

# The Other Israel

Newsletter of the Israeli Council  
for Israeli-Palestinian Peace

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## OCCUPATION, RESISTANCE, REPRESSION — WHAT NEXT!?

*The Palestinians in the Occupied Territories deprived of national rights, threatened with dispossession (Likud and Labor's settlement policy is a telling reminder), and with no political settlement to the conflict in sight, because of the Coalition Government's rejectionist policies — are putting up more violent resistance to the occupation. Within*

**Labor and Likud vote for Anti-Peace Law; PLP MKs Meet PLO delegates. See pp.3,6.**

*the last month, seven Israelis (a settler, four civilians and two soldiers) were killed or wounded by hit-and-run Palestinian attackers. (Palestinians from the Occupied Territories were apparently also responsible for the killing of the school teachers in Afula); almost every day Molotov cocktails are thrown at Israeli targets; and the sight of Palestinians throwing stones at Israeli targets has become so common that soldiers — Israeli commanders complain — have stopped reporting the incidences. Most of the attacks are initiated locally. All observers agree that this is a new, and not a passing phase in Palestinian resistance.*

*Likud and Labor leaders alike, unwilling to deal with the political root causes of the escalation in Palestinian resistance, are in their traditional fashion escalating the repression in the Occupied Territories. A Palestinian news agency in Jerusalem was closed for six months and others are threatened; 70 Palestinians are now under administrative arrest (renewable automatically every six months); the Al-Najah University (in Nablus) has been closed for two months (August-October) and its student leaders arrested; fifteen residents of the West Bank and Gaza are now threatened — pending a Supreme Court decision — with deportation. Denouncing these measures as “too mild”, the settlers and their representatives in Government (Likud — Ariel Sharon, Yitzbak Shamir) are demanding even harsher measures; the death penalty for “terrorists”; wide-scale deportations; and more settlements (the settlers are incessantly attempting to expand their enclave in Hebron following every Palestinian attack). For several days (in Sept.) armed settler vigilantes partolled the streets of all the major Palestinian cities in the Occupied Territories. Palestinian homes were vandalized, burned, and cars were smashed by the settlers. Every Palestinian male, living in the West Bank and Gaza has become suspect of what the Government and the settlers call “terrorist” activities. These are the conditions at the time of writing, in mid September.*

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*The Coalition Government's accusations that PLO headquarters in Jordan are responsible for the recent upsurge of Palestinian resistance is a grave development which suggests possible Israeli military reprisals. (Sharon has proposed this to the Cabinet on several occasions during the past month). Likud and Labor worried by the*





prospects of a peace settlement — because it would mean relinquishing the Occupied Territories — are doing their outmost to bury the Arafat-Hussein peace initiative. For the moment at least, Labor and Likud leaders hope that mere threats against PLO headquarters (i.e., offices; the Government, for propagandist reasons, calls them “bases”) might induce Hussein to break off his alliance with Arafat. But even if proved successful and Hussein — fearing military reprisals by Israel — were to disassociate himself from the joint Jordanian-Palestinian peace initiative, the basic problem of Labor’s (and of course the Likud’s) refusal to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza would remain. King Hussein, aware of what the Israeli leadership is offering him as political alternatives — the Likud his downfall and Labor, a partial withdrawal from the Occupied Territories and even this is uncertain — is unlikely to break his partnership with Arafat and the PLO. The latter’s headquarters in Jordan will therefore in all likelihood remain. With Arafat’s and Hussein’s peace initiative deadlocked Palestinian resistance to the occupation will grow, and so will the dangers of military reprisals. Labor and Likud leaders are clearly writing this on the wall.

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The refusal of US Under Secretary of State, Richard Murphy, to meet the joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation in August, because of Israel’s opposition is contributing to the escalation of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Unless the US disregards Israel’s opposition and takes steps to cut the Gordian knot and recognizes the PLO as a legitimate partner in negotiations, the Arafat-Hussein peace initiative is doomed. The violence will continue, and what we see now may only be the tip of the iceberg. America’s role is critical — the fate of many Israelis and more immediately Palestinians is at stake.

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The religious establishment still continues to demand that the Ethiopian Jews, undergo a “ritual conversion to Judaism”. (See *Other Israel* No. 12 16). At the time of writing (Sept. 17) several hundred of the Ethiopians are staging a hunger strike in front of the offices of the Chief Rabbinate in Jerusalem.

### The Editor

Dear Readers

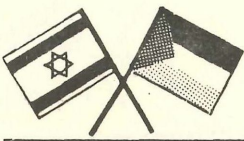
You may have noticed the new editor’s name on the front page and wondered at it. Within two months, I will be going to France, where I will be spending two years. As “*The Other Israel*” is an Israeli magazine, whose editor should be in constant touch with the Israeli reality, I had to relinquish my post.

This was not an easy decision for me to make, even though in Paris I will continue to work for the cause of Israeli-Palestinian peace. Editing “*The Other Israel*” and maintaining contact with hundreds of readers from all over the world, across political, national and religious boundaries, has been one of the most interesting and challenging jobs I have ever done. I am sure I will miss it, and you.

Yours  
Adam Keller

P.S. Any reader who wishes to contact me personally will be able to do so, from December 1985, through Jacqueline Grobety, whose address appears in the box on p.7.





## LABOR, LIKUD, VOTE FOR ANTI-PEACE LAW

The law making contacts between Israelis and members of the PLO a criminal offense, punishable by three years imprisonment, passed its first reading in the Knesset in September. Last minute hopes that Labor's doves might force through a serious amendment to the law were shattered when its final version was publicised. According to it, the ban and punishment by imprisonment remain, except in the following circumstances: Meetings taking place for reasons of personal distress (such as families of soldiers held prisoners by the Arabs); family ties (refers to Arabs in Israel, whose relations belong to the PLO); scientific congresses (no personal contact allowed with PLO); press conferences (Israeli reporters may participate in PLO press conferences and ask questions but no personal interviews are allowed). PLP MKs and ICIPP members and many others, not covered by these exceptions would therefore still be threatened with imprisonment if they keep up their contacts with the PLO. Mr. Uri Avnery's interview with Yassir Arafat in August 1982 (during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon) would according to the new "Anti Peace Law" be considered illegal. An Israeli scientist, participating in a conference might be threatened with imprisonment if he asks a PLO colleague the time of day. And if not imprisoned, than he would certainly have to answer a lot of questions when he gets back to the country.

At this critical stage, when Yassir Arafat and the PLO are offering Israel the principle of "Peace in exchange for Territories", Labor and Likud are saying NO!

Labor's "doves" were at their lowest ebb Only Labor MK, Abd el-Wahab Darausha, was allowed by his party to vote with the Opposition (the Communist Party, Mapam and the Civil Rights Movement; PLP MKs Muhammad Mi'ari and Matti Peled were then in Geneva meeting PLO leader Shafiq al-Hout), against the law. All the other Labor moderates deserted the Knesset floor when the voting commenced. Lacking the political courage to vote according to their conscience - which rejected the law - Labor's doves gave in to party discipline. At the critical time of vote, they quit the Knesset floor, and thus for all intents and purposes voted for the Anti Peace Law.

Before reaching the Knesset floor for its second and almost automatic third and final reading the law has to pass through one of the Knesset Committees. Theoretically, it could get stuck there indefinitely - as has for the time being the motion to remove PLP MK Muhammad Mi'ari's parliamentary immunity - but not too many hopes should be placed on this technical possibility. Considering the anti-PLO hysteria which political leaders are now spearheading - similar to the hysteria which existed in the country on the eve of the invasion of Lebanon - both the Anti Peace Law and the question of removing Muhammad Mi'ari's immunity may reach the Knesset floor sooner than anyone expects.

## Chronicles of The Peace Struggle

28/7 - The PLP condemned the murder of the Afula teachers, and demanded swift punishment of the Jewish rioters. Israel's continuing occupation regime, said the PLP, was the cause of the events unfolding in the region.

- The Civil Rights League, headed by former Supreme Court judge Haim Cohen, condemned the military injunction order to shut down the El-Hakawati theater for 3 days to prevent it from renting its premises to Palestinian workers' organizations.

29/7 - Labor representative in the executive council of Israel's Broadcasting Corporation proposed to prepare a series of anti-racist programs to be shown on television.

2/8 - Hundreds of members of the Histadrut (Israel's Labor Federation, dominated by the Labor Party) and well-known personalities participated in a Jewish-Arab meeting in the Arab city of Nazareth. All the participants condemned the murder of the Afula school teachers, and the violent attacks against the Arabs in that town.

- Arab towns and villages in Israel went on strike today to protest against Government discriminatory policies with regard to the allocation of funds. Many of the Arab Town and village employees have not been paid their wages for months because of the bankruptcy of almost all the Arab municipalities and village councils.

3/8 - Israel's kibutz movement called on Government to pass laws against Kahane and expell him from the Knesset. The movement also unequivocally condemned proposals by Likud ministers to apply the death penalty to "terrorists".

- A joint Jewish-Arab artists' gathering was held in Hedera (a town north of Tel-Aviv). Twenty artists, five of them Arabs, displayed their works in the joint exhibition. Nitzanei Shalom (Buds of Peace) organized the event.

4/8 - More the 100 Israeli Arab town and village mayors and municipal council employees demonstrated in front of the Prime Minister's office in Jerusalem to protest against Government discrimination in the distribution of public funds.

- Almost all of Israel's leading writers (Nissim Aloni, Dan Almagor, Amos Kenan, Yonatan Gefen, Hillel Mittelpunkt, Ephraim Kishon, etc. have agreed to write 5-15 minute sketches (monologues, songs etc.) for a Show Against Racism. The National Theater Habima, (Tel-Aviv) is sponsoring the project. According to the project's, director the two-and-a-half-hour show will open in late September, and its principal audiences will be teenagers. Public opinion polls among Israel's youth show that more than 50% of them adopt extreme anti-Arab positions. (See Other Israel No. 16).

- "We citizens of Israel Jews and Arabs, shocked by the murder of innocent people, frightened by the violence threatening our society, declare:

**THE SANCTITY OF LIFE AND RESPECT FOR MAN - even if he differs from us in his identity, in his beliefs and in his opinions.**

**CIVIL EQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW, regardless of religion, race, nationality, sex or ethnic origin, as expressed by the principles of all Israeli governments in this decade.**





**THE SUPREMACY OF THE LAW on all occasions and without bias, as befits a democratic state.  
ADD YOUR SIGNATURE TO OURS!**

About one hundred people, Arabs and Jews – Knesset members, mayors, councilman and writers – signed the above declaration which appeared in the liberal **Ha-Aretz** daily. The pogrom which broke out against Arabs in Afula following the discovery of the murdered teachers' bodies was still in full swing. It was beginning to look as if the events were getting out of hand. Minister of Police Haim Bar-Lev (Labor), who represented the Government at one of the murdered teachers' funerals, was cursed by the raging crowd as a leftist and PLO agent. A popular talk show that was to be televised live from Afula, was cancelled by order of the Minister of Police because of fears that it would escalate the already explosive situation. Almost all of the Jewish names appearing in the advertisement (Teddy Kolek, Mayor of Jerusalem Labor MK Shoshana Arbeli-Almoslino, and others) reject the concept of complete withdrawal from the Occupied Territories and the implementation of Palestinian national rights. In the past, similar outbreaks of violence against Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza by settlers had never brought forth such a principled stand for the rule of law. The excesses in Afula – in the center of Israel – were such, that even three right wingers (**Likud**) signed the statement.

10/8 – About forty people, activists in a number of extra-parliamentary Leftist groups (The committee for Solidarity with Bir-Zeit; the Committee against The War in Lebanon), Demonstrated against the Army's intent to deport Khalil Abu-Ziad.

Khalil Abu-Ziad, accused of sedition and being a PLO activist, is only one of a group of 15 Palestinians facing deportation. Pending the Supreme Court's decision – Palestinians threatened with deportation in the Occupied Territories have now, after several legal precedents, the right of appeal to the Court – the regional commander (of the West Bank) could not deport Mr. Abu-Ziad. However, even before the Court's decision was given, Mr. Abu-Ziad and military defense officials "compromised": Abu-Ziad would leave the region, whereas military officials promised to permit his return in three years time. Mr. Abu-Ziad had little choice in the matter. For even had the Supreme Court ruled in his favor which was feasible – considering that the military commission of appeal had previously asked the military commander to reconsider his decision to deport – military officials let it be known that he would be placed under administrative arrest.

10/8-16/8 – The third volunteer work camp organized by the association for the Arabs of Jaffa was held in the city. For six days, several hundred volunteers, Jews and Arabs cleaned the streets and planted trees and flowers.

12/8 – More than one thousand people – the majority of whom were Labor sympathizers – demonstrated against Rabbi Kahane's rally in downtown Givatayim, a Tel-Aviv suburb. Considerably outnumbering his fifty supporters, the egg-and-tomato-throwing demonstrators prevented Kahane from uttering a word.

There is little doubt that the week-long pogrom against Arabs in Afula and surroundings sent serious shock waves to Labor's traditional sympathizers (especially members of the kibbutz movement). Reports of Arab patients being attacked in the town's hospital, as well the beating-up of Arab passersby, was hard to take.

It became clear to many, after the pogrom had finally ceased, (large number of police and border patrol tried to keep law and order) that it could have been prevented, had a determined number of kibbutz members living in the region gone into the town and fought it out with the hoodlums. A sense of personal responsibility and shame largely explain Labor militancy in Givatayim and elsewhere.

14/8 – About 200 people (supporters of left of center groups and parties) demonstrated against Kahane's rally in downtown Jerusalem. Significantly outnumbering his twenty supporters, the demonstrators pelted him with eggs and for more than two hours shouted "Nazi, Nazi". As in Givatayim two days earlier (see Chronicle), Kahane was routed.

Kahane's unabashed racism has made him a popular target even for Labor and **Likud** leaders. For the latter Kahane poses a serious electoral threat. Recent polls indicate that were elections to be held now, Kahane, together with the extreme right-wing Tehiya Party, would increase their parliamentary strength four to five times (from the current 5 MKs to anywhere between 15 to 20 MKs) and all of it at the expense of the **Likud** (Kahane does not threaten Labor).

The Peace Movement must go beyond attacking Kahane. He is, after all, only the tip of the iceberg – the legitimate son of the occupation, for which Labor and **Likud** are equally responsible. Without attacking the occupation, the anti-Kahane demonstrations, important as they may be lose their political significance. Many in the Peace Movement are becoming aware of this.

14/8-18/8 – Several thousand people, teenagers and adults – Jews and Arabs from Israel, Palestinians from the occupied territories delegates from-France, Italy, US, Finland, West Germany, Greece, and Sweden – took part in the annual (tenth) volunteer work camp in Nazareth.

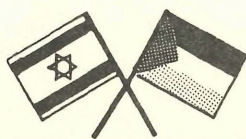
15/8 – About twenty members of Shasi – Israeli Socialist Left – demonstrated against the participants of a seminar on Star Wars, which took place in Tel-Aviv University. They were immediately evicted by the university's security guards.

– Fifteen **Mapam** members demonstrated in front of the South African embassy in Tel-Aviv, demanding that the Israeli Government recall its ambassador from Pretoria. Israel's ambassador was one of the last to remain in the South African capital, along with such colleagues as the ambassador of Taiwan and Chile.

18/8 – Members of Peace Now demonstrated in the Hebron Casbah, demanding the immediate removal of the right-wing MKs who were squatting in one of its apartments. Four of the demonstrators were arrested but were released after several hours.

**Gush Emunim**, the extreme right-wing settlers' movement in the Occupied Territories, has been trying for years to expand its enclave in the heart of Hebron. The **Likud** Governments (1977-1984) policy, advocating settlements in all the Occupied Territories including Arab towns such as Hebron, allowed settlers from Kiryat Arba (which is situated on the outskirts of Hebron, on land expropriated by the Labor Government from the Hebron municipality and private citizens in the early seventies), to settle in the city several years ago. Since then, they have been tireless in their efforts to expand their hold in the town. Appropriate opportunities arise following Palestinian attacks. The recent escalation of Palestinian resistance against the occupation was an





extraordinary opportunity for the settlers and their representatives in the Knesset and Government (Likud Ministers) to "create facts" Because of Labor Ministers' opposition to settlement in Arab urban centers, the right-wing MKs were removed from the apartment, following two days of negotiations with Labor's Defense Minister, Yitzhak Rabin. But the affair did not end there. Two soldiers posted to guard the entrance to the empty apartment, following the MKs eviction, were attacked by Palestinians. One of the soldiers was killed and the other wounded.

– Thirty Israeli Poets and writers called on Yitzhak Navon, Minister of education (Labor), not to give in to the religious pressure to prevent meetings and gatherings between Jewish and Arab teenagers.

The Education Minister's religious department, which supervises all the public religious schools in the country (as distinct from the private ultra-orthodox religious school system, which is not under the Ministry's jurisdiction) declared recently that it opposes meetings between Jewish and Arab youth (up to the age of 18) because "such meetings could lead to intermarriage". The Minister was questioned about this policy by PLP MK Matti Peled in the Knesset.

In reply Mr. Navon repeated word for word the statement prepared by the head of the religious department. In other words, the Minister supported the policy. However, the publicity given to the affair, and the obvious racism which it condoned, demanded further review. A "compromise" was reached: Joint meetings will take place, but they will not be co-ed, and for purposes of study (not in a social framework). This is another example of Labor's "compromises".

– Fifty-five community activists – most of them from Jerusalem's poverty-stricken areas of Musrara and Katamonim – held a meeting to discuss racism. In a statement published after the meeting, the discussion group's spokesman declared that those who are now attacking Arabs will in the end also attack the Oriental Jews in the country.

20/8 – PLP executive council member, Nuri Al Ukby called on the Government to cease expropriating Beduin lands in the Negev (Israel's south).

31/8 – Several thousand Jews and Arabs demonstrated today in Umm-el-Fahem to commemorate last year's successful barring of Kahane's attempt to enter the town.

31/8 – Thirty members of a new extra-parliamentary group called "Down with the Occupation", demonstrated in Ramallah (West Bank) against the Government's "iron fist" policy in the Occupied Territories.

2/9 – Amos Kenan, popular writer and satirist, condemned the Government's proposed Anti-Peace Law.

5/9 – The Board of Censors forbade Haifa Theater to stage a play by poet and writer Yizhak Laor, which deals with the occupation, because "it injures the image of Israel's army".

– PLP MK Matti Peled demanded the immediate removal of the settler vigilantes patrolling the streets of West Bank cities and Gaza.

6/9 – The Civil Rights Movement MKs (four MKs) demonstrated in Ramallah against settler vigilantes.

8/9 – The Alternative group in the Progressive List for Peace organized a demonstration in front of the Labor Party offices in Tel-Aviv. Scores of members and supporters held placards which read: "Down with the Occupation", "Peace-Yes, Occupation-No", "No to

Administrative Detention" "Yitzhak Rabin, Labor or Likud", "No to Deportations", "Labor Doves, where are you?", "No to the Anti-Peace Law".

7/9 – Approximately 15,000 people – the vast majority of them Jews – demonstrated in Afula against racism. The demonstration was organized by Mapam. All of the speakers in the demonstration, MK Eliezer Granot, Mapam's General Secretary, and MK Muhammad Wattad, among others, denounced the verbal and physical racist attacks on Arabs, and called for a joint Jewish-Arab struggle against racism. Several hundred Kahane supporters tried, unsuccessfully, to interfere.

11/9 – Members of the Civil Rights Movement held a demonstration in Ber-Sheva (in the south of Israel) against the beatings inflicted by Kahane's hoods (teenagers) several days earlier on Arab doctors and nurses working in the city's "Soroka" hospital.

17/9 – Members of the Down with the Occupation group held a protest vigil opposite the Prime Minister's residence.

## BUS HIJACKING THE AFFAIR – COVERUP AND WHITEWASHING

In April 1984, Israel was shaken by the effects of the bus hijacking affair. Four Palestinians from the Gaza strip had hijacked a bus, with about 40 civilian passengers. After the Israeli army recaptured the bus, it was announced that all the hijackers were killed – but newspaper photographers had taken pictures of two of them being led off, alive, giving incontestable proof that they died after their capture. The military censorship tried to suppress the publication of these pictures. 'Ha'olam Haze' published the first photo clearly showing a hijacker being led away – walking on his own feet, by several people, one of whom was General Itzhak Mordechai, holding in his hand a revolver like a bulgeon. "Hadashot" revealed the appointment of a board of inquiry, and was closed for a week for defying censorship. Following this publication, the matter could no longer be hushed up – so a commission, headed by state attorney Yona Blatman, was formed "to investigate" it – and actually, as it turned out, to find means of whitewashing the whole affair. A few months after the Blatman commission was appointed, the "Koteret Rashit" magazin identified – again in defiance of military censorship – that Tat-Aluf (brigadier) Itzhak Mordechai, commander of Israel's elite paratroop brigade and Chief of Infantry, as the man in the picture. Thus, the stakes and vested interests involved, both political and military, proved to be clearly enormous. The Blatman commission took sixteen months to prepare its report. It determined that the two hijackers died of skull wounds inflicted by blows. Whereas the blows inflicted on the victims – when the bus was stormed – were considered by the commission to be legitimate, the beatings of the Palestinians during their interrogation by Brigadier Mordechai and others were found to be illegal. The commission said that "it could not be medically ascertained" whether death was caused by the former (legal) or the later (illegal)-blows. The commission concluded therefore that Brigadier Mordechai should not be prosecuted for murder or manslaughter, but only for "causing a grave injury". But even this was too much





for many right-wingers, who regard the killing of "Arab terrorists" as laudable even if it is illegal. When Attorney-General Zamir endorsed the Blatman report, Minister Yosef Shapiro, of the extreme right-wing religious Morasha (Heritage) Party, accused him of treason and demanded his resignation. Moreover, a "committee in support of Brigadier Mordechai" was formed, supported not only by right-wingers, but even by many kibbutz members and even by MK Ran Cohen, of the Civil Rights Movement (many kibbutz members traditionally volunteer to serve in the paratroop brigade and are willing to "defend the honor of the brigade" even at the price of collaborating with the right). Given this public climate, the end was a foregone conclusion: Mordechai was tried, not by a regular court-martial, but by General (res.) Nadel, himself a former paratrooper and, after a "trial" lasting barely half a day Nadel announced Mordechai's complete acquittal.

This result constitutes a grave blow to the Israeli Peace Movement, and to all who struggle to impose rules of humane conduct and adherence to the law by Israel's Government and army. Though the overwhelming forces mobilised in support of Brigadier Mordechai were able to secure his acquittal, the very fact that the whole affair was exposed, that Brigadier Mordechai found himself under a cloud for a year and a half and that his future career was placed in jeopardy may make other officers hesitate in similar circumstances. For achieving even this much, thanks are due to the courage of several Israeli journalists and editors, of Hadashot daily, Ha'olam Haze and "Koteret Rashit", who defied censorship to expose this affair.

### LAND EXTORTION CASES EXPOSED

One of the first acts of the Likud Government, after coming to power in 1977, was to permit private Israeli individuals and companies to buy land in the Occupied Territories. A large number of Israeli settlements were established on the West Bank, on land claimed to have been sold by the Arab owners of their own free will. Very soon, rumors began to spread about the reality behind these "sales", such as extortion and acts of violence against Arab farmers who refused to sell their land, as well as about fraud and counterfeit signatures. Often Arabs learned that their land had been "sold" only when the Israeli settlers appeared on it.

However, during the Likud Government's tenure (1977-1984) all police investigations of these affairs was blocked. It is now known that at least one police investigation was halted, despite (or because of) the evidence; that the trial of a land speculator was stopped, with the prosecution withdrawing all charges and asking the Judge to forbid the publication of any details about the trial; that a key file mysteriously disappeared from a safe in the Tel-Aviv District Court

In many aspects, conditions of life in the Occupied Territories have not changed, or have even changed for the worse, with the creation of the "National Unity Government". However, the new Minister of police, Haim Bat-Lev, appears to be one of the more decent men in this Government. It is clearly due to him that the police began seriously investigating the true nature of the West Bank 'land sales'. In recent months, a

growing number of land speculators have being arrested, more and more facts, previously hidden, are coming to light and a growing number of Israeli settlements are being exposed as having been built on lands stolen from its owners by fraud and extortion. The key figure, so far, seems to be Ahmed Udeh, an Arab West Bank land speculator who became a multi-millionaire by acting as the middleman in many such unsavory land deals. Having been arrested, Udeh now seems ready to testify against his confederates. The big question is whether the people implicated will include only land speculators — or also the political figures, including high ranking Likud leaders, who supported the settlement effort. Clearly, the Likud leaders are concerned and nervous.

Foreign Minister Shamir, in a public speech, defended the "Heroic Struggle" of the "Liberators of Land" (that is, those who "liberate" land from its Arab owners and transfer it to Jewish ownership).

At the time of writing, the affair continues to unfold. If the right-wingers fail in their frantic efforts to stop the police investigation, this affair may prove an important turning point in the history of the occupation.

### ICIPP ACTIVITIES

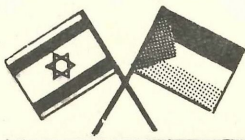
It was politically symbolic that on the very day (Sept. 9) that the Knesset voted for the Anti-Peace Law, PLP MKs Muhhamad Mi'ari and Matti Peled; PLP executive council member Rashid Salim; and ICIPP member, advocate Amnon Zichrony met PLO leaders Shafiq Al-Hout and Zuhedi Terezi in Geneva. All of the above personages participated in a three day NGO (Non-Government Organization) conference, sponsored by the UN General Assembly's Division of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian people. The aim of the conference: to advance the idea of convening an international peace conference on the Middle East, with the participation of all the interested parties, the two super powers, Israel and the PLO. Members on the Conference's Panel included former Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky (opening speaker); Mr. Primakov, head of Soviet Academy for Eastern Studies; Shafiq Al-Hout, PLO; Matti Peled and Amnon Zichrony (representing ICIPP, recognized by the UN as a Non-Government Organization); Tufiq Ziad, member of Israel's Communist Party (Rakah); and others. PLP representatives, Muhamad Mi'ari and Rashid Salim, and many other of the conference's participants, were invited as observers. All of the Panel's speakers stressed the importance of convening an international peace conference. Mr. Zichrony, presented to the forum, a peace program, based on the principle of establishing a Palestinian State alongside Israel. Following the opening presentations, all of the conference's delegates and observers, participated in work-shops which dealt with the topics raised by speakers of the Panel (such as economic, an legal aspects of the occupation and the conflict).

Our forthcoming issue will deal with the conference in greater detail.

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The founding Congress of the Progressive Movement, composed of numerous Arab groups who make up the Arab side of the joint Jewish-Arab Progressive List for





Peace was held in Nazareth in August. More than two hundred Arab delegates, representing scores of the movement's centers in towns and villages, participated in the congress. Jewish sympathizers, chiefly from "Alternative" (the Jewish partners in the joint List) were present at the opening session. Prominent persons from the West Bank were also present. Many telegrams expressing support and solidarity with the Movement's ideals were read out at the congress,, such as from Professors Edward Said and Hisham Sharabi. The congress adopted several resolutions: Complete equality in Israel regardless of race, religion or nationality; condemnation of the newly-enacted law which declares in effect that Israel belongs exclusively to "the Jewish people"; a statement that the PLO, headed by Chairman Yassir Arafat, is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people support for the PLO peace initiative and the establishment of a Palestinian State alongside of Israel.

We received many copies of protest letters and telegrams which our readers sent to Prime Minister Peres on the issue of the Anti-Peace Law Here are at random, some of the senders who sent us copies: Jacob Eldar, Denmark; Dr. Leonard J. Lehman, West Germany; Sally A. Stein, US; H. Zimmerman, Australian Jewish Democratic Society, Australia. Philip S. Brail, US; Irene Marti, Co-President of the Socialist Youth of Switzerland; David Mcreynolds, Staff Member, War Resisters League, NY; Joan Maynard, JP. MP. House of Commons, UK; Lucil L. Strasburger, US; Dr. John Bunzl, Austrian Institute for International Affairs, Austria; Marcia Slatkin, NY; Larry Erickson, US; J.F. Cahen, France; Erwin Reisch, Chairman Pro Libertate Committee, Caribbean; Service Oecumenique d'Entraid, France; International Committee for Palestinian Human Rights, France.

### DEPORTATION – A LEGAL ANALYSIS

Amnon Zichroni well known Israeli attorney (member of Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace) gives a legal analysis of Israel's policy of deportations. We present bellow, excerpts of an interview published in Al-Awadah, Palestinian Press Services, on August 11, 1985. Though more than a month has passed, Mr. Zichroni's comments are still very much relevant at the time of writing (Sept. 20).

"The deportation of people is illegal under international law. Israel, said Zichroni, does not observe the 1949 Geneva Convention because it argues that only customary international law is applicable within Israeli



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### To our readers:

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The Editorial Board

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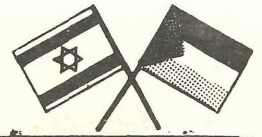
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jurisdiction. The 1907 Hague Conventions, for example, are customary international laws, which Israel must, therefore, observe, but the 1949 Geneva Convention are not binding on the Israeli government, since the Knesset has not ratified them or adopted them as part of Israeli domestic law.

In Israel, therefore, to protect a would-be deportee it must be shown that the deportation is illegal under the Hague Conventions. To argue this case, Zichroni recalls that the 1945 Nuremberg trials regarded both the ill treatment and deportation of people as crimes of war. Article 6 of the 1945 International Military Law states that crimes of war include ill treatment or deportation of people to slave labor or for any other purposes. 'True, Palestinians are not deported as slave labour but they are deported and this is illegal under this law, which is based on the 1907 Hague Conventions' said Zichroni.

'Somebody fighting against the occupation of his country, by political means, is certainly not a security threat as long as he does not advocate the destruction of the State of Israel,' said Zichroni. He added that there are many political activists who might be regarded as a security threat in the eyes of Israeli officials even though they support a two states solution in the region. 'People like them should not be considered a threat to security because we can tell from their views, their articles and their speeches that all they want is to end

the occupation and establish a state of their own alongside Israel.'

Zichroni notes that deportation has been used exclusively for Palestinians in the Occupied Territories and does not affect those living within Israel's jurisdiction, including East Jerusalem, which was annexed to Israel shortly after 1967. The deportation orders do not deal with people, said Zichroni, but with different jurisdictions. 'Those living in the Israeli-occupied areas are subject to this sort of punishment under the Emergency Regulations, while, in Israel, no deportation can take place until the Knesset enacts a law to allow deportation or an amendment is introduced to the existing Emergency Defence Regulations, that are also applicable inside Israel.'

'International law states that , no one should be arbitrarily deprived of his right to enter his country, but the military government claims that people who are to be deported pose a security threat to the state. The question of what and who is a security threat in itself makes things complicated, We cannot tell exactly what reasons justify calling somebody a security threat.'

Though people from East Jerusalem are rarely deported, except for those who were expelled a few years ago, they are still subjected to other measures based on the Emergency Defence Regulations, such as the imposition of town arrest, restrictions on movement or a ban on travelling abroad.

## HOW TO FIGHT TERROR?

Statement by

THE ISRAELI COUNCIL FOR ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN PEACE

September 1985

Once again innocent people are killed in Israel and in the West Bank and Gaza. Once again the heart grieves for the victims who die in vain because of the continuing occupation of these territories. Gush Emunim and the entire political Right have no concrete solution for this reality. Their remedies are absurd — additional settlements, incursions into the Casbah, the harassment of the local population, are only deepening the hostility.

But the Government's policy too, aims at the same objective: the deportation of Arab residents from their homes and country; administrative arrests with no trial and with no charges; and the demolition of the homes of entire families without due process of law, much less verdicts. In brief — collective indiscriminate punishment of the guilty and the innocent alike. Supplementing these are the official threats by Ministers Sharon, Rabin and others against Jordan, even though there have been no hostilities from across the Jordanian border. Their purpose, presumably is to obstruct all chance of negotiations.

It may be possible to effect a slight and temporary reduction of these acts but ultimately they derive from the despair of a people deprived of every means to realize their national aspirations.

Clearly, the Palestinian people, like any other nation, will not renounce its national aspirations. By forbidding them every form of political activity in the Occupied Territories, every legitimate protest when their land is expropriated, either legally or fraudulently — the Palestinians are driven to acts of violence.

The conflict between us and the Palestinians must be resolved by political means by respecting the legitimate national aspirations of both peoples, by simultaneous and mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO and by negotiations between them. Possibly both sides might agree to cease the hostilities during the negotiations. Such a peace will also ease the pressure on Israel's economy, by reducing military expenditure.