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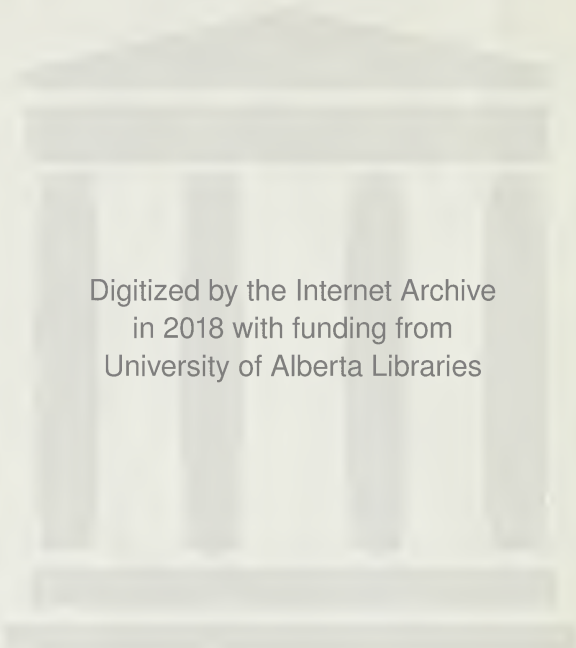
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IN DEFENCE OF DEMOCRATIC FREEDOM

Statement by the Politburo of the CP of Israel

The Politburo of the Communist Party of Israel, at its meeting on September 10th, 1967, discussed the growing threat to the democratic freedom and freedom of activity of the Communist Party of Israel, and came to the following conclusions:

Together with the opening of war-hostilities on June the 5th, the Government ordered the arrests of leaders and other active members of the Communist Party and other citizens who opposed the war. Most of the arrested people were released after a public struggle in Israel and thanks to the solidarity of peace-forces abroad. But immediately after this, other means of suppression were used, e.g. orders of confinement to residence and orders constricting the freedom of movement of leaders of the Communist Party on central, district and local level, as well as of functionaries of trade-unions and of democratic organizations. The rulers even constricted the freedom of movement of Communist members of the Knesset (the Parliament) and hindered them from participating at branch and public meetings in several places.

Side-by-side with putting into effect police-oppression, political dismissals were made at many factories and shops. Lead on by circles "from above", the war-supporting press started a warfare of slanders, hatred and threats against the Communist Party of Israel because of the "sin" of opposing the war and of demanding the withdrawal of the Israeli armed forces behind the armistice lines, because of the "sin" of defending peace and the real national interests of Israel.

A new record in this anti-communist, McKartyist campaign was reached in an editorial of the daily "HAYOM" at the 4th of September, 1967. This organ of the big bourgeoisie and the right extremists, the organ of GAHAL (HERUTH-Liberal block), represented

in the Government by the Ministers M.BEGIN and Y.SAPIR, demanded the outlawing of the Communist Party of Israel and the withdrawal of the immunity of the Communist Knesset members. To realize this, HAYOM asked "the legal adviser of the Government to find a legal formula" to this end.

The aim of this McKartyist and anti-communist campaign is to strangle the voice of commonsense and peace, heard in Israel, to drown the voice of opposition to the war, the conquests and the territorial annexations, a voice which demands a policy of peace and national independence.

The experience proves, that the war and the occupation did not advance the interest of peace and security of Israel, but caused great harm to the national interests of Israel and prolonged the road to peace. By its struggle for elimination of the consequences of the aggression, for a just solution of the Israeli-Arab conflict and the Palestine problem on the basis of peaceful, political means and the acknowledgement by both sides of the legal national rights of the people of Israel and the Arab-Palestinian people, the Communist Party of Israel is defending the true national interests of Israel, the peace and security. Not on the side of the imperialists against the Arab peoples, but together with the Arab peoples against imperialism — this is the path to the future of Israel in the midst of the family of people in this region struggling for independence.

The Communist Party of Israel, by its policy, builds the bridge to peace and understanding with the Arab peoples, the bridge of friendship with the Soviet-Union and the other socialist states.

The wrath of the militarist, reactionary circles in Israel is turned on our Communist Party just because of this patriotic and internationalist struggle. This is the reason for the rage of HAYOM, whose proprietors have a longstanding tradition of warfare against the labour-movement in Israel, a tradition of strike-breakers and a zoological hatred against Communism and social progress, Jewish-Arab brotherhood, the Soviet Union and against all the forces of peace and socialism in the world.

The historic experience proves, that persecution and threats against Communists is not a sign of power and strength, but of weakness and uneasiness, they are not a sign of security that the masses will support them in the long run, but of fear in the face of the people's advance and strengthening of the struggle for bread and employment, for democracy and peace.

The plans and plots knitted, lauded by the Knights of anti-communist warfare in Washington, London and Bonn, against the

freedom of activity of the Communist Party of Israel, are not directed against our Party only. This is a general attack on the democratic liberties of the people, which threatens the freedom of struggle of the toilers and of all democratic forces.

We call on the working masses of Israel, on all democratic forces, with the call and the warning: Democracy cannot be split. The plot to undermine the freedom of legal activity of the Communist Party of Israel may well hit tomorrow against other parts of the labour-movement, against all peace and progress minded people in Israel.

- * Stop the attack on the democratic freedoms!
- * Let us strengthen the struggle against the policy of war and conquest, for peace and security!
- * All democratic forces, unite for the struggle in defence of democratic freedom!

THE AUTHORITIES CIRCUMCISE THE ACTIVITY OF
COMMUNIST MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Among other difficulties the authorities are using to make the political activity of our Party even harder, they refused to give permits to enter villages and areas under military control in Israel (also without the occupied areas) to Communist Members of Knesset (Parliament).

For instance, police-mayor Shaul Rosalio, the commandant of the Southern District, refused to give a permit for holding a public meeting in Tirah in the Triangle on August 8th.

The military authorities continue up till now to refuse permits of entry into the townlets and villages of the Triangle (inside Israel) to the Communist Members of the Knesset Tawfik Toubi and Emile Habibi. In the month of August alone 4 applications for such permits were turned down. These refusals, as a matter of fact, represent a blow against the democratic freedom and interfere with freedom of Members of Parliament to meet their electors in all parts of the country.

Tawfik Toubi MK sent a letter of protest to the authorities and another letter to the speaker of the Knesset, K. Luz, to ask his intervention on behalf of the Knesset. In a questionnaire to the Minister of Defence, M. Dayan, T. Toubi asked if there exists a permanent order not to allow the entrance into the Triangle by Communist Members of Knesset, and if so, why this interference with democratic freedom and with the Parliamentary immunity was imposed.

AGAINST MEASURES OF COLONIAL OPPRESSION

Editorial of ZO HADEREKH, 20.9.1967.

The more the government (of Israel) postpones the withdrawal from the occupied territories of Jordan, UAR and Syria, the more it gets entangled in the military and political adventure. The more the occupation prolongs, the more will grow stronger the resistance to foreign rule by the inhabitants of the occupied territories.

We feel deeply the sorrow of the families, whose nearest ones were killed in the war and from time to time in the occupied territories after the war. We partake in the sorrow of the families who bemoan their dearests. On the lips of all the questions are raised: What now? When will be an end to the sacrifices of victims? The answer can be only one: In order to put an end to the resistance to the occupation, the occupation itself has to be brought to an end. There is no other solution.

Instead to come to this sensible conclusion and to end the shameful occupation, the government stepped on the most dangerous path, when it decided to take measures of brutal colonial oppression against civil population, like collective punishment and other means which are not yet published to their full extent.

What are the steps the government is taking? After each action against the occupation the government answers by measures of terror against peaceful inhabitants, orders the demolition of homes of people whose ties with those actions are not proved at all. For example, the armed forces blew up six houses in Abu-Dees village on the Jerusalem-Jericho highway at August 25th; four houses were demolished in Jabalieh in the Ghaza district and during the last days only, at September 16th, four houses were blown up in Irtah near Tulkarem.

The military rule tries to enforce its "education-plan" in the schools of the occupied territories, deports and arrests heads of schools and teachers, public figures and religious leaders.

On top of all that, exactly the way the British colonial rule did in its darkest hours, the military governor of the Western Bank (of Jordan), UZI NARKIS, published draconic orders according to which any talk or publication containing criticism of any kind will be punishable. The very talk, may it be even only a dialogue between two people, expressing their dissatisfaction at the occupation, may be punished by 10 years imprisonment, according to these orders.

By means of such measures of colonial oppression the ruling circles try to bring down on their knees the population of the

occupied territories. But the experience of the British rule in this country and that of the brutal methods of oppression by the American aggressors in Vietnam proves, that the more the means of suppression are escalated, the more grows the resistance to them.

The national damage, done by the brutal measures in the occupied territories and what they will bring in their wake upon Israel, is hard to exaggerate. They do not prove strength and self-assurance, but political bankruptcy and impotence in ruling the occupied territories. This is an admission of the occupation's failure.

The imposing of severer means of colonial oppression in the occupied territories endangers Israel herself and unscrupulous adventurers only can support it. These measures will raise growing opposition among people with a conscience in Israel itself and in the international arena.

We demand the stoppage of all those draconic means of oppression, of collective punishment, demolition of houses, arrests and deportations, the suppression of freedom of speech and publication.

KHARTOUM CONFERENCE AND THE OFFICIAL ISRAELI ATTITUDE
OR
A LECTURE ON COVERING THE NAKED KNEE!

(Al Ittihad, 8. 9. 1967)

Our ruling class was not able to conceal its frustration from the outcome resulting from the Arab Summit Conference in Khartoum. In fact, the convening of this conference has thrown them into disillusion. From the time of the last aggression they tended to appease themselves and their people whom they misled, that the military blow which they inflicted on the Arab countries has finally destroyed the Arab solidarity — and that this solidarity would never rise again. When the Arab foreign ministers conference was convened they prophesied its failure and when its conclusion was successful they emphasized that it would never lead the Arab countries to a summit conference — when the finance, economic and oil ministers conference was convened they prophesied that it will entail a general chaos and when it achieved its safe destination, they spread the rumour that differences between the Arab countries were so deep, that they would not lead them to a summit conference. But when the summit conference was convened they lamented it. When it united the efforts, they were perplexed.

The convention of the summit conference which fortified the Arab solidarity in their struggle to liquidate the consequences of the aggression has thrown in a mess all those who gambled on the card of such aggression and confused all their calculations which they seemed to be very precise before that. Those facts are accumulating one upon another, corroborating our — the communists — assessment that the last aggression, notwithstanding the military victories which it achieved — was nothing but a failing adventure of the sort of the failing military adventures of the past which we always opposed and on whose dire consequences we warned the people by revealing that they will never solve any one of the complicated problems of Israel, but on the contrary, would make them more complicated. Those facts are accumulating one after another proving that the policy of force, occupation and aggrandizement which our rulers thought that it achieved its greatest victory, is withering and suffering the agony of death.

The rulers of our country were vehement because the Arab countries did not succumb to their conditions emanating from the military blow inflicted on them. They refused to forsake the just rights of the

Palestinian Arabs and decided that they will never hold any negotiations with Israel under the threat of aggression and occupation.

Our rulers were vehement because the Arab countries were "Bold" enough to uphold the just rights of the Palestinian Arabs in the decisions of Khartoum conference.

The Government of Israel had stated its position regarding the outcome of the Arab summit conference. The Prime Minister, Levi Eshkol, issued an official statement delineating the Government's position. It was stated that "by the end of the battles and coming into effect of the cease-fire, the Government of Israel declared its desire to sign peace-treaties with the Arab countries and its readiness to promptly hold negotiations with its neighbours. But this declaration did not meet any echo among the Arab rulers".

This declaration of the Prime Minister reminds us of the fantasies which the rulers of our country and their officials spread among the people, leading them to believe that the aggressive war will achieve peace with the Arabs. Thus they succeeded in deceiving wide popular circles. The troubadours of the policy of force beginning from the Ministers Begin up to Alon and Dayan have turned — as have the short skirts turned — to be the popular mode in our country. What are they going to say to the people whom they duped? Where are the promised peace-treaties? Where is the "table of the direct negotiations" with the Arabs which the Minister of Foreign Affairs Eban was diplomatic enough to declare that he accepts to hold "in camera"? The designers of the Parisian modes instantly turn the mode from a short skirt to a long one, but the people of Israel who have a real desire for peace with the Arabs are not a reckless maid.

The rulers of our country are wrong, if they believe that after all what happened they will be able to extricate themselves from the dilemma into which they hurled themselves by rhetorical harangues and by turning facts topsy-turvy. No one abroad will be convinced by the allegation contained in the aforesaid statement of Eshkol that the decision of the Khartoum Conference not to hold at present any negotiations with Israel is "an irresponsible decision ignoring the real interests of the people of the region and contradicting the principles of the United Nations". The world will ask them "Are the occupation of the lands of countries which are members of the United Nations, the annexation of the Old Jordanian Jerusalem by force of arms and aggression — are all these compatible with the principles of the United Nations Charter?" Is war conflagration, flouting the elementary rights of the Palestinian

Arabs and continuation of the policy of force, and aggrandizement, notwithstanding its failure during 19 years, are all these matters... "full with responsibility and serve the real interests of the peoples of the region", including the people of Israel itself?

This military adventure failed, as did its predecessors. We Communists have warned concerning its consequences from the outset. This fact will not be changed by the mouthpiece of the Herut Minister Begin in "Hayom" wreaking its wrath on the head of our Communist Party and demanding its outlawing. We are not responsible for the failure of this policy. The responsibility falls on this policy itself which stands in contradiction with the content of our era and because this very policy is devoid of responsibility and ignores the real interests of the peoples of the region and contradicts the charter of the United Nations.

It is deplorable that the rulers of our country continue this policy notwithstanding its failure. The Prime Minister declared in his aforesaid statement that in view of the decision of Khartoum Conference, the Government of Israel will be more adamant in its declared stand regarding the continuation of the occupation of the territories occupied during the "Six Days War". As for Minister Alon in his press conference in Jerusalem last Monday, he "calmed" the people that in case this military blow is not enough, he dreams of a new one. He said, as a way of reassurance, "Time is not working in the interest of the Arabs, because Israel is able by the utmost of promptitude to absorb and develop new weapons, more than the Arabs can learn to use, and a new military collision is able to achieve more dangerous consequences for the Arabs".

Is this the future which such rulers outline for the people of Israel? We have no wish to discuss how time is passing, but in the state of the continuation of occupation and ignoring the rights of the peoples, time is not passing in the interest of peace longed for by the people of Israel and the Arab countries. The world knows that the decisions of Khartoum were characterised with moderation and the broadest contacts are made — among which the initiative of President Tito — to reach a peaceful solution for the problem of the withdrawal of the Israel forces. The Khartoum conference decided to continue such a direction in order to avoid new military collision. It is no secret that there are Arab circles, in Algeria and Syria, for instance, who do not foresee any peaceful solution. The stiff position of the Israeli rulers threatens any peaceful solution and in the end it threatens peace.

Our desire, together with all the peaceful forces in the world, was that the Khartoum conference would have been able to adopt just, posi-

tive solutions to the Israeli-Arab conflict, and to the Palestine problem, a solution that would safeguard the lawful national rights of Israel and of the Palestinian Arab people, as was adopted by all the Arab states jointly at the Bandung conference in 1955. But it is no longer any secret that a majority of the Arab countries implicitly accept a just positive solution for the painful conflict. Evidently, the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the occupied areas will open the way for the solution. The declaration of King Hussein to the German paper "Der Spiegel" in which he called for the solution of the Palestinian problem is a token of this tendency. It is no secret either, but it is an outcome of 19 years replete with tragedy that the rulers of our country oppose this tendency with all their might. They imagined that the "Six Days War" had buried the just rights of the Palestinian Arabs under six layers. They stand more perplexed, because this war, revealing the dangers for the peace of the world in leaving this problem unsolved, has raised it by a length of sixty statures!

We said before, the "Six Days War" that we do not live in an epoch of pillaging the rights of peoples, but in the dawn of getting them back. We mean the rights of the Jews and Arabs, that of Israel and of the Arabs of Palestine and that of the Israeli-Arab peace. When the last aggression succeeded, the dupers and the duped thought that they buried the just peace of the peoples.

But we, our faith in it became stronger. The facts only confirm this faith. As for the future it inevitably belongs to us. Why? Because there is no other way for peace but that of peoples' peace. Because both peoples, Jews and Arabs, long for peace. In our epoch the will of the people is inexorable.

WHO IS THE MASTER OF ISRAEL'S ECONOMY?

Remarks on the Millionaires Conference
(published ZO HADEREKH, August 16th)

On August the 8th and 9th, a "Peak Conference" was held in Jerusalem. More than sixty Jewish Big Business men from the USA, United Kingdom, Holland, Argentina, and other countries took part. According to official press-reports, the multi-millionaires conference was held in order to discuss the economic situation of Israel and to raise investments in this country.

At the conference the Government's economic "big-shots", among them LEVY ESHKOL (Prime Minister) and PINHAS SAPIR (Minister of Finance) and also other ministers, MOSHE DAYAN (Defence) and ABBA EBAN (Foreign Affairs), took the floor. Side by side with them capitalists appeared, who expressed their knowledge of the economic development of Israel, proposed proposals and put forward their demands.

Reading press-reports of the conference, which, by the way, was held behind closed doors, the impression is that the Jewish multi-millionaires had come to Israel as to their private domain, and not in order to give counsel. Although the speeches of the conference were wrapped up in national phrases, underneath the Jewish pride clearly showed the real intentions of all the capitalists of all nations — to make profits, profits and more profits.

Some of the conference's participators expressed their satisfaction about their business with Israel, but most of them were full of critics towards the Government, which, to their taste, does not do enough for the foreign investors.

It is wellknown that the "Laws of Befriending Investments" allows many facilities for foreign investors by way of large Government loans and allowances, facilities and exemptions from taxes, easier amortisation, the right of export of all profits in hard cash, etc., but, the millionaires are still not satisfied. Y. MEYEROFF, President of the P. I. C. Company (USA) demanded from the government, to guarantee "suitable profits", while M. Fisher, the head of several petrol and insurance companies in the USA, told the conference in the same spirit, that without promising good profits, the government cannot look forward to further investments.

But the Jewish capitalists did not stop by putting forward demands for good profits only, they expressed their thoughts about the economic regime in Israel too. It seems that the economy of Israel is characterized much too much by governmental influence as to their liking and they, the millionaires need more characteristics of "private enterprise". The English millionaire Z. Clore, told the conference that "Israel has to decide what she wants, socialism or investments, because both these things cannot be achieved together" (MA'ARIV evening paper, 10.8.1967). Of course, the very thought that Israel went or is going already, the road to socialism, can raise only a smile on the lips. The official policy is marked by befriending capitalist development, especially of foreign capital. But to the mind of the capitalists who participated at the conference, this development, up to now, was not yet enough and they expressed their view, that Israel has to avoid any step, which may be called "socialism", like broadening the state-owned economic sector, or befriending cooperatives and so on.

Besides proposals on the economic policy, the millionaires raised their suggestions in several economic branches. They proposed to develop industries tied up with technical and scientific knowledge, like electronics or pharmaceuticals and to found a private company for developing industrial scientific research. The principal thought behind these proposals was that those trends of development promise good profits for foreign investors, thanks to the relatively cheap and high-standard labour-force in Israel.

The Ministers and high-ranking officials were attacked by the participants of the conference, because of governmental interference, high taxes and economic "behaviour" in Israel. To meet this critics, the Ministers and officials in their appearances at the rostrum of the conference, tried to vindicate on one side and to make promises, on the other side.

The Prime Minister, LEVY ESHKOL, asked the participants to consider the means for reaching the economic aims of Israel, at the time when its population counts 2.5 million only. Minister of Finance, PINHAS SAPIR, on the other hand, told the conference that the people of Israel will pay more taxes this year. 150 million Israeli pounds (50 million dollars) the citizens of Israel pay on

account of the rise of petrol taxes alone and 250 million more in the form of "Security Loans" (both these items were decided upon in the wake of the June aggression - the translator). P; Sappir drew a rosy picture of the future development of Israel during the next decade and prophesied an annual rise in industrial output of 13 percent.

The millionaires, however, were not satisfied with promises of a rosy future, but demanded immediate material steps and P. Sapir fulfilled their demands. In his speech he declared that there will be a complete freezing of wages until 1970 and only a very small rise after that year. At the same time, so declared P. Sapir, will be a complete freezing of social conditions and a very small rise in the living standard only. Those promises of Sapir were made in order to calm the foreign investors, who complained about "low working moral" and because of the system of dismissals built on the principal of years of work (last in, first out, - translator), which does not allow the employers to fire people entirely at their will.

The millionaire's conference, which convened for two days was held as a preliminary one for a wider conference of Jewish capitalists to be held in April 1968. But this preliminary conference already showed the trend of proposals and demands of the American and British millionaires. A still greater intervention of foreign capitalists will make Israel into a paradise for foreign investors and promise them "agreeable" profits. But there may very well be a flay in their account. Sapir's promises of wage- and social condition freeze until 1970 tells the workers to be on the alert. There is no doubt that the putting into effect of these promises will be encountered by growing resistance of the toiling masses in town and countryside.

If there were still people, who needed proof of who are the real masters of our country's economy, the multi-millionaire's conference presented it. It showed clearly that "The Century's Masters" from abroad are the deciding factor.

At the multi-millionaire's conference in Jerusalem, Minister of Finance, Pinhas Sapir, stated that the military expenses of Israel are relatively larger than those of the United States of America, which spends more than 10% of its national income for armaments.

ADDITIONAL BUDGET FOR AGGRESSIVE POLICY AND FOR FILLING THE
POCKETS OF THE MONOPOLISTS.

Cmde. Tawfik Toubi on the second additional State-Budget.
(11.9.1967)

"The proposed additional state-budget shows in the most drastic manner the entanglement of the anti-national war-policy with the policy of serving big monopolist capital - foreign and Israeli" - Communist Knesset Member TAWFIK TOUBI told the Knesset during the debate on a new additional state-budget on September the 11th. The Knesset was convened to a special session during the summer-recess on demand of the government, in order to vote on an additional budget of 522 million Israeli pounds. The first additional budget of 350 million, the whole sum being dedicated to the "Defense budget", was added to the state-budget of the year 1967/68 in June, shortly after the start of the aggressive war. Together with both additions, the state-budget for the current year amounts to IL 6 billions (2 billion \$).

Proposing the additional budget of 522 million, Minister of Industry and Trade, Z.SHERF, told the house among other things, that the "Six-Day-War" devoured gigantic sums of Israeli pounds and of dollars...and we have to pay on this account for many years to come... The amount for 'Defense' in this additional budget, IL 50 millions, is only a very small part on this account, not the end of it - not even the beginning of the end of it" - he said.

The income for this additional budget springs from so-called "voluntary" payments to the "Security Loan" (most of the payments are deducted from wages and salaries without even asking permission and represent in fact an additional tax - mostly in the form of half a month's salary). IL 330 millions come from additional selling of "Development-Bonds" abroad and a further amount of IL 142 millions is proposed to come from a new loan from the State-Bank.

Most of the new additional budget - more than IL 300 millions will be spent to pay allowances (not repayable presents) and loans on very easy terms to Big-Business and all kind of "investors".

The Speech of Cmde. T. TOUBI MK.

Speaker of the Knesset, Honourable Knesset,

The proposed additional state-budget for the current year is an undivisible part of the war, started by the government on June the 5th. We were against this war from its very start, because it was contradictory to the real interests of Israel and

her people, to the interests of peace and security, to the future relations of Israel and her Arab neighbours. Therefore we also were against all steps connected with that war. Those additional budgets mean a heavy burden on the shoulders of the masses. Being tied up with additional loans from abroad, these budgets add to the dependence of Israel on foreign capital.

The government's representatives calm down the public by telling, as if all those additional taxes are needed for the security and defense, and now they add a new explanation: for development too. But this case, again, shows in a most drastic manner the entanglement of the anti-national war-policy with the policy of serving the big monopolist capital, foreign and Israeli. The war and its expenses do not serve the national interests, but foreign ones, those of the big foreign and Israeli bourgeoisie.

Here now, we are presented with this additional budget, amounting to more than half a billion Israeli pounds. What do the expenses show here as well? 50 million pounds more are added to the 250 millions of the "Security Loan", which was decided on at the first additional budget to be spent on direct war-expenses. (The official "Security-Budget" amounts now to nearly IL 2 billions, or a third of the overall budget - the translator). From the proposed additional 472 million pounds to the "Development-Budget", more than 300 millions go to "encourage" industrialists and investors of all kinds. From this sum, 225 millions will be spent to "support industry", which means, according to long-standing experience, that this amount will find its way to the pockets of the lions among the industrialists and investors. To support the artisans and small industries, only one million and a quarter is proposed. But 30 million pounds go straight to investors, as non-repayable allowances, according to the "Law for Encouraging Investments". IL 120 million are used to found a new company for financing industrial enterprises. Up to now it is not yet known, what are the kind of channels through which the money will reach the pockets of the big industrialists and investors.

7 million pounds more are given to the owners of the "Hilton-Hotel", for whom the government guaranteed the profits for the "poor" and "losers of money", the shareholders of Hilton, or in other words, the Israeli taxpayer has to pay them big profits year-in-year-out.

It is impossible not to be under the impression, that this additional budget was proposed according to the will of the convention of 60 millionaires from USA, England and other countries, which was convened in Jerusalem at August 9th and 10th, in order to show "national concern" for the State of Israel and its economy, but in reality showed very great concern for maximum profits of those foreign monopolists.

At this convention the millionaire Clore and others voiced sharp words against, what they called "low working morals" of the Israeli workers and against the standard of social conditions, too high to their liking, which, they claim, do not conform with the needs of industrial production for export. They spoke against the system of "cost-of-living-allowances" and even demanded to change the social laws of Israel, to the detriment of the employees, of course. The Primeminister and the Minister of Finance promised a lot to the "holders of the purse", who became the holders of opinion in this country. The Minister of Finance, P. Sappir, promised the millionaires' convention a complete wage-freeze until 1970, the freezing of social conditions and cutting the rise of living-standard. The ruling circles try to mobilize investors and profit-interested people in order to exploit the natural resources of the occupied territories. This is done in order to strengthen the political support in foreign countries to the government's policy of war and conquest.

The ruling circles of Israel now promise much about leading the economy of this country out of the crisis and unemployment. But the deciding factor of the proposed additional budget, like the former one, is the fact, that it expresses the policy of war and aggression, of service to Big-Business, which the government tries to increase, and this on account of the living-standard of the toiling masses.

If up to now it was hard for the majority of the people to realize the real and tragic meaning of that policy, the day will come, when out of their own experience the masses will value rightly the disaster of this government's policy, will value rightly the patriotic position taken by our Communist Party, which by its opposition to the war strengthens the bridge, over which the people of Israel will advance towards peace and friendship with the Arab people.

Honourable Members of the Knesset, three months only have past since the fatal day of the outbreak of war and already the development and facts prove the truth of what we said on the very first day of that war: This war was not fought in defense. It had been a war, the imperialist forces were interested in. They thought to bring down a final blow on the awakening Arab people and their national liberation movement with the help of the rulers of Israel. They thought to overthrow regimes which stand up against imperialist economic and strategic interests and to throw back the Arab people into the claws of their traditional colonial rulers. The ruling circles of Israel wanted this war too, in order to fulfill their expansionist ambitions and to strangle finally the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine. And what do we see now? "Defense of the Fatherland", as Minister of Defence, Moshe Dayan, interprets it, is to broaden the "Lebensraum" of Israel (as stated on 8.8.67 in his party-conference), a tune wellremembered by the people of the world.

"Defense of the Fatherland" and "a people's war to defend its existence", as Minister of Labour, Yigal Allon, interprets it, is to make the "Jordan-river into the irrefutable border of Israel". "Defense of the Fatherland", as the Primeminister, Levi Eshkol, interprets it, is to make the Suez-Canal into the "natural border of Israel", as he declared when visiting the canal area last week.

The government deceived the people when leading it into a war in the name of defending the existence of Israel and in the name of peace and security.

During the days following the war, the ruling circles spread an illusion as if the long-awaited hour has arrived, when the Arab states, together or one-by-one, will be forced into negotiations and into signing peace-treaties with Israel.

We long for the day - and it is the deep longing of the people of Israel - when enmity comes to an end, for the day, when peace-treaties will be signed between Israel and her Arab neighbours. But we always warned, that even the thought of reaching peace by way of war and military means, at the points of bayonets, is an illusory one. We warned of this always and from the very day of starting this latest war too. Now it is proved, that after all those military victories, the peace is not only not visible, but even farther away than ever.

Honourable Member of Knesset Ben-Gurion told the people, from the rostrum of his party's meetings, at the beginning of August, that simpletons only can believe, that the latest war brought peace any nearer and he called to prepare at once for the coming wars. The government denounced the Arab summit-conference of Khartoum, because the heads of states there did not agree to open peace-negotiations under conditions of dictate and military occupation. This, the government's stand is taken while fatally ignoring the fact, that the Khartoum-conference united on a policy of solving the problems by political means, e.g. by peaceful settlement of the conflict; and while ignoring the fact, that the voice of adventurism of the kind of Shukeiry's, was silenced there.

We warned the government, and we repeat now: Not by force of arms, not by conquest and trampling on the rights of another people, negotiations and peace will be reached. By these means the peace, longed for by the people, is pushed into a farther distance.

No, honourable Members of the Knesset, the road to peace is in another direction. The real road to peace demands withdrawal from the policy of strength and war, withdrawal from the occupied territories, to stop the policy of partnership with the imperialist

powers against the Arab peoples and to change it into a more realistic policy, a policy of peace, of acknowledging the rights of the Arab people of Palestine. This road will lead Israel to peace.

From these points of view, we vote against the government's proposal of the additional budget and the proposed bills accompanying it and we propose to return them to the government.

LET US DEFEND THE RIGHTS OF THE WORKERS!

A leaflet published by the Communist Party of Israel and its delegation in the Histadruth (the Federation of Trade Unions) was distributed among the workers in the industrial areas of Tel Aviv, Haifa, Petah Tiquah, Dan-district and other places during the last week of August.

The leaflet, headed by the slogan: "Let us defend the rights of the workers" reads as follows:

To the workers of Israel!

Before the "Congress of the Millionaires", which was held in Israel, the Minister of Finance, PINHAS SAPIR, hurried to publish a statement on the continuation of the wage freeze until the end of 1970. At the congress itself the invited foreign capitalists raised demands and their conditions for rising their investments in Israel. Minister Sapir and Prime Minister Eshkol submitted to the capitalists demands.

But the working people cannot accept these conditions, because they are directed against the workers achievements and rights and intend to lower their standard of living.

As an outcome of the war, the economic crises in our country deepened and consequently hit first of all the working people. The unemployment grows. It already reached the pre-war level, though many workers serve still in the army reserves. Each day new dismissals in all economic branches are carried out.

The position of the Arab workers is especially difficult, since the wave of unemployment struck at them still harder than at their Jewish fellow-workers.

The employers, supported by the government and with the sympathy of the Histadruth leadership, utilize the conditions to raise the norms and lower the workers premiums, restrict the days of annual leave and recreation for the workers and strike hard at the social conditions of the wage-earners, conditions won in long years of struggles.

Above all, the burden of the greater part of the war expenses is being loaded on the shoulders of the working people by raising the income-tax by 10% and fixing the payment for a "Security Loan" at the rate of a half-months salary. The employers paid the difference of pay to the workers who served in the army during the war, but took it away again by cutting days from the annual paid leave of the employees.

Comrades Workers!

There are already signs which show, that the workers do not compel with those plans. The Haifa stevedores declared that they will go on strike if the promises of raise of pay given in the last contract with the employers, the Haifa Port Services, will not be carried out. The workers of the Friedmann refrigerator and washing-machine plant in Jerusalem stroke for two days as protest against the rise in the production-norms and the dismissal of one of the members of the worker-committee. The workers of the "Amcor" plant held a one-day protest strike against the employers plans to cut down their yearly extra pay for holidays and leave.

The struggles against the employers schemes will grow more and more. We propose the working people to call meetings at their places of work in order to debate on ways of struggle against the employers assault on the standard of living of the workers. The workers struggle is a rightful struggle. It is waged not for better conditions only, but conforms with the interests of the vast majority of our country's population.

Work for all, honourable living standards for the workers, for all toiling people - a policy of peace, taking into account the lawful rights of all people in our region - these are the conditions which promise a way out of the crisis of our state.

TALKS WITH FRATERNAL PARTIES

CMDE M. VILNER ON HIS RETURN FROM USSR AND POLAND

The secretary of the Politburo of the CP of Israel, cmde Meir Vilner, returned to Israel at September the 8th. On his return at Lydda airport he was interviewed by the press about the talks between representatives of the CP of Israel, the CP of USSR and the UWP of Poland.

Most of the Israeli press reported prominently on the interview, giving headlines as : "Member of Knesset Meir Vilner says he did great service to the State of Israel" ('Davar') or similar ones.

According to these reports, cmde Vilner, "who returned from talks in Moscow and Warsaw" told the press, that "our delegation did a very great service to the State of Israel by proving to the whole world, that there must be made a difference between the Israeli Government's policy and the interests of the people of Israel. The Government acts against the national interest of Israel and its security — said Vilner".

The press-reports then went into details about the talks and common declarations by the Parties concerned, as well as the positions of the Communist Party of Israel on the means to reach real peace with the Arab neighbours and friendship with the USSR and the socialist camp, as given by cmde M. Vilner at the interview.

(We informed our readers about the common statement of CP of USSR and CP of Israel in a press-release and the former bulletin.)

TALKS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED
WORKERS PARTY OF POLAND AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY
OF ISRAEL

The TRYBUNA LUDU, organ of the CC of UWPP published on September 3rd, 1967, the following statement _

On September the 1st, 1967, a meeting was held at the Central Committee of the United Workers Party of Poland (UWPP) in Warsaw between cmde ZANON KLISHKO, member of the Politburo of UWPP and cmde MEIR VILNER, secretary of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Israel. At the meeting, cmde BODHAN LEVANDOVSKI, deputy head of the department of foreign relations of the CC of UWPP, was present.

At the meeting which was held in a hearty and friendly atmosphere, points of view on basic problems of the international situation, especially the ones in the Middle East and in the international Communist World Movement and the common relations between the UWPP and the CP of Israel were raised.

The representatives of both Parties condemned the ruling circles of Israel, which in accordance with the American and British imperialists and the support of the revenge-seekers in the German Federal Republic, attacked the Arab states. The aggression, directed against the Arabic anti-imperialist forces, which aspire to strengthen the independence of Arab countries and their progressive development, is a threat to world peace, encounters the vital interests of the toiling masses of Israel and causes damage to the national interests of Israel.

The representatives of the UWPP and CP Israel stated that the basic condition for a peace-settlement in the Middle East is the immediate retreat of the Israeli armed forces from all occupied Arab territories and the abandonment of the Israeli Government's aggressive policy against the Arab neighbours.

Cmde Klishko, in the name of UWPP expressed solidarity and high regards towards the stand upheld by the Communist Party of Israel, which under most difficult conditions, from the very first moment on, appeared most resolutely against the Israeli ruling circle's aggressive actions and their expansionist aspirations.

The UWPP condemns emphatically the steps of oppression taken by the Israeli authorities against Communists, who opposed the aggressive policy.

Discussing the problems of the international Communist World Movement, the representatives of both Parties expressed the need of strengthening the united activity of the Communist and Workers Parties, of all anti-imperialist forces, against the aggression of the imperialists and their lackeys in Vietnam, the Middle East and in other regions of the world and in the struggle for security and wellbeing of the peoples of the world.

The talks proved the full identity of viewpoints of both Parties in all questions which were raised.

JOINT STATEMENT OF CP OF ITALY AND CP OF ISRAEL

From the 4th to the 7th of September 1967, a delegation of the Communist Party of Israel, comprised of the cmde. Dr. Wolf Ehrlich and cmde Saliba Khamees, members of the Politburo and the editors of the organs of the CC of CP of Israel in Hebrew and Arabic, stated in Rome as guests of the Communist Party of Italy.

While staying in Italy, the Israeli comrades held talks with Carlo Pieta and Carlo Galacci, members of the leading body, Romano Leda, member of the CC, and Dina Forti, from the department of foreign relations at the CC.

During the talks, information on the activities and points of view of both Parties concerning the situation in the Middle East and the danger on peace and democracy, the imperialist policy is bringing to this region, were exchanged.

Identity of views between both Parties concerning the demand of withdrawal of the Israeli armed forces from the occupied territories as a first condition to safeguard peace and the rights of the peoples of this region and of all peoples the world over to live in freedom on their homeland was verified.

Talks were held also on the severe situation in South-East Asia, where the American escalation in Vietnam continues to execute crimes on an ever wider scale and threats to disturb the peace of the world. The need to strengthen the activity in solidarity with the heroic people of Vietnam and against the American imperialist aggression was pointed out.

The talks were held in a hearty and comradely atmosphere. High and honourable respect for the activity of each of both Parties during the Middle East crisis was expressed from both sides.

It was agreed upon to establish permanent relations between both Parties.

("Unita", 12.9.1967. "Zo Haderekh", 20.9.1967)

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Underneath the headlines : "The Strategy of the Communist Party of Israel in View of the Difficulties to Reach Class Unity Between Jews and Arabs" —

— "Ugly Nationalistic wave after the Military Victory of Dayan who more and more appears as Dictator of Strength" — "The Position of the Mikunis-Sneh Group", published the organ of the CC of the CP of Italy "Unita" on September 14th a full account of talks between the editorial staff of "Unita" with comde Dr. W. Ehrlich and Saliba Khamees, members of the Politburo of the CP of Israel.

JOINT STATEMENT CP OF FRANCE AND CP OF ISRAEL

A delegation of the Communist Party of Israel, comprised of the comrades Dr. Wolf Ehrlich and Saliba Khamees, members of the Politburo, took part at the "Humanité" Rally on September the 9th and 10th 1967. On this occasion the delegation met at the offices of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of France a delegation, comprised of the comrades Raimon Guillot, member of the Politburo, Rollain Laroi, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CC, Jaque Dennis, member of the CC and Eli Mignon an employee of the CC.

The talks were held in a very hearty and comradely atmosphere. Full identity of views of both Parties were stated on the situation in the Middle East and in the struggle of solidarity to overcome the consequences of the Israeli aggression, to achieve the withdrawal of the Israeli armed forces from the occupied territories and for a solution of all problems by political means, based on honouring the national rights of the Arab people of Palestine and the right of existence of the State of Israel.

During the talks full identity of view of both Parties on all questions raised, was verified.

("Humanité", 12.9.1967; Zo Haderekh, 20.9.1967)

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On the site of the "Humanité" Rally in a forest near Paris an exhibition of the activity and struggle of the Israeli Communist press and the Communist Party of Israel was shown and drew much attention.

In his speech to the Rally comde R. Laroi, member of the Politburo of the CP of France mentioned among other things : "It is very important, that the press of the national Arab liberation movement and of the Communist Party of Israel found a good neighbourly place, side by side, on our rally".

JOINT STATEMENT OF THE CP OF GREAT-BRITAIN AND CP OF ISRAEL

After a meeting of the political committee of the Communist Party of Great-Britain with representatives of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Israel, comrades W.EHRLICH and S.KHAMIS, a joint statement by both Parties was issued.

The statement said, that full agreement was expressed by both sides that the basic cause of the conflict between Israel and the Arab States was the aim of imperialism in the Middle East. It was these circles which backed and encouraged the Israeli aggression last June against its Arab neighbours, the statement said.

"It was agreed that the first step toward a peaceful solution of the problems between Israel and the Arab States must be the withdrawal of all Israeli troops to their original positions before the fighting began on June 5."

"This enables to create conditions for a peaceful settlement of the Palestinian problem based on mutual recognition of the legitimate national rights of both peoples, including the rights of the Arab refugees and the recognition of the rights of all States in the Middle East, including Israel, to national independence and peace.

"The Communist Party of Great-Britain supports the struggle of the Communist Party of Israel for the full rights of the Arab population of Israel and against the repressive measures in the occupied territories.

"The two parties express their desire to work in unison for a just peace in the Middle East."

A FEW EXAMPLES OF THE MANY LETTERS OF SOLIDARITY WITH OUR PARTY

Many, many letters of solidarity with the just struggle of our Communist Party of Israel reached the Central Committee, leading members of the Party and the Young Communist League since the days of the June-war. Letters were received from most fraternal parties, comrades and friends from all over the world and from many friends in Israel. We warmly thank all our friends for their expression of solidarity in these difficult days of struggle.

We are not able to publish all those letters and signs of solidarity, but give here only a few examples.

FROM THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE USA

August 9, 1967

Central Committee
COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL
Meir Vilner, General Secretary
P.O.Box 26205
Tel Aviv, Israel

Dear Comrades:

Good news sometimes travels slowly. We here in the United States are only now receiving the news about the courageous stand of the Communist Party of Israel that you, its leadership, have taken on the crisis created by the aggression of Israel against its Arab neighbours.

A crisis tests the ideological armor of all parties and individuals. Your Party, standing both on a firm principle and the best interests of the people of Israel, has earned the respect of all progressive mankind. The bourgeois nationalist ideological pus that has festered beneath the veneer within the Mikunis-Sneh sect broke to the surface during this crisis. They are getting the applause of the forces of reaction. But they will be discarded by the people of Israel as people who did not meet the test of time.

After our paper, The Worker, published the speeches of your leaders, there was a very healthy and wonderful response by our Party and Left progressive forces of our country.

The enclosed \$ 300.00 money order was collected by and from Jewish garment workers in New York as a tribute to your courage and militancy. It is in **appreciation** for your valiant struggle and for your correct Communist stand, for your ultimate exhibition of proletarian internationalism.

With warmest comradely greetings from our Party, its leadership and members,

Fraternally yours,

(-) Gus Hall
General Secretary

FROM THE YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF GREAT BRITAIN

13th August 1967

Young Communist League
Israel.

Dear comrades,

Throughout the recent difficult months of struggle in the Middle East, we watched with admiration the activities of the Communist Party of Israel led by Comrades Meir Vilner and Tawfik Toubi, and we know that the young Communists of Israel have been fighting by their side.

We British Young Communists warmly salute the just and courageous stand taken by the Israeli comrades in support of the struggle of the Jewish and Arab people against Imperialism and for a lasting peace.

We realize the difficulties of the conditions under which you had to fight and we would like to send you our warmest greetings as an expression of our solidarity for your just cause.

We would like to keep in touch with you and to continue to receive your material and any information you can give us for publication in our magazine Challenge.

With all our best wishes,

Warm fraternal greetings

(-) Pete Carter

On behalf of the Young Communist League
of Great Britain.

FROM PUPILS AND TEACHERS IN THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

June 21, 1967

Members of Knesset
MEIR VILNER and TAWFIK TUOBI
The Knesset, Jerusalem, Israel.

Dear Comrades,

We heard with excitement of your heroic stand taken from the rostrum of the Knesset at the 5th of June, 1967. We fully agree with you, that the aggression was not of any service to the people of Israel. Only Imperialists of certain countries could have been interested in this war. The voices of true Communists will not be silenced.

We are proud to be citizens of the German Democratic Republic, a state, that opposed this unhuman war from its outset. In December 1914 it was our unforgettable Karl Liebknecht who stood up, as the only one in the German Reichstag, and refused to vote in favour of the war-credits, which were aimed at financing the destructive World-War I.

Dear Comrade Meir Vilner! Dear Comrade Tawfik Toubi! We know that your struggle is a hard one, but shoulder by shoulder with you fight many honest people. The plenary session of the United Nations will help to put an end to this war and its consequences.

Signatures of 30 pupils and teachers of
a secondary school at Jassnitz (G.D.R.)

VOICES OF COMMON SENSE FROM OTHER CIRCLES

In the bourgeois daily "Ha'aretz", of September 22nd 1967, a largescale advertisement, undersigned by (noncommunist) journalists, writers, businessmen and others, asking for the immediate withdrawal from the occupied territories appeared. This advertisement is a proof, that more and more circles of public life in Israel come to the right conclusion, that the policy of occupation and annexation, lead by the Government, is contradictory to the national interests of Israel.

The advertisement, written in fat letters and appearing on a prominent space, reads:

"Our right of self-defense against extermination does never give us the right to oppress others.

"Occupation means foreign rule;

"Foreign rule is followed by resistance;

"Resistance is followed by suppression;

"Suppression is followed by terror and anti-terror;

"Most of the victims of terror are innocent people.

"The maintenance of occupied territories makes us to a people of murderers and murdered.

"LET US WITHDRAW AT ONCE FROM THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES!"

PUBLIC MEETINGS OF PROTEST AGAINST THE AMERICAN BARBARISM
IN VIETNAM

A public meeting of protest against the barbaric bombings of towns and villages in Vietnam and against the escalation of the "dirty war" was held on September the 8th in the "Culture-Club" in Tel-Aviv, Bar-Kokhba-str.. The protest-meeting was organized by the club's committee and the progressive "Youth-Circle".

The clubhall was decorated with pictures showing the atrocities of the American invaders and their hirelings in Vietnam and the consequences of the barbaric bombings of towns and villages there. The background of the stage was decorated with the flags of the FNL and Israel.

The meeting was addressed by Dr. MICHAEL LEVY, lecturer at the Tel-Aviv-University, who told of the heroic deeds of the people of Vietnam in its struggle for freedom and independence, in defense of their homeland against the American invaders. He proved by facts, that it will be impossible for the invaders and their hirelings to subdue the people of Vietnam by force of arms.

The wellknown and popular writer MORDEKHAI AVY-SHAUL reported on the Stockholm convention of the World-Peace-Movement (where he took part) which was convened in order to unite the peace-loving forces in the struggle against the "Dirty War" in Vietnam and to mobilize solidarity with the people of Vietnam, struggling for its freedom.

To end the meeting, a soviet film showing the Yankee-atrocities in Vietnam and the heroic struggle of the people against the invaders was shown.

A similiar meeting was held in Haifa, which was addressed by Dr.KALMAN ALTMANN, lecturer at the Haifa Technical High School of Engineering and Science, and by the writer M.AVY-SHAUL.

YOUTH-PROTEST AGAINST FASCIST REGIME IN GREECE

On Saturday, 16,9,1967, about one hundred members of the Young Communist League held a demonstration in front of the Greece Consulate in Tel-Aviv, protesting against the monarcho-fascist regime in Greece and the mass-arrest among democratic forces in that country.

The youths bore in their hands banners, reading: "Freedom to the arrested Antifascists!" - "Freedom to the compositor

of 'Zorba', MIKIS THEODORAKIS!" - "The youth of Israel is solidary with the youth and the people of Greece!" etc.

Slogans with similiar contents were called out by a choir.

Before the demonstrating youths and the assembling passersby secretary of the YCL in the Tel-Aviv-Jaffa-district, YORAM GUSHANSKI, told about the sufferings of the people of Greece, her best sons and daughters, of the bloody and brutal terror reigning in the prisons and concentration-camps and of the people's resistance to the fascist regime. He told of the arrest of the wellknown an popular composer Mikis Theodorakis, whose songs are loved in Israel too, and of the heroic filmstar Melina Mercury, from whom the citicienship of her beloved homeland was taken away for denouncing the fascist terror-regime.

* * * * *

The secretariat of the Young Communist League of Israel send a wire to the Greece Government. In it the YCL protests against the arrest of MIKIS THEODORAKIS, the wellknown composer and President of the Democratic Youth-Movement in Greece. In the wire the secretariat of the YCL of Israel demands the immediate release of M. Theodorakis and other democratic leaders, whose only "crime" is opposition to the fascist regime in Greece.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THE MIKUNIS-SNEH-GROUP BREAK AWAY

During the last two months there are signs of a deep crisis in the rank and file of the Mikunis-Sneh-Group, which split from the Communist Party in August 1965. It seems that after the outright acceptance of the general line of the Israeli ruling circles, concerning the Israel-Arab conflict and the support given to the aggressive war of June by the heads of that group, their opposition to the unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli armed forces from all occupied territory, their public criticism of the USSR, supporting the spreading of anti-soviet hatred, many members of that group, among them some central figures, broke their ties with the M-S-group and returned their membership-cards.

Among them, three members of the central body of M-S-group published on July 23rd in some papers a statement, explaining their step. The three are: LEON ZAHAVI, member of the secretariat of the CC of M-S-group, SHLOMO SHAMLI, member of the CC and secretary of the TEL-AVIV-JAFFA-branch and the wellknown poet ALEXANDER PEN, member of the CC.

In their statement, explaining their breach-away from M-S-group, among other things it is stated:

"We, the undersigned, all three members of the Central Committee of MAKI (M-S-group - the transl.), sent on July the 10th, 1967, a letter to the CC, informing it on our quitting the ranks of the Party".

Explaining further their step, they state:

"As we remain true to the platform and resolutions of the Party-convention of MAKI, we witnessed with growing concern the continued gliding away of the Party-line and principles from those based on a class-viewpoint and the struggle against Arab nationalistic deviations into straightforward Jewish nationalism.."

After stating, that they do not agree also with the Communist Party of Israel, they go on to explain:

"This perversion (of Jewish nationalistic deviation), supported by the majority in the leading bodies of the Party (M-S-group) deals a heavy blow to the real Israeli patriotism and faithfulness to our people, our homeland and to the working-class of our country. Instead of developing proletarian-international values there came a belittling of these values, which were, de-facto, suppressed by Jewish nationalism for a long time already. This perversion undermined the Marxist-Leninist foundations. The compass of orientation to the true Party-line was lost and this led to revisionist ideology.

"Contrary to the resolutions of the 15th Party-convention,

the majority in the leading bodies brought about:

1) Glossing over the decisive role of imperialism - especially the American - against the peoples and against peace in the whole world and in our region.

2) Obliterating the role of the struggle between the peace- and socialist-camp and the war-mongering imperialism and blurring of our definite place in this struggle."

The three state in their letter, that the majority in the leading bodies of M-S-group, by trying to influence the left socialdemocratic circles, they become more and more infected by socialdemocratic ideas themselves and by this they support in fact the rightist wing in the Israeli labour-movement.

"The majority in the leading bodies of the Party" - the statement goes on - "left step by step the principled opposition to the Eshkol-government (which became meanwhile an Eshkol-Dayan-Begin-government) in such fateful questions as war and peace, Israeli-Arab relations etc.

"This majority in the leading bodies of the Party caused the breaching-away of the Party from the international Communist World-movement...and by this presented and continues to present ideological "firewood" to those, who turn any just criticism towards certain steps taken by the USSR, into total affiliation with the slanderers and falsifiers of the true character of the USSR."

Further, the three declare, that democracy and collective leadership was trodden over and even resolutions, reached at in the CC after discussions, were published in the organ of the group, KOL HA'AM, not as decided upon, but falsified onesidedly, "before, during and after the war".

THE DISCUSSION INSIDE THE M-S-GROUP CONTINUES

With the exit of many members from the M-S-group, including CC-members, the discussion within this group did not cease, but rather increased. This discussion finds its expression even in some articles in the organ of the group, KOL HA'AM, which interpret certain things quite differently from one another.

For example, as an answer to an article by S.Zirolnikov (24.7.67), describing the June-war as an "expression of independence of the Jewish people" and the beginning of the "Israeli revolution" and "taking of decisive steps towards peace", Zvi Breitstein (head of the Central Control Commission of the M-S-group) wrote on 6.8.67, that it should never be forgotten, that the government of Israel never did and does not acknowledge the just rights of the Arab people of Palestine. Breitstein (in

contradiction to the majority in the leading bodies of his group) wrote justly too: "The onesided orientation of the ruling circles of Israel on the imperialist West brings Israel into controversion to the most dominant factor in our region, the Arab anti-imperialist national movement and neutralism".

On 24.8.1967 KOL HA'AM published another article by Z.Breitstein under the headline "Dangerous and adventurous conceptions". In this article he proves the dangers of growing influence in the ruling circles of the extreme right and militaristic elements, like M.Dayan, Begin and others. But this article was answered by J.Barak (J.Lahav) (30.8.1967), who attacked Breitstein because he "was pungent enough to criticize the government of national unity as a whole at this hour, while it is willing, under certain conditions, to withdraw from most of the occupied territories". Then Barak went on to criticize Breitstein because he did not blame the Arabs ("who wanted to destroy Israel") quite enough to his Barak's - liking.

The above-mentioned examples of discussion on the pages of KOL HA'AM are not the only ones. It is wellknown also, that the discussions inside the ranks of M-S-group grow and the number of members opposing openly the positions of the majority in the leading bodies, who supports the ruling circles, is growing steadily.

Therefore, the part of the resolutions of the 17th plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel (12.8.1967) concerning the developments in the M-S-group have an urgent meaning. In these resolutions it is stated:

"The CC of the CP of Israel points to the act of quitting the ranks of the Mikunis-Sneh group by members of its Central Committee and rank and file members, as a courageous expression of Communists, who draw correct consequences from their opposition to the nationalist, chauvinist and anti-soviet line of the leaders of the Mikunis-Sneh group.

"The CC of the CP of Israel calls upon the Communist comrades who left the M-S-group, and those who still remain there, as well as those who stood aside since the split, to return to the ranks of our Party, the Communist Party of Israel, in whose ranks we fought together for long years in the interest of the Israeli working-class, for the true interests of the people and the State of Israel, for the victory of the high ideals of Marxism-Leninism in our homeland, for the victory of Jewish-Arab friendship, for democracy, national independence, peace and socialism".

SECOND ANNIVERSARY TO THE WEEKLY "ZO HADEREKH"
(OUR PATH) AS ORGAN OF THE C. C. C. P. ISRAEL

At the end of August the Hebrew organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel, the weekly ZO HADEREKH celebrated its second anniversary. The occasion was celebrated at a public meeting in Tel Aviv-Yaffa. The meeting was addressed by cmde ŞALIFA KHAMIS, member of the Politburo and editor of the Arabic organ of the C. C. AL ITTIHAD, and by cmde Dr. WOLF EHRlich, member of the Politburo and editor of ZO HADEREKH. The meeting was opened by UZI BURSHTAIN, member of the politburo and secretary of the TEL AVIV-YAFFA district of the C. P.

CONGRATULATIONS OF THE C. C. OF THE C. P. ISRAEL TO
THE 2nd ANNIVERSARY OF "ZO HADEREKH"

Dear comrades,

On the occasion of the 2nd anniversary of the appearance of our weekly ZO HADEREKH as central organ of the Central Committee of our Communist Party of Israel in Hebrew, the C. C. sends its heartiest congratulations to the editorial board, its staff and its readers.

During the two years since its appearance, ZO HADEREKH accompanied week by week the struggles of our Party, expressed the political line of the Party and guided the struggle in defence of the interests of the working-class and the masses in Israel. With real communist zeal and revolutionary enthusiasm ZO HADEREKH fought the hard fight of our Communist Party for peace, national independence, Jewish-Arab brotherhood, friendship with the Soviet Union, for the defence of democracy and rights of the workers.

Our Party, during the last two years, since the Mikunis-Sneh group left the Party, succeeded in overcoming some of the difficulties which arose in consequence of the split, succeeded in standing up in the face of the reactionary's attack, in unifying its ranks and in continuing the patriotic and internationalistic struggle

of the Communist Party of Israel as a part and parcel of the international Communist World Movement. In all this, the upright position of the Party's press had a great part.

The heroic appearance of ZO HADEREKH against the latest war, started by the rulers of our country against the neighbouring Arab states, an appearance in the interest of peace and the future of the relations between Israel and her neighbours, was of great service to the real national interests of Israel and to the historic interests of the Israeli working class. On the pages of ZO HADEREKH, during the hard days of the war, the real voice of the people of Israel and the merits of friendship and brotherhood between the Jewish and Arab people was raised.

Dear comrades, the Party, all its organizations on district and local levels, will widen the distribution of ZO HADEREKH and the whole Communist press among wider circles, in order to direct the toiling masses and the people on the road to peace and security, to progress and wealth.

Dear comrades, we wish you, that during the coming year you will be able to raise still more the standard of the weekly, to enrich it still more with material from all walks of life and of high quality, to find the best possible way to present the Party's policy to all people of good will in our country.

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