

Zionism and Israel's rulers in the service of imperialism

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The resolution of the 16th Congress of the Communist Party of Israel (January 1969), *The Jewish Question and Zionism in Our Time*, says: 'The predominant ideology in Israel is the Zionist ideology. Guided by this ideology the ruling circles of Israel are conducting a policy which contradicts the true national interests of the people of Israel, a policy which ties the state of Israel to the imperialist powers in their struggle against the Arab anti-imperialist national movement, against the Soviet Union, against

the international Communist movement and all forces of socialism, national liberation and social progress in the world.'

Ever since its inception in 1897, the Zionist movement has collaborated with and served imperialism.*

Early in his career Theodor Herzl, its founder, made contacts with the rulers of the Ottoman Empire, which included Palestine. At the beginning of the 20th century he went to Turkey on several occasions to confer with the sultan. He and other Zionist leaders held that a Jewish center could be set up in Palestine under Ottoman patronage.

At the same time, Zionist leaders sought contacts with the French imperialists, especially because of the latter's special interest in the Suez Canal. Rothschild, the Franco-Jewish financier, who was eager to win Palestine as a field of operations for French capital and influence, went out of his way to arrange the contacts. The Zionist leaders tried to prevail on the French imperialists to help in concentrating Jews in Palestine, saying that this would contribute to the safety of the Suez Canal.

Herzl sought close ties with German imperialism, committed in the early 20th century to a policy of active penetration into the Middle East. From the German Reich, too, he asked aid in settling Jews in Palestine. Nor did the Zionist leaders forget tsarist Russia, as indicated by the well-known meeting between Herzl and Interior Minister Plehve. Soon after the terrible anti-Jewish Kishinev pogrom engineered by Plehve in 1903, Herzl saw fit to hold talks with that out-and-out anti-Semite and Jew-baiter. What is more, he called on the Jews of Russia to stay out of the revolutionary movement and the struggle against tsarism.

After the October Revolution, during the Civil War, Zionist leader Zhabotinsky collaborated with Petlyura, a counter-revolutionary responsible for the death of many Jews.

During the First World War close links developed between the Zionists and the British Empire. In 1920, Winston Churchill, then War and Air Minister, said that if a Jewish state with a population of three or four million were founded on the banks of the Jordan under the protection of the British Crown—and this could well happen—it would be a historic event of advantage in all respects, especially to British imperial interests. It was this kind of thinking that prompted the British government to issue the so-called Balfour Declaration (Nov. 2, 1917), promising a 'national home for the Jewish people' in Palestine. Throughout British colonial rule in Palestine the Zionist organization worked hand in glove with the imperialists against the Arab national movement.

*In 1897 the Basel Congress of adherents of Zionism, the nationalist ideology of the Jewish bourgeoisie, formalized the founding of the World Zionist Organization and approved its program. — Ed.

The links between the Zionist movement and u.s. imperialism grew closer after the Second World War. And after the founding of Israel, which is now under the aegis of American imperialism economically, politically and militarily, these links became closer still. Israel maintains contacts with u.s. imperialism either directly, or through the Zionist world movement, which is headed by prominent American Jewish financiers using Israel in the interest of American monopoly capital.

The Zionist movement and the rulers of Israel also maintain contacts with other imperialist states, offering them their 'good offices.'

In 1952, they concluded a disgraceful agreement with the West German government, accepting 'compensation' in cash and goods for the millions of Jews murdered by the Nazis during the Second World War, and then went out of their way to offset the public outcry in many countries, including Israel, against the revenge-seeking and reactionary trends in FRG policy.

A few years after its founding, Israel took an active part in the tripartite aggression against Egypt aimed at overthrowing the anti-imperialist regime that had been making progress under Gamal Abdel Nasser and restoring imperialist control of the Suez Canal. That war was planned at conferences involving Ben Gurion, the then Israeli Premier, and the prime ministers of France and Britain.

Subsequently the Israeli government, prompted by its Zionist ideology, continued to promote the imperialists' neo-colonialist objectives in African and Asian countries that had won independence with support from the world socialist system and other anti-imperialist forces.

The imperialists are filled with apprehension. They are alarmed by the growing struggle of the peoples of Asia and Africa for freedom, by the disintegration of the colonial system, by far-reaching changes aimed at consolidating the independence of new states, fostering their peace policy and intensifying the fight against imperialism, for social progress. Although Israel is a small state, it plays an important role in the implementation of the imperialists' sinister plans to restore their domination over these countries and to undermine the anti-imperialist fight of the peoples. The organ of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola wrote that Israel's participation in the colonial war, periodically denied by Israel, had lately been confirmed by the capture of arms made in Israel and used by the Portuguese at Cuango. The Movement accused Israel of actively backing Portugal and its efforts to put down the Angola rising.

Dr. Milton Obote, ex-President of Uganda, said that Israel was behind the military coup in his country. 'Israeli experts,' *Haaretz*, the Israeli newspaper, wrote on January 27 last, 'rendered assistance

in the sphere of development and Israeli officers trained Uganda Air Force personnel (General Idi Amin, who led the coup, got his "Paratrooper's Wings" in Israel). But in the world arena Dr. Obote and his representatives constantly backed the Arabs. It is to be hoped that with the consolidation of the new regime they (the new leaders of Uganda. - Ed.) will proceed differently in this respect.' Here is an instance of collaboration with imperialism and active support for the advocates of the Israeli government's policy of aggression.

Today the balance of forces is tilting in favor of peace and socialism. In the Middle East, the fight against imperialism, especially its u.s. variety, is gaining in intensity. The Arab liberation movement has made substantial headway and the bonds between a number of Arab countries and the socialist states, especially the Soviet Union, are growing stronger. This the u.s. imperialists and their main agents in the region, the Israeli rulers, find hard to stomach. They are stepping up their offensive against the Arab national movement with the object of overthrowing the anti-imperialist governments in Egypt and Syria. This explains why Israel started a new war of aggression against the Arab countries in June 1967.

The Zionist organizations and the Israeli government made the utmost use of their propaganda machine to mislead world opinion and to parade as 'innocent lambs' fighting a defensive war against the Arab 'wolves.' That is a lie, of course. General Dayan, the Israeli Defense Minister, said on June 8, 1970: 'Among other things, we started the war for conquest.' Colonel Herzog, Israel Radio's military commentator, wrote in a foreword to the album *Victory* (written by Bashen, a journalist, and published in September 1967): 'If Israel had not started the June 1967 war, the entire Middle East, the west and south of Asia and a large section of the African continent would have fallen under Soviet influence. What was at stake was domination over a considerable part of the world.'

This comment shows that the June aggression was part of the u.s. imperialists' global strategy of fighting against the national liberation movement under the pretext of combating 'Soviet influence.'

David Nes, former u.s. chargé d'affaires in Cairo wrote in the *London Times* - his article was reprinted in the Israel newspaper, *Yediot Aharonot* (Feb. 7, 1971) - that the effectiveness of Israeli air raids on June 5, 1967, was due, at least in part, to information supplied by u.s. sources about the location of Egyptian airfields and planes. As to political and economic information, the State Department had long been supplying the Israeli Embassy in Washington with copies of all pertinent reports received from u.s. embassies in the Middle East.

In sum, the June war was not a defensive action, not a war for

Israel's survival. It was a war of conquest, an annexationist aggressive war against the Arab countries, a war serving u.s. imperialist interests and waged in complete agreement with the u.s. government.

The Zionist world organization participated actively in the anti-Arab war, marshalling the aid of specialists, fighting men and, especially, cash donations. But that aggressive war, too, failed to achieve its objectives, which were to overthrow the anti-imperialist regimes in Egypt and Syria, destroy or divide the anti-imperialist Arab national movement, and disrupt the friendly relations between the Arab and the socialist countries. On the contrary, these relations have grown stronger and closer. Imperialism and its menials, the rulers of Israel, have suffered a political and moral defeat.

Four years after the June war we witness an intensification of the struggle against imperialism in the area. The anti-imperialist regimes have gained strength, and their numbers have increased through the inclusion of Sudan and Libya.

The Israeli occupation has exacerbated the problem of the Arab Palestinian people, whose struggle for national rights has assumed new dimensions and has the sympathy and support of all peace-loving and progressive forces.

Arab resistance to imperialism, primarily American imperialism, is mounting steadily. Since June 1967 the United States has lost some of its positions and influence in the region. The u.s. monopolies now fear that they may also lose the enormous profits they get from Arab oil. This development is causing concern in the Zionist movement and the Israeli government, who fear that in the circumstances u.s. imperialism may change its tactic and support the demand that Israel withdraw from the occupied Arab territories and that the Security Council resolution of November 22, 1967, be implemented. To avert this, Zionist leaders are telling the u.s. government that it should not shrink from the idea of a new aggression against the Arab countries, even at the risk of a third world war. The Zionists never miss an opportunity to stress that there is no force in the Middle East more dependable and more loyal to imperialism than the Israeli government. The West should be grateful to Israel, the *Daily Telegraph* wrote on June 19, 1967, for doing what the Western powers would have to do themselves.

S. Z. Abramov, one of the leaders of the Liberal Party (extreme Zionist party) in Israel, said in the newspaper *Haaretz* on May 13, 1970: 'Israel is fighting not only in its own defense, but also for vital Western interests . . . Israeli troops along the Suez Canal relieve the United States of the need to send its own troops to that region.' Utterances of this kind show what the Israeli boys are dying for along the Canal: they are dying to ensure that u.s. im-

perialist schemes materialize. At the same time, the Zionist organization active in the United States is on the alert to prevent tactical changes in America's Middle East policy. Its leaders use their public standing and economic influence to head off this kind of change, which they say would be a 'tragedy' for imperialism.

When, in summer 1970, the Rogers plan, which, despite its shortcomings, included a demand for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied territories, was published, the Zionist leaders tried to press the u.s. government into abandoning it. At the same time the Zionist movement did much to help the Israeli government to carry on a policy which imperils the security of the peoples in the region, including the people of Israel.

The French weekly, *Témoignage Chrétien*, published excerpts from a circular sent by u.s. Zionist institutions to colleagues in France. Signed by Jacob Turchiner, the circular (dated July 2, 1970) said: 'The main aim of the u.s. Zionist organization is to help Israel. For this purpose the organization established contacts with prominent personalities, who help us keep in constant touch with the u.s. leaders: politicians, diplomats, military officers and financiers. This was how we established contacts with the State Department. Along with the Pentagon, our military committee picks the officers that are sent to Israel. Our organization played a prominent part in obtaining the u.s. government decision permitting u.s. citizens to serve in the Israeli army. The u.s. government has agreed to supply our military committee with lists of released American servicemen, helping us thereby to mobilize young Jews for service in the Israeli army. At present their number is 25,000. What we need most are pilots and military experts willing to fight on our side by virtue of their convictions or, to put it bluntly, as mercenaries for a high reward.' The circular also revealed that Zionist organizations in Britain and West Germany are operating in much the same way.

Another key task the Zionist organization and Israeli government have taken upon themselves is a vile smear and incitement campaign against the Soviet Union over the alleged 'hard plight of Soviet Jews.'

It is a known fact that Jews in the Soviet Union enjoy full rights and are in no need of Zionist care. But then it is not the life of Jews in the Soviet Union the Zionists are concerned about but the fact that the Soviet Union is helping the Arab peoples' struggle against imperialism and the Israeli occupation. They are alarmed by the increasingly close multilateral relations between Arab countries and the Soviet Union. The Soviet state, guided by Leninist policy principles, helps all peoples fighting against imperialism, for independence and social progress. Hence the love of peoples for the Soviet Union.

This is why the world Zionist movement, the Israeli government and reactionary Jewish organizations in the United States and other capitalist countries are doing their utmost to expand their slanderous anti-Soviet propaganda, and why they organize provocations against Soviet offices and representatives in various countries, especially the United States, and are in the front line of the cold war against the Soviet Union.

In the United States the paramilitary, fascist Zionist organization calling itself the 'Jewish Defense League' is engaged in extensive anti-Soviet activity. It also carries out acts of terrorism against fighters for peace and progress in Israel itself. Not long ago the 'fuehrer' of an American fascist, anti-Semitic organization proposed to the 'fuehrer' of the Jewish Defense League, Rabbi Kahane, an alliance and 'working' together. Anti-Soviet demonstrations organized by the League included war criminals who had fled from the justice of the peoples of socialist countries, well-known anti-Semites and fascists from various countries.

At its plenary session in January 1971, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel strongly condemned the vicious anti-Soviet campaign of the Israeli rulers and Zionist leaders. It pointed out that the aim of this campaign is to slander the Soviet Union, increase international tension, and divert the attention of world public opinion from the fact that the Israeli rulers deliberately foil every prospect for peace in the Middle East and carry out numerous acts of terrorism and suppression in the occupied Arab territories.

This criminal activity is aimed at aggravating the international situation, undermining the policy of peaceful coexistence and making it easier to start a third world war.

The Zionist firebrands openly peddle their adventurist military plans. Colonel Peled wrote in the Israeli newspaper *Maariv*, on 29.1.71: 'It must be assumed that this time the government has considered everything in advance and drawn up clear political directives for the Israeli army in case hostilities are resumed. I hope these directives indicate that with the resumption of fire the army will immediately cross the canal, destroy the Egyptian army stationed between the canal and the Nile, eliminate Russian interference in Egypt and create a situation making it possible to sign a peace treaty with the Egyptian government. This means that, after destroying the Egyptian army, the Russian navy will have to be expelled from Port Said and Alexandria and the Egyptian government told to sign a treaty at once . . . Doubtlessly, if events develop in this way the Russians will be moved to act . . . But in that case neither will the United States be able to remain on the sidelines.'

What is thus but a call for world war!

The Zionists' satanic plan provides for the possibility of Israel employing nuclear weapons, with the active cooperation, of course, of American imperialism. The article by D. Nes mentioned above says that the United States pursues a special policy towards Israel also with regard to nuclear weapons. For years the U.S. had been using diplomatic, economic and military pressures to induce 100 countries all over the world to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. Israel alone had been exempted from energetic representations. In effect, the U.S. might even have helped Israel in refusing to undertake the obligations stipulated in that international document. On the basis of an analysis prepared by the Rand Corporation at the request of the White House, the U.S. had provided Israel with the latest technological and political data on effective utilization of nuclear weapons in the Middle East. According to reports, the nuclear reactors in Israel at Dimona and Nahal Sorok had for years been producing enough plutonium for the manufacture of ten 25-kiloton bombs a year.

In 1970 the U.S. government granted Israel a \$500-million loan for the purchase of American offensive weapons. The United States has supplied Israel with more up-to-date aircraft, missiles and electronic hardware than its NATO or SEATO allies, notably many Phantom planes capable of delivering nuclear charges. According to official data published in Israel, U.S. aid to Israel between 1949 and 1970 (loans and donations by the U.S. government and of agencies linked with it) reached the sum of \$1.3 billion. In the same period, Zionist organizations transferred to Israel \$4 billion in loans and funds. However, D. Nes cited other figures. Between 1948 and 1968, U.S. government aid to Israel amounted to \$11 billion, and the private capital transferred here mainly through Zionist channels ran to \$25 billion. Thus, an average of \$1,400 in 'aid' went to every inhabitant of Israeli during this period. By way of comparison Nes pointed out that American aid to the 13 neighbors of Israel in the same period amounted to some \$35 per capita. Since 1968 American aid to Israel has grown immensely. In 1970 dollar transfers reached 800 million and in 1971 are expected to be close on \$1.5 billion.

The Israeli budget is essentially a military budget. According to official data, military spending (including supplementary outlays) grew as follows (per cent of total):

1967/68	1968/69	1969/70	1970/71
29	30	36	49

The Finance Ministry makes no secret of the fact that 90 per cent

of all taxes is used to finance the military budget. This policy is a heavy burden on the shoulders of the working people. It affects real wages and leads to growing poverty.

The Israeli government encourages foreign investment, mainly U.S. and other Western monopolies, which makes the country increasingly dependent on foreign capital. Several international conferences of Jewish millionaires have been held in Tel Aviv. Foreign millionaires, both Jews and non-Jews invest in military and civilian industries, as well as in tourism, commerce and banking, on the most favorable terms. To every sum invested by millionaires, the government adds three or four times as much in the form of subsidies and loans. Deals of this nature are handled by special financial and commercial companies registered in the United States. In 1970 foreign investments reached \$65 million but the profits taken out of Israel by foreign capitalists amounted to \$165 million. This, then, is how U.S., West German and other big capitalists perform their 'Zionist' function: they rake in huge profits at the expense of the working people of Israel.

Israel has no official alliance with the United States, nor is it a member of any existing blocs. Nevertheless, it is more subservient to U.S. imperialism and American monopolies than many other capitalist states.

However, Zionism and the Israeli government have expansionist goals of their own, which they would like to implement at the expense of the Arab people of Palestine and the Arab neighbors of Israel. The territories overrun during the June war are used in the interests of Israeli and foreign capitalists, who in 1970 contrived to sell an estimated \$95 million worth of goods in the occupied areas. Imports from these areas to Israel, including oil from the Sinai Peninsula, have reached \$70 million.

Manpower, too, is brought from them into Israel. Official quarters admit the transfer to Israel of 30,000 workers, who are paid one-third of the wages of Israeli workers, or even less. Moreover, Arab workers are denied all social rights. Thus the Israeli government is turning the population of the occupied territories into a source of cheap labor, into a second-class people compelled to bring in profits to the foreign and local capitalists lordling it over Israel.

The Arab masses in Palestine are fighting against the Israeli occupation. The brutal military regime that controls the region is tightening its hold. The occupation authorities use particularly brutal methods in the Ghaza Strip. In January 1971, Israeli and world public opinion were shocked by the atrocities perpetrated by Israeli troops against the local population. The Israeli government plans to annex Ghaza, and the authorities are using every method to evict people from their homes.