

onism

Sergei SEDOV



**Counts
on Terror**



Zionism Counts on Terror

Sergei SEDOV

Anti-Zionist Committee of Soviet Public Opinion

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Genocide Israeli Style

West Beirut fell on September 15, 1982. For three preceding months Israeli troops, bristling with modern weaponry, had besieged the Lebanese capital. Day after day missiles, bombs and shells rained down on the beleaguered city. Several times Israeli tanks attempted to enter the city but each time they were beaten off. Despite their overwhelming preponderance in men and equipment the Israeli military had failed to break the resistance of the city's courageous defenders—the PLO combatants and Lebanese national patriotic forces. It was then that the aggressors decided to blockade West Beirut and cut off food, water, electricity and medical supplies from its population. Hundreds of thousands of Beirut residents and refugees from Southern Lebanon who had sought sanctuary in the half-destroyed city, once known as the “jewel of the Mediterranean”, faced a slow, agonizing death. At this point US diplomacy came forward to assume the role of “savior” and announced that it would guarantee West Beirut's security provided the PLO forces evacuated the city. Philip Habib, special envoy of the US President in the Middle East at the time, gave assurances that Israeli troops would not enter the city and that the lives and safety of the noncombatants, Lebanese and Palestinians alike, in West Beirut would be guaranteed.

To prevent the further destruction of West Beirut and the killing of civilians the PLO

leadership agreed to withdraw its forces from the city. At the end of August the unconquered Palestinian fighters left Beirut and were later evacuated by sea to various Arab countries. The security of the Lebanese capital was now the responsibility of the "multinational peace-keeping force" created on US initiative and consisting of US marines, as well as French and Italian contingents. A few days later, however, the United States and its partners announced that the multinational force had fulfilled its mission. West Beirut was left defenseless to the mercy of the Israeli invaders deployed on its outskirts.

On September 14, Bashir Gemayel, 34, Lebanon's newly elected President, was killed in a car bomb explosion. Hours later Israeli tanks rolled into West Beirut. Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon announced that his troops would undertake the maintenance of law and order in the city in order to prevent possible "bloodshed". The aggressors knew that with 12,000 PLO combatants and Syrian troops out of the city, they would encounter no serious resistance. Most of the barbed wire entanglements, road blocks, barricades and mine fields had by then also been removed from the streets. The scattered groups of Lebanese combatants were no match for the tens of thousands of Israeli troops. On the following day, after suppressing sporadic resistance, the invaders occupied the whole of West Beirut and began "combing" residential districts under the pretext of looking for PLO members who had gone into hiding.

On the morning of September 16 a strange silence descended on the Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila, for thirty-five years the home of tens of thousands of Palestinians whom the Zionists had driven off their native land. Forced to live in wretched shanties and barracks, the inhabitants of Sabra and Shatila, like so many of their fellow refugees elsewhere in Lebanon and other Arab countries, clung to the hope that one day they would return to their homeland. Successive generations of Palestinians, who had imbibed with their mother's milk a deep love for Palestine and a dream of returning to it eventually, were born and died in refugee camps. These camps had become centers of Palestinian resistance, the focal points of the struggle by the refugee-nation for its legitimate rights. That was the reason why they were the chief target of Israeli aerial and artillery attacks. The shanties offered no protection for their inhabitants from the death-dealing metal. In the month of June (1982) alone the Israeli aggressors destroyed 14 refugee camps in Southern Lebanon.

During the three-month-long siege of West Beirut Sabra and Shatila were in the "center of attention" of the Israeli military, for

the PLO headquarters and other Palestinian organizations were situated there. Israeli guns kept pounding them day after day, and the Israeli air force rained thousands of bombs and missiles on them. On their situation maps Ariel Sharon and his generals had the thickest arrows pointing at the PLO refugee camps. But the PLO combatants put up a good fight and the Israeli troops were unable to break through into Sabra and Shatila. At the end of August, however, the refugees had to see off their courageous defenders—their sons, brothers and fathers. The buildings which had housed PLO organizations and offices now gave shelter to hundreds of old men, women and children who had survived the destruction of the Palestinian refugee camps in Southern Lebanon. They thought they would be safe at Sabra and Shatila because of the US guarantees which Philip Habib and President Reagan himself had trumpeted far and wide.

Under the US "Plan for the Departure from Lebanon of the PLO Leadership, Offices, and Combatants in Beirut", security guarantees were offered to "law-abiding Palestinian noncombatants left behind in Beirut, including the families of those who have departed". The US government provided its guarantees "on the basis of assurances received from the Government of Israel (GOI) and from the leadership of certain Lebanese groups with which it has been in touch."¹ Thus, Washington undertook to guarantee the safety of the Palestinian refugees both from the Israeli military and from the cutthroats of the right-wing Christian militia of Major Haddad, a Zionist puppet, and the Phalangist Party.

After bursting into West Beirut Israeli troops set up an advance command post atop the five-storey building of the Kuwaiti embassy, just 200 metres from the Shatila camp. On the morning of September 15 Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, accompanied by Chief of General Staff General Raphael Eitan, other Israeli generals and intelligence service chiefs arrived at the new command post. From the roof of the Kuwaiti embassy Sharon telephoned Menachem Begin to inform him that the operation aimed at capturing Beirut was being carried out successfully. After that Sharon met with the ringleaders from the right-wing Christian "Lebanese forces".

As early as June 12, a week after the Israelis invaded Lebanon, Sharon had reached an agreement with the Phalangists on the "operation" in the Palestinian refugee camps. After the withdrawal of the PLO forces from Beirut he had set a date—

¹ *American-Arab Affairs*, Fall 1982, No. 2, p. 141.

September 24—for the massacre, but in view of the murder of President Gemayel, ordered the “Lebanese forces” into action immediately, under the protection of the occupying Israeli forces in Beirut. Thereupon the Defense Minister returned to Israel where he issued an order placing the “Lebanese forces” under the command of the Israeli army. The text of the order contained this revealing phrase: “For the operation in the camps the Phalangists should be sent in.”¹

On the morning of September 16 Israeli soldiers sealed off Sabra and Shatila. In the meantime a briefing was drawing to an end at the command post of General Amir Drori, Head of the Israeli Northern Command, who had his headquarters in the Beirut port area. The briefing was attended by three more Israeli generals, as well as Fady Frem, Chief-of-Staff of the right-wing Christian militia of the “Lebanese forces”, and Elias Hobeika, intelligence chief of the “Lebanese forces”. The killers received their final instructions from their Israeli masters. The Israeli leadership decided to use their puppets for “the dirty work” of carrying out the planned “purge”.

Preparations for the bloodbath had been made well in advance. Long before the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, at the beginning of 1982, 500 bandits from the “Lebanese forces” had received special training in Israel. Elias Hobeika, their immediate commander who had been trained at the Staff and Command College in Israel, was regarded by the Zionists as their man. Back in the days of the civil war in Lebanon Hobeika displayed “commendable” zeal in carrying out special assignments for the Israeli intelligence service. Now he was put in charge of a new operation.

As CBS Television later reported, quoting US sources, Hobeika and his men had been armed, equipped and paid by the Israeli intelligence service and took their orders from it. The Israeli intelligence chiefs ordered Hobeika and his men into the refugee camps knowing full well that he was bent on vengeance. *Time* magazine noted that on receiving his instructions from Israeli generals at noon on September 16, Hobeika responded with enthusiasm, saying that “there would be a *kasach* (in Arabic, a chopping or slicing operation)” in the camps.²

With considerable satisfaction “Drori telephoned Sharon in Tel Aviv: ‘Our friends are moving into the camps. I coordinated their entrance with their top men’. Replied Sharon:

¹ *The Jerusalem Post*, February 9, 1983, Supplement, p. 6.

² *Time*, October 4, 1982, p. 9.

'Congratulations... The friends' operation is authorized.'"¹ A few hours later the Israeli cabinet met in session with Prime Minister Begin in the chair. Chief of General Staff General Eitan told the ministers that the Phalangists were "sharpening their knives."² The cabinet was satisfied and proceeded to approve a massacre that was already under way.

Meanwhile the battalions of "Lebanese forces" which had been massed well in advance in the vicinity of the Beirut international airport, three kilometers south of Shatila, had set off on their "march of death" accompanied by their Israeli instructors. They were later reinforced by Major Haddad's cutthroats ferried into Beirut by Israeli helicopters from Southern Lebanon. Under cover of an Israeli artillery and mortar barrage and tanks the murderers shot their way into Shatila. Unarmed Palestinians became victims of a carefully planned massacre. Afterwards surviving refugees told correspondents that soldiers of the "Lebanese forces" and Major Haddad's militiamen burst into Sabra and Shatila and that they also saw men in Israeli army uniforms and heard Hebrew and European languages spoken.

The camps were now the scene of an orgy of killing. Apparently doing their grisly work with relish, the butchers decided to save ammunition by resorting to knives, axes and bayonets in disposing of their defenseless victims, and throttling them with wire, cindering them with flamethrowers and crushing them to death with bulldozers. The killing went on well into the night. The butchers then used flares so that they could search for more victims in the dark. Those still alive, crazed with terror, sought refuge beyond the camp's perimeter fence but Israeli soldiers turned them back at gunpoint to face certain death.

Many in Tel Aviv and Washington knew about the slaughter at Sabra and Shatila while it was still going on. By 11 p. m. the Phalange commander in Shatila informed the Israeli generals in Beirut that "until now 300 civilians and terrorists have been killed".³ But they did not have to be told about what was happening in the camp. They knew. As said earlier, the Israeli command post was set up on the roof of the Kuwaiti embassy, next to Shatila. The US embassy in Beirut also knew about the massacre but did nothing to stop it.

In vain did the PLO representative in Washington, Hasan Abdul Rahman, try to remind the US government of its security

¹ *Ibid.*

² *Middle East International*, November 12, 1982, p. 6.

³ *Time*, October 4, 1982, p. 10.

guarantees for the Palestinian refugees. The Reagan Administration, which had refused to recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, pretended that nothing unusual was taking place. In his talks on September 15 with US Secretary of State George Shultz, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir proposed that "Haddad's forces should control the south jointly with the Lebanese army".¹ In the evening of September 15 and on the morning of September 16 Hasan Abdul Rahman approached the embassies of Tunisia, Morocco and Egypt in Washington seeking their cooperation. However, the State Department, ignoring repeated inquiries by Arab diplomats, made no move. The Tunisian embassy, for instance, "was told on Friday 17th that a US embassy diplomat in Beirut had visited the camps at 13.00 hours that day and found nothing unusual happening".² In the same evening President Reagan, speaking at a New Jersey fund-raising dinner on behalf of Congresswoman, Millicent Fenwick, known for her pro-Israeli views, tried to justify Israel's invasion of West Beirut, saying that Israel had acted in self-defense after its forces had been attacked by "some of the leftist militia that are still there in West Beirut."³ This invention by the US President raised not a few eyebrows even among the normally blasé Washington press corps.

In the meantime the air over Sabra and Shatila was filled with shrieks of innocent victims of the Zionists' murderous henchmen. True, by then those who had masterminded the carnage, fearing they would not be able to get away with it, began to cover up their tracks. General Amir Drori later claimed that at 11 a. m. he ordered the "operation" halted, that no more right-wing Christian militiamen were to enter the camps and that those who were there be withdrawn. However, a few hours later General Eitan, who was supposed to know about this order, had still not told Defense Minister Sharon anything about it. For his part Brigadier-General Amos Yaron, who took orders from General Drori and commanded the division that sealed off Sabra and Shatila, in the daytime gave the Christian forces' commanders permission to send reinforcements and more ammunition into the camps. After that, "On Friday afternoon, a group of at least 400 people seeking refuge in downtown West Beirut and carrying a white flag approached Israeli soldiers. The civilians said a massacre was taking place; they were turned back to the camps at gunpoint."⁴

¹ *Middle East International*, No. 186, October 29, 1982, p. 5.

² *Ibid.*, No. 184, October 1, 1982, p. 8.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Time*, October 4, 1982, p. 10.

At 16.00 hours General Eitan arrived in Beirut. General Drori, Head of the Northern Command, "...informed Eitan of what had happened" and said that "the Phalangists 'had gone too far,'" that "they 'had overdone things'..."¹ However, at a meeting with the Phalangist commanders General Eitan, far from criticizing them, actually "congratulated them for what they had done in the camps."² At any rate, after the meeting between the Israeli Chief-of-Staff and the Phalangist militia commanders the orgy of killing went on for another eleven hours. The butchers also burst into the nearby Gaza and Acca Hospitals, shooting patients and members of the medical staff. Heavy-duty bulldozers were demolishing the dilapidated tenements, burying the bodies of the victims under the rubble and not sparing those inside who were still alive. A long deep trench was dug on the edge of the camp for the bodies.

It was not until the morning of September 18 that the killings stopped. The murderers, by now exhausted, herded the survivors together and made them stand in front of a huge pile of corpses to give them an object lesson: this is what would happen to all Palestinians if they did not clear out. A few hours later, when rescue teams and newsmen arrived at the sight they witnessed a horrifying spectacle. This is how *Time* magazine described the scene: "There were only the sounds of mourning and the bodies, sprawling heaps of corpses: men, women and children. Some had been shot in the head at pointblank range. Others had had their throats cut. Some had their hands tied behind their backs; one young man had been castrated. Middle-aged women and girls as young as three, their arms and legs grotesquely splayed, were draped across piles of rubble. Portions of their heads were blown away. One woman was found clutching an infant to her body; the same bullet that tore through her chest had also killed the baby."³ The litter on the ground spoke of the butchers' presence in the camps. Let us turn to the *Time* account once more: "Judging from the debris that was left, some of the soldiers had leaned against a house to enjoy snacks and smoke cigarettes in the midst of their work. Scattered about were the discarded cardboard boxes of field rations, some of them made in the US. They had English labels—'turkey and dumplings'—written on the side. Other boxes had Hebrew lettering."⁴

¹ *Middle East International*, November 12, 1982, p. 7.

² *Ibid.*, p. 6.

³ *Time*, October 4, 1982, p. 11.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 14.

The massacres at Sabra and Shatila shocked the world. The killings of defenseless refugees brought back memories of the crimes committed by the Nazis during the Second World War. Demonstrations were held in many countries in protest against the Zionist-engineered genocide in Lebanon. Condemned by world public opinion, those who engineered the bloodbath in the Palestinian refugee camps sought to disclaim responsibility. General Eitan asserted that the right-wing Christian forces had slipped unnoticed into Sabra and Shatila through the cordon of the Israeli troops. Menachem Begin maintained that he had first heard of the massacres in the evening of September 18 from a BBC news broadcast¹. But these dodges fooled no one.

Even US papers which generally take on trust whatever Zionist propagandists say were forced to admit that the Israeli leaders bore responsibility for the crime. The *Chicago Tribune* wrote on September 21: "...Nor can Israel be trusted any longer. In every step of the Lebanon fiasco Israeli leaders said one thing and did another. They said they needed only to secure an area 25 miles into southern Lebanon; then they pushed on to Beirut. They said they wished only to disarm and disperse the PLO and would not enter West Beirut; the US brought that about through negotiations, and then they entered West Beirut. They said they intended only to prevent anarchy in West Beirut; but their hidden goal was to round up the last remnants of the PLO with help from their Christian Lebanese allies. The result was massacre..."². The *Los Angeles Times* observed: "The moral responsibility for this slaughter falls squarely on Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, who together ordered the move into West Beirut in violation of repeated earlier assurances that the Israeli army would take no such action."³

The Zionist leaders resorted to a familiar ploy by saying that criticism of their actions was tantamount to anti-Semitism. They asserted that world indignation over the crimes in Sabra and Shatila amounted to accusing the "Jews of drinking blood", that Israel had nothing to do with the slaughter in the Palestinian camps, and that there Arabs killed Arabs. Using the convenient bugbear of anti-Semitism, Begin reasoned with the Israelis: "When *goyim* kill *goyim* they come to hang a Jew."⁴ But his

¹ See *Middle East International*, November 12, 1982, p. 6.

² *Chicago Tribune*, September 21, 1982.

³ *Los Angeles Times*, September 21, 1982. Quoted from *Political Focus*, October 1, 1982, Vol. 5, No. 19, p. 2.

⁴ *Middle East International*, October 29, 1982, p. 15.

clumsy attempt to wash his hands of the whole affair failed to convince anyone. An estimated 400,000 took to the streets in Tel Aviv to demand Begin's and Sharon's resignation and an inquiry into the massacre.

Faced with the storm of protests, the Israeli government was compelled to appoint a commission of inquiry into the slaughter at Sabra and Shatila. Playing at bourgeois democracy it announced that the commission would be "impartial". The "impartial" commission was headed by Yitzhak Kahan, aged 69, President of Israel's Supreme Court, who had always been a loyal servant of the Zionist leadership. Another member of the commission was Aharon Barak, 47, a "rising star" of the Israeli judiciary, who took part in drafting the Camp David agreements. A third member of the commission was a retired general, Yona Efrat, 56, a veteran of every war of aggression that Israel had waged, and of the invasion of Lebanon, assistant to Chief of General Staff General Eitan. It was hardly surprising, therefore, that the commission was more interested in suppressing the truth than establishing it.

Even so, the attempt to conceal the facts was only partially successful. Four and a half months later, on February 8, 1983, the Kahan Commission published its report based on evidence supplied by 65 "witnesses".

The authors of the report tried hard to whitewash those responsible for the crime. They said, for example, that Begin, Sharon and others were responsible only insofar as they had failed to prevent the slaughter of civilians. The report obscured the fact that "Operation" Sabra and Shatila had been planned and prepared by the Israeli military. Even so Kahan, Barak and Efrat admitted that the Phalangists had entered the camps with Sharon's permission, that before doing so they had conferred with Brigadier-General Yaron and later were in constant touch with Major General Sagi, Director of Israeli military intelligence. The commission recommended that Sharon and Sagi should resign and that Yaron be debarred from holding commanding posts in the army for three years.

The Israeli authorities tried to present the Kahan commission's report as evidence of the viability of Israeli democracy. Instead of trying the killers they discharged them, but then gave them new jobs. The "punishment" meted out to Sharon was particularly scandalous. The Israeli cabinet, at its meeting on February 10, recommended by a vote of 16 in favor and one against (cast by Sharon himself) that Sharon resign as Defense Minister. On the following day the "butcher of Beirut" handed in his resignation, but was retained in the cabinet as Minister without Portfolio. Three days later the Knesset, the Israeli Parliament, by a vote of 61

to 56 (the government coalition versus the opposition parties respectively), approved this "Solomon's decision". After the vote Begin declared that his government had carried out the Kahan commission's recommendations and would leave the matter at that.

Sharon was replaced at the Defense Ministry by Moshe Arens, the former Israeli ambassador to the US. Sharon was given the important, and for him familiar, job of supervising the development of Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab lands, in other words of implementing the plans for the creation of a "Greater Israel". As for Menachem Begin, he protested that he had nothing to do with the slaughter at the Palestinian refugee camps and that the whole affair was an unfortunate mistake rather than a carefully planned Zionist action. That this "mistake" represented yet another step in Israel's policy of genocide against the Palestinian people can be seen from the following account written 36 years ago.

"The gang was wearing country uniform, with helmets. All of them were young, some even adolescents, men and women, armed to the teeth: revolvers, machine-guns, hand grenades, and also large cutlasses in their hands, most of them still blood-stained. A beautiful young girl, with criminal eyes, showed me hers still dripping with blood; she displayed it like a trophy. This was the 'cleaning up' team, that was obviously performing its task very conscientiously.

"...I tried to go into a house... The first room was dark, everything was in disorder, but there was no one. In the second, amid disembowelled furniture and covers and all sorts of debris, I found some bodies cold. Here, the 'cleaning up' had been done with machine-guns, then hand grenades. It had been finished off with knives, anyone could see that. The same thing in the next room, but as I was about to leave, I heard something like a sigh. I looked everywhere, turned over all the bodies, and eventually found a little foot, still warm. It was a little girl of ten, mutilated by a hand grenade, but still alive.

"...There had been 400 people in this village; about fifty of them had escaped, and were still alive. All the rest had been deliberately massacred in cold blood for, as I observed for myself, this gang was admirably disciplined and only acted under orders."¹

This description of a massacre staged by the Zionists in the Palestinian village of Deir Yassin outside Jerusalem came from

¹ *From Haven to Conquest. Readings in Zionism and the Palestine Problem until 1948*, ed. by Walid Khalidi, Beirut, The Institute for Palestine Studies, 1971, pp. 763-764.

the pen of Jacques de Reynier, who headed an international Red Cross delegation in Palestine in 1948 and was among the witnesses of the slaughter organized by Zionist terrorists of the Irgun Tz'vai L'umi (National Military Organization) on April 10, 1948. The "operation" in Deir Yassin was directed by Menachem Begin, who later in his memoirs described with rare cynicism the "good" that the Deir Yassin massacre had done to the Zionist cause. He wrote: "Out of evil, however, good came. This Arab propaganda spread a legend of terror amongst Arabs and Arab troops, who were seized with panic at the mention of Irgun soldiers. The legend was worth half a dozen battalions to the forces of Israel."¹ Incidentally the massacre was perpetrated a month before the proclamation of the founding of the State of Israel and the official Zionist leadership declared itself innocent of any part in the Deir Yassin slaughter, putting the blame on what it called "uncontrolled elements" The Jewish Agency for Israel headed by Ben-Gurion and the command of the Zionist underground Hagana army sought to create the impression that the Irgun cutthroats had acted on their own. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The Deir Yassin massacre was staged in keeping with a plan worked out jointly by the Hagana army and the "independent" Zionist terrorist organizations Irgun Tz'vai L'umi and Lehi (Fighters for the Freedom of Israel). A letter from commander of the Hagana units in Jerusalem Shaltiel to the commander of the Irgun detachment Raanan said: "I wish to point out that *the capture of Deir Yassin and holding it is one stage in our general plan. I have no objection to your carrying out the operation provided you are able to hold the village.*"² The important thing was that Deir Yassin was strategically situated close to the roads linking Jerusalem with Tel Aviv. Besides, the "plan" referred to by Shaltiel called for the building of an airfield on the site of the village. After the slaughter at Deir Yassin, carried out by Begin's cutthroats, Hagana units entered the village to implement the "plan"

Zionist propaganda sought to portray the bloody crimes committed by Zionists as isolated incidents. "East is East, and war is war, and anything might happen," they said. That was the line plugged by Israeli propagandists. Actually, however, Zionist leaders regarded terror as an effective instrument for attaining their political goals. By intimidating defenseless Palestinians,

¹ Menachem Begin, *The Revolt*, Los Angeles, 1972, p. 164.

² Frank Gervasi, *The Life and Times of Menachem Begin Rebel to Statesman*, New York, Putnam's, 1979, p. 232.

Zionist leaders were banking on terror as a means of implementing the "final solution" of the Palestinian question.

The Deir Yassin massacre, far from being an isolated incident, was part of a carefully thought out policy aimed at "liquidating the Arab presence" in Palestine. The idea of a united "Jewish State" in Palestine had always been a special plank in the Zionist program. But the United Nations in 1947, following discussions of the Palestinian question, passed a decision on the creation of two states in Palestine—one Arab and one Jewish. The UN decision provided for ending British colonial rule in Palestine and for implementation of the rights of the Arab and Jewish populations of Palestine to self-determination.

The official Zionist leadership (the "Jewish Agency for Israel" headed by Ben-Gurion) accepted the UN decision—in word, that is. In fact, however, the Zionists who planned to turn the whole of Palestine into a "Jewish State" had no intention of fulfilling the will of the international community. Leaders of the underground Zionist organizations Irgun Tz'vai L'umi and Lehi publicly declared their opposition to the UN decision, thereby saying openly what the leadership of the Jewish Agency for Israel really thought.

Terror was the instrument by which Zionist extremists had hoped to create "new facts" in Palestine. According to the UN General Assembly resolution of November 29, 1947, the Arab State was to cover 46 per cent of Palestine's territory (11.1 thous. sq km) with a population consisting of 725,000 Arabs and 10,000 Jews; the area of the Jewish State was to be 54 per cent of Palestine's territory (14.1 thous. sq km) with a population consisting of 498,000 Jews and 407,000 Arabs. Jerusalem was to have the status of an international city with 100,000 Arabs and 100,000 Jews. The State of Israel was thus to have a population of which almost 50 per cent would be Palestinian, and that did not suit the Zionist circles with their program of a "pure" Jewish State. Nor did they like the fact that Jerusalem and much of Palestine's fertile lands were to be outside their control.

An undeclared terrorist war was launched shortly after the UN vote on Palestine. The Bulletin of the Council on Jewish-Arab Cooperation, an organization which rejected the program of a "pure" Jewish State, wrote about the wave of terror that swept Palestine in December 1947: "The role of the Jewish terrorist bands (Irgun Tz'vai L'umi and the Stern /Lehi/ group in the recent fighting can be seen from a listing of their activities. Dec. 7—they threw a bomb into the Arab market place in Haifa. Dec. 11—they bombed Arab buses in Haifa and Jerusalem, killing and wounding many, and shot two Arabs in Jerusalem. Dec. 12—

bombings and shootings in Haifa, nearby Tireh, Gaza, Hebron and other cities, killing many Arabs. Dec. 13—Irgun agents bombed Arab buses, killing 16 and wounding at least 67 Arabs. Jewish terrorists carried out a series of assaults on Dec. 15, attacking Arab buses, Arab pedestrians and random personnel of the Transjordan Frontier Force..."¹

A noted Israeli journalist, Uri Avnery, a former Knesset deputy and one-time member of the Irgun Tz'vai L'umi, identifies three phases in the expulsion of Palestinians from their homeland. "The first began on November 30, 1947, only a few hours after the General Assembly of the UN had adopted the partition plan. This phase was to last until the end of March 1948. ...During this phase certain numbers of Arabs fled from their homes in urban quarters and villages that happened to be close to the Hebrew strongholds."²

The second phase lasted from late March to mid-May 1948. According to Avnery, it was during this period that some of the Zionist leaders "had come to the conclusion that the massive exodus of the Arabs might be a good thing"³ This was how the Dalet plan came into being ("Dalet" is the fourth letter of the Hebrew alphabet). "Known as Plan D, its objective was to gain control of the area allotted to the Jewish State and defend its borders, and those blocs of Jewish settlements and such Jewish population as were outside those borders..."⁴

If one bears in mind that a mere ten thousand Jews lived within the projected Arab Palestinian state, the aggressive essence of the Zionist plan becomes apparent. Edward Luttwak, an American expert on strategic questions, and Dan Horowitz, an Israeli expert, are more frank on the subject. They wrote: "Plan D called for the *permanent* seizure of Arab villages and the expulsion of their inhabitants."⁵ The slaughter perpetrated by the Zionist bandits of Irgun Tz'vai L'umi in Deir Yassin was a part of this plan. There is clear evidence that terror was a tactical weapon not only for the "uncontrolled" Irgun and Lehi gangs but also for those of Hagana. Actually the latter had launched its terrorist

¹ Noam Chomsky, *Peace in the Middle East? Reflections on Justice and Nationhood*, New York, Vintage Books, 1974, p. 64.

² Uri Avnery, *Israel without Zionism. A Plan for Peace in the Middle East*, New York, Collier Books, London, Collier-Macmillan Ltd., 1971, p. 221.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 223.

⁴ David Waines, *The Unholy War: Israel and Palestine 1897-1971*, Wilmette, Illinois, Medina University Press International, 1971, p. 106.

⁵ Edward Luttwak and Dan Horowitz, *The Israeli Army*, New York, Harper & Row Publishers, 1975, p. 31.

operations as part of Plan D before the Deir Yassin massacre. The British historian David Waines writes: "On April 1, Hagana commenced the first of thirteen military campaigns under Plan D; eight of these were conducted against Arab villages outside the area allotted to the Jewish State. ...Jewish forces attacked Arab villages, expelling the inhabitants and dynamiting their homes so that they could not be reoccupied by the enemy. In a few dramatic days some 10,000 to 15,000 Arabs were launched on the road to refugee camps. Later campaigns conducted in the first two weeks of May were designed to capture the entire northern sector of Galilee."¹

As the pro-Zionist British historian Christopher Sykes writes, these campaigns marked the beginning of the mass expulsion of Palestinians from their homeland. News of the massacre at Deir Yassin and other Arab villages and towns had a demoralizing effect on the Arab population. Sykes comments: "Coming as it did at a moment of growing Jewish armed success throughout Palestine, the terror effect turned the already large exodus of the Arabs into a mass migration".²

Zionists also captured a number of major Arab cities including Haifa, Jaffa, Tiberias and Safed, as well as some Arab quarters of Jerusalem from which the Palestinians had been expelled.

Zionist propaganda claimed then, and still claims today, that the Palestinians had fled their homes of their own will in response to the call of Arab leaders. Nothing could be further from the truth. The Israeli historian Howard M. Sachar, who cannot possibly be suspected of opposing Zionism, makes the following admission: "There were various reasons for this flight, but none of them could be traced to an alleged appeal for evacuation by the Arab governments themselves, ostensibly to make way for the impending invasion of Arab armies. This was a frequently repeated Israeli claim after the war. Yet no such order for evacuation was ever found in any release of the Arab League or in any military communiqués of the period. Rather, the evidence in the Arab press and radio of the time was to the contrary. By and large, except for towns like Haifa already captured by the Jews, the Arab League ordered the Palestinians to stay where they were..."³ At the same time Zionist radio stations in their Arabic broadcasts

¹ Waines, *Op. cit.*, p. 107.

² Christopher Sykes, *Crossroads to Israel. 1917-1948*, Bloomington/London, Indiana University Press, 1973, p. 353.

³ Howard M. Sachar, *A History of Israel. From the Rise of Zionism to Our Time*, New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 1979, pp. 332-333.

tried by every means to scare the Palestinians and make them flee their homes.

A Hagana commander and later a minister in the Israeli government, Yigal Allon, who had commanded the Israeli forces during the capture of Galilee, later boasted: "I gathered all of the Jewish Mukhtars who have contact with Arabs in different villages, and asked them to whisper in the ears of some Arabs that a great Jewish reinforcement has arrived in Galilee and that it is going to burn all the villages of the Huleh. They should suggest to these Arabs as their friends to escape while there is still time. And rumor spread in all the areas of the Huleh that it is time to flee. The flight numbered myriads."¹

The third phase in the expulsion of Arabs, Uri Avnery writes, began after the proclamation on May 15, 1948, of the establishment of the State of Israel: "I believe that during this phase the eviction of Arab civilians had become an aim of David Ben-Gurion and his government. After the United Nations had failed so miserably in implementing the partition plan, and the State of Israel had been set up by the sole force of Israeli arms, UN opinion could very well be disregarded. Peace with the Arabs seemed out of the question... In this situation it was easy for people like Ben-Gurion to believe that the capture of uninhabited territory was both necessary for security reasons and desirable for the homogeneity of the new Hebrew state."²

The Israeli army, formed on the basis of Hagana which incorporated Irgun Tz'vai L'umi and Lehi, before long went on the offensive with the aim of capturing lands which under the UN decision belonged to the Arab Palestinian state. Thus during the so-called 10-day offensive in the summer of 1948 Israeli troops seized an estimated 1,000 square kilometers of land including 14 Arab towns and 312 villages.³ Hundreds of civilians were killed and hundreds of thousands of Palestinians expelled. This is how the British historian Erskine Childers describes the expulsion of the Palestinians: "On July 11, Moshe Dayan led a jeep commando column into the town of Lydda with rifles, Stens and submachine guns blazing. It coursed through the main streets, blasting at everything that moved... The corpses of Arab men, women and even children were strewn about in the streets in the wake of this ruthlessly brilliant charge. Next day, the adjoining town of

¹ Nafez Nazzal, *The Palestinian Exodus from Galilee. 1948*, Beirut, The Institute for Palestine Studies, 1978, p. 106.

² Avnery, *Op. cit.*, pp. 224-225.

³ Waines, *Op. cit.*, p. 111.

Ramleh was seized. All Arab men of military age were rounded up and penned into special enclosures. Israeli loudspeaker vans then toured the two towns announcing that neither food nor water would be provided and that the Arabs had 48 hours to get to Transjordan. Israeli troops then began sacking both towns."¹

Thus, terror was used by the Zionists to expel the Palestinian Arabs from their homeland. This criminal policy was pursued and implemented not by anonymous "uncontrolled individuals" but by leaders of Zionist organizations who were later to become leaders of the State of Israel, its prime ministers and cabinet ministers: David Ben-Gurion, Menachem Begin, Moshe Dayan, Yigal Allon and Yitzhak Rabin. As a result of the Zionist campaign of terror tens of thousands of Palestinians perished and over 700,000 became refugees. Israel seized the bulk of the territory, 6,700 square kilometers, which had originally been allotted to the Arab Palestinian State. With the exception of the West Bank of the Jordan, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem, a Zionist regime was installed in Palestine. The Palestinian Arabs were not only stripped of the right to self-determination but also of the right to a homeland.

The terror campaign yielded the desired effect. Howard M. Sachar, who is not inclined to exaggerate things, writes in his *History of Israel*: "...By any estimates, the sheer extent of newly available farm soil was at least four times that possessed by the Jews when they embarked upon statehood. In addition to agricultural domain, moreover, the Arabs had left behind entire cities, including Jaffa, Acre, Lydda, Ramleh, Beisan and Majdal (Migdal), as well as 388 towns, villages, and large parts of 94 other cities and towns, containing nearly a quarter of all the buildings in Israel, some 100,000 dwellings and 10,000 shops, businesses and stores."² All this property was virtually expropriated by the Zionists under the racist legislation adopted by the Israeli government. In the early 1950s every third Jew in the State of Israel lived on "absentee property" and half of the citrus crop was grown on land sequestered from the Arabs.³ Of the 370 Jewish settlements founded between 1948 and 1953, as many as 350 were on "absentee property". Nearly a third of the new Jewish immigrants were settled in towns and villages abandoned by the Arabs.⁴

¹ *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Vol. IX, No. 4, Summer 1980, p. 111.

² Sachar, *Op. cit.*, p. 437.

³ See *From Haven to Conquest. Readings in Zionism and the Palestine Problem until 1948*, Ed. by Walid Khalidi, Beirut, 1971, p. 802.

⁴ Sachar, *Op. cit.*, p. 438.

Addressing students of the Haifa *Technion* School in March 1969, Minister of Defense Moshe Dayan said: "There is not a single Jewish village in this country that has not been built on the site of an Arab village."¹

But the expelled Palestinians were still hoping to return to their homeland. Although the Israeli authorities had categorically refused to restore to them their homes and lands, hundreds of thousands of Palestinians who were deprived of any means of livelihood and found themselves in neighboring Arab countries tried to return to Palestine. The Zionist leaders, however, continued to use terror to implement the plans for the building of a "pure" Jewish State. The undeclared war against the Palestinians continued. The Palestinian refugee camps near the borders of Israel were under constant threat of Zionist attacks.

During the Israeli aggression of 1967 Israeli forces occupied the whole of the former mandated Palestine. Once again, as twenty years before, hundreds of thousands of people were expelled from their homeland. The plight of the Palestinian people was getting worse. As many as 2.5 million Palestinians have been driven off their homeland.

Nearly 1.3 million Palestinians live under a harsh occupation regime set up by the Zionists on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. An estimated 600,000 Palestinian Arabs, although registered as Israeli citizens, do not have equal rights with Jews and are subject to discrimination and oppression.

The slaughter perpetrated by the Phalangists at Sabra and Shatila in September 1982 on orders from Zionist leaders shows that the latter are still staking on terror as a means of achieving a "final solution" of the Palestinian question. The massacre of civilians in Deir Yassin, Sabra and Shatila is comparable with the Nazi crimes in Lidiče, Oradour-sur-Glane and Babi Yar. Nemesis caught up with the Nazi murderers. But the Zionist leaders of Israel continue to head that country's government. This is not surprising. The emphasis on terror, far from contradicting Zionist ideology, in fact derives from its racist aggressive essence.

¹ Alfred M. Lilienthal, *The Zionist Connection. What Price Peace?* New York, Dodd, Mead and Company, 1978, p. 159.

The Ideological Underpinnings of Zionist Terror

As an organized political trend Zionism emerged at the end of the 19th century, in 1897, when the World Zionist Organization (WZO) was founded. Its first president and principal theorist, Theodor Herzl, was a Vienna journalist. Herzl played an important role in the elaboration of a program for a bourgeois-nationalist solution of the so-called Jewish question. At the time the Jewish bourgeoisie was looking for new, more effective ways of regaining control over the mass of the Jewry in order to consolidate its economic and political positions in the capitalist world. It was then that Herzl, in his brochure entitled *The Jewish State*, set forth his program for a territorial-political solution of the Jewish question, a book still revered as the "Bible of Zionism"

Herzl and his supporters were concerned mainly with how best to assure the dominance of the Jewish bourgeoisie so that initially they paid relatively little attention to the question of where the "Jewish State" should be located. Herzl had no objections to Palestine but was ready to consider alternative locations—Argentina, Uganda and other parts of the world. The Zionists advanced the slogan "Give land without people to the people without land"

The slogan drew objections from the adherents of the so-called spiritual Zionism headed by Ahad Ha'am, who as early as 1891 founded the secret Zionist order B'ne Moshe

(Sons of Moses) in which many of the future functionaries and leaders of the World Zionist Organization received their training. Being like Herzl a great admirer of Nietzsche, the German philosopher, Ahad Ha'am took over the "superman" idea, and by linking it with the Judaic dogma on the Jews being the chosen people turned it into the idea of "supernation". For Ahad Ha'am acceptance of the Nietzschean ideal of "superman" by individual Jews was not enough. "If we agree... that the *Superman* is the goal of all things," he wrote, "we must needs agree also that an essential condition of the attainment of this goal is the *Supernation*: that is to say, there must be a single nation better adapted than other nations by virtue of its inherent characteristics, to moral development, and ordering its whole life in accordance with a moral law which stands higher than the common type."¹ Ahad Ha'am proclaimed such a nation an "extraterritorial world Jewish spiritual nation".

While accepting the possibility of assimilation of Jews, Ahad Ha'am regarded as a chief weapon for combatting it the creation of a "spiritual centre" of the world Jewish nation in Palestine by establishing Jewish settlements there rather than large-scale Jewish emigration. He wrote: "This Jewish settlement, which will be a gradual growth, will become in course of time the centre of the nation, wherein its spirit will find pure expression and develop in all its aspects to the highest degree of perfection of which it is capable. Then, from this center, the spirit of Judaism will radiate to the great circumference, to all the communities of the Diaspora, to inspire them with new life and to preserve the overall unity of our people. When our national culture in Palestine has attained that level, we may be confident that it will produce men in the Land of Israel itself who will be able, at a favorable moment, to establish a state there—one which will be not merely a State of Jews but a really Jewish State."²

Whereas Herzl was chiefly interested in setting up a strong Jewish state, Ahad Ha'am emphasized the ideological basis of Zionist control over such a state. This was reflected in the WZO program which proclaims the goal of Zionism "...to create for the Jewish people a home in Palestine..."³ But Palestine was anything but a "land without people". Arabs had lived there for

¹ Michael Selzer, *Zionism Reconsidered: The Rejection of Jewish Normalcy*, London, The Macmillan Company, Collier-Macmillan Ltd., 1970, pp. 164-165.

² Arthur Hertzberg, *The Zionist Idea. A Historical Analysis and Reader*, Westport, Connecticut, Greenwood Press Publishers, 1970, p. 267.

³ *Program of the World Zionist Organization*, Encyclopedia of Zionism and Israel, New York, 1971, Vol. 1, p. 114.

centuries, and the Jewish population there at the beginning of this century did not exceed several tens of thousands. How did the Zionists view this fact?

The Zionist philosopher Martin Buber wrote in his memoirs: "When Max Nordau, Herzl's second in command, first received details on the existence of an Arab population in Palestine, he came shocked to Herzl, exclaiming: 'I never realized this—we are committing an injustice!'"¹ Well, did this make Nordau revise his views, abandon Zionism or oppose the "injustice" being done to the Palestinian people? Nothing of the sort. Nordau rather quickly overcame his qualms on the matter and remained one of the WZO leaders. What is more, his name was given to a plan that called for the immediate settlement in Palestine of hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants. Like other Zionist leaders, Nordau was convinced that the Jew was "more industrious and abler than the average European, not to mention the moribund Asiatic and African."² Addressing the 1st WZO congress, Nordau praised the Jewish ghetto of the Middle Ages and emphasized: "The opinion of the outside world did not matter, because it was the opinion of ignorant enemies."³

The ideological platform of international Zionism envisaged the right of the "chosen people" to ignore the rights of other peoples and rested on the same racist and chauvinist principles that underlie anti-Semitism. The 17th Congress of the Communist Party of Israel noted in a resolution: "Zionist ideology is a racist ideology, being based on the assumption that under any social system different peoples cannot live in an atmosphere of friendship and brotherhood and that this applies above all to the Jews. Zionism is anti-Semitism in reverse. The Zionist ideologues impute to other people the same characteristics anti-Semites attribute to the Jews. Both theories, Zionism and anti-Semitism, have a common source in racism and their goal is to split working people of different nationalities for the benefit of their class enemy."⁴

The Zionists made extensive use of the doctrine of Hermann Cohen, the founder of the so-called Marburg school of Neo-Kantianism, for the ideological justification of their expansion.

¹ Quoted in Arie Bober, *The Other Israel. The Radical Case Against Zionism*, Garden City, New York, Doubleday and Company, Inc., 1972, p. 37.

² Hertzberg, *Op. cit.*, p. 241.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 238.

⁴ *17th Congress of the Communist Party of Israel*, Moscow, 1972, p. 173 (in Russian).

Cohen, while not showing any particular interest in Palestine, sought to prove the existence of a special Jewish community which was, according to him, determined by specific biological characteristics and which was the torch-bearer of a messianic ideal. Besides, Cohen expounded "ethical socialism" which justified the colonial expansion of those peoples who regarded themselves as exponents of a higher ethical ideal. In his *Notebooks on Imperialism* Lenin emphasized that the doctrine of "ethical socialism" "...in point of fact... ENDOWS ANY NATION WITH THE RIGHT TO SEIZE AND ADMINISTER THE TERRITORY OF ANY OTHER nation on the ground of a self-ascribed superiority and self-imputed qualifications for the work of civilization."¹

The Zionists quickly mastered the techniques of imperialist brigandage vis-à-vis the peoples of the colonies. Addressing the 3rd WZO congress in 1899, Theodor Herzl said that the "Asian question" was growing more serious every day, and he feared it would become quite bloody in the future. The civilized peoples, therefore, had a stake in seeing that a cultural way station was set up on the shortest road to Asia which all civilized people could rely on. Palestine could well serve as such a station and the Jews were the *Kulturträgerer* who were willing to give their lives to bring this about.

The emphasis was placed on force as an instrument for achieving the set objectives, and Zionist leaders who have always regarded themselves as the *Kulturträgerer* of the "supreme morality" have never attempted to conceal this. Thus, young David Ben-Gurion who arrived in Palestine early in the century together with a group of Zionist colonists used to say: "The present-day world respects nothing but strength."² Some years later he went further, openly declaring that the Palestinian question would be settled "by force of arms and not through official resolutions."³ "We were a company of conquistadors," he recalled likening the Zionist colonists to the Spanish who exterminated millions of Indians in Central and South America. Then in his *Earning a Homeland* written in 1915, Ben-Gurion compared the Zionist settlement to the American settlement in the New World, conjuring up the image of the "fierce fights" the American colonists fought against "wild nature and wilder redskins."⁴ The idea of

¹ V. I. Lenin, *Collected Works*, Vol. 39, p. 421.

² *Zionism and Racism*, London, International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 1976, p. 30.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ Abdelwahab M. Elmessiri, *The Land of Promise. A Critique of Political Zionism*, New Brunswick, New, Jersey, 1977, p. 113.

terror is built into Zionist ideology. Justifying the use of violence Ben-Gurion pointed to the familiar thesis of the "moral superiority" of the Jews: "I believe in our moral and intellectual superiority, in our capacity to serve as a model for the redemption of the human race."¹

From its first appearance in Palestine Zionism was the philosophy of colonial aggression aimed at expelling the local population from Palestine and turning this land into the "Land of Israel". Menachem Begin, in an attempt to justify the "right" of the Zionists to the Arab lands they occupied in 1967 and Tel Aviv's policy of annexation, declared: "The term the West Bank means nothing. It is Judaea-Samaria. It is Israeli land belonging to the Jewish people. ...One can only annex foreign lands. This is liberated land."² Thus, using demagogic rhetoric, the former leader of the terrorist Irgun Tz'vai L'umi portrayed Zionism as a "national liberation movement" "liberating" Arab lands from their native population.

Begin and his followers want the world to forget not only the existence of the Palestinian people but also the very word Palestine. Addressing a conference at the Ein Hahoreh kibbutz (a Jewish military-agricultural settlement), Begin harangued his audience: "When you recognize the concept of 'Palestine', you demolish your right to live in Ein Hahoreh. If this is Palestine and not the Land of Israel, then you are conquerors and not tillers of the land. You are invaders. If this is Palestine, then it belongs to a people who lived here before you came. Only if it is the Land of Israel do you have a right to live in Ein Hahoreh and in Deganyah B. If it is not your country, your fatherland, the country of your ancestors and of your sons, then what are you doing here? You came to another people's homeland, as they claim, you expelled them and you have taken their land."³

From the very first the racist Zionist leadership quite deliberately pursued a policy aimed at expelling Arabs from Palestine. Herzl made this entry in his diary on June 12, 1895: "We shall try to spirit the penniless population across the border by procuring employment for it in the transit countries while denying it any employment in our own country. ...Both the process of expropriation and the removal of the poor must be carried out discreetly and circumspectly."⁴ A quarter of a century later, when this "process" was underway in Palestine Ahad

¹ Hertzberg, *Op. cit.*, p. 94.

² *L'Express*, May 23-29, 1977, p. 55. Quoted from *Who Is Menachem Begin? A Documentary Sketch*, The Institute for Palestine Studies, Beirut, 1977, p. 60.

³ Bober, *Op. cit.*, p. 77.

⁴ *Middle East International*, January 1973, p. 21.

Ha'am, who had visited Palestine, said: "They treat the Arabs with hostility and cruelty, deprive them of their rights, offend them without cause, and even boast of these deeds; and nobody among us opposes this despicable and dangerous inclination."¹

The Zionists, in effect, had from the very start been planning genocide against the Arab people of Palestine. Arthur Ruppin, who directed the Zionist colonization of Palestine, thought that Jews would inevitably live in "a state of perpetual war with the Arabs."² R. Weitz, a Zionist leader, who for over 40 years headed the WZO colonization department, made the following entry in his diary: "The only solution is a Palestine, at least Western Palestine (west of the Jordan River) without Arabs... And there is no other way than to transfer the Arabs from here to the neighboring countries, to transfer all of them: *Not one village, not one tribe, should be left.*"³

What other Zionist leaders preferred to discuss privately between themselves, the spiritual mentor of Menachem Begin, Z'ev Jabotinsky, who founded a union of "Zionists-Revisionists", preached openly. "The establishment of the Jewish majority in Palestine will have to be achieved against the wish of the country's present Arab majority"⁴ he declared. As early as 1907, addressing the 7th Congress of the WZO, Jabotinsky set forth the "philosophical basis" of his policy. He said: "The moral appraisal of the means and methods used by a fighter must be governed exclusively by the measure of real public good or harm they result in."⁵

Jabotinsky called on the bearers of the "supreme morality" to destroy with an iron fist all those who resisted the Zionists. He said: "Zionist colonization must either be terminated or carried out against the wishes of the native population. This colonization can, therefore, be continued and make progress only under the protection of a power independent of the native population—an iron wall, which will be in a position to resist the pressure of the native population. This is, *in toto*, our policy towards the Arabs..."⁶ He formulated the "cast-iron law" of Zionist strategy and cynically preached the "morality" of militarism, colonialism and aggression.

¹ *Zionism and Racism*, Guildorf, London & Worcester, Billing & Sons, 1976, p. 218.

² Chomsky, *Op. cit.*, p. XLI.

³ Bober, *Op. cit.*, p. 13.

⁴ Alan R. Taylor, *The Zionist Mind. The Origins and Development of Zionist Thought*, Beirut, The Institute for Palestine Studies, 1974, p. 86.

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 90.

⁶ Lenni Brenner, *The Genesis of Menachem Begin*. A Supplement to AJAZ (American Jewish Alternatives to Zionism) Report, No. 44, pp. 110-111.

This ideological platform is akin to fascism. Analyzing the similarity between Zionism and fascism the Israeli Communists emphasized in the resolution of their 17th Congress that "the reactionary ideology and practice of Zionism provide fertile soil for the emergence and growth of fascist-style Zionist parties and groups which resort to terrorist methods—assassinations and arson—and which form paramilitary organizations for this purpose."

After the State of Israel was established, power in the newly created state was seized by Zionist circles; they set up a political regime whose aim was to implement Zionist theoretical concepts. Zionist ideology became the dominant ideology in Israel and Zionist dogma formed the basis of Israeli legislation. The hopes of progressive world public that Israel would develop along the path of democracy were dashed when the Zionist leadership converted Israel into a hotbed of racism and aggression in the Middle East and made terror an instrument of government policy. As Naim Ashhab, a prominent leader of the Palestine Communist Party of Jordan, has pointed out: "The class and racist essence of Zionism became only too evident after the Zionist bourgeoisie had succeeded in converting Israel into its territorial base and begun to use Israel's state machinery and the manpower resources controlled by it for its own selfish ends."¹

Having gained control of the new state, the Zionist leadership proceeded to step up its campaign of aggression and terror. While Israeli diplomats were holding forth about Israel's longing for peace, Israeli government leaders were busy making preparations for new criminal acts. One can get an idea of what went on behind the closed doors of government chambers in Israel from extracts from the diaries of Moshe Sharett (Shertok), which have been published in English translation. Incidentally, there is still no complete translation of the diaries, though normally the memoirs of any Israeli leader of any importance are promptly translated, albeit with some omissions, in the United States. Sharett was head of the Political Department of the WZO Executive, Minister of Foreign Affairs, then Prime Minister of Israel and towards the end of his career, President of WZO. He knew a good deal and, judging by everything, tended to be rather candid in his diaries.

According to Sharett, while there were hysterical cries in Tel Aviv about a "mortal danger" posed by the Arabs, the Israeli Army Chief-of-Staff Moshe Dayan, told the Prime Minister: "In reality we face no danger at all from Arab military force. Even if

¹ *World Marxist Review*, August 1977, p. 80.

they receive massive military aid from the West, we shall maintain our military superiority for another 8-10 years, thanks to our infinitely greater capacity to assimilate new armaments." Nevertheless, Dayan demanded "a free hand" for the Israeli army as "the 'retaliation' actions are our vital lymph. Above all, they make it possible for us to maintain a high tension among our population and in the army. Without these actions we would have ceased to be a combative people, the settlers would leave the settlements."¹ So, Dayan feared that unless the Zionists whipped up war hysteria they would lose their grip on the mass of the Israeli people. "It is necessary to convince our young people that we are in danger", Dayan insisted.² To achieve that the Israeli military were prepared to go to extreme lengths and stage any provocation, however bloody.

Sharett made this entry in his diary: "The conclusions from Dayan's words are clear: This state has no international obligations, no economic problems, the question of peace is non-existent. It must calculate its steps narrow-mindedly and live by the sword. It must see the sword as the main and only instrument with which to keep its morale high. Towards this end it may—no, it must—invent nonexistent dangers, and to do this it must adopt the method of provocation-and-retaliation. And above all—let us hope for a new war with the Arab countries, so that we may finally acquire our space."³ This might well have come not from the Israeli Army Chief-of-Staff, but from the Nazi general making preparations for the provocation at Gleiwitz radio station or other Nazi criminal acts designed to manufacture a pretext for aggression and gain "Lebensraum".

But the Israeli military also needed obedient tools for carrying out its criminal plan. Stirring up an atmosphere of racism and militarism in Israel, the Zionist leaders seek to educate the youth to follow the example of such "heroes" and "model Zionists" as Joseph Trumpeldor and Meir Har-Zion.

Trumpeldor, a former noncommissioned officer in the tsarist Russian army, had participated, together with Z'ev Jabotinsky, in the creation during the First World War of the Jewish Legion and later directed the work of forming Zionist paramilitary units in Palestine. He was killed in 1920 in a clash with Arabs. Jabotinsky named the youth organization of "Zionists-Revisionists" after Trumpeldor, "B'rit Trumpeldor" (Sons of Trumpeldor). In his

¹ *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Vol. IX, No. 3, Spring 1980, p. 20.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 20-21.

diary, which is widely publicized by Zionists among Israeli youth, Trumpeldor wrote: "We need men prepared to do everything... we must raise a generation of men who have no interests and no habits... Bars of iron, elastic but of iron. Metal that can be forged to whatever is needed for the national machine. A wheel? I am the wheel. If a nail, a screw or a flying wheel are needed—take me! Is there a need to dig the earth? I dig. Is there a need to shoot, to be a soldier? I am a soldier... I am the pure idea of service, prepared for everything."¹

Meir Har-Zion, who belonged to a new generation of Israelis, was just such a cog in the machine. In the early 1950s he served in the 101st Company commanded at the time by a young airborne troops officer, Arik Sharon. The company had a special mission which was to carry out "reprisal operations" against the Arab civilian population in the border areas. The "pure idea of service", in this case, took the form of sadistic atrocities committed against innocent Palestinian peasants. When one of the officers of the company hesitated for fear that the wanton killings of civilians might diminish the "purity of Israeli arms", Sharon's aide berated him: "There are no pure or impure arms; there are only clean weapons that work when you need them and dirty weapons that jam the moment you fire."² Har-Zion, however, was not among those whom conscience bothered too much. He relished killing Arabs so much that he was not content to take part in routine raids on Arab villages. Even when he was off duty Har-Zion would join his fellow cutthroats on their night forays in order to kill more Arabs.

The Israeli authorities were fully aware of the atrocities committed by gangs of cutthroats of Har-Zion's type, and they made no secret of it either. Sharett's diary contains an entry which says that Ben-Gurion once reported such an incident to the cabinet. Ben-Gurion described "how our four youngsters captured the Bedouin boys one by one and took them to the wadi where they knifed them to death one after the other after having interrogated them, asking them questions in Hebrew which they didn't understand and could not answer, while none of the group knows any Arabic. The group was headed by Meir Hartsion from kibbutz Ein Harod." An officer later told Sharett about this crime in more detail: "An officer... came to tell me that the whole reprisal operation was organized with the active help of Arik Sharon, the

¹ Amos Elon, *The Israelis: Founders and Sons*, New York, Bantam Books, 1972, p. 180.

² Bober, *Op. cit.*, p. 72.

commander of the paratrooper battalion. He furnished the four with arms, food, equipment and transportation and ordered their retreat secured by his patrols."¹ The officer did not exclude that Dayan, too, knew of the operation in advance. The four were confident that they would not be punished and later refused to talk about it on explicit orders from Arik Sharon, probably approved by Dayan. The murderers were not prosecuted and Har-Zion became a "national hero".

Sharett made this entry in his diary: "We justify the reprisals—we removed the mental and moral brakes on this instinct and made it possible... to uphold vengeance as a moral principle. This has become so among large parts of the public in general, the masses of youth in particular, but it has reached the level of a sacred principle in (Sharon's) battalion which constitutes the vengeance instrument of the state..."² We should introduce a correction here—not vengeance but terror that was elevated to the status of government policy.

¹ *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Spring 1980, pp. 13-14.

² *Ibid.*, p. 14.

Zionism Versus Jews

The high-powered propaganda machinery at the disposal of international Zionism is spreading all manner of myths, resorting to trick and deceit in an attempt to conceal the truth and whitewash the criminals. The Zionist leaders spare no effort to portray Zionism as "a Jewish liberation movement" and try to put the responsibility for the expulsion of Palestinians from their homeland on "objective historical circumstances" and even on "divine Providence". Israel's first President, Chaim Weizmann, called for forgetting (!) the Zionists' genocide against the Palestinian people. The first US Ambassador to Israel, James D. McDonald, wrote in his memoirs: "Dr. Weizmann, despite his ingrained rationalism, spoke to me emotionally of this 'miraculous simplification of Israel's task', and cited the vaster tragedy of six million Jews murdered during World War II."¹

To justify their own crimes the Zionists cynically trade on the suffering and horrors that befell the Jews during the years of Nazi tyranny when millions of European Jews were among the scores of millions of victims of Hitler's butchers. Denying the class nature of fascism, Zionists consider that its essence lies in racial conflict between Jews and gentiles and put forward the thesis of the "special guilt of all humanity" before the Jews. They deliberately

¹ Sachar, *Op. cit.*, p. 439.

ignore the fact that the victims of Hitler's terror included, besides Jews, tens of millions of people of other nationalities. But the Zionists are not interested in this, as it would hinder their efforts to justify their own ideological conceptions.

Shortly before his death Bertrand Russell, the British philosopher, wrote: "We are frequently told that we must sympathise with Israel because of the suffering of the Jews in Europe at the hands of the Nazis. I see in this suggestion no reason to perpetuate any suffering. What Israel is doing today cannot be condoned, and to invoke the horrors of the past to justify those of the present is gross hypocrisy."¹ The hypocritical appeals of the Zionist leaders to remember the victims of Hitlerism are all the more revolting in the light of the fact that certain Zionist organizations had actually maintained close contact with the Nazis during the war instead of organizing resistance and helped the Gestapo murderers "to put the Jewish ghetto in order". In this way the Zionist leaders had hoped to increase the number of Jewish immigrants to Palestine and bring the realization of their Zionist goals that much nearer. In selecting "suitable human material" to be sent to Palestine the Zionists had little thought for the fate of those who were being sent to Nazi death camps.

In 1961 the Israeli intelligence service kidnapped in Argentina Adolf Eichmann who was in charge of the extermination of Jews in Nazi-occupied territories. The Zionist propaganda machine worked overtime in order to exploit the Eichmann trial and once again prove the "guilt" of all mankind before the Jews. During the trial attempts were made to suppress evidence of the cooperation of Zionist functionaries with Nazi murderers. But that was no easy matter. It is a fact, for instance, that one of the Zionist leaders in Hungary, Rudolf Kastner, helped Eichmann to send 476,000 Jews to their death in exchange for permission to take out to Switzerland 1,684 Jewish capitalists and Zionist activists.

Such behaviour on the part of the Zionist leaders had virtually been predetermined even before the Second World War. This can be seen in a cynical statement made by Ben-Gurion at a WZO Executive meeting on December 17, 1938 (it was not meant for public consumption). He said: "The Jewish problem now is not what it used to be. The fate of Jews in Germany is not an end but a beginning. Other anti-Semitic states will learn from Hitler. Millions of Jews face annihilation, the refugee problem has assumed world-wide proportions, and urgency. ...The dimensions of the refugee problem demand an immediate, territorial solution; if Palestine will not absorb them another territory will. Zionism is

¹ *Middle East International*, January 21, 1983, p. 19.

endangered. All the other territorial solutions, certain to fail, will demand enormous sums of money. If Jews will have to choose between the refugees, saving Jews from concentration camps, and assisting a national museum in Palestine, mercy will have the upper hand and the whole energy of the people will be channelled into saving Jews from various countries. Zionism will be struck off the agenda not only in world public opinion, in Britain and the United States, but elsewhere in Jewish public opinion. If we allow a separation between the refugee problem and the Palestine problem, we are risking the existence of Zionism."¹ Is this not clear evidence that Zionist leaders were in fact more concerned with furthering their own political plans than with the fate of millions upon millions of fellow Jews?

The Jews of Europe were saved from complete extermination not by the Zionists but by the advancing Soviet army which defeated Nazi Germany and liberated the nations of Europe, by the hundreds and thousands of patriots who fought in partisan and resistance groups in Nazi-occupied countries of Eastern Europe. This is something the Zionists do not like to recall today. In their rabid anti-Communist smear campaign they have been conducting under the slogan of "protecting Soviet Jews", the Zionists pile heaps of monstrous lies about the Soviet Union, accusing it of anti-Semitism. "The rulers of Israel and the Zionist leadership seek to camouflage with anti-Soviet propaganda their own policy of discrimination and national oppression against the Arab population of Israel and the policy of cruel oppression carried out on Israeli-occupied Arab territory."² the 19th Congress of the Communist Party of Israel held in 1981 noted in a resolution. The Israeli Communists emphasized: "The anti-Sovietism of the government of Israel and the Zionist leadership is also explained by the fact that the USSR has been defending the cause of peace and the rights of all peoples, that it has been opposing the Israeli occupation of Arab territories and calling for the creation of an independent Palestinian state alongside the State of Israel."³

The Zionists slanderously accuse of anti-Semitism all those who condemn Israel's policy of racism and aggression. Israel is a "Jewish state," they say, thereby implying that any criticism of Israel's actions is tantamount to "attacking Jews". Zionist propa-

¹ Bober, *Op. cit.*, p. 171.

² *19th Congress of the Communist Party of Israel*. Moscow, 1982, p. 102 (in Russian).

³ *Ibid.*, p. 167.

gandists are using the bogey of anti-Semitism also for throwing mud at critics of Zionism among fellow Jews. Norman Podhoretz writing in *Commentary* magazine, which has become a major mouthpiece of Zionist propaganda in the United States, put the matter this way: "Criticisms of Israel ... deserve to be called anti-Semitic even if they are mouthed by Jews or, for that matter, Israelis."¹

The valiant struggle waged by the Communist Party of Israel against the ideology and political practice of Zionism, against the aggressive policy of the Israeli ruling elite, a policy that jeopardizes the national interests of the people of Israel and its future, arouses particular hatred among the Zionists. "Not with the imperialists against the Arab peoples, but with the Arab peoples against the imperialists"—this is the slogan of the Israeli Communists. Uniting in its ranks both Jews and Arabs, the Communist Party of Israel, together with the other peace-loving forces in the country, is waging a consistent battle against the anti-democratic, racist and militarist policies of the ruling circles of Israel and opposing ideological and political subversion by the forces of imperialism and Zionism from the positions of proletarian internationalism. The Israeli Communists expose the untenable views of the Zionist ruling circles on the character of the Israeli state. As General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel Meir Vilner put it: "The State of Israel is indeed a Jewish state, as it expresses the right of the Jewish people in Israel to self-determination. This right was recognized, together with the right of the Palestinian Arab people to self-determination and state independence, in the decision of the UN General Assembly of November 29, 1947. This has nothing to do with the reactionary and metaphysical Zionist concept of the alleged existence of a world Jewish nation. The reference is to the Jewish people who inhabit this country, Israel. However, Israel is not only a Jewish state, but a state with a substantial Arab national minority which is part of the Arab people of Palestine. The official Zionist positions, which deny national rights to the Arab population in Israel, are intolerable and only prove the racist character of Zionist concepts."²

The Israeli Communists carry out their work under extremely difficult conditions as the danger increases of a fascist regime being installed in Israel. The Communists are openly threatened with physical violence, they are interfered with when they hold

¹ *Middle East International*, October 29, 1982, p. 14.

² *World Marxist Review*, April 1977, p. 31.

meetings and rallies or distribute Communist publications and periodicals. It takes courage for Israeli Communists to pursue firmly and openly their principled policy. In the atmosphere of chauvinist hysteria created by the Israeli aggression of 1967 an attempt was made on the life of the Party General Secretary Meir Vilner by a Zionist fanatic who plunged a knife in his back.

Not only Communists but other Israelis who are bold enough to criticize Zionism and the policy of the country's ruling circles are subject to psychological and physical terror by the Zionists. Uri Avnery, publisher of the magazine *Ha'olam Hazeh*, and a former member of the Knesset, who became disenchanted with Zionism and who advanced the slogan of "De-Zionization of Israel", was repeatedly attacked by Zionist "storm troopers" who planted bombs in the offices of his magazine. Zionist terrorists armed with truncheons, knives and often with firearms have tried to interfere with protest demonstrations by the democratic sections of the Israeli public opposed to the policies of the government. In February 1983 fascist-style Zionists threw a bomb into a column of demonstrators who demanded the immediate resignation of Sharon, the "butcher of Beirut". One demonstrator was killed and several others were seriously injured.

The authorities are also keeping an eye on certain religious Judaic groups who reject the Zionist thesis that "Zionism and Judaism are inseparable". Thus, members of the Jerusalem-based ultra-orthodox Neturei Karta sect are subject to constant persecution for refusing to recognize the authority of the Israeli government. The police dealt ruthlessly with those taking part in protest demonstrations organized by the Neturei Karta sect. Its leader, Rabbi Amram Blau, was arrested and put in jail for making speeches which contained criticisms of Zionism from religious positions.

Zionist extremists have never stopped short of political assassinations either. Back in 1924 the ultra-orthodox leader Jacob de Haan, regarded by Zionists as a dangerous enemy, was murdered in mysterious circumstances. A man of great learning and an experienced diplomat who had earlier been a member of the Dutch diplomatic service, de Haan had sought to bring about an agreement between Palestine's Judaic, Moslem and Christian communities in order to put an end to the Arab-Israeli strife fanned by the Zionists. After holding talks with some Arab leaders de Haan had planned to go to Britain which held the League of Nations mandate for Palestine and inform the British government of the possibility of an agreement being reached between the religious communities in Palestine. He was murdered by Hagana men just before departure.

The Zionists also use terror against their opponents in the European communities of the Diaspora. Of the nine million Jews living in capitalist and developing countries a mere 1.4 million, according to estimates released by the 30th WZO Congress held in December 1982, are Zionists. The majority of Jews reject Zionist ideology. The Zionists, however, who pose as the spokesmen for the world's Jews seek to suppress all manifestations of dissent and opposition to their actions. Thus, the notorious Jewish Defense League founded by Rabbi Meir Kahane, apart from carrying out terrorist acts against Soviet and Arab citizens and offices in the United States, has repeatedly organized attacks against Jews as well.

The late American impresario Sol Hurok, for instance, was a victim of such an attack. Once members of the Jewish Defense League detonated a bomb in his New York office. The blast and the blaze it started killed his secretary, a young Jewish woman, while Hurok himself and several members of his staff sustained injuries.

What could Sol Hurok have done to incur the displeasure of the Zionists? Apparently they did not like the fact that for many years he had arranged concerts within the framework of cultural exchange between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Jewish Defense League storm troopers have also raided the offices of some of the Jewish organizations including, for instance, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Many public figures who have openly criticized the Zionists' terrorist tactics have also been attacked. They include Rabbi Elmer Berger, president of an organization calling itself the American Jewish Alternatives to Zionism (AJAZ), and Alfred M. Lilienthal, Editor of the *Middle East Perspective*. On February 5, 1975, Lilienthal was attacked by armed bandits from the Jewish Defense League after he had addressed a students' meeting at the William Paterson College of New Jersey, in the town of Wayne. Luckily Lilienthal escaped unhurt.

More and more Jews in different countries are coming to realize the criminal aspects of the ideology and policies of international Zionism. The atrocities committed by the Israeli military in Lebanon in the summer and autumn of 1982 were strongly condemned by people all over the world, including many Jews. More than 400 college and university professors in the United States, among them the Nobel Prize winners Salvador Luria and Noam Chomsky from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the historian Professor Irene Gendzier, Rabbi Everett Gendler and other prominent Jewish figures, came out against the decision to give more military and economic aid to Israel. An ad-

vertisement which appeared in the *San Francisco Chronicle* under the heading "Menachem Begin Does Not Speak for Us" was signed by 385 Jews from San Francisco. It said: "Please join us and the growing number of Jewish Americans and Israeli Jews who have realized that peace and the survival of the Jewish people cannot be achieved through Israeli aggression and disregard for Lebanese sovereignty"...¹ A letter to the *Washington Post* by Alex Hershafit read: "I am a Jew and a survivor of the Warsaw Ghetto. Most of my family perished in the Nazi holocaust and the survivors settled in Israel. ...Today, in the wake of Israel's invasion of Lebanon and the reported wholesale slaughter and uprooting of civilians whose only sin was to have been born in that tortured country, my overwhelming sense of moral outrage allows me to remain silent no more. I want the world to know that I condemn Menachem Begin's national terrorism that kills thousands of innocent civilians..."²

The Israeli rulers and Zionist leaders responded with accusations of anti-Semitism. The Zionists and their supporters from among religious fanatics launched a campaign of intimidation and harassment against the dissenters. Three centuries ago the Jewish community of Amsterdam excommunicated the great philosopher Spinoza. At the end of 1982 the Supreme Rabbinical Court of America excommunicated several critics of the Begin government. They were Professors Noam Chomsky and Salvador Luria, Rabbi Everett Gendler and Alfred M. Lilienthal. According to the verdict handed down by the Zionist obscurantists, the accused were stripped of the right to "spiritual life", were forbidden to worship in the synagogue and to hold office in Jewish organizations, and could not be buried in a Jewish cemetery.

Alfred Lilienthal, who exposed Zionism in his books *What Price Israel?, There Goes the Middle East, The Other Side of the Coin* and *The Zionist Connection*, told newsmen after his excommunication: "I may be excommunicated from Zionism—I hope that I have earned that—but no one but God may excommunicate me from my religious ties. Zionism is not Judaism, and Judaism is not Zionism. To be a good Judaist in no way requires worshipping the golden calf of the State of Israel and Zionism."³

There are not a few cases where Zionists carried out acts of terrorism against fellow Jews when this served the dirty political

¹ *San Francisco Chronicle*, June 24, 1982, Quoted from *Political Focus*, July 15, 1982, p. 10.

² *The Washington Post*, July 1, 1982, p. A26.

³ *Middle East Perspective*, December 1982, Vol. XV, No. 8, p. 6.

aims of the Zionist leaders. The explosion on the ship *Patria* in the port of Jaffa in 1940, in which hundreds of illegal Jewish immigrants were killed, was the work of Zionists. Zionist propagandists, in a bid to make political capital out of this heinous crime, said that the passengers on the *Patria* fleeing from Nazi terror decided to commit collective suicide as a gesture of protest against the refusal of the British authorities to allow them to come ashore on Palestinian soil allegedly because they did not have the right documents.

Thus, the Zionists resorted to terror in order to make Jews go to Palestine. Under cover of the myth about the "age-old longing of Jews to return to their homeland" Zionist organizations carried out (they still do today) secret operations to force Jews to emigrate to the "Promised Land". A good example of that was the tactics used by the Zionists toward the Jews from among the displaced persons in Western Europe after the end of the Second World War. Of the estimated 112,000 Jews who had survived Nazi terror and landed in the camps for displaced persons in the US zone of occupation in Germany, 55,000 applied for permission to emigrate to the United States. Zionist leaders and the US authorities tried to prevent that, for the Zionists wanted "cannon fodder" for the "Jewish State", and the US ruling circles, who backed the Zionist claims on Palestine, closed the door to the increasing number of Jewish refugees coming to America. Thus, the Jews were faced with a conspiracy organized by those who liked to pose as their protectors.

On May 2, 1948, on the eve of the formal proclamation of the State of Israel, Chaplain Klausner of the US Army, a Zionist, prepared a secret report for the leadership of the American Jewish Conference. In it he spoke of the failure of Zionist propaganda among the displaced persons of Jewish nationality and concluded: "I am convinced that the people must be forced to go to Palestine... Those who are not interested are no longer to be wards of the Jewish community to be maintained in the camps, fed and clothed without their having to make any contribution to their subsistence. To effect this program, it becomes necessary for the Jewish community at large to reverse its policy and instead of creating comforts for the Displaced Persons to make them as uncomfortable as possible. The American Joint Distribution Committee supplies should be withdrawn."¹

Thus, Zionists deliberately terrorized displaced persons while

¹ Alfred M. Lilienthal, *What Price Israel?* Beirut, The Institute for Palestine Studies, 1969, pp. 194-195.

at the same time keeping up the hypocritical propaganda about the "suffering of the Jews". This cynical policy was continued after the founding of the State of Israel. As one Zionist leader writing in the newspaper *Davar*, the organ of the ruling Mapai party (Socialist Labor party), put it: "I shall not be ashamed to confess that, if I had power, as I have the will, I would select a score of efficient young men—intelligent, decent, devoted to our ideal and burning with the desire to help redeem Jews, and I would send them to the countries, where Jews are absorbed in sinful self-satisfaction. The task of these young men would be to disguise themselves as non-Jews, and ...*plague* these Jews with anti-Semitic slogans, such as 'Bloody Jew' and 'Jews go to Palestine' ... I can vouch that the results, in terms of a considerable immigration to Israel from these countries, would be ten thousand times larger than the results brought by thousands of emissaries who have been preaching for decades to deaf ears."¹

This appeal was quite unnecessary, for the Zionist special services had long been employing terror and provocations in order to generate an atmosphere of fear of anti-Semitism in Jewish communities and force their members to leave their countries and go to the "Promised Land". In particular, the Zionists used this tactic to bring about the immigration to Israel of scores of thousands of Jews from Iraq where their ancestors had lived for two and a half millennia.

Since the Jews in Iraq, Egypt, Morocco, Yemen and other Arab countries, where fairly large Jewish communities had existed for centuries, had no wish to respond to the appeals of the WZO leadership to leave their homelands, the Israeli intelligence services had the task of "helping" to carry out the political tasks of Zionism by special methods. To back up the secret Zionist propaganda prompting Jews in Arab countries to immigrate to Israel, a series of provocations were engineered to disrupt good-neighborly relations between Jews and their Arab fellow countrymen, to create a hostile atmosphere around the Jews and to set local Jewish communities against the government of these countries.

Israeli spies made wide use of forged documents. For instance, they made up documents which allegedly testified to anti-Iraq feelings in the Jewish community in Iraq. The Zionist agents, of course, saw to it that such "documents" became known among Arab residents. Another ploy used by the Zionists to achieve their

¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 207-208.

goal was the noisy "Don't buy from Arabs!" campaign launched within the Jewish community in Iraq.

The provocative character of this campaign was manifest: it was never intended to persuade Iraqi Jews to act according to the slogan (Jews in Iraq lived among Arabs and had long-standing and close economic and cultural ties with them), but was designed to provoke an anti-Jewish reaction among the Iraqi public. Israeli spies placed caches of arms in synagogues which were uncovered by the Iraqi authorities. The result was just what the Zionists had wanted—the synagogues came under suspicion. Israeli secret agents also organized arsons and explosions in synagogues to cause panic within the Jewish community. This was how the Israeli intelligence service carried out Operation Ali Baba in Iraq. The operation "yielded" the rulers of Israel nearly 140,000 Jewish immigrants from Iraq who otherwise probably would not have gone to the "Promised Land".

Similar methods were used to carry out operations in Morocco, Yemen and Egypt. In Egypt the Israeli intelligence and the Jewish Agency for Israel set up a dummy company, the Grunberg Travel Agency, which organized tourist trips to France. In reality, the "tourists" from among the Egyptian Jews swelled the ranks of the Israeli "Olim" (immigrants), who boarded ships sailing from Marseilles, Genoa or Naples bound for Israel.

Zionists resort to intimidation and terror also when dealing with those Jews who, having sampled the "delights" of life in Israel, wish to leave the "Promised Land". Here is what a former Soviet citizen, S. Abramova, who emigrated to Israel in 1976, said in her application to the Soviet Consulate in Austria on February 24, 1978. She was among many immigrants who had decided to return to the USSR. Special service agents went to work on the Abramovs after they had learned about their intention. S. Abramova wrote: "They did not leave us in peace day or night. Day after day we had to listen to their threats. On September 25, 1977, my son received his exit passport, but on October 19, he was killed. They wanted to kill my daughter and me too. On the eve of our departure they beat us up and kicked us."¹

In 1972 Valery Kuvent left the USSR for Israel. Later he related how those who decided to leave Israel were dealt with. He recalled: "I began receiving call-up papers after I had refused to work with the Zionists. When we came to Israel I was given the opportunity to speak in a broadcast on the Voice of Israel about

¹ *White Book. Evidence, Facts, Documents*, Moscow, Progress Publishers, 1981, p. 33.

the difficult life of Jews in the USSR. I said that Soviet Jews lived well. For example, I had a house of my own, an orchard, a job, and was well-off. Then they gave me a ready-made slanderous text. I refused to read it before the microphone. I was also offered a tour of European countries and the USA to deliver similar reports to mobilize the Western public for the fight to facilitate the emigration of Jews from the USSR. They promised me a lot of money. When I rejected this offer, agents of Shin-Beth—the Israeli secret police—began to persecute me. They threatened to kill my children.”¹ Other examples could be cited but the above should be sufficient to show that the Zionist “protectors of Jews” do not hesitate to terrorize their fellow Jews.

¹*Ibid.*, p. 24.

Terror As Government Policy

Zionist terror is spearheaded against the Arabs. It also represents a form of anti-Semitism since the Arab people belong to the Semitic group.

Shortly after the first Arab-Israeli war of 1948-1949 ended, the Zionist leadership in Israel introduced a "state of siege" in those regions of the country where Palestinians remained. In the border zone the Israeli military, under the pretext of stopping Palestinian "infiltration", waged an undeclared war on Arab villages and refugee camps, killing Palestinians who were trying to return to their homes and fields. In 1952 alone 394 Arabs were killed, 227 wounded and as many as 2,595 captured. In 1953 the Zionists staged a massacre in the Palestinian village of Qibya on the Jordan-Israeli cease-fire line. Forty-five houses were blown up; 66 Palestinians were killed and 75 wounded.

Judging from the memoirs of the then Prime Minister of Israel Moshe Sharett, the country's ruling circles gave their generals "a blank check" and called their criminal deeds "retaliatory actions" in response to alleged "acts of terror" by Palestinian refugees. Thus after the attack on Qibya Ben-Gurion "...insisted on excluding (from the official communiqué) any mention of the responsibility of the army; the civilians in the border area had taken matters into their own hands."¹ In fact, however, the

¹ *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Spring 1980, p. 6.

slaughter was the work of cutthroats from Ariel Sharon's 101st Company.

To broaden the scale of terrorist operations, in December 1953 the 202nd paratrooper battalion was formed on the basis of the 101st Company. Sharon was appointed commander of the new battalion. In 1954 the 202nd battalion was engaged in almost nonstop terrorist operations along the cease-fire line with Jordan, Egypt and Syria. On March 28 it attacked the village of Nahalin, on April 3—Gaza, on April 7—the village of Husan, on May 9—Khirbet Ilin, on May 27—Khirbet Jimba, on June 28—Azzun, on August 1—Jenin, on August 13—Sheikh Madhkur and on August 15—Bir-es-Saka.

In February 1954 David Ben-Gurion was returned to the Israeli cabinet after his temporary retirement and given the post of Defense Minister. As Moshe Sharett who was Prime Minister at the time noted in his diary, Ben-Gurion had said that he would only agree to "join a government that followed a policy of force."¹ The Zionist leadership launched a policy designed to provoke a new war. On February 27 Ben-Gurion and Army Chief-of-Staff Moshe Dayan got the "go-ahead" for an "operation" in the Gaza Strip where hundreds of thousands of Palestinians living in refugee camps were under the protection of the Egyptian army. The plan was to attack an Egyptian army base just outside Gaza. To mislead world public opinion Zionist propaganda subsequently portrayed the attack as "defensive action". Sharett recalled: "The army spokesman, on instructions from the minister of defense, published a false version according to which a unit of ours, after having been attacked inside our territory, pursued the attackers and engaged a battle which later developed as it did."² In actual fact, the Israeli action was nothing but unprovoked aggression. The Canadian general, E.L.M. Burns, who headed the group of UN observers on the armistice line, wrote:

"On the night of February 28, 1955, two platoons of Israeli paratroopers crossed the Armistice Demarcation Line east of Gaza, advanced more than three kilometres into the Egyptian-controlled Strip, and attacked a military camp near the railway station. Using small-arms, mortars, bazookas, hand-grenades, and Bangalore torpedoes they stormed the camp and completely demolished a stone military building, four Nissen huts, and a pump-house with heavy explosive charges. They killed fourteen Egyptian or Palestinian soldiers, an adult civilian, and a little boy, and wounded sixteen soldiers and two civilians.

¹ *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Autumn 1980, p. 52.

² *Ibid.*, Spring 1980, p. 19.

"Another group of Israeli soldiers entered the Strip six kilometers south of Gaza and laid an ambush on the main road from Rafah. Into this ambush careered a truck carrying a lieutenant and thirty-five soldiers, mostly Palestinians, coming up from the south to reinforce the defenders of the camp."¹

Carried out in violation of the armistice agreement between Egypt and Israel, this sneak attack further aggravated the Middle East conflict. In this way the Zionist leadership tried to make Egypt and other Arab countries withdraw their support for the Palestinian cause, thus setting the stage for creating a "Greater Israel".

At a cabinet meeting in late March 1955 the Israeli Defense Minister said that Israel should annul the armistice agreement with Egypt and thus obtain a "right" to renew the war of 1948-1949. "Nasser," he said, "will not even react to our occupation of the West Bank because if he does he will be defeated and his regime, which is wholly based on the army, will collapse. The Arab states will not come to Nasser's aid anyway. Finally, the Western powers will not react militarily."²

Sharett, who was considered to be a moderate among the Zionists, did not back Ben-Gurion's proposal. Not that he was reluctant to assume responsibility for the aggression. What gave him pause was something else: he feared that the seizure of new territory would dramatically increase the Palestinian population under Israeli jurisdiction. And Israel, according to the Zionist theory, was supposed to be a "pure" Jewish State.

This line of argument did not impress Ben-Gurion, who said that "Our future depends not on what the Gentiles say, but on what the Jews do."³ He once told the government: "Our force is in the accomplishment of facts—this is the only way for us to become a political factor which has to be taken into consideration. This is the right moment because the Arab world is divided."⁴ Ben-Gurion believed that Israel could impose its peace terms on the Arabs only after winning a decisive victory in a total war, i.e. by occupying Damascus, Cairo and Amman. But the Israeli cabinet was divided on the issue: six ministers voted for an immediate occupation of the Gaza Strip, six voted against and

¹ E. L. M. Burns, *Between Arab and Israeli*, Beirut, The Institute for Palestine Studies, 1969, p. 17.

² *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Spring 1980, pp. 23-24.

³ S. Aronson, *Conflict and Bargaining in the Middle East. An Israeli Perspective*, Baltimore, London, 1978, p. 380.

⁴ *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Spring 1980, p. 24.

four abstained. The plan was put aside for the moment, but not abandoned.

Egypt found itself under the threat of an attack, and the Nasser government turned for help to socialist countries after the United States had refused its request for arms following the Israeli attack on Gaza. In September agreements were signed on arms shipments to Egypt (at its request) by the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Poland. This angered Israel's protectors in the United States. Washington, which had until then maintained a posture of "impartiality" in the Arab-Israeli conflict, was now changing tack. The director of the CIA's covert operations in the Middle East, Kermit Roosevelt, told the Israeli intelligence chiefs: "If, when the Soviet arms arrive, you hit Egypt—no one will protest."¹

At 5 a.m. on October 29, 1956, without declaration of war, 395 Israeli paratroopers landed near the Mitla Pass on the Sinai Peninsula. This was the start of the tripartite aggression against Egypt and was at the same time the second Arab-Israeli war. It was followed by a third, fourth and fifth war.

For three and a half decades Israel's ruling élite has almost continually waged wars against Arab countries. Terror has become the chief instrument of Israeli policy towards the Arabs.

The Zionist terrorists also used religious fanaticism to prove their "right" to indiscriminate killings. The headquarters and the Rabbinical Council of the Israeli army issued a booklet in which one of its authors, Rabbi Abraham Avidan, wrote that Israeli soldiers did not have to distinguish between enemy military and civilian personnel even though it was technically possible to do so. According to him, when it came to killing civilians in wartime no religious Jew should trust a non-Jew and should always remember that even civilians may help the enemy. This rabbi-militarist called for virtual genocide when he wrote that when the Israeli army attacked the enemy, its soldiers were allowed, and they were in fact in duty bound, to kill also good civilians because the religious law said that no Gentile should be believed that he would not help the enemy.

When the Israeli newspaper *Al-Hamishmar* carried a report about this booklet, on March 28, 1975, the Tel Aviv authorities, to hush up the scandal, announced that it was being withdrawn from circulation. The Chief Rabbi of the armed forces said that the book "dealt" with abstract aspects of religious law which had nothing to do with everyday life and that no one was putting

¹ *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Spring 1980, p. 26.

forward these principles as guidelines for the conduct of Israeli soldiers in time of war or peace. But there is clear evidence that with the blessing of clerics Israeli aggressors perpetrated and are still perpetrating crimes against the civilian Arab population.

An illustration of just how the "philosophical" precepts of the Zionist apologists of murder and terror are put into practice was provided by the tragedy that befell the Arab village Kafr Qassem in Israel on October 29, 1956. On that day, as mentioned earlier, Sharon's paratroopers launched a war of aggression against Egypt. In accordance with a scenario worked out in advance, the Israeli government issued an official communiqué explaining that the military actions were a limited operation against "terrorists" and not the start of a war to seize the Gaza Strip and the Sinai. It was only later that hostilities began along the entire front with the participation of the Anglo-French army of invasion. But on October 29 the Israeli authorities imposed a curfew on all the Arab villages within Israel. The Zionist leadership regarded Israeli Arabs as the "enemy" who could help neighboring Arab states.

At 4.30 p.m. an Israeli border guard officer told the Mukhtar (elder of the village) of Kafr Qassem that a curfew would be imposed from 17.00 hours and that all villagers should remain indoors. The elder explained that 400 peasants were still out in the fields and could not be informed of the curfew, but the Israeli officer did not accept this explanation. Afterwards for about an hour shots could be heard on the outskirts of the village. Israeli border guards, without prior warning, shot at point-blank range the Arab peasants returning to the village from the fields. Forty-seven people were killed including a 66-year-old man, nine women and seven children. Later another two men were killed.

News of the crime leaked out. Under pressure of the country's democratic forces the Israeli government was forced to put those responsible on trial. It was established that the slaughter had been planned by a group of Israeli army officers. General Zvi Tsur, Commander of the Central Military District, had issued the order on the morning of October 29 to the battalion commanders including Yshishkhar Shadmi who was in charge of the border guards. "The battalion commander (Shadmi) ... told the unit commander (Melinki) that the curfew must be extremely strict and that strong measures must be taken to enforce it. It would not be enough to arrest those who broke it—they must be shot."¹

Returning to his headquarters Melinki told his subordinates

¹ Sabri Jiryis, *The Arabs in Israel 1948-1966*, Beirut, The Institute for Palestine Studies, 1969, p. 98.

about the order. "He ... informed the assembled officers that the war had begun, that their units were now under the command of the Israeli Defense Army, and that their task was to impose the curfew in the minority villages from 17.00 to 06.00, after informing the Mukhtars to this effect at 16.30. With regard to the observation of the curfew, Melinki emphasised that it was forbidden to harm inhabitants who stayed in their homes, but that anyone found outside his home (or, according to other witnesses, anyone leaving his home, or anyone breaking the curfew) should be shot dead. He added that there were to be no arrests, and that if a number of people were killed in the night (according to other witnesses: it was desirable that a number of people should be killed) this would facilitate the imposition of the curfew during succeeding nights."¹ He also said that no exception should be made for people returning from their fields, or for women and children.

Lieutenant Joubrael Dahan, who was in charge of establishing "order" in the village of Kafr Qassem, deployed his men on the approaches to the village and calmly watched as the Mukhtar and his relatives ran about in the streets trying to warn as many people as possible and prevent tragedy. But it was too late. At 17.00 hours the slaughter began. The lieutenant who was in charge of the operation and was also himself shooting unsuspecting peasants returning from the fields radioed to Major Melinki: "... one less ... fifteen less ... many less; it is difficult to count them."²

An Israeli court took two years to investigate this crime. The accused were eleven servicemen including Major Melinki and Lieutenant Dahan. Three of the accused were acquitted, eight were sentenced to prison terms ranging from seven to seventeen years. However, the Supreme Military Court intervened and the sentences were reduced. Later the Chief of General Staff again cut the prison terms and finally ... the President of Israel himself interceded. As a result, a year after the sentences were passed all the murderers were set free. In 1960 the municipal council of the Israeli town of Ramla appointed Dahan "officer responsible for Arab affairs in the city".

The battalion commander Shadmi and General Tsur were not prosecuted at all. Incidentally, General Tsur was later appointed Chief of General Staff.

The policy of terror toward the Arab population of Israel is

¹ Sabri Jiryis, *The Arabs in Israel 1948-1966*, Beirut, The Institute for Palestine Studies, 1969, pp. 98-99.

² *Ibid.*, p. 102.

even sanctioned juridically. The whole legislation dealing with the affairs of Arabs in Israel amounts to legalized plunder and terror. The 19th Congress of the Israeli Communist Party noted that the Begin government had "stepped up its policy of discrimination and oppression towards the Arab population of Israel, which is a national minority and part of the Palestinian Arab people. The Likud bloc government has also intensified its policy of confiscation and ejection of Arab population from their lands."¹

The Israeli Knesset has adopted a series of racist laws designed to drive Arabs from their homeland. These include the notorious Emergency Laws (Security Areas) of 1949, the Absentees' Property Law of 1950, the Law for the Concentration of Agricultural Land of 1965, and other acts "legalizing" the robbery of the Arabs. Thus the Absentees' Property Law stripped Palestinians who fled the country during the first Arab-Israeli War of the right to retain their property.

Inasmuch as the Israeli authorities have categorically refused to give them permission to return home and present their claims with regard to their property, the meaning of the law is clear enough.

Confiscation of Arab land for "military reasons" or under other pretexts was widely resorted to as well. Thus, 78 Arab villages which at one time owned 1.1 million *dunam* of land ended up with just 376,000 *dunam*. All told, the Israeli authorities have done the Arab peasants out of more than 1.2 million *dunam* of land. These figures show how the racist dogma about creating a "pure" Jewish State is implemented.

Another instance is the "Judaization" of Galilee, the Northern District of Israel, which under the UN decision was to have become part of the Arab state of Palestine. Notwithstanding this decision, Israel occupied Galilee in 1948. This region had no Jewish population to speak of, which was why the Zionist leadership adopted a strategy of "Judaization" of Galilee. It was outlined in a number of secret documents of which the first was a memorandum to Ben-Gurion drawn up by Joseph Nahmani of the Jewish National Fund. It said: "Though Western Galilee has now been occupied, it still has not been freed of its Arab population, as happened in other parts of the country... The Arab minority centered here presents a continual threat to the security of the nation... At the very least, it can become the nucleus of Arab nationalism, influenced by the nationalist movements in the

¹ 19th Congress of the Communist Party of Israel, Moscow, 1982, p. 152 (in Russian).

neighboring countries, and undermining the stability of our state."¹ Nahmani believed that "it is essential to destroy this concentration of Arabs by building Jewish settlements" and subsequently transferring Arab lands to the Jewish National Fund.

In 1962, another Zionist leader, Joseph Weitz, put forward a plan for accelerating the "Judaization" of Galilee, which called for the building of a new town, Upper Nazareth, and outlined measures for establishing new Jewish settlements. In 1976 Israel Koenig, the Northern District (Galilee) Commissioner of the Ministry of the Interior, came up with a new plan for the further "Judaization" of Galilee. Koenig's report emphasized that the growth of the Arab population in Galilee was a threat to the Israeli authorities' control of the district, and contained a number of recommendations typical of Israel's racist policy. One of them suggested "expanding" Jewish settlement in areas "where the contiguity of the Arab population is prominent, and where they number considerably more than the Jewish population", and examining "the possibility of diluting existing Arab population concentrations".² Another called for an "investment" policy which would ensure that the Arabs would not make up more than 20 per cent of the employed, for an increase in taxes and for putting an end to the "dependence" of the Jews on the Arab sector of the economy.

Publication of this report caused a scandal in Israel. The government was forced to dissociate itself from the document, at least verbally, but the measures proposed by Koenig have since been implemented by the Zionist leadership in Tel Aviv. Significantly, a week after the publication of his report Koenig was appointed head of the Commission for the Northern District including Galilee charged with preventing "illegal construction" of Arab houses "on Israeli government-owned land".

The Arab population of Israel, supported by the democratic section of the Jewish public, has been waging a fight for their rights. Protests against attempts by the Israeli authorities to deprive the Arabs of the land they still own have assumed a mass scale. A major protest demonstration was held on March 30, 1976, on the occasion of the "Land Defense Day" proclaimed by the Arab community.

On that occasion, as on many previous ones, Arab demonstra-

¹ MERIP (Middle East Research and Information Project) Reports, No. 47, p. 13.

² *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Autumn 1976, p. 193.

tors were attacked by security forces who opened fire, killing six and wounding dozens. Hundreds of people were arrested, beaten and tortured.

The 19th Congress of the Communist Party of Israel pointed out that the Begin government had stepped up its campaign of terror against Arab youth. This took the form of baiting, fascist-style attacks organized by the Tehya party, and acts of hooliganism carried out by Rabbi Kahane's gangs and similar groups. Significantly, the administration of most universities in Israel protect and even encourage these fascists.

But the Palestinian population on the West Bank and the Druses on the Golan Heights (which belong to Syria) find themselves in an even more difficult situation than the Arab population of Israel. The local population of Israeli-occupied Arab lands are subject daily to humiliations and terror. Palestinians detained in concentration camps and in prisons are tortured. Even the Western press, which tends to take on trust assertions by Zionist propagandists about the "prosperity" of the Arabs in Israeli-occupied territories, has acknowledged it. The *Sunday Times* wrote, after a group of its reporters had made a special study of the position of Arab inmates of Israeli prisons:

"1. Israel's security and intelligence services ill-treat Arabs in detention. 2. Some of the ill-treatment is merely primitive: prolonged beatings, for example. But more refined techniques are also used, including electric-shock torture and confinement in specially-constructed cells. This sort of apparatus, allied to the degree of organisation evident in its application, removes Israel's practice from the lesser realms of brutality and places it firmly in the category of torture. 3. Torture takes place in at least six centres: at the prisons of the four main occupied towns of Nablus, Ramallah and Hebron on the West Bank, and Gaza in the South; at the detention center in Jerusalem, known as the Russian Compound; and at a special military intelligence centre whose whereabouts are uncertain, but which testimony suggests is somewhere inside the vast military supply base at Sarafand, near Lod airport on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv road. There is some evidence too that, at least for a time, there was a second such camp somewhere near Gaza."¹

The US State Department, which publishes annual reports on the "civil rights situation" in different countries, reports that are crammed with crude allegations about violations of human rights in the USSR and other socialist countries, gives high marks to the

¹ The *Sunday Times*, June 19, 1977, p. 17.

Israeli authorities for their human rights record in occupied territories. And this despite the fact that even US consulate staff in Jerusalem have repeatedly informed Washington about the use of torture in Israeli jails. After a visit to the West Bank and Gaza Strip by a delegation of US lawyers from the National Lawyers Guild, the Guild published a report entitled "Treatment of Palestinians in Israeli-Occupied West Bank and Gaza", which cited cases of violation of Palestinians' rights by the Zionists. The authors of the report emphasized that the Israeli court procedure was almost wholly based on "confessions" by the accused charged with "terrorist" activities. No other evidence of their "guilt" was required.¹ Official Washington, however, preferred to turn a blind eye to such flagrant violations of court procedure. A staff member of the US consulate in Jerusalem who had sent telegrams to the State Department in Washington on the use of torture against Palestinians was fired.

The "collective punishment" meted out by the Israeli authorities against whole towns and districts in occupied areas is particularly shocking. In May 1980 the Palestinian town of Hebron, with a population of 60,000, was "placed under arrest". After Palestinian guerrillas had attacked Israeli settlers in the streets of Hebron the town was subjected to "collective punishment": its Mayor and Qadi (religious leader) were deported; its residents were forbidden to leave town or to have guests or visitors from abroad; a curfew was enforced for over a month, which mostly affected the peasants (the majority of Hebron's population), who could not work in their fields and orchards or look after their cattle; telephone service was cut off for 45 days; Hebron traders were forbidden from taking their wares to Jordan; all men in the town were detained and interrogated, scores were arrested; every house in Hebron was searched. "Eye-witness accounts of these searches by soldiers who took part in them revealed that in the process food supplies were destroyed, furniture wrecked and parents were beaten and humiliated before their children. All this was done pursuant to specific instructions by their officers."²

From late 1981 to July 1982 "collective punishment" was inflicted on the entire Arab population of the Golan Heights. On December 13, 1981, the Begin government announced the exten-

¹ *Treatment of Palestinians in Israeli-Occupied West Bank and Gaza*, New York, National Lawyers Guild, 1978, p. 110.

² *The West Bank and the Rule of Law*. International Commission of Jurists, 1980, p. 81.

sion of Israeli legislation to this Syrian territory (a move tantamount to its annexation) and tried to force the local Druse population to take Israeli citizenship. But the Druses refused to do so. The Israeli authorities then sealed off four Druse villages and imposed a curfew. Israeli soldiers entered the homes of the villagers and tried to make them accept Israeli papers. The Druses went on strike and burnt the papers.

As the Israeli newspaper *Ha'aretz* reported on March 15, 1982, 12,000 people were actually imprisoned in their homes: "Nobody comes or goes. The telephones have been cut off. The villages are surrounded by barbed wire and road blocks... The local people are trapped in their villages without food supplies (except for what the Israeli army is prepared to sell them), without regular medical services, drugs and other essentials. Sometimes they are also without electricity. Herdsmen are forbidden to graze their flocks. Peasants may not cultivate their fields or look after their orchards."¹ Day after day, week after week, and month after month the blockade introduced under the notorious Emergency Laws of 1949, was maintained. The defenseless Druses were subjected to humiliations and were terrorized by maddened Israeli soldiers. The *Jerusalem Post* described how soldiers burst into a house to force the family living there to accept Israeli papers. Having failed, the Israelis threw the papers on the floor and left the house. "... A soldier clubbed a three-year-old boy who threw an identity card out of the house, shot the boy's mother in the leg when she attacked the soldier, and grazed the brother's head with a bullet when he rushed to his mother's defence."² Even a former member of Israel's Supreme Court, quoted by the paper, described the behaviour of the Israeli authorities as barbaric.

The ultimate goal of Israeli policies in the occupied Arab lands is to turn them into a colony of Israel, and above all, by means of establishing Jewish settlements there. And these are Jewish, not Israeli settlements, for Arab citizens of Israel are not allowed to live in them (but all Jews arriving from the Diaspora have this right).

The expropriation of the property of Palestinians in Israeli-occupied territories was intensified after the Begin government had taken office. At present 40 per cent of all land and over half of all water resources on the West Bank are under Israeli control. The number of Jewish settlers on the West Bank reached 2,500 in

¹ Quoted from *Middle East International*, March 26, 1982, p. 13.

² The *Jerusalem Post*, April 18-24, 1982, p. 2.

1982. The Zionist leadership plans to have 100,000 Jews settled on the West Bank by 1986, and 1,000,000 by the year 2010.

Jewish settlements on occupied Arab territories have become not only outposts of Israeli annexation but hotbeds of Israeli terrorism as well. Encouraged by the authorities, Zionist fanatics from the Gush Emunim organization and various other extremist groups attack neighboring Arab villages and towns and carry out pogroms there.

And yet the Israeli government has failed to impose its will on the Palestinians of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, who have displayed determination to fight for their legitimate rights and who regard the PLO as their sole legitimate representative. Faced with this resistance, the Zionist leadership has tried to implement the "final solution" of the Palestinian question through physical destruction of the PLO in Lebanon, an act of aggression it codenamed "Operation Peace for Galilee" to mislead world public opinion.

Here is what Jody Powell, one of President Carter's aides who was present on many occasions during talks with Begin and Sharon and at the signing of the Camp David deal, wrote in the *Washington Post*: "Operation Peace for Galilee has as much to do with the West Bank as with Galilee. The goal in Lebanon and on the West Bank is to remove the PLO as a political and military factor. Thus unencumbered, Begin and Sharon apparently feel they will be able to induce West Bank Palestinians to accept a fig-leaf autonomy plan and proceed with making the West Bank a permanent part of Israel."¹

The aims of this Israeli aggression went well beyond that. Apart from destroying the PLO Begin and his close associates planned to install a puppet regime in Lebanon and to inflict a military defeat on the Syrian forces stationed there. Besides, the Zionists had long regarded Southern Lebanon as part of what they call the "historical land of Israel" They are particularly interested in its water resources—the Litani river and its tributaries—for irrigation of fields in the north of Israel. As a Gush Emunim advertisement in the newspaper *Ma'ariv* of October 3, 1982, put it: "We regard the Peace for Galilee Campaign as a holy war, and as a great act of Praise the Lord who intervened in this campaign... It brought back the property of the tribes of Asher and Naftali into Israel's boundaries."² Thus, invoking the Lord and

¹ The *Washington Post*, June 13, 1982, p. C8.

² Quoted from *Middle East International*, October 29, 1982, p. 18.

long-disappeared "generations of Israel" the Zionists seek to justify their plans to perpetuate their control over Southern Lebanon.

"Operation Peace for Galilee" escalated into a war of genocide against the Palestinians and Lebanese. According to UNICEF statistics, only during the period between June 4 and August 15, 1982, or by the time agreement on the withdrawal of PLO combatants from Beirut was reached, 11,840 children aged under fifteen had been killed or wounded, along with 8,686 women and 2,409 old men (aged sixty and more). During the siege of West Beirut 300 people starved to death, 2,058 were critically ill, 1,637 suffered from severe food poisoning, 1,845 had nervous breakdowns and 2,372 succumbed to infectious diseases.¹

Of the 92,000 Palestinians who lived in Southern Lebanon, 60,000 were left homeless. The number of people left homeless among the Palestinian refugees in Beirut was 20,000, in the Bekaa Valley 12,000 and in Tripoli 4,000. The homes of tens of thousands of Lebanese were destroyed. Six towns, more than 30 villages and 17 Palestinian refugee camps were razed. Senator Charles Percy, Chairman of the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee, reported in the summer of 1982 that 14,000 people had been killed and 55,000 injured in Lebanon.² Subsequently, the figures grew dramatically.

Following in the footsteps of the Hitlerites, Begin and Sharon extended their reign of terror to genocide proportions. They set up the Ansar Camp, a huge concentration camp in Southern Lebanon, where 9,000 to 15,000 Palestinians, aged from 14 to 60, were confined. According to Amnon Rubinstein, a Knesset member, conditions inside the camp "are intolerable and are a stain on Israel's reputation. Prisoners are walking about bare-footed in the bitter cold and there have been numerous assaults on them."³ Palestinians were rounded up and taken to the camp like cattle, inside huge cages hitched to helicopters.

The International Commission of Inquiry Into Israeli Crimes Against the Lebanese and Palestinian Peoples at its Geneva session in February-March 1983 emphasized that the Zionist leadership, relying on US support, continued to violate international law, the UN Charter and the Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and that its intolerable behavior was an insolent challenge to world public opinion.

¹ *Al-Safir*, September 18, 1982.

² *Political Focus*, July 15, 1982, p. 6.

³ *Middle East International*, January 7, 1983, p. 15.

Terrorism for Export

That the ruling circles in the United States and other Western countries have been using special services to carry out espionage and acts of terrorism is well known. But this is nothing compared with the truly unprecedented role the special services play in the policy schemes of the Zionist leadership in Israel. Israeli intelligence agencies were set up at a time when the various bodies of the World Zionist Organization were engaged in espionage for the imperialist powers, long before the establishment of the State of Israel.

During World War I an international Zionist intelligence center was set up in London under Chaim Weizmann, the WZO leader. Weizmann recalled in his memoirs that the center was a close-knit group of people who had a common goal and common operating methods. One of the group, Aaron Aaronson, became resident coordinator of British intelligence in Palestine. There Aaronson set up a spy ring, all of whose members were Zionists, under the code name Nili, which passed valuable information about the deployment of Turkish forces and fortifications to the British. General Allenby, the British Commander on the Palestinian front, later spoke highly of Aaronson's work. He recalled: "He was mainly responsible for the formation of my Field Intelligence Organization behind the Turkish lines."¹

¹ Samuel Katz, *Battleground. Fact and Fantasy in Palestine*, New York, Bantam Books, 1973, p. 122.

With the help of Weizmann and his associates Britain used Zionists for its own ends on numerous occasions. The Zionist intelligence network carried out many missions for its masters.

The memoirs of Jacob de Haas reveal the scale of the Zionists' subversive activities. Jacob de Haas, who began his career as Theodor Herzl's private secretary, later became a close aide to Louis Brandeis, the leader of American Zionists. To quote Jacob de Haas: "... The great strength of the American Zionist organization was in the multifariousness of its contacts, and in the accurate knowledge of those in control of the human resources on which they could depend. Did the British need to obtain a contact in Odessa, or were they in need of a trustworthy agent in Harbin?

"Did President Wilson require at short notice a thousand-word summary detailing those who were in the Kerensky upheaval in Russia? The New York office rendered all these services..."¹

The Zionists' covert operations against revolutionary movements were considered highly important by the governments of the imperialist powers. Thus, David Lloyd George, who was British Prime Minister at the time of the Balfour Declaration, publicly stated that the Zionists "were helpful in America and in Russia, which at that moment was just walking out and leaving us alone".²

In 1920 the Zionists created the paramilitary Hagana organization whose hard core was made up of former members of the Nili intelligence group that had worked for the British in World War I and former servicemen of the Jewish battalions in the British army. In the 1930s Hagana had the support of the British colonial administration which recruited personnel from among its members for Special Night Squads set up to fight Arab insurgents.

Captain Orde Wingate of the British army, who was in charge of the formation of the Special Night Squads and their field operations, had in many ways anticipated the counter-insurgency tactics which the imperialist powers were to use later in Malaya, Vietnam, Algeria and Rhodesia. The Special Night Squads not only performed guard duty in the Kirkuk-Haifa British oil pipeline area; they also raided guerrilla base camps, burned Palestinian villages and carried out terrorist attacks against activists and leaders of the Arab national liberation movement. Not surprisingly, therefore, in Israel today Wingate is extolled as a hero

¹ *Political Affairs*, July 1971, p. 20.

² Maxime Rodinson, *Israel. A Colonial-Settler State?*, New York, Monad Press, 1973, p. 104.

whose tactics are still being widely used by the Zionists in their war against the Arabs.

The British helped to set up Hagana's striking force—the Palmah storm troopers—who were entrusted with the more important operations. Hagana placed its own men at the disposal of the British intelligence service as well. Incidentally, it was while he was engaged on an intelligence mission for the British in Syria that Moshe Dayan, the future idol of the Israeli militarists, then a young Hagana officer, lost an eye. At Dayan's suggestion a special battalion was formed of members of the Palmah within the British army. They were all fair-haired and blue-eyed Jews who spoke German without an accent. This battalion, however, never took part in battles against Nazi troops. It became the backbone of a far-flung Zionist spy network in Europe after the Second World War.

The prototype of this spy network was the Mossad le Aliyah Bet, an organization set up by Zionists in Geneva back in the 1930s. Its primary task was to organize illegal Jewish emigration to Palestine; hence its name, which is Hebrew for the Committee for Illegal Immigration.

The Committee also engaged in gunrunning for the Zionist military formations and carried out "special operations". Mossad le Aliyah Bet, which took its orders from Hagana, established contacts with Nazi Germany's intelligence services. The Zionist agent Feifel Polkes passed valuable information to the Gestapo. It was he who gave away the location of the clandestine radio transmitter operated by the German Communists. Polkes was no cog in the machine of the Zionist intelligence service but was one of the top leaders of the Mossad.

After the war the Zionists deployed their intelligence network in Eastern Europe ostensibly for the purpose of organizing Jewish emigration to Palestine. But its functions went beyond that. Zionist agents were actively used by the US and British intelligence services for stepping up their subversive activities against the USSR and countries of Eastern Europe. The Zionists were trying to exploit to the maximum the difficult economic and political situation there, and they not only carried out political subversion and terrorist operations. Zionist spies from the Nakam (Vengeance) group were actively engaged in smuggling. As the Israeli writer Michael Bar-Zohar described it in his book *The Avengers*: "... The *Nakam* men became smugglers. They soon acquired a sound reputation in the business, and their activities covered everything—foreign currency, cigarettes, medical supplies. Their experts even went to Russia to buy gold at low prices

to sell at a high profit in Italy.”¹ Nakam agents also operated in Belgium, Holland and France.

Secret Zionist operations in the United States were closely linked with the underworld. The American script writer Ben Hecht recalls in his memoirs one occasion when he addressed a secret gathering of select members of the California underworld at a restaurant in Los Angeles. The gathering was called by a Mickey Cohen who controlled illegal gaming establishments in California. Ben Hecht wrote: “I addressed a thousand bookies, ex-prize fighters, gamblers, jockeys, touts and all sorts of lawless and semi-lawless characters... At the finish of my oratory, Madame Frankie Spitz took over the hat passing. There was no welching. Each of the bookies, toughies and fancy Dans stood up and called out firmly his contribution. ...So Cohen pushed his bodyguard, Mr. Howard, forward. ‘You tell ‘em,’ Cohen ordered. ‘Tell ‘em they’re a lot o’cheap crumbs and they gotta give double.’ ... Mr. Howard roared inarticulately over the microphone for a spell. When he had done, Mickey came to the edge of the stage and stood in the floodlights. He said nothing. Man by man, the ‘underworld’ stood up and doubled the ante for the Irgun. The meeting raised \$ 200,000...”²

It was only fairly recently that some facts came to light about the financing of the Zionist armed forces at the time of Palestine’s partition and the first Arab-Israeli war. In January 1948 Golda Meir, arriving from Palestine, addressed the general assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. She called for unprecedented contributions for the Zionist Hagana military organization, as the result of which fifty million dollars were raised in secret.

Extensive and far-reaching secret operations were carried out by the Sonneborn Institute. As early as 1945, when heavy fighting was going on inside Nazi Germany, Ben-Gurion arrived in New York on a secret mission. There he met his old friend Rudolf Sonneborn, a rich financier and Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Allied Jewish Appeal, and informed him that the Zionists of Palestine planned to resolve their problems by military means. Sonneborn arranged a meeting between Ben-Gurion and seventeen rich Jewish businessmen, bankers and lawyers who promised all possible help for the Zionist clandestine

¹ Michael Bar-Zohar, *The Avengers*, New York, A Tower Book, 1967, p. 51.

² Robert Silverberg, *If Forget Thee O Jerusalem: American Jews and the State of Israel*, New York, Pyramid Books, 1972, p. 341.

tine units "even if they had to jeopardize their reputations by committing illegal acts..."¹

The Sonneborn Institute set up a number of dummy companies which raised money, procured strategic materials and arms, recruited "volunteers" and secretly sent men and military equipment into Palestine. The Sonneborn Institute did not seem to have any financial difficulties. It was able, among other things, to purchase 18 ships on short order which transported 75,000 illegal immigrants to Palestine under the very nose of the British administration. At secret "Thursday dinner parties" throughout the United States prominent members of the Jewish community were informed about various aspects of the plan. As a result, scores of local branches of the Institute were set up.

Having spent liberally on solving the "customs problem", the Sonneborn Institute loaded Palestine-bound ships with tanks, with the turrets removed to make them look like tractors. The turrets were shipped separately as "farm machinery". In Panama a dummy company, Líneas Aéreas de Panama, was set up with the help of a nephew of Panama's President, which flew US-made "tourist" fighter planes and "flying fortresses" to Palestine. European stores in many American cities suddenly began buying up "souvenir" weapons and firearms. Huge quantities of "surplus arms" were bought cheaply from the Pentagon for some unspecified Latin American countries. The sheer cynicism of the Zionists can be seen from the fact that even the Jews who died in Hitler's gas chambers had also made their "contribution" to the Zionists' fund-raising efforts: the "underground" bought from the US army tens of tons of gold teeth collected by the Nazis for less than one million dollars. This gold was used to buy weapons.

The Sonneborn Institute wound up its operations many years ago, but its functionaries have been in no hurry to tell about their activities. Apparently some of the Institute's methods are still being used by the Zionists.

Soon after the war an Albert Miller, a high-ranking Hagana emissary, arrived in the United States on a special mission. This man had many names: Albert Miller, alias Mr. Oppenheim, alias Dr. Schwartz, alias Rabbi Lefkowitz, alias José de Paz, alias Joseph Tannenbaum. His real name was Yehuda Arazi and his real occupation—spying. At the age of nineteen, on instructions from Hagana, he joined the British police force in Palestine. The young sleuth made a name for himself as a zealous tracker of

¹ Dan Kurzman, *Genesis 1948. The First Arab-Israeli War*, New York, 1970, p. 107.

members of the Palestinian Communist Party. His zeal did not go unnoticed and he made rapid progress up the career ladder. He eventually became chief of the police department investigating Communist activities. However, after years of loyal service in the pay of his British masters Arazi was one day thrown out of the British police force for passing on secrets to Hagana which included lists of Jewish British agents and information about caches of arms of Palestinian Arabs uncovered by British police informers. After having been sacked from the police Arazi was appointed a director of Hagana's covert operations in Europe where he bought arms and organized illegal Jewish emigration to Palestine. His mission in Europe completed, Arazi returned to Palestine where he joined the British intelligence. Before long, however, the double agent was exposed when the British found out that Arazi was sending British-made arms to Hagana.

After that Yehuda Arazi, as a high-ranking Hagana emissary, went to the United States on a special mission. He was to establish contacts with the Mafia, more specifically with its notorious Murder Incorporated. Arazi asked the ringleaders to sell him arms and let him have gangsters to be used in Zionist terrorist operations. The request was granted: there were quite a few Zionist friends in the Mafia. One of them was Meyer Lansky, one-time hitman, who was then "chief accountant" of the Mafia. As for payments, Arazi had a steady supply of money from the respectable gentlemen at the Sonneborn Institute and could afford to be generous.

In New York, with the connivance of the local authorities, a school was opened for training future Israeli spies. The subjects taught included the use of explosives, wiretapping, the use of electronic eavesdropping devices, break-in and safe-cracking techniques and other such "useful" things. The school was housed at the headquarters of the Orthodox Jewish organization, the National Council of Young Israel, and it trained some seventy agents. Together with Hagana's "old hands" and former US, British and French intelligence operatives who had gone to Israel, they formed the backbone of the Israeli intelligence service.

Naturally this kind of activity could not have gone unnoticed. But the US authorities turned a blind eye to it in accordance with their "neutral" position on the Palestine question. FBI agents repeatedly "spoke" with functionaries of the growing Zionist secret network but took no action against it and actually placed it under its protection. What is more, when on a number of occasions the cover of the Zionist secret agents was blown the appropriate US agencies in fact prevented an investigation.

After it gained control of Israel's state apparatus in 1948 the

Zionist leadership continued to resort to such specific methods in its activity as espionage and terror and made them an instrument of government policy. This shows the kind of experience and traditions the Zionist organizations had had almost since their inception. Today it is as difficult as ever to distinguish between the activities of Zionist organizations and those of Israel's intelligence agencies.

Israel has a far-flung intelligence apparatus comprising five main divisions: 1) the Central Intelligence and Security Service, Mossad, whose agents operate for the most part outside Israel; 2) the Military Intelligence Service, Modiin, which operates chiefly against neighboring Arab countries; 3) the Israel Internal Security Service, Shin Beth, which is responsible for counter-intelligence; 4) the Research and Political Planning Center of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, which has links with Modiin and Mossad; and 5) the Investigation Department (Police), which cooperates closely with Shin Beth.

One can get an idea of the structure of Israel's intelligence services from a secret CIA survey published by the *Washington Post* on February 1, 1982. Entitled "Israel: Foreign Intelligence and Security Services", the survey had been prepared for the personnel of US intelligence agencies and sent to US embassies abroad. After the seizure of the US embassy in Teheran in 1979 by Iranian students, a copy of the report was discovered and turned over to newsmen. The authors of the survey point out that "The central body of Israel's intelligence and security community is the Va'adat which has as its primary function the coordination of all intelligence and security activities at home and abroad."

The web of Israeli espionage relies on personnel made available to Israel by the Zionist organizations in many countries.

Revelations about the activities of Israeli spies often appear in the world press. As a rule, it is found that the agents are activists of Zionist organizations in the country concerned. Contacts with these organizations enable the Israeli intelligence service to find persons who know the local customs and speak the local language and who are willing to spy for Israel not only in hopes of getting a handsome reward but also because of their Zionist convictions.

The intelligence agencies of the major imperialist powers actively cooperate with the espionage center in Tel Aviv and often use the services of their Israeli counterpart.

According to the CIA survey mentioned above, "The Israeli intelligence service depends heavily on the various Jewish communities and organizations abroad for recruiting agents and eliciting general information. The aggressively ideological nature

of Zionism, which emphasizes that all Jews belong to Israel and must return to Israel, had had its drawbacks in enlisting support for intelligence operations, however, since there is considerable opposition to Zionism among Jews throughout the world. Aware of this fact, Israeli intelligence representatives usually operate discreetly within Jewish communities and are under instructions to handle their missions with utmost tact to avoid embarrassment to Israel."¹

There is massive evidence that in the United States and other Western countries the Israeli intelligence service maintains close contacts with pro-Zionist government officials. The CIA survey points out that "Mossad... has enjoyed some rapport with highly placed persons and government officials in every country of importance to Israel."²

In the spring of 1978 a scandal broke out in Washington when it became known that Stephen Bryen, then staff member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, had been passing secret information to Israeli officials. Bryen, together with Morris Amitay, assistant to Senator Abraham Ribicoff, and Richard Perle, the late Senator Henry Jackson's aide, formed the hard core of the Zionist lobby on Capitol Hill. FBI agents who investigated the Bryen affair compiled a 600-page file of documentary evidence of Bryen's cooperation with the Israelis. However, "for undisclosed reasons [the case] was allowed to be dropped with no formal charges or official clearance of Bryen."³

True, Bryen had to resign. But his pro-Israeli activities continued. The Zionist lobbyist became the executive director of the Washington-based Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs whose function was "to convince people that the security of Israel and the United States is interlinked."⁴ The activities of the Institute are two-pronged: to impress upon the Jewish community in the US the importance of strengthening American defense for the survival both of the United States and Israel, and to convince the American public of the geopolitical value of the State of Israel for the United States as the outpost of the West's interests in the Middle East.⁵ The Institute has been especially strongly advocating an increase in the US military budget and opposing strategic arms limitations.

¹ *The Washington Post*, February 1, 1982, p. A 18.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Political Focus*, February 15, 1982, p. 3.

⁴ *The Jewish Week*, July 17-23, 1980.

⁵ *The Jerusalem Post*, January 5, 1980.

Bryen's former colleague, Morris Amitay, became head of the principal organization of the Zionist lobby in the US, the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee. The Committee's platform practically does not differ from that of the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs. As for Richard Perle, he was appointed Assistant Secretary of Defense by President Reagan. The White House apparently thought nothing of the fact that at one time Perle was also under FBI investigation in connection with his secret contacts with the Israeli intelligence service. The *Atlantic Monthly* magazine wrote in May 1982 that Perle "was caught in mid-October 1970 by an FBI wiretap on the Israeli embassy. He was heard discussing classified information supplied by someone on the National Security Council, who later turned out to be Hal Sonnenfeldt, then Henry Kissinger's closest friend on the NSC staff."¹ The FBI thus established that Sonnenfeldt had close links with the Israelis and Perle. Interestingly, when Perle moved to the Pentagon he made Stephen Bryen his aide.

The reason for this tolerant attitude towards Zionist activities on the part of the US government lies in their common anti-Sovietism. On February 25, 1948, a meeting was held at the State Department between Assistant Secretary of State Norman Armour and Charles Bohlen, the Department's Counselor, on the one hand, and two prominent Zionist leaders from the "Zionists-Revisionists", Benzion Netanyahu and Joseph Schechtman, on the other. The Zionists assured the US diplomats that the emergent Jewish State would be "a stronghold of Western ideas" and "a bastion against Communist penetration in the Middle East." They set out their ideas in a letter which was handed to Bohlen on March 2. It read, in part:

"Without underestimating the significance of moral and human aspects of the Palestine question, we firmly believe that the policy of the United States on this question must be based predominantly on the interests of this country as a champion of Western ideals, way of life and economic structure. We urge the active support of the United States for the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine because we contend that this lies in the well-understood interest of the United States: a Jewish State, if established with the cooperation of the U.S., will necessarily become a bastion of the Western world in the Middle East, a natural ally of the United States, bound to it by ties of gratitude and common interest."²

¹ Quoted from *Political Focus*, May 15, 1982.

² Joseph B. Schechtman, *The United States and the Jewish State Movement, The Crucial Decade: 1939-1949*, New York, Herzl Press, Thomas Yoseloff, 1966, pp. 408-409.

The letter went on to say that such a US policy will prove to the world Jewry that Washington is a friendly power and a reliable ally, and that "this and only this will stop the dangerously growing pro-Soviet trend ... and will secure the enthusiastic allegiance of world Jewry and of the Jewish State to the cause of the Western Allies."¹

Zionist circles readily joined in the campaign to fan the cold war and cooperated closely with the most reactionary forces of imperialism. Israeli intelligence, together with various Zionist organizations, offered its services to the intelligence agencies of the United States and other imperialist powers in their subversive activities against the Soviet Union. In the 1950s Israeli intelligence concluded a special agreement with the CIA which was keenly interested in using Zionist agents.

According to General George Keegan, former Chief of US Air Force Intelligence, massive US aid to Israel is not only fully repaid but also brings a substantial dividend: "For every dollar of support this country has given Israel, we have gotten a thousand dollars worth of benefits in return—access to equipment, access to documents, etc., which prepare us to cope with the Soviet forces and equipment around the world. The data is of incalculable value."²

In the summer of 1980 Keegan's former subordinate, Joseph Churba, wrote in the magazine *Orbis*: "Israel's intelligence apparatus gives the United States an advantage, so badly needed, in every nation and among every ethnic group in the Middle East. With its reliance on traditional, on-site intelligence gathering and a utilitarian assessment structure, Israel remains the best source of hard military and political information about the region."³ Coming from an adviser to the Republican Party's presidential candidate, this was a revealing statement. Joseph Churba advised Ronald Reagan on US Middle East policy and later was given an important post in the Reagan Administration.

Joseph Churba's career is rather remarkable. His name first appeared in newspapers at the time of the US war of aggression against Vietnam. In 1965, when the anti-war movement was gathering momentum, the July Fourth Movement was launched with great pomp. In an advertisement which appeared in the *New York Herald Tribune* on June 29, 1965, the Movement urged US youth to give full backing to the US intervention in Indochina. The architects of the July Fourth Movement were Joseph Churba

¹ *Ibid.*, p. 409.

² *The Jerusalem Post*, August 9, 1977.

³ *Orbis*, Summer 1980, p. 360.

and Michael King, alias Meir Kahane. Churba started his political rise in company with Kahane. True, the July Fourth Movement proved to be stillborn, and Churba and Kahane soon underwent "job retraining"

Gerald Strober, who is well-known in Zionist circles, writes: "Between the summers of 1965 and 1967 Kahane and Churba continued their association as consultants, researchers and writers for various government agencies and congressional committees. During this period close relatives of the Kahane family heard that Meir was doing very well and was in close touch with important people in Washington. There are also indications that Kahane and Churba attempted to convey the impression that they were involved in some way with the government's intelligence apparatus."¹ In other words, the pair of adventurers worked for the FBI, the CIA and the Committee on Un-American Activities of the US Congress.

On August 2, 1967, less than two months after the Israeli war against Egypt, Jordan and Syria, Churba and Kahane set up the Crossroads Publishing Company to bring out a book entitled *The Jewish Stake in Vietnam*. Its main idea was quite simple—"Jewish life could not exist under communism", and therefore Jews should support the policy of the United States and Israel.² This was precisely the line pursued by the Johnson Administration and the Israeli government which were trying to divert American Jews, many of whom were involved in the anti-war movement, from the struggle of the democratic forces in the US against the Vietnam war. However, the authors who had been supplied from "mysterious" sources with enough money to publish the book sold less than three thousand copies of it.

After that Churba and Kahane set up a new company, Information Incorporated, which was to mail books to subscribers. Within a year they wrote a book about "the atrocities of Vietnamese Communists". But again Churba and Kahane suffered a fiasco: the book was never published as the authors failed to provide evidence to back their allegations.

At that point Joseph Churba and Meir Kahane parted company. Churba joined the US Air Force Intelligence and for a while taught at an air force school in Alabama, eventually joining General Keegan's staff. True, in the mid-1970s Churba was involved in a scandal following press revelations about his pas-

¹ Gerald S. Strober, *American Jews: Community in Crisis*, New York, Doubleday and Company, 1974, p. 147.

² *Ibid.*, p. 147.

sing classified information to Israel. He then left Air Force Intelligence and set up his own center for political studies. He also became a regular contributor to the *American Zionist*, the organ of the Zionist Organization of America. Churba was back in the limelight during Reagan's presidential election campaign in 1980.

Meir Kahane, who in 1968 became the leader of the Zionist terrorist organization, the Jewish Defense League, followed a different path. His choice was significant. Kahane was born into the family of an orthodox rabbi who emigrated to the United States from Palestine in the 1920s. Kahane's given name at birth was Martin and it was only much later, when he himself became a rabbi, that he took a more appropriate name, Meir. The father of the future fuhrer of the Jewish Defense League was a zealous activist of the "World Union of Zionists-Revisionists" and Z'ev Jabotinsky himself stayed in his home during a visit to the United States. When still a student of an orthodox Jewish school Martin Meir joined the B'rit Trumpeldor and took part in illegal gunrunning for Menachem Begin's bandits from the Irgun Tz'vai L'umi.

Kahane displayed all the makings of an adventurist early in his career, after trying his hand at many different things. At one time he wanted to be a lawyer but failed in his exams at a law school. Then he became a rabbi, but soon was fired by his own congregation. Declaring that he was going to become a government minister, he left for Israel, but failed there as well and returned to the United States. It was then that Meir Kahane became Michael King and joined the intelligence community. And whereas the cooperation of King-Kahane and Churba again came to nothing, Kahane found his place at last when he became fuhrer of the Jewish Defense League.

Fascist-style violence and terror are the two articles of faith in the Jewish Defense League. Kahane's gangsters do not confine themselves to the use of baseball bats and bicycle chains but often resort to firearms and explosives. They attack activists of the US Communist Party and other progressive organizations. Under the pretext of combatting "Black anti-Semitism" they organize pogroms in districts inhabited by Blacks. They once even attempted to mortar the United Nations Headquarters. But the main trend of the Jewish Defense League's criminal activities is anti-Sovietism. With the connivance of the US authorities Kahane and his thugs have repeatedly attempted to terrorize Soviet diplomats in the United States and visiting Soviet musicians, athletes and tourists. They have fired shots into the building of the Soviet UN delegation in New York and planted bombs at the Aeroflot office in the city. And each time the police and the FBI have proved

unable to find those responsible. Later, when Kahane went to Israel, he launched a terror campaign against the Arab population there, under the protection of Israel's special services.

After the establishment of the State of Israel the Arab countries became the chief target of Israel's intelligence operations. The Israeli secret service made careful preparations for spying and terrorist operations against the neighboring Arab countries, primarily Egypt.

The diaries of former Prime Minister Moshe Sharett indicate that as early as the 1950s the Zionist leadership sought to give an international dimension to its terrorist activities.

In January 1955 Sharett wrote: "Dayan wants to hijack planes and kidnap (Arab) officers from trains... Makleff (who preceded Dayan as Chief-of-Staff) wanted a free hand to murder (Syrian President) Shishakly... Givli /the colonel who headed the military intelligence/... proposed to abduct Egyptians not only from the Gaza Strip but also in Cyprus and Europe. He also proposed to blow up the Egyptian embassy in Amman in retaliation for the death sentences in the Cairo trial."¹ The reference was to the trial of members of the spy ring operated by the Israeli intelligence service in Egypt in the early 1950s.

The spy ring was headed by a John Darling, alias Avraham Dar, an officer in the Israeli army who was infiltrated into Egypt with a false passport in 1951. Representatives of the dummy Grunberg Travel Agency in Paris supplied him with the names of his future agents—young Egyptian Jews who were fanatical members of underground Zionist organizations in Egypt. To reinforce the spy ring in Egypt a number of hard-core intelligence officers, including Max Bennett and Paul Frank, were sent to Egypt. Frank, posing as an executive of a West German electrical firm, was to establish contacts with Egyptian government officials to elicit information about Egypt's defense plans. Frank was able to gain the confidence of Zakaria Mohieddin, a prominent Egyptian government official who later became Prime Minister and Vice-President.

The intelligence gathered by Israeli spies coupled with the information made available to Tel Aviv by "friendly" Western intelligence services were crucial to Israel in planning its aggression against Egypt in the autumn of 1956. Israeli spies were also to carry out sabotage with the aim of precipitating a government crisis in Egypt, undermining the Nasser regime and spoiling its relations with other countries. Tel Aviv had hoped to torpedo the

¹ *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Spring 1980, pp. 17-18.

signing of an agreement on the Suez Canal between Cairo and London and ensure that British military bases would remain in the area.

Colonel Givli told Colonel Mordehai Bentsur before the latter set off for Cairo in the summer of 1954: "(Our goal is) to break the West's confidence in the existing (Egyptian) regime through the creation of public disorder and insecurity. The actions should cause arrests, demonstrations and incidents of vengeance. The Israeli origin should be totally covered while attention should be deviated to any other possible factor. It is necessary to prevent economic and military aid from the West to Egypt."¹

That was really an unusual assignment. The target of terrorist attacks were to be US offices and institutions in Egypt. In this way the Israeli leaders hoped to aggravate US-Egyptian relations and prevent the rapprochement which Secretary of State John Foster Dulles advocated at the time. Tel Aviv coveted the role of a privileged US agent in the Middle East and was apprehensive lest the United States should place the accent in its Middle East policy on Egypt, the largest and most influential Arab state, rather than on Israel.

John Darling, Paul Frank and other Israeli agents went into action. Two months later there was a bomb explosion at the USIA (US Information Agency) library in Cairo, and another bomb went off in the mailbox of an American official working in that city. A cinema which often showed American films was to have been set on fire on a July evening in 1954. But the explosive device brought into the cinema by a 19-year-old Egyptian Jew, Nathanson, one of John Darling's agents, went off prematurely. Shortly afterwards eleven Israeli agents, practically the whole of Darling's spy ring with the exception of Darling himself, who had abandoned his subordinates and fled to Europe, landed in the dock. They told the court about the sinister design of Israeli intelligence. The leaders in Tel Aviv hurried publicly to disclaim knowledge of the scheme and tried to put the blame on one another.

Israeli secret agents in Egypt worked closely with the West German and French intelligence services. The French Consulate in Alexandria, for instance, issued illegal visas to "tourists" sent by the Grunberg Travel Agency, while the West German intelligence service exchanged information with Israeli agents.

The intelligence services of the imperialist powers also cooperated closely in carrying out acts against Syria. In the early 1960s Israeli intelligence made thorough preparations for an

¹ *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Spring 1980, p. 15.

operation involving the infiltration of agents into the top echelons of the Syrian military establishment. One of John Darling's former agents, Eliahu Cohen, was enlisted for this operation. Cohen's assignment was to enter Syria by way of Argentina where there was a sizeable Syrian community. First Cohen went to Zurich where he was given a passport and money by Israel Salinger, chief Israeli resident coordinator in Europe. Soon afterwards Cohen surfaced in Buenos Aires, where there was an Israeli spy ring, under an assumed name, Kamil Amin Taabes, a Syrian national.

Once in Argentina Cohen established contacts with the Syrian community and before long was on the way to Syria with letters of recommendation from his Argentinian friends. In Damascus he made friends with high-ranking officers and was able to obtain important information about the Syrian army which he passed on to his bosses in Israel. However, in the spring of 1965 Cohen-Taabes was caught red-handed while transmitting a radio message to Tel Aviv. With his arrest Israeli intelligence lost one of its most valuable agents.

The career of another Israeli spy, on whom the Mossad bosses pinned great hopes in Cairo, came to a similar end. The Israeli agent, operating under the name of Wolfgang Lotz and posing as a West German citizen, became the owner of a race course near Cairo which high-ranking Egyptian officers liked to frequent. Lotz had a hand in organizing attempts on the lives of foreign technical experts who had come to Egypt to help develop its armaments industry at the invitation of the Egyptian government. Many foreign engineers received letter-bombs or became victims of assassination attempts organized by Zionist terrorists.

The arrests of Lotz and Cohen seriously dented the image of Israeli intelligence as they exploded the myth, invented by Western propaganda, about its supposed omnipotence. Two more Israeli spies were arrested in Switzerland: Otto Joklick, an Austrian national, and Joseph Ben-Gal, an Israeli citizen, whose job was to prevent prominent West European scientists from going to Egypt at the invitation of that country's government. To this end Israeli agents employed tactics of intimidation against European specialists who had received invitations to work in Arab countries, kidnapped many of them and even killed a few.

The Zionists did not always spare their patrons and protectors either if the latter failed to support Zionist demands with sufficient zeal. Thus, in November 1944 the men of Irgun Tz'vai L'umi shot dead Sir Moyne, the British Deputy Minister of State in Cairo. In 1947 Zionist terrorists sent letter-bombs to some British Cabinet ministers and even to the White House.

The Stern Group tried to assassinate President Truman who the Zionist fanatics felt did not give sufficient backing to their claims on Palestine. Letters in cream-colored envelopes began arriving at the White House addressed to the President and his aides. Inside each envelope was another one, marked "Confidential", which was packed with enough explosives to kill anyone opening it on the spot. Luckily for President Truman, the White House security service, forewarned by the British intelligence service which had had experience in dealing with letter-bombs, was able to intercept the Zionist epistles in time.

The Stern Group assassinated Count Folke Bernadotte of Sweden, who served as UN Mediator for Palestine in 1948. Count Bernadotte had had long-standing Zionist connections, having taken part in secret contacts between Zionist leaders and Nazis during the Second World War. However, Bernadotte was out of favour with the Zionist extremists after he had publicly suggested, in 1948, that part of the territory of what was to be the future State of Israel should belong to the Arab state to be created in Palestine. Soon afterwards, the car carrying Bernadotte and his UN aides was stopped in an Israeli-controlled area by a jeep. The men inside wore Israeli army uniforms. One of them coolly emptied the magazine of his Tommy-gun straight at the chest of the Swedish count. Colonel Serot of France who accompanied Bernadotte was also killed.

Although the Israeli government later denied all responsibility for the killing and even said that it would punish the murderers, none of the Stern Group involved in the incident was even detained. In fact Prime Minister Ben-Gurion knew the names of the assassins, one of whom, Yehoshva Zeitler, commander of the Stern Group, was his personal friend. The assassins were later praised by the Zionist propaganda as heroes and dedicated fighters for the freedom of Israel.

Moshe Dayan, when he was Israeli Army Chief-of-Staff, was the first to suggest air piracy. Later, when he became Defense Minister, he put the idea into practice. In December 1968 Israeli commandos destroyed ten commercial airliners on the ground at Beirut airport belonging to the Lebanese and foreign airlines. This act of piracy was committed against a country with which back in 1949 Israel had signed an armistice agreement and which had never posed any threat to it. On another occasion Israeli air pirates intercepted a passenger airliner on a Beirut-Baghdad flight. Israeli fighter planes forced the airliner to land in Israel putting the lives of the passengers at risk.

On February 21, 1973, the Israelis shot down a Libyan Boeing-727 over the Suez Canal, killing 102 passengers, includ-

ing 27 women and children, and eighteen crew members. The airliner had flown into a sand-storm and strayed off course flying over Israeli-occupied Sinai. When the pilot realized the mistake he swung round for Cairo but the intercepting Israeli jets fired missiles.

These days, when the Reagan Administration has proclaimed "struggle against international terrorism" one of its principal goals, when it accuses the Soviet Union of using terror, the Zionist leadership in Israel is doing everything to help Washington back up this invention. What is more, the Zionists portray themselves as the victims of "international terrorism", while attempting to justify their own genocide against the Palestinian people by hurling crude accusations of terrorism against the PLO. To make their accusations sound more credible the Zionists point to the actions of certain extremists. Their propaganda machine made much political capital out of the murder of Israeli athletes during the Munich Olympics in 1972. The terrorist attack was carried out by a group of extremists who were roundly condemned by the PLO leadership.

What the world did not know at the time was that in the summer of 1972, before the Munich tragedy, the Mossad chief, General Zvi Zamir, had obtained the Israeli government's approval for a plan to assassinate leaders and activists of the Palestine resistance movement throughout the world. A special terrorist service calling itself Mivzah Elohim (Wrath of the Gods) was set up to carry out the plan without delay.

The terrorist act against the PLO leaders in Lebanon in the spring of 1973 had been prepared with special care. Six terrorists carrying British, Belgian and West German passports arrived in Beirut in order to organize the landing in central Beirut of Israeli commandos whose assignment was to assassinate the PLO leaders. On the night of April 9 a gangster attack was carried out on the building housing Palestinian offices and on the apartments of the PLO leaders. Several PLO officials, among them Kamal Nasser, Mohammed Yusuf Najjar and Kamal Advan were brutally murdered. All told, 26 people including foreign tourists and other innocent men and women with no connection with the Palestinian organization, became victims of Israeli professional murderers.

This act of banditry was added proof, if any was needed, of the Zionist leadership's insolent defiance of international law and disdain for world public opinion.

When the attempts to do away with the leaders of the Palestinian movement failed, Tel Aviv stepped up its efforts to fan the civil war in Lebanon. Bitter intercommunal fighting followed,

claiming tens of thousands of lives between 1975-1976. The Israeli intelligence service supplied right-wing Christian groups with weapons and trained their combatants for operations against the Palestinians and the Lebanese national patriotic forces. Whenever the "threat" of a cease-fire loomed on the horizon, Israeli agents went into action. They immediately staged armed provocations to prevent the civil war from coming to an end.

As Moshe Sharett's diaries show, the Lebanese tragedy had been planned well in advance by the Zionists. Back in February 1954 Ben-Gurion described Lebanon as the "weakest link in the chain of the Arab League" and proposed the establishment of a Maronite state in Lebanon. Asserting that "a Christian state in Lebanon cannot be established without our initiative and serious assistance", Ben-Gurion called for "encouraging such Maronite circles as do not submit to Islamic pressure and are prepared to seek support from us."¹

Israel not only gave the Phalangists aid amounting to 100,000,000 dollars a year; it was also directly involved in the civil war. In the summer of 1976 Israeli warships began to carry out acts of piracy on the high seas; they blockaded the ports of Tyre and Saida, seized 15 vessels and torpedoed another three which refused to obey their orders to proceed to the Israeli port of Haifa. The then Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Defense Minister Shimon Peres even visited areas of Lebanon controlled by right-wing Christian leaders, as they would their own territory, in order to check on the work of the Israeli "advisers" there and find out how effective were Israeli-supplied weapons.

Israel's special services also used Phalangists for establishing contacts with terrorist organizations in other countries. In particular, through their Phalangist proxies the Zionists supported and encouraged even some neo-Nazi parties. The Kataeb (Phalange) party was from its inception linked with Spanish fascists from whom it had borrowed its name "Phalange", and with fascists in Italy from whom it had borrowed the fascist salute. In the 1970s members of the neo-Nazi "Black International" underwent combat training in the military camps run by the Phalangists. For instance, the Italian terrorist Alessandro Alibrandi, who was killed in a shootout with the police in Rome in January 1982, received training in a Phalangist camp in Lebanon, where, as everyone knows, Israeli instructors boss the show.

In 1980 the Italian authorities had to arrest in Bologna the official representative of the Phalangists in Italy, Camille Tawil. It turned out that Maronite officials had been issuing "visas" to

¹ *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Autumn 1980, pp. 42-43.

Italian neofascists wishing to visit Lebanon. As a result, at least one hundred Italian terrorists went through Phalangist training centers. Some of them had a hand in the explosion at the Bologna railway station in 1980 in which scores of people were killed and injured. Many Spanish and West German neofascist terrorists received their training in Lebanon.

In recent years the support given by Israel's ruling circles to international terrorist groups has assumed massive proportions. The Zionists are engaged in a brisk arms trade and provide some of the world's most repressive regimes with their "specialists" and "advisers". Among their leading client states were Somoza's Nicaragua, Haile Selassie's Ethiopia and the Shah's Iran. Together with the CIA Mossad agents helped the Shah to set up his own Gestapo, the infamous SAVAK security service. In the last years of his rule Somoza received as much as 98 per cent of the arms for his "national guard" from Israel.

As Jacob Meridor, Minister for Economic Coordination, revealed: "Israel was ready to be Washington's surrogate wherever political considerations prevented the US from providing all the military assistance that was needed."¹ Israel's willingness to be Washington's obedient tool is considered by the US ruling circles to be particularly useful for their hypocritical campaign "in defense of human rights". It is with Israel's assistance that the United States is continuing to prop up repressive dictatorships whose human rights record is described even in US State Department reports as bad.

In recent years Israel has been stepping up its activity in Central America. It supplies arms and "advisers" to El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. Between 1973 and 1982 the three Central American states as well as Nicaragua, which was then still under Somoza, had bought from Israel 75 Arava and Kfir combat aircraft, as well as Ouragan, Magister and Super-Mystère aircraft (with which the Israeli air force was formerly equipped), in addition to four helicopters, seven Israeli-built Dvora missile-carrying boats, 24 armored personnel carriers and large quantities of small arms. Israel's clients in South America include Chile, Paraguay and several other military regimes.

In Africa Israel supplied arms to Emperor Selassie's Ethiopia, to "Emperor" Bokassa of the "Central African Empire" and to the Ugandan dictator Idi Amin, who at one time received paratrooper training in Israel. Other recipients of Israeli arms are the pro-Western regimes in the Ivory Coast, Malawi and Zaire. The

¹ *Middle East International*, December 23, 1982, p. 12.

Zionists maintain particularly close ties with the apartheid regime in South Africa.

Pretoria racists buy from Israel Reshet missile-carrying vessels, Gabriel missiles, long-range guns, helicopters, armoured personnel carriers, mortars, ammunition and so on. The Zionists have helped South Africa to modernize the British-built Centurion tank which was then used as the model for the Israeli Merkava tank. Israel has also helped South Africa to develop an advanced electronic surveillance system along the border between Angola and Namibia, which is still under illegal South African occupation. Ariel Sharon visited South Africa to share Israel's experience in counter-insurgency warfare with that country's military establishment. Subsequently the racists used this experience during the 1982 invasion of Angola which was nearly a carbon copy of Israel's invasion of Lebanon.

Israel's special services, relying on a far-flung network of Zionist organizations, carry out espionage and sabotage activities in many capitalist and developing countries. Thus Zionist terrorism is not merely an instrument for implementing the "final solution" of the Palestinian question and for creating a "Greater Israel"; terror has become a tactical line pursued by the aggressive imperialist forces and international Zionism in their struggle against the forces of social progress and national liberation.

The Specter of the Nuclear Mushroom Cloud (in lieu of conclusion)

On a September night, 1979, a US reconnaissance satellite picked up the characteristic flash of an atom bomb explosion in the Atlantic. It was established that a nuclear weapon was tested off the coast of South Africa. Later reports appeared in the world press that Israel and South Africa had carried out a joint test. Although this was followed by official denials from Pretoria and Tel Aviv, denials which Washington supported, there is evidence that Israel's Zionist rulers have for some time now been playing a dangerous game with the idea of developing nuclear weapons of their own.

Nuclear research in Israel began shortly after the establishment of the State of Israel. The work of the Israeli Atomic Energy Commission, set up in 1952, is kept in strict secrecy.

The first Israeli nuclear reactor was built with American help in the Nahal-Soreq settlement on the Mediterranean coast near Tel Aviv. Shortly afterwards the Israeli authorities started building a nuclear reactor at Dimona, disguised as a textile mill. Press reports at the time indicated that the Dimona reactor was used in the development of nuclear weapons. Since Dimona is on the road to Sodom, the biblical story of how Sodom was incinerated by God in punishment for its sins was recalled, and it was suggested that the destruction of Sodom had been caused by a nuclear explosion. It was further suggested that the explosion was set off by extraterrestrial invaders.

While the supporters and opponents of this hypothesis were arguing with one another, sites were built next to the Israeli nuclear research facilities ostensibly for test firings of "meteorological" missiles, which looked quite capable of carrying nuclear warheads. Before long Israeli missile specialists went to France where they worked at Marcel Dassault's plants which supplied Mirage fighter-bombers to Israel. It became known that Israel was developing an MD-660 missile capable of delivering a 500 kg warhead over a distance of 500 km. When after the 1967 Israeli aggression relations between Paris and Tel Aviv cooled Israeli agents smuggled the MD-660 blueprints out of France and into Israel.

Although the Israeli government had refused to accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, its propagandists were at considerable pains to assure the world that it had no intention of developing a nuclear bomb and that its nuclear research program served peaceful purposes. In any case, apologists for Tel Aviv claimed, even if Israel should decide to develop an atom bomb it would not be able to produce sufficient quantities of enriched uranium. However, there have been enough reports in the world press by now indicating just how the Israeli intelligence service had "obtained" sufficient amounts of uranium for dozens of atomic bombs, each comparable in explosive power to the one dropped on Hiroshima.

It came to light that Israeli intelligence had received from 200 to 400 pounds of enriched uranium from a plant of the Nuclear Materials and Equipment Corporation (NUMEC) in Pennsylvania. In the 1960s NUMEC Corporation was owned by a Zalman Shapiro, a former member of the US Atomic Energy Commission, who during World War II worked on the Manhattan Project which developed the American atom bomb. Shapiro made no secret of his Zionist sympathies and maintained close contacts with Israeli government agencies. In due course NUMEC, jointly with the Israel Atomic Energy Commission, set up the IZORAD company which ostensibly would supply Israel with special irradiators for keeping fish and fruits fresh longer. According to US press reports, Shapiro was under CIA and FBI surveillance after the US Atomic Energy Commission had repeatedly discovered that some quantities of enriched uranium were missing from NUMEC's storage facilities. It was established that Shapiro had held discussions with Israeli diplomats in New York using a telephone fitted with a coding device operating on the basis of frequency modifications at one end and a decoding device at the other. However, it was reported that the FBI discontinued wiretapping Shapiro's

telephone conversations with his Israeli diplomatic friends after failing to break the Israeli code.

Richard Helms, the then CIA Director, discussed the matter with President Johnson. The President wanted the whole affair hushed up. He suggested to Helms that Israel be allowed to keep the nuclear material it had obtained illegally, that the investigation be terminated and other Federal agencies be told nothing about the matter.

Apart from obtaining enriched uranium by smuggling, Israeli secret agents also raided nuclear material storages in a number of Western countries. In 1967-1968 Mossad set up a special group for carrying out commando-style raids on Western nuclear facilities. Mossad apparently assumed that these countries would not retaliate or publicize the theft. In France, for instance, Israeli agents seized a 25-ton truck when it was transporting government-owned uranium. The Israelis drugged the driver, hijacked the truck and later took the uranium secretly to Dimona. A similar operation was carried out in Britain. Subsequently the Israeli government, by way of compensation, offered to the robbed countries to pay money and to pass on secret information on a uranium enrichment technique.

A different method was used to obtain uranium from West Germany. Under an agreement with the West German government Israel was sold 3.7 million dollars' worth of technological information and 200 tons of unenriched uranium. To cover up this deal Israeli agents staged a theft of nuclear raw material from the freighter *Scheersberg*. This operation was carried out by a special Mossad unit and was designed to clear the West German authorities of responsibility for making the uranium available to Israel. The *Scheersberg* crew was replaced by Israeli seamen. The ship was registered with the Liberian Biscayne Traders Shipping Corporation, whose president Dan Ert (alias Aerbel) was a Mossad agent.

The dummy shipping corporation was set up on August 20, 1968. On September 27 it acquired the *Scheersberg* and on November 17 the ship sailed from Antwerp with a cargo of uranium. On December 2 the *Scheersberg*, instead of docking at her port of destination, Genoa, turned up off the coast of Turkey, minus the cargo. The 200 tons of uranium had in the meantime been transferred in the Mediterranean to an Israeli vessel which took it to Haifa. A year later the *Scheersberg* again took an all-Israeli crew and sailed for the Bay of Biscay. There it linked up with French missile-carrying boats, which Israeli intelligence agents had stolen from Cherbourg, and supplied them with fuel.

The ease with which Israeli intelligence had been able to

“acquire” nuclear materials suggested cooperation between Mossad and the special services of the United States and other NATO countries. It seems that this cooperation was a kind of “reward” for the numerous operations carried out by Israeli intelligence in the interests of the imperialist powers.

In developing nuclear weapons of its own Israel's Zionist rulers obviously do not intend always to keep them in storage. Reports in the world press indicate that at the start of the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, when Israeli forces suffered a serious setback, an order was given to place nuclear weapons in a state of combat readiness. The order was issued by the then Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan. It appears that to keep their grip on occupied Arab territory Israel's rulers were prepared to use nuclear weapons. According to Amos Perlmutter, a US professor, Israel possesses 200 nuclear bombs. Israel also has the delivery vehicles—US-built fighter-bombers. It has also been reported in the press that Israel is developing Cruise missiles jointly with South Africa and Taiwan.

Officially, the Israeli government has declared that “Israel will not be the first to introduce nuclear weapons into the Middle East”,¹ adding, however, that it will not be the second, either. This tactics has been dubbed by Western experts “bombs in the basement policy.” The Zionist leadership has thereby let it be known that Israel does have nuclear weapons, though officially it denies this. In this way the Zionists blackmail Israel's neighboring countries while declaring at the same time that they will not allow any Arab country to develop nuclear weapons.

As the Indian magazine *Blitz* reported on April 4, 1980, Mossad had already launched a secret war to assure Israel's nuclear superiority. The Zionist special services resorted to terror to disrupt nuclear research in Arab countries. The first and primary target of Israeli terrorist attacks was Iraq where a major nuclear research center for peaceful purposes had been built under an agreement with France. In April 1979 Mossad agents blew up nuclear reactors Tammouz-1 and Tammouz-2 at a French naval yard at la Seine, destroying 65 kg of active plutonium which the Iraqi government had purchased from France. The French government later replaced the lost reactors. In the summer of 1981 construction of the nuclear center outside Baghdad was nearing completion.

In June 1981 Menachem Begin gave the order to carry out an attack on the Iraqi nuclear center. A few months prior to that Tel

¹ *Israeli Nuclear Armament*, Report of the Secretary-General, A/36/431, September 18, 1981, p. 22.

Aviv had consulted US experts on methods of destroying underground nuclear reactors. On June 7 the US-built F-15s and F-16s in service with the Israeli air force had their first combat trial by bombing the nuclear center outside Baghdad. The raid claimed several lives and it was only by chance that the Iraqi capital escaped the danger of radioactive contamination. Begin later sought to justify the bandit raid by alleging that Iraq was working on the development of an atom bomb. However, this Zionist invention was disproved by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) which published a report by its inspectors who shortly before the Israeli air raid had confirmed they were satisfied that Iraq's nuclear research program was conducted solely for peaceful purposes.

Israel's bandit attack brought a storm of protests throughout the world. After violating the air space of Jordan and Saudi Arabia Israeli jets delivered an unprovoked strike at the Baghdad nuclear center. For the first time a peaceful nuclear reactor became the target of an air attack. The Israeli raid, which came close to putting the world on the brink of nuclear catastrophe, was strongly condemned by the United Nations. The Soviet Union denounced Israel's action and called upon the international community to take strict measures to ensure that peaceful nuclear facilities would be safe from attack.

In August 1983 Prime Minister Menachem Begin, Zionist and "veteran" terrorist, was led to resign by Israel's growing isolation, the stepped-up campaign by Israeli democratic forces against the aggression in Lebanon, and the heightened crisis in Zionist ruling circles. Terrorist Begin, however, was replaced by terrorist Yitzhak Shamir. This former leader of the Stern Group collaborated with Begin in planning the explosion in the King David Hotel and the massacre in the village of Deir Yassin. Later he held an important post in Mossad and then became Begin's right-hand man among the leadership of the Likud bloc. This seasoned terrorist felt that even the Camp David agreement was a concession (he abstained in the vote on it in the Knesset), but this did not deter Begin from appointing him Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Now Prime Minister, Yitzhak Shamir continues his predecessors' aggressive policy. He has the support of such ardent proponents of terrorist methods as Sharon, the "butcher of Beirut", Ne'eman, responsible for producing Israel's "nuclear alternative" and Geula Cohen, a former terrorist from the Stern Group and now leader of the Tehya party. There is every indication that the Zionist rulers of Israel continue to see terrorism as the basis of their strategy.

The reactionary ideology and political practice of international

Zionism are harmful to the cause of peace and progress. Zionism has been and remains a dangerous weapon in the hands of aggressive imperialist circles. The Zionists' terrorist activities run counter to the standards of international law and are an insolent challenge to basic moral principles. Recent world developments indicate that the imperialist reactionary forces are increasingly resorting to Zionist terror in their struggle against the forces of progress.

The United Nations has condemned Zionism as a form of racism and race discrimination, and has denounced the aggressive terrorist actions of Israel's ruling circles. The Zionists' bloody crimes in Lebanon have once again shown that the real source of international terrorism is US imperialism and its henchmen among whom the extremist Zionist quarters play so conspicuous a role. Progressive public throughout the world and the peoples of the socialist countries are waging a determined struggle against Zionism and anti-Semitism which threaten the interests of working people of different nationalities, including Jews.

Сергей Седов
СИОНИЗМ: СТАВКА НА ТЕРРОР
на английском языке
Цена 40 коп.



Zionism Counts on Terror

Sergei SEDOV

