



Resistance

Years of Occupation

Palestinian camps in Lebanon, and the political prisoners' hunger strike in Zionist jails, continued in protest of Zionist repression and settler terror. Then, in late April, the mass struggle gained yet new impetus: On April 20th, Palestinians in the occupied territories poured into the streets, celebrating the convening of the unifying PNC in Algeria. In the West Bank and Gaza Strip, there were violent confrontations with the occupation forces. Demonstrators threw molotov cocktails while the Zionist forces tried to disperse

them. Israeli radio reported that the driver of a military patrol was injured in Dahariyeh (West Bank), while another patrol was attacked by molotovs in Khan Younis (Gaza Strip).

PROTESTING 39 YEARS OF OCCUPATION

There were demonstrations in occupied Palestine on May 1st, marking International Workers' Day, and even bigger ones on May 15th, marking the occupation of the major part of Palestine and the declaration of the Zionist state in 1948. Demonstrations were especially powerful in the West Bank camps of Balata, Duheisheh and Askar, and in the towns of Nablus, Al Khalil (Hebron), Ramallah, Tulkarem, Al Bireh and Jerusalem, and in the camps and towns of the Gaza Strip. In many places, the Palestinian flag was raised and anti-occupation slogans chanted, as demonstrators blocked the path of the Zionist patrols by burning tires in the streets. Walls were covered with slogans expressing support to the PLO.

Violent clashes occurred. The Zionists used tear gas and gunfire against the demonstrators who retorted with stones. As a result, three Israelis were injured in Duheisheh, two in Balata and three in the Gaza Strip. Three Palestinian civilians were wounded by gunfire in Jenin and one in Balata. A number of Israelis were injured in clashes with the citizens of

Nablus and the surrounding villages of Housan and Bteir. Demonstrations continued in this area in Armout, Salem and Deir Al Hatab, and a curfew was imposed on May 22nd on these villages. Many citizens, including women, were arrested. In Rafah in the Gaza Strip, the Zionist authorities closed three schools.

On May 22nd, Jerusalem was crowded with more than 100,000 Palestinians who had come from Gaza, the Galilee, Triangle and Naqab (Negev), to pray together at Al Aqsa mosque. The religious occasion provided the opportunity for this tremendous expression of the unity of the Palestinian people and their adherence to their land. It served as confirmation of Palestinian determination to resist the Israeli occupation and specifically the Judaization of Jerusalem. This gathering expressed the Palestinian people's unity in confronting capitulationist plans, the Israeli-Jordanian joint administration and maneuvers to normalize the occupation. The next day, there were clashes in Jerusalem between Palestinians and extremist Zionist gangs after the Ramadan evening prayers. The Israeli forces intervened on the side of the gangs, shooting and hurling tear gas cannisters at the Palestinians.

Meanwhile, the Zionist siege on Qalqilia, begun in mid-April, continued after the increase of military operations and popular resistance in the area. On

Israeli soldiers make arrests at Abu Dis.

