palestine perspectives

GENOCIDE IN LEBANON

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Special Issue



Chairman Arafat: Beirut Will Be the Stalingrad of the Arabs



In a message addressed today to the Arab, Lebanese and Palestinian masses, to Palestinians and Lebanese under occupation, and to all the fighters in the battlefield, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat said that for 14 days the heroic Palestinian and Lebanese people have been fighting a vicious battle against the full weight of the Zionist enemy. Israel, he added, is the biggest military power in the region, and enjoys unlimited military, political, diplomatic and information backing by the U.S.A. This invasion, planned by the U.S., was executed amidst total silence internationally, and with the complicity of several hostile parties, he said.

Arafat declared that the treachery of consecutive ceasefires aims at anaesthetizing the masses of the region. But the world, which is in a state of shock, should know that men who were able to confront us — Israeli power, will remain faithful to their principles.

Arafat went on: 'Beirut is the first Arab capital whose gates the Zionist invaders have reached. Beirut is being bombarded by sea and air. But, the blood shed, the sacrifices and the martyrs will not have been in vain, for ultimately they will bring about Arab change, despite the hesitation of some and the cowering of others, who have paralyzed the Arab Nation's will. It is my duty to ask why there is hesitation and timidity given the fantastic human, economic, military and material potentials of our nation? We have been paying a tax in blood for the Arab's in the most noble battle with the enemy in our age.

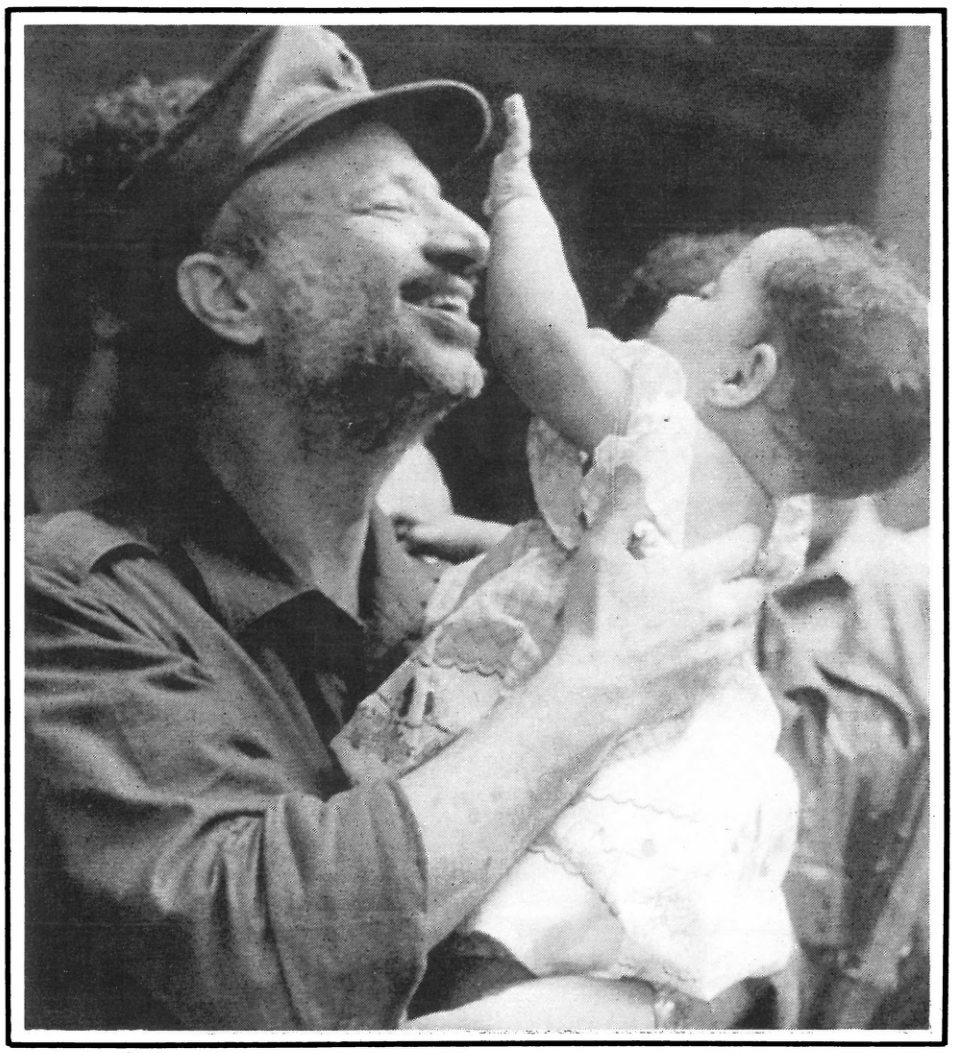
Addressing the fighters in the field, he said "Despite the claims of the enemy, you are surprising the world with your heroism, which the enemy has unwillingly admitted. Your valour has surpassed their expectations and destroyed the myth that Israel can still wage lightning wars successfully, as had been admitted by their generals."

Arafat challenged these Israeli generals to admit their real losses and went on to say that already the Israelis have conceded that their losses are proportionately greater than in any previous war. They have suffered these losses although the battle is still at its height, and the battle of Beirut — The graveyard of conquerors — has not yet begun.

He concluded: "We are ready for this battle, which will be the Karbala of this age in terms of steadfastness, and the Stalingrad of the Arabs in terms of victory. The invaders and their American Imperialist masters will never conquer the will of the Lebanese people or of the Palestinian masses, which will ultimately be victorious and impose itself on history.

in solidarity

Abu Iyyad: We Will Not Surrender



Q: What is the present situation in Beirut?

A: Israeli forces surround Beirut from all sides. They have asked us, through Philip Habib, to surrender our arms to the Lebanese army, for Palestinians to restrict themselves to camps, and for the leadership and cadres of the resistance to leave Beirut under the white flag and, under Israeli 'protection', to outside Beirut. I say through you: We, as bases, cadres, and leadership of the Palestinian Revolution, reject categorically these proposals. If need be, we shall fight from our camps alone for the world to know that no one can disarm this revolution with its will and approval.

Q: It has been said that the P.L.O. is willing to lay down its arms in return for U.S. recognition. This was followed by a number of clarifications and denials. Can you clarify?

A: There was, in fact, a declaration made by one of the members of the leadership which was distorted. Hani Hassan later rectified the distortion. In any case, the position of the leadership of the Palestinian Revolution does not need recognition from the U.S.A., which is responsible firstly and lastly for this aggression. Let the Arab world know that, were it not for the U.S.A., this Israeli invasion would not have been able to reach Beirut. So, let us not deceive ourselves with the recognition of the U.S., or any other. I say that Israel might be able to reach any place in Lebanon and any place in the Palestinian Revolution, but the present Arab generation will know that this conspiracy is American through and through.

Q: What is the real aim of the Israeli announcement last night that it would cease fire for 48 hours?

A: This is part of the psychological war being waged against us. They want, as I mentioned, for the Lebanese army to enter on their side in implementing the conspiracy. We welcomed the entry of the Lebanese army in the fight alongside us against the Israeli invasion, and, as we know, the army fought alongside us in more than one position. We hope that this army will not be pulled into implementing the Israeli-American conspiracy.

Q: How do you explain the Arab and international silence towards the Israeli invasion that has only gradually been altered over the past days?

A: I say to you faithfully that the Lebanese and Palestinian fighter and citizen considers that, in this conspiracy, there are those who are implicated in it on the Arab level, and others who are silent — but silence is equal to being implicated. There are also those who are watching, and this is also the same as being implicated. If only one Palestinian or Lebanese child is able to survive this battle, we will know how to best make them pay for their silence, their conspiracy, and indifference.

Q: Do you think that Damascus undertook its duty, or did circumstances force it to cease fire?

A: I understand that the battle is one. If the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese patriotic forces are hit, and if Lebanon is occupied, Syria's turn will come next. Through you I say, it is up to Syria, despite all present circumstances, to move to save the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. It is up to Syria to consider Beirut and Lebanon as if they were Damascus, Aleppo and Hama.

Q: There are those who call for a transformation of the P.L.O. into a political movement. Don't you believe that any such transformation would mean its end?

A: The P.L.O. emerged as a result of an independent decision of the Palestinian people. From the very beginning, the P.L.O. called for armed struggle as a means for eventual liberation. With the arrogant enemy we face, there is no other language than that of armed struggle. The heroes of Tyre, Sidon, Nabatieh, Zahrani, and all of Lebanon, have proved that this enemy, when fought by human will, can be overcome by us. But, if we fight them in a classical war, they are stronger because of the American weapons they possess. Therefore, let them have no illusions: those who will live will carry on the flame of armed struggle which we will never ever abandon. And we will never be transformed into a political party, no matter what the circumstances might be.

Q: Finally, how do you see the end of this?

A: I believe that we have nothing in front of us — and take this down for history — we have nothing but steadfastness. May all those Arabs who kneel, who are silent and who rejoice in our tragedy, may they know that the day of reckoning will come for them. This is the final position of every Palestinian and Lebanese citizen.

in solidarity

Go Home, Mr. Begin, Go Home



By Mary McGrory

Dear Mr. Begin:

Would you please not come to Washington? Would you please go home?

You will excuse this bluntness, but everything about you suggests that you do not take hints.

The president of the United States has been trying to tell you that he would rather not receive you a a guest of the nation at this time. You come, it pains friends of Israel to say, with blood on your hands. Earlier this week, the White House and State Department suggested that your appointment in the Oval Office was "tentative" — even though your visit was arranged some time ago.

You were invited in conjunction with your appearance at the United Nations disarmament session. It is not a subject on which we particularly wish to hear you. Your credibility on any subject is, as a matter of fact, low. Too many remember your early assurance that Israeli troops would stop their advance 25 miles into Lebanon.

We are not in a mood right now to hear your protestations about Israel's security. We know your concerns. They are real. Your people have not known a day's peace since you founded, with our fervent blessings, the State of Israel. But does Israel's security have to be purchased by the slaughter of innocents? We don't think so.

You are properly concerned with the safety of Israel. We have demonstrated our concern, perhaps not always so strongly as would have us do, over the years since your founding. But there is something else that comes to us from our founders. It is what Thomas Jefferson called "a decent respect for the opinions of mankind."

You ignored that when you bombed Beirut, Sidon and Tyre. We have been seeing every night pictures of wounded babies and old men. We read about people standing outside devastated apartment buildings, wearing masks against the stench of corpses, waiting to go in to claim their dead. They were a threat to you?

Yes, we know, your planes dropped leaflets before they dropped the bombs. But why did you have to bomb their cities at all? People in apartment buildings may be PLO sympathizers or even devoted adherents of Yasser Arafat. But they were unarmed civilians. In this country, we have a low threshhold on indiscriminate civilian bombings. You were trying to save your own troops. We understand that. We are, after all, the country that dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki to spare ourselves the casualties that would inevitably have resulted from invasion. But grant us that we were up against a mighty, if weakened, war machine and a totally mobilized nation. You were punishing a wretched country that reluctantly shelters factions which, while hostile to you, could not wipe you off the face of the earth, however much they might want to.

Please don't tell us that the figures given by the Lebanese of 9,000 civilian dead are exaggerated. Please don't tell us that you know that there are considerably fewer than 300,000 homeless people. In the first place, how do you know? In the second, it is already too many.

Did you notice that we are just coming out of the Falkland Islands experience? Our stand, after a month of "neutrality", was finally taken on the ground that military aggression cannot be justified. The question of proportion was involved there, too. The idea of killing half as many troops to protect the rights of 1,800 Falkland Islanders struck many as excessive. But we dug in on the principle of the rights of sovereign nations not to be invaded. Why do you think it would not apply in your case? Or don't you care?

To be sure, certain elements in our government and press took an indulgent view of your aggression. Little from the traveling party of the president suggested much more than annoyance. When asked in London if there was any thought of cutting off military aid, which would have been the clearest expression of disapproval, the secretary of state said, "No action is being taken to terminate arms shipments."

It is true that you heard gleeful sounds over the political pluses: two Soviet clients, Syria and the PLO, being clobbered; the missiles and tanks we provided you demonstrably superior to those which the Soviets gave them. Wonderful.

You have heard also the palaver about the "new opportunities for peace" that will be found in the rubble. Why would the Arabs, particularly the Palestinian Arabs who live on your West Bank, feel more kindly toward you after what you have visited on their brothers and sisters in Lebanon?

Why don't you go home and think about that for a while? Why don't you say you are sorry? Why don't you tell us what kind of a country you are becoming? Do you think that you are making of the Palestinians the Jews of this century, a people without a home?

Please, right now do not speak to us about the Holocaust. We remembered it, even before you reminded us.

We are told you insist on coming because if you cancelled, people would think you had something to be ashamed of. In our opinion, you do.

(Reprinted *Wash. Post, June 20, 1982)*

Palestinians Will Continue Struggle



(Following is text of Letter to Editor of Washington, Post, published on June, 1982, after censoring some sentences.)

It is almost impossible for a Palestinian to write about the war in Lebanon. How could a Palestinian write, even think, about the Israeli killing and wounding of more than twenty thousand of his people? Ironically, this was the feeling of Jews during the Nazi blitzkriegs and killing of Jews during the Second World War. Now, Palestinians have the same anguish, frustration and anger. They are saying, the West stands silently and watches the Israeli massive bombardment of Lebanese cities and Palestinian refugee camps, and the killing and wounding of thousands of innocent civilians. An Israeli general, Nathan Sharonni, on ABC Nightline has even spoken about the "final solution" for the Palestinian problem.

Moreover, Israel is using the most sophisticated American weapons in this genocidal attack against Palestinians and Lebanese. Hundreds of American made warplanes, thousands of American made bombs, missiles and rockets are devastating Lebanese cities and Palestinian refugee camps. The State Department has expressed strong condemnation and abhorence of the attempted assassination of one Israeli, the Ambassador in London, yet it has not expressed condemnation and abhorence for the killing of thousands of Palestinians and Lebanese. As if Israeli lives are more important than Palestinian Arab lives. If the situation is reversed and the Arab states invade Israel and bomb Israeli cities and towns, what would the American position be? Actually, some Americans have called the PLO "terrorist" because it attacked Israeli civilian targets. Now Israel is bombing Palestinian Lebanese civilian targets. Why not apply the same standard and label Begin and Israel terrorist?

Israel's aim is to wipe out the P.L.O. in Lebanon. But in the process, it has destroyed Lebanese cities and towns and killed thousands of innocent people. Israel argues it wants to rebuild a new stable Lebanon, but it has devastated and destroyed a large part of Lebanon and brought terror and death to its people. This is similar to the American general's argument in Vietnam: "We had to destroy the town to save it".

The Israeli army, with its superior fire power and naval, air and ground forces, might be able to achieve a limited military victory in Lebanon. But this will not wipe the Palestinian people and the P.L.O. off the map. On the contrary, the Palestinians now are more determined to survive, to face Israeli brutality and attacks and to struggle back, not in retaliation or revenge, but simply to establish an independent Palestinian state on their own land, where they can finally be safe, free and reunited. Israel argues it wants to get the Palestinians out of Lebanon. Ironically, the Palestinians do not want to stay in Lebanon one more day. They seek to return to their homes and properties in their homeland, Palestine. They seek safely and security in a Palestinian state of their own.

Moreover, the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the attempt at conquering its capital city, Beirut, will have a grave impact on the Arab region. Israel has buried the Camp David Agreements and with it all hopes for peace with the Arab people. The issue now is how to protect Arab capitals; Damascus, Baghdad and Amman, and how to prevent Israel from changing the geographic and political map of the whole region. The issue, to Arabs, is not Israel's survival, but their own survival in Jordan, Syria and Iraq, and the threat the Israeli war machine possess to them. Many Arab governments, especially those pro-American, that have failed in aiding the Palestinian Lebanese people and in protecting Arab lives and territory will feel the disastrous effects of this war. In 1948, after Palestine was conquered, a number of Arab governments fell. In 1982, as Lebanon is being conquered, a number of Arab governments might face the same fate.

This is a moment of great anguish, pain and bleeding for the Palestinian people. But out of their wounds and the ruins of their camps, emerges the great heroism and determination to fight back and survive. Jews stood at the Warsaw ghetto and fought back. Palestinians today, their backs to the sea, fight on. The children of the fallen, will continue on, until they achieve freedom.

Dr. Hatem Hussaini
Director, Palestine Information Office

We Deplore U.S. Government Role



Massive Israeli bombing of West Beirut.

We strongly deplore the American government's unwillingness to condemn the Israeli massive invasion of Lebanon and to deplore the killing and wounding of thousands of innocent Lebanese and Palestinian civilians. The Israeli army, using the most sophisticated American weapons, including F-16 warplanes, new American missiles and phosphorus cluster bombs, has been conducting this war of genocide and mass mureder against the Palestinian and Lebanese people for the last two days and yet the U.S. government has not taken any step to cut off American military aid to Israel. These American weapons used by Israel are violating American laws which clearly state that no country should use Amercian weapons for aggression and mass murder.

Despite the massive Israeli airial and ground bombardment, the Palestinian and Lebanese forces are heroically resisting the Israeli army's advance and inflicting heavy casualties on its men and equipment. The cities of Tyre, Nabitiyeh and Beaufort Castle and Palestinian refugee camps of Bass, Borj al-Shemali and Rashidiyeh are still holding out despite massive Israeli attacks. More than 70 Israeli warplanes have been bombing Lebanese cities and villages, Palestinian refugee camps and civilian towers on the main coastal highway. Thus, more than 600 Lebanese and Palestinian civilians have been killed and over 1,500 have been wounded.

We therefore appeal to the conscious of all American peace groups and individuals and to the American public to stop this Israeli war of genocide and to condemn in the strongest terms the American government's military support of this Israeli war of mass murder. The lives of Lebanese and Palestinian men, women and children are also sacred and valuable.

In the name of humanity and peace we appeal to all Americans to help the Lebanese and Palestinians in their hour of need.

Palestine Congress Statement



Victims of Israeli War of Genocide.

Israel, once again, defied the world community, when it crossed over U.N. forces lines with over 20,000 troops and launched a massive land invasion of Lebanon immediately following a U.N. Security Council request that all parties to the conflict cease hostilities immediately. Current estimates of the number of dead and wounded Palestinians and Lebanese civilians stand at 900.

The Israeli rationale for this mass killing is that it is in response to the attempted assassination of its Ambassador in London. However, Britain's Ambassador to the U.N. revealed to the Security Council on June 5 that a hit list was found on the suspected attackers, which also included the name of the PLO representative in London. This evidence substantiates the PLO denial that it had nothing to do with the assassination attempt. Nonetheless, Israel continued its aggression against the Palestinians and against Lebanon.

Israel clearly is using the assassination attempt as a pretext for its current invasion of Lebanon. Following the July 1981 ceasefire, Israel made it clar that it would attack the Palestinians again, and it sought such a cover to legitimize its attack.

The Palestinian community in North America holds the Reagan Administration directly accountable for Israel's current war against the Palestinians. Never has the Administration taken any meaningful steps to deter Israeli actions against the Palestinians and Lebanese. Never has it condemned Israel for its actions of aggression against the Palestinians and Lebanese. Moveover, the U.S. has blocked all debate and all political options that would permit the realization of Palestinian selfdetermination. Without U.S. aid, which currently subsidizes the Israeli war economy to a tune of nearly $3 billion per year, Israel could make war no more.

We call upon all Americans to demand that Israel halt its war against the Palestinians. The determination of the Palestinians to seize their right to life and freedom, under the leadership of the PLO, so that they may achieve genuine selfdetermination, is unquestionably stronger than the American/Israeli arsenal.

The Human Toll

- Eight days after the Israeli invasion had begun, the American hospital in Beirut reported 40,000 casualties, including 15,000 dead within that total. Lebanon is a tiny country of less than 3 million. Proportionately speaking, this death rate is more than 20 times the deaths of U.S. GIs in the ten years of Vietnam war. According to a UN official, "Nobody knows how many bodies are under the rubble in Beirut, Tyre, or Sidon, and probably no one will know."
- There are now an estimated 700,000 refugees displaced by the invasion. This is almost a quarter of the Lebanese population. Many are stranded without food or water. This lack of sanitation and food has the highest toll on the children.
- Among the U.S.-made weapons used by the Israelis are white phosporus and cluster bombs. Both are anti-personnel weapons and internationally banned.

Soviet Union Statement

Following the barbaric bombing of Beirut and other Lebanese cities, Israeli troops, backed by a great number of tanks and by artillery, have intruded into Lebanon. Israeli troops landed simultaneously from the sea. The aggressor is penetrating inside Lebanese territory, bringing death and suffering to the peaceful inhabitants — the Lebanese and Palestinian refugees.

Challenging the United Nations organization, the Israeli troops passed through the regions of the deployment of the U.N. forces dispatched there at the Security Council's decision after Israel's aggression in 1978.

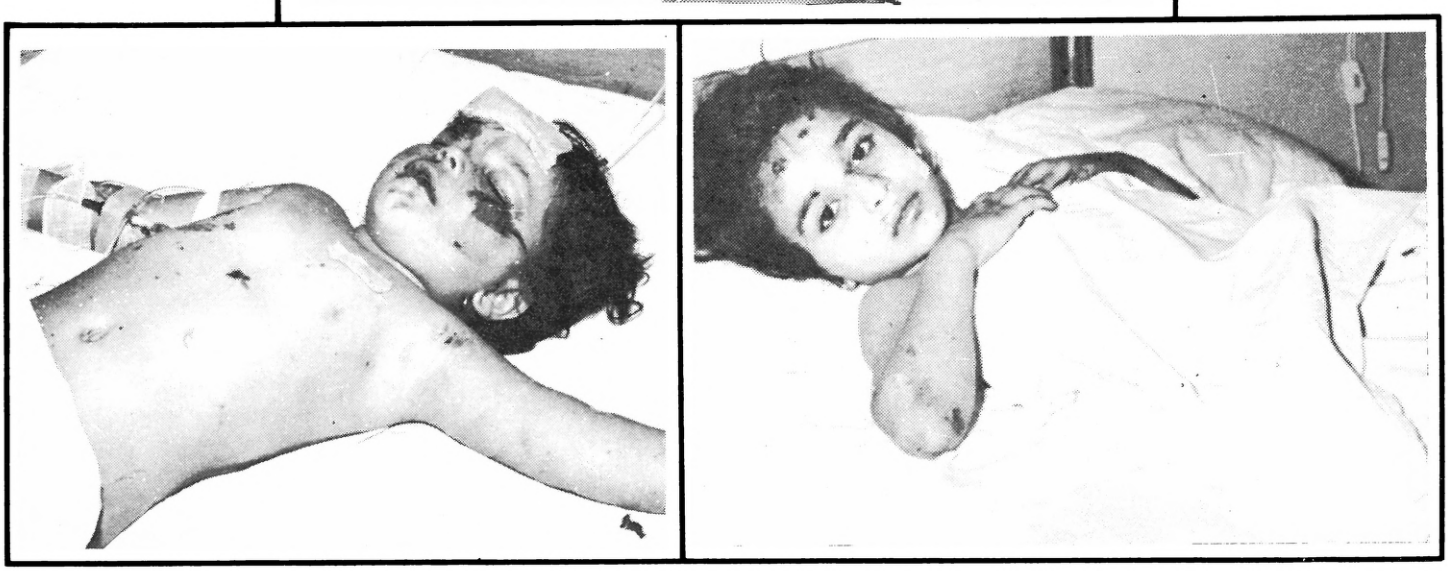
Facts show that the Israeli leadership has launched a large-scale and massive aggression against neighboring Lebanon, is trying to drown in blood the Palestine resistance movement and remove altogether from the agenda the question of the exercise of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians. At the same time, Tel Aviv would like to intimidate by such bandit actions the Palestinian Arabs on the western bank of the river Jordan and on the Gaza Strip who are struggling steadfastly against the Israeli occupation for their freedom and independence.

The new Israeli aggression was undoubtedly undertaken with consent and support from Washington, which armed Israel to the teeth and is pushing it by its policy to carry out criminal anti-Arab actions. The attack on Lebanon is a direct consequence of the Camp David deal and American-Israeli "strategic cooperation". The entire world sees today even clearer what fruits are borne by the collusion between Washington and Tel Aviv.

TASS is authorized to declare that the Soviet Union emphatically condemns Israel's aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. To try to impose on the Arabs its dictate to compel them to renounce their legitimate rights and subordinate themselves to the military strategic plans of imperialism in the Middle East is an adventure which may cost Israel itself and its people much.

The Soviet Union demands an immediate cessation of Israel's armed invasion of Lebanon and a pullout of the Israeli troops to their territory. The U.N. Security Council which bears chief responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, should immediately take measures to curb the aggression, to compel Israel to respect the charter and decisions of the United Nations, to guard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon and the legitimate rights and interests of the Arab peoples.





In solidarity

Black Journalists Support

We wish to express our solidarity and total support for the struggle of the Palestinian and Lebanese fighters and people against the Zionist aggression. Revolution until victory.
General Union of Palestine Students — Madison Students Union
Middle East Concerned Citizens Association
Organization of Arab Students
Arab Center Madison
Iranian Student Association
United States Anti-Imperialist League Madison
Lebanese Students in Madison

We stand in full solidarity with the valiant battle of the P.L.O. forces against the barbaric and monstrous Zionist attempt to commit total genocide against the courageous Palestinian people. We are confident that the P.L.O. will emerge victorious and that the just struggle for self determination will be realized. We will be doing all we can to help in this struggle against this attempted Zionist massacre. Please do not hesitate to call on us.
In Solidarity,

The National Alliance of 3rd World Journalists.

American Jews Protest

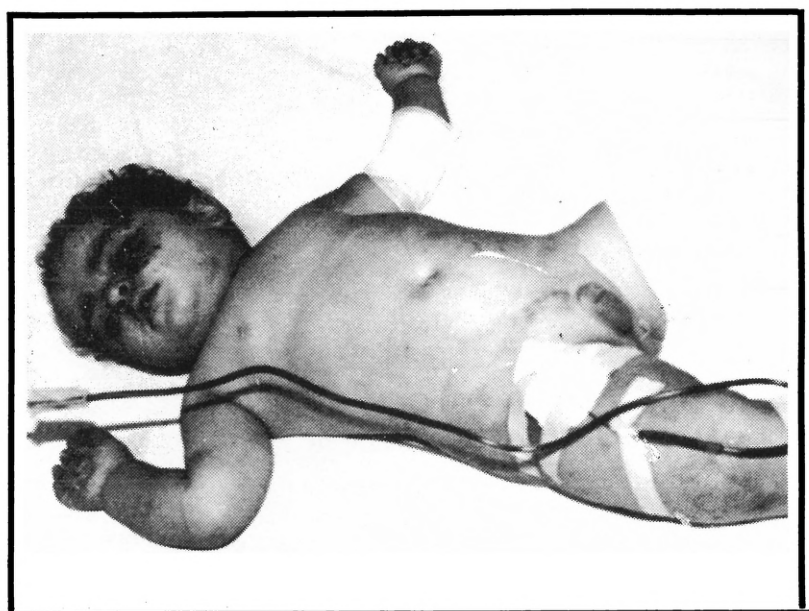
As American Jews working for peace in the Middle East, we are deeply concerned about the state of war which has existed there more than a generation. The current escalation in violence — including the invasion of Lebanon by Israel — may lead to disastrous results even beyond the region.

Therefore, we call for:

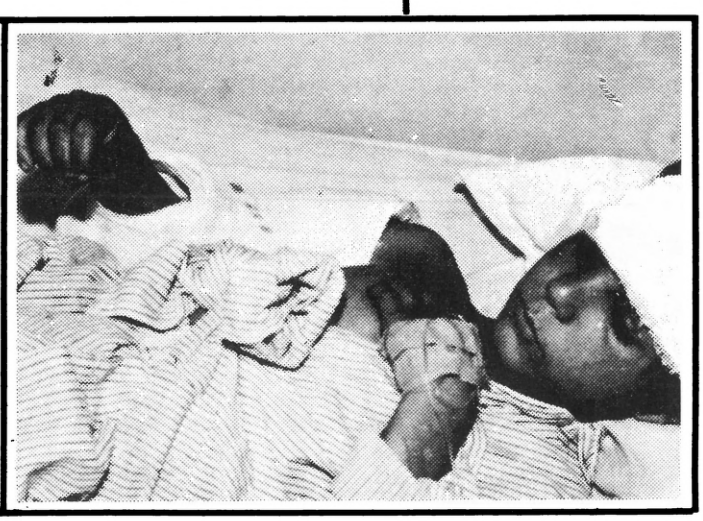
1. An immediate cease-fire between the State of Israel and the P.L.O.
2. Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.
3. Both the State of Israel and the P.L.O. to declare their recognition of full sovereign rights and self-determination for both peoples.
4. The State of Israel and the Palestinians to begin negotiating a peace treaty, which may result in the creation of a Palestinian State.

(signed)

Washington Area New Jewish Agenda
Takoma Park, Maryland

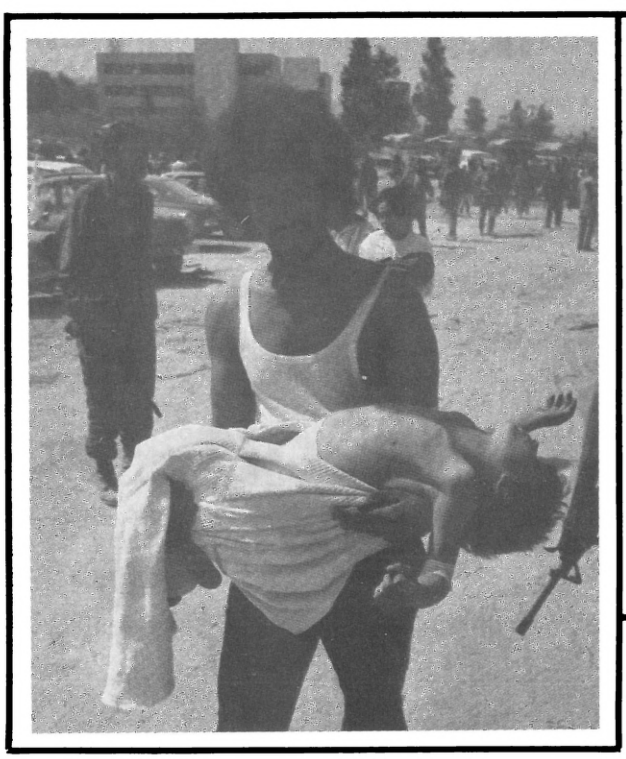






in solidarity

PUSH Urges Israeli Withdrawal From Lebanon





Statement Released By The Reverend Jesse L. Jackson

In the name of God and humanity the fighting in Lebanon must stop, and Israel must withdraw its troops immediately. If Israel refuses to end its occupation of southern Lebanon, the United States should impose sanctions against Israel denying it any more economic or military aid. Why should the U.S. take such a position?

(1) Israel's invasion of Lebanon is morally indefensible and violates international law. We cannot condemn Russia's violation of Afghanistan's borders and national sovereignty, and condone Israel's violation of Lebanon's internationally recognized borders and sovereignty.

(2) Israel has gone beyond its own initially stated reasons for the invasion and declared limited objective. Israel gave two reasons for the invasion: (1) to retaliate for an alleged PLO assissination attempt on their British Ambassador; and (2) to stop the PLO bombing of northern Israel from southern Lebanon. Its stated objective was to drive the Palestinians 25 miles from Israel's northern border to prevent their rockets from reaching Israel.

What seems to be closer to the truth is that Israel has been poised and had plans to invade southern Lebanon for several months now, and it is simply using the assassination attempt and the periodic bombing as excuses to do what they have been wanting and planning to do all along — i.e., to crush the PLO and the idea of an independent Palestinian state. However, by destroying the PLO militarily in southern Lebanon in a matter of days Israel has proved that it is a myth that the PLO constituted any serious military threat or a threat to its national security. No real threat could have been done away with in such a quick manner. It seems as though Israel's giving back of the Sinai has been replaced with its taking of southern Lebanon.

(3) If we are to measure human rights and justice with one yardstick, it means that no nation and no leader is exempt from measurement. The invasion of Lebanon not only violates international law and has received the moral condemnation of most of the world, but it also undermines America's moral authority because it is being done with American military equipment and money. Because of the geo-political position of the Middle East, such action could radicalize moderate Arab states leading them to engage in another oil embargo and driving them toward closer relations with the Soviet Union. Israel's actions, therefore, are a threat to U.S. national interests and security. Israel's adopting of a foreign policy based on the idolatry of might, not right, undermines its moral authority as well. Israel's invasion and occupation of Lebanon is also dangerous because it could escalate into a big power confrontation and lead un into a nuclear war.

The creation of 600,000 homeless refugees, and the death and wounding of over 10,000 people in one week, is simply not morally justifiable. The peace forces in this society who marched over a million strong yesterday in new York and San Francisco cannot remain silent in the face of Israel's actions. Lovers of peace and freedom everwhere must speak out.

BEGIN IS A WAR CRIMINAL

Arab-Americans Charge Israel With Genocide in Lebanon



Arab-Americans accuse the Israeli government of committing genocide in Lebanon. The Israeli aggression into Lebanon has so far resulted in the deaths of thousands of Lebanese and Palestinian civilians. Because Israel has deliberately destroyed the water and electric supplies and hospitals of the major Lebanese cities it has attacked, today one and one-half million people are without basic necessities — held captive by the invading Israeli forces. The human drama that is unfolding is a tragic replay of the Warwaw Ghetto. It is Begin's "final solution" to the "Palestine Question".

Arab-Americans accuse the Reagan Administration of complicity in this Israeli mass murder of Lebanese and Palestinians. Our government could have taken swift action in the beginning stages of the Israeli aggression. Instead, high officials in the Reagan Administration legimitated the aggression and defended it. Today they stand by as major Lebanese cities are murderously overrun. And today, they remain silent in the final stages of Israel's pogrom in Lebanon.

Arab-Americans accuse the Israel lobby in the U.S. of complicity in Israel's genocidal war in Lebanon. Their campaign of disinformation and racism against Arab humanity, and, in particular, against Palestinian humanity has prepared the ground for public acceptance of the slaughter of thousands of Arabs.

Not only have these supporters of Israel's murder campaigns against Arab people never criticized the atrocities committed by successive Israeli governments; they have used electoral blackmail and propaganda terror-tactics to silence American government officials who have criticized Israel's policies and practices.

Finally, Arab-Americans appeal to our fellow Americans. To you who know Lebanon and its people. To you who know Lebanese-Palestinian-Americans. To our neighbors, friends and co-workers.

Please join us in calling on Congress to take immediate and effective action to stop Israel's slaughter of thousands. Stopping the $3 billion in military and economic aid we send yearly to Israel would send Begin a clear signal that there are limits to the support America will give to his policies. Such action would stop the executioner's hand in Lebanon.

On the eve of an enormous human tragedy in Lebanon we ask you to please help us now.



Cut of Aid to Israel

(Text of statement sent to President Ronald Reagan by Search for Justice and Equality in Palestine)

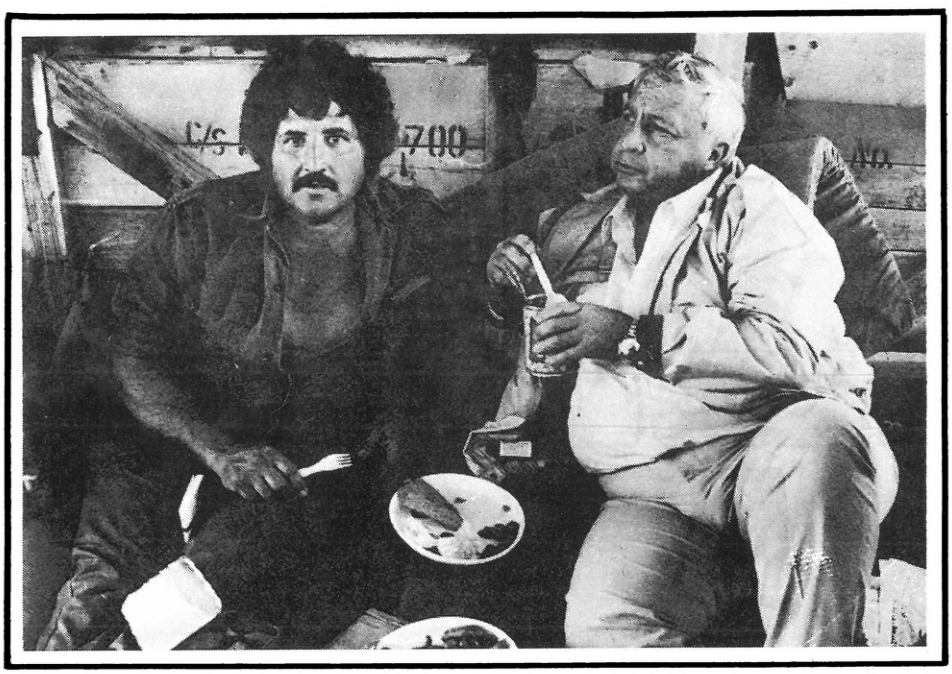
We urge that the U.S. government cut off all economic and military aid to Israel until Israel

1) withdraws from Lebanon
2) commits herself to withdrawal, within the context of peace, from all other occupied lands, and
3) recognizes Palestinian human and national rights.

U.S. law forbids that Israel employ U.S. arms except in "legitimate self-defence." Given the fact that "for nine months not a single rocket or shell was fired by PLO gunners into Israel" from Lebanon (Anthony Lewis in the *New York Times*, June 7, 1982), we urge you to apply that law by cutting off all arms to Israel. As for economic aid, Israel's oppression of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza violates the 1975 Foreign Assistance act which prohibits economic aid "to any country which engages in a constant pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights."

Finally, we ask that those monies intended for Israel be diverted to help rebuild war-shattered Lebanon and to meet the relief needs of the hundreds and thousands of wounded and displaced Lebanese and Palestinian civilians.

Signed by the Reverend Raymond A. Low



General Sharon, the new Nazi war criminal.



American demonstrators in Washington, D.C.

ABOUREZK STATEMENT

A tragic human drama is unfolding in Lebanon. Israel has deliberately destroyed the water supply, the electrical supply and the fuel supply in most of Lebanon's major cities.

One and one-half million people are without basic necessities. They are captives of the invading Israeli forces. It is the pogram of the Warsaw Ghetto recast in 1982.

It is civilian Lebanese and Palestinians and not "guerrillas" or "Palestinian targets" who are bearing the brunt of the continuing Israeli attacks.

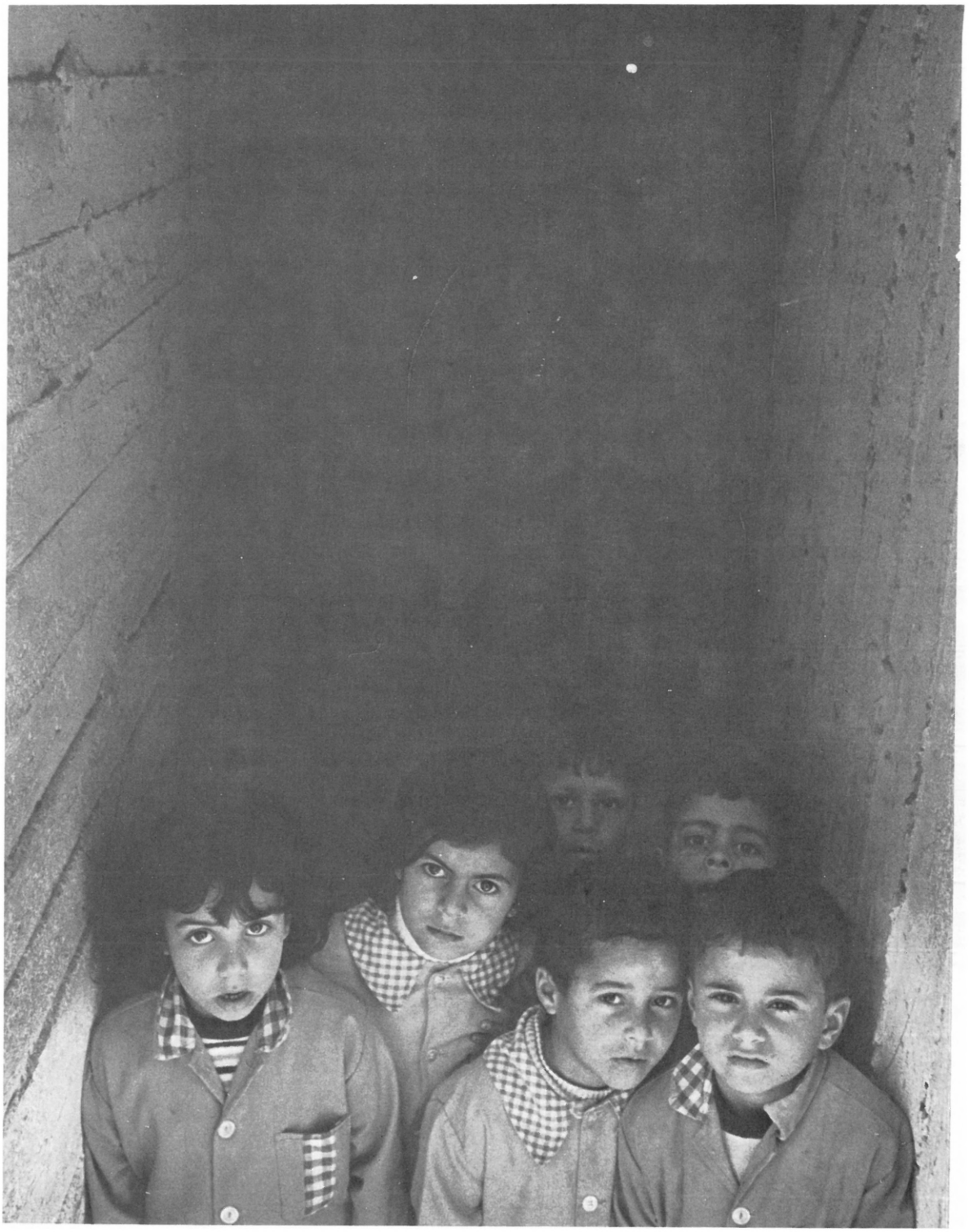
Americans will not react to save Lebanon and its peoples from genocide — because they do not know what is happening. This enormous human tragedy is not being reported with accuracy or sensitivity to the American people.

Israel feels free to do what it pleases because its terrorism and the atrocities it commits are not reported.

Fair reporting can make Americans aware of the human drama that is unfolding in Lebanon. It can help stop the bombing.

James Abourzk
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee
Washington, D.C. 20009

THESE CHILDREN ARE DEAD



These Palestinian children at Rashidiya refugee camp in South Lebanon were killed when their shelter was totally destroyed by the Israeli army. Save the remaining Palestinian and Lebanese children in Lebanon.

STOP ISRAEL'S WAR OF GENOCIDE

Americans for Peace P.O. Box 57042 Washington, D.C. 20037

in solidarity

Israel is Raining Death on Lebanon



American modern ships used in Israeli invasion.

Since Friday, June 4th, Israel, using U.S.-made weapons, has carried out massive land, sea and air assaults against the peoples of Lebanon. Lebanese and Palestinian civilian casualties are in the thousands and continuing Israeli air attacks make rescue work impossible. The Israeli army has laid siege to Lebanese cities and Palestinian refugee camps, cutting off water, electricity, food and medical supplies. The living are without the basic necessities. The wounded are dying.

Israel is committing mass murder in its terror-bombing of Lebanon. The Israeli raids have a genocidal character to them. Expressions like "cleaning out the Palestinian infestation" or "liquidating the PLO" are casually thrown about without even the slightest concern for what such a "cleaning out" or "liquidation" campaign might mean in terms of human life.

Israel is able to make such a pogrom in Lebanon because like all pogromists it is strong and inspired by racism — its victims on the other hand are weak and relatively defenseless.

America bears responsibility for Israel's invasion of Lebanon and its war against the Palestinians. American aid to Israel — now reaching $3 billion a year — underwrites the Israeli war. It is American F-4's, F-15's, F-16's, tanks, armored personnel carriers, and artillery that is killing Lebanese and Palestinians. American weapons and blank check political support has turned Israel into a monster. That monster, now out of control, is killing innocent civilians in Lebanon.

The Reagan Administration has the economic leverage over Israel either to prevent or to accept Israel's war against Lebanon's people. That President Reagan has refused either to condemn Israel's attack or stop military aid to Israel stands as a clear message that the United States endorses Israel's war.

Israel and its supporters in the U.S. have couples this mass-murder campaign in Lebanon with a propaganda war of disinformation and anti-Arab defamation. Their purpose has been to "legitimize" their actions and to "sanitize" their terrorism.

It is of deep concern to us that much of this disinformation has been adopted by various media outlets in the U.S. and by a number of high officials in the Reagan Administration. It is, therefore, important that the Israeli claims be examined.

Israeli claim:

Israel claims that its war against Lebanon is in retaliation for a "PLO terrorist attack" against the Israeli Ambassador in London on June 3, 1982.

Fact:

Israel made it clear immediately following the July 1981 cease-fire that it again would attack the Palestinians. However, Israel needed a legitimizing cover for its assault; the attack against the ambassador provided the pretext.

The Palestine Liberation Organization denied any involvement in the attack and has denounced the assassination attempt as "serving Israeli interests and harming Palestinians."

This Palestinian assertion has been supported by the British Ambassador to the United Nations. On Saturday, June 5, he stunned a session of te Security Council by reading from a preliminary police report on the attempted assassination.

London police, he reported, has found in the terrorists' possession a "hit list" of future targets. Included on the list were a number of Israeli diplomats in England and *the PLO representative* to England.

The police believe that the gunmen were a small extremist faction seeking to discredit the PLO's relations with European governments.

American officials, according to the *Washington Post* (June 9, 1982), also have concluded that the would-be assassins were

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not PLO members but part of a small dissident group called "Black June" that is openly hostile to PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

It is of deep concern that this fact has not received the coverage it deserves. The press by and large has accepted the Israeli line seeking to legitimize the murder of thousands of Palestinians and Lebanese.

Israeli Claim:

Israel claims that it seeks only to push back the PLO from its border so as to stop artillery strikes against Israel. It declares it has no territorial ambitions on Lebanon.

Fact:

As *New York Times* columnist Anthony Lewis explained on June 7:

> For nine months, not a single rocket or shell was fired by PLO gunners into Israel. When Israeli planes bombed Lebanon on April 21 for the first itme since the truce started, the PLO did not respond. When there was another bombing on May 9, there was a limited response: about one hundred rockets that Israel said caused no damage or casualties. Then, after the massive Israeli bombings last week, the PLO responded with full-scale barrages.
>
> In short, the cease-fire kept the Galilee safe until Israel bombed Lebanon. The argument that aggressive new military action was needed to keep the rockets out turns reality upside-down.

Israeli troops are now 60 miles inside Lebanon. They have the capital city of Beirut surrounded. Israel's invasion is an open-ended, comprehensive assault intended to massacre the Palestinians in Lebanon.

Israel is running out of fresh water. It needs access to the Litani River in Lebanon and hopes that from this invasion an arrangement can be made whereby that water can by syphoned off into Israel.

Israeli claim:

Israel claims that it is the victim of PLO terrorism and appeals to the world for support in its effort to stop the terrorists.

Fact:

Israel has been at war against the Palestinian people for the past 50 years. The very establishment of Israel resulted in the expulsion of nearly one million Palestinians from their historic homeland. Later, Israel conquered the remainder of Palestine, known as the West Bank and Gaza, and currently holds over 1.4 million Palestinians under a brutal military occupation.

Israeli raids against the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon has been incessant. Since the 1978 Israeli invasion of South Lebanon (in which 1,300 civilians were killed to the present day — Israeli terror raids into Lebanon and Israeli military personnel and armed settlers in the occupied territories have murdered over 8,000 Palestinians and Lebanese.

It is not only the Palestinians who are the victims of these continuing Israeli terrorist raids into Lebanon. The Lebanese have suffered staggering loss of life. It is Lebanese and Palestinian security that must be defended against Israeli terrorism; it is for them that the world must demand that the Israeli war colossuses must be stopped.

The purpose of Israel's massive use of force has been to liquidate the Palestinian community, to destabilize Lebanese society, and to force the Palestinians in the occupied territories into submission. Such purposes are the definitions of terrorism.

Israeli claim:

Israel claims that it is carrying out its attack in an effort to destroy the PLO.

Fact:

Israel knows that the overwhelming majority of Palestinians in Lebanon and in the occupied territories endorse the Palestine Liberation Organization as their sole, legitimate representative organization.

The Israeli war in Lebanon is an extension of the recent Israeli terrorist campaign against the Palestinians in the occupied territories. In that war, too, Israel took many Palestinians lives.

The PLO represents Palestinians and embodies their national aspirations. As Jews should know, genocide and terror pogroms cannot erase the will of a nation to survive.



Israeli inhumanity.

Israeli Pilot Held Prisoner

Captured Pilot: 'I am not Afraid'



An Israeli pilot, the first to be shot down by Palestinians, speaks to reporters at Gaza Hospital in a refugee camp near Beirut.

BEIRUT, June 6 (UPI)—Capt. Ahiaz Aharon, the first Israeli fighter pilot shot down by Palestinians, sat smiling on a hospital chair today, surrounded by machine gun-toting Palestinian fighters.

"I have been treated very well," he told reporters, adding, "I am not afraid."

In contrast, in Sidon, Palestinian guerrillas paraded the body of a dead Israeli helicopter pilot through the streets.

The body trailed from the trunk of a car. The trunk closed on his waist, his legs dragged on the ground. A young Palestinian in fatigue sat on the trunk, holding the dead man's helmet. Another leaned out of the car and gave the "V" for victory sign.

Aharon, 33, was the first Israeli pilot ever shot down by the Palestinians. The Palestinians called the press to Gaza Hospital in Beirut's Sabra refugee camp to meet him.

Lowering himself painfully onto his chair, Ahraron blinked at the wall of television cameras, smiled and, speaking Hebrew, said the target of his mission in his U.S.-made A4 Skyhawk was an artillery position near Beaufort Castle, a centuries-old mountain-top fortress that looks down into Israel.

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Help the Victims of the War

Send donations to:

United Holy Land Fund
P.O. Box 5441
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United Holy Land Fund
P.O. Box 57095
Washington, D.C. 20037

Palestine Arab Fund
P.O. Box 2323
Los Angeles, California 91746

Palestine Congress
P.O. Box 9621
Washington, D.C. 20016

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"I didn't find my target and my jet was hit," he said. "I fell on a village and there were some problems with farmers. But when the Palestinian Liberation Organization arrived, they took me and there were no more troubles."

[Beirut television showed angry villagers attacking the pilot, hitting and kicking him. the Associated Press reported.

Aharon, who said he came from Hertzlia, a suburb of Tel Aviv, said he was hit in the back when his plane fell to antiaircraft fire.

"The PLO took me to the regional headquarters," he said. "I met their leader. He asked me about my health."

Aharon said he was a reservist, on his first mission in Lebanon.

As they hustled him away, Aharon called to the press, "I want to send my regards to my family, to my wife and children."



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