the Commission for Foreign and Security Affairs. Following the appearance of M. Vilner, M.K., before that commission, it was decided to put up a subcommission to draft a resolution on this matter.

#### Activities against Occupation and Acts of Oppression

The Communist Group did not cease to protest in the Knesset against the acts of oppression in the occupied areas. To enumerate just some of the Group's activities :

M. Vilner, M.K., submitted an interpellation about the condition of the five girl students who were shot in the demonstrations in the Gaza Strip on 26.5.68, as a result of which one girl's leg had to be amputated. M. Vilner, M.K., said in his interpellation:

"Was an inquiry made into the circumstances of the shots fired at and the injuries inflicted upon the 5 girl students ?

"If so, what did the inquiry show?

"Were those responsible for the shots and injuries brought to justice?

"If so, what was the verdict?

"What diagnosis was made by the doctors in hospital when the injured were brought in?

"What is the condition of the five injured girls today?

- \* An interpellation was submitted about torture in prison of detainees from the occupied areas, (See the article "Police, Army, Justice" in this issue of the Bulletin-transl.)
- \* E. Habibi, M.K., submitted an interpellation about the detainees in the occupied territories following the strikes and demonstrations on the anniversary of the outbreak of the June 5 War.
- \* The Defence Minister refused to answer the interpellation of E. Habibi, M.K., as to the number of persons detained in accordance with Article 111 of the Defence Regulations (Emergency Laws).
- \* T. Toubi, M.K., protested against the demolitions in Arab Jerusalem, in the debate about the Abu-Tor affair (See



article about this affair in this issue of the Bulletin-transl.)

\* In the debate about the motion intended to settle the status of properties belonging to inhabitants of Arab Jerusalem, T. Toubi, M.K., branded the acts of infringement upon juridical and religious institutions in the occupied areas.

#### Debates about Activities of Ministries

The Communist Group participated in the debates on the activities of the ministries.

\* In the debate on the Ministry of Education, M. Vilner, M.K., supported the struggle of the teachers and condemned the militarist and anti-soviet education.

\* In the debate about the Police Ministry, T. Toubi, M.K., censured the cruelty of the police in dispersing demonstrations in the occupied areas and in the State of Israel.

\* In the debate on the Ministry of Welfare, T. Toubi, M.K., complained about the curtailing of assistance given to needy families.

\* In the debate on the Ministry of Health, E. Habibi, M.K., opposed the designs to enact compulsory laws directed against doctors.

\* In the debate on the Ministry of Transport, M. Vilner, M.K., raised the problems of people injured in road accidents, of the employees of bus companies and the seamen.

#### Concern with the Problems of the Working People

\* TEACHERS: The Communist Group put an urgent motion on the agenda regarding the dismissal of 150 teachers and the unemployment expected among this class of working people.

The Group opposed the proposed "school reform", supported by the Government and opposed by the body of teachers. At the end of the debate on the "reform", the Group adopted the proposals of the Teachers' Trade Union. The Communist Group condemned the threats of the Minister of Education against the teachers that he would hit their salaries.

\* Members of Moshavim (Cooperative farms-transl.): The Communist Group submitted a series of interpellations regarding the conditions of many moshavim, such as Beit-Yossef, Yardená

and others. In some cases this spurred the Government to render assistance to those moshavim.

The Group met delegations of cooperative farmers who oppose the Bill of Cooperative Association which contains parts of an anti-democratic character directed against members of moshavim and kibbutzim.

A representative of the Communist Group, T. Toubi, M.K., spoke at the meeting held by demonstrating members of moshavim opposite the Knesset building in protest against the above mentioned bill. (30.7.68).

The Group submitted interpellations regarding assistance to different categories of farms which were hit by drought, by hail in the Galilee, by the New-Castle epidemic affecting chicken breeding.

\* Workers' Rights: The Group submitted a series of interpellations about unemployment in Jewish and Arab localities, about the preservation of workers' rights in pension funds, about opening of Labour Exchanges in Arab localities.

The Communist Group proposed a bill defining the notion of 'deterioration of conditions of work' relative to a worker who resigns, so that his compensation for dismissal be guaranteed. (Theoretically a worker who resigns because of 'deterioration of work' is considered as having the rights of one dismissed, but there has never been any definition of what constitutes this 'deterioration' - transl.)

The Group submitted an interpellation regarding the excessive burden of work placed upon the employees of the Rambam Government Hospital in Haifa.

\* Soldiers' Widows and Invalids: The Group raised the question of the difficult conditions of families of soldiers who fell in the War. In the debate about the bill aimed at improving the conditions of widows and invalids, the communist representative, M. Vilner, M.K., clashed with the Defence Minister about the improvement in the conditions of this body of people, and in fact, some of his proposals were accepted.

\* Problems particular to Arab localities: Following a visit paid by the Knesset Commission for Labour Affairs in the villages of Ara, Arara, Baqa al-Gharbiya and Um el-Fahem, T. Toubi, M.K., who had participated in the visit, submitted a series of interpellations relative to the problems of electricity, water, schools,

lands and the establishment of elected local councils.

\* Doctors for distant areas: The Communist Group submitted interpellations regarding the lack of doctors in distant settlements.

#### Other Political Initiatives

\* The Communist Group submitted an urgent motion for the agenda on the subject 'Israel and the International Agreement for the Banning of Proliferation of Nuclear Armament'.

In its substantiation of the motion, the Group pointed out:

"A majority of UNO members has already signed the Agreement; among those are Israel's neighbours, such as Egypt, but Israel has not yet signed. Any delay harms the national cause of Israel and the cause of peace in the region"(21.7.68).

When the Presidium of the Knesset did not recognize the urgency of the motion, the Group demanded to put the motion on the normal agenda.

\* "Hawk" rockets: Following an interpellation by M. Vilner, M.K., the Defence Minister admitted that the USA has again supplied Israel with "Hawk" rockets.

\* Anti-Cuban Film: T. Toubi, M.K., submitted an interpellation regarding the permission to a West German TV Company to film in Israel an anti-Cuban film.

#### Signs of Response

In spite of all the incitement against our Communist Party and its representative in the Knesset, wide strata of the public, which witnessed the concern of the Communist Knesset Group with their affairs, rose above all differences of political views and party affiliations, and expressed their appreciation for the Communist Group's efforts in this form or other. Doctors, workers, teachers, cooperative farmers, various public institutions sent our Knesset Group letters of appreciation for its activities in their affairs.

## THE ABU-TOR AFFAIR

(Abridged from reportages published in "Zo Haderekh", 10.7-17.7 and 31.7.1968).

Five East Jerusalem women were detained by the police for their refusal to evacuate their home in the Abu-Tour quarter of Jerusalem.

The members of the Idris family had entered their home, where they had lived till the June War. They were brought before the Magistrate court and accused of criminal trespassing because a Jewish resident had settled in their home by permission of "Amidar" (government controlled housing corporation).

The solicitor of the accused women, advocate Felicia Langer, unfolded before the judge the tragic history. The women pleaded not guilty, saying they could not be accused of trespassing for entering their own home.

The judge released the women, mothers of numerous children, on bail and on condition that they do not enter their home. Till the next session in September, the Jewish resident was permitted to stay in the house and even do renovation work.

The solicitor applied to the Attorney General and the Israel Land Administration but to no avail.

The affair has caused embitterment in East Jerusalem.

### Interim Injunction

A few days later the Jerusalem District Court dealt with an appeal by the Idris family, which had asked for an injunction against the Custodian of Abandoned Property, forbidding him to give anyone an established claim to the house until the court decided whether the property belonged to this family or to the Custodian.

The judge issued the injunction, ordering the Custodian and the present resident to keep the status quo and not to make any changes in the structure of the house.

### The Government Retreats

Following the court order, the Minister of Housing ordered the management of "Amidar" for the moment to cease any actions

designed to populating the houses in Abu-Tor.

Also R. Alloni, Deputy director of the Israel Land Administration announced that the Administration had decided to permit inhabitants of Arab Jerusalem, who claim right to possession of houses which were distributed to Jews after the June War, to submit their appeals to a special committee. Alloni added that so far 32 flats and 17 houses in Abu-Tor had been turned over to Jews.

### Storm in the Knesset

A storm broke out in the House when Tawfiq Toubi, M.K., the representative of the Communist group, challenged the contradict of the supporters of the Government policy relative to all acts of expropriation and destruction in Arab Jerusalem.

VICTOR SHEM-TOV, M.K., (Mapam), raising the question of distribution of houses in Abu-Tor, said: "We hold on to abandoned property, and this abandoned property holds us in its grasp and demoralises us, perverts us."

T. Toubi explained that he wished to say things not mentioned by V. Shem-Tov, and which according to the opinion of the communist group must be told:

"The behaviour of the Israel Land Administration which imposed its rule over houses in Abu-Tor..., the expropriation of those houses by the Administration which has declared them to be abandoned property at the time when their owners are in Jerusalem, and some of which even live in the houses, this behaviour cannot be separated from the complex of governmental policy relative to occupied Jerusalem, which is distinguished by evacuations and expropriations of lands and houses, for the purpose of a harmful chauvinist-racialist policy, constituting a rude trampling upon the rights of a people, on human rights.

"The Abu-Tor affair is a part of the governmental policy of expropriation, evacuation and demolition of dwelling houses and entire neighbourhoods continuing since the illegal annexation of Jerusalem. This is inhuman, illegal to expropriate, for instance, in the Old City 116 dunams, on which there are five mosques, four schools, 1038 dwelling houses, 438 shops, stores and workshops, which are all destined to demolition. This is an expulsion by force of another 15,000 persons from among the inhabitants of Arab Jerusalem, and one has to protest against this and demand this to be stopped".

Here the storm broke out.

S.Y. Gross, M.K. (Religious Agodat Israel) shouted: "There is no Arab Jerusalem! Forget about it!".

T. Toubi retorted: "Your conscience is not clean regarding all these deeds! This action does not only infringe upon the elementary rights of a people and of human beings, it also contravenes Israel's international obligations and contradicts last year's UNO Resolution about Jerusalem."

David Hacohen, M.K., (Labour) broke in: Knesset decisions do not require confirmation by UNO".

T. Toubi proceeded, saying: "These acts and policies entirely contradict the interest of peace between Israel and the Arab countries, a just peace in which Israel and the people of Israel are not less interested than the Arab peoples."

Here Klinghofer, M.K., (Gachal) shouted: "It is a scandal to speak like this in the Knesset".

Interrupted by other members of Knesset, who implied that he enjoyed a freedom of speech he ought to be grateful about, T. Toubi said:

"It is my right and my duty to say these things; this benefits peace and the two peoples... I don't have to thank you for anything; I am speaking using my rights as a member of Knesset, as a representative of those who elected me. The words of truth make you angry, but your shouting will not silence me".

## Torture in Tsrifin (Sarafend) Prison

M. Vilner, M.K. made in the Knesset an interpellation addressed to the Defence Minister. This is the text in full:

"It has come to my notice that advocate Jamil Shalhoub has complained to the Defence Minister, the Police Minister and to the P.M. in the matter of Muair 'Othman al-Ba'hsh, a citizen of Nablus student at the "Al Sala'hiya's school. In his complaint, advocate J. Shalhoub writes that on 9.12.67 M.'O. al-Ba'hsh was detained; for 6 months the authorities prevented the man's lawyer from visiting him at the prison; when the court did not comply with the demand of the prosecution to prolong the detention order against the man, the authorities issued an administrative detention order against him; prosecution refuses to bring the man before court; recently the father of M.'O. al Ba'hsh notified his lawyer that his son is not in Nablus, but in Ramle prison ; only lately advocate Shalhoub was allowed to meet his client.

"In his letter adv. Shalhoub points out: 'Here it became clear to me why the police refused to permit me to meet my client. By this they tried to conceal the cruel torture from which my client has suffered. In order to wrest from him an admission of guilt, he was tortured in the Sarafend Camp prison till his left shoulder was broken. Because of neglect in his medical treatment and because of continued torture, his right hand is now paralysed from the tips of his fingers up to the top of his shoulder'.

"In his letter adv. Shalhoub enclosed a statement of his client M.'O. al-Ba'hsh, in which he says: 'I was suspended by my hands from the ceiling; they pulled me downwards, whipped me and hit my member and testicles till I lost conscience. They would cover my eyes, shackle my hands and feet and whip me through a court-yard that was covered with pits; they would only leave me when my body was bleeding. They would connect electric wires to my body and head and set the electrical current in motion. They would pour urine on my head and body. They put out cigarette butts on my body and to this day scars resulting from this have remained."

M. Vilner, M.K. asked the Defence Minister:

- \* For what crime was Muair 'Othman al-Ba'hsh detained?
- \* Why is he not put before a court?
- \* Why was an administrative detention order issued against him ?
- \* Why was his lawyer prevented from meeting him for 6 months ?

- \* In which prison was Muair 'Othman al-Ba'hsh beaten and tortured?
- \* Who are those who beat and tortured the man ?
- \* Were those guilty of beating brought to trial and what was the verdict ?
- \* Was a comprehensive inquiry made relative this case ?
- \* If so, what was the upshot ?
- \* If not, when will it be made ?
- \* Who is guilty of the medical neglect and what is the man's condition today?"



Tawfiq Toubi, M.K.:

IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF ISRAEL TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT  
ON NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

("ZO HADEREKH", 14.8.68.)

The Communist Group in the Knesset proposed to put on the agenda a motion intended to bring about Israel's signing the Agreement. T. Toubi, M.K. began his speech substantiating the Group's proposal. He said: "Since the creation of the terrible weapon of mass destruction, the thermo-nuclear weapon, a shadow of horror and fear hovers over mankind, which is frightened lest it might be pushed into the hell of a thermo-nuclear war that would destroy hundreds of millions of people, would lay waste enormous built and cultivated areas of our earth, would ruin many treasures and assets created by the toil of man throughout the generations, and would sow death and destruction over the entire world.

"The forces of peace and progress in the world, the best sons of mankind among all nations, have tirelessly struggled for the prohibition of the use of this murderous weapon by the nuclear powers, and also for nuclear and general disarmament for the benefit of peace in the whole world.

"The socialist countries, and at their head the Soviet Union, did not spare any effort in the international arena in order to bring about international agreements leading mankind onto the path of peace and security for all peoples, and will prevent the horror of total war.

A Fundamental Problem

After surveying previous agreements - the agreement for the partial ban of nuclear experiments and the agreement on the non-penetration of outer space with nuclear arms -, the Communist spokesman mentioned the international agreement on non-proliferation of nuclear arms which was approved by UNO and International Convention for limitation on the proliferation of nuclear arms, signed by 60 states. In continuation he said:

"We know that there still exist in the world difficult and complicated problems in the domain of the armament race and that the danger of using nuclear weapons has not abated. The fundamental problem is that certain great powers still possess, and are even perfecting, nuclear weapons. This fundamental problem has remained the source of dangers for the entire world, and it is imperative on all peoples to act so that the Great Powers reach an agreement on nuclear disarmament within their bounds, on the prohibition of use of nuclear armament, as well

as an agreement on general disarmament. This international agreement is an important step in direction of a general prohibition of use of nuclear armament and in direction of stopping the arms race and strengthening of peace in the world. Every people expects its state to lend a hand to this positive process.

### Turning the Middle East into a Denuclearized Zone

"From the Israeli and Middle East point of view there is a great importance attached to the international agreement forbidding proliferation of nuclear arms, as Egypt and the majority of Arab states have already signed this agreement and have undertaken to act according to its articles.

"The vision that the Middle East be closed to the penetration of nuclear weapons will come true if Israel will now join this international agreement. An important and very hopeful step was the declaration by the Soviet Prime Minister, Kosygin, at the time the agreement was signed by him in Moscow, when he proposed a detailed plan for further steps to be taken in nuclear and conventional disarmament. Among others, he proposed steps for regional disarmament in the Middle East, which could be realised following the liquidation of the present crisis in the region after the June War.

"It is a most essential interest of Israel, of the people of Israel, just as of all the states and peoples of the region, to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and its penetration into the Middle East. This can be guaranteed by the Agreement if all the interested states, all those identifying themselves with it, sign it.

### The Interests of Israel Demand the Signature

"It is well that the Israeli delegation to the UNO Assembly voted for the resolution favouring the Agreement which prohibits the proliferation of nuclear arms, but in our opinion it is not well that the Government of Israel has so far not signed the Agreement. We know that there are other states that have not yet signed the Agreement, out of considerations that in our opinion are defective and unjustified. The real interests of Israel, however, are reason enough to favour the immediate signing and not the delaying of signature. So far there has not been any authorized explanation for the Government's decision not to sign at present. But the press, close to the Government, said Israel wished to confer with friendly governments before taking a decision.

"The Government of Israel has a number of friends among governments. We hope that it is not the friendly Government of

Bonn, not Kiesinger's Government and not the German militarists who strive to obtain nuclear arms, that it is not this supposedly friendly government, from which Israel will seek advice on this grave and fateful matter. The Bonn Government has refused to sign out of its revanchist considerations, wishing to obtain nuclear arms. Israel ought not to be in such company. On the contrary, Israel must - out of concern for the real interests of the people of Israel and the security of the region - condemn this refusal of the Bonn Government to sign the Agreement, and demand that it do sign it.

### Mistaken Consideration

"The stand of the Government of Israel on the question of the Agreement on non-proliferation of nuclear arms is puzzling and arouses concern and criticism in Israel, in the region and in the world.

"A report published in the British "Economist" at the beginning of May, this year, and boastingly copied by the "Hayom" daily on 9.5.68., tells us that by 1970 Israel will have rockets equipped with nuclear war-heads. We do not wish to believe in such an adventurist vision, and it were well if the Government denied these stories. We, and with us many others in Israel, say that penetration of the Middle East by nuclear arms from any source and on any part, would be a great disaster for all the countries of the region. If Israel's consideration in delaying her signature is the guaranteeing of nuclear research for scientific needs, which we absolutely approve, the agreement explicitly stipulates that all signatory states are permitted to conduct nuclear research and use this energy for peaceful purposes. The states are permitted to buy rare or special fissurable materials as well as the equipment necessary for the use of nuclear materials, their production and turning into materials for peaceful purposes.

"No argument used by Israel for delaying the signature to the agreement can reasonably be accepted and will only strengthen the misgivings, suspicions and criticism directed at the policy and intentions of the Israeli Government.

"Our Communist Group is convinced that the interest of Israel and all states of the region, the interest of peace and security of all peoples, demands that Israel join the international agreement prohibiting the proliferation of nuclear arms.

"Out of these reasons we propose to the Knesset to debate this important subject and to resolve that Israel join the international agreement, prohibiting the proliferation of nuclear arms."

## ISRAELI DELEGATION AT THE YOUTH FESTIVAL

.....

Interview with Tamar Gozansky  
Participant at the Ninth Festival  
of Democratic Youth in Sofia.

Question : What would you say were the salient points of the Festival ?

Answer : The Ninth Festival held in Sofia was characterized by the unity of young democratic people from an outstandingly great number of countries in their solidarity with the youth and the people of Vietnam, the youth and the people of the Arab countries and with every people fighting for freedom and democracy. There were delegations from 142 countries, a record surpassing by far any of the previous attendances. And all these delegations representing democratic and progressive young people from every corner of the earth were united on some of the most fundamental questions.

Question: What was the general atmosphere ?

Answer : It was wonderful, filled with enthusiasm and youthful spirit. The feeling of unity on fundamental causes was very strong, and this in spite of minor collisions with some small groups.

Question: What were the activities of our own, the Israeli delegation ?

Answer : There were 75 Israeli boys and girls, Jews and Arabs in our delegation to the Festival. We took part in the solemn Opening and various important activities, such as the mass meetings for solidarity with the people of Vietnam, with the Arab peoples and with the peoples of Africa and Latin America. We also participated in the meeting against the revival of fascism.

Question: What were the political activities in which representatives of the Israeli delegation took an active part ?

Answer: Spokesmen of our delegation appeared with speeches in four commissions:

- 1) Commission on the Middle East;
- 2) Commission against Neo-Nazism in West Germany;
- 3) Commission on Neo-Colonialism;
- 4) Commission on National Discrimination.

Our delegation had official meetings with 15 fraternal delegations, among which were those from Vietnam (North and South together), France, West Germany, West Berlin, German Democratic Republic, Bolivia, Ceylon and Australia.

Question: What were the social-cultural activities of our delegation?

Answer: The Israeli delegation included a song and dance group of Jewish and Arab boys and girls, which appeared at a special Israeli evening. This was held in one of the Palaces of Culture in Sofia. Despite the heavy rain, the hall was full. The Israeli and Arab folk dances, the songs given by small choirs as well as by soloists all of which demonstrated clearly Jewish-Arab friendship and brotherhood, were received enthusiastically by the audience. Flowers were presented to the Israeli singers and dancers as a token of appreciation and solidarity. The song and dance group participated in three international concerts, in Sofia and in the town of Tarnovo, besides.

Question: What were the relations of the Israeli delegation with the Bulgarian youth and other fraternal delegations?

Answer: Links of friendship were established between members of our delegation and young Bulgarians. The delegation as a whole was solemnly adopted by the Sofia Kirkov factory. We also were on very friendly terms with the young people from many other countries. There were official and non-official meetings of members of our delegation with members of Arab delegations, which brought about a closer understanding of views held by progressive young people of Israel and of Arab countries. In this connection it is very interesting to tell you about an evening of recitation held by the two Arab poets from Israel, Mahmoud Darwish and Samih-El-Qassem. This event was attended by a great number of participants of the Festival who applauded the poets enthusiastically when they read their poems.

The compere of this evening of recitation lauded not only the poets, but pointed out that their party, the Communist Party of Israel, is a most courageous party worthy of respect peacethose who look for from in the Middle East.

POLICE, ARMY AND JUSTICE  
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(Abridged from information given in "Zo Haderekh" - 22.5.,29.5,  
19.6 and 10.7, 24.7.68.)

A Supreme Court Session

On 13.5.68, the Supreme Court dealt with the complaint of comrade Ramzi Khouri, member of the Central Committee of the CP of Israel and Acre Town Councillor, against the J.A.G.(Military Judge Advocate General).

The Supreme Court had been asked to direct the JAG to continue inquiry into R. Khouri's complaint and to bring to justice army officers who had detained him in Nablus on 10.7.67., beaten him, while he was blindfolded, fired a shot near his head and broken three of his ribs.

The JAG's representative said,"... It is not denied that R. Khouri was detained and beaten in Nablus and that three of his ribs were broken..." but added: "We cannot know who did this..."

Supreme Court Judge Zussman said: "This is shocking... after a whole year you allege you don't know who did it... this makes a very bad impression... All of the Israeli Army's apparatus did not succeed in finding the officers involved?"

To the JAG's allegation they did not know whom to accuse, Judge Landau retorted: "I valued the JAG's capability higher..." and Judge Halevi said: "You admit he was beaten, all the men were interrogated - if this is so, one of them is lying."

The Supreme Court directed the JAG to continue the inquiry into R. Khouri's complaint and take his evidence.

R. Khouri was represented by advocate 'Hanna Naqqara.

Court based on occupation

Before a Military Court in Ramalla, the trial commenced against leaders of the Confederation of Arab Students and the Association of Palestinian Arab Students in Lebanon, As'ad Abdul Ra'hman el Mohammed Oudeh and Mohammed Khalil Bakhis.

They are accused of having contravened Order No. 3 (of the

Military Governor of the occupied West Bank - transl.), by alleged infiltration from the East Jordan bank to the western one, together with armed persons.

They were accused too of contravening a paragraph of the Emergency Laws, 1945 (British law, at that time directed against Palestinian Jews!- transl.) by alleged adherence to an illegal organisation.

Advocate Felicia Langer said the accused did not recognize the right of this military court to try them, as its seat was not in sovereign Israeli territory.

Asked by the judge, Captain Y. Melman, whose was this territory, the lawyer said: "The Hashemite Kingdom's", continuing: "The competence of this court is entirely based on an occupation not recognized by the accused". The lawyer also referred to the Security Council Resolution of 22.11.67, which came out against the territorial conquests and demanded retreat from the occupied territories.

As to the indictment itself, the lawyer asked for the deletion of all paragraphs relating to their alleged infiltration. "The actions of the accused in no way constitute infiltration, she pleaded, "they have crossed from one part of their homeland to another one, "referring to the UNO Universal Declaration of 1948 and the Geneva Convention. She continued, saying that a temporary occupation of a territory could not possibly turn a person into an infiltrator on his own soil.

Advocate Gazi Kphyr also came out against the authority of the court for infiltration, analyzing paragraph 64 of the Geneva Convention.

Advocate Hanna Naqqara asserted that this court could judge only according to Jordanian law, but this had abolished the Emergency Laws of the British twenty years ago... Is it possible, asked the lawyer, that this court is trying to relive some matter of legislation that has been dead for twenty years?

Pointing at the accused, the lawyer said that it seems to him very strange that they are strung together in the same indictment and being accused together as belonging to an organisation, whereas they have got acquainted with one another only in prison...

### The Lydda Trial

In the Military Court held at Lydda, composed of three judges presided over by Lt. Colonel Alpern, eight young

Jerusalemites are being tried for belonging to an illegal organisation, and some of them also of "having received instruction in handling a rifle at an unknown date".

Their solicitors H. Naqqara, G. Kphyr and F. Langer conducted for the entire day a "minor case" to disprove the acceptability of the confessions made by the accused as evidence in court. In court the accused described the tortures they underwent in the Jerusalem police and even pointed out the policemen who had beaten and humiliated them.

The prosecution witnesses were put in a delicate situation when interrogated by the defence as to the manner of their obtaining the admissions from the accused. There were some collisions between the defence and the President of the Court relative to the interrogation of some of these witnesses.

The judges wear army uniform; so does the prosecutor; the accused wear brown prison uniform; and the audience wear the uniform of either police or frontier guards.

In their evidence before the court, the accused denied that they had trained with arms; Henry Habash's (one of the accused - transl.) call to the court to go to the camp at ... in order to see what happens there and how "admissions" were obtained, was not deemed worthy of any retort.

Advocate F. Langer quoted among others, from the words of the accused: "We, students, issued leaflets against the annexation of Jerusalem, against the change in the curriculum

(the curriculum of secondary schools in the West Bank was changed by the Israeli military-educational authorities to suit the curriculum current in Arab schools in Israel, eliminating Arab history etc. - transl.), and in favour of the UNO Resolution which demanded Israel's retreat from the occupied territories..." The lawyer continued, saying: "The Emergency Law according to which these young people are indicted may be turned against Israeli citizens as well, and it is possible by these means to suppress any opposition in the State. In accordance with this regulation it is possible to ban a party that comes out against the government! The employment of this regulation constitutes a grave anti-democratic act - but even within this framework it does not apply to the accused who did not call for hatred against Israel or its government, not for the removal of the Israeli Army from Tel=Aviv, but have felt that in the form of the Security Council Resolution the whole world will stand behind them and their demand that Israel withdraw from the occupied territories."



Winding up, the lawyer said: "We can see how war and occupation have affected the accused. They saw atrocities, pillage, killed and wounded, bombings and unwanted foreign rule. They considered their activity a lawful expression of protest against the annexation of Jerusalem, which was defined by the whole world as unlawful.

"The prosecution produced before the court an expert for terrorist organisations', but the defence can't bring up an expert from the other side; such an expert could, perhaps, be sitting in the dock in such a trial. Defence could not interrogate the expert either, as he barricaded himself behind 'secrecy of security'. The prosecution relies upon the expert, the expert, according to his own words, relies upon admissions made by the accused in the police, and it can be established with certainty, according to photos, that those were obtained under pressure; therefore it is impossible to rely upon this 'expertness' which will certainly not be able to point out the "Jewish terrorists" who wrote in Jerusalem 'Down with Occupation!'"...

Another counsel for defence, G. Kphyr, said, among others: "The main point of indictment in this trial is keeping of a weapon and receiving a lesson in its use. The failure to exhibit this weapon... obliges the acquittal of the accused on this point of indictment."

As to the prosecution's allegation that the leaflet was nationalistic, counsel for defence said: "Whereas the leaflet calls for the withdrawal of the Israeli army from East Jerusalem, we hear voices of nationalistic Jews in the country, who explicitly call for the annihilation of the Arabs and ejection from the whole of this country." This was interrupted by the President of the Court, who said: "I am already 30 years in the country and have never heard a political organisation calling for the annihilation of the Arabs". - Interesting, and I, just to spite have heard it...

#### The Police and the Child

As known to the public, on the occasion of June 5, unknown persons covered a great number of walls in Jerusalem and Tel-Aviv with the slogan "Down with Occupation!" According to an announcement made by the Police spokesman (Jerusalem Post daily, 11.6.68), the police had made great efforts to find the "painters", but were unsuccessful. In the night to June 10, a Jerusalemite Jewish boy went out alone and painted on some walls slogans which were similar in content but not in form to the slogans done previously. He was caught by a plainclothes

policeman who had been on one of the numerous police ambushes.

The boy (15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ) was beaten in the police prison.

At the investigation the boy was threatened and beaten.

Before Judge Y. Bar-Eli, the police representative alleged that there was a matter of "State Security" and demanded seven days arrest in addition to the first 48 hours in order to "complete investigation".

The judge granted an extension of two days only.

The police then alleged the arrest was necessary for the boy's protection (Schutzhaft - preventive arrest, used in certain European countries in the nineteen-thirties and forties), but the judge accepted the opinion of counsel of defence, adv. F. Langer that this was ridiculous.

During all his stay in the police prison he was never kept with children of his age, but (in opposition to regulation - transl.) together with adult criminals. During the last two days the boy was not interrogated, but all the time he was beaten in prison. He was made to run around the courtyard and was beaten from behind. The policemen beat him with fists, knees and boots. After his being set free, bruises were seen on his body from shoulders to feet.

There are conditions of starvation and shocking filth in this prison. The detainees are forced to ease nature in the cell but are not given any paper to clean themselves (!)

#### Appeal of Khalil Tu'ama Rejected

The Military Court of Appeal rejected on 3.7. the appeal of Khalil Tu'ama, Secretary of the The Jerusalem Arab Students' Committee, and he was sentenced to 18 months in prison.

As so many other fighters for peace, K. Tu'ama, was 'shadowed' by the security services, and on the eve of war detained and held for 40 days in administrative detention for "reasons of defence".

On January 8, this year, he was arrested for allegedly having concealed a member of 'Al Fath' in his home.

The truth is that what caused K. Tu'ama's indictment was his political attitude.

"Matzpen" (a small independent left-wing group - transl.) took pains to publish this affair all over the world. The demonstrations held by students in front of Israeli embassies in London, West Germany, France and Canada and other protest activities, have helped the progressive forces in Israel and the world to uncover the anti-democratic character of Israel policy.

#### How the Police Deals with a Criminal Incident

On 20.7.68, the 23 - year old Muhammed Shaqer Saif was killed and his companion gravely injured when a car hit the scooter on which both had been riding.

Three years ago there had been love ties between Muhammed and a girl belonging to one of the oriental communities. Her family stipulated that Muhammed became a Jew if he wished to continue his ties with the girl. Muhammed refused. The family thought all was over, but the girl rejected the bridegroom found for her by the family, because she had not forgotten Muhammed.

A band of young criminals decided to cure the girl of her love to Muhammed by ... liquidating him. They even, mistakenly, threw a hand-grenade into the court-yard of Muhammed's old Jewish neighbour. The incident was reported to the police, but they replied there was not enough proof to open a case against the youngsters...

When Muhammed was attacked by one of the gangsters armed with an Uzzi (sub-machine gun-transl.), and Muhammed wrested it from his hands and handed it over to the police, the attacker was detained and released after 24 hours because of "lack of evidence".

The gang learned that it was being given a free hand and thus came about the horrid murder of Muhammed by means of the "accident".

There are witnesses, the injured friend of Muhammed, a woman near whose house the accident occurred and a girl who had heard from the youngsters one day before the accident that they were going to liquidate Muhammed. Hearing about the calamity, she went to the police to give information, but was told by a Criminal Investigation officer not to meddle...

The police officer dealing with the affair also advised the family of the murdered boy, not to turn to the courts, as they had no proof that this was not a road accident.

By Rami Loewenbraun

("Zo Haderekh" - 7.8.1968.)

The man in the street, who is far from understanding the process of the Arab national liberation movement, and whose point of view is nationalist=zionist, but originates in a sort of innocence, asks himself more than once: "Why don't they agree to direct negotiations?"

Replying to himself, he tries to imagine a secure and well-paved road to peace, to which these negotiations would lead. By means of this method of meditations one may ignore militaristic declarations by political leaders and boastful proclamations by senior military commanders - but it is impossible to ignore facts. And facts do exist.

### 60,000 Dunam

The evening paper "Ma'ariv" stated on 1.8.68, that the KKL (Jewish National Fund - transl.) will prepare for cultivation 60 thousand dunam of the new territories during two years. One does not speak any more about those areas as being "liberated", or "held". No, now they are simply new areas. We are to learn from this that some areas have been added to the State of Israel and that there is no difference between them and the previous area of the state, except the fact that they are somewhat "new".

The reportage goes on to say :

"About the work already begun, Yakov Tzur, Chairman of the KKL Directorate, said that 30 thousand dunam will be prepared in the Golan heights for the eight "Heakhzut" groups (groups of para-military colonisators - transl.) already in the place. Five thousand dunam will be prepared in the Latrun area for the new settlements to be put up there. Five thousand dunam will be prepared in the Bassoor area and west of it, for the six existing settlements and three new ones.

(\*) Dunam=tenth of hectare. "Dunam here and Dunam there", a song sung by previous generations of zionists; the words expressed the method of expansionism used at that time, namely the taking hold of land by buying it from semi-feudalist Arab landowners, whilst the fellaheen=tenants were driven off their land with the help of the law - Turkish of British- transl.

1000 dunam will be prepared in the Korzim area as additional land for the cooperative settlement Almagor and as a first base for a further agricultural settlement, Korzim 11. Not far from there, in the Battikha Valley, a thousand dunam will be prepared, north-east off the Lake of Galilee. 4000 dunam will be added, after preparation, to fill up the land allocations for the new settlements in Upper Galilee. For the filling up of land allocations in the mountainous regions in the other parts of the country 5000 dunam will be prepared."

#### What Does "Ma'ariv" Say, Black on White ?

The Israeli citizens are told that the new settlements which had been installed in the framework of frontier colonisation had been allocated smaller parcels of land than the standard "farm unit". Where from had the planners thought they would be able to take land to fill up these allocations? The new settlements along the Lebanese border (Zar'it, Shtoola) had been planned many years ago. There houses had already been standing in their place two years ago. The Korzim cooperative settlement has already turned from a "Heakhzut" group into a permanent settlement. It cannot be supposed that those who planned these settlements had based themselves on the fact that in June 67 it would be possible to concern themselves with "filling up their land allocations", but it is certain that the putting up of settlements without sufficient land bases near the borders, constitutes a vision of long range: some time a day will come when it becomes possible to "fill up" these lands - perhaps in the some way defined by Dayan in his speech on the Syrian Golan Heights: to take hold of land, to expand the frontiers, to take hold of land, to expand the frontiers, and so on and so forth.

No propaganda campaign will succeed in camouflaging the Government's intentions and actions. There are no words that can reconcile "the preparedness to negotiations for secured and recognized frontiers", as the Foreign Minister said, with actions so clearly intended as permanent annexations of areas of 60,000 dunam".

#### Investment for the Benefit of Jordan ?

Yakov Tzur added that for the preparation of these areas 55 million IL. will be needed. The KKL has a development budget of 25 million Israeli Lira. The Government will take part in this development and it is hoped the rest will be mobilized by the KKL abroad.

The Government of Israel has decided to curtail its development budget. Can one imagine that it has now decided to apportion moneys for the development of areas which will be returned to Jordan ?

The Israeli Government "encourages and directs" the inhabitants of the occupied territories to leave their homeland, just as it did after the 1948 War. Does it intend to prepare lands for their lawful owners, who will justly demand their return to them ?

And this is Prime Minister Eshkol's reply to Tzur. Says the P.M.: "The KKL had greatly fortified the cease-fire line by its activities before June 5, 1967, and I have no doubts that much depends after the 6-day War on the KKL's preparedness not to shrink from difficult tasks. These will be carried out only if the KKL join right from the beginning their implementation by turning the abandoned areas into settled ones."

Can it be supposed that the P.M. intends to create, with the assistance of the KKL, a security line which after the return of the territories to Jordan will constitute a rear defence line of Jordan ?

The absurd in this question is striking: There is no intention to retreat, there is no intention to return territories, there is no intention to take into consideration the rights of the Palestinian Arab people. And if the Government will be compelled to come to negotiations about the subject of the territories, it will know - so it appears from the arrogant manner of creating faits accomplis - how to extricate itself from this too.

#### Sweet Illusion and Bitter Reality

The cynical attitude that disregards the man in the street, is a real insult. This good man nurtures illusions about the "proud rigidity of the Arab rulers" which prevents the settlement of the Israeli-Arab conflict. He also meditates about the good days to come when the Arab leaders agree to direct negotiations and "we" agree to return certain small parts of the occupied territories and then the desired peace comes...

The deeds perpetrated and the creation of faits accomplis cut the ground from under such dreams. They prove that the Government's diplomatic key slogan is :- Not one single handful of land and not one single refugee. This slogan was grave relative to the refugee problem arising from the 1948 war and it is much graver now when refugees had to flee a second and even third time.

To be sure, there is no objective need for the Middle East to be the arena of permanent war. On the contrary, economic and cultural ties between Israel and the Arab countries are the basis for orderly development and the flourishing of the region. But every additional dunam, every "tree of redemption" planted by the KKL in the occupied areas, is an additional coffin of peace.

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