

ONLY HE IS A MARXIST who extends the recognition of the class struggle to the recognition of the dictatorship of the proletariat. This is the touchstone on which the real understanding and recognition of Marxism is to be tested.
V.I.Lenin

Economic & Philosophic Science Review

Subscriptions (£30 p.a. or £15 six months - pay £2

Bulletin Publications) and circulation:
P&P EPSR, PO BOX 76261,
London SW17 1GW [Post Office Registered.]

E-MAIL: contact@epsr.org.uk
WEBSITE — WWW.EPSR.ORG.UK

Books
Vol 20



**Young Palestinian
confronts an Israeli
tank.**

Occupied Palestine, Nazi-Zionism, imperialist crisis and war. Jewish religious freemasonry and the conspiracy/fraud of “left anti-semitism”.

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The Zionist eviction of the Palestinian nation, which has pushed history in the wrong-direction for 50 years, is now being splintered by its own intolerable injustice and impossible contradictions. The frustrated violence from unfulfillable delusions will split the camp first of the Zionists then of the imperialists outside. Palestinian (and other Arab) national liberation will triumph (No 919 23-09-97).

The latest scandal in the belligerent colonisation of Palestine by Zionist-imperialism, - a Zionist fanatic who 'abducted himself' for a week to provoke a new confrontation, - sums up the dire contradiction.

The so-called 'right-wing' Zionists, who want to steal more and more of Palestine, are in irreconcilable conflict with 'leftwing' Zionists who are happy with what has been stolen already.

The 'rightwing' colonising fanatics say that if the Palestinians are shown any mercy about losing their land to colonisation, then they will start to want it all back again.

The 'leftwing' colonising fanatics say that now that the post-1945 Jewish invasion has claimed all of the best land, all of the key strategic areas, and total control of the all-important water supplies, then the Palestinians can have what's left as pacified reservations for themselves.

It is the worst mentality of fascist imperialism coming up against an even worse mentality of fascist imperialism, in an epoch when colonial domination has been universally condemned, and all colonising land-grabbing dismantled bit by bit.

Both 'rightwing' and 'leftwing' colonising Zionists are living on borrowed time, - which is why their squabbling is so bitter and desperate, and likely to reach civil-war proportions between the Zionists. The most stunning 'terrorist atrocity' of all in recent times was, of course, the slaughter of the Zionist prime minister Rabin by a fellow Zionist colonist. It is always the way that the hatred between power-mad groups, determined to impose something fundamentally unjust, is invariably worse than the hatred for their helpless victims, - especially at a time when world opinion is beginning to think twice about the whole rotten Zionist-colonis-

ing racket which has virtually made evicted refugees out of an entire nation, the Palestinian people, 5-million strong.

This demented internal Zionist conflict, marked by increasingly savage and dangerous provocations as self-righteous delusions of 'destiny' more and more replace all ability for rational understanding, is going to add to tensions, and make worse explosions more likely.

This in turn could lead on from Zionist civil war, as unlikely as that might seem on first thoughts, - to the even stranger notion of conflict between US imperialism itself and its Zionist stooges, permanently colonising a foothold in the Middle East on behalf of international finance-capital, but now increasingly out-of-control in the conduct of that colonisation.

Washington governments have already in the past tried to curb 'excessive' Zionist fanaticism by tightening the aid purse-strings which keep Zionland afloat, and key military equipment has also sometimes been delayed or even denied to try to keep the West's colonising Middle East hit-squad on a firmer leash.

But ever more often, the Zionists have been turning round to Washington and telling it to get stuffed. And powerful Jewish-finance political lobbies inside the USA and internationally have been ever-ready to back this Zionist intransigence.

This colonisation of the homeland of the Palestinian nation by modern Western land-grabbers from New York and Europe, ludicrously posing as "the chosen people" returning to their "Biblical Promised Land", etc, - is all an obvious historical anachronism, a grotesque affront to civilisation's requirements, and a nonsense which plainly cannot be sustained. This is Western colonialism, pure and simple.

And the modern forces of worldwide national-liberation will put an end to it at some stage.

But while the Palestinians and other local Arab peoples are still learning how to effectively fight against this monstrous high-tech Western intervention into their midst, and learning very competently all the time, - the inevitable doubts and splits in this rotten imperialist venture will begin increasingly breaking down into outright conflict and savagery, Zionist against Zionist, imperialist against imperialist.

Exactly how this will work out is not clear, but that the pace is being set by fanatical provocateurs is unmistakable. The lunatic who tried to spark more war by abducting himself might be considered a one-off oddball, - but any more so than the fanatic who killed prime minister Rabin? or than Baruch Goldstein who recently machine-gunned to death more than 30 Palestinian Muslim worshippers at one of their holiest shrines, and who now has his own shrine where an unending stream of the Zionist population come to hero-worship him?

AN ISRAELI man whose apparent kidnapping by Palestinian extremists triggered a manhunt and the intervention of the US secretary of state has admitted that he staged his own abduction.

Yaakov Schwartz said he acted under the influence of a "messianic revelation" a fortnight ago, convinced that his disappearance would "unify" Israelis in anger and deepen their resolve to combat terrorism. According to his testimony, published yesterday, he abandoned his car near the Palestinian-run Gaza Strip and returned to Tel Aviv, where he hid. The Israeli government deployed the full might of the state in its search for him. Press reports suggested he had been abducted by Arabs.

The US secretary of state, Madeleine Albright, on her first visit to Israel, agreed to raise his plight with the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat.

Mr Schwartz then orchestrated his discovery at the area of his "disappearance". He said he had been held hostage by Arab extremists and would have been stabbed to death but for his book of psalms, which had blocked the knife.

The police doubted his story: the book was unmarked and the cuffs were loose on his wrists. He finally confessed, claiming in mitigation the pursuit of national salvation. Criminal charges are expected. Gunmen ambushed, shot and wounded two Israeli embassy guards in Jordan yesterday.

But the Los Angeles bingo king and multimillionaire

Irving Moskowitz is less easily dismissed, the fully conscious provocateur who financed last week's new Zionist housing settlement at Ras al-Amoud in the heart of Palestinian East Jerusalem, a personal friend of current reactionary prime minister Netanyahu with a 20-year record behind him of financing vicious anti-Palestinian stunts. Such powerful circles of hard-right Zionist zealots know exactly what they are doing, and have the connections and wherewithall to carry it out.

Even the Western capitalist press is beginning to grasp the utterly degenerate nature of, essentially, the whole Zionland enterprise, and the rotten reactionary connections it is bound to lead to, - and the intolerable difficulties it eventually puts everyone in within Occupied Palestine and in the related political links beyond:

The spread of Jewish settlements on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is eating up territory Palestinians regard as their birthright. The Oslo accords did not say as much explicitly, but Mr Arafat came away from Washington in 1993 under the impression that he had been given the nod for a future Palestine.

Rabin's successor, Binyamin Netanyahu, is offering only a few patches of currently occupied Palestinian territory, reminiscent of the smaller bantustans in apartheid South Africa. That might be dismissed as simply a bargaining strategy if the prime minister's vision of the future were not already taking physical shape on the hills of the West Bank.

Sales of new homes in Jewish settlements rose by more than 50 per cent to 1,560 in the first seven months of this year, boosted by government incentives.

The word "settlement" hardly does justice to these citadels of white stone and concrete. They have shops, restaurants and army garrisons. Smooth new roads have been built between them across Palestinian farms, and much of the region's scarce water has been diverted to their taps and sprinklers.

To most Palestinians the Jewish settlements look more permanent than their own hastily built apartment blocks and shanty towns. Most had given up hope of returning to family homes in Israel and had bitterly reconciled themselves to a rump state in the West Bank and Gaza.

Now that is being chipped away. Palestinian farmers are waking every day to find their olive groves and pastures annexed by the burgeoning settlements. Along the Gaza Strip, settlements have been built between Palestinian fishermen and the coastal waters which provide their livelihood.

Mrs Albright set the tone of her three-day visit to Israel with a slo-

gan. "There is no moral equivalence between killing people and building houses," she said.

The dismissive reference to "building houses" showed little understanding of the depth of Palestinian bitterness provoked by the ceaseless spread of new Jewish neighbourhoods. In the prevailing atmosphere of betrayal and cynicism, support is growing for Hamas and its suicide bombings. The Islamic militants already have the support of a majority of Palestinian students.

Even without wholesale internment, the profound post Oslo disillusionment of Palestinian youth threatens to spill on to the streets at any time. Senior Israeli army officers, frustrated by the lack of political progress, have been warning of an explosion for several weeks and there were reports in yesterday's press that they were preparing for a direct clash with the Palestinian security forces.

The settlers themselves are a small minority, but by a quirk of Israeli politics they have a stranglehold on the rightwing government coalition. They also have fervent supporters in the US Congress, through the lobbies of rightwing American Jews and Christian fundamentalists convinced that the return of Jews to Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) will pave the way for a new Messiah.

Hence Mrs Albright's reluctance to say the "S" word too loudly.

This typical Western Jewish-sympathising view still clings to the hope that 'limited'

Zionist colonisation, - i.e. the present 'legitimate' occupation of 75% of Palestine, all the best land, and all of the precious water-rights, - would eventually be accepted by the Palestine nation if only these wretched 'settlers', - i.e. the colonising advance guard into the West Bank and Gaza, - would slow down a little.

But the logic of successful colonisation is that the savagery and injustice must be persevered with until there is no possibility left of any serious fightback, - as the same Western press itself makes clear elsewhere:

The earthquake was an Israeli army bulldozer. At 11am the machine arrived, accompanied by about 30 soldiers in jeeps who cleared away the villagers as the bulldozer tore up the half-built houses of the Fanoun and Shakarneh families.

Sami Shakarneh could do nothing but watch as his future home came down, the first floor lying like a broken plate among its buckled columns. The family had borrowed about £5,000 and spent two years building it. Yesterday all they had left were the debts.

"They have killed my dream," he said, letting tears fall on the ruins. "When they did it I felt as helpless as any woman. They knock down

our houses and we can do nothing. It is an explosion in our hearts."

The war of the bulldozers is at full pitch on the West Bank. It is fought between Palestinian villages on one side and Jewish settlements backed up by the Israeli army on the other. The villages and settlements are both expanding fast and the battle focuses on the land in between.

A truce was called last autumn and the demolitions ceased in part because of international pressure. But since suicide bombers killed 14 people in a Jerusalem market last month the bulldozers have returned and a handful of Palestinian houses are levelled almost every day.

Peter Lerner, a spokesman for the Israeli military administration in the West Bank said the two houses in Nahhalin had been knocked down because they were built without permits.

"They received orders to stop building and were given time to do the demolishing themselves, which sometimes happens. But it didn't happen in this case and today we carried out the demolition order," he said.

The West Bank Palestinians complain that they are very rarely granted building permits, and yet they see the Jewish settlements around them spreading almost daily.

According to civil rights groups, no permits have been issued to Palestinians in the West Bank since Binyamin Netanyahu became prime minister.

Meanwhile, according to a report this month by the Peace Now organisation, 4,555 homes for Jewish settlers are being built in Israeli-controlled areas of the West Bank.

Sami's father, Mohamed, was in the Israeli civil administration department filling in permit application forms yesterday when word came that the bulldozers had arrived.

In his eyes, Nahalin residents should not have to ask permission to build on land which is traditionally part of the village. The land he was building on was officially acknowledged as belonging to Nahalin but had been zoned for industrial purposes.

"But they'd never give us industrial permits anyway," Mohamed Shakarneh said. He has 19 family members in his two-bedroom house, and said he had no choice but to build. Nahalin, wedged in a valley five miles south-west of Bethlehem is becoming untenable as its population increases.

On the surrounding hills, the gleaming white walls of new Jewish settlements stand on every side, and the brown scars in the hillsides announcing their future growth. When they started building in 1995, the Shakarneh family hoped that the peace process would place Nahalin and the rest of the West Bank under Palestinian rule. It now looks to Mr Shakarneh as if the process has gone into reverse.

"How can you live in peace when



you fear the bulldozers might come any day?" he asked.

With the peace process in trouble, the struggle for land has intensified in the West Bank, particularly in Jerusalem, where the Israeli mayor, Ehud Olmert, has called Palestinian building without permits "a cancer that directly threatens Israel's sovereignty in Jerusalem".

"It is my intention to prepare for massive enforcement, including intensive execution of demolition orders, and I don't plan on compromising any more on anything," he has said.

A few miles away, Palestinian rioters clashed with troops in Bethlehem yesterday after demonstrators tried to remove the army barriers which have sealed off the town since the Jerusalem bombing.

The Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, met Hamas and other political organisations in Gaza yesterday as part of a series of national unity meetings. The Israeli government has denounced the meeting as an encouragement of terrorism.

A basically reactionary situation of the Occupation of Palestine, - Zionland, - can only ever breed more and more reaction. It is a fascist colonisation. And even the poorer and darker-skinned Jewish colonisers get persecuted by this unalterable reactionary ethos:

Yesterday, a fortnight later, the refugees were sitting in the deserted lounge of the Jerusalem Hotel on the dusty eastern edge of Jericho. Shlomo Buzit, aged 28, who was born in France of Moroccan Jewish parents, told their story. It was a particularly extreme example from the bitter annals of ethnic tension between the Ashkenazim (Jews from Europe) and the poorer,

darker Sephardim.

"It is racism, pure and simple," Mr Buzit said. Despite several diplomas and years of experience as an electrician, he earned £720 a month - barely enough to cover basic living expenses. His Sephardi friends earned the same or less, he maintained, while their Ashkehazi peers earned far more.

"It is as if you have two trees," Mr Buzit said. "One you water and look after. The other one you give nothing, only stones. Then is it a surprise that one bears fruit and the other nothing? For 50 years we have had nothing but stones."

Earlier this year, unable to find affordable housing, Mr Buzit and his friends turned for help to the mayor of the poor "development town" where they lived, Mevasseret Zion. The mayor suggested they should take over some government-subsidised flats at a centre for new citizens.

The flow of Russian immigrants was beginning to dry up and some of the flats were empty.

They fixed up the flats and things went well until four months ago, when a court ordered them out. When the tenants, mostly Sephardim, refused to go, the police arrived.

"It was unbelievable. Seven thousand police with guns, body armour, like Rambos - all to evict a few families," Mr Buzit said. After the eviction, they spent four nights sleeping rough, before forcing their way back in.

By then Mevasseret Zion had become a big political story. Television crews set up outside the assimilation centre, waiting for the next showdown.

It came a month later. "They blew the doors open and came charging in with baton's and guns," Mr Buzit said. "They held a gun to the head of my baby boy. What kind of people are these?"

After 24 hours in detention, Mr Buzit and several other men from Mevasseret Zion were banned from their home town and from Jerusalem.

"So we drove out of Jerusalem," he said. "We went east. We didn't really know where we were going. When we saw the Palestinians we just gave ourselves up. We had nothing left to lose."

Like many poor Sephardic Israelis, Mr Buzit's politics were decidedly right wing. During last year's election he and his friends stuck up campaign posters for Binyamin Netanyahu. They have since reassessed their views.

"In Israel, the press shows all Palestinians to be extremists and terrorists," he said. "Now that we are here, we feel more at home

than back in Israel. Our grandparents lived easily side by side with Arabs. We have the same culture."

Since their arrival, the Jerusalem Hotel has become a magnet for some of Israel's malcontents. There are now about 20 asylum-seekers.

The whole concept of the Zionland colony is a pestilential sore in the Middle East, seeking the impossible permanent denial of the Palestinian nation's rights, and making peace impossible, (as does all of imperialism everywhere eventually, of course).

Anti-Zionism is the front line of the entire anti-imperialist struggle. Build Leninism. Adam Car

Inter-imperialist market turmoil quickly alters perspectives for revolt against America's political domination, worldwide. Saddam a mild irritant compared to what is coming in the Middle East. Only Blair sucks up to US humbug. Zionists ready to split. Genocidal crime against Palestine will have to be reversed. The fight for theory becomes ever more crucial (No 927 14-11-97).

As for American imperialism, it lives in constant danger of its Zionist-colonialist tail wagging the metropolitan-imperialist dog. The genocidal occupation and annexation of Palestine, - making an entire nation of 5 million people virtually stateless and homeless refugees, fit only for periodic Zionist slaughter and further humiliation and exploitation, - is so monstrous a crime against humanity and all of modern history that nothing can now be done by the West in this powder-keg Palestinian arena that does not instantly and automatically reek of racist and colonialist injustice.

Nothing will ever make this grotesque injustice of driving the Palestinian people from their homeland, (- effectively all 5 million of them considering that the Gaza and West Bank remnants left to two million 'home-based' refugees are little better than open prisons, totally dominated by the Zionist colonialist armed forces and surveillance and 'security' imperialist decrees still affecting the whole territory, and prey to merciless and arbitrary fascist violence by the Zionist police and military at any second of the day or night), - appear in any light other than a total disgrace to the civilised world.

The colonisation of Palestine

to create 'Israel' is simply an impossible barbaric nonsense which is historically doomed, - just as apartheid South African colonialism was doomed, and just as the sectarian 'unionist' British colony in Ireland behind the evil barbed wire of the Partition monstrosity was also doomed.

Nothing the West can now do, - short of a further UN Resolution abolishing the 'Israel' state and starting again, - will ever appear other than a further humiliation and torment to the long-suffering and cruelly-wronged Palestinian nation.

So the Middle East resentment of all that US imperialism does because of its intolerable injustice towards the Palestinian cause is set to run and run and run.

And the 'weapons of mass destruction' scare is not only also bound to fail on the obvious "so-tell-us-about-the-Zionist-nuclear-weapons" basis, but misleadingly misses the point for the West in a very big way.

Specific weapons, - and especially the fantastical 'VX magic killer cordial' invented by MI6 to run as a scare story in its home journal, the *Observer*, - are not the question. The important issue is that at some stage, the revolutionary mass struggle in the Middle

East is going to become more capable of fighting in general than its imperialist and Zionist tormentors.

It is the inevitability of this which makes the seriously insane Zionist colonisers take action against the more moderately deranged Zionist colonisers (such as assassinating Rabin) in order to "avoid weakening or be submerged".

Worried about the international consequences, Western imperialism finally persuaded the Apartheid bantustan nutters to abandon their permanent-colonisation delusion in South Africa.

The huge Zionist lobby inside the USA plus the vital oil interests for the West in the Middle East where having 'local' hitmen-thugs is so useful, - will make it much harder for imperialism to see the same sensible perspective for Palestine, - and even more difficult to try to impose them on the Zionists, still busy perpetually smiting the Arabs in the field.

Contradictions abound, but it is not completely out-of-the-question that serious war-ring could start with Zionist against Zionist, or even with frustrated US imperialism against the Zionists, whose fanaticism becomes an increasing problem, as even the Western capitalist press is at last beginning to admit:

ISRAEL'S biggest-selling pop star, Aviv Geffen, has been forced into exile in London after being victimised and stoned by right-wing Jewish fundamentalists.

Geffen, an icon to Israeli youth, with six platinum-selling albums in his home country, was forced off the stage at a concert in Tel Aviv three weeks ago when bricks and bottles were hurled at him. A fundamentalist group had distributed 60,000 leaflets urging followers to attend the concert and attack the singer, who has championed reconciliation with the Palestinians and founded his own peace movement. He has also received death threats; six months ago he was attacked with a knife by someone posing as a fan.

Geffen, 24, says the forces that led to his exile were behind the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in November 1995. The singer witnessed the killing after the Israeli leader had asked him to perform in front of 300,000 people at the fateful peace rally in the main square of Tel Aviv.

Ten minutes before he was shot, Rabin visited Geffen backstage and kissed him on the cheek - an extraordinary gesture for a political leader to make towards one of Israel's most controversial figures. Geffen was the last man to embrace Rabin alive.

'I saw him fall. I saw the blood and

could smell the gunshot,' Geffen recalled last week. 'In that moment I knew things had changed in Israel. When they started shooting in the name of God I knew Israel was not the place to be.'

Yigal Amir, 26, who was convicted of Rabin's murder, had been posing as a driver for one of the performers in order to get close to his target. Before the assassination Amir had talked to security guards about Geffen. 'Just look at him. What is he doing here?' the killer was reported to have said in a derisive tone.

Geffen was traumatised by the killing. At the concert he sang 'Cry For You', an anthemic number written for a young friend killed in a road crash. He later sang the song at a memorial concert for Rabin, wearing a bullet-proof vest.

He makes no attempt to soften his criticism of Jewish orthodoxy. He said: 'The occupied territories are a cancer in the body of Israel. I wouldn't mind giving the whole of Jerusalem to the Arabs. I place more value on human beings than on a piece of land and I don't believe in holy stones. The religious fanatics are trying to make Israel like Iran. I believe in a god of love. They believe in a god of blood.'

The final straw for his enemies came last September, when he used *Ma'ariv Youth*, an Israeli teen magazine, to attack the right-wing Likud Party and the new Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu. He advised young people to 'pack your bags and flee Israel' and called Netanyahu an 'empty, hollow-hearted man'.

Outraged parents cancelled their children's subscriptions to the magazine and Geffen was publicly denounced by President Ezer Weizman, a cousin of Geffen's father. Threats were pinned to his door and whispered anonymously down the phone.

RABBI David Ariel Yoel arrived at his synagogue early one morning during this month's religious holidays to find it desecrated. Broken windows, swastikas, graffiti threatening, 'Cursed be you evil ones - die!'

It is the latest in a series of attacks on Jerusalem's Har-El Synagogue, including threatening phone calls, hate mail, vandalism, acid poured on its lawn and human excrement smeared on the entrance. Elsewhere in the city, a kindergarten has fallen victim to arsonists and Jews are attacked at the Western Wall.

Palestinian violence?

No. The victims are Reform and Conservative Jews, the suspects ultra-Orthodox adherents. Among the charges levelled at the liberal stream of Judaism is that the Reform faith is a 'derisive mockery'.

In Tel Aviv and the suburb of Ramat Aviv a controlling interest in a new shopping and cinema complex has been acquired by an Orthodox diamond merchant, Lev Leviev, who wants it closed on the



Israeli soldiers guard the entrance to the Jewish settlement in Palestinian-dominated Hebron. Palestinians sweep the street in front of the enclave, which is to be paved in a US-funded project.

Sabbath. Shopkeepers who signed contracts allowing them to open on Saturdays — and the majority secular residents — protested that it violates the character of their neighbourhood. The courts ruled in Leviev's favour.

Last week politics and religion collided. It began with a rally by Orthodox Jews in support of the 'Conversion Bill', which would enshrine in law their right to decide who is a Jew in Israel. Rabbi David Yossef told supporters: "The Reform and the Conservative movements have created a different religion that has nothing in common with Judaism. When they return to Judaism they will leave the bizarre religion they have fashioned."

Enter Binyamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister, leader of the right-wing Likud party and self-professed anti-terrorism expert.

At a religious ceremony last Tuesday evening he crouched next to the eldest of Israel's sages and spiritual leader of the Sephardis, Rabbi Kadouri, and whispered: "The left wing has forgotten what it means to be Jews. They think we will put our security in the hands of the Arabs—that Arabs will take care of us. We'll give them part of Israel and they'll take care of us."

"Whoever heard of such a thing!" The remarks were picked up by a microphone and broadcast on national news, creating a furor. Netanyahu refused to apologise, but this weekend, at the prompting of Kadouri — who had appeared to nod in agreement with the Prime Minister — put out what was intended to be a conciliatory statement, urging Jewish unity.

Coming in the midst of a litany of blunders, this seemed further proof that Netanyahu is lurching from crisis to crisis, buffeted by the often incompatible political goals

of his coalition partners. But there is a deeper malaise today in Israeli society and for many Netanyahu's "Who are the Jews?" comment has crystallised the dilemma.

Yaron Ezrahi, a political scientist at Jerusalem's Hebrew University, believes the failure of the peace process and the crisis over the Conversion Bill has created the greatest crisis within the Jewish people since 1948.

Ezrahi was not surprised by Netanyahu's comments. "It is consistent with his strategy of politicising the category of Jewishness. He did the same with the word "Zionism", historically everyone who supports the Jewish state.

"In the late 1980s the Likud appropriated it by using it as a term to denigrate the Left and now Netanyahu is trying the same with the word "Jew". It is undermining solidarity, lethal for the foundations of our political universe here."

The process, says Ezrahi, has accelerated since Yitzhak Rabin's assassination two years ago, but is contiguous with Netanyahu's tacit support and, say some, promotion, of the anti-Rabin campaign prior to his murder. "He was elected on a platform of "Rabin divides the nation — I will unite it". Now he has failed to unite his country around an alternative to Oslo. But the underlying text is that the peace process is un-Jewish."

Ezrahi, who has visited the United States regularly since the early Sixties, says he cannot remember 'anything remotely like the anger there' among its powerful and overwhelmingly non-Orthodox Jewish community about the Conversion crisis which is feeding Washington's disenchantment over Netanyahu's handling of the peace process. There is an even bleaker forecast: that the mes-

sage of last year's elections is that Israel is now a federation of tribes whose common denominator is dwindling by the day.

This thesis has become the backdrop for the new Labour leader Ehud Barak's plans to win the next election. It is for this reason that he recently apologised to the Sephardi Jews — oriental in origin, right-wing and Orthodox by inclination and crucial to his hopes of ousting Netanyahu.

Barak's courting of religious parties is a new departure for the 'establishment' Ashkenazi and secular Labour party, one with which many of its leading lights are uncomfortable. But, for the first time in Israel's history, those parties have emerged as key political players.

Barak knows the price of their support is the same as that accepted by Netanyahu: support for the Conversion Bill. If it is passed, either by Likud or a new Labour-led coalition, the prognosis for Israel appears dire. Since its foundation, the enemy has been the surrounding Arab world. Now an even more potent foe could be emerging within the state itself.

The relentless growth of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza has become an explosive issue. The number of settlers living in the Palestinian territories has risen by 50 per cent since 1992, and there are more than 300,000 in the West Bank and East Jerusalem alone.

They have dramatically tilted the political scene by establishing themselves on land which Palestinians expected to become the core of an independent state after the 1993 Oslo peace accords.

The last round of peace-implementation talks broke down in March after work started on a new Jewish settlement on Arab land in Har Homa, south-east of Jerusalem. Tension was further increased by the Jewish occupation last month of houses in another Arab district of Jerusalem. Ras al-Amoud.

Jerusalem's mayor, Ehud Olmert, said yesterday that Jewish settlements in East Jerusalem would continue whatever happened at the negotiating table.

Mr Olmert's often stated aim is to ring the city with Jewish neighbourhoods, pre-empting Palestinian claims on the eastern districts as a future national capital.

Observers say the longer the settlements are allowed to grow, the more difficult it will be for an Israeli government to order a halt, let alone surrender them to any future Palestinian state.

Mr Netanyahu made the Palestinian climbdown abundantly clear yesterday morning when he told journalists: "You know we are building in the settlements, and making natural growth of the settlements possible, and I don't intend to change our policy."

His government has said it is ready to talk about troop withdrawals from the West Bank, but has given no sign of readiness to increase its previous offer to vacate 2 per cent of the area under its control. That offer was rejected by the Palestinians in March and there have been no troop redeployments since.

The list of Zionist crimes of aggression is not just endless: murderous and genocidal aggression is all that modern Zionism can possibly mean.

EPSR



Palestinians in the Ain al-Halwa camp in Lebanon celebrating the news of the Scud attacks on Israel

'Alliance' arena's deliberate suppression of theoretical differences makes understanding world-crisis development impossible, as shown in the abandonment of solidarity with Palestine on the front line of anti-imperialism. These anti-communist 'ultra-lefts' finish up on the extreme counter-revolutionary right, tail-ending every current imperialist nastiness. Zionist terror will be toppled, – but not by fake-'leftism'. To defeat imperialist war, prepare for revolutionary war. (No 1063 24-10-00)

One immediate practical task for leadership is how to gain maximum international anti-imperialist clarity from the genocidally murderous setback to civilisation that dying Western imperialism is seeking to impose on the Palestinian nation.

A big 'left' movement is obviously essential before workers in Britain can make much contribution to this world revolutionary struggle, but its philosophy will be crucial. The Labour/TUC coalition was just such a 'socialist' movement yet it is currently part of the Western back-up chorus for the US-Zionist leaders of anti-Palestinian genocide. But 'Socialist Alliance' ideology still wants to treat Labour/TUC as part of the 'left' part of the workers movement.

This 'SA' reactionary treacherousness to real socialist interests easily falls into place, however, once its most 'left' supporters' analysis of Mid-East warmongering is considered. It amounts to total acceptance of imperialist colonisation of the Palestinian homeland, and advocates Social-Pacifist capitulation to 'end the bloodshed', – the surest way of seeing it continue and worsen in reality.

The *Weekly Worker's* bogus 'anti-imperialism' is a disgusting sell-out from the start because of the corrupt 'principled position' it adopts from the very beginning:

"The Israelis, now settled in the region for two or three generations, have the right to exist and to have their own separate nation-state. The results of the Zionist colonisation of Palestine in the early mid-20th century are irreversible, – as irreversible, in fact, as the European colonisation of the Americas."

This 'socialist' thinking is so monstrous that Hitler's 'national-socialist' (NAZI) mentality seems the clos-

est parallel. So the 4 million Zionist colonisers who have invaded to dispossess the 6 million Palestinian nation are apparently untouchable because it happened after 1945, and because from the 16th century onwards, European colonisers systematically wiped out the native-Indian population throughout the Americas???

It would be better not to delve into exactly what sick prejudices and cowardly assumptions have gone into this bizarre *non sequitur*, but both concepts are utterly false and reactionary.

The dispossession and genocide of the Indians of North and South America by European colonisation will never be anything but a foul atrocity, demanding restitution for as long as civilisation continues, and the fight for justice is still very much alive today over vast areas of the Americas. What has 'irreversible' got to do with it, apart from some utterly pathetic defeatist implication that "the imperialist system rules, and will rule, and the relatively few amerindian natives that remain will never get much justice now", etc, etc.?? What a sad 'socialist' perspective. There is no going back to the justice that ought to have prevailed in the 16th century, but planned world socialism will easily be able to make colossal restitution to the present-day amerindians and their traditions, just as it will be able to give full justice to the huge native-american struggles still going full-blast now, from the Eskimos, to Chiapas, to the Amazon rainforest, and right down the Andes to Chile.

This pointless 'irreversible' word is stuck in there solely to benefit the Zionist coloni-

sation-outrage, blitzkrieging Palestine since 1945, but with what implication? Leaving aside some daft middle-class guilt complex, hanging over after centuries of persecution of the Jews by Western societies, or else some nutty superstition about Biblical promises, – the only sense that can be made of this 'irreversible' is the same old petty bourgeois defeatism that these CPGB anti-communists have been liquidating themselves into for years, continuing the Revisionist gibberish which spawned them, and which they once so proudly embraced, boasting of themselves at the 'Leninist' as the representatives of 'the official world communist movement'.

But although now unable to pour out enough lies and hatred against the whole 70-year brilliant achievements of the Soviet workers state, more bilious than the sourest middle-class Trot anti-communists, – these *Weekly Worker* dilettantes have only sunk ever deeper into philistine cynicism that imperialist world domination and its consumerist/economic/technological appeal to the masses could never be got the better of by bureaucratic workers states or by any anti-imperialist resistance movements (denied the benefits of the posturing pseudo-Marxist intellectualism which bosses things at the CPGB).

Their reactionary 'leadership' to the international working class on Ireland remains the classic defeatist analysis, by way of example, – still insisting that the Good Friday Agreement was merely a "US imposed peace deal" which obviously implied that the Sinn Féin/IRA national-liberation revolution was a "failure", with which the *Weekly Worker* has barely been able to conceal its pleasure, ludicrously (for 'Marxists') scorning the role that national-liberation can play against imperialism, and scorning the Irish struggle to get their six stolen Ulster counties back in particular, – because four of them are wanted by this reactionary CPGB working-class 'leadership' to reserve for an Orange-fascist laager where the original colonising Brits like the worst RUC sectarian thugs, the ex-'B' Specials, the Paisley vigilantes, the UDR/RIR killer army units, the 'Loyalist' psychopaths like

the Shankill Butchers, the Special Branch assassins they worked closely with, etc, etc, etc), – can continue to beat up or murder any straying Irish, trying to return to their ancestral land; – or each other if it makes an easier target, as is now happening.

This "Zionist conquest for ever" nasty backwardness from the CPGB was clearly begat by the above cowardly imbecility, trying to undermine the anti-imperialist struggle in Ireland (which, to all normal minds, had plainly fought the British colonial-military occupation to a standstill, bombing London into retreat which, through the GFA, effectively wipes out the 'Northern Ireland' Partition colony as it was under its sectarian police-military dictatorship, and effectively opens the door to Ireland's reunification in the foreseeable future, which was exactly the aim of this particular national-liberation struggle, and a very laudable and worthwhile aim from any genuine international anti-imperialist revolutionary point of view, and of especial significance for the situation in Britain, freeing workers there from their rotten centuries old anti-Irish chauvinism).

Here, the same Little Englander contempt for a small nation's liberation aspirations against big, and seemingly all-powerful, imperialism is expressed even more biliously:

Without finding a way to dissipate the national hatreds that have been built up over generations in the Middle East, there will be no revolution.

The same confused poisoned recipe that these petty-bourgeois anti-communists wanted to impose on Ireland.

But in both cases, the exact opposite is the truth. In Occupied Palestine as in Occupied Ireland, only the most imperialist-influenced posturing academicism could claim that all bitter 'nationalist rivalry' was an 'equally bad' obstacle to peace, and deservedly 'cancelled each other out', etc. In the real world, there is no way that the 'Orange nationalist' interests equate to the Irish wish for national-liberation. Unionism is the local dictatorial arm of conquering British imperialism, which has now been defeated and which has to go.

Similarly, Zionist colonial 'national rights' over Palestine are just a recent imperialist

fiction, imposed by military conquest and total world neo-colonial domination. It is only the rights of the Palestinian nation which have been brutally obliterated by continuous near-genocidal menace from the conquerors. There is only one wrong to be righted, that of the dispossessed Palestinian nation, – 6 million people still suffering torment, humiliation, and pain inside tiny Zionist-policed reservations or else regularly-bombed refugee camps around the Near East.

And how can national-liberation hatred not be part of the necessary revolution to get Zionist tyranny off Palestinian backs??? Only in the devous minds of 'liberal' Western political poseurs, posturing as the 'communist' left in their petty-bourgeois comfort in

middle-class Britain, where the last thing they really want is too much revolutionary upheaval in the world. From its earliest days, volume after volume of Marxist science has made crystal clear its total support and enthusiasm for whatever damage to the main imperialist enemy can be inflicted by justified nationalist struggle. Lenin gloried in the Easter Rising's sensational blow to British imperialism, 'petty-bourgeois nationalist putsch' though it technically might have been described by its pedantic academic 'left' critics. In the theoretically handicapped world bequeathed by the revisionist progenitors of the present CPGB philistines, national-liberation will frequently have to give the anti-imperialist

lead, as was done so brilliantly by the Provisionals in Ireland in both revolutionary politics and revolutionary guerrilla war. So will it inevitably be in Palestine for the immediate future, where decades of international revisionist debacle have made the early rebirth of Leninism a still distant prospect only.

As pretend 'Leninists' and 'communists', presumably the *Weekly Worker* looks down on the perspective of 'mere' nationalist liberation war from the posturing loftiness of claiming that only 'revolutionary class war for socialism – against all bourgeois nationalism' could be the 'real thing', – a *Walter Mitty* stance they affected over Ireland.

But the doubts that this CPGB opportunist egocentricity would really want to identify itself with any kind of revolutionary war anywhere are raised sky high by the following absurd social-pacifist bleat:

Last weekend's ceasefire, brokered by Bill Clinton in Egypt, is very tenuous, to say the least. Both Palestinian militants and Israeli extremists are denouncing it as a sell-out. The danger of escalation remains.

Danger to who? To the Palestinians? So don't bother fighting persecution tyranny if it is bigger and better equipped? Some 'revolutionary communist' advice, this is! It would not draw a whole lot of admiration in Vietnam, Cuba, Occupied Ireland, or 100 other centres of national-liberation struggle since 1945.

Danger of bloodshed? So just give in to imperialist colonisation and live a long life in undisturbed peace? Wiped-out aboriginal populations from Australia to the Americas would hardly endorse this recommendation.

Danger to the Zionists?? The Western imperialist might behind this armed-to-the-teeth colonisation is hardly in need of timely-warning assistance from genteel fake 'revolutionary' observers from abroad, but a letter of thanks may have been posted in Tel Aviv, who knows?

From a revolutionary Marxist perspective, the real 'danger' is precisely the opposite, – that the ability to fight imperialist domination everywhere will not escalate, and, that history will end with the triumph of neo-colonialism.

But that is not realistic proposition. As last week's *Review* explained from a Marxist

scientific position in detail, ongoing imperialist exploitation will eventually train and educate the whole world in how to fight, defeat, and overthrow monopoly capitalist domination one day. This Al-Aqsa Intifada is the severest revolutionary challenge to Zionist tyranny yet from within Palestine, but this process is still barely in its infancy. Very many far more serious assaults on this colonisation outrage have yet to come.

Just as disorienting as the CPGB's social-pacifist bilge, is the near-racist *Weekly Worker* sneer at the inevitably Islamic colouration to the Palestinian intifada:

Muslim fundamentalism offers a counter-revolutionary solution to the masses. Israel and the US are fanatically hated in a reactionary way.

But however barmy the religion, Islam also provides a cultural-nationalist solidarity which can inspire some anti-Western imperialism fervour which might easily and temporarily play a decisive and progressive historical part against neo-colonial globalisation. What insane footling academism to simply jeer this out of contention 'on principle'?

Sinn Féin has likewise been jeered at by many fake-'lefts' among the 57 varieties of Trot and Revisionist anti-communism for harbouring 'fanatical nationalist hatred'; for supposedly 'rejecting the true path of socialist revolution'; and for accommodating to religious (Catholic) fundamentalism itself. And the *Ten Men Dead* of the early 1980s Hunger Strikes were a powerful cultural phenomenon of a decidedly nationalist/religious character (rather than any orthodox communist-revolutionary nature) which as much as anything else helped to destroy British imperialist political credibility in Occupied Ireland.

Similar fanatical-nationalist suicidal heroism helped drive US imperialism out of its temporary invasion-occupation of Lebanon in the early 1980s after explosives-packed trucks were driven into American target buildings with devastating casualties to the US Marine Corps and US Diplomatic Corps.

None of which stops Islamic religion remaining superstitious nonsense, holding people back; but it does nevertheless allow that some of the broad anti-Western-imperialism cultural influence of Islam could



be one focus of serious revolt against neocolonialism, all the same. And in the broad spread of anti-imperialist struggle in the world, it is foolish to rule it out that some purely nationalist-fanatical spark could light a far deeper and bigger conflagration, and play

a historical role despite all its chance/episodic quality.

Lenin was in no doubt about the anti-imperialist influence of nationalist struggle, as he told the Second All-Russia Congress of Communist Organisations of the Peoples of the East on November 22, 1919:

Comrades, I am very glad of the opportunity to greet this Congress of Communist comrades representing Moslem Organisations of the East, and to say a few words about the situation now obtaining in Russia and throughout the world. The subject of my address is current affairs, and it seems to me that the most essential aspects of this question at present are the attitude of the peoples of the East to imperialism, and the revolutionary movement among those peoples.

I think that what the Red Army has accomplished, its struggle, and the history of its victory, will be of colossal, epochal significance for all the peoples of the East. It will show them that, weak as they may be, and invincible as may seem the power of the European oppressors, who in the struggle employ all the marvels of technology and of the military art - nevertheless, a revolutionary war waged by oppressed peoples, if it really succeeds in arousing the millions of working and exploited people, harbours such potentialities, such miracles, that the emancipation of the peoples of the East is now quite practicable, from the standpoint not only of the prospects of the international revolution, but also of the direct military experience acquired in Asia, in Siberia, the experience of the Soviet Republic, which has suffered the armed invasion of all the powerful imperialist countries.

Furthermore, the experience of the Civil War in Russia has shown us and the Communists of all countries that, in the crucible of civil war, the development of revolutionary enthusiasm is accompanied by a powerful inner cohesion. War tests all the economic and organisational forces of a nation. In the final analysis, infinitely hard as the war has been for the workers and peasants, who are suffering famine and cold, it may be said on the basis of these two years' experience that we are winning and will continue to win, because we have a hinterland, and a strong one, because, despite famine and cold, the peasants and workers stand together, have grown strong, and answer every heavy blow with a greater cohesion of their forces and increased economic might. And it is this alone that has made possible the victories over Kolchak, Yudenich and their allies, the strongest powers in the world.

Russian Bolsheviks have succeeded in forcing a breach in the old imperialism, in undertaking the exceedingly difficult, but also exceedingly noble, task of blazing new paths of revolution, whereas you, the representatives of the working people of the East, have before you a task that is still greater and newer. It is becoming quite clear that the socialist revolution which is impending for the whole world will not be merely the victory of the proletariat of each country over its own bourgeoisie. That would be possible if revolutions came easily and swiftly. We know that the imperialists will not allow this, that all countries are armed against their domestic Bolshevism and that their one thought is how to defeat Bolshevism at home. That is why in every country a civil war is brewing in which the old socialist compromisers are enlisted on the side of the bourgeoisie. Hence, the socialist revolution will not be solely, or chiefly, a struggle of the revolutionary proletarians in each country against their bourgeoisie - no, it will be a struggle of all the imperialist-oppressed colonies and countries, of all dependent countries, against international imperialism. Characterising the approach of the world social revolution in the *Party Programme* we adopted last March, we said that the civil war of the working people against the imperialists and exploiters in all the advanced countries is beginning to be combined, with national wars against international imperialism. That is confirmed by the course of the revolution, and will be more and more confirmed as time goes on. It will be the same in the East.

We know that in the East the masses will rise as independent participants, as builders of a new life, because hundreds of millions of the people belong to dependent, underprivileged nations, which until now have been objects of international imperialist policy, and have only existed as material to fertilise capitalist culture and civilisation. And when they talk of handing out mandates for colonies, we know very well that it means handing out mandates for spoliation and plunder - handing out to an insignificant section of the world's population the right to exploit the majority of the population of the globe. That majority, which up till then had been completely outside the orbit of historical progress, because it could not constitute an independent revolutionary force, ceased, as we know, to play such a passive role at the beginning of the twentieth century.

The imperialist war aroused the East also and drew its peoples into international politics. Britain and France armed colonial peoples and helped

them to familiarise themselves with military technique and up-to-date machines. That knowledge they will use against the imperialist gentry. The period of the awakening of the East in the contemporary revolution is being succeeded by a period in which all the Eastern peoples will participate in deciding the destiny of the whole world, so as not to be simply objects of the enrichment of others. The peoples of the East are becoming alive to the need for practical action, the need for every nation to take part in shaping the destiny of all mankind.

That is why I think that in the history of the development of the world revolution - which, judging by its beginning, will continue for many years and will demand much effort - that in the revolutionary struggle, in the revolutionary movement you will be called upon to play a big part and, to merge with our struggle against international imperialism. Your participation in the international revolution will confront you with a complicated and difficult task, the accomplishment of which will serve as the foundation for our common success, because here the majority of the people for the first time begin to act independently and will be an active factor in the fight to overthrow international imperialism.

We must realise that the transition to communism cannot be accomplished by the vanguard alone. The task is to arouse the working masses to revolutionary activity, to independent action and to organisation, regardless of the level they have reached; to translate the true communist doctrine, which was intended for the Communists of the more advanced countries, into the language of every people; to carry out those practical tasks which must be carried out immediately, and to join the proletarians of other countries in a common struggle.

Such are the problems whose solution you will not find in any communist book, but will find in the common struggle begun by Russia. You will have to tackle that problem and solve it through your own independent experience. In that you will be assisted, on the one hand, by close alliance with the vanguard of the working people of other countries, and, on the other, by ability to find the right approach to the peoples of the East whom you here represent. You will have to base yourselves on the bourgeois nationalism which is awakening, and must awaken, among those peoples, and which has its historical justification. At the same time you must find your way to the working and exploited masses of every country and tell them in a language they understand that their only hope of emancipation lies in the victory of the international revolution, and that the international proletariat is the only ally of all the hundreds of millions, of the working and exploited peoples of the East.

No treacherous pacifist weirdness about "the danger of escalation" here. Just the opposite. Only by suffering the pain of defeat and slaughter can the oppressed sometime learn how to triumph through greater fortitude. Nor does Lenin hesitate to spell it out bluntly that the nationalism that the anti-imperialist revolution might need to make use of can be specifically termed "bourgeois nationalism", if necessary, to avoid any confusion.

Lenin would have saluted ecstatically the shattering blow to US imperialist prestige and pride inflicted by fanatical Islamic nationalists in the suicidal attack on the *USS Cole* in Aden Harbour, regardless of the total absence from the event of any academic 'revolutionary socialist' scholasticism, which would doubtless have had the *Weekly Worker* cold fish disparaging it for its "undissipated national hatred", and for being nothing but "reactionarily fundamentalist" and "counter-revolutionary". In the real world, the soul of genuine anti-imperialism soared everywhere with this blow against American tyranny.

The rest of the CPGB drivel is closer to the entire cowardly output from all 57 varieties of Trot and Revisionist anti-communism. All these 'freeworld' tail-ending Opportunists mouth some pious daydream or other about: "There must be massive redistribution of land and resources in the whole of the former territory of Palestine, including present-day Israel, in order to allow full social and economic equality to the Arab people", etc, etc. And how might this new miracle of super-Biblical proportions be brought about in the Holy Land, given the total truculence of the mad-dog Zionist colonisation, - nuclear armed and more than ready to bite the US imperialist hand that feeds it, if feeling threatened enough by Arab revanchism???

Easy:

"Democracy must be fought for in the here and now, and a programme implemented that can advance the Palestinian Arab people's material standard of life and national self-respect, while at the [same] time dissipating the historically derived, hysterical and therefore murderously dangerous fears of the Jewish population", etc, etc. But the effective Zionist colonisation and imperialist economic expansion only exists as a result of the

dispossession of the Palestinian nation and its homeland, the destruction of its 'material standard of life and national self-respect'. The two aims are not just utterly incompatible, they are the polar opposites of each other.

But relentlessly, these middle-class 'communists' (?) pursue their latter-day *Sermon on the Mount*, and preach:

"By fighting for democracy for both nations, socialists can make a start on the necessary task of exploding the Zionist fortress from within, of laying the basis for a working class-centred struggle for socialism, for a genuinely voluntary federation of the peoples that alone can banish for good the kinds of national hatreds that dominate today".

Here endeth the lesson. Cynics jeer Blair for his Vicar of Albiom bullshit and righteousness. But this stuff is so wacky it would be impossible to make it up.

In the real world, only major imperialist defeat, destruction, and humiliation in war offers any serious perspective of breaking the neo-colonial stranglehold on the world that the Western powers maintain, typified by the monstrous genuinely-genocidal tyranny that has dispossessed the entire Palestinian nation since 1945 which the whole of the 'democratic' and 'free world' has constantly deliberately turned a blind eye to (as did the shameful Moscow Revisionists, progenitors of this CPGB imperialist-tailending opportunism.)

When armed struggle finally began toppling South Africa's apartheid tyranny (which the West had also conveniently turned a blind eye to for decades), the imperialists belatedly stepped in to make a virtue of a necessity and gently oblige Boer racist supremacism to let go. But there, there was room for some shuffling across to allow the black bourgeoisie nominal political power and some more say in the capitalist economy. (That it will soon prove to be insufficient power-handover will eventually be proved by black working-class revolt, but that is a subsequent issue).

In Occupied Palestine, on the other hand, flourishing Zionist colonisation precludes Palestinian national flourishing, and vice versa. And worse, there is no way that a belated imperialist stepping-in to make a virtue of a necessity could remotely possibly oblige Zionist racist supremacism to let go.

So what are the real pos-

sibilities for resolving this explosive contradiction, which has no solution, (typical of the whole world-problem facing the insoluble 'overproduction' economic crisis, threatening the whole imperialist system with collapse and tradewar destruction at any time)????

Palestinian resistance, over time, will precisely escalate, escalate, and escalate, and the guerrilla-war ability to frustrate the Zionists' superior might will also steadily grow, – as Hizbollah have already proved in South Lebanon can happen.

It is impossible to know exactly what will occur but a likely, all-the-way genocidal blitzkrieg-response by Zionist colonisation to such an overgrowing revolt will then mean almost certain intervention on a much wider scale by a far greater number of powers. And this could well be coinciding with the international markets crash of the imperialist system itself, wrecking imperialist/oil supply relationships (already into warmongering turmoil anyway, as prematurely arose over Iraq, and then Iran before that, creating the almost 20 years continuous war that has already been exploding on and off around the Persian Gulf even before the major inter-imperialist devastation sort-out has begun).

In such a colossal spread of non-stop turmoil, imperialist-stooge regime after imperialist-stooge regime will go down to humiliating defeat; including colossal setbacks for the major powers, from combined Third-World revolt (as outlined by Lenin above) or from inter-imperialist conflicts that are bound to follow from the major policy splits that this destructive upheaval-mayhem will inevitably unleash.

Onto such bourgeois imperialist ruins will of necessity, advance proletarian socialist revolution everywhere.

This is the only serious Marxist philosophical preparation. Telling the working class the *Weekly Worker* fairy stories about how 'socialists will explode the Zionist fortress from within by their fight for democracy' is just make-believe nonsense. Explaining to workers everywhere the real warmongering crisis-ridden future for the contradiction riddled imperialist system has got nothing to do with "Wait till the revolution, that will solve everything" to quote the infantile Aunt Sally the

CPGB sets up for itself to knock down. Analysing imperialist crisis from a Marxist understanding, and building an international which will stick to the Leninist policy of overthrowing one's own ruling class when economic crisis finally degenerates into inter-imperialist war, will be far harder work than the ridiculous 'Socialist Alliance' posturing of non-existent 'unity' based on total discordance of philosophy and ideas which there is no intention of trying to sort out. Opportunist electoral manoeuvring around the 'Socialist Alliance' is for parliamentary cretins, and this tower of Babel will never say anything of real significance to the working class about the actual world of imperialist crisis for as long as this bogus 'unity' survives. Carrying a torch for such double-dyed opportunist reactionaries as Ken Livingstone is the essence of this 'socialist' posturing.

More proof that total dishonesty (and tailending 'free world' imperialism) is a fair summary of 57-variety 'left'-swamp-thespianism, emerges from comparing the CPGB's lofty contempt for the righteousness and power of Palestinian/Arab/Islamic nationalism to the *Weekly Worker*'s determinedly sick and sinister championing of 'self-determination rights for Kosovo Albanians' (which Trot mentality helped provide NATO imperialism with 'left' cover for its fascist-blitzkrieg destruction of defenceless Serbia, in revenge for it trying to cling to some Yugoslav-workers-state vestiges of anti-imperialism (opposing the Western-inspired secessions and land-grabbing by imperialist stooges in Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia, Kosovo, etc).)

If the CIA's mafia stooges in the Kosovo Albanian population are ludicrously considered worthy of 'principled support for their democratic right to self-determination' etc, then why is not the genuinely anti-imperialist and genuinely national-liberation seeking Palestinian nation, – in actual reality dispossessed from its homeland (unlike the Kosovo Albanian cosmetic flight, done to draw the NATO blitzkrieg in), – thought worthy of straightforward self-determination support for the repossession of their own real homeland????

Even more bizarrely, the Serbs, unlike the Zionists,

do have a modern genuine continuous habitation claim to Kosovo as the very heart of modern Serb culture and history (unlike the much more recently arrived Albanians). And in an even further paradox, the Islamic fundamentalist fanaticism which the CPGB deplores in Arab Palestine, even though deployed against an enemy's real-genocide threat, – was turned a blind eye to when it fetched up in Kosovo to fight for the pro-imperialist secessionist putsch, (falsely pretending that anti-Islamic annexationist genocide was the real and sole Serb aim). Could the totally different hypocritical approach be explained by the CPGB's evolving hatred of anything connected with the former workers states? And what would be the correct description for such irrational bitter extreme anti-communism? (See last week's *Review* examining *Weekly Worker* support for fascist imperialism's degenerate stunt to place the guilt for 'war crimes' on decrepit revisionist nationalist Milosevic, and to hang him for the turmoil, clearly caused and fuelled by imperialist crisis itself).

This alarming descent into vicious right wing politics by the fake-'left' is yet another sign of how ripe the imperialist crisis is becoming. These petty-bourgeois mentalities are heading rapidly towards the openly counter-revolutionary treachery and 'democratic' nonsense spouted by the Mensheviks and Socialist-Revolutionaries after October 1917 (and before) in trying to keep the bourgeois-imperialist order in the saddle against the Bolshevik Revolution.

The whole bourgeoisie is very jumpy, terrified a new Wall Street Crash is imminent, followed by uncontrollable worldwide revolutionary economic turmoil. They are sick with nervousness over this increasingly exposed colonial-tyranny outrage in Occupied Palestine for which the only 'solution' – disarming and reversing the march of Zionist imperialism, – is impossible for them. Fingers are crossed that the hopeless contradiction can be temporarily patched together just one more time without helping lead to worldwide revolutionary explosions; and the capitalist press admissions of the real fascist terror being suffered by the Palestinian nation, – courtesy of the 'free world' sitting on



• A Palestinian woman sits on the floor beside her baby wounded by an Israeli tank shell, at Shifa hospital in Gaza, January 2000

its hands, - are still considered obligatory (to try to keep the myth of 'press freedom' going in the West); but the admissions still conceal 90% of the true monstrousness of the situation, (while yet remaining horrifying enough):

The Kafishes are among the hidden casualties of nearly four weeks of killing. On October 6, in an effort to choke off protests by Palestinians armed with catapults as well as guns, the Israeli army sealed off the West Bank and Gaza, consigning nearly 3m Palestinians to an open-air prison.

In the old city of Hebron - a particularly volatile flashpoint because of the presence of some 200 Jewish settlers in a fortress-like compound - the restrictions are even harsher. Since October 1, Palestinian residents have been under 24-hour curfew and barred from leaving their homes. The Jewish settlers are free to leave at anytime.

Aside from the Israeli soldiers hunkered down in watchtowers above the Abraham Avinu settlement, or training their guns on the deserted alleys from their sand-bagged enclosures on the rooftops of Palestinian houses, the old city of Hebron was like a ghost town yesterday morning. Shops were shuttered and curtains drawn.

There was no sign of life until 1pm when an Israeli jeep equipped with a megaphone rumbled through a market that in normal times is thronged with people, and announced a four-hour reprieve. It was only the fifth break in the curfew in 23 days.

Children cooped up for days tumbled into the streets, women in headscarves and long cloaks scurried out to search for food and men congregated at doorways, smoking cigarettes.

Malake Kafishe was seven months' pregnant and happily looking forward to the birth of her second child. Then, last Thursday

night, as on so many nights in Hebron's old city lanes - among the fiercest battle grounds in the West Bank - she heard gunfire.

She froze. "There was shooting, and then I heard the helicopter gunships coming in and my heart just stopped." She began to bleed and ran for the stairs, stumbling over the last few rungs and collapsing in a heap on the doorstep.

Her family rang for an ambulance. Because of the shooting, and a curfew on 40,000 Palestinians in Hebron's old city, it took an hour to arrive. Two soldiers insisted on examining Ms Kafishe.

There were four more checkpoints before the ambulance arrived at Alia hospital. At each roadblock, soldiers swung open the vehicle doors and peered at the ashen-faced woman inside. By the time she reached the hospital, a journey that normally takes five minutes, one and a half hours had elapsed. The baby was dead.

"The doctor told me 'If you had got here 20 minutes earlier you could have saved the baby,'" she says.

The ceasefire proclaimed at last week's emergency summit in the Egyptian resort town of Swarm el-Sheikh compelled Israel to gradually lift the closure on the West Bank and Gaza.

Now, with the ceasefire in tatters, Israel is tightening its grip on Palestinian territories, severing roads to towns and villages with concrete barricades, and sandbags. Nablus, Bethlehem, Jenin and Ramallah are virtually sealed off.

In Gaza, which is ringed by an electrified fence, the closure is total. Yesterday, Israel again shut down the strip's airport, severing the territory's last exit to the outside world.

Such measures are among the most hated of the occupation, a reminder that despite seven years of self-rule in Gaza and some parts of the West Bank, Israeli troops remain the real masters of

Palestinian life.

Some 110,000 Palestinians who work in Israel are idle. Thousands more who work in the West Bank simply cannot reach their jobs.

The present closure is the most severe since 1996, according to Amira Hass, an Israeli journalist who covers Palestinian affairs for the *Ha'aretz* newspaper and author of *Drinking the Sea at Gaza*. "It is an

inner closure now which is even worse. It disconnects all parts of the West Bank from each other.

"Officials in ministries cannot reach their work, teachers cannot reach schools. You can get to places, but it takes twice as long. In effect, the roads belong only to Jews" Ms Hass said.

Under the wary gaze of an Israeli sentry on the neighbouring rooftop, Nasiba Abu Dahoud is scrubbing her courtyard. Yesterday, she collected two carrier bags of spent ammunition, including a 3-metre roll of machine gun bullets.

Of all the shut-in families of Hebron's old city, hers carries the indignity of being among the poorest. At the best of times her husband, Naif Mohammed, works just one day a week as a labourer, taking home 100 shekels (£18) a time. With her husband out of work for the duration of the curfew, they are penniless. Most days she feeds her family of six just one meal, a bowl of thick soup which is doled out by a local charity.

And that misery is just 10% of the true fascist tyranny being concealed by the 'free world'. Despite the support of every fake-'left' on the planet, this imperialist rotteness will not last.

Build Leninism.

EPSR

Race relations have indeed been improving towards a more civilised adult maturity, but the rotten pressures of capitalist exploitation and slump-disruption are increasing faster now. Divide and rule is now the worldwide agenda of a Western-dominated imperialist economic system in crisis. Western privilege, prejudice, and colonising financial-military power, genocidally tyrannising the Palestinian nation, is the clearest example of a process that will have every ghetto in revolt before long (No 1091 29-05-01).

The evidence that the racist problem is inseparable from the continuation of the capitalist system comes in the capitalist press itself as well as from the Marxist scientific

understanding (from *Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy*, 1859) that it is mankind's social existence which determines consciousness and not consciousness which determines social existence:

In the social production of their existence, men inevitably enter into definite relations, which are independent of their will, namely relations of production appropriate to a given stage in the development of their material forces of production. The totality of these relations of production constitutes the economic structure of society, the real foundation, on which arises a legal and political superstructure and to which correspond definite forms of social consciousness. The mode of production of material life conditions the general process of social, political and intellectual life. It is not the consciousness of men that determines their existence, but their social existence that determines their consciousness. At a certain stage of development, the material productive forces of society come into conflict with the existing relations of production or - this merely expresses the same thing in legal terms - with the property relations within the framework

of which they have operated hitherto. From forms of development of the productive forces these relations turn into their fetters. Then begins an era of social revolution. The changes in the economic foundation lead sooner or later to the transformation of the whole immense superstructure. In studying such transformations it is always necessary to distinguish between the material transformation of the economic conditions of production, which can be determined with the precision of natural science, and the legal, political, religious, artistic or philosophic - in short, ideological forms in which men become conscious of this conflict and fight it out. Just as one does not judge an individual by what he thinks about himself, so one cannot judge such a period of transformation by its consciousness, but, on the contrary, this consciousness must be explained from the contradictions of material life, from the conflict existing between the social forces of production and the relations of production. No social order is ever destroyed before all the productive forces for which it is sufficient have been developed, and new superior relations of production never replace older ones before the material conditions for their existence have matured within the framework of the old society. Mankind thus inevitably sets itself only such tasks as it is able to solve, since closer examination will always show, that the problem itself arises only when the material conditions for its solution are already present or at least in the course of formation.

The capitalist press has no great appetite for reprinting Marx's devastating analysis of its system's insoluble contradictions and clear guide to the only way out (through proletarian revolution) but it does, willy nilly, provide anecdotal evidence, from ethnic contributors themselves, of how racist small-mindedness is symptomatic of **every** community locked into capitalism's backwardness, frustrations, and grotesque 'reformist' political provocations and hypocrisy:....

But why should society under twilight imperialism turn so violent???

Because of the examples of international persecution and brutality which the 'Western way of life' has effectively always condoned whilst hypocritically dressing it up as something other than what it is.

The colonial savagery by Zionist imperialism (originally a tool of US and British foreign policy) which first brutally expropriated the Palestinian nation, and then ruthlessly has sought since to genocidally wipe out its nationhood altogether, is an obviously topical example.

Reluctantly, the capitalist press itself is beginning to admit what a monstrous barbaric injustice has been inflicted on the Palestinian nation by Western policy, and systematically condoned and covered up for more than 50 years. Only a fraction of the horrific persecution is revealed here, but it puts into context the grotesque hypocrisy of the NATO allies in muscling their way into the Balkans for geopolitical counter-revolutionary longterm and long-range reasons (see countless past *Reviews*) but done under the guise

of preventing 'ethnic cleansing' (supposedly by the Serbs who were eventually more sinned against than sinning, it has recently emerged) while for more than 50 years a truly barbarous ethnic-cleansing colonisation programme has been systematically inflicted on the Palestinian people with the West's full connivance and military assistance.

Even Western authors with Jewish connections are beginning to admit in their own imperialist newspapers what colonist horrors are still being committed in the name of the 'free West' which is supposed to have turned its back on such primitive racist degeneracy:

At some level, I suspect, feelings like these animate the attitude of most diaspora Jews, however disillusioned or assimilated to Israel. You may despair over its idiotic invasion of Lebanon, its complicity in atrocities such as the massacres at Sabra and Shatila, its countless human rights abuses, its reckless and frequently disproportionate use of force, its paranoia, its sheer bloody-mindedness. But somewhere inside there is always a small, persistent voice saying: these people are putting their necks on the line, making sacrifices, doing ugly things so that there will be a sanctuary for you if ever you need one. Who are you to criticise?

Nothing you have read quite prepares you for the provocation of the settlements, the sheer one-in-the-eye, fuck-you-ness of them. There are the familiar statistics, of course: some 200,000 settlers hogging a wildly disproportionate share of the land (20% of Gaza alone), with 2.9m Palestinians squeezed into the rest. But you don't quite get it till you see it: the boxy orange-roofed homes plonked on to hilltops like Monopoly houses, little patches of greenery dotting the drab brush of the Judean hills, shiny black roads leading down to the broad, smooth highway, specially constructed to allow settlers to travel through the

West Bank without having to pass through Palestinian areas.

As we speed past, our Palestinian guide points out the ones that have been built since the Oslo agreement in 1993, and you can't help wondering: why? Why, when peace was so close, did Israel continue to poke these concrete fingers in the Palestinians' eyes? Yossi Beilin, the former Israeli minister who was instrumental in the Oslo negotiations, says settlement expansion was a price Labour felt it was worth paying for the support of its rightwing coalition partners. Now he's not so sure: "We believed peace was so close that talking about settlements that were not going to be there seemed irrelevant... What happened was that we don't have peace but we do have settlements."

Poorer and more concentrated, Gaza, is far more instantly shocking than the West Bank. The stench hits you first - the area's only sewage plant has long been out of commission. Then the claustrophobia. With more than a million people packed into an area roughly the size of the Isle of Wight (20% of whose land is occupied by 6,500 Jewish settlers) Gaza would be a claustrophobic place at the best of times. Sealed off, as all Palestinian territories have been since September, it feels like nothing more than a self-governing prison camp. In the West Bank, thousands of Palestinians defy the Israeli cordon, walking over the hills to get to work each day in Israel. In Gaza, much of which is surrounded by an electric fence, closure means closure.

On one day in Gaza, we meet a man whose home has just been bulldozed by the Israeli army, visit a part of the Khan Yunis camp where 32 homes were flattened by the Israelis a few weeks earlier, and witness a rocket attack on a Palestinian Authority building in Gaza. But somehow these are less shocking than the everyday degradations and indignities of life under closure. We have seen the bulldozings and the rocket attacks on TV; the sheer brutality of closure only emerges from the steady stream of stories you hear as you travel through Gaza and the West Bank.

Stories such as the one told to me by a Palestinian woman, call her Sarah, I met over dinner in east Jerusalem. Since the intifada, her mother, who lived in Ramallah, had been unable to travel to east Jerusalem to see her or her children. So Sarah and her husband had moved to Ramallah to keep the family together. There was just one problem: since Sarah and her husband were technically Israeli Arabs, they were not supposed to be in Ramallah. Any time they travelled into Jerusalem, they risked being turned back when they tried to go home.

As someone who grew up under apartheid, I have always resisted the glib comparison with South Africa. But hearing stories like this, it's hard to avoid the paral-

lels. "It's worse than apartheid, actually," one Palestinian said when the analogy inevitably came up. "Right now it's apartheid without the pass system." Travelling through Gaza, hearing stories like Sarah's, seeing the settlements, you can't help asking the same question: how can Jews behave like this? How can a people that has for so long been oppressed allow itself to become an oppressor? It's a naive response, of course; at the core of Israel's identity has always been the idea of the muscular New Jew, determined never to allow a repetition of the catastrophe that befell European Jewry, even if it meant treading on others to make sure.

Talk to any Israeli about why Israel behaves the way it does, why it is a nation that feels it is fighting for its very existence despite its overwhelming military and economic superiority over its neighbours, and pretty soon you come back to the Holocaust. Over dinner, an Israeli novelist described how the Shoah defined every aspect of Israeli life: "We survived to live and now we live to survive. We cannot escape it and it's very destructive."

If the Holocaust is one overwhelming influence on the Israeli psyche, the other is the deeply held suspicion that the Arab world will not be satisfied until it has pushed the Jewish interlopers into the sea. It's a view that frequently slides close to paranoia, as when one Israeli sympathiser pointed down from a hilltop vantage point at east Jerusalem and told me: "It's not the Palestinians we're worried about, but how would you feel if there were Iraqi troops down there?" But it's not entirely paranoid. When I pressed Hassam Khader, a senior Fatah figure in Nablus, on whether Palestinians would ever be completely happy with the return of only the West Bank and Gaza, his reply would not have reassured Israelis: "Sooner or later the Palestinian people will liberate their homeland. Now Israel is supported by the United States and Europe, but that will not continue for ever and sooner or later there will be a big battle between the Palestinians and Arabs and Israel."

What next? Even before last week's spiral of atrocities, no one in Israel thought the two sides could return to the brink of peace - from which they tumbled so disastrously last year - anytime soon. "It will be two or three years, at least," said Nimrod Novik, a former aide to Shimon Peres. "Both sides need to shed more blood." A Palestinian academic, arguing that the Palestinians should pursue a policy of attrition rather than negotiation, thought it would take much longer. "We can stand this for a long time. The Israelis are used to the European life and they will not want to live like this. The only question is who will break first, and we are already broken. We have been broken for 50 years."

In Gaza, the Jewish colonies break up the tiny strip into three parts. Elsewhere they form a bar-

rier between Arab East Jerusalem and the West Bank, and between numerous Palestinian towns and villages on the West Bank. They and the interconnecting roads slice up the territorial continuity of what Palestinians hope will be an independent sovereign Palestine.

Such a state - should it emerge - would cover only 22% of the Palestine under British mandate during 1922-48. It would be less than half of what the Arab inhabitants of Palestine were offered by the United Nations partition plan of 1947.

Taking a long view, therefore, the battle between the inhabitants of Palestine since 691 (when the Dome of the Rock was built in Jerusalem), and the post-1922 Zionist colonisers from Europe has always been about land.

Though Israel has existed as a sovereign state since 1948 on 78% of British Palestine, its top leaders, be they rightwing or left, have yet to declare a whittling down of the original Zionist aim of all of Palestine as the Jewish homeland.

After the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, it was the Labour government which initiated the policy of Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

The example of Kiryat Arba, a settlement near Hebron, is illustrative. After its 1967 victory, the Israeli military setup its camp on 40 hectares (100 acres) of Palestinian agricultural land, something it was entitled to do as the occupation army.

What it was not entitled to do was to increase the confiscated land 10-fold, to 400 hectares (1,000 acres), over the next two decades and create a complex of four Jewish settlements inhabited by some 6,000 civilians. In the process the Israeli army deprived Palestinians of two-thirds of their cultivated land in the area.

In its various resolutions, starting with 252 in 1967, the United Nations security council has repeatedly affirmed that the fourth Geneva convention relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war (August 1949) is applicable to the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967. This convention expressly forbids the occupying power to change the demography of the territory under its occupation through such means as deportation or transfer of "parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies".

"The transfer, the installation of the occupying power into the occupied territories is considered as an illegal move and qualified as a 'grave breach,'" said Rene Kosirnik, head of the International Committee of the Red Cross delegation to Israel and the Palestinian territories, last week. "It's a grave breach, formally speaking, but grave breaches are equal in principle to war crimes."

But Israel has ignored this. For a long time Jewish Israeli leaders refused to accept the fact that Palestinians were as much a nation as Israeli Jews. It was the eruption of the intifada in 1987 and its lon-

gevity that broke that myth.

The signing of the Oslo accord in 1993 signified Israel's official recognition of Palestinians as a nation represented by the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

But that had no impact on the colonisation programme. Since the Oslo accord, the number of settlements has risen from 157 to 200, and nearly 40,000 new houses have been constructed. The number of Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza has shot up from 125,000 to 200,000, and in Arab East Jerusalem, from 150,000 to 200,000.

The Israeli prime minister, Ariel Sharon, has refused to accept the Mitchell report's recommendation of an immediate freeze on settlement activity, arguing that the enlargement of settlements is the result of the "natural growth" of the population. It is hard to attribute a 70% rise in seven years in the West Bank colonies to "natural growth".

Sharon forgets that when his Likud predecessor, Binyamin Netanyahu, aired the same reasoning it was shot down by the Clinton administration which leaked the information gathered by US satellites that a quarter of the houses in West Bank settlements were empty.

The source of Sharon's obduracy lies elsewhere. "Many Israeli people today are not much excited by the idea of gaining a hectare and then another hectare [of Palestinian land] for Israel but for me, that's still exciting," he told *Ha'aretz* (*The Land*), an Israeli daily, recently. That is the view of a 73-year-old Zionist pioneer, who grew up on a Jewish kibbutz during the British mandate; committed to colonising all of the British Palestine.

The fact that such savagery in the name of the 'free world' goes on possibly largely beyond the immediate specific political consciousness of capitalist society's violently rebellious poor or disadvantaged, only adds to the West's criminal hypocrisy, not diminishes it. It is precisely what foul corruption people sense lies behind the face of 'democratic justice' which NATO power likes to present to the world, which causes people the most frustrated and deepest resentment, knowing that capitalism is run by a bunch of crooks, but humiliatingly frequently unable to quite detect and expose exactly how bourgeois ideological propaganda continues making 'anti-communist' fools of everybody.

And in case the Zionist example of colonial tyranny should be dismissed as a serious negative influence on the whole mentality of the colluding West 'because it is a one-off special case' (as the uncomfortable Jewish capitalist voice tried to argue above), let the next potential

Vietnam-holocaust-revisited convince the world that US imperialist barbarism is far from finished, not only not learning any lessons from its Vietnam humiliation and disgrace, but currently preparing an even more vicious blitzkrieg against socialist-minded revolutionaries in Colombia with even less plausible 'justification' than ever before, in fact with the wholly ludicrous 'excuse' that it wants to blitzkrieg Colombia in order to 'stop drugs reaching America's youth'.

But since America's youth take all kinds of drugs, most of them manufactured in the USA's own underworld laboratories, and are only marginally

dependent on the coca leaves from Colombia (which they can and will get from a variety of other sources immediately the Colombian supplies run out), then it would make more sense to just blitzkrieg America's youth if Washington was really serious about ending the nation's universal drugs habit.

But of course, this ridiculous front about 'ending cocaine addiction' has nothing whatever to do with the real reasons for the Western 'free world' leaders to again demonstrate that bullying violence, hypocrisy, and treachery are really what 'capitalist democracy' stands for....

EPSR

The crooked Bush regime is the one facing collapse, not the Third World determination to fight back against Zionist-imperialist tyranny with every weapon available. It is Trot fears of the historical re-establishment of workers-state paths to development which line them up with the demented imperialist propaganda blitzkrieg against the Mugabe regime. But Western 'democracy' hypocrisy keeps quiet about the imperialist state-terror silencing of Hobeika to stop him indicting Zionism's genocide plans, a death as convenient to monopoly-bourgeois Mafia circles as Cliff Baxter's. But all projects for colonial-exploitation tyranny are now doomed by imperialism's insoluble economic crisis and Third World revolt (No1121 29-01-02).

... 'democracy' gibberish is at the heart of the back-stabbing on the major current international class-struggle issues raised at the beginning.

Because the whole of the West wants it, the Trots want 'democracy' for the Zionist armed colonisation of Palestine too.

Because the 'democratic' bourgeois powers everywhere all submit to the unchallengeable 'leadership' by the 'might is right' American monopoly-capitalists and their super-power military technology, then the petty-bourgeois Trots also agree that 'just being realistic' is the only sensible factual starting point.

Except that this joke 'anti-imperialism' precisely does **not** start with how things

really are or with the scientific historical perspectives, accessible only through Marxist understanding.

The Socialist Alliance fake-'lefts' are wrong about where things stand in the current international balance of class and national forces, and they are even more criminally misleading of any of the working class they influence on the question of what is historically **possible** for the future.

Is it really so "easy" for US imperialism as the Trots state above??

Are the American monopoly bourgeois in a position to teach **anybody** "a few home truths about the post-Sept 11 New World Order", never mind "teach the world"??

And what sort of weird non-

Marxist understanding is it which thinks anti-imperialist struggle is taught its place by the belief that

"There is no doubt that the Israeli government could, if it chose, move decisively against Arafat. It could topple his administration or even re-annex the Gaza and the West Bank".

Could it? And, what, permanently????

So why doesn't it?

The only imbecile conclusion drawable from this degenerate drivel is that armed Zionist imperialism actually **wants** to create a Palestinian state, out of the goodness of its heart; and that the Zionists really do want Arafat dead or out of the way, and are only delaying the *coup de grace* in order to humiliate further the Palestinian stooge of decrepit Arab bourgeois-feudal nationalism so as further to discredit the idea that a Palestinian entity could ever stand worthily as a fully **independent** state.

Such a rubbish-tip of fantasy rigmaroles could even blacken the name of subjective idealism, which is the last cretinous refuge of petty-bourgeois fake-'leftism' as it is.

It is **objective** realities which need looking at, not meandering subjective interpretations of what are only subjective imperialist pipe-dreams to start with.

Never mind all the assumptions in people's heads that "of course there must be a right to secure existence for Israel", etc, etc; "Of course the whole world has already accepted this at the 1947 United Nations decision to recognise the Israeli state on Palestinian territory" etc, etc; "Of course Israel is now far too powerful and far too well established to turn the clock back now", etc, etc; "Of course US imperialism would never ever consider again even the possibility of the state of Israel **not** existing", etc, etc; "Of course even the entire Arab bourgeois-nationalist movement and the Arab group of states now accept that Israel is here to stay", etc., etc.

And so on and so forth through endless subjective-idealistic variations of notions which people have decided to anchor firmly in their own heads.

But what are the **objective** facts??

The colonisation of Palestine by Western Zionist imperialists took place post-1945 in the end-of-20th-century epoch of the **defeat** and **overthrow** of all direct colonial conquests

despite the most genocidally murderous resistance by the great European empires as in Algeria, Malaysia, Vietnam and Indo-China generally, Indonesia, Kenya, Angola, Mozambique, Ghana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Egypt, Cyprus, Aden, etc, etc, etc, etc, etc. The only butchery which could have prevailed to keep these places colonial extensions of the home country would have been the total genocide (which in effect was how the imperialists created the extensions of West Europe in the USA and Australia, etc.)

How interesting that the capitalist press this week should have openly repeated a common Zionist thought that "the only way to get peace here is to kill **all** the Palestinians"; and the colonial thug (recently arrived from New York for his share of the 'promised land') obviously really meant it too. How interesting that such genocidal smiting pipe-dreams should be placed back in the limelight by capitalist press loose talk just at the time when a huge 'free world' propaganda cover-up has been mounted to **deliberately avoid** drawing too much publicity-attention to the astonishing brazen act of **international terrorism** in the assassination of a leading Lebanese politician Elie Hobeika by US imperialism's favourite 'chosen people'. Hobeika was precisely the Western stooge responsible for an earlier real Zionist attempt at 'genocidal solution' trend-setting to see how the world might react.

Before the CIA had had time to impose a worldwide news blackout on the subject, the capitalist press had itself at least admitted the following:

A FORMER Lebanese Christian warlord who was a potential key witness in a war crimes trial against Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Prime Minister, was killed yesterday in a massive car bomb blast outside his home in Beirut. Hobeika, 45, carved out a bloody reputation as one of the most ruthless and cunning of all Lebanon's warlords during the country's 16-year civil conflict which ended in 1990. His lasting claim to notoriety was his role as an Israeli-backed militia commander during the massacre of Palestinians in the Sabra and Chatila refugee camps in West Beirut in September 1982, and most Lebanese accused Israel of being behind Mr Hobeika's death.

A law suit was filed in June against Mr Sharon by survivors of the massacre. The suit was filed in a Brussels court based on a 1993



Belgian law that allows heads of state to be tried for crimes against humanity regardless of where they occurred.

Mr Sharon was Defence Minister in 1982 and the architect of Israel's invasion of Lebanon that June. The 1983 Kahan Commission, an Israeli government inquiry into the massacre, concluded that Mr Sharon bore personal responsibility for the killings, in which at least 1,000 Palestinians died.

Mr Hobeika had said that he was willing to travel to Belgium and testify against Mr Sharon if asked. It has been reported that, in a secret meeting in Beirut with three visiting Belgian senators on Tuesday, Mr Hobeika had told them that he feared for his life. Josy Dubie, one of the senators who met Mr Hobeika at his north Beirut office, said: "I asked him if his life was in danger and he said, 'Yes, but I have to testify and wash my honour'."

Mr Hobeika had said he was innocent, had proof and he wanted to come to Belgium to say that, Vincent Van Quickendorne, another of the senators, said. "He was afraid that [his] revelations would harm him."

Emile Lahoud, the Lebanese President, implicitly blamed Israel, saying that the killers wanted to divert the attention of Arab and world public opinion from the "crimes committed in the occupied Palestinian territories".

Marwan Hamadeh, the Lebanese Minister of Displaced People, said on a visit to the Jordanian capital Amman: "Israel doesn't want witnesses against it in this historic case in Belgium which will certainly convict Ariel Sharon, the permanent and continued criminal".

The Belgian court announced on Wednesday that it would decide on March 6 if the trial should proceed. If it does, which is looking increasingly likely, Mr Sharon could have an international arrest warrant issued against him on charges of crimes against humanity.

Leaving aside global startling facts that hatred and ridicule of the West will escalate even more dramatically as a result of this latest grotesque hypocrisy (going barmy over acts of international terrorism

– but not this one; invading the Gulf to prevent Iraq reoccupying its own province of Kuwait, hacked off by British colonialism early last century and 'invented' as a 'separate state', but actually helping Zionist colonial expansionism to occupy Lebanon, a truly independent state, and now to assassinate one of its leaders who was preparing to reveal all about Zionism's anti-Palestinian genocidal plans, etc, etc), – the really challenging issue raised by all this, and ignored by the Trots, is, are such sordid little manoeuvres as having to bump off Hobeika, and having to threaten genocide (!) for a credible(!) anti-Intifada repression plan, really an indication of an all-powerful imperialism, able to make the whole world dance to its tune???

The Zionists **started** with genocide in 1947/48, and tried several renewals since with **total** occupations and utterly vicious repression, driving more and more millions of Palestinians out of their homeland **for good**, as the Zionists dream sees it.

And although 5 million Palestinians still rot in exile or refugee camps, and the remaining three million have to endure what are virtually the harshest open-prison conditions imaginable in Gaza and the Occupied West Bank, subject to continuous vicious and arbitrary Zionist repression at any time that the 'chosen people' Master-race wishes to inflict it, – still the colonisation problem of "what to do with the Palestinian nation we have usurped" grows and grows and grows, raising fascist-war-imperialist revival perspectives as a 'solution' to the system's insoluble international economic 'over-production' slump crisis.

And the nastiest 'left' posture of all by the Trots is

the nice-sounding but totally academic hoax (out of some non-existent 'ideal Marxism' manual) pretending (but without actually saying it, far too indelicate) that the only worthwhile Palestinian struggle would be in unity with "the Israeli working class" for (presumably, but coyly unstated) a total socialist **revolution** against everything the whole Western world stands for.

a) they obviously do not mean a word of it;

b) it is an anti-Marxist imbecile fantasy anyway.

There may be some excellent working-class communists in ZOP (Zionist-occupied-Palestine, a.k.a. 'Israel') but ZOP is not remotely a regular country or a normal state. It is a front-line battlefield for Western imperialism's warmongering colonial revanchism, the only 'solution' to economic crisis in imperialist history.

All who are taking part in this Mafia-colonisation by the Jewish religious freemasonry are Zionists (i.e. imperialists). Whatever their economic status within that entire capitalist-colonial exploitation racket inflicted on the land, wealth, and people of Palestine, to describe the hired-hand participants as "the Israeli working class" is totally misleading, and pure idealism.

And the richest hypocrisy of all in this whole nonsense, of course, is that it is these Trots who in the **wrong** circumstances never stop going on about the primacy of 'self-determination' rights.

They supported the NATO break-up of the Yugoslav socialist federation in the name of 'self-determination'. They denounce the Good Friday Agreement retreat by British imperialism from Ireland on the grounds that the lumpen colonist 'working class' (bigoted 'loyalist' Mafia-killers, etc) are being denied their own 'self-determination rights' to just a three-county occupation-dictatorship over the native Irish, to replace the six-county tyranny known ludicrously as 'Northern Ireland' which the GFA is properly going to dismantle, albeit at a snail's-pace (to avoid the national-liberation guerrilla-war triumphalism which all sections of reactionary British bourgeois ideology (including the fake-'left' middle-class Trots) find painful to digest.

But precisely where it is inevitable that national self-determination will again be

the cutting edge of revolutionary struggle (and not remotely 'at the expense of' socialist aims) but as the unavoidable national-democratic liberation (or February Revolution) precursor to an October Revolution, – so do the Trots pour all the cold water they can find on such a genuine anti-imperialist path forward.

Is this conscious counter-revolutionary disruption and disinformation?? What does it matter. This anti-communist (anti-dictatorship-of-the-proletariat) petty-bourgeois mentality instinctively will always tend to avoid potential political perspectives of a critically dangerous nature where there is no guarantee of success for their middle-class interests but where there is a real danger of a serious breach with their big bourgeoisie.

Thus fake-'lefts' always talk very 'R-r-revolutionary' in abstract academic terms, but in practice always act very conservative-reformist.

The whole history of the bizarre phenomenon of defeatism in ultra-'left' circles reflects this. What are the Trots always so defeatist about?? Because they find anti-communist solidarity with mainstream bourgeois ideology so comfortable that any breach in this deeply class-based relationship always comes across initially as a hazardous, depressing, and thoroughly unnecessary escapade.

And far from being in step with world anti-imperialist opinion, these Trots are now missing the boat completely. In the long run, the fate of all fake-'left' reformism and class-collaborationism is tied up with the fate of imperialism itself on which it is totally dependent for an existence. No monopoly-capitalism, – no space for endlessly pretending to 'reform' monopoly-capitalism.

The Socialist Alliance view that US and Zionist imperialism is effortlessly forcing the whole world to dance to this fascist-aggressive warmongering tune is not only not backed up by the general picture of growing international crisis in all directions (economic collapse; corporate crashes and corruption; anti-imperialist revolt and terrorist guerrilla-war; anti-globalisation anarchy; incipient inter-imperialist trade war; and growing fear of revolutionary developments everywhere; etc, etc) but is specifically contradicted by many

particular developments. The capitalist press itself frankly admits the utter turmoil in the imperialist system's crisis-ridden affairs:

Four months later, the careful, polite, respectful ties that characterised Riyadh's political and economic relationship with America have dissolved in a whirlpool of suspicion and vitriol. A relationship based on mutual military self-interest and billions of dollars worth of oil is dangerously close to rupture.

American complaints of Saudi perfidy have been countered by implied threats in Riyadh to expel US forces from the country. Senior officials on both sides have ditched their habitual diplomatic reserve in favour of scathing criticism.

Senator Joseph Lieberman, a leading Democrat, warned recently that Saudi Arabia risked isolation behind a "theological iron curtain".

In Riyadh last week, Prince Nawaf bin Abdul Aziz, the crown prince's brother and Prince Turki's successor as head of intelligence, said: "The policies that America uses in the Middle East are not resulting in a peaceful settlement in the area. America is always with Israel. This is very bad."

Despite efforts on both sides to defuse the crisis, some of Riyadh's most eminent citizens are publicly calling for American troops to leave the Saudi bases that have been a cornerstone of US strategic planning in the region since the Gulf war against Iraq.

"Since September 11, America has lost the Saudi people," said Dr Abdulrahman al-Zamil, chairman of the Al-Zamil business group and a member of the *shura*, the consultative council.

"America tried to convince people that they are here to protect the regime, and this is total garbage. Their presence is a liability to the Saudi government. This is the worst period of crisis I have seen."

Dr Abdul-aziz Alsebaileh, professor of Arabic literature at King Saud University and deputy editor-in-chief of the daily *Saudi Gazette*, said many Saudis had long admired America. "Many of us and our children have been educated there and even born there. But after September 11, questions were raised. Should Saudi Arabia stay loyal to the United States? Nobody is happy that the American forces are here," he said.

Nawaf emphasised, however, that tension will continue as long as Washington fails to curb Israeli attacks on Palestinians. Even before the terror attacks, Crown Prince Abdullah wrote to President George W Bush, warning that "a time comes when people and nations part". The prince said Washington and Riyadh should now "look at their separate interests".

Nawaf complained that Washington obstructed all attempts to condemn Israel at the United Nations.

James Akins, a former American ambassador to Riyadh, warned last week that the Bush administration's handling of Middle Eastern issues was jeopardising a crucial relationship. "Oil is going to be an American interest for ever" he said. "There's every reason for us to be interested in stability in Saudi Arabia." The region has two-thirds of the world's proven oil reserves.

Akins added: "The reason we are hated in Saudi Arabia is that we have a double standard. We allow Israel to get away with breaking international law and defying UN security council resolutions. As long as that condition maintains, the relationship with Saudi Arabia and other Muslim countries is going to be very bad."

Other American experts warned that any breach between Riyadh and Washington would play into the hands of Bin Laden, who has vilified the Saudi royal family for allowing 5,000 American troops to be based in the country that houses the Muslim world's most important religious shrine at Mecca.

The spread of radical Islam in the region has compelled the Saudi royal family to enforce numerous restrictions on US military activities in the country, and American warplanes stationed at the Prince Sultan air base near Riyadh have been barred from carrying out bombing raids on Iraq.

"If we pull away from the Saudis, Bin Laden will have won a major victory," warned Anthony Cordesman, a former Pentagon planner.

Despite last week's international donors' conference on Afghanistan in Tokyo, where £3 billion was pledged to rebuild the country, there are fears that Afghanistan could blow up in the West's face.

Diplomats warn that the fragile reunification process could be compromised by the presence of powerful pockets of Taliban and Al-Qaeda resistance, Iranian meddling in the west and south to undermine the central government, ethnic and territorial rivalries, and fighting among warlords. Although American officials praised Thursday's special forces raid on Taliban and Al-Qaeda compounds near Kandahar, in which 15 fighters were killed and one American slightly wounded, some US operations have been counter-productive.

In Paktia province resentment still burns after US planes, acting on misinformation from local sources, bombed a wedding party, killing the newlyweds and their families.

American operations in southern and eastern Afghanistan are conducted largely in collaboration with forces from the Northern Alliance, which captured Kabul after the Taliban regime fell.

But Alliance forces lack support in Afghanistan's south and have sometimes used their newfound power to persecute the local Pashtun population.

America's western allies recognise that sweeping up Al-Qaeda

remnants is essential for success in the war against terror. But they do not want the bombing to continue much longer. One western diplomat said: "The areas the Americans are bombing are where the government requires popular support if it is to survive."

But diplomats say it is Iran's "mischief" that casts the biggest shadow on Afghanistan's political map. Although President George W Bush has told Iran to hand over any Al-Qaeda members seeking refuge, threatening dire consequences if it tries to destabilise Hamid Karzai's western backed government, reports of Iranian political and military interference have multiplied.

Locals in the mountains around Zormat, 50 miles south of Kabul, said that after defeated Taliban and Al-Qaeda fighters arrived, an Iranian official turned up with lists of those to be given safe passage and refuge in Iran.

Mohammed Yusef Pushtoon, a close aide to the Kandahar governor, said senior Iranian military officers, including two generals, had been operating for two weeks in the southern provinces of Farah, Nimruz and Helmand, trying to lure local warlords away from commitments to back Karzai in Kabul with offers of goods, cash and perhaps arms. The Americans fear that Iranian hardliners are unnerved by a regime in Kabul that leans more towards the West than the Muslim world.

Nowhere has Tehran's influence become so noticeable as in the western province of Herat, whose powerful governor Ismail Khan lived in exile in Iran until the Taliban's collapse. Iran has since given arms and money to Khan, who declared himself emir of western Afghanistan.

In the city of Herat his soldiers strut about in crisp, new, Iranian-supplied uniforms and polished boots, in marked contrast to the ragtag fighters in the rest of the country. Iran has reopened its consulate in the city and Iranian businessmen have flooded in.

Last week American officials arrived to discuss reopening the US consulate to counter Iranian influence. They came amid local speculation that a huge explosion this month at an arms depot was no accident, but an American cruise missile warning Khan against falling under Iran's influence.

The American officials did nothing to dispel the gossip.

Elsewhere, young Somalis appeared in Western press and television interviews and reports, cheering the 'Black Hawk Down' humiliation of US imperialism's last 'easy and effective teaching of a few home truths to Third World revolt about whose New World order rules' (to paraphrase Western petty-bourgeois Trot defeatism), and eagerly awaiting the promised new American fascist aggression on their

country.

And in Occupied Palestine, women have joined the ranks of the fanatically heroic suicide bombers and assassins organised by resistance groups.

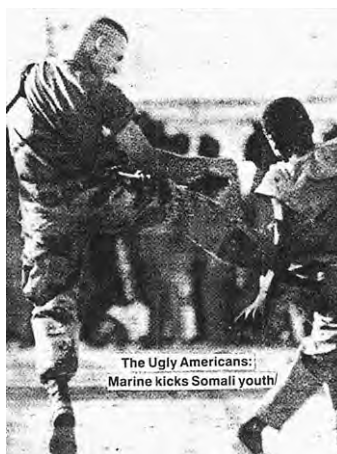
(The West's fake-'lefts' who sneer at the 'reactionary' Islamic readiness to die in the course of assassinating their fascist-imperialist oppressors, should consider the rival 'morality' of the British agents who assassinated Heydrich in 1942, giving the German imperialist New World order the opportunity for a reign of terror for months, massacring the village of Lidice; butchering more than 3,000 other Czechs; and condemning to concentration-camp deaths many thousands more; while the parachuted-in implementers of Churchill's policy (to eliminate the outstanding SS leader) remained in hiding under the crypt of Prague Cathedral, only to be killed themselves when betrayed eventually; at which point the terror reprisals were called off, having wiped out thousands of suspected potential young lions of Czech revolutionary resistance.

But it is these astonishingly heroic acts of outstanding 'moral' purpose to limit the Zionist 'excuses' for mass-terror retaliation (even though it seldom relents in reality) which these Trot academic stooges for the Western cause condemn with the words "the indiscriminate suicide attacks on Israeli civilians (i.e. the colonising population) are reactionary"....

...Sept 11 and the Intifada suicide bombers are just the first tiny feeble attempts by the exploited, humiliated, and militarily-dominated Third World to strike back.

Such anti-imperialism will grow unstopably. Build Leninism.

EPSR



The Ugly Americans: Marine kicks Somali youth

Spontaneous anti-imperialist revolt leaves non-Marxist 'left' sophistry completely bypassed ..Despite anti-Leninist philistinism rendering the British labour and TU movement a laughing stock, capitalist-system management and government disaster still sends out a revolutionary message in spite of all censorship and propaganda controls. Cold War end (nominally) ends brain-deadening 'safety & security' illusions of 'balance-of-power', shattered by imperialism's war crisis nastiness. The facts of serious anti-imperialist revolt will have their impact in spite of all the fake-'left' bad-mouthing (No1129 26-03-02).

Another veteran of Revisionist period anti-imperialist delusions, Mohamed Heikal, has also been fascinatingly stirred by events. The old Egyptian editor from Nasser's anti-imperialist revolution, never a communist, has nevertheless found his own way of telling Gadafy in an interview that a new wave of anti-imperialist struggles has a revolutionary content quite different from the national-liberation content of the Cold War period:

"The Americans control the world," he continued. "As for the Arab world, the Americans not only control it, they rule it. And what they are saying and doing is alarming. Their bias for Israel is absolute and they no longer even take the trouble to disguise their hostility towards the Arabs, to the degree that the Arab world these days hears nothing from Washington but threats and re-crimination.

The entire Arab world is in a humiliating position.

"Yet, the Arab street, which the great powers would once take into their calculations because it is out of their reach and represents the voice of conscience that cannot be bullied into submission, is silent. What is wrong with the Arab street?"

I told my host that he was correct in his observation and that the phenomenon was palpable. But in my opinion this silence in the midst of the current crisis has a meaning.

First, when the Arab street moved, as it once did, that alone, did not produce change. The Arab masses, no matter how great their outpouring in an Arab capital, cannot possibly adopt a concrete course of action. The most they can do is to make an appeal. Generally, the Arab people address their appeal to a government they trust in, or to a leader they believe represents them, confident that this government or leader will act in their name and take a position that

responds to their collective feelings and aspirations. This implies the existence of a certain bond between the people and those responsible for drawing up national policies and taking the decisions that affect their lives. Apparently, the Arab street has developed a profound sense that those whom it is asking to change the way of confronting the increasing hostility and violence of the US are the very individuals who surrendered the fate of the region to the US. After all, it is difficult for the defendant to serve as a competent advocate for a cause. It follows, therefore, that the Arab street feels that the bond between it and those that rule is broken, or tenuous at best, that mutual trust is lost, and, consequently, that its voice would simply drown in the winds. In short, I said, there is a deep-seated crisis of legitimacy in the Arab world, and this crisis is hampering the relationship between the Arab people and their systems of government.

We can sit in this tent until tomorrow morning, I said, discussing the causes for the gap between the feelings and aspirations of the Arab street and the ruling regimes in Arab capitals, and eventually we may or may not come to an agreement on a diagnosis. Ultimately, however, I believe that the key to the mystery of the current silence resides in the sense that the people feel their appeals would fall on deaf ears, or if heard, the response would be ineffective.

Is it not odd, I asked, that when the Palestinians look to foreign governments to help them, they turn first to European rather than to Arab governments? This is because the Arab governments are doing little more than scrambling to get Washington's ear in order to alert it to the Palestinians' national and humanitarian plight. As long as this remains the case, the Palestinians believe that Washington would rather hear about them from the Europeans than from the Arab regimes, which have toyed at helping the Palestinians for so long that they



Armed Israeli soldiers drag a Palestinian youth from his home during a sweep through the town. The youth was taken to an alleyway and beaten unconscious.

no longer have any credibility left.

Gaddafi had been listening to me patiently, but I added one more observation. I said, if we take this attempt at an answer to our question one step further, and if we grant that the world abroad is just as surprised by the silence in the Arab street, which had once roared from the Gulf to the Atlantic, the conclusion we must draw is ominous indeed. What mystifies international capitals should be a source of great anxiety to the Arab regimes. This silence, which emanates from a crisis of legitimacy, is a very loud alarm.

As vague as this is, and only one man's opinion, and from a Revisionist source at that, nevertheless Heikal's conclusions do not conflict with the news gossip about how wildly (if shallowly) popular with the Arab street are Osama Bin Laden's highly publicised challenges to American imperialist domination of the Middle East, and conflicts with Arab nationalist orthodoxy on these questions.

The clear implication is that mass proletarian revolt is beginning to threaten the dominance of Arab bourgeois nationalism and its compromising pro-imperialist interests.

And in reality, what could be less surprising. Much more remarkable is how the Arab Street has put up with so much for so long without turning to revolution.

In the admissions of the West's own capitalist press (below), the suffering described would scarcely seem bearable. Admittedly this is under the torture regime of Zionist Occupied Palestine, but the humiliation tolerated by

the Arab nationalist bourgeoisie collectively, at the hands of imperialism everywhere, must make many aspects of intelligent life almost unbearable all over the Middle East.

In the continuing festering situation in the absence of proletarian revolution, the overthrow of a key figure like Mubarak, as with Sadat before him, becomes almost predictable.

The situation defies belief. The greatest colonial joke/con trick in history is being endlessly rammed up every Arab/Muslim orifice in sight, – the sick fiction that the deluded followers everywhere of the Jewish religious freemasonry have the 'right' to steal the Palestinian nation's homeland from them, – all based on a ridiculously primitive piece of self-serving voodoo about a "chosen people", and on a Western imperialist political stunt to implant permanent armed colonial disruption in the very heart of post-war Arab nationalist aspirations by pretending that the imperialist system's own Jew-baiting holocaust-fascism was reason enough to inflict Zionist imperialism on Arab Palestine after 1945.

This utterly crazed logic in all directions has kept everyone in total confusion ever since, and perpetuated an impossible colonial contradiction which can only be a permanent cancerous sore in ongoing world history until it is resolved in the only way possible, – throwing out this Zionist colonial usurpation in its entirety.

There is no 'self-determination right' for the 'Jewish' people in Palestine since; a) there was no 'Jewish nation' there to start with, – just a few handfuls of visionary kibbutznik settlers, dropping out from persecution in Europe; and b) the idea of a Jewish 'race' is far-fetched anyway, including black-African Falasha Jews from Ethiopia, 40th-generation peasants from Russia and Poland, 40th-generation intelligentsia from Germany and elsewhere in Central Europe, but mostly modern American 'Jewish' entrepreneurial families from New York and Los Angeles who have got in on the colonisation because it makes excellent business sense, and because the CIA's world military domination plans for American imperialist colonial policing of the planet want to encourage this colonisation with everything possible. Hence the Zionist colony is the world's number one recipient of both American economic aid and American military aid.

Cleverly, this imperialist invasion has united itself around the artificial revival of the Hebrew language and the UN-backed fiction of 'Israeli national rights', but the whole colonial racket is a fake and a fraud of 'self-determination' from start to finish.

In the real world, Palestine is the homeland of the 7-million strong Arab Palestinian nation, and it must all be returned to them. History will continue to choke without end on any other 'solution'. Any visionary religious-minded Jews who want to continue their settlement can ask the future Palestinian state for permission to do so and for, hopefully, normal human-rights protection.

Everything else is just a continuation of warmongering imperialist insanity still deep in colonial crisis which can only end in imperialism's whole defeat, – whatever class-collaborating nonsense any cowardly Arab bourgeois nationalist leadership (like Arafat) pretends it can agree to.

It is impossible to see how the necessarily self-perpetuating colonial aggression of the Zionist imperialist entity can avoid being swept along with America's global warmongering domineering for as long as it lasts, – and being swept away too when the US imperialist insanity to impose colonial policing control over the whole

planet crashes in ruins, alongside the crashed 'free-market' world economy.

And even if within the unpredictable ebb and flow of imperialist crisis there is some temporary 'landsharing' two-state peace-deal patched together temporarily, this Zionist aggression, plus the awkward objective reality of the 3 million Palestinians who still have refugee status and who desperately want the right of return to the homelands they were originally evicted from by Zionist colonial war in 1948-49 (basically, all of 'Israel'), – and which the Zionists can never possibly grant, – will ensure that the Palestinian national-liberation war will not diminish.

When it meets up with the denouement-in-disaster of the imperialist system's overall global colonial crisis, then the Zionist usurpation of the Palestinian nation's homeland will be brought to a close. A peaceful solution will have finally been found.

Meanwhile Trot and Revisionist fake-'lefts' join with the imperialists, the Zionist colonists, and the cowardly Arab bourgeois nationalists to pretend that the astonishingly heroic self-sacrifice by the suicide bombers of the national-liberation guerrilla war is nothing but damnable 'terrorism', and will rule out any serious consideration of Palestine's rights 'until it is terminated forthwith' etc, etc.

The many influences of Western bourgeois thought have plainly lost all touch with the real world, and are clearly inflicting domineering delusions of astonishing stupidity, bordering on insanity.

Consider first, for example, the extremely limited glimpse of reality which the Western imperialist system's own bourgeois press, relentlessly pro-Zionist, – is prepared to admit about the impossibility of life under 'Jewish' colonisation:

Mohammed, whose forebears were fishermen in an area north of the Gaza Strip before being forced to flee in 1948, says that immediately following the death of his baby daughter he wanted revenge.

"I felt so angry and confused. I thought, if they have killed my child, I have the right to do the same. When an Israeli child is killed, it is on the front page of newspapers around the world. When one of our children is murdered, little attention is paid".

According to the Israeli human rights organisation B'Tselem, in the 14 years from the beginning of the

first intifada in 1987 to December 2001, a total of 443 Israeli civilians have been killed in the conflict, including 50 children. Over the same period, 2,137 Palestinian civilians have been killed, among them 432 children. In recent months, however, Mohammed, a policeman with the Palestinian Authority, has joined the ranks of other bereaved families working with the National Movement for Change. Mohammed, like many Palestinians, refers to the militants of Hamas as "freedom fighters" and praises the network of social services the Islamic movement funds to make up for the failings of the Palestinian Authority's corrupt and repressive[...]

"But many Israelis look at us as little more than animals. They think we are all aggressive. They do not see where our anger comes from. They do not know what our lives are like."

Nasser Wajj Agha, a local organiser for the National Movement for Change whose teenage son was shot in the back of the head by an Israeli soldier, says their work is becoming increasingly difficult. "Some bereaved families who were with us in the beginning are afraid to speak out now. As the situation gets worse, they are giving up hope."

The prospect of peace and reconciliation in the current climate certainly looks bleak. At the time of writing, the temporary lull in hostilities that brought the latest US Middle East envoy, Anthony Zinni, back to the region in early January to broker ceasefire talks has come to an end. Most believe the region will continue to spin further in its vortex of bloodletting before a new line in the conflict is drawn.

Sharon's tactics of targeted assassinations, declaring Arafat "irrelevant"; strafing Palestinian towns and villages with helicopter gunships and bombarding key Palestinian Authority installations plays directly, and some say deliberately, into the hands of the Islamic extremists. Allowing them to move into the power vacuum, it increases the violence in turn used to justify an ever stronger crackdown by the Israeli military.

The position of extremists on both sides is uncompromising. The militants of Hamas and Islamic

Jihad refuse to recognise Israel's right to exist; Israeli extremists want their Jewish homeland extended east to the River Jordan. Failing this, they want Palestinians in the occupied territories confined to an ever smaller space.

This, in effect, is what has been happening over the past 10 years. In violation of international law and the Oslo accords of 1993, the number of settlers who have moved into the West Bank, Gaza and annexed East Jerusalem since then has more than doubled to about 400,000. Many settlements have been built in such strategically crucial locations - and connected with a system of roads, referred to as "security highways"- that they have broken those areas of the occupied territories to which Palestinians are relegated into ever more crowded, disconnected islands with limited supplies of electricity and water. In addition, there has been a sharp increase in the number of land annexations, expropriations and demolitions of Palestinian homes, justified through a complicated maze of bureaucracy and zoning laws.

At the heart of such action is a battle over demographics. Despite a chronic housing shortage among the rapidly growing Palestinian population, they are denied permission to build on the majority of land in the West Bank. Permits to build on land deemed eligible for development can take years to acquire and cost the equivalent of thousands of pounds, putting them beyond the means of most. Houses built without permission are served with demolition orders; an estimated 17,000 Palestinian homes have been destroyed in the occupied territories since 1967, and in the past year the demolition programme has accelerated.

To highlight the misery this causes, a small number of Israelis, calling themselves the Israeli Committee against House Demolitions, have formed themselves into an action group that mobilises when they are alerted by Palestinians that a demolition is imminent. Often joined by activists from another pressure group, Rabbis for Human Rights, protesters sit in front of bulldozers to try to stop demolitions. Although they do not succeed, where possible

they subsequently help fund and physically rebuild the destroyed homes.

The founder of the committee, Jeff Halper, a former professor of anthropology, smooths out map after map to illustrate what he describes as the "matrix of control" being imposed on the occupied territories through the programme of settlements and demolitions. He draws an analogy with a prison where inmates may occupy the majority of the space but are still effectively confined because wardens command those areas that constitute the bars and walls. This makes more sense after visiting Palestinians whose houses have been torn down and seeing their proximity to settlements and "security highways".

Salim Shawamreh says he spent the equivalent of around £7,000 applying for permission to build on a plot of land he had bought in the Arab village of Anata on the outskirts of East Jerusalem. The process dragged on for years. Endless objections were raised, including the assertion that the land was a "green area" and no development was allowed. As Salim's family grew, he built it anyway. Shortly after he, his wife and six children moved into their home in the summer of 1998, it was surrounded by soldiers and police sharpshooters. Tear gas was tossed through the windows and bulldozers moved in to demolish the building, despite attempts by Israeli activists, who were beaten and arrested, to stop the destruction. Twice more, Salim rebuilt his home with the help of Israeli volunteers. Twice more it was demolished. Standing in what remains of his home - a few pieces of twisted metal and broken lumps of concrete - Salim points a short distance away to where a settler bypass road is being carved across the landscape: "There is one law for the Jews and another for Arabs."

In a village on the outskirts of Hebron, another father cradles his baby daughter as he shows me the site where his home was demolished two years ago. Despite documents that Atta Jaber says prove his family has owned this land in the Baqa'a valley since the days of the Ottoman empire, the Israeli army declared it had the right to confiscate it on the grounds that it was needed to protect the security of the nearby settlement of Kiryat Arba. When Atta protested, he and his wife, Rudaina, were beaten in front of their children. Atta was imprisoned, their fruit trees cut down and their home demolished. "When they rebuilt a house nearby with the help of international aid organisations, settlers attacked it with pickaxes, scrawled graffiti on the walls and defecated in the basement. As Atta shows me the destruction caused, a bulldozer and an armoured car from the nearby settlement circle the house, then parks less than a hundred yards away, and their drivers sit watching us through binoculars. "I am very, very pessimistic," says

Ran-ii Elhanan.

Such sacrifices, he and other like-minded Israelis argue, should be based on a greater understanding by both sides of each other's history and suffering; an appreciation by the Palestinians of how deeply the catastrophe of the Holocaust is embedded in the Israeli psyche, and an understanding by the Israelis of how great a disaster the founding of the state of Israel in 1948 referred to as the *naqba* - was for the Palestinians. "Now we have a government in Israel that does not want peace. It concentrates its main efforts in trying to show that Osama Bin Laden and Yasser Arafat are the same. And if, as it argues, they are, there is no reason to negotiate. Sometimes I feel like a boy with his finger in the dam, talking about peace when the flood of violence and hatred has already swept away the wall. But I believe strongly that the minute the price of not having peace exceeds the price of peace, then peace will come. It might take four years or 400. It is just a question of how many more of our children must die before then. In the meantime, we continue with our work because to do nothing is to give up hope. But what we need is leaders with true vision both here and on the international stage. At the moment they are sadly lacking."

It is a sentiment echoed by others I speak to, many of whom are convinced that the cycle of violence will only be broken by strong international intervention, and not just by the United States. "Europe's position falls far below expectations. The Europeans could do a lot more, but seem constantly to be hiding behind the skirts of the Americans," said one Palestinian businessman. Talking by the light of a gas lantern in Gaza City, blacked out at night because of an Israeli strike on the area's only electrical power station, Nasser Warj Agha laid more responsibility at Britain's door. "The British are partially responsible for creating this mess; let them show more courage in helping to clear it up." Nasser was recently invited to visit London, Germany and South Africa on a speaking tour with a group of other bereaved Palestinian and Israeli parents. It never happened. Most Palestinians are denied permission to travel beyond the confines of their refugee camps in Gaza, let alone leave the country.

The crippling effect of restrictions on movement of the Palestinian population is impossible to over-estimate. The system of checkpoints, curfews and unmanned roadblocks - deep trenches, and massive soil ramps preventing vehicles from passing, often from one part of a town or village to another now holds just over 3m people in a complete stranglehold. The general closure of the occupied territories, imposed in the early 1990s in response to attacks by Palestinians in Israel, and eased to some extent after the Oslo accords granted certain areas limited self-rule, was



• Military bulldozers in use to bulldoze Palestinian homes



Palestinian youths face Israeli oppression on a daily basis

reimposed with a vengeance following the outbreak of the latest intifada in September 2000.

The resulting sharp rise in unemployment, hunger and hardship among the Palestinians has created a pressure cooker of resentment, rage and thirst for retaliation.

Some senior Israeli officials admit that the system of closure does little to contribute to security. Terrorists can easily evade detection by trudging across the open hillsides of the West Bank, entering Israel through a rabbit warren of dirt tracks. Some admit that closure has more to do with control than concern for safety. After criss-crossing the West Bank in buses and taxis and witnessing the casual but consistent humiliation of Palestinians at the Israeli army checkpoints that exist on every main thoroughfare, it is hard to disagree. One journey from Hebron to Jerusalem that should have taken less than an hour turned into a tortuous three-hour ride across rough hillside tracks, which had one elderly woman vomiting with dizziness after our bus was turned back at one checkpoint because its driver and most passengers were Palestinian.

In recent months a growing number of Israeli Army reservists have refused to serve in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Those who refuse, some of them senior officers in elite combat units with proud war records, face prison sentences for taking such a stand. Some have already been stripped of their command positions. Sharon has thundered that such action signals "the beginning of the end of democracy". But in an open letter published in the Israeli press recently, the reservists argue that Israel's policies in the occupied territories amount to "dominating, expelling, starving and humiliating an entire people." There are things that a decent person just does not do," says one. "A decent person does not... treat people as if they were dirt."

As reports of abuses of Palestinians at roadblocks have grown, a group of around 70 Israeli women has formed an organisation called Machsomwatch to

monitor the action of soldiers and police. The women mount vigils in small groups at principal checkpoints throughout the West Bank in the early morning and late afternoon. Judith Keshet, one of the three founders of Machsomwatch, believes the women's presence holds those at the checkpoints accountable, briefly, for their actions. "It is particularly uncomfortable for young conscripts to feel they are being watched by women, most of us old enough to be their mothers. The younger generation seems to lack any sense of what human rights are about. There is a strong racist element to the way they behave. They act as if they believe Palestinians are inherently inferior."

Practices the women regularly observe include ad-hoc strip-searches, Palestinians being forced to sit in cars or buses for hours with their windows open in the pouring rain and shut in extreme heat, or told to stand for long periods with their hands in the air after having their ID cards confiscated. Where possible, the women intervene, pleading with soldiers and police to treat those they stop with more dignity and respect. This sometimes elicits verbal abuse. Keshet describes the women's action as "a drop in the ocean". But, she says, "in these dark days, every drop counts".

More serious abuses are monitored by doctors belonging to the Israeli pressure group Physicians for Human Rights, involving Palestinians urgently seeking medical care such as kidney dialysis and cancer treatment, or women in labour being denied safe passage. Since September 2000, the group has recorded 221 instances of ambulances bearing such patients being turned back at checkpoints, resulting in 29 deaths. The group consistently lobbies the Israeli High Court for soldiers held responsible for refusing to let patients pass through checkpoints to be arrested and tried. One such case involves the treatment of a young expectant mother called Fatima Abed-Rabo, who was stopped at a checkpoint with her

husband, Nasser, as the couple tried to make their way to Bethlehem for Fatima to give birth last October. It was early in the morning when Fatima, then seven months' pregnant, started to feel the first pains of labour. Certain that his wife would give birth within hours - the couple's daughter, Arij, had been born two months prematurely - Nasser convinced a neighbour in their West Bank village of Wallaje to lend him the truck he used for transporting chickens, to get his wife to the nearest hospital in Bethlehem.

The couple had been trying for a second child for several years and undergone fertility treatment, Nasser says, after he suffered sexual problems resulting from abuse during a two-year spell in an Israeli jail. "When Fatima became pregnant," he says, "we were so happy, we celebrated by replacing the tin sheeting on our home with a concrete roof."

But when the couple, accompanied by Nasser's mother, arrived at the Israeli army checkpoint 100 yards outside their village, they were told to go home, despite the fact that Fatima had started haemorrhaging. In desperation they returned to the village and transferred to a taxi in case it might be allowed to pass. Again they were refused permission.

The couple sat huddled in a cold January wind on plastic chairs outside their one-room shack as they describe what happened next. When Nasser got out of the car and started shouting that his wife could give birth at any moment, he says the soldiers laughed, walked over to the car, took his ID card and started imitating the moaning sounds of a woman in labour. As Nasser moved to hit one of them, he was struck to the ground.

"Then the driver called out to me to leave them, that it was too late, that my wife had already given birth," says the 28-year-old electrician. "One soldier walked over, threw my ID card in the blood covering the floor of the car and told us to get out. I took off my jacket to wrap up the baby while my mother tied a rag around its umbilical cord. I was crying."

After driving back some way, they abandoned the car and started walking across the fields to avoid the checkpoint and attempt to reach Bethlehem by foot. Their baby son was small, but alive. After stumbling across the rocky hillsides for just over an hour, they flagged down a car, which drove them to the Holy Family hospital. Their baby weighed 1.4 kg (3lb), his condition critical. He was blue, suffering from exposure. Seven hours later, he died.

Nasser and Fatima have buried

the son they called Sultan some distance from their home; they can't bear to be reminded of their loss. "The Israelis talk about combating terror. They justify everything they do in the name of security and defence. But is this not a kind of terror --Is it not a crime?" Nasser asks. We sit in silence for a while. His question hangs in the air, unanswered by the Israeli courts, and also by the international community. It is New Year's Day. Nasser breaks the silence at last: "I hope this year will be a good one for everyone. It is a lie to say we do not want peace. Everyone wants peace. But there will never be peace as long as we Palestinians are denied our basic rights as human beings."

Then consider how 'extremist' or 'unnecessary' or 'artificial' or 'dispensable' or 'reactionary' or 'unprogressive', etc, etc, are these astonishing Palestinian martyrdom struggles, - as witnessed and described by a Western press correspondent writing in the same pro-Zionist imperialist newspapers:

His face covered by a keffiyeh, or headdress, to conceal his identity, Yunis spoke first about the paintings of Michelangelo, da Vinci and Picasso, then abruptly changed the subject and described - with equal passion, - his urge to become a martyr.

"We are educated strugglers," he said. "We are not terrorists and the world should recognise that our acts are not intended to be pure, cold-blooded murder."

The Palestinian people had sought help from Arab countries, the United States and Europe in their attempts to establish an independent state, he said, but to little or no avail.

"Finally, I searched for my God in the holy *Koran* and found it filled with verses and commands on how to end my oppression," he added, eyes blazing. "I discovered late, that victory is only granted by God and not by [Tony] Blair or Bush. My aim is to liberate my land and to transfer the triangle of fear to [the Israeli] environment."

Delivered with emphatic gestures, this was his chilling justification for the mission he would soon undertake: "Israel attacked my honour, inflicted pain on our mothers and fathers and I have to inflict the same on them until Israeli mothers scream at their government and plead with the world to end the conflict. I will persist until they experience the same fear and pain our mothers feel daily.

"I know I cannot stand in front of a tank that would wipe me out within seconds, so I will use myself as a weapon. They call it terrorism. I say it is self-defence. When I embark on my mission I will be carrying out two obligations: one to my God and the other to defend myself and my country."

Yunis lit a cigarette and declared that life was "precious". He would rather be enjoying "normal days

and nights, parties, family gatherings and seaside picnics", he said. "We are denied this as, long as we are under occupation and until liberation we have no choice but to fight."

Until the day of his mission dawns, Yunis will remain engrossed in study of the Koran. He is convinced he has no choice but to follow the path assigned to him, and nothing could sway him from it. "Freedom is not handed as a gift. History is testimony to the fact that major sacrifices have to be made to attain it," he said.

"At the moment of executing my mission, it will not be purely to kill Israelis. The killing is not my ultimate goal, though it is part of the equation. My act will carry a message beyond to those responsible and the world at large that the ugliest thing is for a human being to be forced to live without freedom."

Like Yunis, Abu Fatah, his commander, is an educated man - a second-year university student of international law. He delivered a brief history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that culminated in the first intifada, starting in 1987, the Middle East peace process and the second intifada, which began in September 2000.

He railed against Israeli settlements, political detentions and restrictions on the movements of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians within and between their territories.

After "self-restraint" during the first year of the latest intifada, he explained, the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades - a branch of the Fatah organisation of Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader - decided to follow the example of the more radical Islamic group, Hamas, and launch suicide attacks. It has no shortage of volunteers.

A specialist unit is responsible for selecting candidates. Anyone under 18 is rejected; so are married men with children and anyone without a sibling who may be a family's sole breadwinner.

Those who excel militarily and show steely composure in stressful situations are most likely to be chosen. The young men must be reasonably religious, convinced of the meaning of "martyrdom and jihad [holy war]". They should also be of a build and shape that will enable them to move easily among Israelis - disguised if necessary in skull cap and wig, with ringlets down the side of the face - as they wait for the moment to strike.

The commander observes candidates over several days as they go about their routine business in public and at home. If the assessment is positive, he informs them of their selection.

"These men were not found on the streets. These are educated men who under normal circumstances would have the potential of being constructive members of society. If they did not have to carry out such a mission, they could have become a doctor, a lawyer or a teacher."

Once the bomber's preparations are complete, he is collected by an-

other member of the unit who accompanies him on the final journey to his target. It is only just before the assault that he is told the details of his operation, whether he will be a bomber or will attack with grenades and guns until he is shot dead.

Ten to 15 minutes before being dropped at the target, the bomber straps on a hand-tailored vest filled with about 10 kilos of explosive and five kilos of nails and metal. He is then given his final instructions about the precise point at which he should detonate himself.

"The later he knows the better for the martyr, since he will not have much time to think of the target nor to experience doubts," the commander said. A separate unit has the job of finding potential targets for suicide attacks.

Asked whether the recent killings of innocent young civilians by suicide bombers in cafés and restaurants could be condoned, Abu Fatah's tone hardened. "Do you think when an Israeli tank shells a house it considers whether there are children at home?" he snapped. "There are ugly consequences for both sides in a war."

Ahmad, the second suicide attacker, has no reservations. A 27-year-old student from the Gaza Strip, he carries the deeds and keys to the family house in Jaffa from which his grandmother was driven when the modern state of Israel was established as a Jewish homeland in 1948.

"My grandmother represented the history of the Palestinian people," said the quietly spoken Ahmad, one of eight children who lives with his mother.

"She spoke to us of Jaffa, its grape vines and the seaside. She instilled in us a love for the home we did not know and over many tears recounted old stories of life once upon a time in Palestine. Ahmad said he fell in love with Jaffa through his grandmother's tales and longed for the day when he would have a chance to visit the old place. Instead, he grew up in a small concrete house allotted to the family by the United Nations.

He was 12 when the first intifada began and his anger at what he regarded as the humiliation of his family under occupation eventually made him determined to fight for "dignity".

"I did not join Fatah to kill. My aim in joining was to try and provide security, if only to my immediate family. Were it not for the occupation, I would not have become a Fatah member in the first place. I let go of my dreams of Jaffa and of ever reclaiming my grandmother's house. I was never a person who sought to annihilate the Israelis.

"I gave them the land that originally belonged to me but instead of accepting it graciously I found them still seeking to deprive me of the right to live freely and peacefully in my tiny few square metres."

The failure of the peace process meant "having to live in an area where most of us were denied the

ability to move freely", he said.

"How can I live in a state without sovereignty where I am forced to show an identity card at an Israeli checkpoint for permission to move? They control our electricity and water supply and our lives, and people still ask why we are rising up."

A band of fighters gathering around him as he spoke nodded in agreement. "I am committed to carry out a martyr's mission to show my rejection of being forced to live under this oppression," he said to cries of "Allahu akbar [God is greatest]".

"My aim is to prohibit settlers from enjoying their lives here. My aim is to force the Israeli checkpoint out of my territory. If they leave in peace, I have no intention of following them into their areas. But if they remain here then I shall use the methods at my disposal to force them out.

"I and many others like me are now prepared and waiting to carry out spectacular attacks against the enemy. We are not afraid and will not cease until they withdraw totally from our areas. You can call us terrorists all you like, but we have faith that justice is on our side and that victory will be ours."

Casualties were described purely in terms of numbers, without reference to the gender or age of the victims. There was little room here for sentimentality.

They recited the names of all the group's previous attackers and talked about the "courage" of Mohammed Farhat, 19, who infiltrated the Israeli settlement of Gush Katif earlier this month, killing five Israelis before he was gunned down.

A few hours before his attack, he had called his mother from his mobile phone to ask her advice. His mother, Um Nidal, told me that she had replied: "Take care my son, remember God, repeat the verses, pay attention to everything you see, concentrate on the task ahead, pick your moment. May God bless you with success and may you be granted the martyrdom you deserve.

"Be strong, my boy, in this, your first major battle, and remember Allah in every move you make. Do not hesitate, my boy, and strike as harshly as you can against the enemy." She then asked him to switch off his mobile for the last time. Um Nidal stayed in front of her television waiting for news of her son's attack, fearful that he might be injured, arrested and denied the "martyrdom" he sought. She knew of her son's selection for a mission a month in advance: "I cried for a whole month every time I looked at him. I would tell him not to let my tears stop him from going on his mission. I watched him like a baby that whole month." "My heart is not made of stone," she added, but she had been "willing to sacrifice him for something more precious and sanctified than our earthly world".

The issue is not how 'strange'

or 'different' these Islamic perceptions and attitudes are from 'normal' Western understanding, - true but irrelevant, - but whether this is really all happening in response to imperialist tyranny despite all the dreadful suffering and sacrifice involved and despite all the colossal obstacles put in the path of such a guerrilla-war fightback, and whether it is having a hugely successful impact or not.

It is the bourgeois fake-'left' and the imperialists who are 'being misled by some other worldly reality', not this Palestinian Muslim cultural tradition.

What anti-colonial national-liberation struggle could be more 'genuine' than this??

Or what could be more 'right' than this??

Let Islamic religious voodoo fall by the historical wayside as soon as possible, but this guerrilla war is the reality now of the genuine anti-imperialist struggle to prevent Western domination from destroying the planet with its colonial warmongering nightmare.

It is a logical Washington decision to make this 'war on terrorism' and on 'rogue states' a global issue because resisting the bullying trade-war impositions of imperialist economic crisis in one place (e.g. Iraq, Colombia, Occupied Palestine, South Philippines, Afghanistan, Yemen, etc) can plainly be identified by colonial economic domination as quickly infecting an 'axis of evil' virus elsewhere if not rapidly crushed.

This is the reality of imperialist-crisis warmongering to try to divert the world from the destructive catastrophes of the freemarket economic crash and slump itself, so as to preserve the credibility and respectability of continued long-term planetary rule by the monopoly-capitalist bourgeoisie. In these initial circumstances, it is not absolutely essential at all that some of the forces of spontaneous mass resistance to America's worldwide colonial domination should necessarily have clear-cut revolutionary socialist perspectives, or inspiration, at all.

All that matters is that this monstrously decadent Western imperialist attempt to reassert colonial policing control over the whole planet should fail, and with it its warmongering 'solution' of 'surplus'-capital destruction as a cure for the

crisis of 'over-production'.

By all means let that failure and defeat eventually be dictated and administered by proletarian-dictatorship forces of conscious planned-socialist redevelopment for the whole

planet. But let the miserable downfall of the 700-year era of Western imperialist economic tyranny be begun in any way possible and inflicted by any anti-colonial forces available. Build Leninism EPSR

Trying to put the 'blame' for the electoral support for Le Pen's bogus 'anti-establishment' posturing onto the workers who vote for him is as stupid and reactionary as trying to 'condemn' the turn to terrorist violence by the Middle East in despair at unending Western-imperialist tyranny. Refusing to debate 'race' issues exploited by philistine chauvinism will only drive more questioning about asylum-seeking and immigration into the arms of the BNP. Refusing to condemn Zionist racism and religious fanaticism will only breed anti-semitism (No 1134 30-04-02).

...And even more pointedly, how long before people start asking if the lies, tyranny, and criminal violence which the West imposes on the whole world, has a negative influence on teenage bullying and crime on the streets and in school?? How does the West's 'war on terrorism' and 'tough on crime, tough on the causes of crime' posturing square up with the following admissions in the capitalist press itself of violent lawlessness either tolerated, or condoned, or actually carried out by the 'leaders of the free world'???:

The true crime of Jenin camp is this act of physical erasure. It is covered by Article 147 of the *Fourth Geneva Convention* in its prohibition on 'the extensive destruction or unlawful appropriation of property, not justified by military necessity committed either unlawfully or wantonly.'

Article 147 mentions other crimes that may be applicable to Jenin: the alleged taking of hostages for human shields by the Israelis; the same army's refusal of access for humanitarian and emergency medical assistance and deliberate targeting of civilians by snipers. But it is the sheer scale of the destruction that Israel will most likely have to answer for.

I am reminded of this prohibition on 'wanton destruction' of civilian homes by Miranda Sissons, a researcher with Human Rights Watch.

'Whether or not there appears to have been any mass killing here,' says Sissons, who appears inclined to be cautious of this claim until better evidence is provided, 'there have been very serious violations of the rules of war that need to be

investigated'.

'Those key issues are the disproportionate use of force; the excessive use of force and the extensive destruction of property. There has been a total lack of respect for the rights of civilians. And those breaches are still continuing. Israel is still blocking the facilitation of humanitarian access and continuing to shoot on civilians here.'

Some describe one group of soldiers calling to them to evacuate their homes before destruction then being threatened with being shot by other soldiers who insisted that a curfew was still in force. What they describe is a panic that seems to have taken hold of the Israeli army in Jenin camp, and in its panic it laid the camp to waste.

The Jenin refugee camp, whose physical erasure has come to symbolise the devastation and death inflicted by the Israeli army in the past four weeks, lies at the northern extremity of the territory. While the world has been preoccupied with the camp, the stories beginning to unfold from the Palestinian cities, towns, refugee camps and villages that lie between Jenin and Dura show that the Israeli army has been engaged in systematic abuse throughout the West Bank.

'Jenin is not so different from any of the other attacks,' said Peter Bouckaert, a senior researcher at Human Rights Watch. 'The focus of the international community has been on events in Jenin, but equally serious violations took place in Ramallah, particularly, and in Nablus.'

The most grievous abuses break down into four categories: the killing of Palestinian civilians, the denial of medical care, the wanton destruction of civilian property, and the use of Palestinian civilians as human shields for house-to-

house searches.

Human rights organisations have not even begun to investigate the raids on the smaller West Bank towns and villages such as Dura. The scale of the offensive, the biggest since Israel occupied the West Bank in 1967, is too forbidding, as is its use of a military curfew to deny international organisations access.

The first human rights field worker, from the Israeli group B'Tselem, reached Dura on Thursday, when the village had, been under curfew for 17 days.

Arif Said Ahmed's life ended at 5.05am on April 9 when two Israeli helicopter gunships soared over the hillside, firing a rocket at him and his cousin Naif as they walked home from morning prayers.

The helicopters returned, firing their machine guns for several terrifying minutes as Arif's wife, Samira, stumbled out to their bodies with her infant daughter. Mother and daughter were saved from serious injury by her brother Farooq, who flung himself over them.

A bullet pierced his side and fragments ripped his leg.

That was the beginning of the invasion of Dura, a village southwest of Hebron which marks the southernmost extent of the Israeli army's offensive in the West Bank.

The first civilian deaths B'Tselem recorded were those of Arif Said Ahmed, 34; a teacher and the acting imam of the local mosque, and Naif Said Ahmed, 33, who was his cousin and brother-in-law. After dawn prayers they had paused outside the mosque to smoke a cigarette when the rocket killed them.

Their bodies were not removed for 36 hours. Despite his serious injuries, Farooq Said Ahmed was rounded up with the other Palestinian men of the village, propped up by two other men. One asked the soldiers for a doctor.

'The soldier told him in Arabic: 'Whoever is dead is dead, and

whoever is injured can wait,'" he said.

The army allowed an ambulance through 10 hours later, by which time his jeans were so soaked in his own blood that he considered wringing them out.

It took three hours to reach the hospital, he said. Twice soldiers shot at the ambulance, and twice they stopped - it, unloading him on his stretcher, prodding his injured leg until he yelled in pain, and flipping him over on his face to check for weapons on both occasions.

Nothing that happened in Dura is extraordinary in the context of the past month.

In Arrabah, south-west of Jenin, a pair of helicopter gunships fired on Mohammed Nabil Hardan and his wives, Amal and Jamila, killing all three as they walked home from their fields. Jamila was five months pregnant.

A few minutes later they fired a rocket at the barn where Mohammed's father, Nafeh Abed Hardan, 67, was sleeping, wounding him in the hand and the foot. The foot may have to be amputated.

"I swear I don't know why," he said. "There was no reason for them to kill my son and his wives, and if I knew they were going to fire on the barn, I certainly would not have slept there.'

During the siege of the Nablus casbah, doctors used a mosque as a mortuary and hospital. It was strewn with the stained mattresses of the wounded who bled their lives away. Two dozen corpses lay there for six days, stacked up like firewood, before a chaotic evacuation on April 8.

But the fighting devastated much of the West Bank. In the Nablus casbah several historic buildings with 2ft-thick stone walls, including a soap factory, were reduced to mounds of rubble.

In the Balata refugee camp, homes were destroyed as punishment. The army blew up four



Searching for possessions in another of the nearly 50 000 houses deliberately wrecked by the Zionist occupation or bombed during repeated blitzings

houses near the entrance of the camp. One belonged to the Badawi family, whose two sons were commanders in a Palestinian militant group.

Ramallah, the seat of Yasser Arafat's administration, was another destruction zone.

This was where the army established its pattern of compelling male civilians to walk in front of soldiers when they were hunting the Palestinian militants and police.

On March 30, Israeli soldiers exchanged fire with more than 20 Palestinian policemen and threw grenades into their hideout in a third-floor flat in a town centre building.

Moments later Nader Mansi, 22, an architecture student, was ordered to enter the building and approach the flat to see if the policemen would surrender.

In Jenin refugee camp the following Friday, Ali Mustafa Abu Siria, 43, an Arabic teacher, was marched from his flat in handcuffs and at gunpoint and forced to walk ahead

of troops and army sniffer dogs seeking gunmen.

He went to 11 houses before he was shot in the kneecap. "As soon as I knocked on the door, a bullet was fired at me," he said.

Capt Dallal emphatically rejected the term "human shield"; though he admitted that Palestinian civilians were used as "guides".

Nor is the fascist-military terrorism attempt to deprive the Venezuelan people of their 'democratically elected' government, (for what it is worth) by any means the full extent of the American imperialist ruling class's criminal tyranny:- The 'free world leadership' (as honoured by Blair and throughout the West) has for months wagged its approval like a dog with two tails at Musharraf, the military dictator of Pakistan whose stealing of a whole country at gunpoint is now accepted with a smile and a shrug by

the 'free world' because of his help in the war on 'terrorists' in Afghanistan (whose only crime has been to oppose the West's manipulation of the whole Middle East in its own interests, using dictatorships like the Saudis, Musharraf, etc, whenever it suits the US, as in Venezuela, and in Chile before that, despite the pretence of 'democratic' world rule.

And how does the Zionist genocidal persecution of the Palestinian people out of their own land (especially when they fight back) square with the West's Nazi-blitzkrieg destruction of Serbia in 1999 (for allegedly 'persecuting' inside Serbia the minority Albanian population), – going so far as to rip out Serbia's Kosovo province to hand it over to the KLA terrorist-separatists?

The Palestinians are fighting back **inside** their own country,

trying to chase out the colonising Zionist invaders, fighting with whatever they can against the overwhelming might of the Zionist-imperialist colonial forces, first murderously sent in there by US-run "United Nations democracy" in 1948.

But the Palestinians are dubbed 'terrorists' and the 'free world' even refuses to insist on a UN inspection of the massacres against them in Jenin and elsewhere.

But no sooner had the Albanian 'exodus' stunt been staged after the bogus 'Recak massacre' (30 bodies artificially piled up in a village, all casualties of a lengthy gun battle between separatist KLA forces and the Serbian state authorities) than the whole of Serbia was destroyed by NATO-blitzkrieg air war.

EPSPR

Falling for unchallenged 'logical' assumptions of bourgeois 'liberalism' on issues like the Zionist colonisation tyranny called 'Israel', and like so-called 'terrorism', renders all Western fake-'lefts' as just the racist stooges of Western imperialism. To insist on the spontaneous revival of worldwide anti-imperialist struggle without any 'terrorist' accusations flying around is to basically abandon anti-imperialist revolution (No1136 14-05-02).

The problem is the historic class and international **conflict** direction into which the unalterable iron laws of capitalist 'over-production' crisis have now hurled the entire 'free-market' system worldwide; to which the **only** answer... is **revolution**.

Once imperialism has been driven by uncontrollable economic forces into inter-imperialist warmongering-for-survival mode, then nothing can stop reactionary chauvinism from spreading, (all the time that capitalism lasts) **except revolution**.

The ludicrous mistake of the 1930s (and in 1965, 1973, etc) lay in the fake-'left' delusion that "fascism can be stopped" on its own, thus completely mis-educating the working class about the historical phase that was on the horizon for the 'free market' system.

Far from a period of "ever-improving democracy", the cyclical-crisis nature of capitalism must **always** eventually

return to a phase of uninhibited class-repression and international warmongering.

Always knowing this, the imperialists merely have to make tactical timing judgements about what can be risked, or what needs to be risked, in such matters as unleashing a 1965 on Indonesia or a 1973 on Chile, or a 2002 on Venezuela, etc, etc. **Not** knowing this, the working class has frequently been misled to catastrophe by fake-'left' leadership into deluding itself that "the bourgeois democratic state can be preserved and is all the progress we need at this stage", etc, etc, as in Chile in 1970-73, and in Spain around the petty-bourgeois Republican parliament against Franco in the 1930s, when in reality only a complete **revolutionary** seizure of power by the working class under the dictatorship of the proletariat could possibly have saved the people from total repressive tyranny by that selfsame bourgeois

state.

Absolute economic **proof** of imperialist-collapse has obviously not been made widespread yet; – only the circumstantial evidence of increasingly relentless 'spindoctor' political cynicism; chauvinist degeneration, isolating and dividing workers more and more; cultural dumbing down towards the most phonily 'inclusive' philistine consumerism in everything; and a depraved international "war on terrorism" which is covering-up the most blatant counter-revolutionary skulduggery preparations with the barmiest hypocrisy ever.

But the unending lies about 'economic recovery'; the growing social decay and despair in all things; and the rapidly deteriorating competence and believability of the entire corporate and political leadership of the Western world, make a strong case as being indicators of an imminent dramatic **crash** of the whole imperialist system of indefensible injustice and unfairness, and irrational wastefulness and destruction.

The paralysing confusion caused by the fake-'left' inability to understand the revolutionary-crisis nature of the epoch, resulting in a muddled and inactive working class (politically) and the continuing failure to see the start of any international revolutionary party building, is demonstrated in one of imperialism's worst messes, in Palestine: "To call for Israel's abolition is unMarxist" declare the self-regarding

'theoretical' giants of the Socialist Alliance in *Weekly Worker* 430.

As an attempted definition of Marxism, this would make even a donkey smile.

If it is a 'moral' stance, it stinks even more.

But as practical 'socialist' agitation, it is not just cowardly class-collaboration but consciously **counter-revolutionary** mischief making.

Marxism is the science of historical inevitability or historical necessity, not an ethical guide to subjective feelings 'right' and 'wrong'.

Strongly believing in the social evolutionary **progress** of human civilisation through various epochs of class struggle, the 'moral enthusiasm' of Marxism is inseparable from achieving the worldwide triumph of the dictatorship of the proletariat which will finally allow the class-divided, war-scarred, frequently foolishly destructive 'pre-history' of irrational subjectivism and conflict to advance to the triumph of objective reason and planned cooperation between all peoples and with nature.

The only 'good' is what leads to the speediest assured triumph of the worldwide dictatorship of the proletariat.

Only from then on can the balancing of 'rights' and 'wrongs' even begin to aspire towards "the maximum all-round justice for the greatest number", – (via which, 'pre-history' bourgeois 'morality' pretends to dispense 'fairness' and 'justice' but in reality only breeds resentment by serving

subjective interests and covering them up with boundless hypocrisy and self-righteousness).

This Alliance posturing justifies its preemptive 'moral' stance by pretending to 'know' that dismantling the Zionist colonisation of the land of the Palestinian nation "is either naïve utopianism or genocidal".

Firstly, these Western stooges want to make up their minds. Either the Palestinian national-liberation struggle can recapture the whole of its homeland, relentlessly colonised and ethnically-cleansed by waves of (literally) millions of Zionist settlers from all over the world since the 'go ahead' was given by the imperialist-dominated United Nations' infamous decision of 1947-48.

Or the Intifada will fail.

But fail just this time, or **never** succeed??

Taking a 'right' or 'wrong' verdict in such a [Socialist] Alliance situation of supreme fake-'left' ignorance only emphasises what idiotic petty-bourgeois 'morality' games these dilettante 'socialists' basically never cease playing.

Marxist science would undoubtedly like to **know** what would be a realistic outcome of the Zionist attempt to hang onto its colonisation of the homeland of the Palestinian nation in a period of worldwide imperialist-system terminal crisis when the entire Third World, which basically must include the entire family of Arab nations from Morocco to Iraq, will increasingly take the revolutionary road to end the Western imperialist domination of the planet, of which the Zionist colonisation of

Palestine is plainly a part.

Unless some almost incomprehensible and extremely unlikely freak conditions prevail whereby the Zionist colonial state of 'Israel' was allowed to survive by the Arab anti-colonial revolution, then Marxist science of world anti-imperialist development must surely conclude that the monstrous armed Zionist colonisation and ethnic cleansing is doomed to ultimate failure.

Or else all of Marxist historical understanding is total gibberish and the proletarian dictatorship is not destined to take the world into a new civilisation at all.

Either way, to boast of knowing that the abolition of 'Israel' would be 'unMarxist' shows only what grotesque posturing these middle-class fake-'lefts' indulge in who clearly have no connection or sympathy with Marxism whatever.

In the fast-developing circumstances on Earth of imperialist crisis and anti-imperialist revolution everywhere, surely the most likely scenario, even for straight-line 'logical' petty-bourgeois ideology which cannot ever cope with dialectical transformations, is that the Palestinian national-liberation-struggle will continue to endlessly improve its clarity, determination, capacity, and skills, as it has been doing ever since 1947 (and even earlier against British colonialism), and start to give Zionist repressive tyranny an even bloodier nose and an even bigger headache than it has already succeeded in doing.

And why would such a process have to end in "genocide"? (by which it is presumably

meant the killing of every last Zionist colonist where they currently stand?)

Why would not the pattern established already by the colonisation states of White South Africa, Rhodesia, and 'Northern Ireland' be repeated whereby the colonists continued to repress with the utmost ruthlessness, savagery and cruelty but were forced to accept defeat in the end, and either scuttle away to White/British domination pastures new, or else make a brave face of "accepting" their capitulation to majority rule (or to dismantling the sectarian bogus 'statelet' in the case of the British-occupied zone of Ireland)???

"The Israeli Jewish nation is historically constituted", these Alliance imperialist stooges go on in their counter-revolutionary diatribe against Palestinian national-liberation revolution.

But no more or less than were the White nation-builders in Rhodesia, or in South Africa (there nearly 400 years), or in British-occupied Ireland (there even longer). But of course, it is precisely these Alliance 'theoretical' counter-revolutionaries who agitate even now to resurrect the despised and failed 'Partition' of Ireland, the source of as vile a tyranny and fascist hatred as any other infamy in history, into a new mini-Partition occupying and tyrannising just three of Ulster's nine counties instead of the previous six ripped out at bayonet-point by British imperialism in 1921.

But as the EPSR's struggle for Marxist science has understood and explained for all its 23 years of existence, this is the epoch of imperialist decay, and of national-liberation revolutionary triumph against all vestiges of colonialism, in time.

The utter worthlessness of these fake-'left' fraudulent 'Marxists' in quoting Lenin on the national and colonial question is suitably judged by their utterly reactionary agitation for the fascist-colonial 'British' remnants in Ireland to be still granted a concentration-camp laager to administer, because of being equally "historically constituted" just like the "Israeli Jewish nation".

Interestingly, the vicious cruelty and routine torture depravity inflicted by the supposedly 'legally-constituted' colonial 'authorities' such as 'Israel' and 'Northern Ireland'

do not figure at all in these 'self-determination' fanatics' academic musings on their own truly-utopian world-shaping ideas of leaving some native Irish still trapped behind artificial 'Partition' boundaries, or behind the lethal racist lines of Zionist imperialism's self-appointed 'promised land' as far as abandoned Palestinians are concerned.

Is this astonishing lack of concern or curiosity about the old colonial tyranny continuing – while changes in the opposite direction are feared for as "genocide" – not a racist posture in itself???

Other degenerate fake-'left' stances are being equally shown up to be vacuous anti-Marxist opportunism by the rapid turn of events.

The Stalinist Revisionist swamp, still faking it as 'revolutionary socialists' around *Lalkar* and the SLP, have ventured one of their (very occasional) perspectives on the question of the Middle East too, also settling for the safe bourgeois 'two-state solution' posture of 'liberal fair-play'.

It stinks from every point of view, not least because it is anti-historical garbage based on bet-hedging guesswork drawn from a long Stalinist class-collaborating tradition (of 'peaceful road to socialism' Western communists) to always put themselves across as being eminently-'reasonable' on all public issues. Marx would turn in his grave.

But while these Scargillite remnants of Stalinist 'theoretical' philistinism have not yet sunk so low as the fake-'left' Alliance opportunists in slandering Hamas as the 'reactionary racist twins of Sharon', and have gone no further than a general 'condemnation' of 'terrorism' in line with the US imperialist dictates from Sept 11, – the poverty of their straight-line 'logical' thinking is outrageous enough.

There is no 'two state solution' to be had, even with Sharon in reality; let alone with Netanyahu who is now overtaking the Likud government leader from the right. As the EPSR has consistently explained over the years, there is an inescapable conclusion to any 'sense' that unrestrained Zionist smiting has made over the years (against Palestinian attempts to fight back against having their country stolen from them and ethnically cleansed) – namely that there will never be an end to



Massacre in Sabra and Shatila 1982

Intifada resistance to Zionist colonisation until the **whole** Palestinian nation, not just the 5 million in exile abroad, or in refugee camps in Gaza and on the West Bank, are safely ethnically-cleansed out of their homeland altogether.

Far from it being merely Sharon's intemperate 'logic' of wanting to see Arafat's authority crushed that is a problem; Netanyahu, now pressing for Sharon's leadership position within Likud, is even dismissive of that for its 'capitulatory softness'. Netanyahu insists on destroying **for all time** any serious possibility for any serious authority to be vested in any Palestinian state at all.

A permanent colonially-subjugated race is the only future inside Palestine that this increasingly aggressive and expanding section of Zionist opinion is prepared to allow the Palestinian nation (whose homeland this whole territory solely was until the infamous decision of the imperialist-dominated UN in 1947-48, shamefully supported, of course, by Stalinist Revisionism through the USSR's Security-Council vote.)

In such endlessly renewing circumstances of Zionism's extremist survival dementedness, what sense can even the cowardly class-collaborationist 'utopian' two-state solution make??

For their part, the Trot and Revisionist 'theoreticians' of the Alliance make an even more contradictory nonsense of everything, when the *Weekly Worker* merely makes an inconsequential passing reference that

"Palestinians must have the right of return";

but without one moment's further thought about exactly what this would mean for the "historically-constituted Israeli Jewish nation state".

It represents more deadly dynamite than even one thousand suicide bombers, exploding themselves in unison in one town centre, would represent.

This Alliance 'thinking' is just crazy. How can 5 million exiled or refugee-camped Palestinians be put into Zionist-occupied Palestine ('Israel' so-called) yet still leave it as the "Israeli Jewish nation-state"???

These fake-'left' plans are meaningless. This pretend 'evenhandedness' towards the historical rights of the ousted Palestinian nation is just an

appalling racist posturing fraud by these fence-sitting petty-bourgeois stooges for 'liberal' imperialism's bogus 'two-state' alleged 'peace' proposal.

It is just a figleaf cover for **permanent** domination by Western Zionist-imperialist interests over the Palestinian and wider Arab Third-World potential for anti-imperialist **revolution**.

The final Alliance 'argument' captures all this fake-'left' deceitfulness in a nutshell:

"The position of Rhodesian or South African Whites is not analogous. These did not, nor could they, form a nation. Nowhere in territorial terms did they form a historically constituted majority".

But they did make plans for an all-white province in South Africa. And they had a naturally-evolved language which was unique to South Africa, unlike the totally artificial 'Hebrew' which Zionist colonialism had to invent for purposes of imperialist-state domination over the usurped, ousted, and ethnically-cleansed natives.

In many ways, what the Zionist colonisation imposed on the original inhabitants was infinitely **worse** than what was inflicted as far as cultural genocide is concerned on the black natives of South Africa.

And how did the Zionists get to become "the majority" anyway??

Only by the utterly murderous ruthlessness of their colonising tyranny, relentlessly depriving the Palestinians of their lands, their water rights, their freedom of movement, their rights to build homes **anywhere** inside their own homeland, etc, etc, etc, - constantly driving the Arabs into exile or refugee camps. What sickeningly vile **fascist** tyranny these fake-'lefts' are concealing behind this disgusting pseudo-'Marxist' posturing about a "historically constituted majority", etc.

But best of all is the final 'justification' for all this *Weekly Worker* reactionary gibber:

"Ours is a fighting programme under the conditions of capitalism whereby we fight and win the battle for democracy. I.E. our fight for democracy is integral to the struggle for socialism... Communists therefore envisage a democratic solution in Israel-Palestine ...Communists look towards a democratic and secular Israel existing alongside a democratic and secular Palestine,"

etc, etc;

Contemplating all this reactionary bilge from these petty-bourgeois hoax 'Marxist revolutionaries', it is no

surprise to recall that the one great boast of the Zionist colony is that "full democracy is allowed to rule there, unlike in all the Arab despotisms all around".

And British imperialism loved to insist on the "democratic" way forward in the propaganda and military-dictatorship tyranny against the imprisoned Irish Republican minority, left with only utterly meaningless and toothless 'democratic rights' by virtue of the very same gerrymandered arbitrary Partition imposed on them at bayonet-point precisely to render them a 'minority',

As imperialism begins beating the war drums louder (for) the Great Diversion, and armaments spending escalates, so do the fake-'lefts' start posturing more energetically than ever to become, objectively, a more plausible block to workers revolution, regardless of their subjective motives. But their 'left propaganda' still cannot stop the undermining of imperialism... It is the objective, insoluble economic collapse of the imperialist system which will remain the decisive driving force.... Fake-'left' attacks on imperialist Zionist warmongering still hinder bourgeois brainwashing but only to try to save it from total defeat. A conscious grasp of monopoly capitalist crisis will rout this fake-'left' (No1144 16-07-02).

Serious civil wars or revolts are brewing on every continent against the American 'New World order' or against its catastrophic economic or political/social effects and permanent military tyranny, and "socialist", "democratic", or "protest" posturing of all kinds is having to perform increasingly energetically in order not to get left behind.

Although a pain in the neck themselves, and the obvious last resort for imperialism to turn to when all else has failed to sow enough anti-Leninist confusion so as to halt the march of proletarian dictatorship, the fake-'left' epidemic can only be viewed as a sign of how imperialism's difficulties are still steadily growing, and not remotely as a sign of a stop to those difficulties, or as a 'solution' for them.

The 'extreme' propaganda effects that the fake-'left' need

- exactly in the same way that Zionism boasts of its 'democracy' against the Arabs, (but only for as long as its decidedly 'undemocratic' colonial military tyranny ensures that the Zionist colonisers always will keep their 'majority' secure in any territorial carve-up that is proposed).

But by all means let all these 'democratic' posturers stick together, and let the dictatorship of the proletariat (truly only the Arabs in Palestine) finally settle accounts in a revolutionary way with all such 'democracy'.

Build Leninism. EPSR

to create in order to retain 'credibility' work much the same as 'democracy' itself.

The fraudulent "electoral government" game is easily the smartest self-preservation racket that the capitalist system ever came up with, but the hoax of "parliamentary democracy rule" will also be one of the things that will help trip up the bourgeois imperialist establishment completely in some countries in the end. Either the voting itself, or preventing people from voting, or attempting an armed coup to overturn the results of voting, could all serve occasionally as the catalyst for fullscale proletarian revolution.

Capitalism survives via the lies and outright deceptions of the "democracy" game for a long time, but can eventually get tripped up by trying to avoid the consequences of its own racket.

Fake-'left' propaganda is actually a part of that same game.

In some distant recess of the bourgeoisie's vast counter-revolutionary network and academic frontage, future "useful confusion" headlines will already be being toyed with, such as: "You are preparing the ground for another Bolshevik Revolution" warns militant union leader"; and "We are all Leninists now" declares left Labourite"; etc, etc.

The "boycott Zionist aggression" movement being spread by academics who are themselves Zionists (i.e. people who believe that part of Palestine **should** be colonised by pro-imperialist Western Jews (with a ruling class mostly from the USA and Europe) in order to set up a pro-imperialist mailed fist (Israel) in the Middle East, forever threatening the very throat of Arab nationalist interests) is a current example.

There is massive worldwide unease at the apparent 'democratic' indifference in the West to the murderous butchery and fascist persecution of the Palestinian people (whose land it is) being daily inflicted by the Zionist colonisers, who have all always been totally financed, sustained, and protected by the West since even before the criminal tragedy of the 1948 UN diktat to impose 'Israel' on Palestine's homes, gardens, villages, towns, roads, and water-supply was "voted for".

What better diversion from this dangerously-escalating and justified hatred of the West than a huge 'democratic' furore about the rights and wrongs of a partial academic boycott of 'Israel' proposed by a 'protest' movement.

The protesters are no doubt well meaning, and the coverage they are getting in the imperialist media reflects nothing on them necessarily, of course. And some of their propaganda demonstrates the point that erecting a fake-'left' barrier to genuine revolutionary understanding nevertheless does still add something to imperialism's difficulties:

'The Israelis continue to invade Palestinian towns and expand illegal settlements in the occupied territories. Ariel Sharon refuses to negotiate while "violence" (i.e. Palestinian resistance) continues. Our own government sheds crocodile tears at the loss of life while inviting a prime minister accused of war crimes to lunch and providing his military with F16 spare parts.

One of the non-violent weapons

open to civil society to express its moral outrage is the boycott. Internationally this has been most successful against apartheid South Africa. It took many years but ultimately shamed governments and multinational corporations into isolating this iniquitous regime. The boycott called last year by Palestinian solidarity movements was against Israeli products. This too moves slowly; but only a couple of weeks ago it secured a ban on the sale of settlement-produced goods illegally labelled "made in Israel".

The international academic, cultural and sporting communities had played a major part in isolating South Africa and we have increasingly learned of individuals who thought that co-operating with Israeli institutions was like collaborating with the apartheid regime. A writer refused to have her play acted in Israel, a musician turns down an invitation to perform or an academic to attend a conference.

It was these individual ethical refusals which led us to make the restricted call for a moratorium on European research and academic collaboration with Israeli institutions until the Israeli government opened serious peace negotiations. We noted that Israel, a Middle Eastern state, was accepted as an integral part of the European scientific community while its neighbours were not. We canvassed a draft of the letter among colleagues in the UK and other European countries, and within days signatures of support came flowing in.

When the letter was published in the *Guardian* in April, it had over 120 names on it. A matching letter was published in France; its website now carries more than a thousand names. Another call was published in Italy, another in Australia. The Association of University Teachers adopted the moratorium call; the lecturers' union, Natfhe, an even stronger resolution. In similar vein an advertisement signed by Jewish Americans appeared in the *New York Times* calling for US disinvestment from Israel until peace negotiations were opened.

What is self-evident is that a cultural and economic boycott is slowly assembling. It is not one monolithic entity. It varies from the very modest resistance suggested in our initial letter, such as personally refusing to take part in collaborative research with Israeli institutions, to more public gestures of opposition. Such acts are painful, even though the target is institutional, actions often mean a breach with longstanding colleagues. It is thus important that the boycott is coupled with positive support for those Israeli refuseniks who continue to oppose the actions of their elected government.

It is this that makes suggestions, such as that by Jonathan Freedland in last week's *Guardian*, that the boycott is in some way comparable to that imposed by Nazi Germany on Jewish shops, so grotesquely hyperbolic. It matches the many

hate emails that those who have endorsed the boycott have received, accusing them of anti-semitism or even Holocaust denial. If the supporters of the Israeli government cannot distinguish between being opposed to Israeli state policy and being anti-Semitic, it is scarcely surprising that real anti-semites conflate the two.

Faced with this growing international movement, some have cried foul. Does the boycott not risk endangering those fragile academic links between Israelis and Palestinians that do exist? Yet these are in far greater danger as a result of the restrictions on movement which the Israeli government places on Palestinian researchers, and the repeated attempts to close down Palestinian universities. And no Palestinian has voiced this concern; on the contrary many among their academic community, such as those at the University at Bir Zeit, endorsed the boycott call as helping to draw attention to the brutal restrictions on their academic freedom to teach, study and research.

The exaggerated attention to the "academic freedom" issues raised by the unilateral removal from an editorial board of two Israeli academics by one signatory of the boycott call is like focusing on a potential local mote to avoid the flagrant international beam.

This sudden institutional preoccupation with academic freedom is not without historical interest. During the height of the student movement of the late 1960s, university lecturer Robin Blackburn was sacked for a post-hoc endorsement of students who removed the London School of Economics gates. There was a resounding silence at this breach of his right to free speech. But it is strange to hear academic freedom invoked as an abstraction in a university world where much research is funded by corporate industrial interests, and where a biological research topic can be closed by a patent agreement. Only a couple of weeks ago two Harvard post-doctoral researchers were threatened with jail for sending cloned material from the lab in which they were working to one to which they were moving.

Unlike some of those whistle blowers who have called attention to the hazards of genetic engineering, no one is likely to lose their jobs as a result of being boycotted. At worst they risk isolation from the international academic research community. Those who have been threatened with dismissal, and worse, for supporting the boycott are those few courageous Israelis who have endorsed the call.

The choice today for civil society - and academics and researchers are part of civil society - is to remain silent and do nothing or to try to bring pressure to bear. Archbishop Desmond Tutu's statement of support for the boycott closed with this quote from Martin Luther King: "Our lives begin to end the

day we become silent about things that matter".

Hilary Rose is professor of social policy at Bradford University; Steven Rose is professor of biology at the Open University.

But this 'revolt' is inevitably more show than substance, nonetheless.

In typical academic agnostic tradition, these 'protesters' won't get off the fence, either on the 'morality' question or on the 'practical solution' front. Like all bourgeois everywhere, enjoying a fat easy life out of the bogus 'democracy' system of imperialist international economic exploitation and warmongering bullying military tyranny, these gents make it clear right at the beginning that they have no intention of challenging the holy-of-holies of middle-class orthodoxy, - namely that **all** 'violence' is bad. Their only 'protest' is to monstrosly imply an equivalence of 'violence' when what such bourgeois are supposed to do is to condemn "terrorism" far more decisively and absolutely than any 'balancing' activity:

The carnage in the Middle East continues; today a suicide bomber, tomorrow an Israeli strike on Palestinians with helicopters, missiles and tanks.

But the only real issue of course is that, as throughout history, the sole effective class-war and national-war means against absolute tyranny (the existence of 'Israel' means the stealing of the best part of the Palestinian homeland for keeps) is to fight total conflict. The 'violence' of the Palestinians, all of it, is 100% justified both historically and 'morally'. There is no other way.

The 'violence' of the Zionists, all of it, is 100% contemptible fascist brutality and criminal aggression.

Their 'solution' is even more corrupt, consciously exploiting any 'average common-sense opinion' on earth by going for the supposed "fifty-fifty mutual-tolerance compromise solution":

Yet every rational person knows that the only prospect of a just and lasting peace lies in Israel's recognition of the legitimacy of a Palestinian state and the Arab world's acceptance of a secure Israel behind its 1967 borders. That is what every peace plan proposes. But how to get from here to there? Is there anything that ordinary citizens, that is civil society, can do to bring pressure to bear to compel our governments and international institutions to move the peace process forward?

This is utterly cynical and sick Zionist gobshite, the total viciousness of imperialist global military tyranny in all its rotten glory.

All 100% of Palestine (as was until 1948) is 100% Palestinian, and always will be.

The colonialist limit these gents want everyone to call it quits at (Palestinians all confined to the West Bank and Gaza; Zionist colonisation getting all the rest up to the 1967 limits of their military conquests) would leave the Palestinian people with just 22% of their own homeland.

What a monstrous joke.

But there is even more harm than that in this sinister "even-handed 'peace' proposal" for the permanent humiliation, misery, and shame of the Palestinian nation.

These 'left' protesters have an even more vicious and demoralising purpose than their wretched condoning of the colonisation-theft of 78% of the land of Palestine from the Palestinian people, – and even more crucial than their predictable bourgeois orthodoxy in echoing the worldwide Western 'democratic' con-trick of getting the whole planet to "condemn violence" while the actual imperialist global military dictatorship gets on with brutalising everywhere into enforced submission, bit by bit.

Their big fraud is in so adamantly implying that there could not possibly be **any other solution** than for the Arabs and Zionists to "share" the land of Palestine (as was) (Some "sharing", - 78% to 22%!!).

Utter total nonsense. It is the one 'solution' which could obviously never work in practice; (where would the ousted Palestinian millions with no more home to go back to end up, – on the already overcrowded West Bank and Gaza? and

with already not enough water, or land, or manoeuvrability there for any tolerable life even for the Palestinian natives of Gaza and the West Bank????; it is a nonsense 'solution', meaning certain continuing anti-occupation conflict for the rest of time).

But worse still, what does such a hopeless temporary ceasefire compromise imply about the world as a whole??????

It implies that history never solves **any** problems, and that intolerable grievances must continue for ever.

This is the most monstrous philosophical brainwashing assault that could be conceived against the working class.

Unless it takes the power by revolution, the working class will remain the working class forever, perpetually exploited by the private monopoly-ownership total control of economic, political and social life by the ruling class, and forever doomed to an ever widening gap between rich and poor as an ever increasing percentage of total wealth is cornered by an ever narrowing Establishment of the super-rich.

These polite 'protesters' are telling the entire working class to remain wage slaves forever, always subject to the capriciousness of the hire-and-fire jobs market, and in times of crisis of 'over-production' crash and slump, facing certainly **falling** living standards and fraught prospects and likely inter-imperialist trade-war warmongering for the indefinite future, – all on the bourgeois philosophical basis that "nothing ever changes".

It is a stinking lie, of course. And it is the dramatic transformations within the crisis itself that are the only **ultimate** historical reality.

The whole pattern of national-liberation itself was set up by the great imperialist system

crisis of the 1930s (and its ensuing inter-imperialist World War II), with the anti-colonial liberation wars-struggle (to end direct Empire control) all proceeding from the blows to imperialism which that crisis represented.

The neo-colonial control of the American 'New World order' is the obvious next stage of imperialist tyranny which will be brought down by the next ludicrous crisis of monopoly-capitalist economic anarchy and trade-war destruction (accompanied by imperialist warmongering bluster and bullying, and inter-imperialist score settling, as the Great Diversion to stop the international working class turning to the socialist revolution as the only possible way forward for civilisation now).

These bourgeois 'protesters' sit right in the middle of this Great Diversion with their condoning of the continued Zionist US colonial-military tyranny over the Middle East, the key to which is the subjugation of the post 1940 seized territories of Palestine, the bits which have outrageously been re-titled 'Israel'.

And what is this 'protest' diversion protecting???

It is hoping to satisfy anti-imperialist hatred, rapidly spreading all round the Middle-East, by taking this joke "halfway-house" stand against Western bourgeois orthodoxy.

For where all revolutionary consciousness is undoubtedly heading is towards challenging the ludicrous "right" of this Zionist colonisation called 'Israel' to exist at all.

There is not a scrap of sensible rational justification in it of any kind, and as soon as the rotten nonsense of the 1948 imperialist imposed colonisation tyranny is challenged in its entirety, the obvious **only** solution (to the whole catastrophic business of

ethnically cleansing the entire Palestinian nation from the main heartland of their **own** country), – becomes immediately crystal clear.

The Zionist colonisation (and UN 1948 tyrannical decision) must be rescinded forthwith, and the whole Palestinian people restored to the **whole** of their rightful homeland.

And this is the consciousness, – the only sensible and rational one, – which is obviously on the advance.

And hence the objective historical role of all this middle-class 'peace mongering' is to stop all thinking and to con everyone with this non-existent 'compromise' daydream as rapidly as possible.

It won't work, and not because superior genuinely anti-imperialist propaganda can have a hope of counteracting all this diversionary bourgeois 'compromise' propaganda which the capitalist media are now promoting, – but because of the crisis itself, once again.

On the one hand, it is the growing crisis of confidence in the global imperialist economic and political system, (now a byword for destructive failure, corruption, inequality, and injustice), which is fuelling rising Palestinian anger at their miserable lot; which is in turn panicking Sharon Zionism to more and more vicious and desperate 'final solution' tyranny, even making the joke 'compromise' offer impossible from the Zionist side too.

And on the other hand, the panic within US imperialism at their system collapsing around them is driving Bush-Texan thug corruption towards ever insaner determination to blast its way out of global humiliation difficulties on the economic and political-control fronts, blasting half the world away with it if necessary. It is hardly capable of offering even



the joke 'compromise' itself.

And as the crisis deepens and as conditions get steadily harsher for everyone, in all directions, so will Palestinian national-liberation determination relentlessly harden towards **defeating** the Zionist imperialist illegal colonisation of its country **completely**.

The more the crisis pushes the Zionist imperialist tyranny to persecute Palestinian resistance evermore brutally and ruthlessly, the more will Palestinian consciousness harden on **total** liberation as the only possible solution to their never ending misery.

And the unbelievable heroism of the suicide-bombing determination shows that the mood is steadily growing for the Palestinian nation as a whole to be prepared to fight to the death rather than submit to colonisation tyranny any longer.

And in the epoch of imperialist humiliating crises and of anti-colonial national-liberation triumphs, there can be only one possible outcome to this struggle.

This ludicrous anachronistic Zionist-US colonisation tyranny is utterly doomed.

This all places the bourgeois 'protesting' gents objectively in the camp of counter-revolution.

And it shows in other ways too.

Likening an anti-apartheid boycott of Zionist colonialism to the Nazi boycott of Jewish shops in Hitler Germany is not merely "hyperbole", or merely on a par with rival bourgeois-press accusations against the protesting gents of "anti-semitism" (a joke when both are Jewish **and** Zionist believers in a state of 'Israel' on colonised Palestine soil).

This monstrous *Guardian* slander is the real Hitlerism, and it needs examining.

If you are going to tell a lie, tell a big one, said the Nazis.

The stupid shallow essence of this new fascist-imperialist warmongering game is to not simply disallow any discussion of the original disastrous UN decision to agree to the colonisation of Palestine by Western Zionism in the first place, but to resolutely refuse to recognise that any such question even exists.

The Maoist Revolution's historically-justified decision that Tibet and Formosa (Taiwan) were originally part of China and should be reincorporated into the healthy

and competent workers-state established in 1949 (and a 'reasonable' decision too in the light of endless imperialist subversion of the workers states via 'dissident' provinces) has been **endlessly** challenged by the West, and still is. Even China's right to its **own** seat on the UN Security Council was challenged by US imperialism for more than 20 years, and systematically vetoed.

But Zionland's "right" since 1948 to **colonise** by Jewish conquest a completely foreign land (for nearly 2000 years), - now **that** mustn't be challenged dictates imperialism.

But how is this **big lie** presented? In exactly the same way as imperialist aggression presented such warmongering matters in the system's last great collapse-crisis of the 1930s, - present it Hitler Germany style.

And who better to present this 'cause' for starting world war, (echoing the German 'grievance' demands for the return of Sudetenland and Silesia and Saarland, etc, etc, to their 'rightful German heritage'), - than today's most "liberal" capitalist press spin-doctors, contentedly flourishing under the US imperialist "New World Order" (Hitler's concepts for imperialist world-domination used almost identical words)

Freedland is hurling poisonous fascist-imperialist garbage, not hyperbole.

The 1930s Jews were stateless specific **victims** of tyranny (among **many** specific victims of Nazi tyranny, - Slavs, Gypsies, Communists, trade-unionists, homosexuals, etc, etc, among them).

The issue now is a Zionist colonial **state** which is **creating** victims (the Palestinian nation).

Trying to invent a 'Jewish boycott' comparability in these two absolutely different historical contexts and in the service of Western imperialist warmongering-aggression is the German imperialist-tyranny's own **big lie** technique at its very worst. And the *Guardian*'s sick Goebbelsian feature-writing also needs telling that the only valid historical comparison is how most of the Western bourgeois world **kept silent** about growing imperialist warmongering tyranny and fascist ideological extremism in the 1930s, **just like** most of the Western bourgeoisie are **keeping silent** about growing US imperialist (and Zionist)

warmongering tyranny in this new crisis of the degenerate global-exploitation system.

But the *Guardian* is not even the worst of the recruits to this international CIA brainwashing campaign. The doyen of 'liberal journalism' Harold Evans, has been leading this demented Goebbels-speak:

It is not anti-Semitic to raise questions about Jenin, no more than it is anti-press to raise questions about the reporting. It is not anti-Semitic to report and protest at ill treatment of Palestinians. It is not anti-Semitic to consider whether Sharon's past belies his promises for the future. It is not anti-Semitic to deplore the long occupation, though originally brought about by the Arab leaders who initiated and lost three wars.

It IS anti-Semitic to vilify the estate of Israel as a diabolical abstraction, reserving tolerance for the individual Jew but not the collective Jew; it IS anti-Semitic to invent malignant outrages; it is anti-Semitic consistently to condemn in Israel what you ignore or condone elsewhere; it is, above all, anti-Semitic to de-humanise Judaism and the Jewish people such as to incite and justify their extermination.

What wretched imperialist warmongering special pleading. It is merely preposterously puffing-up a more sly way of saying that Evans (and incidentally US imperialism and the CIA) does not think that the 1948 UN decision to allow the forcible colonisation by Zionism of the land of Palestine ought to be reopened for discussion.

As Aunt Sallies, he sets up some of the clumsier ways in which anti-Zionism can be expressed.

But what is the big deal here? Since 1917, every workers state which has ever existed has been forced to put up with exaggeration and vilification a billion times worse than some of the inevitable hyperbole with which world consciousness is beginning to understand the need for anti-Zionism in the present grotesque **international** warmongering crisis which sick and dying imperialism (with the American ruling class and the Zionists as the main pacemakers) is now trying to inflict on civilisation.

Evans' deceitful expansion of the 'anti-Semitism' denunciation in the service of CIA/Goebbels brainwashing will only help spread more really mindless anti-Jewish prejudices.

And what also needs naming as another unhelpful **source** of racism???

Where does this specious,

double-think, Goebbelsian bilge come from???:

Afrikaner devotees of the Springboks may have been firm backers of apartheid: depriving them of international rugby had a logic. Hitting a bastion of the Israeli opposition makes no sense. Fine judgements like that are essential. A boycott of goods produced in Israeli settlements on the West Bank or Gaza would be hard to oppose - indeed there is a domestic Israeli campaign on these very lines. But it brings new problems, even besides the unfortunate connotations of a boycott of Jewish goods. There is plenty of false labelling of settlers' produce as Israeli and, when an item is honestly identified, there's always a chance it was made in the West Bank by a Palestinian company. So right-thinking Islington shoppers could be depriving the very people they want to help.

In other words, sanctions and boycotts are a messy, contradictory business. Far better, in all but the most extreme cases, to deal with those nations we disagree with through dialogue and engagement, rather than ostracism and chilly exile.

From the great 'liberal' anti-apartheid-campaigning *Guardian*, of course, oh-so politically-correctly allowing this demented **race prejudice** licence to one of its own Jewish feature-writers.

Sharon is fired up by exactly the same degenerate logic: "How can you, how dare you, criticise the Jews for **anything**", etc, etc.

With such "chosen people" self-righteousness, the Jews have sometimes been their own worst enemy.

And it is **fascist** to term it 'anti-semitic' to say so.

Growing revolutionary hostility to Zionist imperialist warmongering for 'solving' monopoly capitalism's crisis has forced the talented and deservedly much-praised fake-'left' Pilger to make some more interesting anti-Western waves:

The fanatics who attacked America came from Saudi Arabia and Egypt. No bombs fell on these American protectorates. Instead, more than 5,000 civilians have been bombed to death in stricken Afghanistan, the latest a wedding party of 40 people, mostly women and children. Not a single al-Qaeda leader of importance has been caught.

Following this 'stunning victory', hundreds of prisoners were shipped to an American concentration camp in Cuba, where they have been held against all the conventions of war and international law. No evidence of their alleged crimes has been produced, and the FBI confirms only one is a genuine suspect. In the United States, more



than 1,000 people of Muslim background have 'disappeared'; none has been charged. Under the draconian Patriot Act, the FBI's new powers include the authority to go into libraries and ask who is reading what.

Meanwhile, the Blair government has made fools of the British Army by insisting they pursue warring tribesmen: exactly what squaddies in putties and pith helmets did over a century ago when Lord Curzon, Viceroy of India, described Afghanistan as one of the 'pieces on a chessboard upon which is being played out a great game for the domination of the world'.

There is no war on terrorism; it is the great game speeded up. The difference is the rampant nature of the superpower, ensuring infinite dangers for us all.

HAVING SWEEPED the Palestinians into the arms of the supreme terrorist Ariel Sharon, the Christian Right fundamentalists running the plutocracy in Washington, now replenish their arsenal in preparation for an attack on the 22 million suffering people of Iraq. Should anyone need reminding, Iraq is a nation held hostage to an American-led embargo every bit as barbaric as the dictatorship over which Iraqis have no control. Contrary to propaganda orchestrated from Washington and London, the coming attack has nothing to do with Saddam Hussein's 'weapons of mass destruction', if these exist at all. The reason is that America wants a more compliant thug to run the world's second greatest source of oil.

The drum-beaters rarely mention this truth, and the people of Iraq. Everyone is Saddam Hussein, the demon of demons. Four years ago, the Pentagon warned President Clinton that an all-out attack on Iraq might kill 'at least' 10,000 civilians: that, too, is unmentionable. In a sustained propaganda campaign to justify this outrage, journalists on both sides of the Atlantic have been used as channels, 'conduits', for a stream of rumours and lies. These have ranged from false claims about an Iraqi connection with the anthrax attacks in America to a discredited link between the leader of the 11 September hijacks and Iraqi intelligence. When the attack comes, these consorting journalists will share responsibility for the crime.

Imperialism and the global expansion of the western powers

were represented in unambiguously positive terms as a 'major contributor to human civilisation.' The quest went wrong when it was clear that fascism was imperialism, too, and the word vanished from academic discourse. In the best Stalinist tradition, imperialism no longer existed. Today, the preferred euphemism is 'civilisation'; or if an adjective is required, 'cultural'.

From Italy's Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, an ally of crypto-fascists, to impeccably liberal commentators, the new imperialists share a concept whose true meaning relies on a xenophobic or racist comparison with those who are deemed uncivilised, culturally inferior and might challenge the 'values' of the West. Watch the 'debates' on *Newsnight*. The question is how best 'we' can deal with the problem of 'them'.

For much of the western media, especially those commentators in thrall to and neutered by the superpower of America, the most salient truths remain taboos. Professor Richard Falk, of Cornell University, put it succinctly some years ago. Western foreign policy, he wrote, is propagated in the media through a self righteous, one-way moral/legal screen 'positive images of western values and innocence portrayed as threatened, validating a campaign of unrestricted violence'.

Perhaps the most important taboo is the longevity of the United States as both a terrorist state and a haven for terrorists. That the US is the only state on record to have been condemned by the World Court for international terrorism (in Nicaragua) and has vetoed a UN Security Council resolution calling on governments to observe international law, is unmentionable.

'In the war against terrorism,' said Bush from his bunker following 11 September, 'we're going to hunt down these evil-doers wherever they are, no matter how long it takes.'

Strictly speaking, it should not take long, as more terrorists are given training and sanctuary in the United States than anywhere on earth. They include mass murderers, torturers, former and future tyrants and assorted international criminals. This is virtually unknown to the American public, thanks to the freest media on earth.

There is no terrorist sanctuary to compare with Florida, currently governed by the President's

brother, Jeb Bush. In his book *Rogue State*, former senior State Department official Bill Blum describes a typical Florida trial of three anti-Castro terrorists, who hijacked a plane to Miami at knife-point. 'Even though the kidnapped pilot was brought back from Cuba to testify against the men,' he wrote, 'the defence simply told the jurors the man was lying, and the jury deliberated for less than an hour before acquitting the defendants.'

General Jose Guillermo Garcia has lived comfortably in Florida since the 1990s. He was head of El Salvador's military during the 1980s when death squads with ties to the army murdered thousands of people. General Prosper Avril, the Haitian dictator, liked to display the bloodied victims of his torture on television. When he was overthrown, he was flown to Florida by the US Government. Thiounn Prasith, Pol Pot's henchman and apologist at the United Nations, lives in New York. General Mansour Moharari, who ran the Shah of Iran's notorious prisons, is wanted in Iran, but untroubled in the United States.

AL-QAEDA'S TRAINING camps in Afghanistan were kindergartens compared with the world's leading university of terrorism at Fort Benning in Georgia. Known until recently as the School of the Americas, it trained tyrants and some 60,000 Latin American special forces, paramilitaries and intelligence agents in the black arts of terrorism.

In 1993, the UN Truth Commission on El Salvador named the army officers who had committed the worst atrocities of the civil war; two-thirds of them had been trained at Fort Benning. In Chile, the school's graduates ran Pinochet's secret police and three principal concentration camps. In 1996, the US government was forced to release copies of the school's training manuals, which recommended blackmail, torture, execution and the arrest of witnesses' relatives.

In recent months, the Bush regime has torn up the Kyoto treaty, which would ease global warming, to which the United States is the greatest contributor. It has threatened the use of nuclear weapons in 'pre-emptive' strikes (a threat echoed by Defence Minister Geoffrey Hoon). It has tried to abort the birth of an international criminal court. It has further undermined the United Nations by blocking a UN investigation of the Israeli assault on a Palestinian refugee camp; and it has ordered the Palestinians to replace their elected leader with an American stooge. At summit conferences in Canada and Indonesia, Bush's people have blocked hundreds of millions of dollars going to the most deprived people on earth, those without clean water and electricity.

These facts will no doubt beckon the inane slur of 'anti-Americanism'. This is the imperial prerogative:

the last refuge of those whose contortion of intellect and morality demands a loyalty oath. As Noam Chomsky has pointed out, the Nazis silenced argument and criticism with 'anti-German' slurs. Of course, the United States is not Germany; it is the home of some of history's greatest civil rights movements, such as the epic movement in the 1960s and 1970s. I was in the US last week and glimpsed that other America, the one rarely seen among the media and Hollywood stereotypes, and what was clear was that it was stirring again.

The other day, in an open letter to their compatriots and the world, almost 100 of America's most distinguished names in art, literature and education wrote this: 'Let it not be said that people in the United States did nothing when their government declared a war without limit and instituted stark new measures of repression. We believe that questioning, criticism and dissent must be valued and protected. Such rights are always contested and must be fought for. We, too, watched with shock the horrific events of September 11. But the mourning had barely begun when our leaders launched a spirit of revenge. The government now openly prepares to wage war on Iraq - a country that has no connection with September 11.'

'We say this to the world. Too many times in history people have waited until it was too late to resist. We draw on the inspiration of those who fought slavery and all those other great causes of freedom that began with dissent. We call on all like-minded people around the world to join us.'

What this useful propaganda lacks, of course, is as always any serious attempt to come to grips with the class-war reality of history.

The destruction of imperialism only ever comes across as the province of clever journalism.

In such clever circles, the dictatorship of the proletariat is usually either religiously ignored as 'Marxist gobbledegook' or its weaknesses/mistakes exploited as an academic-intellectual "we oppose tyranny of all kinds" fence-sitting clean bill of health.

Pilger is cleverer than most, and sometimes manages to avoid the cruder "we condemn Sept 11 terrorism" sick class-collaborative Western cringing that the entire rest of the fake-'left' have fallen for.

But the anti-theory philistinism remains as debilitating as ever:

"The United States is not Germany".

Nonchalantly adding "of course" is fine for imbecile-level logic or geography, but dozens more historical com-

parisons between imperialist crisis 2002 and imperialist crisis 1930s need examining more purposefully. Assassination, subversion? Coup-making? Military expansionism? Secret-police surveillance at home? Foreign agents in every country? Global economic exploitation?? Contempt for international courts and world opinion? Blitzkrieg aerial destruction of defenceless regimes declared 'hostile'? An ideologically batty and arrogantly corrupt ruling elite? An insane international war-mongering mission? Etc, etc, etc, etc???

Opportunists like Pilger can start to be taken seriously when they can be heard using their platform to argue for the rights of the dispossessed

Marxism's social-revolution basis for any worthwhile political or economic analysis is ignored by fake-'lefts' to help conceal their practical, reformist, class-collaboration-with-imperialism stances now, and their rotten class collaboration-with-imperialism origins in Revisionism and Trotskyism. Defence of Arafatite class-collaborative weakness in Palestine is another smokescreen to prevent revolutionary light being shed on the Revisionist insanity which agreed to Zionist colonisation of Palestine in the first place, in 1948. The worldwide dictatorial tyranny against any criticism of "Israel" is undermining the fight to separate anti-Zionism from anti-semitism. The "two-state solution" remains a sinister, sick, reformist hoax aimed only at destroying revolutionary anti-capitalist understanding. The class essence of life in imperialist crisis Greater Palestine means that the Jews can NEVER take their boot off the Palestinian neck. It will be removed by revolution (No 1146 30-07-02).

There is not a 'left' reformist group in the West (and beyond) which does not revel in the exposure (repeatedly) of imperialism's oil exploitation tyranny.

But what they **all** conspire to keep quiet about is that rational solutions will **not** be found. In the reality of the class-war real world, 'rational' (i.e. reformist) solutions are **impossible**.

to fight with terrorism or any other weapons they can lay their hands on for combating intolerable tyranny, and when they can be heard hammering the rest of the fake-'left' for its miserable cowardice in going along with the West's Goebbels lying arrogance demanding that "terrorism be condemned".

It might be a long wait, but meanwhile imperialism will still not stop losing more than it gains from having to encourage these fake-'lefts' so as to hold the anti-Leninist line.

And with capitalism's catastrophic economic crisis news currently seemingly never-ending, the deliberate study and spreading of Leninist scientific understanding could not be more appropriate. EPSPR



in Lebanon, the Gulf war, the war in the Balkans and the war in Afghanistan presently being conducted with characteristic brutality by US and British imperialism,"

etc, etc, sound very fiercely 'left', and anti-capitalist, and even 'revolutionary', – but in today's all important context of the international balance of class forces and class ideologies, they are hollow.

The 'news' of this grab-for-oil by imperialism has been old hat to Marxist analysis precisely since the grabbing began more than 100 years ago. This pattern of human and territorial conflict has been the whole basis for the entire historical epoch of colonial imperialism.

But even such slightly pompous and pointlessly one-sided emphases as these would hardly be worth a mention or a second glance if it were not for their origin.

They are publicity-leafleted extracts promoting "the launch of this very important book" put out by a fake-'left' sect whose problems are the epitome of the entire anti-revolutionary swamp which for generations has been undermining serious anti-imperialism ideologically throughout the world, corrupting and bringing down the Soviet workers state eventually.

And the *Lalkar* backbone of the wretched Scargillite SLP is not merely recycling as

usual its safe old Revisionist "anti-imperialist" propaganda with this book, but is also scrambling a bit desperately too to keep upright because world developments are now shining their harshest light on the very compromise deals of old Stalinist rottenness which helped set up this horribly confused and tortuously dangerous Middle East imperialist powder-keg in the first place in 1948 by insanely agreeing to allow Zionist agents from Western imperialism to come in and colonise Palestine.

The big issue *Lalkar* is on the spot over is the continuing contemporary running-sore of the explosive Middle East situation (which exactly reflects and draws attention to that original impossible nonsense which was foisted on the region of allowing Zionist colonisation to proceed), – namely the mythical "two-state solution" which is inevitably proving equally impossible to fulfil.

The only positive way to get out of the Third International's Revisionist quagmire of the class-collaborative "peaceful road to socialism" plus Zionist "sharing" of Palestine, etc,- (opened up by the projected "economic disintegration of imperialism" in the face of "superior planned socialist economic competition"), was

by returning to the Marxist-Leninist science (of imperialist boom/slump recurring warmongering crises as the driving force of historical developments), and totally denouncing these hopelessly rotten Stalinist 'theories'.

The whole essence of the entire fake-'left', in all its 57 varieties of Trotskyism, centrism, museum-Stalinism, etc, etc, lies in this philistine unwillingness/inability to return to Marxist-Leninist revolutionary theory. They all endlessly evade that whole question wherever possible, and cover up relentlessly each sect's rotten Revisionist and/or Trotskyist origins.

Posturing ruses about oil, or about the CIA itself doing Sept 11, or about Genoa anti-global anarchists being police stooges, or Hamas and Sharon serving each others needs, etc, etc, etc, are not necessarily without a scrap of truth in all of them, hinting at the sort of non-stop reactionary provocations which the imperialist system won the Cold War with; – but they all **deliberately** miss the point.

The great historical question to be faced by the whole world is whether or not capitalism's injustices can be resolved through piecemeal reformist pressure (as all parliamentarianism has always pretended, including Revisionism, Scargillite syndicalism, and all centrism and Trotskyism in practice (with the SWP support for 'left'-Labour candidates; or Trot entryism into the Labour Party, etc, etc)), – or whether on the contrary the Marxist science of history is what needs to be followed which **only** ever tried to teach **revolutionary** understanding in all things as the sole possible way forward for civilisation, building on the ruins of warmongering imperialist slump destruction.

As typically dithering middle-class tendencies who are unhappy to stick their necks out any further than the most 'left' trade unionist (petty bourgeois compromise) mentality, the entire fake-'left' spends its whole time putting more and more effort into merely posturing about how "anti-imperialist" they really are, – but, of course, without ever finally telling the working class whether the world is heading for rational reform, or total, final, global warmongering, revolutionary upheaval.

What does it matter? Well

the bourgeois class-war ideologists have not the slightest doubt that smashing the working-class resistance to slump and war is one thing when the proletariat has been totally disarmed worldwide by generations of Revisionism (and its fake-'left' echoes) into always expecting 'left-pressure reforms' to inevitably finally win the day for sanity and reason – but that taking on an international working class which has deliberately been made **conscious** that revolution is the only possible and sensible answer when capitalist crisis degenerates into its slump-warmongering phase, – is another level of difficulty entirely.

Hence the huge recent bourgeois-press puff pieces for Lula in Brazil and for Tommy Sheridan in Scotland, as just two examples.

What is imperialism hoping to gain by bulling-up this type of "socialist Firebrand"?

Why, endless new Salvador Allendes, of course, – crucial when capitalist crisis conditions have become hopelessly bad but the working class still needs harmlessly diverting aside into safe 'reformist day-dream' backwaters where they can be trussed up at leisure, as Pinochet did in Chile after Allende handed him the Chilean working class on a plate by lulling them with crap that "firm parliamentary reforms can do it", etc, etc, – just like the SSP, Lula, the Socialist Alliance, *Lalkar's* SLP, etc, all say.

In addition to completely disarming the working class about the scientific historical nature of the epochal leap facing mankind, overthrowing the capitalist bourgeoisie in order to make a **revolutionary** socialist transformation to a world of planned rational sufficiency for all (out of the destructive and unjust chaos of imperialism's markets-collapse warmongering slump), – the fake-'left' also undermine workers with the **defeatist** essence of all these conspiracy theories.

A vitally important part of reality is the increasingly grotesque degenerate **incompetence** and distracted or self-satisfied **stupidity** of the imperialist system as it crashes in crisis yet again.

But what is conveyed when we hear from *Lalkar's* North-West SLP stablemates, for example, that US imperialism was not taken by surprise and totally shell-shocked by

Sept 11 at all, but that the CIA planned, organised, and carried out the whole thing itself, just in order to fabricate some excuse for a "war on terrorism" so that it could blitzkrieg the Middle East???

And what is conveyed when the fake-'left' declare that the Yugoslav-Balkan wars were completely imperialist-manufactured from start to finish as part of some deliberate grandiose American war plan for ultimate US military domination and territorial colonisation to build massive oil-supply pipelines from ex-Soviet Central Asia to the 'safe' Adriatic?????????

Or what are we to conclude about imperialist competence when entire sustained revolutions are sometimes presented by fake-'lefts' as all the deceitful pre-emptive work of imperialist intelligence, – as some Trots used to say about the entire Russian Revolution, for example?????

Or how clever is CIA-Zionist imperialism to have "invented" Hamas and other Islamic terrorist guerrillas just in order to play into Sharon's hands, etc, etc, etc???????

Deep-down, unstated, – the only possible conclusion to draw from all this is that (a) no spontaneous own-goal, enemy-action disasters ever befall the imperialist system; and that (b) the imperialists never-endingly plan and successfully carry out such brilliantly masterful subterfuges that only the maddest day-dreamers could ever think that something like the Bolshevik Revolution would ever be allowed by imperialism ever to succeed again; etc, etc, etc.

And this ludicrous petty bourgeois defeatism streak within the fake-'left' by no means stops with their barmy conspiracy-fantasies.

From the SLP to the Trots, their 'super-revolutionary' self-conceit has seen them all contemptuously dismiss the remarkable Good Friday Agreement achievements (of Sinn Féin and the IRA's triumphant 30-year guerrilla-war struggle) as a "failed peace process" and "routed by a US-imperialist imposed settlement", etc, etc, etc, – but always refusing to answer the huge volumes of evidence that the *EPSR* has consistently presented, demonstrating how the hated and discredited old colonial dictatorship of bogus 'Northern Ireland' has been fatally

undermined by the 30-year guerrilla war revolutionary triumph which, via the Good Friday Agreement, will lead to the reunification of Ireland in our lifetime, and probably much sooner.

The entire fake-'left' have all equally declared the "terrorist" onslaught on US imperialism also to be a "failure" and to be "condemned", utterly missing the point (because spontaneous worldwide revolutionary upsurges are a concept completely alien to their "TU organised left pressure reformist" thinking) that the proletariat of the whole planet has been intrigued, stimulated, and delighted by this audacious "terrorist" resistance to US imperialist domination (and equally by Hamas, etc, "terrorist" resistance to Zionist imperialist domination), etc.

And finally, on top of all this anti-revolutionary disarming that the fake-'left' devotes all its energies to, and the conspiracy fantasising, plus all the pure defeatism, this Revisionist smokescreen for avoiding facing up to their crap philosophical petty bourgeoisness, (as exemplified by the still monstrous but still uncorrected Stalinist theoretical mistakes), actually gets the detailed workings of imperialist destructive warmongering wrong too when it exclusively emphasises the oil question.

It will open a far more revolutionarily educative perspective for working-class anti-imperialist understanding if the likely future 'over-production' of oil were looked at instead of speculative militarization scenarios about imperialism conducting foreign policy with an eye to securing (as it has always done for more than a century) guaranteed future oil supplies (or whatever), etc.

It is a complete misunderstanding of Marxism to imply that the imperialist system is in crisis, focused on the Middle East in particular ("all the burning questions of war and peace in this area") because of territorial oil-pipeline frustrations, or whatever.

US warmongering is on the march (in the Middle East and everywhere) because its global economic system (and therefore political control) is falling apart due to an insane "overproduction" crisis of collapsing profits.

It is the total productive basis of the capitalist class system of society which is in

trouble, and not its oil-supplies at all, or any other particular problem or requirement.

Such a major global industry as oil will of course always be a significant incidental detailed feature of some of the actual workings of the imperialist crisis, – but it lets **capitalism itself** off the hook entirely, and is a **complete travesty** of Marxism, to pointless pretend that oil as such “unlocks the door to an understanding of all the burning questions of war and peace in this area”.

And it is well worth pedantically insisting on this point when the wretched reason for this fake-‘left’ oil industry concentration is so as to distract attention from the insoluble **human** political disaster in Palestine, which much more graphically and interestingly reveals the revolutionary future of the world to mankind, & which much more requires a history of rotten imperialist/Revisionist-era **philosophy** as its deeper explanation rather than oil (which **directly** does not motivate the Palestinian **revolution** one bit, the key to the only real **solution** to “all the burning questions of war and peace in this area” by pointing the way to the **defeat** of imperialist warmongering).

If there really is a need for aphoristic shorthand to sum up the Middle East focal point of imperialist crisis, which is key to the world imperialist crisis, that word would be **Palestinian revolution**, and not oil.

And one of the main ingredients making this so is, once again, not oil but something even more permanent, and timeless, and material, – namely the unalterable political-philosophy of colonial-imperialism, – the essential political-economic human relationship of capitalist production (a key to civilisation for the last 800 years, much longer than oil) which incurably imposes the ‘kill-or-be-killed’ class-war material imperative on (ultimately) the whole character of the whole of society or else it can no longer remain capitalism (class-war and national-war domination).

This irresistible material imperative forces the Zionist ruling class to keep its boot on the neck of its exploited Palestinian subjects (and their exploited lands) or else ‘Israel’ will be no more.

It will be claimed that such stark ‘clever sounding’ theory does not get reflected in the



Israeli soldier applies his boot to a door during a search for Palestinian militants in the Balata refugee camp.

typical fudge and mudge of class-compromising confused reality.

Just the opposite. If it is insisted that a capitalist ‘Israel’ remain a reality, then it can be incontrovertibly deduced that as night follows day, the persecution of the Palestinians can **never** come to an end.

Minus any philosophical deductions, the capitalist press’s own ‘reports’ of the region invariably agree with this conclusion, or point to it.

And for example, just take the very latest incident out of this week’s coverage, not a major event, and not a specially selected cutting, – but absolutely typical of the insoluble **essence** of the human problem in the Middle East (which will not go away (oil or no oil) and will not go away from any other part of the world either (oil or no oil)), – the **material** problem of the human ingredients which make up 800 years of capitalism simply being no longer compatible. **Revolution** is inevitable:

Jewish settlers began attacking Palestinians as they returned home yesterday from the funeral of an Israeli soldier, shooting dead a 14-year-old girl and wounding several others in the West Bank city of Hebron, Palestinians said.

They said the settlers began attacking shortly after the funeral in Hebron’s Old City, throwing stones at houses and cars, and breaking windows.

Nizim Jamjoum, 14, was standing on the balcony of her home when she was shot in the head and died, said her brother Marwan, 26, who was injured.

At least six Palestinians were hurt, including one who was stabbed, Palestinians said. The Israeli army said it was only aware of one injured Palestinian, and that he had received treatment from the troops. It said it was trying to reduce the tension in Hebron, where several hundred Jewish settlers live among more than 100,000 Palestinians.

The city was shut down for the funeral of Elazar Leibovitz, a Hebron resident, who was one of four Israelis shot dead on Friday in an ambush.

Before the funeral Israeli forces reimposed a curfew by throwing stun grenades and firing teargas to disperse Palestinians crowding the main market area.

In Burkin, south-west of Jenin, Israeli soldiers arrested Mohammed Abu Tabikh, 22, a member of the military wing of Islamic Jihad, and two others in the village of Burkin, south-west of Jenin, members of the group said.

The soldiers ordered the family of Majid Tayeb, a member of the al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, to leave the family home in the village. Tayeb was killed a year ago when a stolen

car he had recently bought blew up with him inside.

After the family’s departure tanks destroyed the building with shellfire, Palestinians in the village said. The army said it was checking the report.

Two cars outside the home of Mohammed Afaneh, a Hamas member arrested 20 days ago were blown up by the troops, residents said.

In Ramallah Israeli special forces arrested a prominent Hamas figure, Hussein Abu Kwaik, and four other members. In March Mr Abu Kwaik’s wife and three children, 10, 12 and 13, were killed by an Israeli tank shell as she drove them home from school in Ramallah.

To stretch a point, the colonising ruling-class **might** be got out of Hebron (beyond the 1967 military-conquest front line, the last ‘compromise’ point that idiotic “lets-call-it-quits” arguments generally go back to (and obviously illogically to all serious Zionists)).

But getting the colonising ruling class away from the Hebron flashpoints (and possibly scores of other flashpoints too) cannot possibly alter the capitalist ruling-class productive reality of this country, which is that the Zionists will dominate, and the Palestinians (and **all** their lands, – lost before, or lost since) will remain the eternal exploited underdogs,

creating more and more flash-points exponentially as their relentlessly **transformed** proletarian status (after 800 years of accumulating working-class culture of resentment and fightback against exploitation and class-discrimination) increasingly makes class-domination no longer tolerable.

The 'two-state solution' Revisionist cop-out (which this *Lalkar* oil smokescreen is shamelessly being used to conceal or distract attention from) is just a silly reformist fantasy.

Even if the Palestinians were ever weak enough, or divided enough, or stupid enough to enact out the pretence of having their "own, independent state" (when, in reality it will be totally subjugated to past Zionist military conquests and to current Zionist "security" demands, of all invasive and humiliating kinds), – the only **economic** reality would quickly become total Zionist-imperialist market domination once again (and for as long as the international capitalist system lasts).

And in an epoch of **worsening** economic crisis everywhere anyway, (which is producing more and more revolutions and national/civil wars everywhere as it is), – why would the already-fired-up and hate-filled Palestinian masses not **immediately** start demanding the revolutionary overthrow of the Zionist ruling class again anyway????

Only in the eternal 'left'-reformist fantasies of the fake-'Marxist' petty bourgeois world can such ludicrously unlikely proposals as a "two-state solution" be taken even remotely seriously.

Other fake-'lefts' are already chiming in against this Marxist-Leninist revolutionary perspective with chants of "anti-semitism", but purely irrational prejudice against Jews as such has nothing whatever to do with it.

It is not anti-semitic to denounce modern Zionism as incurably condemnable colonialism, now indelibly stained with fascist aggressiveness out of the very contradiction that the founding itself of the state of 'Israel' inevitably places **all** the Jews of Palestine in. Concentrating on the Neturei Karta exception (and other 'peace' campaigners) only emphasises the **absolute** rule that if **any** state of 'Israel' exists in Palestine under capitalism, then it will **inevitably**

be a colonial-domination state of **permanent** exploitation of the Palestinians and their lands ('present' lands, and 'past' lands (only in still living memory)) which the modern anti-imperialist world is not going to be able to tolerate much longer **anywhere** on the planet, let alone the explosive and resentment filled Middle East.

And when it comes to deranged prejudices, dredged up from the foulest historical pits of backward human culture, then anti-semitism and semitism (including the recent massacres at Jenin and Gaza City, and the non-stop **humiliation** (home destructions, checkpoints, etc, etc, – see above capitalist press report and a million other such reports over the years)) seem almost equally contemptible obscurantisms which more advanced human culture could usefully remain critical of to everyone's benefit, – as this following capitalist press report inadvertently would seem to indicate:

Inside the First Congregational Church of Berkeley, the Californian audience had been struck silent. Dennis Bernstein, the Jewish host of KPFA Radio's *Flashpoint*, current affairs programme, was reading some recent e-mails that he had received from Israel's supporters in America. Each one left the people in the church – Muslims, Jews, Christians in a state of shock.

"You mother-fucking-asshole-self-hating Jewish piece of shit. Hitler killed the wrong Jews. He should have killed your parents, so a piece of Jewish shit like you would not have been born. God willing, Arab terrorists will cut you to pieces Daniel Pearl-style, AMEN!!!!"

Bernstein's sin was to have covered the story of Israel's invasion of Jenin in April and to have interviewed journalists who investigated the killings that took place there – including Phil Reeves and Justin Huggler of *The Independent*, – for his *Flashpoint* programme. Bernstein's grandfather was a revered Orthodox Rabbi of international prominence but neither his family history nor his origins spared him.

"Read this and weep, you mother-fucker self-hating Jew boy!!!!" another e-mail told Bernstein. "God willing a Palestinian will murder you, rape your wife and slash your kids' throats." Yet another: "I hope that you, Barbara Lubin and all other Jewish Marxist Communist traitors anti-American cop haters will die a violent and cruel death just like the victims of suicide bombers in Israel."

Lubin is also Jewish, the executive director of the Middle East Children's Alliance, a one-time



RIFLE-WHIPPED — An Israeli soldier striking a Palestinian youth with his rifle on Thursday during violent confrontation over land rights that took place near the Jewish settlement of Morag in the Gaza St

committed Zionist but now one of Israel's fiercest critics. Her e-mails are even worse.

Indeed, you have to come to America to realise just how brave this small but vocal Jewish community is. Bernstein is the first to acknowledge that a combination of Israeli lobbyists and conservative Christian fundamentalists have in effect censored all free discussion on Israel and the Middle East out of the public domain in the US.

"Everyone else is terrified," Bernstein says. "The only ones who begin to open their mouths are the Jews in this country. You know, as a kid, I sent money to plant trees in Israel. But now we are horrified by a government representing a country that we grew up loving and cherishing. Israel's defenders have a special vengeance for Jews who don't fall in line behind Sharon's scorched-earth policy because they give the lie to the charge that Israel's critics are simply anti-Semite."

Adam Shapiro is among those who have paid a price for their beliefs. He is a Jew engaged to an American-born Palestinian, a volunteer with the International Solidarity Movement who was trapped in Yasser Arafat's headquarters in the spring while administering medical aid. After telling CNN that the Sharon government was acting like "terrorists" while receiving \$3bn a year in US military aid, Shapiro and his family were savaged in the *New York Post*. The paper slandered Shapiro as the "Jewish Taliban" and demeaned his family as "traitors".

Israeli supporters publicised his family's address and his parents were forced to flee their Brooklyn home and seek police protection. Shapiro's father, a New York public high-school teacher and a part-time Yeshiva (Jewish day school) teacher, was fired from his job. His brother receives regular death threats.

Israel's supporters have no qualms about their alliance with the Christian right. Indeed, the fundamentalists can campaign on their own in Israel's favour, as I discovered for myself at Stanford recently when I was about to give a lecture on the media and the

Israeli-Palestinian conflict, part of a series of talks arranged largely by Jewish Americans. A right-wing Christian "Free Republic" outfit posted my name on its website, and described me as a "PLO butt-kisser" and asked its supporters to "free" my lecture. A few demonstrators turned up outside the First United Methodist Church in Sacramento where I was to speak, waving American and Israeli flags. "Jew haters!" they screamed at the organisers, a dark irony since these were non-Jews shrieking their abuse at Jews.

They were also handing out crudely printed flyers. "Nothing to worry about, Bob," one of my Jewish hosts remarked. "They can't even spell your name right." True. But also false. "Stop the Lies!" the leaflet read. "There was no massacre in Jenin. Fiske [sic] is paid big bucks to spin [lie] for the Arabs..." But the real lie was in that last sentence. I never take any payment for lectures – so that no one can ever claim that I'm paid to give the views of others. But the truth didn't matter to these people. Nor did the content of my talk which began, by chance, with the words "There was no massacre" – in which I described Arafat as a "corrupt, vain little despot" and suicide bombings as "a fearful, evil weapon". None of this was relevant. The aim was to shut me up.

Dennis Bernstein sums it up quite simply: "Any US journalist, columnist, editor, college professor, student-activist, public official or clergy member who dares to speak critically of Israel or accurately report the brutalities of its illegal occupation will be vilified as an anti-Semite." In fact, no sooner had Bernstein made these remarks than pro-Israeli groups initiated an extraordinary campaign against some of the most pro-Israeli newspapers in America, all claiming that *The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times* and the *San Francisco Chronicle* were biased in their coverage of the Middle-East conflict. Just how *The New York Times* – which boasts William Safire and Charles Krauthammer, those giants of pro-Israeli bias, among its writers – could be anti-Israeli is difficult to see, although it is just possible that, amid its re-

ports on Israel's destruction in the West Bank and Gaza, some mildly critical comments found their way into print. *The New York Times*, for example, did report that Israeli soldiers used civilians as human shields - though only in the very last paragraph of a dispatch from Jenin.

None the less, the campaign of boycotts and emails got under way. More than 1,000 readers suspended their subscriptions to the Los Angeles Times, while a blizzard of e-mails told pro-Israeli readers to cancel their subscription to *The New York Times* for a day. On the East Coast, at least one local radio station has lost \$1m from a Jewish philanthropist while other stations attempting to cover the Middle East with some degree of fairness are said to have lost even more. When the *San Francisco Chronicle* published a fourpage guide to the conflict, its editors had to meet a 14 member delegation of local Jewish groups to discuss their grievances.

According to Michael Futterman, who chairs the Middle East strategy committee of 80 Bay Area synagogues, Jewish anger hit "boiling point" when the *Chronicle* failed to cover a pro-Israeli rally in San Francisco. Needless to say, the *Chronicle's* "Readers' Representative", Dick Rogers, published a grovelling, self-flagellating apology.

"The paper didn't have a word on the pro-Israel rally," he wrote. "This wasn't fair and balanced coverage."

Another objection came from a Jewish reader who objected to the word "terror" being placed within inverted commas in a *Chronicle* headline that read "Sharon says 'terror' justifies assault". The reader's point? The *Chronicle's* reporting "harmonises well with Palestinian propaganda, which tries to divert attention from the terrorist campaign against Israel (which enjoys almost unanimous support among Palestinians, all the way from Yasser Arafat to the 10-year-old who dreams of blowing himself up one day) and instead describes Israel's military moves as groundless, evil bullying tactics."

And so it goes on. On a radio show with me in Berkeley, the *Chronicle's* foreign editor, Andrew Ross, tried to laugh off the influence of the pro-Israeli lobby - "the famous lobby", he called it with

that deference that is half way between acknowledgement and fear - but the Israeli Consul General Yossi Amrani had no hesitation in campaigning against the *Chronicle*, describing a paper largely docile in its reporting of the Middle East as "a professionally and politically biased, pro-Palestinian newspaper".

The *Chronicle's* four-page pull-out on the Middle East was, in fact, a soft sell. Its headline - "*The Current Strife Between The Israelis And The Palestinians Is A Battle For Control Of Land*" - missed the obvious point: that one of the two groups that were "battling for control of the land" - the Palestinians - had been occupied by Israel for 35 years.

The most astonishing - and least covered - story is in fact the alliance of Israeli lobbyists and Christian Zionist fundamentalists, a coalition that began in 1978 with the publication of a Likud plan to encourage fundamentalist churches to give their support to Israel. By 1980, there was an "International Christian Embassy" in Jerusalem; and in 1985, a Christian Zionist lobby emerged at a "National Prayer Breakfast for Israel" whose principal speaker was Benjamin Netanyahu, who was to become Israeli prime minister.

"A sense of history, poetry and morality imbued the Christian Zionists who, more than a century ago, began to write, plan and organise for Israel's restoration," Netanyahu told his audience. The so-called National Unity Coalition for Israel became a lobbying arm of Christian Zionism with contacts in Congress and neo-conservative think-tanks in Washington.

In May this year, the Israeli embassy in Washington, no less, arranged a prayer breakfast for Christian Zionists. Present were Alonzo Short, a member of the board of "Promise Keepers", and Michael Little who is president of the "Christian Broadcasting Network". Event hosts were listed as including those dour old Christian conservatives Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson, who once financed a rogue television station in southern Lebanon which threatened Muslim villagers and broadcast tirades by Major Saad Haddad, Israel's stooge militia leader in Lebanon.

But the Israeli lobby is powerful. In fact, its influence over the

US Congress and Senate calls into question the degree to which the American legislature has been corrupted by lobby groups. It is to an Israeli voice - Avnery again - that Americans have to turn to hear just how mighty the lobby has become.

"Its electoral and financial power casts a long shadow over both houses of the Congress," Avnery writes. "Hundreds of Senators and Congressmen were elected with the help of Jewish contributions. Resistance to the directives of the Jewish lobby is political suicide. If the AIPAC were to table a resolution abolishing the Ten Commandments, 80 Senators and 300 Congressmen would sign it at once. This lobby frightens the media, too, and assures their adherence to Israel."

Avnery could have looked no further than the Democratic primary in Alabama last month for proof of his assertion. Earl Hilliard, the five-term incumbent, had committed the one mortal sin of any American politician: he had expressed sympathy for the cause of the Palestinians. He had also visited Libya several years ago. Hilliard's opponent, Artur Davis, turned into an outspoken supporter of Israel and raised large amounts of money from the Jewish community, both in Alabama and nationwide. The Israeli newspaper *Ha'aretz* noted that among the names of the first list of contributors to Davis's campaign funds were "10 Cohens from New York and New Jersey, but before one gets to the Cohens, there were Abrams, Ackerman, Adler, Amir, Asher, Baruch, Basok, Berger, Berman, Bergman, Bernstein and Blumenthal. All from the East Coast, Chicago and Los Angeles. It's highly unlikely any of them have ever visited Alabama..."

The Jewish newspaper *Forward* - essential reading for any serious understanding of the American Jewish community - quoted a Jewish political activist following the race: "Hilliard has been a problem in his votes and with guys like that, when there's any conceivable primary challenge, you take your shot." Hilliard, of course, lost to Davis, whose campaign funds reached \$781,000.

The AIPAC concentrates on Congress while the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organisations (CPMAJO) made up of the heads of 51 Jewish organisations, concentrates on the executive branch of the US government. Every congressman knows the names of those critics of Israel who have been undone by the lobby. Take Senator J William Fulbright, whose 1963 testimony to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee detailed how five million tax-deductible dollars from philanthropic Americans had been sent to Israel and then recycled back to the US for distribution to organisations seeking to influence public opinion in favour of Israel; this cost him the chance of being Secretary of State. He was defeated in the 1974 Democratic

primary after pro-Israeli money poured into the campaign funds of his rival, Governor Dale Bumpers, following a statement by the AIPAC that Fulbright was "consistently unkind to Israel and our supporters in this country".

Paul Findley, who spent 22 years as a Republican congressman from Illinois, found his political career destroyed after he had campaigned against the Israeli lobby - although, ironically, his book on the subject, *They Dare to Speak Out* was nine weeks on *The Washington Post* bestseller list, suggesting that quite a number of Americans want to know why their congressmen are so pro-Israeli.

Just two months ago, the US House of Representatives voted 352 to 21 to express its unqualified support for Israel. The Senate voted 94 to two for the same motion. Even as they voted, Ariel Sharon's army was continuing its destructive invasion of the West Bank. "I do not recall any member of Congress asking me if I was in favour of patting Israel on the back..." James Abu Rizk an Arab-American of Lebanese origin, told the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee afterwards. "No one else, no average American, has been asked either. But that is the state of American politics today... The votes and bows have nothing to do with the legislators' love for Israel. They have everything to do with the money that is fed into their campaigns by members of the Israeli lobby. My estimate is that \$6bn flows from the American Treasury to Israel each year."

Within days, 42 US governors turned up in Sacramento to sign declarations supporting Israel. California governor Gray Davis and New York governor George Pataki - California has the largest Jewish population of any state except New York - arranged the meeting.

Sometimes the support of Israel's loyalists in Congress turns into farce. Tom Delay - reacting to CNN founder Ted Turner's criticism of Israel - went so far out of his way to justify Israeli occupation of the West Bank that he blurted out on MSNBC television that the Palestinians "should become citizens" of Israel, an idea unlikely to commend itself to his friend Ariel Sharon. Texas Republican Richard Arney went the other way. "I'm content to have Israel grab the entire West Bank. I happen to believe the Palestinians should leave... to have those people who have been aggressors against Israel retired to some other area."

Do the people of Texas know that their representative is supporting "ethnic cleansing" in the Middle East? Or are they silent because they prefer not to speak out?

Censorship takes many forms. When Ishai Sagi and Ram Rahat-Goodman, two Israeli reserve soldiers who refused to serve in the West Bank or Gaza, were scheduled to debate their decision at Sacramento's Congregation B'nai Israel in May, their appearance



• Palestinians carry the body of a girl who was killed by Israeli forces in Gaza

was cancelled. Steve Meinreith, who is chairman of the Israel Affairs Committee at B'nai Israel, remarked bleakly that "intimidation on the part of certain sectors of the community has deprived the entire community of hearing a point of view that is being widely debated in Israel. Some people feel it's too dangerous..."

Does President Bush? His long-awaited Middle East speech was Israeli policy from start to finish. A group of Jewish leaders, including Elie Wiesel and Alan Deshowitz who said recently that the idea of executing the families of Palestinian suicide bombers was a legitimate if flawed attempt at finding a balance between preventing terrorism and preserving democracy - and the AIPAC and CPMAJO heads all sent clear word to the President that no pressure a should be put on Israel. Wiesel - whose courage permeates his books on the Holocaust but who lamentably failed to condemn the

is trying to raise money to rebuild the Jenin refugee camp. "I got a call the other day at 5am," Bernstein told me. "This guy says to me: 'You got a lot of nerve going and eating at that Jewish deli.'"

What comes after that?" Before I left San Francisco, Lubin showed me her latest e-mails. "Dear Cunt," one of them begins, "When we want your opinion you fucking Nazi cunt, we will have one of your Palestinian buddies fuck it [sic] of you. I hope that in your next trip to the occupied territories you are blown to bits by one of your Palestinian buddies [sic] bombs."

Written (or rather 'admitted') by a British bourgeois journalist of Jewish-faith (and race?)-tradition himself, the above torrent of evidence as to why the 'Jewish' lobby is barely distinguishable any longer from the Zionist lobby (which it is slightly less politically incorrect to generalise about and to condemn for their **inherent** philosophical religious nationalist character), shows the danger which all insistent 'Jewishness' could bring upon itself from quite widely-spreading anti-semitic

lowness if this unstemmable Zionist tyranny (that 'Israel' will always be) is not soon condemned far more broadly and far more totally than has been the case hitherto in the fake-'left' corrupted Western world.

But the bad vibrations clearly are widening rapidly.

The following capitalist press report, painting Zionist tyranny in the Middle East in the worst possible light, is now almost routine coverage:

Imad belonged to no political group. The mayor had thrown him in prison for criticising him in his newsletter; he called the Palestinian Authority a "bunch of crooks", although he respected Yasser Arafat; most of the Islamic militants, he said, did not even know their *Koran*.

He was, above all, an unaffiliated Palestinian nationalist. In 1987 he had been a student leader during the first intifada (uprising), led by teenagers throwing stones. He attended two terms of Bir Zeit University, but had to stop going when the Israelis made travel between West Bank cities impossible and the uni-

versity was closed for most of the time anyway.

In the new intifada that began 22 months ago, he felt his best role would be to get at the truth of what was happening. On a hot and sunny day last week a gunner on an Israeli tank shot Imad in the leg as he photographed an armoured vehicle that had run into an electricity pole in the central square of Jenin.

According to the Red Crescent charity in Jenin, he bled to death because Israeli soldiers halted the ambulance that was trying to reach him.

The tragedy of his death is heightened by its senselessness. Israelis feel besieged by suicide bombers - justifiably, since 236 people have been killed in such attacks aimed at civilians. But Imad's friends say that is no excuse for opening fire on an innocent Palestinian journalist, or any other civilian.

The IDF command denies this is happening. I know there is unprovoked firing on civilians because I survived a similar situation with Imad.

We were walking out of the Jenin camp in the late afternoon, on a street filled with women and children returning to temporary shelter in the city after seeing their destroyed homes for the first time.

I heard the grinding gears of a tank pulling around the corner, and then the terrifying sound of the machine gun on its turret firing a fusillade of bullets in our direction. There was no provocation, no attack.

I had a flak jacket marked in yellow tape with foot-high letters "TV", identifying me as a journalist - in theory in any language - as did Imad. It made no difference. The soldier who was firing was about 20 yards away with a clear line of sight.

There was very little shelter on a street lined with closed shops. We threw ourselves behind a low concrete wall as bullets streamed past at chest height. Women screamed; a little boy sobbing with fear clung to my legs. A man across the street opened the door of his house and yelled for us to run to him for refuge but there was no way of crossing.

That night I realised how brave Imad was. The tank rolled down the street to our hiding place. The turret swivelled to point directly

at us. We were silent, except for the little boy, who sobbed more loudly and hid his eyes. Then the turret popped up, and a soldier yelled: "Go, go." The women and children huddled around us, hoping the jackets identifying us as journalists would protect them.

Dusk was closing in as I reached the flat where I would sleep. I was shaking and all I could think of was getting inside. The group of about 15 women and children who had been following begged us to walk them home across town. A burst of gunfire and the grinding movement of a tank sounded again on the next street. I could not do it.

I had been hit by a grenade a year earlier, and that day I had seemed to feel what it would be like to be struck by a bullet. Imad, however, walked on with them. He told me the next day that the journey had taken him five hours, and he had been shot at twice.

He knew he was taking too many chances. When I told him he had to be more careful, he said: "I'm from Jenin. I'm a journalist. I have the right to walk on my streets. Don't worry..."

The IDF's account of his death is that the armoured vehicle that had run into a pole was attacked by a Palestinian mob throwing fire bombs and firing at the accompanying tank. The tank returned fire in self-defence.

The story is contradicted by eye-witnesses and by pictures taken by Sayeed Dahla, a Palestinian photographer who was with Imad and who was also shot. The photographs show the armoured vehicle marooned on an empty street. There is no mob. There is not even a person in the photograph.

"The Israelis are lying," Sayeed says. 'Everyone had fled when the tanks came into the centre of Jenin. People were terrified. They left their shops open and their cars on the street and ran.'

"Imad and I were alone on the street when the tank opened fire at us. I told him to be careful of that tank, but he just said, 'This is a good photo'. Then they shot us."

Sayeed points out that both men were wearing jackets; his said "Press", Imad's "TV".

Btselem, an Israeli human rights group that monitors the actions of the IDF with the help of former Israeli soldiers, claims that hundreds of unlawful killings of



massacre of Palestinian refugees in Beirut in 1982 at the hands of Israel's Lebanese allies, said he felt "sadness", but his sadness was "with Israel, not against Israel" because "after all the Israeli soldiers did not kill" - took out a full page in *The New York Times*. In this, he urged Bush to please remember that Ariel Sharon, a military man who knows the ugly face of war better than anyone, is ready to make 'painful sacrifices' to end the conflict."

Sharon, was held "personally responsible" for the massacre by Israel's own commission of inquiry - but there was no mention of that from Wiesel, who told reporters in May that he would like to revoke Arafat's Nobel prize.

President Bush was not going to oppose these pressures. His father may well have lost his re-election because he dared to tell Israel that it must make peace with the Arabs. Bush is not going to make the same mistake - nor does brother Jeb want to lose his forthcoming governorship election. Thus Sharon's delight at the Bush speech, and it was left to a lonely and brave voice - Mitchell Plitnick of the Jewish Voice for Peace - to state that "few speeches could be considered to be as destructive as that of the American President... Few things are as blinding as unbridled arrogance."

Or as vicious as the messages that still pour in to Dennis Bernstein and Barbara Lubin, whose Middle East Children's Alliance, co-ordinating with Israeli peace groups,



Palestinians should be investigated. But few actually are.

"The army hardly ever opens investigations into cases of unlawful killing," says Lior Yavne, Btselem's spokesman. "The army is basically conducting a policy of impunity. Soldiers realise they can do anything they want and they will not face problems. They know nobody is monitoring their behaviour."

Yavne points to what he regards as the important difference between now and his time in the army between 1991 and 1995. "Before this intifada every shooting death was investigated. The commanders have now decided we are in an armed conflict short of war, but that means they don't have to open an investigation in case of death."

Even when they do, Yavne claims the investigators - military police - rely on the word of the soldiers who did the shooting and their unit commander.

Forty Palestinians are reported to have been killed since June 20, when tanks rolled into West Bank cities. Btselem says that at least 20 of the dead were unarmed civilians.

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), based in New York, has this year listed the West Bank and Gaza as the world's most dangerous places for reporters to work because of Israeli gunfire - all the more so for Palestinian journalists, who lack even the nebulous protection of an international organisation:

The CPJ has taken up Imad's case, but is not optimistic. Sixteen journalists have been wounded by Israeli fire, two of them fatally, since September 2000. "In none of the cases has the IDF taken responsibility," says Ann Cooper, the CPJ's director.

"I don't think there is a deliberate policy to kill journalists, but certainly this year we did see the IDF using major force to keep journalists out of areas where they did not want that story covered - they didn't want eyewitnesses."

The last photograph of Imad, taken by his friend Sayeed, shows him sitting in the street pressing his hand into a huge wound in his right thigh.

His trousers are soaked red, and his grey polo shirt is splattered with blood. His sunglasses hang from his neck and his eyes look way too old for his age. He is quiet, perhaps the first time I saw him not talking.

A number of organisations have called, offering help to his dependants. His family have turned them down, saying their boy would rather have had justice.

A "two-state solution" with Nazi German invasion and colonisation would make as much sense, it becomes increasingly obvious.

But not to the fake-'left', of course.

Here is another variant of Stalinist Revisionism's rot-

ten legacy, still pompously and deceitfully posing as the CPGB (for effect) while having retreated from Leninism and pro-Sovietism more rapidly and further than the most despicable anti-communist Trotskyists who ever joined in imperialism's mind-rotting Cold War brainwashing propaganda.

Their latest ludicrous contribution to philistinism's anti-theory lower depths is to favourably quote some unreformed Palestinian Stalinist Revisionists **still** trying to justify Moscow's 1948 nonsense of agreeing to the Zionist colonisation of Palestine in the first place.

The old Revisionist insane delusion of a 'peacefully tamed' imperialism (Zionism), or a totally 'reformed' capitalist-imperialist system, is dimly discernible through this confused fog of cringing, self-contradictory, opportunist gobshite:

Only in 1982 did the two Palestinian sections reunite to form the Palestinian People's Party. We chose this name to highlight the priority of the national struggle in Palestine today. But there is no doubt: we are communists fighting for a communist world. In 1997 we joined the PLO. We were the first Palestinian organisation that put forward a programme for two states. I think we were quite influential in pushing the PLO towards this position. Ever since 1948 we have been advocating that there are obviously two people with two very distinct cultures. Why should we force them to live together in one state? Of course as a communist I want to live without borders and I am working towards the unification of all peoples. But today Israelis and Palestinians need to live in two different states.

I am hopeful that Israelis and Palestinians will unite into a democratic, secular state one day, but this will need a long, patient process. For the here and now, the slogan of a 'democratic, secular Palestine' is useless. It does not show a way to the future.

Without the Israeli peace movement the Palestinians will never get a democratic state of their own. The Israeli working class needs to fight for the rights of the Palestinians. We need their help and solidarity, just as they need our help. We have to tell our friends in Israel that we do accept their state if they accept ours.

What is your view on the right to return for Palestinians. Does it contradict a programme for two states?

The right to return is very important to us. As a communist I fight for the right of every human being to live where they want to and naturally that includes Palestinians.

This right does not mean that everybody moves back to where their family might have lived many decades ago. Who knows where people want to live? I presume most Palestinians don't want to go to Israel and give up their friends and families. My own village was totally destroyed in 1948. Why would I want to go back there? - But we must fight for this right to return, because it has a very important political meaning. It means Israel has to accept its responsibility for the unjust way in which this state was founded.



Zionist house search intimidation is constant

Will the tactic of suicide bombing help the Palestinians reach their aims?

We don't agree with this tactic at all. We need strong tactics. Advocating that your own comrades blow themselves up is not a strong thing to do. Also I think we should fight our struggle on our own ground.

The political responsibility for the suicide bombings lies with Ariel Sharon. That is the first thing to understand.

But we must also understand that the suicide bombings are actually undermining the Israeli peace movement. We need all the support we can get - from the world, but mainly from the Israeli people. As long as the suicide bombings go on, Sharon has an excuse to deny us all democratic rights.

What is your relationship with Hamas and Islamic Jihad, both of which advocate and orchestrate the suicide bombings?

cate and orchestrate the suicide bombings?

This is not so easy to answer. I am a communist, so I strongly criticise Islamic fundamentalism.

On the other hand, the national struggle against the occupation has brought us quite close together. The left in Palestine is unfortunately very weak. A lot of people in Palestine are turning to fundamentalism, because it is the only thing that seems to offer them a little hope. Sharon's politics have led hundreds of thousands of my people into the arms of Hamas. Sharon is helping Hamas, in the same way that Hamas is helping Sharon.

It is the occupation that sometimes brings communists and religious fundamentalists together. But I am convinced that if the Palestinians had their own state, totally new forms of struggle would



• DEVASTATED: A father looks on the total destruction wrought by Israel

emerge: the democrats and socialists against the Islamic fundamentalists.

But surely we can't wait? Surely we need to win people away from their leadership in the here and now? Communists would be amongst the first people a fundamentalist regime would want to get rid of.

The occupation has unfortunately blurred the distinction between opposing political groups on the Palestinian side. But of course I agree and we are arguing very strongly against Hamas and Jihad. Only our voices are very weak and Hamas is very loud.

At every meeting I go to I speak out against this most corrupt form of religion. I used to live in Algiers and have seen what Islamic fundamentalism can do to a whole people. It wants the opposite of all the things that I am fighting for, justice, women's rights, democracy. For example, the PPP is currently campaigning for a 'family law' which would allow the right to divorce and equal rights for men and women. Hamas and Jihad are very much against this. The only way we can win the Palestinian people away from Hamas is by showing them that we have solutions for earth, not just for heaven.

After such a deluded rant of pathetic and philistine evasiveness posing as 'communism', it not only can hardly be marvelled at that the CP (PPP)

voice is so "weak" (despite nearly a century's start on Hamas) and that the Islamic Guerrillas' voice is so "strong"; but serious anti-imperialists could even feel pleased that those who are at least willing to fight to regain their homeland from Zionist colonisation and incessant brutalisation and humiliation, are at last gaining ground.

But not the despicable British fake-'left', of course, who thoroughly approve this unbelievably continuing Stalinist Revisionist delusion that 'democracy', and 'justice', and 'feminism' will tame imperialism and totally reform the capitalist-colonialist exploitation system out of all recognition.

And this is the jibber that is supposed to be more "earthly realistic"!! No wonder the Islamics are having it their own way for the moment.

But a resurgence of Marxist-Leninist scientific anti-imperialist revolution is inevitable.

servility makes them tail-end the liberal bourgeois pipe-dream 'solution' of a "two-state settlement for Palestine" to get them all off a difficult hook).

The degenerate and cowardly nonsense of saying "O.K." to just(!) 78% of Zionism's hideous, reactionary, and out-of-date colonisation of the homeland of the Palestinian Arab nation, just to dispose of awkward matters which none of the faintheart Trot and Revisionist "left reformists" have the stomach or the understanding to face, sums up the rotten retreat from Marxist revolutionary science since Lenin's death.

In the present intimidating climate of American fascist militaristic domineering, all grasp of history's eventual progress towards what is just and rational via dramatic revolutionary transformations (when ripe) has been abandoned completely by the fake-'left'.

A better understanding of the great revolutionary processes now driving the Palestinian nation forward towards total and undying resistance to Zionist colonisation of **any part** of their homeland, can be found in the confused or shamefaced admissions of the capitalist press or bourgeois circles rather than in the diletante petty-bourgeois sects of fake-'left' posturing around the Alliance or the CP/SLP factions.

The Western Zionist religious freemasonry's "right" to be militarily colonising the Palestinian Arab homeland **at all** has at last become the subject for discussion. The *EPSR* explained from the start that in this epoch of irresistible anti-colonial liberation, the deepening of the imperialist-system global economic crisis could not fail to force monopoly-capitalist domination everywhere into ever-nastier repression as the miraculous post-1945 world-trade boom finally petered out.

As a result, exploited communities throughout the Third World were bound to be forced into increasingly **unprecedented** revolutionary development.

Anticipating that the viciously exploited and brutally tyrannised Palestinians (uniquely still utterly humiliated and denied all nationhood rights unlike the proud and talented Arab peoples all around) would be driven to resist persecution more ferociously than almost any other

community, – did not require massive perception.

It was equally easy to guess that these particularly arrogant and fascist-minded "chosen race" Zionist colonisers would be demented in their savage repression, and that the US imperialist "international upholders of fairness, justice, and democracy" would back this savagery all the way (because of the especially priceless control over the whole Middle East that Washington got from having this ruthless and ferocious Zionist colonising expansionism on its side).

The historic conditions had been created for a classic, all-or-nothing, revolutionary conflict.

Precisely because the whole idea of "a national home for the Jews" is no more than the sickest and most old-fashioned colonial conquest (in spite of all the loony "chosen race" bogus religious rhetoric), Zionist 'Israel' cannot survive in any form at all unless **total** defeat over the Palestinians is maintained for evermore.

And equally, there is no way that the Palestinian people can **ever** win for themselves the slightest serious nationhood self-respect until they have regained their sovereignty over the **whole** of their homeland from the Jordan to the sea, every square yard of which is still a fond image in the memory of the **living** older generations of the 7-million-strong Palestinian nation, and each family history still fiercely kept alive by the younger generations, – all kept going in exile by very little else.

Any **genuinely** equal state strength for the Palestinians (under the cop-out reformist pipe-dream of a "two-state solution") would **never** let the Zionist colonisers sleep peacefully in their beds.

But even the very best of all the totally inadequate "two-state" fobbing-off of the Palestinians with just 22% of their original homeland donated back to their "control" (but all carved-up into pocket handkerchief sized bits, here and there, with total continuing Zionist state domination looming over, still, at every point) would never remain anything else for this proud and talented Arab people but a constant humiliating reminder of all that they had lost, and of what a uniquely cowed and defeated spectacle they would always make almost alone among the Third World

Growing Jewish doubts about their "right" to any part of what for centuries has been the homeland of the Palestinian people, reveals how impossible contradictions of imperialist crisis pressures all round, are forcing revolutionary thinking and consciousness of all kinds onto the agenda. Collapse-haunted imperialist warmongering cannot fail to boot the Third World so hard that a revolutionary response will be forced forward everywhere. And because of the symbolism, for Western domination, of the Palestine question, - and because of the real value for imperialist global exploitation of maintaining total Middle East control, – this issue of intolerable Zionist colonialism could turn into US warmongering tyranny's terminal disaster. Fake-'left' spinelessness about Zionism's fascist colonialism sums up the entire doomed history of 'reformist' rottenness. The idiotic "condemnation" of terrorism will see Trot and Revisionist 'left' posturing to its grave (No1148 13-08-02)

The ever-sharpening imperialist-system crisis (of economic collapse and warmongering bluster to cover up the evidence), centred on the Middle East, is now causing a chal-

lenge to the most basic prejudices of the West's world-domination, – exactly as the *EPSR* has argued must happen (in polemicising against the fake-'left' whose class-collaborating



peoples.

At the same time, even weightier historical matters than these are riding on this question of who will prevail, the old-fashioned Zionist colonial empire building or the Palestinian national-liberation and self-determination movement, – matters which cannot possibly be denied **absolute** resolution one way or the other.

Either the world is in for another whole epoch of **total** imperialist militarised domination and exploitation (in reality, effectively speaking, regardless of how much things are dressed up as 'UN-guaranteed democratic equal rights for all nations' etc).

Or this degenerate chaos of total worldwide economic anarchy, destructive exploitation, and periodic collapse-mayhem and warmongering bluster-tyranny (as now) will become no longer tolerable to the contemporary people of the world (now all so relatively modernised and equalised by the global technology market itself into no longer being able to put up with being mere wage-slaves, endlessly class-discriminated-against and nationally-discriminated-against by an international monopolist militarist system universally hostile to all ordinary people).

There will be no longterm American retreating from the degenerate warmongering bullying threats by which these current wretched bar-room thugs like Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld are brazenly daring to give orders to the whole world.

It can only get worse, longterm, as this terrifying economic crisis deepens still further towards a dollar collapse itself, and total US ruling class humiliation, and loss of all their sweet power.

The appalling aggressive fascist Zionist behaviour represents this worsening **in advance**.

Because of the theoretical possibility of unforeseen quirks or confused and ill-managed timing by desperately-sick and worried imperialism, there **might** still be a temporary compromise halfway-house 'settlement' in Palestine while imperialism's main warmongering focus moves elsewhere.

But it is overwhelmingly likely that sticking-up for Zionist tyranny will symbolically suit US imperialism down to the ground **throughout** the long crisis ahead, epitomising the ruthless kicking-of-arse that Washington's continued world-domination means lies ahead for **everyone** on earth who refuses to kow-tow inside the American imperialist camp.

The US ruling class could not give a damn about the Zionists as such; but the Zionist cause is seen as a very convenient 'politically-correct' figleaf for Washington's championing of military blitzkrieg-tyranny **methods** for dealing with anti-imperialist revolt everywhere.

And that is also how the rest of the world is beginning to see the Palestine tragedy too. Either a stand is made against this tyrannical US Zionist arse-kicking, or else bullying

fascist-militarism will run away with things henceforth.

In the light of the ever-deepening imperialist system global economic crisis which has no solution, - then unquestionably it is the warmongering aggression that is set to continue.

The reformist peace movement whinges for 'restraint' and 'compromise', etc, etc, are ludicrously out-of-touch with the epoch being entered.

There **is** only one alternative route for civilisation now, and that is the path of **revolution**.

The sensational pressures which have forced the Palestinian Intifada to these scarcely credible acts of heroic self-sacrifice and bravery of deliberately suicidally blowing themselves up in order to destroy the Zionist tormentors, – are set to continue.

One of their next steps is to begin to formulate in the minds of the Palestinian nation (and in the understanding of the rest of the world too) the idea of the **total Palestinian revolution** which will, as best it can, engage in **non-stop** all-out war until either the Zionist colonisation can take no more or else the Palestinian nation will have been genocidally nullified to all intents and purposes, (as happened to the Indian nations of North America at the hands of earlier Western imperialist colonists).

Everywhere evident, now, in the Palestinian tragedy are the **spontaneous** beginnings of what must eventually become a **conscious** Palestinian **revolution** against the fate which the imperialist world (backed by liberal-reformist brainrot

and fake-'left' posturing) earmarked for this Arab people of **permanent** humiliating capitulation to **never-ending** Zionist domination, – at best the so-called "two-state solution"; – in reality the acceptance of established Zionist colonial victory, and the status of repressed and exploited **subjects** for the Palestinians for the rest of time.

Far from this being merely wishful thinking on the part of over-excited 'catastrophists', such a revolutionary development, or things like it elsewhere, would correspond entirely with the broadest brush Marxist traditional expectation of how a late period imperialist crisis might proceed (see the *Communist Manifesto*).

With the *EPSR* having argued for a long time now how profoundly this imperialist crisis would stir things up, overturning almost every Western-world prejudice on the way, – it is interesting to now see the 'right' of a Zionist state to exist **at all** on occupied Palestinian territory being finally questioned, and by the most respectable Western 'politically correct' opinion at that. The following appeared in a letter to the *Guardian*:

We are Jews, born and raised outside Israel, who, under Israel's "law of return", have a legal right to Israeli residence and citizenship (*Real lives*, G2, August 7). We wish to renounce this unsought "right" because:

1) We regard it as morally wrong that this legal entitlement should be bestowed on us while the very people who should have most right to a genuine "return", having been forced or terrorised into fleeing, are excluded.

2) Israel's policies towards the Palestinians are barbaric - we do not wish to identify ourselves in any way with what Israel is doing.

3) We disagree with the notion that Zionist emigration to Israel is any kind of "solution" for diaspora Jews, anti-semitism or racism - no matter to what extent Jews have been or are victims of racism, they have no right to make anyone else victims.

4) We wish to express our solidarity with all those who are working for a time when Israel, the West Bank and Gaza Strip can be lived in by people without any restrictions based on so-called racial, cultural, or ethnic origins.

We look forward to the day when all the peoples of the area are enabled to live in peace with each other on this basis of non-discrimination and mutual respect. Perhaps some of us would even wish to live there, but only if the rights of the Palestinians are respected. To those who consider

Israel a "safe haven" for Jews in the face of anti-semitism, we say that there can be no safety in taking on the role of occupier and oppressor. We hope that the people of Israel and their leaders will come to realise this soon.

Michael Rosen, Ian Saville, Prof Irene Bruegel, Michael Kustow, Mike Marqusee, Prof Steven Rose, Leon Rosselson and 38 others

One of the academics involved went even further in a subsequent Radio Four interview and questioned why a Jewish state should have been implanted in Palestine at all. Follow-up correspondence in the *Guardian* raised even more interesting points from equally-respectable areas of intelligent middle-class opinion:

The 40 or so Jews who wrote to say (*Letters*, August 8) that they disdained Israel's offer of citizenship and "right of return" on the grounds that Palestinians do not have that right are surely a little late. Why haven't they made this gesture before?

The basic racism of the state of Israel has been going on since 1948, and we didn't hear any repudiation of the offer of open citizenship to all Jews until recent events gave Jews in the diaspora cause to be ashamed instead of proud of Israel.

Your recent article about rabbis rushing to Peru to convert the Indians and turn them into settlers (*How 90 Peruvians became the latest Jewish settlers*, G2, August 7) is the only good joke to come out of Israel for some time. They must be absolutely desperate to populate the West Bank. In my time in Israel, people who wanted to convert were treated as pariahs by the rabbis. Conversion, when it happened, took at least a year. This is a cynical battering on to poverty-stricken peasants, rendering them "kosher" in two weeks and shipping them over to the settlements, providing they'll agree to say that Palestinians have no rights. If I had a laugh left, I'd be knocking myself out at the irony.

Lynne Reid Banks Beaminster, Dorset

As a British citizen who happens to be Jewish, Neville Teller (*Letters*, August 9) appears to believe he has the right to another state's citizenship because of his religion. These rights are not available to my father, who, unlike Mr Teller, was born in Palestine in 1948.

It is true that Israel is a democracy in an unacceptably dictatorial region. But this democracy necessitated the ethnic cleansing of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians. Anyone who disputes this may want to ask why my father's family of 11 grew up in a refugee camp in Lebanon instead of on their rightful land. The current Palestinian terrorism, appalling as it is, differs from Jewish terrorism of the 1940s in only one respect: it is committed

by people trying to reclaim their own land, not by foreigners trying to conquer another people's land.

Name given*, Surrey [**withheld on request - ed*]

The monstrous ethnic cleansing scandal of the shipped-in colonists, transferred into the occupied territories **by imperialism** (or with the West's say-so, or blind-eye-turning) just so as to crush Palestinian revolutionary resistance to the 'Israel' empire-building stunt, and without even the slightest semblance of justification even within the lunatic "a home for the Jews" nonsense that began this imperialist-domination villainy, - was owned up to by the capitalist press itself although gently spun and castrated so as not to raise too much outrage against this rancid racist colonialism):

The miracle of the creation of this community of new Jews has to be chalked up wholly and exclusively to the credit - or debit - of the chief rabbinate of Israel. At the order of the Ashkenazi chief rabbi, Israel Meir Lau, a delegation of rabbis travelled to Peru. During their two weeks in the country, they converted 90 people to Judaism, most of them of Indian origin.

"We found a small river between Trujillo and Cajamarca and everyone immersed in it. We took the people from Lima to be immersed in the ocean and then we also had to remarry them all in a Jewish ceremony according to the *halakha* [Jewish religious law]," says Rabbi Eliyahu Birnbaum, a judge in the conversion court and a member of the delegation.

The rabbis converted only those who said they were willing to emigrate to Israel immediately. "We laid down that condition because in the remote areas where they live, there is no possibility of keeping kosher and it was important for us to ensure that they would live in a Jewish environment. In fact, there was no need for the condition because they were in any case imbued with a love of the land of Israel in a way that is hard to describe," says Rabbi David Mamo, the deputy president of the conversion court.

"Because we saw their enthusiasm for the land of Israel, we understood that conversion was part of a complete process including *aliyah* [immigration to Israel], so we told them: just as you live in a community here, you should join a community in Israel too" says Birnbaum. "Rabbi Mamo and I both live in Gush Etzion [a group of settlements south of Bethlehem] and we believe that when it comes to community oriented settlements, there are none that can compare with Alon Shvut and Karmeit Zzur [both in Gush Etzion], which said they would be willing to absorb the new immigrants."

The 90 new immigrants, comprising 18 families, were taken

straight from the airport to the two settlements. Leah Golan, director of the Jewish Agency department responsible for immigration, says: "We, as the Jewish Agency, bring to Israel anyone who has been defined as being entitled to *aliyah* - that is, anyone who has been recognised as a Jew by the chief rabbinate or the interior ministry.

"Generally, the potential immigrants are in touch with our *aliyah* emissaries and are given very reliable information about housing, employment and education possibilities in Israel. But in Peru, we do not have an emissary: there is only a small Jewish community of about 3,000 people there, so we only have an office in Lima that is staffed by a local woman. Therefore, the Jewish Agency was not involved in any way in the decision about where these new immigrants would live or what kind of work they would do. All the decisions on those subjects were apparently made by the rabbis. "Theoretically, the new Jews had the option of joining the Jewish community in Peru, but that was ruled out.

"How can I put it without hurting anyone?" Birnbaum says. "The community in Lima consists of a certain socio-economic class and did not want them because they are from a lower level. There was a kind of agreement that, if they were converted, they would not join the Lima community, so there was no choice but to lay down the condition that they immigrate to Israel."

The new Jews have not encountered similar difficulties in the settlements, where they have been integrated smoothly. "Now, thank God, we live where the patriarch, Abraham, the number one Jew, roamed" says Ephraim Perez, who until two weeks ago, in Trujillo, Peru, was known as Nilo.

"We are of Indian origin," says Nachshon BenHaim, formerly Pedro Mendosa, "but in Peru, in the Andes, there is no Indian culture left. Everyone has become Christian, and before we became Jews, we also were Christians who went to church."

Nevertheless, they are fired with a historic sense of their right to this land.

What made you come to this settlement? "The Absorption Ministry told us to go here and thank God they sent us here; says Mendel. "This is the land of the patriarch, Abraham, and the people here are very nice."

According to Ben-Haim, "the idea that there are Palestinians here at all is a lie. The Palestinian people never existed and only when the Jews leave their country, the Arabs come in and try to take over and prove they have a right here. But we cannot agree to that because the Lord gave the land to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob for all time, and all the Jews will be united and love the Lord with all their heart, and then all the problems will be solved."

What is the solution? "In Peru I thought that all the Jews in Israel

were religiously observant; says Mendel. "It was only when I came here that I heard that almost 30% of the Jews are not religious, and that broke my heart."

Is that what you were told, I ask - that the majority of the Jews in Israel are religious? "Yes, the majority but not everyone. But if they all become fully religious and unite, the Messiah will come and the problems with the Palestinians will be solved because they will get out of here."

You only became a member of this nation a few months ago; and have been in the country less than two months, I say. Do you know that there are Arabs whose families have lived here for hundreds of years?

"But God said that whomsoever becomes a Jew with a full heart and observes the commandments - only to a Jew like that will He give the land for generation unto generation."

Ben-Haim is not bothered by the fact that by being sent to a settlement, he has also been effectively recruited to a particular political group: "We knew we were coming to a place that is called 'territories' because people we know immigrated earlier and are living in the settlements in the territories. But I have no problem with that because I do not consider the territories to be occupied territories. You cannot conquer what has in any case belonged to you since the time of the patriarch, Abraham."

Ben-Haim says that after he finishes the Hebrew course, he may join the army, "because I wasn't in the army in Peru and that is something I lack, and also because I want to defend the country and if there is no choice, I will kill Arabs. But I am sure that Jews kill Arabs only for self-defence and justice, but Arabs do it because they like to kill."

He bases this belief on his scientific view of Judaism: "The Arab has the instinct of murder and killing like all gentiles, and only Jews do not have that instinct - that is a genetic fact."

(This is an edited extract of an article which first appeared in the Israeli newspaper *Ha'aretz*.)

This is a further classic example of how it is the repressive lying tyranny of the imperialist system itself which will carry on driving the victims of colonialism and neo-colonialism **all the way** to total revolution, as unlikely as that outcome may currently seem to all faintheart fake-'lefts' everywhere.

The bullying injustice **will continue** to become ever more sickening and intolerable, not simply because this 'free-world' fascist militarism has lost all sense of proportional judgement, or because it has no sensitivity to the offence it is causing, - but **because** this arrogant Western class and



An Israeli soldier gestures towards an arrested Palestinian placed handcuffed and blindfolded in a ditch in the Gaza town of Beit Lahiya

national domination genuinely feels it has some 'right' to be bossing things.

And the viciousness of this conceited global exploitation will grow ever worse, - in how offensively it strikes the majority of people on earth, but also in the increasing amounts of absolute damage the imperialist system is going to cause to the world.

Listen to these further capitalist press admissions, revealingly reporting the debilitating

doubts and fears which are driving this whole rotten Zionist colonisation to the brink of despair and disaster, but simultaneously trying to gain sympathy for an "innocent Israeli family, unjustly caught up in evil mayhem", etc, etc.

Despite a dim awareness that the whole 'Israel' colonial venture is **wrong** from every aspect and should be historically aborted, the Western conceitedness prevails and imperialism's gun-law is signed

up to in the end.

Severely edited, the gist of the weakness of the Zionist position reads as follows:

I have always been a reluctant Israeli. In fact, I don't think of myself as Israeli at all. I'm British, but I have an Israeli passport because I married an Israeli. From the moment I landed in Israel nine years ago I felt an enormous surge of empathy for the Palestinians and Israeli Arabs; not just from a political standpoint (my belief that it is only right that the Palestinians have their own state) but also from a personal perspective - it is extremely

difficult to live in Israel if you are not Jewish.

I was an outsider, an object of intense and often worried scrutiny. Everywhere I went, people would ask me if I was Jewish. Taxi drivers would treat me to long and impassioned discourses about how non-Jewish spouses were polluting and corrupting the Jewish race. Co-workers would call me a *goy* and comment on my distinctly unJewish appearance. When I married my husband we had to go to Cyprus because there are no civil marriages in Israel. I felt the state was denying my right to exist here, and for the first few years I often wondered if I could ever make this my home. My experiences helped me to understand how hard it must be for Arabs trying to live or work alongside this community. They were constantly treated as second-class citizens, as objects of fear and threat. They were denied basic human rights. No wonder they were angry. I was angry too, and I suffered far fewer injustices than they did.

The intifada has been a progressive campaign. It goes step by step, getting worse with every step taken. Each attack is more appalling than the last. First you react with horror, then the fear comes, then you adapt and gradually learn to live with it. Then something new happens and the cycle begins all over again. The violence that happens now would have been unthinkable 18 months ago, or even a year ago. We are all, Palestinians and Israelis alike, becoming hardened by the violence. We go into survival mode. For months I ignore the bombings. I stay home as much as possible, limit trips to dangerous areas such as city centres, shops, cafés, banks, parks, shows, even the beach. I keep my two children, Daniel and Yonatan, at home. I try not to watch the news, and to think of the dead in terms of numbers, not people. I think small, very small.

What makes forgetting more difficult is that here, near Qalqiyia, we are on the front line. We have frequent security alerts. On occasions I've picked up Daniel, my four-year-old son, from his nursery to be told to go home, lock all my doors and windows and watch the entrances to my house. Neighbours are sometimes woken in the night and told to watch the village perimeter. We have our own security but sometimes soldiers are also stationed here. Last week the village and surrounding area were completely dosed down because a Palestinian dressed as an Israeli soldier was spotted throwing a bag away in Matan, the village next to ours.

We often hear fighting in Qalqiyia. Rounds of machine-gun fire at night, tank shells that rattle the windows, light flares, bombs, helicopters hovering for hours overhead. People on both sides are dying and we can hear it. And if it's frightening for us, what is it like for them, in the midst of it? The truth is that even when you try hard not to think about what is happening, it still penetrates your unconscious. I have frequent nightmares. I often wake sweating with fear. I worry about terrorists breaking into my home and shooting Yonatan, who isn't yet two, in his bed, Daniel as he plays in his room, or an attack in the park, or the

swimming pool, or the local shop, anywhere and everywhere in fact I devise escape routes in my head, think of hiding places in my home.

Ask anyone on the Left, and even many on the Right, and they will tell you that the Palestinians should have their own state and the settlers should leave the territories. Until a few months ago I believed it was wrong for the Israelis to reoccupy the territories. I totally disagreed with Operation Defensive Shield; I felt sick at the suffering it was causing the Palestinians.

Now it's not such a clear-cut case. I pity the Palestinians. I know there are good people there who just want to live in peace. I know the closure is harming them deeply, creating further hatred and despair. But I am also scared. I know that the moment the Israelis withdraw from the territories, unless some kind of meaningful negotiations are underway, the whole campaign of terror will start again. And I'm not sure that I can continue to cope with it.

We are sick at heart at what is happening in the territories, ashamed of Israeli brutality, saddened by the stories of daily humiliation heaped on the Palestinians, but we have no answers. We have no faith in Yasser Arafat, no confidence in Ariel Sharon and no belief in the peace process. We no longer trust ordinary Palestinians. We just want to be safe, and if that means a temporary occupation then sadly, very sadly, that's the price that has to be paid.

I've wanted to leave Israel many times. Why should I stay? This isn't my battle.

Recently at Daniel's nursery they held an end of year party. The children lit candles for peace, laying out tiny night-lights on the Star of David. They sang about peace and hope. My eyes filled with tears. How much longer will they stay innocent? How much longer will it be before they learn that they have an enemy out there who wants desperately to kill them? How much longer before they, too, start to hate the Palestinians? There is no hope here, just a steady disintegration. The population is depressed, grief-stricken. People marry, hold parties, go to friends, even go to restaurants, but there is a deepening sense of despair. We are in the thick of a long war and there appears to be no way out.

I recently attended a farewell party for a British diplomat here. Many of the guests were left-wing Israelis and the gloom was pervasive. There was not one voice of optimism. Sharon is in a stronger position than ever. He has out-manoeuvred his adversaries, emasculated Peres and Labour. Yet few here believe he is capable of bringing peace. The wave of attacks continues. On Sunday alone 13 Israelis were killed and dozens were wounded. How on earth can the army leave the West Bank when everyone here knows that would unleash an even deadlier onslaught of attacks? How on earth can the Palestinians make progress towards peace when they have been invaded by an occupying army?

It's now your turn - Britain, Europe and America. We don't need boycotts, we need your help. We need you to step in, to come up with creative solutions, to take charge. We cannot do this alone. The situation

is disintegrating and spinning out of control. Most people believe that this level of fighting will continue for years. There are many who fear that a major conflagration is coming, a regional war that will destabilise the whole of the Middle East. This won't just affect us, it will affect you too. Forget about your prejudices, forget about who is right or wrong. It's gone too far for that. We need international help before it's too late. If we on the Israeli Left have given up, if we on the Left have started to support occupation, then what hope is there?

The shamefaced uneasiness reflected here underlines the historical rottenness of the whole bullying imperialist position, but also shows how the natural fascist-aggressiveness of the West's world domination will not stop **driving** the Third World towards effective **revolutionary** resistance eventually everywhere.

The wretched delusion of a "fair, reformist compromise" haunts the whole world and not just this sad casualty of the whole arrogant historical wretchedness of the arbitrary "Israel" bastardom, - fittingly the product of 'left'-Labour government's 'reformist' postwar idiocy to feign 'justice' and 'fairness' while in reality merely oiling the wheels for resurgent imperialist warmongering-nastiness to re-dominate the planet.

Equally fittingly, the fake-'lefts' of Trotskyism and Revisionism, - who may soon be alone among 'intelligent' people still trying to justify the foully poisonous creation of 'Israel' colonialism, are now halfway mentally back in the 'left'-Labour camp of total bogusness and posturing conceit, welcoming joke 'militant' new leaders loyal to the reactionary TUC, and preparing to stand aside in droves for cretinous 'left'-Labour MPs who are now all back on the stump to yet again repeat the age-old historical trick of the 'lefts' of reviving Labour's "party of the working class" image after yet another severe battering from a period of utterly reactionary Labour Government once more.

But as this fake-'left' spinelessness effectively does nothing but disarm people from seriously standing up to imperialist warmongering domination by playing with endless meaningless "reform" pipedreams, - on the real front line of mass suffering from monopoly-capitalism's crisis ridden rule, the unreformable tragic savagery of life at the bottom of the world's exploita-

tion heap carries on relentlessly driving people into spontaneous revolutionary action, however primitive initially:

Musa Rajoub died a traitor's death, dragged from a jail cell in the cold hours before dawn, shot, and strung up by his left foot from an electricity pylon in the centre of Hebron without an ounce of pity.

He must have known he had it coming to him. In the West Bank and Gaza, there is a special hatred reserved for Palestinians believed to have trafficked with Israel's intelligence agencies, and Rajoub had openly boasted for years of his powerful connections.

When an Israeli helicopter gunship fired four missiles into the car of Marwan Zaloom, incinerating the local commander of the al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades and a fellow passenger, Rajoub's fate was sealed.

Under cover of darkness, a mob of masked men descended on the central jail in Hebron and dragged Rajoub and two other prisoners outside. It is unclear where Rajoub's Palestinian Authority jailers were at the time, but there is no sign that they intervened to stop - or even protest at - his punishment. The three men's mouths were sealed with masking tape, their hands and feet bound with wire.

All three were accused of collaborating with Israel. They were beaten for nearly 24 hours and shot on the spot where Zaloom died, around dawn on April 23. The summary execution was claimed almost immediately by the Martyrs' Brigades, a militia linked to Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

Several hours later the police cut them down and carted the bodies to city hall in a rubbish truck. Rajoub's widow, Sahar, recognised him by his shirt.

"It was more than mutilation," she said, sitting in the family home in Dura. "If I show you the clothes he was wearing, you will see. So much blood. The collar of his shirt is encrusted with it".

Palestinian informers necessarily operate in secret, for fear of ending up like Rajoub and the 70 other suspected collaborators who have been killed in the West Bank and Gaza in the past two years.

But Rajoub never hid his allegiance, neither has his family. "Of course he was a collaborator. He always used to admit it. Everyone in Dura knew it," his widow said.

"But that's not the real reason why he was killed."

Mrs Rajoub's lack of embarrassment at her husband's profession is extremely rare; the stain of collaborating with Israel is not easily erased.

The families of collaborators almost always disclaim any knowledge of their activities, even after they are killed, or jailed by the Palestinian police.

That Rajoub's family is even prepared to discuss his death is testimony to the power he exerted over his village, Dura, and his powerful

clan connections. The Rajoubs are one of the biggest families in Dura, and well connected: Jibril Rajoub, a distant cousin of Musa, is a former West Bank security chief.

Musa behaved as if he was untouchable, drawing on those family contacts, the threat that he could bring down Israel's wrath on those who crossed him, and the protection money he is believed to have paid to the local Palestinian police each month.

"He held his M-16 aloft and walked ostentatiously through the streets of Dura. He would bully people in the street. He would humiliate them," Khalid Amayreh, a Palestinian journalist and commentator from Dura, said.

"He acted in a gangsterly manner. I dare say many many Palestinians in the town have personal stories about their encounters with him."

Since Israel occupied the West Bank and Gaza in 1967 it has used a variety of methods to build up an extensive network of spies: sexual blackmail; offers of travel, work and building permits; early release from prison.

"Collaborators have been a cancer on the collective conscience of the Palestinian people," Mr Amayreh said. "They are the worst and most diabolical product of the Israeli occupation, and the collective hatred for collaborators cannot be overestimated."

Rajoub began his career as a collaborator after he was arrested by the Israeli army in 1983 for harbouring wanted men in his home. His was a conventional initiation. He started as an *asfour* - literally a sparrow - the name Palestinians use for the men planted in crowded cells to elicit information from inmates. The *asfour* also has a more sinister use.

Since the Israeli supreme court restricted the use of torture during interrogations two years ago, Palestinians say, collaborators have been used to administer beatings in the cells. But if they are caught they can be beaten to death themselves.

By the time of his death, people in Dura say, Rajoub presided over five cells of collaborators who collected snippets of information about militant Palestinian groups in the village and nearby areas of the West Bank. On the side he ran a lucrative contracting business sending Palestinian labourers to jobs on building sites in Israel.

He was often away, in other parts of the West Bank, and in Hadera, in northern Israel, where he was able to conduct his business using the Israeli identity papers he was given in 1994.

All those activities came crashing to an end on November 15 2000 when he was arrested by the Palestinian police and imprisoned in a Hebron jail on charges of collaborating with Israel.

A trial was instigated, Mrs Rajoub retained a lawyer. But the proceedings fizzled out, and she turned her attentions towards ensuring her husband's comfort and



safety in prison, and securing his eventual release, through bribery rather than the law.

In her version of events, securing Rajoub's safety was simply a business arrangement. Each month she paid a healthy sum to his jailers as an insurance policy, and she began negotiating a price for his eventual release.

There was talk of cash payments and vehicles. Mrs Rajoub looked for a buyer for a plot of family land in the village. The months passed.

Elsewhere in the West Bank and Gaza, life became increasingly perilous for those accused of collaborating with Israel.

Since the uprising against Israel began in September 2000, 71 Palestinians have been killed on suspicion of serving as spies and informers, according to the Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group.

Two were publicly executed by the Palestinian Authority after rapid proceedings that made little pretence of being a fair trial. The others were victims of vigilante justice exacted by Palestinian armed groups - mainly those linked to Fatah. They were killed by the mob.

Most of the bodies were dumped in waste ground or in unmarked graves, denied a proper burial in a Muslim graveyard. Rajoub, however, escaped that final insult.

The reason for such hatred is evident. Since the uprising began the Israeli army has used helicopter gunships, tanks, and booby-trapped cars to assassinate 82 Palestinian activists and militants and 31 bystanders.

It hunted them down with information provided by the network of collaborators in the West Bank and Gaza.

The army has also protected its informants. When it reoccupied the West Bank last month troops headed for the jails to free prisoners held on suspicion of collaborating. The 130 collaborators held in Hebron's two Palestinian prisons

disappeared, moved to other villages in the West Bank where their personal histories were unknown, or to Israel proper.

But that was too late for Rajoub.

On April 20 his wife visited him in jail. He was weak and had developed asthma. But Mrs Rajoub was hopeful. A few weeks earlier Rajoub's superior in the hierarchy of informers, Ismail Abu Hmeid, had secured his own release by paying a bribe of \$100,000 (£65,000) to the Palestinian Authority.

Mrs Rajoub was finalising the arrangement to sell the family plot of land and had settled on the terms for buying her husband his freedom: the equivalent of \$15,000 in cash plus his 1997 four-wheel drive vehicle.

She told him he would not be in jail much longer. But the cosy business arrangement was coming to a close.

Two days after her last visit to the prison Zalom was assassinated in the streets of Hebron.

His followers in the al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades wanted retribution. Although Rajoub had been in jail for 18 months and was in no position to have given the Israelis any current information on Zalom's whereabouts, his earlier notoriety made him a prime target for revenge.

Months later Mrs Rajoub remains shocked at the collapse of the deal. "My husband was in jail for a year and a half. He had nothing to do with Zalom's assassination," she said. "We were in the middle of negotiations. My sense of things was that if I paid the money he would be released".

Palestinian security officials in Hebron deny that there was such a deal. They also say they were powerless to prevent the men from al-Aqsa Brigades taking Rajoub and the two others from prison. But few people in Dura believe that story.

"I was not surprised, but of course always there is an ambivalent feeling because he was also a

victim," Mr Amayreh said.

"What happened is the epitome of the entire Palestinian tragedy: Palestinians killing Palestinians. Musa Rajoub and the likes of him are not immaculate people. But they themselves are victims of the Israeli occupation." In a living room plastered with images of Arab militancy - Lebanese and Palestinian fighters, at least four pictures of Saddam Hussein, and one of Osama bin Laden - his neighbour Bassein Zeer describes a man who was ready to use his connections with the Israeli authorities to benefit others - for a fee. Mr Zeer, a dealer in illegal weapons, had frequent need of his services.

He said Rajoub interceded with Israel on at least two occasions to keep him out of jail. "Not just me, he used to help a lot of people. If you needed a building permit or wanted to get people out of jail, you went to Musa. He used to walk in the streets of Dura, and say: 'If I do anything bad to my own village, then you are welcome to kill me'.

That shameful collusion between patriotism and practical need is crucial to the position of collaborators in Palestinian society.

"They opened fire on their bodies. Minimum each one took not less than 20 bullets," a researcher from the Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group said.

Then the bodies were strung up for the mob - half-naked carcasses by this point for the boys who stoned, spat at and stubbed out cigarettes on cold and greying flesh.

According to witnesses interviewed by human rights organisations, no one tried to stop the ghastly spectacle or to persuade the mob that the men deserved to be put on trial.

But to try to stem this revolutionary challenge to the utter fraud of bourgeois 'democracy' and 'justice' fronting for ruthless capitalist warmongering-exploitation all round the world, it is once again the fake-'lefts' who try to come to the western system's rescue (i.e. imperialism's rescue) with their "condemnation" of such raw revolutionary justice as this Palestinian lynch-law, in line with their "condemnation" of Sept 11 and of the Hamas suicide bombers, - all dismissed via the fake-'left' outrageous abuse of 'Marxism' to pretend that the founders of scientific communist understanding "had no sympathy with" so-called "terrorism and Islamic fundamentalism", etc.

Complete lies, - as the *EPSR* has repeatedly quoted chapter and verse for from the works of Marx, Engels, and Lenin, - to all of which the cowardly fake-'lefts' cannot and won't reply.

But although the fake-'left' of all 57 varieties stay loyal to reformists bourgeois ideol-

ogy, the relentless passage of imperialist-crisis events themselves continues to undermine Western imperialism's brain-washing grip on international understanding.

Even some Jewish citizens of the 'Israeli' Zionist colonisation of Palestine are prepared to admit publicly that those responsible for the colonial occupation of Palestine since 1948 have no standing to dismiss the Palestinian fightback as "terrorism" no matter what sort of pain and damage it inflicts. These guerrilla-war methods have been virtually described as "justified" even by people who have had their own children killed in 'Israel' by the Palestinian resistance:

Ethics are not black and white - they are all white. Ethics have to be free of vengefulness and rashness. Every act must be carefully weighed before a decision is made to see whether it meets strict ethical criteria. Our ethics are hanging by a thread, at the mercy of every soldier and politician.

It is unethical to kill innocent Israeli or Palestinian women and children. It is also unethical to control another nation and to lead it to lose its humanness. It is patently unethical to drop a bomb that kills innocent Palestinians. It is blatantly unethical to wreak vengeance upon innocent bystanders.

It is, on the other hand, supremely ethical to prevent the death of any human being. But if such prevention causes the futile death of others, the ethical foundation for such prevention is lost. A nation that cannot draw the line is doomed eventually to apply unethical measures against its own people. The worst in my mind is not what has already happened but what I am sure one day will. And it will - because the political and military leadership does not even have the most basic integrity to say: "we are sorry": We lost sight of our ethics long before the suicide bombings. The breaking point was when we started to control another nation.

My son Arik was born into a democracy with a chance for a decent, settled life. Arik's killer was born into an appalling occupation, into an ethical chaos. Had my son been born in his stead, he may have ended up doing the same. Had I myself been born into the political and ethical chaos that is the Palestinians' daily reality, I would certainly have tried to kill and hurt the occupier; had I not, I would have betrayed my essence as a free man. Let all the self-righteous who speak of ruthless Palestinian murderers take a hard look in the mirror and ask themselves what they would have done had they been the ones living under occupation. I can say for myself that I, Yitzhak Frankenthal, would have undoubtedly become a freedom fighter and would have killed as many on the other side as I possibly could. It

is this depraved hypocrisy that pushes the Palestinians to fight us relentlessly - our double standard that allows us to boast the highest military ethics, while the same military slays innocent children. This lack of ethics is bound to corrupt us.

My son Arik was murdered when he was a soldier by Palestinian fighters who believed in the ethical basis of their struggle against the occupation. My son Arik was not murdered because he was Jewish but because he is part of the nation that occupies the territory of another. I know these are concepts that are unpalatable, but I must voice them loud and clear, because they come from my heart - the heart of a father whose son did not get to live because his people were blinded with power.

As much as I would like to do so, I cannot say that the Palestinians are to blame for my son's death. That would be the easy way out, but it is we, Israelis, who are to blame because of the occupation. Anyone who refuses to heed this awful truth will eventually lead to our destruction.

It is we who insist on maintaining our control over them; it is we who escalate the situation in the region and feed the cycle of bloodshed. I regret to say it, but the blame is entirely ours.

I do not mean to absolve the Palestinians and by no means justify attacks against Israeli civilians. No attack against civilians can be condoned. But as an occupation force it is we who trample over human dignity, it is we who crush the liberty of Palestinians and it is we who push an entire nation to crazy acts of despair.

Yitzhak Frankenthal is the chairman of the Families Forum. This is an edited version of a speech he made at a rally in Jerusalem on Saturday July 27 2002.

And whose is the real "terror", more and more bourgeois journalists are asking as the capitalist world splits on these previously unanimous ideological questions of always instantly condemning as "terrorist violence" all revolutionary resistance everywhere immediately it occurs:

Israeli leaders seem to have modified their strategy in the light of the international criticism of their behaviour in Jenin in April and the bombing of the house in Gaza city. In the newspaper *Ha'aretz*, the analyst Amir Oren wrote this week that the prime minister, Ariel Sharon, and the top brass are adopting a new policy of "restraint" in place of their previous tactic of immediate, costly and escalated responses to suicide attacks.

They are said to be awaiting for the coming American war to remove Saddam Hussein, a new and more moderate leadership to replace Yasser Arafat and the completion of a security fence between Israel and the central part of the West Bank. In the meantime

they will hold back from massive actions, provided the level of Palestinian terror attacks remains "tolerable". This is an undefinable and volatile concept, Oren conceded, and although the Israeli public's tolerance level today is much higher than it was a year ago, it could change suddenly. Another massive suicide bomb could produce demands for heavy reprisals again.

If this is the latest Israeli military spin, the reality for Palestinians is that even "restraint" by the Israeli army is enough to make their lives miserable. The army may no longer be destroying vast chunks of Palestinian cities, but it continues to terrify Palestinian civilians by indiscriminate shooting. One night last week I sat in a Palestinian home in Khan Yunis in the Gaza strip, while Israeli tanks lit up the night sky with flares. Prolonged bursts of machine-gun fire sent bullets flying only a few feet above the roofs of the city. Terrified women and children hurried into the dark streets to seek shelter with relatives or neighbours further away from the source of the firing.

The army still sends tanks and troops into Palestinian towns for forays of several days, as it did in Jenin last week, or for a single night as it did twice in the northern part of the Gaza strip. Curfews are slapped on or lifted without notice, making life for all Palestinians unpredictable and humiliating. All except "humanitarian" movement between Palestinian towns on the West Bank is banned.

House demolitions as a collective punishment are being stepped up. While UN-funded bulldozers slowly cart away the rubble of Jenin's city centre, cautiously searching for the unexploded munitions which still lurk there, Israeli dynamite teams are at work in other parts of Jenin. We saw a three-storey building which had been blown up a few hours before the UN report was published. The army said troops had found explosives and other evidence that the building was "a bomb factory".

The troops' dynamiting wrecked several nearby shops and flats. "We are tired and exhausted"; said one desperate trader as he showed us the ruins of his shop. "This is the worst time in 35 years of the occupation." In other parts of the West Bank more than 20 homes have been blown up in the last seven days because they belonged to suicide bombers or their families.

The US defence secretary, Donald Rumsfeld, took the Bush administration further into Sharon's grip this week by talking about the "so-called occupied territories": He seemed to justify Israel's tenure by arguing that Israel's neighbours jumped into war and "lost a lot of real estate because Israel prevailed".

After the recent UN report on Jenin and other West Bank cities the Israeli government's defenders have made great play of the word "massacre": They leapt on the fact that the report did not use the

word and cited a total of 22 dead civilians rather than 500, as some Palestinian leaders had claimed. The notion of massacre is relative: In Kosovo and Chechnya the deaths of two dozen innocent people in a single military operation were often described as massacres. But the key criticism of Israel in the UN report on Jenin was not a matter of semantics nor the issue of how many civilians died. It was Israel's comprehensive violation of the laws of war.

The report pointed out that Israel is a contracting party to the Geneva convention, under which the Palestinian residents of the occupied territories are "protected persons". They may not be subjected to "humiliating or degrading treatment or acts of collective punishment or reprisals": Their property may not be destroyed unless it is "rendered absolutely necessary by military operations".

The UN criticised the protracted curfews and, in Gaza's case, the border closures imposed by Israel on Palestinian cities which have blocked medical supplies, ruined the Palestinian economy and exacerbated poverty. It condemned the vandalism of schools and government buildings by Israeli troops. It pointed out that, although Jenin was the focus of its inquiry, Nablus suffered more hardship and death during Israel's offensive. In 18 days of fighting, around 50 civilians died in Nablus while Israel lost four soldiers. More homes were wrecked in Nablus, although the area of destruction was not so compact as in Jenin.

The aftermath of the two most heavily debated episodes in Israel's latest war has been captured on scores of video clips but no preparation can prevent a wave of awe and anger from flooding over you at the scene - awe at the destructive power of modern weapons, anger at the indiscriminate slaughter of civilians. The Jenin havoc took place over 15 days in April. Homes were first hit at random from helicopters and tanks with fire that, by the nature of its heaviness, could not be targeted accurately. After 13 Israeli soldiers died in an ambush, army bulldozers systematically levelled the area, crushing around 250 buildings, in some cases with their occupants inside. In Gaza last month the destruction took

less than 15 seconds. Learning that Salah Shehade, the military leader of the militant Hamas group, was inside a building, an Israeli air force commander dispatched an F-16 to demolish it, even though it must have been clear that a one tonne bomb on an apartment block at night was likely to kill everyone asleep. Nine children and five adults died, as well as Shehadeh.

As long as the occupation continues, resistance in one form or another is bound to go on.

The US Department of Defence and the CIA know perfectly well that today's Iraq poses no threat to anyone in the region, let alone in the United States.

To argue otherwise is dishonest. They know, for example, that al-Dora, formerly a production centre for vaccine against foot and mouth disease on the outskirts of Baghdad, and al-Fallujah, a pesticide and herbicide manufacturing unit in the western desert, are today defunct and beyond repair. The UN concluded the former had been involved in biological agent research and development and the latter in the production of materials for chemical warfare. UN disarmament personnel permanently disabled al-Dora in 1996. During a visit with a German TV crew to al-Dora in mid-July - a site chosen by me and not the Iraqi authorities - I found it in the same destroyed condition in which I had last seen it in 1999.

Al-Fallujah was partially destroyed in 1991 during the Gulf war and again in December 1998, during operation desert fox. In between a UN disarmament team disabled all facilities in any way related to weapons of mass destruction there, including the castor oil production unit. My visit this month disclosed beyond any doubt that the castor oil unit was inoperable. Remnants of other production facilities are used to manufacture herbicides and pesticides for plant protection and household use.

One does not need to be a specialist in weapons of mass destruction to conclude that these sites had been rendered harmless and have remained in this condition. The truly worrying fact is that the US Department of Defence has all of this information. Why then, one must ask, does the Bush administration want to include Iraq in its



Remains of a car, in which five Palestinians were travelling, after being hit by an Israeli rocket.

fight against terrorism? Is it really too far-fetched to suggest that the US government does not want UN arms inspectors back in Iraq? Do they fear that this would lead to a political drama of the first order since the inspectors would confirm what individuals such as Scott Ritter have argued for some time, that Iraq no longer possesses any capacity to produce weapons of mass destruction?

This indeed would be the final blow to the "war against Iraq" policy of the Bush administration, a policy that no-one else wants. The Iraqis would be well advised to seize this opportunity and open their doors without delay to time-limited arms inspectors, thereby confirming that they indeed have nothing to hide.

This would make a US war against Iraq next to impossible and start the long journey towards the country's return to normality. What was it that Paul Wolfowitz said on the west front of the US Capitol on April 15? "May God bless all the peacemakers in the world." He still has a chance to be among them.

Hans von Sponeck was the UN humanitarian aid coordinator for Iraq from 1998-2000 and has just returned from a two-week stay in Iraq

German imperialism's announcement in advance that it will not join in with the US fascist-warmongering aggression against Iraq is the most revealing development of all.

It signals to all who want to hear it that Washington's neo-colonial blitzkrieging, – to intimidate all anti-imperialist revolt everywhere and to divert the world's attention from the ultimate calamitous economic failure of the monopoly-bourgeois "free market" system, – is basically a losing hand in history, and not a winning one.

Germany's technological, industrial, and arms-race profiteering might have no 'moral' scruples whatever about joint imperialist marauding against defenceless Third World targets, and played a lucrative role for itself in the Balkan wars and in the Gulf War, for example.

But what Germany's stance now reflects, disregarding its undoubted electoral opportunist motives as well, is that as the West's disastrous economic crisis relentlessly deepens, – and as the already-intolerable conditions of Third World slump deteriorate steadily further, then this previously casual neo-colonialist bullying by the West is likely to run into ever more formidable opposition, – and even **defeats**.

And it is in circumstances of imperialist defeats that

ever-wider-spreading **revolutions** start to topple the less-successful or more blameable imperialist regimes; and all the imperialist powers start to fall out among themselves, invariably with terrifying trade-war and warmongering consequences against each other.

It isn't needed to read too much specifically into German doubts about the wisdom of US warmongering against Iraq (such as anticipating defeat there; or expecting oil-supply upheavals and new alliances to be formed with the upset oil producing region; or predicting even a maverick imperialist pact with some anti-Western feeling in the Middle East region, for example, – such as German imperialism struck the world with in 1939 by signing a non-aggression pact with the real hate-target of resurgent Western arms-race warmongering, the USSR).

All that has to be noted is that mighty German imperialism has decided virtually for the first time since 1945, and certainly the first time so ostentatiously and on such a big issue, – to deliberately go out of step with US imperialism.

Huge implications are afoot for the whole imperialist crisis-system.

In acting as if it either cannot see all these disasters happening to the imperialist system (economic crash; warmongering cover-up; inter-imperialist splits; spontaneous revolutionary responses all round the world; etc, etc) or else can no longer believe in the dramatic world revolutionary perspectives that a Marxist science analysis of such extraordinary phenomena can formulate, – the fake-'left' is demonstrating for certain how bourgeois ideology always maintains the tendency to keep reasserting itself globally all the time that the international socialist revolution still remains so far incompleting, as Marxism-Leninism explained must be the case.

Thus the fake-'lefts' are part of the bourgeois ideological camp, so their perpetual unreliability as serious anti-imperialists, or any kind of anti-imperialists at all, is hardly surprising.

And hence the huge changes in the world, about to shatter the whole basis of **all** bourgeois ideology for all time, – are being more readily reflected in straightforward middle-class opinion (honest objective Jews who are

beginning to understand the **impossible contradiction** that having a state of 'Israel' at all, represents) rather than in the role-play posturing of the petty-bourgeois fake-'left'.

It is in...capitalist economic crisis as a unique phenomenon that the revolutionary essence itself of the huge changes that the world is hurtling towards becomes graspable. Total upheaval and breakdown is the core of this revolutionary understanding, – and imminence or otherwise of a long period of chaotic revolutionary turmoil is a naturally vital key to winning sympathy for anti-imperialist agitation on Leninist lines (No 1188 10-06-03).

In addition to thousands of billions of debts, the US state just casually adds another \$2bn a month to pay for its messy repression in Iraq.

But how desperate a last-ditch move might this be (in terms of the global imperialist financial crisis where the credit-based "surpluses" of capital finally stop being an ever-renewable stimulus to still further imperialist expansion, and literally start choking the system to death (by swamping the limited available profitability on Earth, created by exploitable labour power in Marx's analysis of all booms' limitations and eventual slump-destruction regrouping)).????

Against even widespread imperialist objections, the Iraqi state has been smashed.

Apart from oil-supply security and other buccaneering corporate interests, American imperialism has another great stake in the region in ZOP (Zionist-Occupied-Palestine, called 'Israel'), a stooge outpost of American monopoly capitalist interests in the Middle East, forever able and willing to act as the USA's mailed fist whenever any dirty work needs doing by way of cutting down to size any upstart Arab nationalism which might think of challenging America's domination of the region.

This whole imperialist enterprise is in crisis in the Mid-East.

Incapable of a Marxist grasp that this is because the world imperialist system is in crisis, fundamentally, Washington has been driven into lashing out against the perceived causes.

There, a lifetime's **pretence** of 'progressive' struggle now leaves no mental space for simple objective observation of **real** opportunities for change on the way. EPSR

Growing worldwide anti-imperialist revolt has seen the Palestinian national liberation revolution grow steadily towards destroying any meaningful Zionist "security".

An American blitzkrieg on the Intifada is politically out of the question (so far), and in any case what good would it do where the even more ruthless, brutal, and well-equipped Zionist forces cannot succeed in colonising the revolt into silence.

Kidding themselves that Iraqi mischief making and anti-imperialist defiance was a key part of the Zionists' problem, Iraq had to be destroyed on any pretext going.

But the USA had to do it because of the uproar that a Zionist blitzkrieg would have caused.

In this perspective, what drove the imperialists to such desperate measures, ones that have now resulted, it is appearing, in no let-up whatever in the Zionists' Palestinian difficulties, but now a totally alienated Iraq as well, whose growing anti-imperialist liberation resistance is only likely to feed into Palestinian resistance more strongly and genuinely than ever Saddam's posturing mischief-making was achieving.????

Allowing for the strangely twisted language of the bourgeois press which takes US imperialism's "peace" push in the Middle East at face value, this capitalist media report hints at an American state desperate to cut its losses prior to life-or-death major world struggles to come when the capitalist crisis really erupts:

THE chances of progress in the

Middle East are cast so easily in terms of personalities that it is easy to forget the overshadowing disaster of Israel's economy - and the fact that this threat is now itself a force for peace.

The Prime Minister, Ariel Sharon, said as much a fortnight ago, in remarks which caused a shock on several fronts. "I think the idea that it is possible to continue keeping 3.5 million Palestinians under occupation - yes, it is occupation, you might not like the word, but what is happening is occupation - is bad for Israel, and bad for the Palestinians, and bad for the Israeli economy."

Inevitably, his choice of the word "occupation" dominates analysis of his comments. But the pointed, separate reference to the economy, from a man so identified with Israel's security and politics, made waves. It has been in recession for nearly three straight years since the start of the Palestinian intifada, and its economic statistics are bleak on every front.

Since September 2000, according to government figures, its gross domestic product (GDP) has fallen by 3 per cent overall, and by 7 per cent per head.

Much of the contraction has come in the private sector, the bursting of the dot com bubble has added to the nightmare for Israel's large high-technology sector. Tourism has collapsed, plunging by nearly two thirds in the first quarter of this year.

The closure of businesses has pushed the public sector up to about 55 per cent of GDP. Meanwhile, tax revenues are plummeting because of the recession.

The United States has been well aware, in these conditions, of the extra value of its economic help to Israel. In April, Congress gave an extra \$1 billion grant for military assistance and \$9 billion in loan guarantees, on top of the normal \$2.7 billion in annual aid.

The US has made some of the guarantees, which Israel needs to repay government bonds and support the budget deficit, conditional on economic reform, according to reports. The US has indicated, too, that it would take a dim view of continued large subsidies to the West Bank settlements.

In doing so President Bush appears to have adopted similar tactics to his father, who attempted to use a freeze in loan guarantees to halt settlement activity.

The message about economic reform also appears to have got through; the strength of Mr Sharon's position at home means that he may be able to push through unpopular changes. Last month the Finance Minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, three months into his new job, proposed an emergency austerity budget which amounted to a blunt acknowledgement of past mismanagement.

He aims to slash huge areas of government spending, particularly education and welfare - although not defence. He proposed wage cuts for those who remained in the public sector of 8 per cent. Mr Netanyahu is scheduled to meet the main credit rating agencies in London and New York later this month to try to persuade them not to lower the rating on Israel's debt.

It would be easy to overstate the role that the American economic lever has had in bringing about the shift in Mr Sharon's position. But it appears to have played some part. More significant, however, seems to be the recognition by Mr Sharon, represented in his remarks a fortnight ago, as well as in Mr Netanyahu's budget, that the conflict with the Palestinians could squander all the rewards of Israel's economic success, and that preventing this is an urgent need in itself.

In a deepening crisis, routine warmongering repression to keep US imperialism in the saddle starts to become impossibly costly.

At the 11th hour when all is nearly lost to uncontrollable economic crisis, launch a desperate, make-or-break, warmongering adventure to try to force everything back under control again.

The fear of collapse leads to the warmongering beginnings of World War III, which only then brings the brink of collapse even closer. Build Leninism. EPSR supporters.

NAZI viciousness and despair of the Western imperialist onslaught on the Middle East, – gunning down innocent bystanders without a care; brutal terror searches of any and every household at random; mass detentions without trial in concentration camps; all the daily reality of "life" in Palestine, Iraq, and Afghanistan, underlines the disaster for the global anti-imperialist struggle of fighting without a Marxist-Leninist perspective. But even now, diehard Stalinists, Trots, and other Revisionists, – concealing their opportunism – still won't face up to reality(No 1195 29-07-03).

...There is an even bigger problem with *Lalkar's* even longer reportage on the Zionist warmongering crisis.

The silence from *Lalkar* on the *EPSR's* questions over "no-defeat" demands or revolutionary perspective to meet imperialist warmongering disaster in Iraq, – are loud enough.

The silence from *Lalkar* on Stalinism's responsibility for the grossest imperialist warmongering degeneracy of all, – the genocidal Zionist armed colonisation of Palestine from 1947 onwards, and *Lalkar's* covering-up of it, – is positively ear-splitting.

The article ends heroically: "The Zionist state is bound to end up as a by-word for beastliness and as a historical abortion."

Too true, but what on Earth does *Lalkar* think it is playing at to still, nevertheless, recommend a "two state solution", – the very last word in Stalinist peaceful-coexistence class-collaborating barminess which never could be, and never ought to be, either.

This is taking living in the last years of Stalin's fantasy world, daft enough in itself, to even loonier extremes.

Zionism's ever-worsening warmongering crisis is the **living proof** that the Stalinist daydream of permanent peaceful coexistence between an imperialist half-domination of the world and a workers state half-domination of the world, was a demented and tragic joke from the start, but here are the museum-Stalinist Revisionists, still peddling this damaging nonsense right up to the last minute before the world's revolutionary reality at last reasserts itself openly once again, and poses the question of whether imperialist tyranny

is going to continue to rule the world, – in which case there will be no serious Palestinian "state" worth talking about, just a continuation of a slave-like captivity within Bantustan barbed-wire reservations (or even worse) under non-stop armed Zionist surveillance, exploitation, and endless harassment; or whether revolutionary anti-imperialism is going to rule the world, in which case the monstrous attempted armed-colonisation of the land of Palestine for the genocide of its native nation, will be sent packing into the annals of history's worse nightmares.

What genuine socialist understanding or belief does *Lalkar* have at all, to conjecture a world which the international working class would supposedly be content with where the Zionist colonial outrage, – "a byword for beastliness and a historical abortion" (to put it mildly in *Lalkar's* own words) – was still inflicting its NAZI terror on the Palestinian nation???

Moreover, why would any determined revolutionary socialist leadership for the world (*Lalkarism*, supposedly) be so weird as to offer to the Zionist NAZIS -

"the Road Map as the last chance for a two state solution, the time for which is running out fast. If the Zionists are stupid enough to throw away this last chance, the Palestinians might be forced to re-evaluate the two-state solution".

Could this bizarre proposal for this NAZI police-state colony to hurry up and save itself, be explained by *Lalkar's* congenital incapacity to at last think seriously about Stalinist Revisionism's monstrous, cowardly, treacherous imbecility in agreeing to Western imperialism's plan for an armed Zionist



Devastation of Fallujah in the 2004 US invasion of Iraq



Israeli soldier attacking a Palestinian journalist outside a military control point in the Beit Il district, near the city of Ramala, in the occupied West Bank.

colony in the first place on the modern homeland of the Palestinian nation???????

Generosity towards a national geographic land claim so famously fixed in literature 2,000 years ago???????

So do the far-more-recently ousted 'Red Indian' native-American nations get the USA back some time?? Or the even-more-recently expropriated Aboriginal nations of Australia get all their richly-cultural-heritaged land back??? Will the Danes get Yorkshire back?? Can the Welsh reclaim the Home Counties???? Etc, etc, etc.

It is all special pleading historical religious nonsense by a most ruthlessly cynical and sinister monopoly-imperialist-network-plan from the end of 19th century climax of Western colonial rape and pillage of a foully conned and fleeced world. Why would any "revolutionary socialist plan" of any description want anything at all to do with such a rotten, scabby, NAZI master-race deception?? Because the demented hero worship of Stalinist "theoretical" nonsense demands it.

Back in the real world, the Zionist imperialist juggernaut blitzkriegs on, unstoppable, giving the international working-class the clearest possible warning of the ruthless murderous tyranny that lies in store for the whole planet as the monopoly-capitalist warmongering crisis gets more and more into its stride.

It is Marxist-Leninist science to analyse how it is the Zionist imperialists' own arrogant ruling class despair (as their lucrative power-giving economic system plunges ever deeper into **insoluble** "overproduction" difficulties), – which will **teach** the international working class its revolutionary business, – exactly as the *EPSR* has consistently, for 24 years, explained was going to happen, making a revolutionary perspective for mankind the only philosophical sanity.

It is the only world we live in, – the world of ever-recurring imperialist crises, – that **makes** it also a world of **revolutionary** progress only, – as far as any **real** changes are concerned for the planet's vast proletarian masses.

Hear these realities admitted to in capitalism's own press admissions:

A thousand Israeli soldiers grappled for hours with dedicated Jewish settlers for control of a barren, rocky hilltop in the heart of what may become a Palestinian state.

The Israeli prime minister told Mr Powell that it showed he was prepared to make "painful concessions" in pursuit of peace. Officials called it coincidence that troops were sent in as the secretary of state arrived to press the Israelis to honour commitments made to President Bush at last month's summit in Aqaba, Jordan.

But nearly two months later the settlers are back and this time the army is protecting them – and Mr Sharon – from embarrassing questions.

"Everything at the moment is in a very delicate state," said Michal Ben Avraham, one of the settlers who told the army to stop this reporter from entering Yitzhar.

"At the moment, there is a complete Jewish presence. The army, as well as the settlers, are living in tents. Sometimes an officer comes up and says: 'Take this tent away.' We take it away and then put it up again."

Before Mr Sharon's meeting with Mr Bush at the White House Israel has claimed that it is fulfilling the promises made at Aqaba.

"Israel is continuing to dismantle unauthorised outposts according to a defence ministry plan," the prime minister's office said. But the picture from the hilltops looks very different.

Dror Etkes, who monitors Jewish settlement activity for the Israeli campaign group Peace Now, says that new outposts have gone up as fast as the government has torn down existing ones.

"There's no serious dismantling and the remaining outposts are becoming bigger and more established" he said. "The ones that have gone are minor, while quality construction continues. The settlers are more established than they were when Aqaba took place."

The council of settler rabbis urged Jews not to resist the dismantling of the outposts but to build new ones. One particularly controversial settlement, Havat Gilad, was technically torn down but the army permitted it to be rebuilt about 100 metres (330ft) away.

"Before, Havat Gilad was just tents," Mr Etkes said. "Now there's four containers and a new extension to the road. It's much larger than the original outpost. It's the same at other outposts where settlers have been building permanent houses in the past weeks."

After Mitzpeh Yitzhar was torn down a new outpost was established nearby called Ariel Hill "in honour of the prime minister, who has established many outposts".

The settlers at Yitzhar, like the Palestinians, believe the dismantling of their outpost was merely a show for Mr Powell.

"The army was very interested in the outpost for the past two years. It set up listening devices to listen in to the hostile [Palestinian] village below," Mrs Ben-Avraham said.

"Ariel Sharon – Mr Security, Mr War, Mr Strategy – knows better than us how important this post is. It's very hard for us to believe he is playing with our future."

One of Mr Sharon's critics on the right, Benjamin Netanyahu, has tried to portray the removal of the settlers as a form of ethnic cleansing even though he approved the removal of an earlier outpost near Yitzhar when he was prime minister six years ago.

But critics of the settlements say that the government has been duplicitous by giving settler leaders a list of targeted outposts and inviting them to seek legal injunctions against dismantling them.

"The evacuation of outposts is nothing but a great fraud," said Yossi Sarid, a parliamentarian and former leader of the leftwing Meretz party. "Sharon is interested in convincing President Bush that it is very hard for him to keep his commitment and uproot outposts."

"He no doubt also asked settler leaders to oppose the evacuation on the ground so that the whole world would know how hard Sharon's life is, what a great sacrifice he is making."

Mr Sarid accuses the Israeli army of siding with the settlers.

"In [one] place several outlaw settlers agreed to be, evacuated on the condition that the road beneath would remain 'sterile'. And the army, the settlers' servant, agreed, of course. I heard the word 'sterile' and I got goose bumps. The meaning is a road 'free of Arabs'."

And to this aggressive arrogance, covering up their despairing fears that the imperialist system's economic crisis-collapse might lose them **everything**, – all that the *Lalkar* Stalinist Revisionists can say to them (latest issue) is:

"It is time that Sharon, his party, and his government, were subjected by the leaders of public opinion in Europe and America to similar opprobrium, and in the same forthright and trenchant manner, to which Einstein and his fellow intellectuals subjected Begin back in December 1948."

And it'll do about as much good as that peaceful coexistence gibberish achieved then, inspired by Stalin's global class collaboration delusions, – precisely **nothing** about the Deir Yassin massacre of a Palestinian village which it was "protesting" about, an exem-

plary slaughter which made the young Zionist terrorist thug Menachem Begin's name as he lorded this "triumph" to the world's media and then went fundraising around New York, thus attracting Einstein's predictably liberal-useless "opprobrium".

But now as then, Stalinist opportunism cannot resist abandoning every scrap of revolutionary understanding in order to roll on its back when tickled by big-name agreement to peacefully coexist with "communism", - Einstein's useless "progressive protest" lauded then; Scargill's useless "progressive party" sucked-up to now.

Returning to the Leninist real world once again, one fascinating possibility looms ever larger, briefly discussed by the EPSR many times before, and one which helps the investigation and understanding of imperialist warmongering's essential nature and origins in this process of speculating about it.

The international working-class in the West is still desperately politically ill-informed and unsuspecting about just how bad and how widespread this inter-imperialist warmongering crisis is shaping to become.

The ultimate theoretical preparation has got to be that a World War III, as much worse again than WWII was worse than WWI, is on the cards, given the scale and extent of the economic devastation worldwide that is likely to be caused by one of the more commonly expected features of the coming crash, - namely a world currency collapse (i.e. a dollar collapse) which global capitalism has never truly experienced before.

And it is the ruthless, butcher everything, and bully-everyone mentality of NAZI aggressiveness that the American Empire (the world's mightiest ever) seems to be developing, which is constantly raising the question of "who's next??"

And it is the essential inter-capitalist-economic rivalry character of imperialist warmongering crisis (which has plunged the NATO colonial exploitative gangsters at each others throats over (strangely) the unilateral US determination to blitzkrieg a string of Third World "rogue states" whether the other imperialists agree to it or not), - which demonstrates the possibility in these topsy-turvy times that it is US imperialism itself which might end up in conflict with its own Zionist imperialist protégés at some point, giving the region an astonishing imperialist-war opportunity to turn the tables on its monopoly capitalist Western exploiters via **revolution**.

The older imperialist powers aren't at war with each other again **yet**, but although it is still early days in the international economic collapse fall-out so far, nonetheless it is the **potential** war destruction harm **to each other**, from crisis-suppressing warmonger-

ing blitzkrieg, that is already alarming some European powers into open condemnation of their formerly close US imperialist "ally", blasting-off unilaterally on Third World bullying which they themselves would normally be not just be automatically in favour or, or turning a blind eye to, but as often as not eagerly participating in themselves.

And from the hysterical tension of highly costly or highly lucrative Third-World-warmongering triumphs or disasters putting the age-old anti-communist imperialist "allies" at loggerheads with each other, it is no step at all to imagine how Washington could rapidly unleash fearful anger on its normally obedient Zionist imperialist sidekicks should things start to go wrong or get out of hand in the extremely-fraught war-front situation that the imperialist crisis is now slithering uncontrollably into.

Build Leninism
EPSR

Cynical *Guardian* treatment of the Arafat assassination threat as a joke shows that even "liberal democracy" pretensions are giving themselves up as a fraud, including the infamous "two-state solution" nonsense (from the revisionists). (No1200 16-09-03)

In the long run, it is imperialist warmongering reaction which teaches the world its necessary revolutionary Marxist politics and Palestine is the classic current Middle East example of this process at work.

Zionist-NAZI terror just cannot refrain from non-stop brutal tyranny and deliberate personality-destroying humiliation, genocidally imposing torture on an entire nation.

The sick reformist Revisionist "two-state solution", imposed by Stalinist cretinism to cover up the original monstrosity of Moscow's agreement to armed Zionist colonisation of Palestine in the first place in 1947, - is steadily looking more and more like the cynical artificial idiocy that it is, - an arbitrary reformist daydream which, if implemented, would effectively cement the Zionist imperialist land-grab for all time, and compound the tyrannical genocide of the Palestinian nation's homeland, and therefore compound the genocide of the

Palestinian nation itself.

Although still defending the compromiser Arafat himself from more and more Zionist humiliation, a growing sector of Palestinian opinion is turning against the treacherous nonsense of a "two state solution".

There is one country of Palestine with one of the most ancient continuous cultures in the entire world, and from which a Jewish majority has been absent for nearly 2,000 years.

In the more recent shorter historical period than that, England has successively been majority Welsh, Saxon, Danish, and French in ownership, business, statecraft, language, and culture, including venerated books establishing various claimants' "destiny" to rule in the land now known as England.

Can all their "return" to what has been "promised them by God" be expected any day; and will Stalinism and the imperialism-fronting United Nations step in to back up the

claims with armed support????

Palestine has been continuously as "Palestinian" in character as Palestine was before the 1948 Zionist invasion and occupation, for far **longer** than "England" has been definitively "English".

There is one Palestine. Let the Zionist colonisers take their chances within a majority Arab state, - if that majority will tolerate them.

And the logic of all modern history, denouncing and attacking Western imperialism and all its works, dictates that this must be the inevitable final conclusion in Palestine.

Put all reformist Revisionist treacherous compromise and its wretched "two-state solution" into the dustbin of history where it belongs.



The Israeli Zionist regime has its hands stained with the blood of the Palestinian people.

rapidly outnumber the Jews:

Growing numbers of Palestinians and Israelis are realising that a point may have been reached where it is impossible for Israel to disengage from the West Bank and Gaza and leave room and resources for a viable Palestinian state.

Khatib believes the only way forward for Palestinians is to accept Israel's control and demand equal rights, an idea that is gaining momentum among Palestinians.

'When I used to analyse opinion polls, it was clear that support for the one state solution was a fast-growing trend although still a minority. Sooner or later things will need to move in that direction and the fault will lie with Israel's right-wing parties' he said.

In a document sent to the United States last year, the PLO warned: 'If the international community continues to remain unwilling to rein in Israeli settlement construction and expansion, irreversible facts on the ground and the *de facto* apartheid system such facts create will force Palestinian policy-makers to re-evaluate the plausibility of a two-state solution.'

The road network which serves the Israeli West Bank settlements is integrated with the Israeli network as are telecommunications, electricity and water. In many areas it is not clear where the West Bank begins and Israel ends.

Israeli settlements have become so entrenched in the West Bank that according to Diana Buttu, a legal adviser to the PLO, the only direction for the Palestinians would be to call for equality in a single state for both Arabs and Israelis.

However such a state would lose its already slim Jewish majority within a few years because of the high Arab birth rate and the low Jewish birth rate. Currently there are 5.1million Jews and 4.93m Arabs on the territories controlled by Israel. According to projections, in 2020 there will be 6.69m Jews and 8.49m Arabs.

A former Prime Minister of Israel, Ehud Barak, who is preparing for a return to politics, emphasised the danger in an article last week in the Israeli daily, *Yedioth Ahronoth*. He wrote that Sharon's failure to act decisively in creating a Palestinian state would 'endanger the whole Zionist enterprise'.

Furthermore he could already discern a Palestinian position coming to the fore which demands not 'two states for two peoples', but one state from west of the Jordan River.

'However (and so the Palestinians will demand) this should conform to the spirit of the twenty-first century, i.e. be democratic, secular, with "one citizen, one vote." This position is liable to gain support from large parts of the world, as long as no acceptable Israeli plan is on the table, Barak wrote.

And some of the wilier Zionist colonists like Barak are even trying some public moral-guilt cleansing in efforts to concede international "peace treaty" confirmation of the land-grab



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government continues to colonize Palestinian land

deal before it is too late:

It turns out that the 2,000-year struggle for Jewish survival comes down to a state of settlements, run by an amoral clique of corrupt lawbreakers who are deaf both to their citizens and to their enemies. A state lacking justice cannot survive. More and more Israelis are coming to understand this as they ask their children where they expect to live in 25 years. Children who are honest admit, to their parents' shock, that they do not know. The countdown to the end of Israeli society has begun. It is very comfortable to be a Zionist in West Bank settlements such as Beit El and Ofra. The biblical landscape is charming. You can gaze through the geraniums and bougainvilleas and not see the occupation.

Travelling on the fast highway that skirts barely a half-mile west of the Palestinian roadblocks, it's hard to comprehend the humiliating experience of the despised Arab who must creep for hours along the pocked, blockaded roads assigned to him. One road for the occupier, one road for the occupied.

This cannot work. Even if the Arabs lower their heads and swallow their shame and anger for ever, it won't work. A structure built on human callousness will inevitably collapse in on itself.

Note this moment well: Zionism's superstructure is already collapsing like a cheap Jerusalem wedding hall. Only madmen continue dancing on the top floor while the pillars below are collapsing.

We have grown accustomed to ignoring the suffering of the women at the roadblocks. No wonder we don't hear the cries of the abused woman living next door or the single mother struggling to support her children in dignity. We don't even bother to count the women murdered by their husbands.

Israel, having ceased to care about the children of the Palestinians, should not be surprised when they come washed in hatred and blow themselves

up in the centres of Israeli escapism. They consign themselves to Allah in our places of recreation, because their own lives are torture. They spill their own blood in our restaurants in order to ruin our appetites, because they have children and parents at home who are hungry and humiliated. We could kill a thousand ringleaders a day and nothing will be solved, because the leaders come from below - from the wells of hatred and anger, from the "infrastructures" of injustice and moral corruption.

Meanwhile, the Stalinist-Zionist Aaronovitch pens a cocky send-up of Jewish monopoly-finance influence in American capitalist-imperialist circles to "humorously" stem the growing global disgust at Zionism's F-16 slaughter programme against defenceless Palestinian assassination targets.

This Goebbelsian "journalism" needs inundating with non-stop atrocity stories of daily Palestinian humiliation and brutal suffering to see if the *Guardian* finds these "funny" as well.

But all further progress on every anti-imperialist issue will remain bogged down for as long as the great historical

question about the nature of workers states remains unresolved.

Aided by universal Stalinist stupidity and cowardice and by congenital Trotskyite petty-bourgeois anti-communism, - the great key to all Marxist-Leninist science of history namely that all capitalism can be only the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie and nothing else, even in the most "democratic" of parliamentary republics; and all effective replacement workers states, building a publicly-owned and planned socialist economy, can only be the dictatorship of the proletariat for as long as substantial surrounding imperialist power remains active in the world, - remains under a cloud.

Until new globalised imperialist tyranny experiences and vastly clearer working-class consciousness disperses this cloud, the building of long-term effective anti-imperialist struggle will remain anchored in mud and confusion.

And it is the joke "communists" and "Marxists" who refuse to fight on these issues, all of them on the entire



Endless slaughter continues against the Palestinian people

fake-'left' with their wretched "condemnation" of modern "terrorist outrages" which Marx, Engels and Lenin would all have enthusiastically celebrated as humiliating blows to imperialist tyranny (while chiding the laggardly communist movement for failing

to be ahead of these spontaneous responses so as to give a better alternative scientific revolutionary leadership to these anti-imperialist manifestations), – who are the worst obstacle to working-class understanding on these crucial historical questions.

Blowing up US backers of Zionist colonial tyranny is real taste of WWII that capitalism's crisis is plunging into. Zionism is the symbol of Western imperialist world domination. Potentially murderous splits in Washington reflect the world hatred for this collapsing global system and how Western internal conflict will help growing international revolt bring it down. Fake-'left' continues totally misleading the working class about where the real struggle for the planet's socialist future is unfolding (No1205 21-10-03).

American deaths at the hands of Palestinian resistance merely moves imperialism's warmongering crisis onto a more realistic footing and will not harm the PLO's just cause in the slightest.

It is on the front line of Third World revolt that the West is going to lose its cynical conspiracy to maintain its grip on world exploitation via the cover of a ludicrous "war on terrorism".

Where better for these blows against corporate monopoly tyranny to be seen escalating than in Palestine whose genocidal repression by Western finance capital and its Zionist agents is provoking universal outrage.

The entire nonsense about "terrorism being the enemy", doomed anyway, is shown up best of all for its utterly empty and blind stupidity on the issue of Palestine where the Nazi holocaust tactics of the West and Zionism to ethnically cleanse a whole nation from its homeland has turned the territory into just one giant concentration-camp prison for its talented native Arab people, for the last 1,500 years the overwhelming population from the Jordan to the sea (far, far longer than England has been "English") and now left without any serious homeland of their own, evicted by post-1945 Western colonial terror.

The jackboot of imperialist occupation can only be resisted by armed resistance, blowing

up or shooting whatever can be targeted in defiance of barbaric repression.

Now the US imperialist authors of this last great historical outrage by Western colonial tyranny, waging war to subdue the whole Middle East (from Afghanistan to Palestine), or threatening it, — in the joke pretence of a "war on terrorism", – are possibly going to be faced with the decision to come clean and openly strike back themselves at the Palestinians (or just commend more Zionist brutality for doing the job for them); or else just walk away from the challenge, with equally disastrous consequences for this whole sick American warmongering-crisis programme.

The most daunting thing about striking back "to avenge American deaths" is that such brutal imperialist crushing of resistance is already what has failed not just in Palestine but elsewhere round the Middle East as well (apart from notoriously causing catastrophic humiliation for US imperialism (in Vietnam and elsewhere) in earlier challenges to the West's world domination).

The West's Zionists have been non-stop "avenging" and "smiting back" for more than 50 years against any squeak of Arab resistance to this re-imposition of colonial tyranny, and doing it far more ruthlessly and effectively that the less motivated US Empire forces themselves could do.

But it still has not stopped the national liberation "terrorist" revolt gaining steadily and relentlessly in strength, capability, and achievement.

And the Americans themselves have already run into brick walls of their own making in their own attempted colonial occupations "for nation-building purposes" in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Getting yet more bloody setbacks for the Americans in Palestine is likely to be the last straw for US public opinion toleration of this degenerate imperialist warmongering in the twilight of the historic epoch of Western imperialist world domination; – and international opinion will only grow increasingly incandescent against American arrogance and bullying.

But as in Iraq and Afghanistan, just walking away from this growing debacle is a disastrous-looking option as well.

And either way, if this broadening of the Palestinian targeting continues, the whole "Middle-East-peace-process" cover for America's blitzkrieg into the region of the world's greatest oil reserves (and potentially greatest political revolutions), will be blown sky-high.

If Palestine now gets a direct US blitzing (as opposed to American repression via Zionist proxies), the entire Third World could go into uproar.

If the Americans just pretend to ignore it, or walk away, or just let Zionist brutality "avenge" it, then the USA's "peace process" involvement in the Middle East will show up blatantly as merely a complete sham which cannot cope with any real engagement.

This open exposure of Washington's "peace" fraud would be a devastating blow to all the rotten Arab-nationalist and Muslim regimes all round the Middle East who have hitherto sheltered from their own irate anti-Western public opinion, to some extent, on the basis of US promises for "comprehensive just peace settlements" for all, once "rogue-state terrorist disruption" (i.e. Saddam Hussein, al-Qaeda, etc) had been "dealt with".

These regimes have used this ludicrous eyewash so they can continue to sit on their hands and do nothing about the monstrous humiliation for all Arab-nationalist and Muslim "pride" that the armed Zionist tyranny over Palestine (and

other Near-East states, and beyond) has always represented.

Mass discontent with the Western imperialist "New World Order" was already swelling anyway. A bloody end to the sham of US "neutrality" in Palestine, adding to America's mounting discomfort and unpopularity over Iraq and Afghanistan, etc, would bring this anger closer to boiling point.

This Zionist colonial symbolism of Western imperialism's "might is right" unfairness and incompetent economic domination is now receiving more and more open condemnation from the Third World, marking a new decisive stage in monopoly capitalist crisis.

And international bourgeois press opinion has been predictably "alarmed" but also interestingly restrained in its reaction against the "shock" of one particularly outspoken outburst:

ASIA'S longest-serving leader and scourge of the West, Mahathir Mohamad, used his final appearance on the international stage to deliver a typically acerbic speech yesterday warning his fellow Muslims that Islam had reached a low point while Jews ruled the world.

Addressing the opening session of the 57-nation Organisation of the Islamic Conference, the Malaysian Prime Minister said that Israel was "the enemy allied with most powerful nations".

"The Europeans killed six million Jews out of 12 million. But today the Jews rule this world by proxy. They get others to fight and die for them," he said, "1.3 billion Muslims cannot be defeated by a few million Jews."

It was time to plan a counter-attack against the enemies of Islam who treat Muslims with "contempt and dishonour" he said. "We cannot fight them through brawn alone, we must use our brains also." Dr Mahathir said Muslims must learn from Jews and that the Jewish people had "survived 2,000 years of pogroms not by hitting back, but by thinking

..[Jews] invented socialism, communism, human rights and democracy, so that persecuting them would appear to be wrong; so that they can enjoy equal rights with others. With these, they have gained control of the most powerful countries and they, this tiny community, have become a world power."

Nervous accusations of "anti-semitism" have cut no ice. Versions of "master race" or "chosen people" philosophy, such as shared by many religious derangements (Jews included), have been a non-stop feature of Western imperialism's 800 years of world domination.



And the Jewish slant on this ruthless "New World order" imperialist mentality is inevitably influential in Western monopoly corporate policy-making and political circles today, especially in Washington, New York, and London, etc.

What else could possibly explain the sickening Western imperialist bias for the past 56 years condoning Zionist colonial brutality and tyranny, genocidally repressing the Palestinian nation??

It is a grotesque injustice and racial prejudice against the Arabs which is beginning to exasperate and alienate the whole planet and not just "anti-semites" and Muslims, etc.

It is a sinister conspiratorial imbalance which even respectable "liberal" circles, confused enough to be generally "in favour of Israel's right to exist" etc, are beginning to find intolerable and inexplicable.

Listen to the mother of a young British human rights activist who was butchered in cold blood by the Zionist colonists earlier this year:

Last Thursday, I delivered a letter to Mr Blair expressing my despair at the Israeli government's lack of response to our call for a full inquiry into the death of my son, Tom.

While working as a photojournalist, Tom was shot in the head by an Israeli commander in Rafah, Gaza. He had been walking down a calm civilian street where 20 children were playing when snipers began shooting at them. He was carrying the children to safety when he was shot, and was wearing a fluorescent human rights jacket. He posed no threat. His brain is severely damaged and he will not recover.

Following our traumatic seven-

week stay in Israel as we watched our son on the verge of death, we submitted a report to Israel's judge advocate general through the British Foreign Office, and requested a fully transparent inquiry. We included 13 eyewitness statements and considerable photographic evidence of Tom just before and after he was shot.

It has now been six months since Tom was shot, and three-and-a-half months since his case was handed to the Israeli judge advocate general. As yet, we have heard nothing apart from a collection of unutterably bland excuses. "The complexity and subtlety of the examination process," we are told, "demand due consideration and considerable time", and "There was another suicide bombing and so he [the judge advocate general] has a lot to deal with."

We note the sense of urgency with which Britain condemned and apologised for the British passport holding suicide bombers; we note, too, the speed with which America dispatched FBI agents in response to the bombing a week ago which killed three US security personnel at the Erez checkpoint in the Gaza Strip. In Tom's case, as in Rachel Corrie's and others, there has been no urgency at all, and yet the need to ensure that evidence is carefully assessed and gathered is surely no less crucial.

Why should it be for grieving parents to have to arrange interviews with the 13 eyewitnesses to the shooting, or to gather photographic, ballistic, forensic and medical evidence?

The British government ought to have been proactive in collecting and protecting evidence. But while it dragged its feet, the Israeli army demolished the tower from which Tom was shot to move it a few metres down the border. This action alone will make it almost impossible to dispute the claim that the sniper who shot Tom had no clear line of vision. Six months on, eyewitnesses have dispersed, some

have even found themselves inappropriately detained and then deported.

The tragedy that has befallen Tom and our family is a microcosm of the widescale terror felt by thousands of other families in the occupied territories.

I am in ineffable distress after the loss of a son. But I have a regular income, food, running water, electricity, an intact roof over my head, access to a hospital, the knowledge that gunfire is unlikely to endanger my other children on their journey to school and that my sleep is unlikely to be broken by gunfire or the sound of tanks. I have a decent life.

Last week the Israeli army's incursion into Rafah — the largest since the beginning of the intifada three years ago left 120 houses demolished, 1,500 civilians homeless, eight dead and 60 injured. Afterwards, I received an email from Anees, one of Tom's friends in the city, telling me that his house has been demolished. He and the 26 members of his extended family are among those left homeless and very afraid that the Israeli army may come back at any moment. It was this young man who, in a state of complete anguish, lifted Tom from the ground after he was shot.

Why won't Tony Blair represent the interests of his citizens and put significant pressure on Ariel Sharon to conduct a full and transparent inquiry into Tom's death? Polite requests will not do. And why won't he challenge Mr Bush's support of Israel, a regime which is cruel beyond human understanding? I have seen it for myself: the demolition of houses, the destruction of olive groves, the process of depriving people of the ability to earn a living, the closure of checkpoints, the destruction of water supplies and electricity, lethally enforced curfews, humiliation, terror. In short, the dehumanisation of a people.

It should not be necessary to experience the terror of Palestinians in order to act. Britain finds it acceptable to indulge in a façade of diplomacy by abstaining from two critical UN security council votes: one condemning Israel's policy decision to assassinate or expel a state leader, Yasser Arafat; and the other seeking to bar Israel from extending a security fence deep into the West Bank. Both these issues have received worldwide condemnation — on what basis can Britain justify being unclear or undecided about its position on these questions?

I can't help recalling Mr Blair's resolve, when deciding to go to

war. with Iraq, that he did not wish to be accused of inaction or for this to be on his conscience at a later date. Where does his conscience lie now in relation to Britain's inaction over Palestine?

Tom Hurdall, 22, remains in hospital on life support

No wonder that more and more Zionists themselves are condemning the existence of "Israel" as the colonial genocide of the Palestinian nation.

Few of them are yet prepared to speak the really "unspeakable" and to challenge the whole corrupt nonsense of the original Western United Nations thinking in 1947 which arbitrarily decided to lay some of World War III's specific seeds by ordering the Palestinian nation to give their homeland to the powerful Western Jewish imperialist lobby in compensation for what Western imperialism itself had done to mostly poor Jews (in Italy, France, Spain, Denmark, Holland, Norway, Germany, Austria, Poland, Russia, etc, etc) under the impact of monopoly-capitalism's last great "New World Order" upheaval (to try to escape from insoluble international private enterprise "overproduction" economic crisis), — fascism.

But some Zionists with some shreds of "conscience" have become appalled enough by some of the consequences from this demented "promised land" religious bigotry, (allied to Western-imperialist colonial-war-mongering opportunism) to selfishly try to at least minimise the disastrous outcome for "Jewish interests" if this genocidal tyranny goes on for much longer or goes much further:

A BRITISH academic has caused a furore in America by claiming that Israel is an anachronism that should be replaced by a secular binational state of Jews and Palestinians. Critics say that it is effectively a call for the destruction of Israel at a time of increasing anti-semitism.

Tony Judt, a former Oxford history don, writes in the current issue of *The New York Review of Books*, a scholarly journal, that if Israel keeps control of the occupied territories without resorting to unacceptable ethnic cleansing, its Jews will soon be outnumbered by disenfranchised Arabs.

"It is time to think the unthinkable," he writes. "Unless something changes, Israel in half a decade will be neither Jewish nor democratic."

Judt, a liberal Jew and former kibbutznik who previously supported the creation of a Palestinian state alongside Israel, now says that the Middle East peace process is "finished" and that the notion of a two-

state solution is "probably already doomed".

The response from supporters of Israel has been furious. David Frum, former speechwriter for President George W Bush and who helped to invent the term "axis of evil" to describe Iraq, Iran and North Korea, has denounced Judt's article for "genocidal liberalism" that would expose Jews to slaughter and exile. While his views may sound "outlandish" to Americans, Frum warns, they represent a "growing consensus" in Europe.

Judt lives in America where he is a professor of European studies at New York University. He watched the World Trade Center burn from his window on September 11, 2001, and wrote then that he had witnessed the birth of the 21st century.

However, he argues that Bush is drawing America into a widening Middle East conflict that meets the objectives of Israel's foreign policy but is of little use against Al-Qaeda. "Which war are we fighting?" he asks.

Judt concludes: "The depressing truth is that Israel's current behaviour is not just bad for America, though it surely is. It is not even just bad for Israel, as many Israelis silently acknowledge. The depressing truth is that Israel today is bad for the Jews."

John Podhoretz, a neo-conservative commentator, said: "It is the definition of intellectual corruption to say I don't like the way things are, so I'm going to wish them away." A bi-national state was "unthinkable, like assembling Yugoslavia in the middle of the Bosnian war with the Serbs".

Perceived attacks on Israel tend to provoke a strong response in America, particularly in New York, which has the largest concentration of Jewish people outside Israel.

Leon Wieseltier, an old friend of Judt, has written perhaps the most wounding denunciation of Judt's arguments in *The New Republic* magazine. Calling the article "haughty and ugly", he writes: "Judt and his editors have crossed the line from criticism of Israel's policy to criticism of Israel's existence."

Wieseltier said Judt's views came "almost as a personal blow to me". He believes that Judt has grown

tired of being attacked for Israel's behaviour. "I detect the scars of dinners and conferences. He does not wish to be held accountable for things he has not himself done. Judt is embarrassed by Israel. And so Israel must be gone."

This clearly unsympathetic and slightly muddled sounding capitalist press report has nervously refused to note the relentless Jewish-lobby assault on public comment channels in such situations, or the Zionist lobby grip on Bush government reactions.

More uselessly, it also fails to link these fears for Zionism's future with the colonial conquest nightmare created on the ground whereby the murderous effective elimination of Palestine has itself put in doubt the whole nasty rotten "partition" fraud where this human catastrophe started, currently contemptibly going under the name of the "two-state solution" (80% to Western armed-Zionist colonisation; 20% to the crushed and humiliated Palestinian nation) which, under continued Zionist military control, would mean a Palestinian "state" which was never anything more than a wretched concentration camp reservation, and permanent refugee status, effectively.

As the EPSR has long explained, there was never going to be any stopping of the imperialist-colonial domination logic, driving out completely all notion of "fair-play rights for Palestinians", once the West had given the green light to an armed takeover by monopoly-capitalism's Zionist lobby.

This belated whinge for a "two-state" halfway-house genocidal tyranny is possibly the most despicable position of all to adopt, built of 100% hypocrisy and putrid "reformist" delusions of eternal class

collaboration with the imperialist system, and only ever defending itself from criticism via inflammatory jeers of "anti-semitism", the equivalent

of throwing a lighted match into a petrol station, or shouting "fire, fire" for a joke inside a crowded theatre.

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Despite doubts, history will learn to go forward again on a sounder socialist basis, however banal that is considered. And Jewishness will continue to put itself in the front line of anti-imperialist hatred because of the crucial role which that specific monopoly-capitalist influential freemasonry is playing within the broader conglomeration of American imperialist power-interests. And even if anti-US feelings stray into prejudice, their growth is worth having if it means more revolutionary resistance to American domination worldwide. "Anti-semitism" sneer working overtime to blunt anti-imperialist feelings (No1207 04-11-03).

Meanwhile, back at the propaganda battle on the front line of the international class struggle currently being fought, the sneer of "anti-semitism" is working overtime to blunt exposure of the imperialist system's rottenness.

Capitalist press reaction is torn between fond pro-Hitler memories and an awareness that Zionist aggression is now a major imperialist ally and trump card for crucial Middle East smiting:

A European commission opinion poll that claims 60% of Europeans see Israel as the greatest threat to world peace has drawn outraged denunciations of anti-semitism,

The poll surveyed 7,500 people in 15 EU countries who said Israel was a bigger threat to world peace than Iran, North Korea and the United States.

The public in the Netherlands, Austria and Luxembourg were the most fearful.

Israel's diaspora affairs minister, the former Soviet dissident Natan Sharansky, said the poll was further evidence of why Europe is not to be trusted to play a role in the peace process.

"The fact that the majority of Europeans sees Israel as the main danger... is additional proof that behind the 'political' criticism of Israel stands pure anti-semitism. The EU, which shows sensitivity on human rights issues, would do well to stop the rampant brainwashing against and demonising of Israel before Europe deteriorates again to dark sections of its past."

But a former head of Israel's foreign ministry, Alon Liel, said Israelis would be wise to consider why Europeans might think

that way. "Do they hate us or are they truly frightened? Our natural predilection is to pull out of the drawer our usual weapon of self-defence the weapon of anti-semitism — but this is probably the wrong place to do so."

The Malaysian prime minister, Mahathir Mohamad, is bowing out of office in his own inimitable style: railing against Jews.

In his last full day of 22 years in power, Asia's longest-serving elected leader said yesterday that the Jews deserved sympathy for their past suffering, but should "never think they are the chosen people", because their struggle was about territory, not religion.

Jews had no right to seize Palestinian land just because they were forced to flee persecution in Europe, he said.

"They have taken land belonging to the Muslims. Suppose apart of Britain or apart of America was taken away and given to the Jews as Israel. Do you think the Americans are going to sit quietly and say 'Welcome' and all that? They won't."

The comments were the latest in a fortnight-long offensive which began at an Islamic leaders' summit when Dr Mahathir, 77, said in a speech which also criticised Muslims that Jews "[ruled] the world by proxy" and got "others to fight and die for them".

The remarks were praised by his audience but condemned around the world, and in Malaysia, where analysts said he should have differentiated between Jews and political Zionists.

But there **is** no difference. The infinitesimal number of Jews who don't believe "Israel" (i.e.





The Zionist wall, higher than the Berlin wall, to keep the Palestinians out of their own land and permanently remind them of their subservience

colonially occupied Palestine) has a right to exist don't come into it.

Jews are either shamefaced "liberals" who demand "peace" and offer a derisory "two-state sharing" to the conquered Arabs on just over 20% of **their** land of Palestine; or else they are rampant Zionist **Nazis** who want to blitzkrieg their way to **total** annexation of the land of the Palestinian nation, and genocidally cleanse the Arabs off the remaining 22% of their homeland which **all** Jews have supported as far as the first 78% of Palestine is concerned.

And the Jewishness has **everything** to do with this, and is inseparable from it.

The Jews are **not** a race. They are a religious freemasonry.

And "secular" Jews may not believe in a deity but they undoubtedly cling to the freemasonry and its remarkable history of individual triumphs and mass tragedies.

No one is born Jewish just as no one is born Catholic. Both are learned.

And, in adulthood, it is possible to stop being Jewish just as it is possible to stop being Catholic.

But it is the Jewish freemasonry which has flourished so brilliantly in the era of monopoly capitalism, far, far beyond all previous triumphs for any of its adherents.

And American imperialism is its greatest stronghold.

And although being capitalist is what creates the historical objectionability of American monopoly bourgeois circles and their now murder-

ously dominant influence over the planet, the detailed connections and interests of those ruling groups, often conflicting with each other (see below), is an important concern for detailed anti-imperialist struggle.

National and freemasonry allegiances have to be differentiated. British and French imperialism have easily the longest, fullest, and most savage record of colonial barbarism by far among today's major imperialist powers, but it is American imperialism which is now the great tyranny threatening **all** civilisation, and not just its colonies.

And while it is the capitalist-system behaviour which creates the warmongering crisis menacing mankind, a stigma shared by all the imperialist powers, — it is the conglomerate power of the **American** clannishness which is the specific danger.

The Jewish freemasonry within that "national" tribalness stands out equally prominently.

The post-1945 implantation of American colonial-stooge power right in the heart of the Arab oil-rich Middle East was **not** an accident. Earlier imperialist "racial" insanity had not only picked on Jews as scapegoats to divert the masses with violence, envy, and provocations when capitalist anarchy had suffered yet another humiliating and damaging economic collapse from "overproduction" greed and inequality.

The Kurds have never been offered their own state in spite of also being endlessly butch-

ered by imperialist history, even though they still have all their own traditional Kurdish territory, and only require an act of United Nations statehood to set them "free".

The Basque nation has likewise been ignored for self-determination rights, despite being the most ancient culture and language in the whole of Europe, and despite needing no genocidal expulsion of any other nation in order to claim their own state territory.

And although they have suffered 800 years of British imperialist tyranny, the post-1945 'New World Order' enlightenment did not bother to offer the Irish the reunification of their barbarically-partitioned homeland by dying and degenerate colonialism.

And the Roma Gypsies in East Europe got nothing either, even though they have endlessly suffered from imperialist cruelty, including the tyrannies of Hitler's concentration camps.

But for the Jews there was created the most monstrous tyranny **on their behalf**, — the colonisation and genocidal cleansing of the Arab Palestinian nation from their homeland in order to place some crucial Middle East real estate into the hands of American imperialism's powerful Jewish freemasonry for their safekeeping as a "national home" for their particular religious bigotry.

Their capitalism makes them part of the modern world's revolutionary-crisis catastrophe of warmongering monopoly imperialist aggressiveness, certainly.

But their Jewishness is infinitely more crucial to where this time-bomb was laid; on what extremist basis, ready to fight to the death from belief in it; with what finances, supplied by whom, and with what bottomless pockets; and intimately integrated into which required imperialist power **ruling** circles necessary for the sort of Big Nation support without which this deliberate permanent colonial provocation against the entire Arab and Muslim Middle East could not have been carried out.

And on all these selfsame Jew/US notes, which small ultra-aggressive "nation" is alone allowed to flout the international non-proliferation nuclear treaty????

The blind prejudices lurking in the cupboard belong not to "anti-semitic racism" but to the political dilettantism and muddleheadedness of those who prefer opportunist point-scoring to being willing to spell out a socially uncomfortable political reality.

Identifying the growing fears about Jewish-Zionist bigoted aggression's role — (in American imperialist pre-emptive blitzkrieg threats to take the ludicrous "war on terrorism" to all corners of the Earth on a mass scale, following up the more piecemeal pioneering raids carried out all over the place by the USA's Zionist colony) with the Jew-baiting history of fascist anti-semitism, is just more deliberate pointscoring and confusion-mongering.

Hitler condemned the "Jewish plague" of international finance capital in order to **rescue** the imperialist system from a revolution-ridden capitalist slump by artificially whipping up a new world war which the whole planet could enthusiastically take part in "with good conscience" after World War One had proved such a disaster for the very survival of the modern world-system of imperialist rivalry.

Including this influential freemasonry's role **today** within the broadest targeting of American imperialist domination's most lethally dangerous tendencies, is **essential** for mobilising all possible **anti-imperialist** forces — (e.g. Arab Palestinian nationalism; pan-Arab nationalism; universal Muslim fundamentalism; growing Western awareness of Middle East injustice which is not scared off by sneers of "anti-semitism" from nam-

ing Jewish Zionism as now a key major player in the key physical disposition and in the propagandistic essence of self-righteous imperialist warmongering; etc; etc;) which could help turn Third World spontaneous resistance against all western-world domineering bigotry of the "chosen people", "master-race" kind, towards the rebirth of world socialist revolution to end all capitalism's colonising-bullying injustices once and for all.

But whether the self-righteous imperialist blitzkrieging comes from Zionists, Hitlerism, or the many purely American ruling-class freemasonries, the world's revolutionary interest must remain focused on the warmongers' **defeat**.

And the fake-'left' notion that Bush can be jeered on his UK visit but that anti-American hatred should be avoided at all costs, is just the most ludicrous political correctness ever heard of.

It is **precisely** the consciousness to hate American cultural, economic, political, and military domination that first begins to unite the world's proletarian masses towards a huge international **revolutionary** movement.

Obviously, as the anti-imperialist revolution begins acquiring Marxist Leninist understanding, earthly spontaneous prejudice can take more of a back seat.

But to expect to **start off** a global class war against the tyranny of monopoly bourgeois rule, – which is largely governed and sustained by US imperialist nationalism, – but **not** allow spontaneous hatred of specifically **American** colonial domination (or British, or Zionist, or whatever), is to demonstrate just a dilettante posturing at socialist revolution, but no serious materialist acceptance of its warts-and-all reality, – (epitomised by the dictatorship of the proletariat occasionally falling into arbitrary and vindictive hands, – the original nightmare of all Trot-type naff idealism).

On the way towards ultimate imperialist defeat, splits in the warmongers' ranks as things start to go badly are always a welcome sign that this is indeed the era of insoluble imperialist crisis.

Only when the old ruling system becomes virtually paralysed, and can rule the planet successfully no more, can a truly international revolution-

ary movement be expected to start to make an appearance.

And although there is still a long, long, long way to go, – the back-biting rifts within imperialism's global warmongering "coalition" still make very helpful reading (especially as revealed by capitalism itself) for spreading global revolutionary consciousness:

[...quote not included-ed]

As a fantasy example of the crucial role that defeat and splits will play in the imperialist crisis, helping to create the conditions for the system's own revolutionary overthrow, the *EPSR* has frequently half-seriously speculated that part of World War III and the final confused degradation and humiliation of the ludicrous "free world" capitalist mythology might be the supposedly "all-powerful and invincible" American Empire actually falling to blows among themselves as things go wrong, – the CIA actually shooting it out with the State Department, the Pentagon taking over the White House, that sort of thing.

Once again, there are signs that real life might yet outdo the wildest fictions.

Another favourite guess has been for serious war to break out **within** the US-Zionist tyranny that has put Palestine to the sword for the past 56 years but is now finding the heroic resistance more uncontrollable than ever, causing even a growing Jewish chorus to plead for a halt to the smiting on the West Bank and Gaza and a return to the 78% colonisation-annexation and be content with that before yet more genocidal violence drives the Palestinians to fullscale revolutionary strategies for recapturing the whole of Palestine.

On the anniversary of the Jewish freemasonry assassinating its own "Israeli prime minister" Rabin, the split in the Zionist camp is widening faster than ever, rising to astonishing levels as the bourgeois press report it:

Israel's army chief has exposed deep divisions between the military and Ariel Sharon by branding the government's hardline treatment of Palestinian civilians counter-productive and saying that the policy intensifies hatred and strengthens the "terror organisations".

Lieutenant-General Moshe Ya'alon also told Israeli journalists in an off-the-record briefing that the army was opposed to the route of the "security fence" through the West Bank. The government also

contributed to the fall of the former Palestinian prime minister, Mahmoud Abbas, by offering only "stingy" support for his attempts to end the conflict, he said.

Gen Ya'alon had apparently hoped his anonymous criticisms would strengthen the army's voice, which has been subordinated to the views of the intelligence services in shaping policy. But the comments were so devastating that he was swiftly revealed as the source.

The statements – which close associate characterised to the Israeli press as warning that the country was "on the verge of a catastrophe" – will also reinforce a growing perception among the public that Mr Sharon is unable to deliver the peace with security he promised when he came to office nearly three years ago.

The criticism is made all the more searing because Gen Ya'alon is not known for being soft on the Palestinians. As deputy chief of staff, he called the latest conflict the second stage of Israel's independence war.

The general warned that the continued curfews, reoccupation of towns and severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinians, combined with the economic crisis they have caused, were increasing the threat to Israel's security.

"In our tactical decisions, we are operating contrary to our strategic interest," Gen Ya'alon said. "It increases hatred for Israel and strengthens the terror organisations."

Earlier this week, army commanders in the West Bank told the military administration in the occupied territories that Palestinians had reached new depths of despair, which was fuelling a hatred

for Israeli that had little to do with the propaganda so often blamed by the government.

"There is no hope, no expectations for the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, nor in Bethlehem and Jericho," said Gen Ya'alon.

The commanders learned that the situation was strengthening Hamas, a view the Israeli intelligence services agreed with.

Mr Sharon and Mr Mofaz were reportedly furious at the general's statements and initially demanded that he retract them or resign. But the political establishment apparently decided it would be better to deride Gen Ya'alon.

Anonymous sources in the prime minister's office were quoted in the Israeli press complaining.

On the lunatic world blitzkrieg programme itself, the ridiculous \$87 billion new expenditure has got through Congress because the snivelling brown-nosed cowardice which is the essence of **all** "parliamentary democracy" has been too fearful in Washington to commit the ultimate middle class sin of being seen as "not supporting our troops", etc.

[...]There is endless more such material suggesting that imperialism's World War Three plans are on their way towards their first crucial **defeats** already.

There is, of course, vastly more of this imperialist crisis to come; but its only possible solution, – world socialist revolution, – is already taking shape.

Build Leninism. EPSR

Blitzkrieging, creating more and more terrorists, remains the chosen US policy for world control in the face of the coming global capitalist economic collapse. Hence the planet is being pushed towards world revolution, despite the slowness of communist leadership to develop in place of blind, emotive, individual terrorism..."Anti-semitism" CIA tactic has to be faced up to (No1209 18-11-03).

[...]The fly-blown Middle East was expected to welcome America's attention and the anticipated generous aid and reconstruction money, etc, etc, with flowers and open arms.

And if there was any resistance, that was going to be crushed with such "awesome" severity that no other nation would ever again **dare** to challenge or even question America's right to rule the world however it thinks fit.

That insane programme is what is now in total trouble.

And it can be seen as unleashing a chaotic hiatus a thousand times worse than the ignominious failure of the German-Japanese "thousand year Reich" which resulted in bitter resistance and the spread of revolution from the (Soviet) world's first workers state to half way round the world.

For one immediate question

is going to be: What can the West's control-desperation do for an encore???, – if the chaos in Washington really does decide to scuttle away from this particular "unmanageable mess" in favour of pretending that the next "rogue state" to get it will "really be made to suffer", etc, etc, etc, (just as the NAZI warmongering occupations used to warn when inflicting "collective punishments" for retaliation against any acts of resistance or defiance).

In Iraq and Afghanistan, the spirit of the Third World (the spirit of the age) is what is showing that it will not be bullied around by Western imperialism any longer. It is nothing whatever to do with any "special powers of resistance" or to any "special conditions" supposedly resident in Afghanistan and Iraq, but not existing elsewhere.

Elsewhere, surely it is clear now, any continuation of Western aggressive warmongering as a "crisis-solution" policy is going to get even more of a hostile reception than it has received so far in the Third World.

And indeed, the Palestinian experience is always the very best and most incontrovertible proof of this understanding, in that the Palestinians are now fighting Zionist military tyranny and occupation more successfully than ever before, in spite of having been daily butchered and brutalised for more than 55 years, and in spite of now **all** living behind barbed wire in what is virtually **one giant concentration camp**, with no rights whatever.

[...]TACKLING THE resurgent Taliban is a problem compounded by the ethnic complexities of Afghanistan. The Taliban are almost exclusively drawn from the country's majority Pashtun tribes, whose heartland is the south-east. Karzai, the President, is a Pashtun, but the government is dominated by Tajiks, a minority largely centred on Kabul and the northeast. The increasing alienation felt by Pashtuns makes them receptive to the Taliban's chauvinistic message.

The Taliban are also able to draw on the general anger of many Muslims at the course of 'the war on terror'. The Taliban used to be wary of Osama bin Laden and his brand of headline internationalised militancy. Their project was limited to Afghanistan and they bore no ill-feeling to America or the West. Now they see themselves as a key element in the supposed struggle by Muslims against an aggressive 'Zionist Crusader alliance'.

'Bin Laden is the greatest mujahid [holy warrior] and all Muslims think he is their ideal,' said Rauf, the Taliban official. 'All those fighting a jihad anywhere in the world against the cruel infidels are our brothers and allies.'

In Vietnam, the West's defeat was to the known communist 'enemy' which was already on the receiving end of the **permanent** Cold war embargo which was always going to last the lifetime of the Socialist Camp (or forever whichever came sooner), – a seriously "alternative world" which would either prevail or succumb to imperialist boom sabotage in time. So a great humiliation, but not necessarily world shattering, because the Socialist Camp was still being ruled by Revisionist "peaceful coexistence" stupidity in spite of general aid to the Vietnamese revolution, – and

no new major revolutions necessarily had to follow on from Vietnam. None did. But can the imperialist warmongering setback in Iraq and Afghanistan end there????

Now it is imperialist economic crisis time, and a crisis without end unless **war** can once again come to the rescue of this sick periodically-destructive system of exploitation and domination. And so Washington has duly announced "war without end", effectively, – warning all that American domination will now control the planet henceforth.

But it hasn't worked. There is even confirmation from the best possible hostile source of all, – namely the Zionist "chosen people" master-race of colonial brutalisation and smiting:

IN A damning critique of Ariel Sharon's Government, four of Israel's former security chiefs gave warning yesterday that the Jewish state would face "catastrophe".

Speaking to *Yedioth Ahronoth*, Israel's largest-circulation newspaper, the four retired Shin Bet directors, Avraham Shalom, Yaakov Peri, Carmi Gillon and Ami Ayalon, voiced particular concern about the humanitarian effects of imposing curfews and roadblocks in Palestinian towns.

Mr Shalom, Shin Bet director from 1980 to 1986, said that if Israel insisted on holding on to the occupied West Bank and Gaza, in the process "debasement" Palestinians held behind roadblocks and checkpoints, there could be no political progress.

"We must, once and for all, admit that there is another side, that it has feelings and that it is suffering, and that we are behaving disgracefully," he said. "Nobody can take this. We, too, would not take it if it were done to us."

The unprecedented broadside at

Mr Sharon's hardline "security-first" policies included a warning by one former head of the Shin Bet security service that the country could no longer "live by the sword". Others accused Mr Sharon's rightwing coalition of acting "contrary to the desire for peace" and using demands for an end to "terror" attacks as "an excuse for doing nothing".

"We are heading downhill towards near catastrophe. If nothing happens and we go on living by the sword, we will continue to wallow in the mud and destroy ourselves," said Yaakov Peri, echoing the leaked concerns of Israel's Chief of Staff, Moshe Yaalon, that such measures fuelled Palestinian hatred.

The criticisms range from individual policies – building a barbed wire fence around the West Bank, threatening to expel Yassir Arafat and failing to support Mahmoud Abbas, the reformist Palestinian Prime Minister – to wider ethical issues.

Mr Ayalon, a former general who has co-authored an unofficial peace plan with Sari Nusseibeh, a Palestinian intellectual, said that the administration was "taking very sure and measured steps to a point where the state of Israel will not be a democracy or a home for the Jewish people".

He called for a unilateral withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, home to 1.1 million Palestinians and a few thousand Jewish settlers, saying that dismantling illegal settlements would encourage the Palestinian leadership to "come to the negotiating table".

Government officials were quick to counter the criticisms. Raanan Gissin, Mr Sharon's spokesman, conceded that the quartet were entitled to their views but said: "All these doomsday scenarios don't really contribute to finding a solution. These people have the right to debate but the full responsibility of how to protect the state of Israel lies on the shoulders of the elected, democratic Government."



• The Israeli government now have Hamas politically (and militarily) ghettoised in the prison camp that is Gaza

However, Mr Gillon said that it was precisely the Government's focus on security, that prolonged the violence.

"The political agenda has become solely a security agenda. It only deals with the question of how to prevent the next terror attack, not the question of how it is at all possible to pull ourselves out of the mess that we are in today."

One Israeli intelligence analyst said: "It is meant as a huge red light to Sharon. They are saying that just fighting terror, without any political horizon, is not a solution.

"Because each of them has been 'Mr Counter-Terrorism' and has the knowledge and experience they are hoping what they are saying is much stronger than someone on the street saving it, or even an army general," he added.

However the critique is unlikely to persuade Avi Dichter, the present head of Shin Bet. Like Shaul Mofaz, the Defence Minister, he recently opposed removing checkpoints, fearing that it would ease the passage into Israel of suicide bombers.

Now, obviously, the last thing that is going to happen is that the US-Zionist warmongering axis is going to call a halt to its blitzkrieging tyrannies. As the EPSR has always argued, it is **only** imperialist rottenness and savagery which **can** educate the **mass** of the world population towards revolutionary consciousness. And it will inevitably carry on doing so under its most influential monopoly-capitalist ruling circles because imperialism consists of **nothing but** domination and exploitation, always more brutally so than ever, at times of unresolvable global economic contradictions (see EPSR box p82).

But what is the significance of this???? On one side, the irresistible force of desperate warmongering imperialism, in incurable economic crisis which is threatening to lose the system everything of its world control unless drastic pre-emptive measures of **enforced global control** are imposed.

But on the other side, the immovable object of a Third World of five thousand **million** people who are showing every sign of refusing to be militarily subjugated by Western invasion tyranny, and generally of no longer wanting to live under Western imperialist world economic and cultural leadership anyway.

Enough of the Third World had already had a fill of this warmongering destructive imperialist nonsense by 1917 to make the world's first communist revolution and proletarian

state.

Even more had had enough by 1945, after inter-imperialist World War II, to spread the communist revolution half way round the planet.

Now the question is: Which part of the planet is **not** now ready to tell the dominating Western imperialist warmongers to go to hell with their rotten divisive destructive economic injustice and their grotesque exploitative domineering and murderous arrogance????

Of course there is no communist leadership now, and of course nothing worthwhile anti-imperialist can be **completed** until a new international revolutionary understanding is built.

Anti-semitism

[...]One subsidiary question (to the main world perspective problem) which has surged up again for instant re-examination is the "anti-semitism" issue.

It looks as if a key imperialist counter-revolutionary planning decision has been made by the CIA to use reluctance to face "race prejudice" smears as a major propaganda weapon for taking the pressure of popular hatred off of the vicious colonial warmongering tyranny inflicted by Zionist ("Israeli") aggression against the **whole** of Arab and Muslim nationalism, and genocidally against the Palestinian people in particular.

The spokesman in Britain for Zionist tyranny, Rabbi Sachs, was given a ludicrously soft propaganda platform on *Today* to spin the exact mirror-image of the original NAZI Big Lie when Hitler and Goebbels claimed that the Jewishness of international monopoly finance capital was responsible for all of its anti-human evilness and damaging-to-humanity destructiveness.

Worldwide anti-Jewish actions recently "have nothing whatever to do with" Israel's tyranny against Palestine (which is sickening the whole world), this apologist for the Jewish international freemasonry solemnly lied.

On and on he was allowed to whine, unchallenged, that the world's problem was not the NAZI-genocidal Zionist butchery of the Palestinian nation, (which is crucially allied-to and influential-on the Western imperialist decision to develop its own blitzkrieg intimidation



Daily repression is inflicted on Palestinian civilians under the Israeli occupation.

of the Arab nationalist and Muslim Middle East, echoing frequent earlier Jewish blitzkrieg strikes on defenceless Arab nations out of its colonised-Palestine fortress), – but the resurgence of "anti-Jew race prejudice and persecution around the globe".

But this utter garbage is going to now come pouring out of every Nazi-CIA propaganda orifice (such as the BBC) non-stop from henceforth, wherever considered "appropriate".

The pressure now is going to be put on the anti-imperialist struggle everywhere to come to a decision at long last about whether there is any worthwhile meaning any more in distinguishing the international Jewish freemasonry from the international Zionist freemasonry, or whether continuing to do so just plays into the deliberate political-confusion hands of reactionaries like Sachs to try to double slander the worldwide anti-Israel movement as both "terrorist" and as "racist".

Since the armed Jewish colonisation of Palestine began, what further use is the old distinction between "Jew" and "Zionist" since the number of Jews who do not believe in their right to a homeland in "Israel" are no longer worth counting as a significant international or domestic factor in politics.

All that the vast majority of "anti-Zionist" Jews want to do is separate themselves from the vicious Nazi-aggression tactics of the non-stop warmongering which has created their "Israeli national home" from the very beginning.

But an utterly negligible number come out to agitate for an end to the foul nonsense of an "Israel" altogether.

In which case "Jew" and "Zionist" are now completely interchangeable.

Nevertheless, there is clearly still a "racist" element in the terrorist attacks on synagogues in Istanbul, for example, or on Jewish schools in France, or Jewish cemeteries anywhere.

But what can be done about that, and what deserves to be done about that, in the light of the conscious deliberate international NAZI-aggression role that has been played by the Jewish colony to constantly be the tail wagging the US imperialist dog towards ever-more-escalated warmongering tyranny against Arab and Muslim nationalism throughout the whole of the Middle East and beyond???

Are not these anti-Jewish terrorist "outrages" exactly like the "outrages" committed against American subjects abroad everywhere????

There is obviously not a scrap of humanity, justice, or justification on any "rational" basis, in any one of these acts of terrorist vengeance perpetrated against innocent individuals just because of their nationality or their religion.

But there never has been. There was no such rational "justification" for the Twin Towers attack on Sept 11, or for any of the IRA bombing casualties in many London and Ireland "atrocities" in the past.

Nor for any of the attacks on Red Cross or UN personnel going on in Iraq now, etc, etc, etc.

But what hypocritical line is being drawn here?????

The Jewish homeland can butcher the Palestine nation all it wants in total NAZI blitzkrieg and concentration-camp style for 55 years and nothing has been done about it **by anyone**, or will be done.

This gets admitted all the time, — by everyone, Jews included, and by the imperialist press which supports "Israel":

The annual olive harvest in the occupied territories has once again been rocked by Jewish settlers and their now routine assaults on Palestinian pickers to plunder their crop. This year, the settlers have gone to new lengths which have brought unusual denunciations from the prime minister, Ariel Sharon, and even criticism from the settlers' own leaders.

Armed Israelis are systematically wrecking trees that have stood for hundreds of years and frequently provide the only livelihood for Palestinian families.

Rights groups estimate that more than 1,000 trees have been damaged or destroyed in recent weeks, some planted in the Roman era.

Among the victims are Mr Yusuf and his neighbours in Sawiya village, south of Nablus. "We used to think they just wanted our olives, but it's about land," he said. "They want to expand their settlement: by cutting the trees, they can say the land is neglected and no one is taking care of it. And it's their excuse for getting their hands on it"

The assault on Mr Yusuf's trees came from an outpost of the Jewish settlement of Eli. "It was the first day of picking and we worked for three or four hours," said Mr Yusuf, the head of Sawiya's council. "I myself had picked five sacks when the settlers came down the hill with knives and guns. They slashed open our sacks and emptied the olives on to the ground. They put guns against our heads and made us stand there while they did it.

"The settlers have built a road near the bottom of the hill. They told us that we are not allowed to cross the road any more and that all the land the other side, all our olive trees up the hill, are now theirs."

The people of Sawiya met that night. The village had already lost large chunks of land snatched to build the settlements, and people were reluctant to surrender more. But they knew from bitter experience that, if there was violence, it would not matter who was responsible; it would be the Palestinians who would be punished with curfews or worse.

They sought protection in numbers, and returned next day with a larger group of pickers from surrounding villages. The settlers stayed away, but came down that night. Over two hillsides, they sawed and hacked trees, tearing off branches and slicing through trunks with power saws. Some

larger branches were tossed to the ground still bristling with fruits. The higher the hill rose toward the settlement, the greater the destruction — mostly of the fertile branches which will take a decade to grow back and start producing again.

"Next morning we stopped an Israeli police patrol," Mr Yusuf said. "The jeep went up to the settlement and told them not to do it again. Next night they were back, and the police didn't do anything."

The people of Sawiya estimate that 250 trees, the livelihood for 10 extended families, were badly damaged or destroyed. But, as it is too dangerous to climb near the settlement, they cannot count precisely.

Settlers at Eli declined to be interviewed, but other Jewish communities in the area have justified driving Palestinians from their land.

But, as Yitzhar's spokesman, Yossi Peli, readily admits, the settlers' intent goes beyond security. "The trees grow back and ultimately we hope to harvest them in the place of the unwanted inhabitants of the area," he said. Yitzhar and its outposts have been responsible for some of the worst destruction of recent weeks, with attacks on the groves of the village of Einabus, five miles north of Sawiya.

Men from Yitzhar, a religiously militant settlement with a history of violence against Palestinians, have terrorised olive pickers from their land with guns and clubs, and destroyed hundreds of trees. In one incident, the settlers beat a 70-year-old man, stripped him, and forced him to walk back to his village naked.

The destruction of trees has drawn fire from Mr Sharon and the settlers' council. But the Yesha council qualified its criticism by saying that, while wrecking trees is wrong, it is acceptable for settlers to loot the olive crop — because Jews are entitled to harvest the produce of non-Jews in what the council defines as the "Land of Israel", which includes the West Bank.

One leftwing Israeli member of parliament, Ephraim Sneh, visited the scene, and blamed the government. "Who did this? The residents of Hilltop 725," he said. "That is a settlement outpost the government of Israel undertook to remove, but didn't; now the army is forced to guard it. We're talking about a group who live at the state's expense, with the state's protection, and do things no Jew can accept."

Other Israeli critics warn that lawless attacks on Palestinians and their property will backfire.

And it is with deliberate and blatant **racist** "state laws" that **Jewish** policy is inflicting this tyranny, helping the build-up to World War III.

The racism is inevitably sown by Jewishness itself.

The Palestinians are going to have to find a way of fighting

back themselves, and they now **have** found a way, — the only one possible in their dire circumstances of incarceration inside one giant virtual concentration camp, — the weapon of suicidal terrorism. More strength to them. It is working. Zionist tyranny is backing off. Let the identical Jewish tyranny stop playing word games internationally, and back off too. End this tyrannical fascist nonsense of "Israel" immediately, for good.

And support for this anti-Jew terrorist weapon is bound to grow worldwide. It is identical to the anti-West terrorist weapon. Let it grow. End Western imperialist domination of the planet.

The Palestinian people have been in situ for more than

American warmongering still means business, in spite of Georgia-chaos extension of US blitzkrieging disasters (in Iraq, and Afghanistan, & in its monopoly-capitalist Jewish freemasonry's attempted genocidal colonisation of Palestine). Arab and Muslim hatred of western imperialism's brutalising "shock & awe" military domination will spread worldwide as the system's incurable economic warmongering crisis relentlessly deepens (No1210 25-11-03).

The CIA-run upheaval in Georgia could cause massive headaches for the unappetising Bonapartist regime in Russia, and indicates a fantastic escalation in the imperialist crisis's degeneration towards World War III.[...]

What these murky and sordid goings-on certainly represent is more colossal evidence, if it was needed, of how utterly bankrupt, and what a total fraud, is the entire Western Cold War stance for "democracy" and "against totalitarian communism".

And they also reconfirm how shaky is this entire edifice, of "New World Order" warmongering-imperialist recolonisation offensives, which are now laying siege to various parts of the politically and economically-crucial Middle East region, and threatening the same blitzkrieging and coup onslaughts far further afield too.[...]

But the week of the CIA's hasty Georgian readjustment is also the week of Western imperialism's worst nightmares yet in its blitzkrieging re-colonisation insanity, ludi-

1,500 years, longer than any Western nationality has been in existence.

Leave them there. Let the colonising members of the multinational international Jewish freemasonry go back to their American, British, Polish, Russian, etc, homelands and cultivate their property interests and their pro-imperialist warmongering passions there.

This continued colonial warmongering onslaught on the Middle East is a powder keg waiting to blow the whole world apart.

But this crisis driven imperialist tyranny is now inseparable from this Middle-Eastern Jewish colonial tyranny.

And the reactionary irrelevant jeers of "anti-semitism" are protecting them both.

crously described as its "war on terrorism".

The devastating explosions at a British bank and consulate in Istanbul, plus the humiliation of Bush's visit to Britain, have now left no-one in doubt that the whole world is currently poised not just to denounce this warmongering degeneracy, but to fight against it more relentlessly and ruthlessly than the Western populations and states are themselves prepared to stomach.

And no-one in shell-shocked Turkey or in the huge crowds jeering Bush was prepared to "blame the terrorists for the terrorism" as Blair despairingly and inanely urged everyone.

The whole of world opinion seems just about prepared to accept that it is the Western blitzkrieging on Afghanistan and Iraq, the threats to spread the warmongering even wider, and the rotten injustice of Western economic imperialism's treatment of the entire Third World in general which is really responsible for the Third World fighting back with these deadly and unstoppable suicide



The Zionists turn a blind eye to never-ending illegal armed settlement which uses every kind of Nazi intimidation, terrorising, property damage and physical intimidation to push off the Palestinian owners and farmers, destroying trees, poisoning wells and burning houses

bombers.[...]

It is one thing for the slimy Western media to suddenly present "revolution" as a wonderful thing to its gullible audiences in order to cover the CIA's back for imposing a blatantly "unconstitutional" coup, but millions more eyes around the world will be watching and noting the completely hollow and expendable fraud that "democracy" really represents for the West's "anti-totalitarian" (i.e. anti-communist) Goebbels machinery.

And imperialism's problems don't stop there. Its Zionist hitmen, who have genocidally stolen at gunpoint the homeland of the Palestinian nation in order to create the armed-fascist colony called "Israel", are now bleating louder than ever about how their post-1945 sobstory of "needing a homeland for the persecuted Jews" is now being universally seen through as nothing but a land-grabbing imperialist colonisation racket to create permanent clenched-fist intimidation of the entire Arab and Muslim Middle East

"Your criticism of the poor Jewish settlers is nothing but anti-semitism revived," they are wailing. "Any criticism can only be directed against specific acts of specific governments of Israel", they go on. "It must not be directed against the Jews".

But "Israel", and **all** its claims to "a right to state self-determination in Palestine", and **all** its acts of colonising "government" since the imperialist-dominated UN gave the armed occupation the go-ahead in 1947, are **nothing but** the sum total of **every belief** which has been the core of this particular self-serving religious freemasonry (among many throughout Western history) since it began.

At the heart of what has kept 'Jewishness' self-protection and mutual assistance going for so many centuries, now uniting dozens of different nationalities and racial mixtures, is the comforting delusion about a special "God", a "chosen people", and a "promised land", or "next year in Jerusalem" as a popular prayer has had it for hundreds of years.

Now, it is **precisely** the Jewish religious freemasonry and its powerful influences inside the monopoly imperialist ruling circles of the USA (and elsewhere throughout the West, past and present) **and nothing else** which continues to foist "defence of Israel" (i.e. the armed genocidal colonisation and strike Arabs-&-Muslims-anywhere tyranny) onto "New World Order" policy as a sacrosanct principle.

Western imperialist world domination will now blitzkrieg

any nation which tries to become a nuclear weapons power, especially around the Middle East, – except this "state" proclaimed by the Jewish colonists occupying Palestine right in the heart of the Middle East.

Crippling international sanctions or blitzkrieg destruction is now imposed on **any** state which can be accused of attempting any degree of "ethnic cleansing" against any minority, or of imposing any hint of racist discrimination or race privilege laws whatever (as Serbia was monstrously set-up for, e.g., and as Zimbabwe is on the way to being set-up for soon, – in both cases because of resistance to full freedom for the imperialist system's international property "laws"), – but the Jews' colony called "Israel", implanted at gunpoint on the homeland of the Palestinian nation in 1947, has been allowed to ethnically cleanse no less than the entire 7 million Arab population of Palestine out of their homeland since then, and into nothing but one giant semi-desert concentration camp on the West Bank and Gaza, or into permanent refugee-camp hovels outside of Palestine.

And uniquely on Earth, the Jews' state of "Israel" is **alone** officially permitted to make its few remaining Arabs blatantly second-class "citizens", – formally "by law" deprived

of all kinds of "rights" which trampling armed colonialism reserves for **the Jews**, entirely because of their **Jewishness**, and for no other reason.

Let as many Jews as want to, proclaim their adherence to their religious freemasonry as loudly as they like, and also let as many of them as want to formally migrate to their "promised land", – provided a Palestinian state's inevitable Arab majority is prepared to invite them into this tiny overcrowded territory from the vast open spaces of the USA (which could swallow a thousand Palestinians and still have room to spare, – and better soil) where most of these aggressive settlers came from.

But before any of that is tolerable or feasible, there first needs to be heard from the majority of Jews in the world a clear denunciation of what an unspeakable and intolerable fascist-tyranny is the armed colonial occupation of the land of the Palestinian nation, masquerading as the "legitimate state of Israel".

This genocidal colonisation is no such nonsense. It is nothing but a permanent explosive powder-keg, waiting to blast the whole planet into World War III.

And international opinion is slowly catching on. Here are more bourgeois press revelations (and from the most

liberally politically correct anti-"anti-semitism" wing of the capitalist media too) of what an unspeakable fascist tyranny this "hallowed state of 'Israel'" really amounts to:

"Our main conclusion is that it exists to make torture possible — a particular kind of torture that creates progressive states of dread, dependency, debility," says Manal Hazzan, a human rights lawyer who helped expose the prison's existence. "The law gives the army enough authority already to hide prisoners, so why do they need a secret facility?"

Unlike any other Israeli prison, the International Red Cross, lawyers and members of the Israeli parliament have been refused access. One leftwing MP, Zahava Gal-On, describes Facility 1391 as "one of the signs of totalitarian regimes and of the third world". The Israeli government declines to discuss the secret prison other than to issue a standard response: "Facility 1391 is situated on a secret military base. The base is used by the security services for various classified activities and thus its location is kept confidential."

But it is not just human rights lawyers and leftwing MPs who have a problem. Ami Ayalon is a former head of Israel's intelligence service, the Shin Bet. He was told about 1391 but says he refused to have anything to do with it. "I knew there was a facility not under the responsibility of the Shin Bet, but under the responsibility of the military. I didn't think then, and I don't think today; that such an institution should exist in a democracy," he says.

Facility 1391 has been airbrushed from Israeli aerial photographs and purged from modern maps: where once a police station was marked there is now a blank space. Sometimes even the road leading to it has been erased. But Israel's secret prison, inside an army intelligence base close to the main road between Hadera and Afula in northern Israel, is real enough. For 20 years or more it has been housed in a large, imposing, single-storey

building designed by a British engineer, Sir Charles Taggart, during the 1930s as one of a series of garrison forts designed to contain growing unrest in Palestine. Today, the thick concrete walls and iron gates are themselves protected by a double fence overseen by watchtowers and patrolled by attack dogs.

The prison has held Lebanese abducted by the Israeli army as hostages, Iraqi defectors and a Syrian intelligence officer who tried to defect but was accused of spying and chose to remain in another prison rather than return home and face a firing squad. More recently, scores of Palestinians were incarcerated in 1391 for interrogation, which finally led to the almost accidental disclosure of a prison the state decreed did not exist.

Those who have been through its gates know it is no illusion. One former inmate has filed a lawsuit alleging that he was raped twice — once by a man and once with a stick — during questioning. But most of those who emerge say the real torture is the psychological impact of solitary confinement in filthy, blackened cells so poorly lit that inmates can barely see their own hands, and with no idea where they are or, in many cases, why they are there.

Sameer Jadala was detained at his home in Nablus last year at 3 o'clock on a December morning. For three days, the 33-year-old Palestinian was moved from one prison cell to another. On the fourth day, he was blindfolded, handcuffed and his feet manacled. Blacked-out glasses were pushed over his eyes as he was forced into the back of a car and on to the floor. Then he was covered with a blanket.

"I was barefoot in my pyjamas when they arrested me and it was really cold," says Sameer Jadala, a Palestinian school bus driver. "When I got to that place, they told me to strip and gave me a blue uniform. Then they gave me a black sack. They told me: 'This is your sack. You need to keep it with you. Anytime someone comes to your cell, you must put it on your head. Any time they deliver the

food, you must put it on your head. You must never see the soldiers' faces. You do not want to know what will happen if you take it off.' Sometimes I thought I would die in that place and no one would ever know."

Raab Bader, a 38-year-old accountant and father of two, was also in the cells, although the two men had no contact. He too had been detained in Nablus, though he was convinced he had nothing to hide. "I was held like a blind mole, except for the prolonged hours that an [intelligence] agent interrogated me," he says.

Bader was variously told that he was on a submarine, in space or outside the borders of Israel. He was pushed into a windowless cell, 6ft square. A fan high in the ceiling drives air into the cell, but inmates say the noise is deafening.

"The cell walls were painted black. I never saw the ceiling. When I looked up, I saw only darkness. Light no stronger than the power of a candle penetrated in a peculiar way from one side of the room," he said in an affidavit.

The bed was a thin, damp mattress on a concrete slab a few inches above the ground. The toilet was a bucket, emptied every few days. Water to the cell came out of a hole in the wall, controlled by the guard. "On the ninth consecutive day in the stench filled cell, one of the soldiers was supposed to come and take me out. He almost vomited and rushed out of the cell," Bader says. "I spent many days in that solitary confinement cell and in others like it, and hour after hour I would talk to myself and feel that I was going crazy, or find myself laughing to myself."

Jadala was still trying to work out why he had been arrested in the first place. "I asked the interrogator: why am I here? What do you want from me? When I asked where I was, they told me I was in Honolulu. I didn't ask again," he says.

Sameer Jadala now believes he was detained as part of an elaborate psychological game to pressure his brother into talking. Mohammed Jadala, who is still a prisoner, has signed an affidavit alleging he was tortured into a confession. He says he was beaten during his initial interrogation at a regular prison and then moved to 1391. When he asked where he was, the reply was "on the moon".

"They kept me there in a solitary cell for about 67 days. During this period, they continued with the torture, but they used a different method. They did not let me sleep more than two hours a day. When I started to get drowsy, they woke me up by making noise or by throwing water on me. As a result of the torture, they were able to get me to admit to all kinds of offences," he says.

The interrogators brought the brothers together briefly, apparently as a means of letting Mohammed know that Sameer would pay the price if he didn't talk. "They took my brother and

cousin to the secret facility and showed me them crying; the interrogators said that they would be tried because of me," Mohammed says.

Probably the first prisoners at Facility 1391 were Lebanese. The prison is part of a military camp that is home to an army intelligence group, Unit 504, which specialises in interrogation. The unit has a hard reputation, and some of its members have badly blemished records. One has been accused of murder, another of spying. Unit 504's glory days were during Israel's 18-year occupation of southern Lebanon, interrogating captured Hezbollah fighters and running an extensive network of collaborators, some of whom are still being put on trial for their lives by the Lebanese authorities.

In the late 80s, Unit 504 went in search of another kind of prisoner; men who could be held hostage and exchanged for captured Israeli soldiers and airmen. In 1989, the Israelis seized Sheikh Abd al-Karim Obeid, a spiritual leader to Hezbollah. Five years later, they snatched Mustafa Dirani, a leading Shi'ite fighter. Both were taken directly to Facility 1391.

The soldiers who grabbed Obeid also abducted his bodyguards, members of his family and Hashem Fahaf, a young man who happened to be visiting the sheikh to seek his blessing and who found himself locked up for the next 11 years, initially at 1391.

Fahaf was never accused of any crime, but he was refused access to a lawyer and any other contact with the outside world. For the first few years, the Israelis denied they were even holding him. In April 2000, the Israeli supreme court finally ordered Fahaf's release. The government said it had been holding him and another 18 Lebanese as hostages — or 'bargaining chips', as Israeli officials prefer to call it — in the hope of winning the release of an airforce navigator, Colonel Ron Arad.

Mustafa Dirani, the primary target of the abductions, had been the head of security in the Shi'ite movement Amal, and held Arad for about two years, at times driving around with the Israeli colonel in the boot of his car. Dirani was questioned for five weeks around the clock. Freed from Facility 1391 eight years later but locked up in another Israeli prison, he filed a lawsuit in the Israeli courts alleging that he was sodomised by his Israeli interrogators. The legal action names a "Major George" who, Dirani alleges, ordered a soldier to rape him. On another occasion, the Lebanese prisoner accuses the major of thrusting a stick up his rectum. Other former prisoners at 1391 have described how they were stripped naked for interrogation, blindfolded and handcuffed, and a stick was pressed against their buttocks as they were threatened with rape.

In its response to the lawsuit, the Israeli government denied Dirani was raped but it confirmed that



Nati Shoh

Over 100,000 Palestinian residents of Hebron are subjected to militia repression while several hundred fascistic Zionist settlers are given free rein to rampage.

prisoners were routinely stripped naked for interrogation. However, the state attorney's office later went further and said that "within the framework of a military police investigation the suspicion arose that an interrogator who questioned the complainant threatened to perform a sexual act on the complainant".

"Major George" was sacked. Dozens of other interrogators signed a petition objecting to his punishment for using methods they said were sanctioned by the authorities.

Another Lebanese prisoner, Ahmed Ali Banjek, was convicted of smuggling a surface-to-air missile into the Israeli-controlled zone of southern Lebanon on the basis of a confession made at 1391. He later told a military court that it had been extracted under torture, including being forced to sit on a stick until it penetrated his anus. The court was persuaded that the confession was not reliable, and released Banjek.

A Jerusalem human rights organisation, the Centre for the Defence of the Individual (Hamoked), went in search of one man, Muatez Shahin, who was taken from his home by the army a year ago. The military insisted he was not on any of their lists of prisoners. Hamoked petitioned the high court and, after various attempts by the state to block the truth, won an unprecedented admission earlier this year that Shahin had disappeared into the previously unknown prison.

"Anti-semitism" smokescreen escalates.

History's most sinister concentration-camp torture; bombers wiping-out innocent village children on rumours of "a terrorist suspect somewhere"; "free" Afghanistan handed back to drugs warlords; fascist drug militias hired in Colombia; Gestapo-type death squads let loose on Iraq; unprecedented arms-race terror from the mightiest empire with the greatest counter-revolutionary violence on record; etc; etc; – no wonder US imperialism and its Zionist hitmen need the same Goebbels "Big Lie" to try to sweet-talk the world. But unchanging blitzkrieg colonial warmongering and SS/police-state trimmings are doomed to the worst defeat humiliation ever (No1212 09-12-03).

The sneer that criticism of Zionist aggression is merely anti-semitism in disguise is more than just a tactic to prevent the genocidal obliteration of the Palestinian nation from being discussed.

This "racism"-sneer smoke-screen is effectively the same

State prosecutors initially told the court that the prison was no longer, in use. A few weeks later, the state was forced to confess otherwise.

But the confession really needed, and from a majority of the **entire** Jewish religious freemasonry, is that the whole idea of "Israel", colonially implanted at gunpoint on the 1500-year homeland of the Arab Palestinian nation is a **total impossible nonsense** and one which increasingly permanently threatens to spark off World War III.

And the fake-'left' "two-state solution" is exactly the same stupidity.

A nation-state community was already living on this territory, — for 1500 years, — the majority-Arab Palestinian people, now tragically and genocidally dispersed or butchered, 7 million strong.

They must all return, — with all their own old lands back.

Any Jewish pioneers determined to try to stay in their "promised land" and who get citizenship, will have to take their chances for seeing through their religious-freemasonry principles. Build Leninism.

EPSR supporters.

propaganda racket that protects the West's "right" to warmongering as a whole.

The big question is why should the armed might of Western interests be in the Middle East at all???

And the only answer is "because might is right", no

different from when Western imperialism staged its last great outbreak of self-righteous militaristic domineering in the cause of a "new world order", namely World War II.

The German, Italian, and Japanese states then were just as "convinced" that their interests were threatened by "rogue state" misbehaviour, by "terrorism", and by general "amoral" international cultural influences.

Exactly the same way that the Bush clique's oil-monopoly, armaments-corporation, and "stop abortion" born-again Christian moralisers claim that "evil" must be vanquished by military mobilisation now.

And Hitler became Chancellor in 1933 by a far more "democratic" process than Bush did in 2000 to grab the presidency, (if this finance-dominated and establishment dominated "electoral democracy" fraud has ever deserved any credibility at all).

So what is the difference between big-power self-assertive blitzkrieging then and now????

There is none.

Jews hope their "anti-semitism" self-righteousness will win the day via exactly the same prejudices by which Western warmongering in general hopes to prevail.

"We are innocent. The terrorists are starting everything. We are guilty of nothing," etc, etc, etc.

This may continue to carry the argument temporarily in both cases, but history is preparing a different outcome entirely.

Essentially, the case for Western warmongering now and for the military preservation of "Israel" are the same historical issue.

Contrary to appearances, the aim of World War II was not to **eliminate** Western-imperialist-aggressive-war-mongering from the governance of the planet, but to **preserve** it, — rehabilitating the dominant monopoly-capitalist international system from its 1930s Depression-humiliation by switching from **encouragement** of Hitler Germany to wipe out the Soviet workers state (whose shining planned socialist revolutionary example was the one serious threat to capitalism's survival during its ghastly and shameful world slump to cure its economic "overproduction of capital" crisis)... to a temporary alliance with the USSR to **defeat**

the "Axis" Western imperialist powers.

Thanks to the naïve philosophical-imbecility of Stalinist Revisionism, the trick worked; and the Soviet Union lulled the world into accepting that the now US-led "new world order" (of the same old Western imperialist military domination of the planet, disgraced even more by WWII than it had been by WWI), would henceforth become "safely coexistible-with".

The limitless warmongering insanity now escalating its grip over the planet, — of which the armed genocidal colonisation of the Palestinian homeland by Western-imperialist Jewish interests is not just a symbolic and typical instance but also now plays a key role, is the outcome of that temporary infantile regression in the steady evolution of world materialist philosophy.

It is precisely in the absurdly deluded shallowness of the stock western view of the post-1945 "new world order" that the Jewish religious-freemasonry interests hope to get away with muddying the clear picture today (of relentless Zionist-fascist aggression to genocidally wipe out the Palestinian homeland) — by labelling its depiction as "anti-semitism".

If the postwar settlement by the "victorious allies" is now an accepted part of history which can no longer be challenged, — the Marshall Plan to "generously aid European reconstruction"; the establishment of "international law" by the UN; the Western pretence of "peaceful and democratic settlements universally"; etc, etc; — then a classic example of all these supposed benefits for mankind in operation, namely the "generous founding of a homeland for the Jews in the Holy Land to be called 'Israel'" is to be treated as similarly unassailable History now.

And every devious approach to this subject now tries to pull this same unstated stunt:—"Criticism any act you wish of the Israeli Government, just don't challenge the right of Israel to exist".

And every single slander of "anti-semitism" now works itself up into a lather via **unstated** reference to this assumedly "untouchable" question of "Why should Israel exist at all?"

Every argument which strays in that direction immediately gets the "anti-

semitism" boot right in the face, just as all Palestinian and Arab resistance since 1948 to that armed colonisation of the Palestinian homeland has been getting a boot in the face (and much worse besides).

Notice how, despite all the new flood, now, of unprecedented anti-Zionist criticism in the Western bourgeois media, there is still never any addressing of the only serious question worth asking if there is ever to be any resolution to this never-ending horror story of genocidal warmongering "Israeli" tyranny, – namely, why has this armed colonisation been planted in the midst of the Palestinian Arab homeland at all??? And why does it go on receiving Western imperialist protection, the highest per-capita aid-rate of any country on Earth, and generous licence to have access to any weaponry, including nuclear weapons, uniquely among all countries which are outside the magic circle of the major Western imperialist powers??

The question never gets debated in the media because the whole of the Western world knows that there is not a single shred of historical justification for the armed establishment of "Israel" in the Palestinian Arabs' very midst, either then or now.

To any materialist rational-thinking historical judgement, the whole notion of planting a Western armed colony in 1948 right in the heart of the Arab Middle East is simply an utterly insane idea which will become one thing only in due course, – a festering sore of unending warmongering conflict in the region.

And so it is now proving, exactly as the *EPSR* has always explained was bound to happen.

And the brainwashing nightmare to try to ensure that this questioning of the very existence of "Israel" should **never** get debated by a zombie world, – was also predictable too.

But like all propaganda stunts which go against the grain of history, this one too will in time crash in flames.

The postwar world **had to** include some genuine elements of retreat from empire, otherwise the mythical nonsense of the "victorious allies" who would "respect peaceful coexistence" could never have been sold to a naive trusting world by Stalinist Revisionism (to get all-out war-revolutionary

struggle put on the back burner, giving the delusions of "good imperialists" (as opposed to "bad, fascist imperialists") the chance to fall apart peacefully under their own "going nowhere" steam, etc, etc)

And this **physical** empire-dismantling (as opposed to the financial **continuation** of Western monopoly capitalist global empires) was what the armed **colonial** establishment of the "state of Israel" went right against the grain of.

It was, then, (and can only be, now), purely a matter of time before this armed colonisation implantation of Western Jewish monopoly-imperialist – (for that is the reality) – interests right in the heart of the Arab Middle East, (itself in inevitable all-out conflict with the West eventually, – out of the natural progression of incurable periodic capitalist-world "overproduction" crisis and warmongering sort-out), – became nothing but an endless explosion point in world politics.

To a Marxist historical perspective, the whole of Western history since 1945 (and the whole of world history, effectively) has been nothing but one long run-up to the moment when the West's monopoly-imperialist racket finally hits the buffers of Third World **revolutionary** resistance. That is the general historical period now being entered into with the reassertion of inter-imperialist conflict (the incurable crisis of the overproduction of capital — see *EPSR* box p82). And the racket of getting the world and the Arabs to swallow the colonising armed establishment of a warmongering Zionist imperialist tyranny in their midst, is bound to now be unravelling too. And all the bleating in the world of "But how can you sensibly compare this new US warmongering (against 'real' terrorists) with Nazi Germany's inhuman WWII plans for mass subjugation and slaughter?" will cut no ice.

There are two answers.

Firstly, German imperialism was in reality not comparable to its "Nazi horror" historical characterisation anyway.

Every filthy trick from concentration camp slaughter, police-state torture, master-race genocide, and brainwashing propaganda; to blitzkrieg bombing annihilation, scorched-earth starvation, collective punishment-

massacre disciplining, and hostage killing control, had **all** been well-ried and used by every major imperialist power in the field before Germany and Japan, – namely by the long-established (hundreds of years) continent-sized empires (frequently slave-powered) of Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, and the United States, to name but few.

Germany and Japan ended up doing it too, admittedly. But what was new and special about that??? Only that they were rising new powers, and their new found aggressiveness and industrial commercial might had put the old-established colonial empires' noses out of joint; and they have been paying the propaganda penalty in crap misleading history ever since.

Secondly, who says this new US imperialist warmongering "cannot sensibly be compared to the fascist aggression of WWII"???

Washington's demented arms-race for ever-more-terrifying weapons of mass destruction and ever-vaster stockpiling of them, makes Germany's 1930s efforts look ridiculously tame by comparison.

And the USA's thug-like promise to pre-emptively crush any **attempt**, even, by any power to catch up with America's arsenal, makes Hitler Germany's endless whingeing about the unfair advantages which the unequal Versailles Treaty had left to rival imperialist powers (in armaments and defensive installations) sound like a bleating chicken.

And a whole Middle East blitzkrieg (with much more threatened to come for an overgrowing list of "rogue states") just because a handful of "terrorists" with a grievance

have staged a couple of suicide stunts against American subjects or interests?????????

This American "logical" joke and military aggression insanity makes **every** "lebensraum" grievance and "protect German interests" provocation by Hitler Germany seem almost sane by comparison.

And if "which is the worst warmongering fascism" should be decided by the actual atrocities committed, then the USA has already left Nazi Germany far, far behind, – and before World War III has even properly started.

To begin with, the USA has already compiled a 400-war start on any Hitler imperialist comparison.

Estimates can vary wildly, but from 10 to 20 million innocents have **already** perished since 1945 from US imperialism's "might is right" aggressive master-race world domination, – before WWII has even got started.

And now that this unrestrained blitzkrieging has at last got into its stride, the totally devastating "shock and awe" murderous annihilation has been on a cruel and indiscriminate scale as to make the Hitlerite bombings look like rank amateurishness.

Tens of thousands of totally innocent and uninvolved Afghani and Iraqi women and children have been massacred, – and are still being massacred daily, – by this fascist aggressive monstrosity.

And all for what??? In the disgusting **pretence**, only, of "dealing with terrorism", a propaganda stunt which might even have made Goebbels blush, and a blatant idiocy when the whole world can see that terrorist resentment arises from Third World poverty and injustice which are growing fast, as will terrorism.



Iraq war US Nazi onslaught under the insane excuse of a "war on terror"



Bizarrely, it is the Zionist colonists themselves, – now so exposed themselves and obviously identifying themselves with the USA's reborn NAZI aggressiveness and warmongering propaganda in a desperate panic for any protective covering or like-minded lair that they can find, – who could most decisively ridicule this Goebbelsian "Big Lie" that total war 'shock & awe' is the way to "counter terrorism".

Terrorism has **grown relentlessly** precisely in **response to the Zionist merciless armed colonising of the Palestinian homeland.**

The Jews' blitzkrieging state-terror is designed for another purpose entirely, to help Western imperialism win World War Three, – starting with the crushing and intimidating of all state-organised resistance to Zionist aggression.

The Jewish religious freemasonry has its own particular propaganda routines with which to milk support from the post-1945 brainwashed Western populace, in step with the "good allies" imperialism feigning astonishment that the current "peacekeeping" and "justice-seeking" and "democracy-installing" and "terrorism-routing" blitzkrieging should remotely be compared to another fascist like round of warmongering aggression.

"Making the desert bloom"; "righting the eternal injustice to the Jewish people"; "fulfilling God's commands"; "collaborating to bring closure to Europe's difficult, painful, and shameful WWII tragedy"; "cooperating with the introduction of UN 'international law'"; "becoming a potential huge economic locomotive for the whole Middle East"; etc, etc, etc, – all are part of the postwar Jewish myth.

Equally well-drilled are various degrees of Jewish "disown-

ing" of the more blatant passages of state-terror tyranny by "Israeli" gun colonisation.

"How could you accuse us, the victims of the Holocaust and of endless Arab terrorism, of being anything but the innocent victims of this savage hostility by this hopelessly barbaric Palestinian Islamic extremism", etc, etc.

"Anyone unmoved by any of this has surely got to have an ingrained anti-Semitic agenda, just as has always persecuted the Jews throughout history", it goes on. This basic crude jingoistic shallowness then gets refined increasingly, all the way to the top of "liberal" Jewishness, where nothing so crude as defending "Israeli" tyranny is even attempted, but where any threat of too effective anti-Zionism is nevertheless cleverly knifed with the smear of "anti-semitism", as in this letter to the *Guardian* by an otherwise accomplished and progressive author:

Anti-Israel equals/does not equal anti-semitism: there is something a little Alice-in-Wonderland happening to this debate. John le Carré on Radio 4 last Monday said it was obscene that he can't be critical of Israel without being accused of anti-semitism (*The Guardian profile*, December 5). This, in turn, means we can't suggest someone is being anti-Semitic in the manner and tone with which they are being anti-Israeli, though we know in our bones that is the case.

Le Carré and Brian Klug (*No, anti-Zionism is not anti-semitism*, December 3) are applying reason to the irrational. There are many Jews, like myself, who are critical of aspects of Israeli policy; we also know there is, there most definitely, identifiably is, a molten flow of anti-semitism burning the air of reason and screened unreachably behind smoky anti-Zionism, complaining comfortably that to say otherwise is obscene.

Jews in all walks of life, university, the arts, bookselling – have stories of encounters where the questions posed and the criticisms levelled are couched in tight-

lipped, hostile tones and phraseology that have nothing to do with the substance of purported concern. Anti-Semitism, like stupidity, is here to stay in the bloodstream of humankind; and like stupidity will assume many guises. In the good old days, anti-semitism used to be prefaced with a slap on the back and "some of my best friends are Jews".

Let's bring that one back.

Arnold Wesker

It is Wesker's suspicions that require the explanation. The entire media debate is bending over backwards, as Le Carré did, to deliberately avoid the **really** challenging question: Why should "Israel" exist at all? – and to stress how pro-Jewish is the normal sympathy of the West.

But still the religious freemasonry is not satisfied; and the potentially devastating charge of "anti-semitism" is still outrageously and irresponsibly levelled, – and for the obvious reason that there is no justification for "Israel", let alone for its state-terror criminal colonising, – nor can there be any justification, by Jewishness or by anything else.

And the test is not simply that if Wesker had any good arguments justifying "Israel" he would use them rather than resort to the filthy character assassination smear of "anti-semitism".

The test is that until a sizeable volume of Jewish opinion publicly starts campaigning **against** the existence of "Israel" (which in factual political terms is nothing but an anachronistic armed Western-imperialist colonisation directed at the very heart of the Arab Middle East) as the only possible way forward from the WWII warmongering crisis which demented US imperialist circles are now threatening the planet with, – then it will remain inescapable that in the late 20th century, the Jewish religious freemasonry, ended its long self-protection history by becoming just a stooge for renewed Western imperialist blitzkrieging as a "solution" to insoluble-economic crisis).

Inevitably in these circumstances, anti-semitism will spread like wildfire too, virtually indistinguishable from anti-Zionism.

But there does still remain a vast difference.

Let a single state of Palestine become one country again, letting **every** Palestinian return to their old property, wherever possible.

Then let every Jew in this probable Arab majority state stay on as a fully participating citizen if invited, and make as much of the desert bloom as is legal, and be as religiously at home in "God's promised land" as any "chosen people" could wish to feel.

And as some smarter "Israelis" are already arguing (from a purely defensive point of view), if this colonising settlement land-grabbing genocide goes on for much longer, it will be impossible to physically separate the Jewish and Palestinian existences anyway, sooner or later.

So why not make a virtue of this and declare one state for all right now, whereby the Jews would at least massively benefit for generations to come from the huge skills, networking, organisational, political, and financial advantages they have already, – much of which would be a tad unfair for the Palestinians, but only a **comparative** disadvantage, easily digested in the face of the huge transformation in Palestinian lives that the establishment of a single state of Palestine, with returned lands and citizenship for all ousted inhabitants (since 1948, and even decades earlier under British imperialist tyranny) plus all their offspring, would achieve.

But nothing like this is going to happen, of course.

As can be seen from Wesker's sad contribution, the Jewish religious freemasonry has the imperialist-era conquest-chauvinism in its nostrils; and just like any imperialist-nationalism mentality (the USA's for example, which has been the mainstay in every way of "Israeli" jingoism), this empire-building can only now tyrannically drive on **until defeated**.

And the best "liberal-Israeli" defensive position is worse than useless too, – granting the Palestinians a Mickey-Mouse joke "state" on a semi-desert pocket-handkerchief-sized quilt of reservations on just 20% of Palestine, all dominated by "Israeli" guns and roadworks, etc.

This would not reduce the apartheid tyranny of the occupied Palestine concentration camp, but only make it more humiliating and intolerable than ever.

Imperialist warmongering madness is taking the world to a completely different solution to its problems, the international socialist revolution for

mankind's civilisation's only possible survival.

All "Israel" apologists of any description, however mealy-mouthed, are only offering a "victorious" World War III "solution" as a way out of the planet's insoluble monopoly imperialist economic and political contradictions.

To various levels of doubt that the incomparably wealthy and mighty US imperialist "new world order" might not yet find or impose some half-tolerable "solution" or other to the world's warmongering crisis, let the capitalist press itself admit how morally, politically, and economically bankrupt the whole "free world" racket has really become:

Israeli advisers are helping train US special forces in aggressive counter-insurgency operations in Iraq, including the use of assassination squads against guerrilla leaders, US intelligence and military sources said yesterday.

The Israeli Defence Force (IDF) has sent urban warfare specialists to Fort Bragg in North Carolina, the home of US special forces, and according to two sources, Israeli military "consultants" have also visited Iraq.

US forces in Iraq's Sunni triangle have already begun to use tactics that echo Israeli operations in the occupied territories, sealing off centres of resistance with razor wire and razing buildings from where attacks have been launched against US troops.

But the secret war in Iraq is about to get much tougher, in the hope of suppressing the Ba'athist-led insurgency ahead of next November's presidential elections.

US special forces teams are already behind the lines inside Syria attempting to kill foreign jihadists before they cross the border, and a group focused on the "neutralisation" of guerrilla leaders is being set up, according to sources familiar with the operations.

"This is basically an assassination programme. That is what is being conceptualised here. This is a hunter killer team," said a former senior US intelligence official, who added that he feared the new tactics would inflame a volatile situation in the Middle East.

"It is bonkers, insane ... we're already being compared to Sharon in the Arab world, and we've just confirmed it by bringing in the Israelis and setting up assassination teams."

Nothing like the horrors of WWII imperialist military aggression??? The pro-imperialist rags themselves own up differently:

[There follows a detailed account of Guantánamo and Kandahar US prison camps' torture and uncontrolled brutality in the original EPSR - ed]

But merely "first time aggressive-leadership awkwardness by a country more used to helping the whole world than harming it"????

Since 1945, US imperialism has slaughtered up to 20 million in an unparalleled reign of imperialist counter-revolutionary terror:

[List of some of 400 incidents of threats, invasion, coups, stooge installations, blockades, bombings, missileing, and all-out wars-ed].

But surely, it is argued, "this was always a start towards making a better world, however wrong-headed; and now that rivalling Soviet influence is no longer a complicating factor, surely the USA will get most things right in future???"

But franker bourgeois voices report that the exact opposite is happening, and is in fact getting worse, to the whole world's enormous damage:

In early November 2001, as the war in Afghanistan was getting under way, the United Nations held a press conference in Islamabad to announce the latest scores in the global drug eradication effort. Those journalists who bothered to attend were surprised to learn that the previous year the Taliban had all but eradicated the opium poppy from the areas it controlled.

To discover that the Taliban had eradicated the opium poppy did not fit the picture of unhallowed evil that the moment demanded. The story made little impact. Even if it was true — as it undoubtedly was — there was a feeling that the Taliban did not really mean it: they probably had their fingers crossed. Praise was politically impossible.

Besides, if the story had been given more play it might have been noticed that in those parts of Afghanistan controlled by the Northern Alliance — who had successfully auditioned for the parts of noble heroes in the melodrama of the war against evil — opium production had risen sharply. Had too much attention been paid to that, it might have raised the question of what would happen if our new friends, the warlords, had the whole country in which to plant their favourite crop.

We know the answer to that now. After the fall of the Taliban, Afghanistan swiftly recovered its position as producer of two-thirds of the world's heroin and main supplier to Europe, including the UK.

Hamid Karzai, the president of Afghanistan, has banned it of course, but the gesture is futile. If the latest UN estimates are correct, opium brings in twice as much to Afghanistan as foreign aid does. (That's after the country became a priority case for assistance — or rather for promises of assistance.)

Opium revenues are equivalent to half of the country's GDP. Its ag-

riculture, roads, communications arid irrigation systems are in such bad shape that many farmers see little alternative to the poppy. And whatever Hamid Karzai says, the warlords are hardly going to suppress a crop that offers them such quantities of easy money.

The trouble is, what are they doing with the money?

They are doing what warlords do: consolidating their power, buying arms, making sure that the central government doesn't get above itself.

Belatedly, though, the US seems to be worried that the wrong people might be getting hold of the revenues. The US Drug Enforcement Administration has launched an urgent initiative — Operation Containment — which is supposed to get the traffic under control.

To wage an effective war against drugs, however, the US will have to confront some of its major allies in the war against terror, and that is unlikely to happen. It complicates the narrative of good and evil for one thing. As the administration well knows, the words war and drugs are closely related, but not always in the way we like to pretend. The pompously titled "war on drugs" — a meaningless umbrella term that covers a variety of policies — has been a resounding failure by most rational measurements. But the close association between drugs and war is as strong as ever.

The drug business can be both a motive for armed conflict and a means of sustaining it. A cursory glance at the history of Afghanistan — and of conflicts elsewhere reveals it is not just the guys in the black hats who have found it useful. Afghanistan's drug trade took off in the 1980s, when the CIA was sponsoring the mujahedin war against the USSR. The cocaine trade in Central America flourished when the US administration was backing the Contras to fight the Sandinistas in Nicaragua. Clandestine flights that took arms to Central America returned with other illegal cargoes: It helped the wheels of the war go round.

It helps the wheels go round in Colombia too. The writer Robin Kirk estimates that the New York street price of a kilogram of cocaine pays the wages of 250 Colombian fighters for a month, or buys 180 AK-47 rifles, or 120 satellite telephones. And given that some 6 million Americans spend at least \$46bn on cocaine and heroin a year most of it from Colombia there's plenty of life in the war yet.

The US government is pouring money into the civil war in Colombia on the pretext of fighting drugs. In this rather simple scenario, the rebels the Farc and the FLN — are "narco-terrorists" and the Colombian army must be helped to defeat them. But the army is closely allied to paramilitary forces who are paid, fed, clothed and armed by drug money, and the Colombian legislature is full of senators and congressmen whose electoral campaign expenses were

funded by drug money. If defeating the Farc and the ELN resulted in the end of the Colombian drugs business, the age of miracles would truly be upon us.

But surely the "desert-blooming Jews" will never make such a crass and clumsy mess of things, but will win round Palestinian cooperation eventually???

Not in these pro-imperialist press admissions by one bourgeois Jew:

At some level, I suspect, feelings like these animate the attitude of most diaspora Jews, however disillusioned or assimilated to Israel. You may despair over its idiotic invasion of Lebanon, its complicity in atrocities such as the massacres at Sabra and Shatila, its countless human rights abuses, its reckless and frequently disproportionate use of force, its paranoia, its sheer bloody-mindedness.

But somewhere inside there is always a small, persistent voice saying: these people are putting their necks on the line, making sacrifices, doing ugly things so that there will be a sanctuary for you if ever you need one. Who are you to criticise?

Nothing you have read quite prepares you for the provocativeness of the settlements, the sheer one-in-the-eye, fuck-you-ness of them. There are the familiar statistics, of course: some 200,000 settlers hogging a wildly disproportionate share of the land (20% of Gaza alone), with 2.9m Palestinians squeezed into the rest. But you don't quite get it till you see it: the boxy orange-roofed homes plonked on to hilltops like Monopoly houses, little patches of greenery dotting the drab brush of the Judaeon hills, shiny black roads leading down to the broad, smooth highway, specially constructed to allow settlers to travel through the West Bank without having to pass through Palestinian areas.

As we speed past, our Palestinian guide points out the ones that have been built since the Oslo agreement in 1993, and you can't help wondering: why? Why, when peace was so close, did Israel continue to poke these concrete fingers in the Palestinians' eyes? Yossi Beilin, the former Israeli minister who was instrumental in the Oslo negotiations, says settlement expansion was a price Labour felt it was worth paying for the support of its rightwing coalition partners. Now he's not so sure: "We believed peace was so close that talking about settlements that were not going to be there seemed irrelevant . . . What happened was that we don't have peace but we do have settlements."

Poorer and more concentrated, Gaza is far more instantly shocking than the West Bank. The stench hits you first — the area's only sewage plant has long been out of commission. Then the claustrophobia. With more than a million people packed into an area roughly the

size of the Isle of Wight (20% of whose land is occupied by 6,500 Jewish settlers) Gaza would be a claustrophobic place at the best of times. Sealed off, as all Palestinian territories have been since September, it feels like nothing more than a self-governing prison camp. In the West Bank, thousands of Palestinians defy the Israeli cordon, walking over the hills to get to work each day in Israel. In Gaza, much of which is surrounded by an electric fence, closure means closure.

On one day in Gaza, we meet a man whose home has just been bulldozed by the Israeli army, visit a part of the Khan Yunis camp where 32 homes were flattened by the Israelis a few weeks earlier, and witness a rocket attack on a Palestinian Authority building in Gaza. But somehow these are less shocking than the everyday degradations and indignities of life under closure. We have seen the bulldozings and the rocket attacks on TV; the sheer brutality of closure only emerges from the steady stream of stories you hear as you travel through Gaza and the West Bank.

Stories such as the one told to me by a Palestinian woman, call her Sarah, I met over dinner in east

Jerusalem. Since the intifada, her mother, who lived in Ramallah, had been unable to travel to east Jerusalem to see her or her children. So Sarah and her husband had moved to Ramallah to keep the family together. There was just one problem: since Sarah and her husband were technically Israeli Arabs, they were not supposed to be in Ramallah. Any time they travelled into Jerusalem, they risked being turned back when they tried to go home.

As someone who grew up under apartheid, I have always resisted the glib comparison with South Africa. But hearing stories like this, it's hard to avoid the parallels. "It's worse than apartheid, actually," one Palestinian said when the analogy inevitably came up. "Right now it's apartheid without the pass system."

Travelling through Gaza, hearing stories like Sarah's, seeing the settlements, you can't help asking the same question: how can Jews behave like this? How can a people that has for so long been oppressed allow itself to become an oppressor? It's a naive response, of course; at the core of Israel's identity has always been the idea of the muscular New Jew, determined never to allow a repetition of the catas-

trophe that befell European Jewry, even if it meant treading on others to make sure.

Talk to any Israeli about why Israel behaves the way it does, why it is a nation that feels it is fighting for its very existence despite its overwhelming military and economic superiority over its neighbours, and pretty soon you come back to the Holocaust. Over dinner, an Israeli novelist described how the Shoah defined every aspect of Israeli life: "We survived to live and now we live to survive. We cannot escape it and it's very destructive."

If the Holocaust is one overwhelming influence on the Israeli psyche, the other is the deeply held suspicion that the Arab world will not be satisfied until it has pushed the Jewish interlopers into the sea. It's a view that frequently slides close to paranoia, as when one Israeli sympathiser pointed down from a hilltop vantage point at east Jerusalem and told me: "It's not the Palestinians we're worried about, but how would you feel if there were Iraqi troops down there?" But it's not entirely paranoid. When I pressed Hassam Khader, a senior Fatah figure in Nablus, on whether Palestinians would ever be completely happy with the return of

only the West Bank and Gaza, his reply would not have reassured Israelis: "Sooner or later the Palestinian people will liberate their homeland. Now Israel is supported by the United States and Europe, but that will not continue for ever and sooner or later there will be a big battle between the Palestinians and Arabs and Israel."

"It will be two or three years, at least," said Nimrod Novik, a former aide to Shimon Peres. "Both sides need to shed more blood." A Palestinian academic, arguing that the Palestinians should pursue a policy of attrition rather than negotiation, thought it would take much longer. "We can stand this for a long time. The Israelis are used to the European life and they will not want to live like this. The only question is who will break first, and we are already broken. We have been broken for 50 years."

And this is exactly what will happen. This "Israel" historical abortion is doomed. And it is far closer to "anti-semitism" in practice to deny it, than to admit it.

Build Leninism.
EPSR supporters.

Catching Saddam, one more especially unsavoury antagonist to Washington's manipulations, will not rescue the West's monopoly-capitalist warmongering cause one whit. Treacherous tip-offs, lying "weapons of mass destruction" propaganda, and pro-Jewish imperialism muck-raking, all losing issues if more debts and more bombs predictably fail to help the West curb Third World revolt against incurable economic crisis. Western warmongering racism is the problem, not anti-semitism. (No1213 16-12-03)

Internet reaction against the EPSR exposure of contemporary Jewishness as inseparable from its Zionist-imperialist misdeeds in the Middle East

(see previous four issues, e.g.) predictably won't comment on the genocidal fascist tyranny wiping out the Palestinian homeland, or on the big-

gest brainwashing fraud of the modern era by which the vicious warmongering repression inflicted by the 'Axis' imperialist powers in WWII

is presented as "different" from what US imperialism has brutally imposed in more than 400 wars and counter-revolutions since 1945, and its 'allies' (Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, etc, etc) have humiliated humanity with for more than 400 years.

There is no difference (see EPSR 1212 - p58), and ignorance of this reality undermines every single argument raised against the EPSR.

Take, for instance, the internet fan who claimed he could not read beyond the description (EPSR 1209 p52) of the BBC as a "Nazi-CIA propaganda orifice".

The relentless massacre of Afghani village children, by the dozen, by F16 bombings because of "reports" of a "terrorist suspect" in a village building "somewhere" can be examined, for example.

This cynical state-terrorism is exactly the sort of thing German, Japanese, and Italian air-raids were accused of in WWII.

It is all copied from the civilian terror air blitzkrieg pioneered by British imperialism, first in the War of Intervention against the Bolshevik Revolution after 1917, and then against rebellion in Iraq in 1921-22 when Churchill & Co wanted to deliberately terrorise Iraqi villagers from joining the anti-imperialist revolt.

It is also, of course, how the



The settlements are "in your face" seizures of the best land and water resources, with armed enclosures

monopoly capitalist Jewish freemasonry's genocidal colonisation campaign to wipe out, then steal, the Palestinian homeland tries to terrorise-massacre all resistance into silent obedience.

Concentration camp torture was different?

Read the lengthy capitalist press admissions (EPSR 1212) about US imperialism's Guantánamo torture camp.

Mass genocide was different???

So what about the 4 million butchered in Indochina????

But 'Axis' methods were surely nastier?

So what is preferable about Agent Orange mass poisoning??

Who is being "eccentric" by arguing that deaths by dioxin or napalm are somehow "less terrible" than deaths by cyanide???

Or less "fascist"??

Or less "Nazi"???

So what then is the objection to likening US imperialism's secret-police counter-revolutionary crimes to those of the Gestapo, since their record of international murderous villainy is about 100 times as long as the Nazis achieved in 12 short years of their power compared to the hundred years and more which have taken American world-colonial domineering to the position of sole superpower??????

And since the BBC is forever the trusted voice of Western imperialist interests in general, and has willingly and knowingly kept such international lies going as, – that the fictional "Gulf of Tonkin incident" justified the USA's launch of the Vietnam War; that the fictional "Recak massacre" in Kosovo justified the NATO blitzkrieg on Serbia; that Pinochet's overthrow of Allende was not a CIA coup; and that US imperialism had to invade Grenada because of totally fictional danger to some American medical students on the island; etc; etc; etc; etc; etc; etc; etc; etc; etc; etc; etc; etc; etc; – then how is it that at the crucial immediate moment of any international crisis, when the BBC always automatically puts forward complete CIA propaganda nonsense with a totally straight face, only daring to risk a little bit of exposé about 20 years later on average, it becomes "eccentric" or "unreadable" to remind anti-imperialists everywhere that this BBC is a **total** stooge of Western imperialist

interests at key moments of history??????????????

But the really "hair-raising" stuff for the internet faint-hearts results from the post-1945 total Western brainwashing which pretends that the "free world" leadership only ever had good intentions for mankind.

To doubt these good intentions is worse than cursing God in church; and pride of place among these good intentions was, naturally enough, the founding of a homeland for the Jews in "Israel" (i.e. Palestine).

To doubt the goodness of this intention is far, far **worse** than blasphemy.

It is simply **never** the done thing to doubt the right of "Israel" to exist, or to doubt the benign purposes of Western imperialism in stitching up this armed colonial land-grab through the comatose United Nations stooge-shop and past the eyes of the brain-dead Stalinist Revisionists, paralysed by delusions of eternal "peaceful-coexistence".

99% of the internet squawking is arising purely from the EPSR not accepting the fundamental premise that everyone else has been working around, – namely that "obviously, Israel is here to stay".

The one certainty, however, is the exact opposite, of course.

This "Israel" is nothing but a current colonial land-theft in a new post-1945 era when precisely, these physical colonial empires owned by Western monopoly-capitalist and state interests are the one thing that has had to go (as no longer tolerable to Third World anti-imperialist sensitivities).

Past genocidal monstrosities, like the stealing of North America from its hundreds of native Indian nations, or the theft of Australia from the Aborigines, may still be doubted as ever likely to allow restitution to be made or much of the legitimate inheritance to be put back together again.

But the Palestinian nation was only racistly and genocidally evicted at the point of a gun in 1948 within living memory.

And that homeland destruction continues today not only within the clear indignant comprehension of the ousted Palestinian nation, but physically within their sight on this small crowded territory.

The 7 million Palestinians can peer through the barbed wire of their encampments,

refugee hovels, or concentration camps, and actually see their own land being ploughed by the armed colonising interlopers.

And these are not like a few remaining Lokota Red Indians still complaining about loss of land rights in South Dakota, surrounded by 50 industrial states containing a white imperialist power of nearly 300 million population.

These 7 million Palestinians are, in the first place, a formidable political and fighting force in themselves.

But beyond that they are part of the 300 million strong Arab nation which only 700 years ago was an advanced civilisation, more powerful, capable, and sophisticated than European civilisation.

Moreover, it is an Arab civilisation which is becoming increasingly angry against Western domination of their region and the world, and an economic and political power which potentially is in a position to do a great deal about it.

On top of all that, the Palestinians are part of the Muslim religion, – the fastest growing, vastest, and most militant anti-Western philosophy on Earth with an endless number of axes to grind, and enough driving spirit to face down the decadent and criminal West.

This insulting "Israel" implantation must be in the running to be the most outrageous and ludicrous and doomed provocation ever attempted in the whole of world history.

It is only the innate mildness and servitude of the Muslim religion, and the cowed-by-Western-imperialism past 600 years defeats for the Arabs, which have kept the heroic Palestinian fightback against colonial genocide within the limits that it has so far been contained.

But the direction which this epic epoch-making struggle must take next is glaringly obvious.

Having fought overwhelming Zionist military superiority almost to a standstill in a steady escalation over the 55 years of the colonisation's existence, (having started effectively squashed completely flat, and hampered behind barbed wire and non-stop Zionist armed-harassment and economic-starvation ever since), the Palestinian Intifada is now poised to wage a damaging guerrilla war against Western imperialism that could be the start of a world history

turning-point leading to the end of 800 years of European capitalist supremacy.

It is in reaction to this stark projected reality that the emotionalism of the Jewish freemasonry starts hysterically to scream "Anti-semitism", but only by hurling every scrap of objective reason out of the window.

It starts from a groundless abstract assumption that "naturally, the Jews have a right to a homeland just like every other nation", etc, – which is endlessly repeated with such conviction that all analysis of this decidedly "unnatural" proposition simply ceases, and anyone having the "bad taste" or "ignorance" to dispute it, automatically qualifies as "eccentric", "racist", and "anti-Semitic" at the very least.

Closer examination, however, reveals grotesque and dangerous flaws in this completely abstract "self-determination" supposition.

What "nation"??? Adherents to the Jewish freemasonry are from scores of different national and racial backgrounds.

Their native languages are English, French, Italian, Dutch, Arabic, Persian, Polish, Hungarian, etc, etc, and the one "national language" which was claimed, Yiddish, is basically German.

Having been inserted by Western imperialist armed might into the heart of the Arab Middle East, this bogus "nation" then invented a new language, Modern Hebrew, based on a regional tongue in ancient times which had been preserved museum-like in the liturgy of Judaism.

Racially, the "Jewish nation" runs from black Ethiopians to the fairest of fair Scandinavians. There are no distinct racial characteristics whatsoever to mark out the "Jewish nation" comprehensively.

As a justifiably very famous religious freemasonry, one of the most talented in history, the changing role, meaning, and significance of "Jewishness" is as endlessly complex as that of any other self-identifying and self-protecting group, such as the Catholics, for example, and other famous Christian sects, – all variously persecuting or, mostly, persecuted all through history for a variety of local/political/dynastic/economic reasons etc.

All other religious freemasonries reveal the same fiendishly complex sectarian patterns of ups and mostly



• Explosions after an Israeli air strike in Gaza Strip in January 2009

downs.

But it is precisely this ludicrously "religious" issue which "inspires" the most outrageous idiocies of all in the whole "Jewish question".

It is insane enough to start an armed colonial war on Arab soil by armed and financed Western imperialist fanatics **at all** in the latter half of the 20th century.

But to try to get away with doing so on the basis of an obscure backward tribal voodoo from 1,000 years ago which prayed to a God who gave a "promised land" to his "chosen people" is gobsmacking stupidity which has 1% at most of "self-determination" abstract rigmarole in it, but 99% of taking the piss.

(It is in fact a useful incidental pointer to a constant flaw in much of the "self-determination-rights" abstract absolutism which the moralising fake 'left' love to embroil themselves in, to the exclusion of all practical political, economic, and class war considerations within particular historical perspectives.

There is invariably some notional "self-determination-right" to be found somewhere or other inside every complex historical conflict.

But the Marxist-Leninist view was always that such "rights" might well need to give way to other perfectly workable solutions **for the greater good** of many other problems, in many cases.)

It might be reasonable to ask any state formed by the Palestinian Arab nation, the major-

ity in the Holy Land for the last 1,500 years, if they would allow Jewish religious fanatics to satisfy their emotional and cultural longings and delusions by settling permanently in the territory.

To that extent, the fanciful abstract notion of a Jewish "self-determination right" might have some vague meaning.

But in practice, after 1948, the only possible reality about the arrival of 4 million Jews into Palestine was that they would inevitably become the most hated permanent warmongering provocation in the whole history of Western imperialist tyranny.

In which case every abstract scrap of "self-determination-rights" diversion is nothing but a despicable fascist propaganda joke on the Arab nation and on the whole world.

The Jews who are riled by the *EPSR* won't deal with any of these questions but pour out their abuse about "anti-semitism" on the basis of yet another rigmarole of completely abstract moralising nonsense.

What these self-righteous Jewish sneers about "racism" are in fact defending so indignantly is **the idea** of being Jewish.

Many of them of course make a point of not defending the Zionist tyranny **practice** of effectively putting the Palestinian nation into a fascist-military concentration camp.

But this is all a ludicrous fraud and philosophical-logical nonsense.

Of course it is possible for all Jews to get on their high horse and convincingly shout "anti-semitism" when it is **the idea** itself of what it is to be Jewish (prayers and dreams of a Jewish homeland Utopia one day).

But just let them or anyone else try to conjure up in **practice** any alternative way in which the "promised-land" ideal might be realised (other than the path which the one real "Israel" has had to follow in order to survive at all), and they will find it **impossible**.

The mere **idea** of the "promised land" can never be anything else other than a totally unrealisable fantasy.

The **practice** of a real "Israel" can never be anything other than the brutal fascist tyranny, genocidally expelling the Palestinian nation, that all rational minds recognise and despise.

And the halfway house "nicer" colonising plan to stick 7 million humiliated and permanently cowed and terrorised Palestinians into reservations on a semi-desert 20% of their original homeland, is possibly even more odious than the full settler plan to grab the lot, because it is so knowingly and blatantly hypocritical.

This crap infamous "two-state solution" is precisely the duplicitous get-out for these mouthy self-righteous defenders of just **the idea** of the "promised land", – all so self-consciously quickly posturing their "we-don't-defend-everything-the-Israeli-government-does" self-deception.

This "conscience" is a stinking philosophical fraud.

There is only one real "Israel".

It is a terrorising consciously-fascist tyranny and could never be anything else.

Either the return of **everything** to **all** of the Palestinians, all of them coming back to reclaim their homeland, – which would obviously mean an overwhelmingly majority Arab state, with just a tiny minority of religious fanatic Jews living on as best they could.

Or the effective eviction of the **entire** Palestinian nation only two-thirds accomplished so far.

The "two-state" fraud is just a sanitised version of total cleansing, – a permanent police-state tyranny over a few surrounded and isolated Palestinian reservations, just as the original North American inhabitants ended up.

As the *EPSR* has explained, the only "Jewish" view worth giving serious respect for henceforth, – (in the light of the **actual** fascist-warmongering tyranny that "Israel" could only turn out to be, given the historical circumstances of being an implanted armed Western colonisation in the era of **anti**-colonialism, and in the light of how US imperialism's wider international warmongering agenda is now using the emotive fraud of "defend Israel" as a useful stunt to justify ever-increasing repression of Arab and Muslim nationalism of every kind), – is the Jew who campaigns for the **destruction** of the state of "Israel" as soon as possible for the sake of humanity.

From admittedly limited practical observation, there do not appear to be any ordinary Jewish adherents anywhere who are openly calling for the wiping out of this catastrophic historical abortion called "Israel".

Given the history and character of this particular



• GAZA: A Palestinian carries a wounded girl following an Israeli air strike in Gaza city

religious freemasonry (not much different from most others, in fact), this absence of any really serious "anti-Israel" Jewish movement is hardly surprising.

In which case come EPSR observations that the old distinction between "Jew" and "Zionist" has no further use, and is just a deliberately confusing deceit, henceforth.

And where does the "racism" come into all this????

It is brought in by the Jews themselves, as explained.

First they cry "racist", purely on the basis of uncomfortably hating how their defence of maintaining just the abstract **idea** of some "promised land" sometime, somewhere, has been exposed as just a piece of posturing self-righteous philosophical conceit.

Secondly, in practice behind this moralising about "defending the abstract self-determination right for a Jewish homeland, while not defending everything 'Israel' does in reality", lies an actual justification of this one and only real "Israel"

.....which just happens to be an openly **racist** state and a colonial tyranny, – one of the nastiest in all imperialist history.

The state's **racist** essence, is in fact now quite uniquely horrific and disgusting by **any** standards in all modern history.

So who are the "racists"?????

And the invitation for the colonising members of the multinational international Jewish freemasonry to go back to their own nations in

America, Britain, Poland, and Russia, etc, is nothing more than the simple logic of what is actually going to happen sooner or later.

These settlers **are Americans**, etc.

They might be learning Hebrew, but everything about them is totally American.

They are in the Middle East, colonising Palestine at the point of a gun, because of a deluded twisted mixture of Western imperialist warmongering fascist bullying plus the particular slant that their Jewish religious freemasonry adherence gives to things.

When their demented armed-colonising racket gets defeated, they will crawl back to America.

The humane civilised thing to do is invite them to go back home to America now, before their deluded imperialist nastiness brings even more trouble and grief to themselves and the world.

Either way, and whatever happens, anti-"Israeli" terrorism is bound to grow.

However regrettable some might think it, a Marxist historical view can only be that this spontaneous terrorist fightback **has to** happen first before a more organised revolutionary political movement is likely to get going towards building a positive revolutionary Palestine to put a **certain** end finally, once and for all, to this Zionist-imperialist nonsense.

In which case, the only progressive historical comment it is possible to make about something that is going to hap-

pen anyway, in the direction of even better future developments, is "let it happen".

The Marxist programme for a communist revolution would rarely be wishing to encourage the development of spontaneous terrorist anarchy; but it would never condemn it either, even though it might often have cause to regret its consequences, along with other "innocents".

But fighting capitalist society's battles for it, against a mess of its own making, would be a ridiculously self-defeating thing for **any** serious anti-imperialists to do.

If nothing can stop a wave of spontaneous terrorist hatred from being brought about by the injustice, brutality, and degeneracy of the capitalist system, prior to the class war crisis becoming irreconcilably deep and matured enough to lead on to the development of a **real** revolutionary **answer** to collapsing bourgeois-system decadence; then the sooner this terrorist spasm is got through, then the more rapidly that the really serious revolutionary progress to put an end to the whole capitalist ruling-class **system** (and not just an end to individual capitalist state officials or random bourgeois electors) can get under way.

The silly exhibitionist Burchill has seized this opportunity to strike yet another "controversially dynamic" pose, railing against "anti-Semites who deny the Jewish people the fundamental right to a homeland of their own, and conceal their race hatred

as 'anti-Zionism'".

As an abstract idea, a homeland for the Jews is not a problem, if empty territory can be found somewhere, and that is what this religious freemasonry really wants.

The problems begin over where it is decided to put this homeland.

The Palestinian nation has been in Palestine for 1,500 years.

Hence the name.

Why must they be genocidally cleansed from **their** homeland???

The usual biblical bollocks answer would produce such worldwide chaos if every single "national/racial" identity on Earth resolved in the late 20th century to re-colonise the land they allegedly possessed 2,000 to 3,000 years earlier, that no sane person would ever put this nonsense forth as a serious argument.

Every country on Earth would have to be handed over to someone else.

The Jews of the world have had many ideas or offers for a homeland put to them throughout their history as a particular religious freemasonry, – a common historical phenomenon with many human communities who have regarded themselves as "special" in some way; but the Jews have mostly turned them down, preferring to remain Frenchmen, or Scandinavians, or Americans, or Italians, or Scots, or English, or Dutch, etc, etc, etc.

Going back to Palestine started to get the nod due to specifically Western imperialist causes.

In the climactic era of European imperialist land-grabbing, in the approaches to the great World War I inter-imperialist conflict for a land-grabbing sort-out, the Austro-Hungarian empire produced Herzl, and the Russian empire produced Weizmann, who between them invented Zionism whereby Jewish worthies within imperial Europe could justify an empire of their own, obviously most easily now in the Middle East where the major imperialist powers were doing their most frenzied warmongering, backstabbing, and stooge "nation building", inventing "new" countries left, right, and centre against the weak Arabs in this oil-rich region with which to further all their rival dreams of monopoly-capitalist triumph.

It was the priceless contri-



▲ Devastation: Gaza in ruins following the three-week Israeli siege in the winter of 2008/2009 which left more than 1,400 people, mainly civilians, dead



• Israeli tanks, planes and ground forces are pounding Gaza

tribution to British imperialism's warmongering ambitions by Weizmann, by now an outstanding chemist in Manchester, using bacteria to turn carbohydrates into acetone to make the crucial cordite for shells, thus beating the German naval blockade of imported materials, which got for Weizmann not the offered knighthood but the Balfour Declaration by the then Foreign Secretary to turn over some Near East land to the Jews for a "national home" after the war had been won.

So the **real** answer as to "why Palestine?" which the Burchills of this world will never admit, is because the Palestinians are kicked-around Arabs who had never achieved much by the way of statehood.

In other words, it is the reasoning of the likes of Burchill which is the racism, pure NAZI racism, beating the Palestinians out of their homeland just because they are weak enough to be booted around, – by the Turks for hundreds of years, then by the British, and finally by the Jewish religious freemasonry representatives of Western imperialist interests in general.

This fascist "might is right" mentality is covered up by the crap of Judaic religious legend which decrees that "the chosen people" shall live in "God's promised land".

It is routine in 100s of religious legends of the nations of aborigine North America, for example, that their eternal "promised land" for that particular "blessed nation" would forever be Long Island, say, or Manhattan (an area about the size of occupiable Palestine,

now populated by 20 million highrise New Yorkers.)

But although this genocidal ethnic cleansing is less than 400 years old, and the wailing against this monstrous barbarity and cruelty can still be heard in the heartbroken Indian nations to this day, singing of their lost ancestral lands, – neither Burchill nor any of the flawed heroes she quotes as pro-Zionist, are ever heard scolding the planet for being racist fascist degenerates for not going into battle to return all of North America to those it belonged to.

But, of course, the celebrity shits of this world like Burchill do not know any "in-crowd" Red Indians to suck up to in British celebrity society, unlike all the talented, successful, and prominent Jews around.

So although the "promised land" idiocy is at least 1,500 years redundant, and not a mere 400 years, as in the great Algonquian nation's case, all brain-dead instinctive adherents of the imperialist status-quo everywhere will think it a smart maverick "insider" strategy to come out strongly for the Jews and "Israel" just when more conventional petty bourgeois minds are beginning to get worried about the whole stinking Nazi-blitzkrieg project to blast the Palestinians out of Palestine as the benchmark for blasting all other "terrorist troublemakers" out of everywhere else all round the Middle East, the West's neo-colonial warmongering anti-crisis strategy which is facing **defeat** – as even pro-imperialist media admit below. Build Leninism. EPSR supporters.

As Blair plays race card over EU and asylum benefits abuse, Western imperialism's blind eye to Zionism's colonial-apartheid wall, completing the genocidal imprisonment-to-death of the Palestinian nation, marks the serious fascist frontline aggressiveness of the monopoly capitalist system in crisis. Sowing more race-division in Britain echoes the monstrous "freeworld" propaganda which presents blitzkrieg tyranny over Third World weakness as "justified" (No1221 22-02-04).

Far worse than the problem of lumpen anti-Semitism from small racist parties is the scandal of the international Zionist lobby trying to brainwash the world into preventing the **origins** of the Palestine catastrophe from ever being discussed.

The supposedly "very intelligent" moral-maze queen Melanie Phillips, star of radio and television and the daily and Sunday papers, is a prize example of this very twisted propaganda blitzkrieg.

The aim is simple: Be as critical, controversial, or challenging as anyone could wish about any past or present deeds in the Arab-Jew conflict; but **never** allow the 1947 implantation of the so-called state of "Israel" onto the land of the Palestinian nation **ever** to be re-examined or even discussed.

This powerful and hugely well-connected Zionist lobby within the ranks of Western monopoly capitalist ruling circles has even managed to con the duffer archbishops of Canterbury and Westminster into declaring that it is "prohibited anti-Semitism and immoral" to even start talking about how "Israel" got there in the first place in a post-1945 act of deliberate Western colonial tyranny to genocidally usurp the country of the Palestinian people to make a "homeland for the Jews".

The sickest and most destructive trick of all by the Zionist lobby is to keep on disingenuously asking: "Well, should not the Jews have their own country?"; – knowingly falsely implying that this is what the argument over the origins of "Israel" is all about, plus the further conversation-stopping sneering implication that it could only be anti-Semitism to doubt that the answer must be "yes".

But that is **not** the question, – as the entire Zionist lobby is well aware.

The real question is about **why** and especially **how** did this armed colonial seizure take place post-1945 of the land of Palestine by Jews of the Western imperialist countries????

The totally abstract question of "Should the Jews not have a homeland at all?" is a consciously cynical **total diversion**, – provocatively thrown in purely in order to excite "anti-Semitism" hysteria.

Of course they should; but then so should the Basques, and the Kurds, and the Irish, and the Kashmiris, and the Chechens, and the Australian Aborigines, and the North American Indians, etc., etc., many of them more ancient, or more numerous, or with as rich a historical legacy, or with an even more precise or more just claim to a particular territory than the Jews have to Palestine, not least of all the Palestinians of course.

Many have literature or culture far **more** notable than the Bible for their claim, but the Bible and its tacked-on Christian mythology was the religion adopted by Western feudalism, capitalism, and then imperialism in its long march to world domination, and therefore Jewish folklore has always received extra attention in the West's ruling circles.

Thus the rhetorical "abstract right" question is not only an obviously diversionary attempt to provoke an "anti-Semitism?" eyebrow raising, but thereby also manages to actually avoid any evaluation of which of the very many peoples on Earth, who are denied a state, really are the most deserving of nationhood, – bearing in mind all of the colossal upheaval, conflict, and

warmongering any such re-running of history to achieve a more "just" outcome inevitably always entails.

Leaving aside that massive minefield of whether for example the Vikings, Celts, or AngloSaxons deserve England back (all losing their homeland to war or upheaval **more recently** than the Jews lost their place among all the Semitic tribes around Palestine); or whether the Iroquois and Sioux nations should get North America back, or the Aborigines Australia, etc, etc; or whether even more **ancient** claims than the one the Jews promote, such as the Basque or Cyprus questions, should be the issues demanding world sympathy more, – there is even then little but obnoxious special pleading and rotten string-pulling behind the Zionist neo-colonial propaganda.

Even the Biblical history claim amounts at best to just a tiny part of Palestine compared to the Philistines (Palestinians) who were there first until overrun by the Israelites and many other Semitic tribes.

And unlike the Jews who were subsequently scattered, absorbed, and lost their language (Hebrew) like most of these ancient Semitic nations, – the modern Palestinians have been in Palestine for the last 1,500 years, and speaking Arabic, the dominant Semitic language.

Palestine has overwhelmingly been the country of the Arabic-speaking Palestinian nation for twice as long as England has been the country of the English-speaking nation, finally established only 700 years ago.

Hebrews stopped using Hebrew, (which effectively died as a language), and they became by-and-by Spanish Jews, Greek Jews, Italian Jews, French

Jews, German Jews, English Jews, etc, etc, all mostly growing up speaking the local language as their first native language.

Hebrew has now been only artificially revived again as a deliberate political act to try to lend some legitimacy to this post-1945 colonial conquest by these Western imperialist Jews.

But despite all this, the Jewish colonisers (especially the American ones, the largest and most aggressive contingent of the landgrabbing "settlers"), relentlessly pound out "their God-given right to all this land", etc, etc, – bristling murderously with a NAZI "master-race" fanaticism.

It is all a complete joke and a complete con.

Even more obnoxious special pleading hype is then added in on account of the Holocaust.

The Holocaust, all round, was the "achievement" of Western imperialist "democracy", both in the elected Hitler government which introduced it, and in the rest of the monopoly capitalist West which deliberately encouraged the rebuilding of German militarism under the National Socialist party as a bulwark against the Soviet workers state, and which took its time in Second World War counter offensives in order to let the USSR be destroyed as much as possible first, through fighting 90% of Germany's mighty forces on its own virtually, for most of the war.

The Holocaust had nothing whatever to do with Palestine or the Palestinian people who live there.

But it is the Palestinian people who now have to bear the brunt of this hate-filled vengeance which self-righteously spews out of the most aggressive Zionist colonisers

and NAZI-style assassination deathsquads Jews support.

And they are subsidised to the hilt to do this by the selfsame Western imperialist "world order" racket which financed Hitler Germany's remilitarisation to start with.

Phillips concentrates on more subtle word games than these cruder diversions and red herrings about "the promised land" and the Holocaust, etc.

She specialises in knocking down obscure Aunt Sallies in order to bedazzle with words, often very critical of Sharon and "the extremists", so that the main aim is achieved: Appear to discuss everything, but in fact make sure that the post-1945 implantation of "Israel" and the "reasons" for it is never in fact discussed at all.

Typical is this week's latest *Sunday Observer*.

With a bold breath of fresh air, she starts by appearing to warn Jews that the more that they moan about "anti-Semitism", the more anti-Semitism they are likely to promote.

But she is not really telling them to shut up, of course, (and why should they if it really is anti-Semitism which is now "the problem" for world society).

The entire Phillips piece is itself one long tirade against "anti-Semitism" as **really** "the reason" why so many intelligent people in the West are failing to understand and support the cause of "Israel" in the way Phillips thinks is logical, moral, and justified.

This is just the start of a clever weave using a chorus of ironic self-deprecation of Jews as the 'New McCarthyites' for their supposed sanctimoniousness (not accepted by Phillips, of course) in over zealously hurling the "anti-Semitism" stigma around.

By this stunt, Phillips slyly gets through an entire list of current participants in the Palestine polemics, cynically effectively labelling them as "anti-Semites" as a means of disposing of their arguments.

Thus advice at a London *Economist* debate for Jews not to overplay the "anti-Semitism" insult card is juxtaposed to a stranger's shocking "I hate Jews" outburst to effectively brand **all** (who think that the "anti-Semitism" propaganda blitz by Zionism might be self-defeating) as "anti-Semites" themselves.

This then gets repeated in a subtle variant by the Zionist Phillips ladling on the self-pitying irony in declaring: "I should have said I brought this on myself by writing anything at all"

as an "answer" to some public perception that the sizeable international media power of Jewish monopoly imperialist finance capital might deserve querying as a "sinister" control over public debate about Zionism's genocidal colonisation of the land of the Palestinian people.

Instantly, this perfectly proper question about who owns the media, and therefore who controls much of the debate about world affairs, is then juxtaposed to some presumed anti-Jewish "big lie" about some Egyptian water wells, poisoned in 1947, an obvious "stock libel repetition from medieval Jew hatred" in Phillips' eyes but which she really ought not to dare to point out for fear of being labelled a "Holocaust shroud waver".

This self put-down sarcasm goes seething on to tar Tory MPs with the same "anti-Semite" brush, and give a withering glance towards the entire European Commission for "this week only finally admit-



ting there was a problem with rising Jew hatred", kicking Prodi for acknowledging "some prejudice" when a blitz of synagogue and cemetery desecration is the real new horror story, according to Phillips.

Finally, she gets to the point, masterfully led into by Phillips at last agreeing that indeed, "Some Jews grossly overreact to perceived anti-Semitic bias".

Having lulled the senses with this phony self-criticism, then the master-stroke: Appear to acknowledge everything bad about "Israel", Zionism, and the Jews that anyone could wish to hear frankly and fearlessly discussed, – but in reality ensure a glossing over completely of any questioning of **how** and **why** this "Israel" was militarily implanted in the way that it was onto the Palestinian people's homeland after 1945. Thus:

Nevertheless, as Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks told the EU conference, an unholy alliance between the Left, the far Right and the Islamic street means millions are being told that alone among nations, Israel has no right to exist and that all the troubles of the world are the work of the Jews.

At the heart of this bitter disagreement is the conflation of the issue of Israel with the issue of Jew hatred. The latter claim maddens people who feel they can't criticise Israel without risking being accused of anti-Jewish prejudice. The two, they say, are not connected. In theory, that's true. In practice, one issue often morphs into the other, both implicitly in the way Israel is described and explicitly in overt Jew-hatred.

CRITICISM OF Israel is certainly legitimate, as is criticism of any country. I am myself critical of its policies. But a line has been crossed into something else, the demonisation and dehumanisation of Israel based on systematic lies, libels and distortions. As a result a lot of decent people have been unwittingly caught up in a narrative of hatred.

Then, having got away with this monster sleight-of-hand, Phillips turns her real venom in reality on **every** type of criticism of the Jewish freemasonry, of Zionism, and of the "Israeli" colonial/military dictatorship tyranny that has **ever** been uttered, and proceeds to pour the vilest "anti-Semitic" false accusation abuse on it that she can muster.

British academics get it; Jenny Tonge gets it; the 'European left' gets it; all anti-Blairism gets it; Tam Dalyell gets it; the British aristocracy gets it; Islam gets it; Hamas gets it; Karl Marx gets it; Archbishop Tutu gets it; — wall to wall "anti-



Semitism" in all directions.

But **why** and **how** and in particular **with what envisaged consequences** was the decision made to **forcibly** impose "Israel" on the homeland of the Palestinian nation post-1945 (and more and more brutally strengthened ever since, despite the ever-increasing warmongering catastrophe that inevitably this has all unleashed)???????????

That really **big** issue, the only objective approach to this human tragedy worth making, that question Phillips constructs her whole propaganda to make sure never gets asked.

An entire, worldwide, powerful Zionist brainwashing campaign is being conducted to achieve exactly the same censorship suppression, – a truly outrageous achievement by the cleverest international religious freemasonry that has ever existed.

But it will fail, of course.

When working in the same direction as the flow of historical class and national forces, propaganda can be all-powerful.

But when the historical tide has turned, then all of the brainwashing propaganda smartness in the world, allied to no matter how many powerful freemasonry connections here, there, and everywhere, – cannot halt the rot.

The backstabbing selfish greed of the Western imperialist system's "overproduction" credit-creation dollar-pollution binge since 1945 to defeat

the appeal of communist revolution by spreading world trade and dollar aid largesse everywhere, – is relentlessly sinking ever-deeper into insoluble economic crisis every day.

The entire Third World is heading towards revolt against this tyrannical Western monopoly domination which ceaselessly creates an ever widening gap between the richest and the poorest on Earth, but which in unresolvable crisis times actually increases mass impoverishment not only relatively but absolutely as well. The poorest billions of the world actually get poorer.

No wonder Western domination is facing ever escalating "terrorism" revolt problems in all directions.

Of course the West is mounting a massive warmongering counter-attack on Third World revolt, – called the "war on terrorism".

And the propaganda brainwashing to convince the world of the "justice" and the "inevitable deserved triumph" of this blitzkrieg onslaught against "rogue states" and all "evil axis" influences everywhere, has become an absolutely unprecedented phenomenon of history.

The world is closer to 1984 *Newspeak* dictating that black is white than it has ever been before.

But despite the frightening shock to intelligence and to "human rights" delusions that Hutton, and Blairism, and

Guantánamo, and Bushism, etc, have produced, – the game is still up.

History has moved on and the Third World can no longer be knocked around as of old. In fact, it cannot be knocked into any sort of shape at all to suit the West's unceasing domination interests.

In fact, the West looks more and more like it is **losing** this "war on terrorism".

In Iraq and Afghanistan, the first two "rogue state" targets for forcible "democratic reconstruction" to suit Western needs, doubts proliferate that US imperialism will end up with any sort of usable stooge regime satellite country at all.

The warmongering brutalisation may only eventually lead to new anti-imperialist regimes which become far more effective obstacles to Western military and economic domination of the Middle East region, and of the Third World interests in general, than ever the eccentric, cruel and degenerate regime of Saddam Hussein was.

And far from cowering the Third World in general by this deliberate "shock and awe" example setting by Western military terror, the political fiasco of failing to win any popular support subsequently in Iraq or Afghanistan has only resulted in a massive **increase** in "terrorism" resistance to imperialist domination.

Having just heard from even Westernised Afghani women that life is actually worse there

now than under the Taleban, now the voice of Iraqi women is being raised in the Western capitalist press admitting that things are not even any better in Iraq, in spite of all the massive Western publicity about the "democratic transformation" that was "going to take place there", and despite the fact that the barbaric Saddam regime could hardly have set lower standards for the life of women or anyone else: [...]

But most graphically of all, the massive significance of this Third World revolt shines brightest of all in colonised Palestine itself where the depths of humiliated and beaten degradation can be accurately plotted on a time-scale of relentlessly rising revolt.

In 1948's catastrophe of the "legal proclamation" by Western imperialist world rule of the state of "Israel", effective Palestinian resistance was very small and weak. Jordan's imperialist stooges and other corrupt Arab nationalist regimes did all the talking, such as there was any, on behalf of Palestinian interests.

Zionist imperialism's 1967 annexation of the West Bank and Gaza as well, thus effectively swallowing up the whole of Palestine and completing the genocidal liquidation of an entire nationhood, saw not much more effective resistance. The tide started to turn following the further unresisted humiliation of the Palestinians in Beirut and in their refugee camps in Lebanon in the early 1980s.

Some Lebanese and PLO units started guerrilla war fightbacks against this new Zionist imperial landgrab, and so successful and competent did Hizbollah and other groups eventually become that Jewish colonisation retreated from its occupation of Lebanon, the

Zionists first retreat ever.

Since then, history has increasingly put the writing on the wall for the whole project of continued everlasting Western imperialist domination of the Middle East by one means or another.

The Saudi feudal monarchy, perpetually Washington's most reliable stooge regime in the area but also the biggest and the most controlling paymaster of most "anti-imperialist" nationalism too, including Arafat's PLO, has long been facing terminal decline and overthrow, desperately striking more and more anti-Western poses lately in a bid to survive the irresistibly growing anti-imperialist wrath of Third World revolt.

The al-Qaeda part of the anti-imperialist struggle is largely Saudi grown.

Washington's other chief stooge regime for augmenting local regime tyranny in the area when needed, Saddam Hussein, went so far off the pro-imperialist rails that the West had to destroy his Iraqi dynasty.

And the loss of the Shah in huge Iran has still never been replaced to suit Western stooge interests, and the Islamic Revolution there, albeit reactionary itself, is still showing signs of as much anti-Western awkwardness as ever.

But most dramatically of all, the Palestinian resistance itself, and inside Zionist-colonised Palestine itself, has gone from strength to strength relentlessly since the early 1980s.

Now the unthinkable might even be close, the overthrow of Arafat compromise nationalism itself, to be replaced by much more militant anti-imperialist fundamentalism which in spite of its Islamic delusions, is far closer to the spirit of worldwide anti-impe-

rialist revolt than the old 'non-aligned', Stalinist-corrupted, Arafatism could ever possibly have aspired.

From here, full-scale communist revolution will be easier, not more difficult.

And feeding Zionism's "anti-Semitism" insult-dealing frenzy, this steady change in the balance of international class and national forces has even reached the consciousness of a cross-party Parliamentary forum, as capitalism itself reports:

The report, by a Commons select committee which conducted a six month inquiry last year, blames Israel's incursions, curfews, checkpoints and other restrictions including its security wall along the West Bank, for choking the Palestinian economy.

The MPs say that what "makes the poverty so unpalatable is the level of deprivation vis a vis Israel, and the awareness that it is not the result of natural calamity but of deliberate actions on the part of the government of Israel".

Criticising Israeli restrictions that disrupt movement within the West Bank and Gaza, the MPs say: "It is hard to avoid the conclusion that there is a deliberate Israeli strategy of putting the lives of ordinary Palestinians under stress as part of a strategy of bringing the population to heel."

The committee, which is made up of Labour, Conservative and Liberal Democrat MPs, says it is unfair for Israel to benefit from a trade agreement with the EU while Palestinians, who are also part of the agreement, are prevented by the Israeli restrictions from doing so.

"We therefore urge the UK government to propose to the EU council of trade ministers that Israel's preferential terms of trade with the EU be suspended until it lifts the movement restrictions which it has placed on Palestinian trade," the MPs say.

Although the Belgian government threatened trade action against Israel two years ago, it is unlikely that either the British government or the EU will endorse the recommendation, both preferring to engage Israel in dialogue rather than economic pressure.

Publication of such a critical report is unhelpful to Israel at a time when it is on the defensive diplomatically, including a hearing at the International Court in the Hague later this month over its security wall.

Tony Baldry, Conservative chairman of the committee, said: "Key measures, such as the construction of a security barrier higher than the Berlin Wall, may bring the mirage of immediate security to Israelis, but the level of despair felt by ordinary Palestinians at being denied an ordinary life can only increase the supply of suicide bombers."

In the report, the MPs say that

while there is no starvation or absolute poverty in the Palestinian areas, there has been a serious decline in living standards that has translated into malnutrition on the West Bank and Gaza as bad as in sub-Saharan Africa.

The Palestinian economy and education system have suffered a sharp deterioration as a result of the closure of its borders by the Israeli military and restriction on movement within its borders.

"The management of checkpoints is all too often handled by young, inexperienced IDF [Israeli Defence Force] conscripts who may lack the training and experience to deal with large numbers of people passing through on their way to work or to study," the MPs say.

They criticise the extent to which Israel has control over Palestinian water supplies, describing the "wilful destruction" of water infrastructure by the IDF and settlers as "simply unacceptable".

The EU would suffer financially from a suspension of its trade agreement with Israel. Between 2000 and 2002, the EU exported €44bn (£30.1bn) to Israel, while Israel exported €28bn the other way.

It is already obvious how the Phillips' "anti-Semitism" witchhunting technique is going to have its work cut out to stem this rapidly turning tide.

Phillips' tricks, such as accusing LibDem MP Jenny Tonge of "incitement to mass murder" for saying she could understand how Palestinian suicide bombers felt after a lifetime of imprisonment, humiliation, and brutalisation, are obviously on desperate last legs when even British Parliamentarians can report that more suicide bombers is the only possible answer to the vicious collective penning-in of the entire Palestinian people on their enclaves and refugee camp reservations behind one giant prison wall to end all prison walls.

Meanwhile, Phillips' great hopes in the Bush/Blair revival of NAZI-imperialist blitzkrieg tactics in support of "master-race" interests, grow gloomier by the day on both political and economic fronts.

Although the credit-based boom-creation strategy still staggers on not quite yet in total disarray, despite obviously being completely doomed in the long run, there is now no hiding the utter destabilisation menacing the whole world economy from the dollar's unending pollution degradation.

The world is being conned. The whole of history has been conned. The planet's first truly global currency is an utter



Unprovoked settler violence is non-stop against local farmers and villagers

fraud, just printed by the billions and trillions at not even the limited regulations that capitalism itself normally imposes in spite of its fundamentally anarchic piratical essence, all in order laughably to "save

the world from communism", thereby completing the very process Marx said must happen of capitalism bringing about its own self-destruction (see EPSR box p82).

EPSR supporters

The sly "anti-Semitism" confusion over attacks on the western imperialist "Israel" project only gets slimier in TV demagogy hands. And no amount of "intellectual" muddle is going to hide the really huge historical question of Western imperialism's coming DEFEAT (No1226 30-03-04).

Said should live now. He could have claimed abundant public space for brilliantly debunking the tidal wave of gobshite, from re-emerging glitterati, following the Zionist butchery in cold blood, with a rocket, of the effectively in-custody sheikh Yassin, spiritual inspiration of Hamas.

Clive James led the way with vast columns of cleverly-written and witty abuse of all sides which terminated with the supposed irresistible blockbuster conclusion that, like it or not, Zionist "Israel" is now a fact of history and here to stay.

But it is exactly that statement which is precisely the thing which is at issue, and is precisely the **wrong** conclusion.

This genocidal landgrab, rendering the entire 8-million nation of Palestine homeless, is **not** "legitimate" (the United Nations is just a stooge of Western imperialism; gets everything wrong; and will soon be despised and discarded by **everybody**).

And this murderous colonising ousting is **not** accepted by the better sentiments of the overwhelming majority of mankind, whenever the facts can be presented accurately.

Above all, this tyrannical imperialist seizure is **not** accepted by the Palestinian nation itself; and the ruthless slaughter of Yassin (and as many more leaders besides) will **not** stop the steadily growing **revolt** of the Palestinians which is today more lethal, better supported, and more resourceful than it has ever been, and rapidly growing clearer about what it must do to defeat Zionist imperialism, - which is the most important factor of all.

"HAMAS is finished and cannot retaliate" crowed the Jewish NAZI tyranny after blowing-up the wheelchair-

bound and unconcealed Yassin from a helicopter gunship (US-supplied).

Well, maybe. But to stop the revolt, these fascist colonists are going to have to kill all 8 million Palestinians, or most of them. The HAMAS sect as such is neither here nor there, as the more-perceptive imperialist press reports are themselves admitting. Far from giving in, Palestinian militancy is trying to oust the arch appeaser Arafat so as to regroup the revolt more successfully than ever:

HAMAS militants fought a gun battle with Yassin Arafat's security forces in Gaza yesterday, in a sign of escalating tensions between Palestinian factions.

The disaffection has led to a blurring of the lines between Hamas, Fatah, Islamic Jihad and other armed groups, with shadowy hybrid factions growing between the cracks.

In the back room of a tiny sewing factory in Gaza City yesterday the leader of one such group - the Salahuddin Brigades - told *The Times* that although many of his followers still drew Palestinian Authority salaries, they disowned the leadership.

"We started as a group of Fatah who wanted to fight the enemy without the influence of the corrupt people and corrupt leadership that surrounds Abu Ammar [Mr Arafat]," Abu Shahab, the splinter group's leader, said.

"They are selling us out by making too many concessions to the Israelis. These people are very rich and have their own interests to protect. Their loyalty is not to the people they should step down."

Asked if he still considered himself loyal to Mr Arafat, he said that he was ruled by the street, not the leadership. "If he gives us a decision and we see it has the support of the Palestinian people, we will obey it. If it does not, we will not obey it." Similar sentiments are voiced by members of al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades - nominally a Fatah militia.

Hamas has thus far avoided violence attributed to an inter-

nal power struggle between rival Fatah groups. All factions are eager to cover up any hints of internal division. But there is widespread disaffection among younger Fatah hardliners at corruption, inefficiency and a crackdown on militants, which is seen as collaboration with Israel.

In Nablus, Amin Maqbul, a senior Fatah official, conceded that internal policy divisions - such as whether to attack civilians in cities across Israel or to restrict attacks to soldiers and settlers in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip had led branches of al-Aqsa to break away.

"Now we are trying to direct these groups in Nablus and Gaza to stop military operations inside Israel, but some of them have external links," he said.

"The brigades have become very strong, to the extent that they do not reflect or recognise Fatah leadership decisions."

While Mr Arafat accused Israel of trying to "destroy Gaza before they leave it", internecine strife between his own men and rival groups erupted outside the security force headquarters in Gaza City. One person was killed and 17 injured in shooting during the morning rush hour.

Witnesses said that the clash had started when police with orders to stop all cars with blacked-out windows pulled over a Hamas vehicle. The routine checkpoint was intended to monitor licences and vehicle registration, as part of the Palestinian Authority's attempt to restore control over widespread lawlessness.

One member of Mr Arafat's Fatah dominated military intelligence force, which stopped the car, said that it was filled with masked Hamas gunmen and weapons. He said that the driver took umbrage, shouting: "Do you know who you are talking to?" before throwing a grenade and summoning reinforcements, who opened fire from all sides.

Other witnesses said that police were heavy-handed, beating the driver who retaliated by hurling the grenade. Many of the injured were members of security forces under the leadership of Mr Arafat's cousin, Moussa Arafat.

The violence flared even as Israeli helicopter gunships launched missiles into the Gaza Strip, killing six

people.

Israel continues to hold Mr Arafat responsible for failing to crack down on Palestinian groups carrying out attacks on Israeli civilians, such as the double suicide bombing in Ashdod on Sunday in which ten Israelis were killed.

Police are investigating whether one of the bombers entered the port in a container where weapons, including five grenades, were yesterday found beneath a false bottom.

The security Cabinet of Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Prime Minister, gave the go-ahead this week for a "relentless" offensive in Gaza after the Ashdod attack, the first time that Palestinian suicide bombers have penetrated the fenced-in Gaza Strip.

In one airstrike yesterday a helicopter gunship killed two Palestinian men in Rafah. Palestinian witnesses said that a second missile later killed two boys, aged 12 and 14, in the same town.

Two points emerge. Class consciousness, within the Palestinian national revolt, is getting ever-stronger and must inevitably one day result in unbeatable communist revolution.

Secondly, the Zionists can never stop, and never will stop, the genocidal torture and humiliation of the Palestinian nation because of the utterly contradictory and unstable situation that the entire nonsense of "Israel" has been from the start and can never cease to be.

The 8 million Palestinians have only had Palestine to live in for the past 1,500 years.

The 4 million Zionist colonisers for the past 1,500 years (and longer) have been inhabitants, native speaking, of France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Russia, England, Poland, the USA (last 200 years), etc, etc.

In the ferocious Armageddon turmoil to come after world imperialist economic collapse, - when no one can be certain about who will be fighting who, or being blamed for being "the cause of all the



• PULLED FROM THE RUBBLE: Israel may now be forced to explain its actions from the dock

trouble", etc, etc, etc, – which "immovable object" is likely to give way? – the 8 million Palestinians whose only homeland this is, – or the 4 million Zionist colonisers who all have far more reliable and longstanding homes and family connections in Los Angeles, New York, London, Warsaw, Kiev, Odessa, Paris, etc, etc, than they do in occupied Palestine (i.e. "Israel")?????

Irresponsible establishment stooges like James can pretend all they like that Jerusalem has had a "majority Jewish" character since ages ago, but the post-1945 armed colonisation with millions of Jews coming in from Europe and America is what the world clearly knows and can never forget, – with this brutal takeover **still** the only essence of what is going on to this day, – as these latest imperialist-press observations clearly reflect:

The first Ruad Ajlouni knew that the Israelis were moving in was as he awoke in the early hours to find a group of armed men standing over his sleeping children.

The 30 or so Jewish activists had quietly clambered on to the terrace roof of the three-storey apartment block in rundown Arab east Jerusalem, drilled their way through the locks of the outside doors and surrounded the Ajlounis before they had a chance to stir.

"They said they had bought the flat and were moving in," said Mr Ajlouni. "At three o'clock in the morning. I said: 'Good for you. Show us the documents and I will help you move the furniture'."

But there were no deeds, only weapons. Within a few minutes, the Ajlounis and their five children, the youngest just 18 months old, were out of the door. The furniture followed.

When the Israeli police finally arrived, after the Ajlounis had spent hours pleading for help, the officers said there was nothing they could do: it was a matter for the courts – and they nearly always back Jewish over Palestinian property claims.

"This area is a prime target area for the settlers because they claim this is King David's city. They want to evacuate as many Palestinians as possible and replace them with Jews so they can say there are no Arabs in it," said Mr Ajlouni.

The Ajlounis' home is pinned between the southern ramparts of the old city's Jewish quarter and the site of the biblical City of David.

It was here, 3,000 years ago, that King David established the First Temple and Jerusalem as the eternal capital of the Jewish people. And it is here today that Jews are seeking to reclaim the ancient city as their own by repopulating the Arab neighbourhood between the City of David and Judaism's holiest

site, the Wailing Wall.

Leading the charge is Elad, the City of David Foundation, which is excavating King David's palace and some of the homes of the thousands of Israelites who once lived around it.

"The goal of our organisation is to increase the presence of Jews in the neighbourhood as much as possible," said Elad's director, Doron Spielman. "We've been dreaming of coming back to biblical Jerusalem for 3,000 years. This is the fulfilment of our dreams. We cannot trust that if this is an Arab neighbourhood, Jews will be safe to walk around here."

The Palestinians say that Elad is responsible for ethnic cleansing by stealth through the seizure and occupation of property or duping the vulnerable into signing papers they do not understand.

Strategy

Israeli critics, such as the Jerusalem city councillor Meir Margalit, of the leftwing Meretz party, say Elad's operation is one part of a wider government strategy to "Judaise" swathes of east Jerusalem by refusing planning permission to Arabs, demolishing Palestinian homes and constructing the towering new "security" wall through the east of the city.

"All these features together paint a very dramatic picture where the Israeli government, together with the settlers, are part of a national programme to make the life of Palestinians so hard they will leave Jerusalem. It is that simple," said Mr Margalit.

"The country is full of places where Jewish history is found. For that matter, you can even find such places in Iraq. But this cannot be a reason to take houses of people who have lived there all their lives. This is not about buying houses. This is political."

Outside the seized apartment, one of the new occupants, a man who gave his name only as Udi, stood with a pistol on his hip. He says they had not intended to arrive in the middle of the night.

"We actually planned to do it in the day. To come, to say hello, we're your new neighbours."

But the Jews are not so welcome that they do not feel the need to build sentry posts manned by armed men outside each home. They are funded by the government, a reflection of its support for the expansion of Jews in the Arab east of the city.

Among those who have moved into the area is a Jewish-American avionics engineer, Gary Speiser.

"My grandfather was born in the old city so we always had a family connection," he said. "I don't consider myself a settler. I've heard friends and relatives call us that but we don't think that way because I don't mind being in a mixed neighbourhood. But I do desire a more Jewish or a Jewish-only neighbourhood."

Three families live in his complex under the protection of an armed guard perched in a watchtower at

the gate.

"It's a very special feeling living here, really living part of history. It's also a very weird feeling in a good way, as if we're living in a different world down here."

All Palestinians may stand for this humiliation some of the time; some Palestinians may stand for this humiliation all of the time; but all Palestinians will not stand for this humiliation all of the time, – yet "Israel" can never represent anything else in the eyes of all Palestinians, and all rational thinking people worldwide.

It is their lunatic racist anti-Semitism which will finally destroy the Palestinians, James goes on, – inferring that this is a throwback to Nazi Germany, and a historical impossibility.

But anti-Semitism of that depraved German imperialist stupidity has got nothing whatever to do with it.

There is a totally different situation in the world now, with a powerful Jewish lobby playing a huge and influential part in the worldwide "master-race" tyranny that American imperialism is determined to impose on the world to make sure that the coming global economic crash is paid for by everyone else except the USA.

And the "chosen people" gibberish which has turned these 4 million Jewish colonisers into tyrannical homicidal fanatics plays a crucial part in this world warmongering gendarme role that American imperialism (more than 400 coups, invasions, wars, subversions, etc, inflicted since 1945 in its now unique "superpower" role) plans in detail to impose on a long list of "rogue states" and "evil influences" all round the planet, including "pre-emptive" blitzkriegs on "any" state, no matter which, – that "dares" to try to emulate the USA in its unchallengeable weapons technology and its unprecedented amassed total firepower.

Whenever needed around the Middle East and beyond, these Zionist thug-hitmen for Washington, (themselves the fourth strongest military power on Earth), have powered into punitive action, humiliating local Arab nationalist regimes to take them down a peg or two or get them overthrown, and blitzing to destruction any regional technological/weapons-technology advances which might take Arab and Muslim states out of the paralysed backwaters into more dynamic perspectives.

Within Western monopoly-imperialism overall, the Jewish lobby mafia now plays an undoubtedly powerful propaganda and financial role. It is not "anti-Semitism" to expose and denounce this.

It is politically-correct anti-reason to refuse to notice this and record it.

James, the Archbishops, and the Western imperialist media monopolies have created their own ideological game, with their own ludicrously biased rules, by deciding in advance that any idea of challenging the armed-colonising right to exist of "Israel" amounts to "anti-Semitism" with no further discussion allowed.

But what is the chief repository of racism in the world???

It is the totally divisive and domineering capitalist-colonialist imperialist **system**; and the Jewish part in this reactionary tyranny is now very specific and, via "Israel", absolutely huge.

The incurably **racist** essence of the Jewish colonisation of Palestine is, and will remain, a permanent running sore for all world politics, – as even some imperialist press admissions reveal.

The armed Palestinian revolt is deemed "sub-human"; and the "transfer" genocidal elimination of the Palestinian nationality is the real Jewish dream, an exact replica of NAZI "master-race" ("chosen people") fanatical self-righteousness, and irredeemably malevolent:

Israel's deputy defence minister, Ze'ev Boim, recently wondered whether there was a genetic defect that made Arabs terrorists. "What is it with Islam in general and the Palestinians in particular?" he asked on Israel army radio. "Is it some sort of cultural deficiency? Is it a genetic defect?"

The dismay this arouses will be discounted by some of Israel's friends simply as evidence of the extreme nature of its present government, with its barrier wall and its "transfer" enthusiasts.

But to believe this is to misunderstand the nature of Israel's dominant ideology – of which Ariel Sharon and his minister are nothing more than devoted servants. It is not he that is the problem, but the Zionism he espouses.

For those who have forgotten or never understood what Zionism meant in practice, the Israeli historian Benny Morris's latest revelations and comments published in the Israeli daily Haaretz and in the Guardian – make salutary reading.

Using Israeli state archives for his recently revised study, he reminds us that Israel was set up by

expulsion, rape and massacre. The Jewish state could not have come into being without ethnic cleansing and, he asserts, more may be necessary in future to ensure its survival.

This bald assertion should shock no one, for it is entirely consistent with the basic Zionist proposition of an ethnically pure state. Palestine's indigenous population was a clear impediment to this aim, which is why the concept of transfer was so central to Zionist thinking long before 1948 — advocated by Zionism's leaders and expressed through a series of specific expulsion plans from the mid-1930s onwards. These led inexorably to the 1948 Palestinian exodus and the refugee tragedy that persists today.

Between January and the end of May 1948, a mere two weeks into the war, a third of the Palestinian population (my own family included) had left, most of them expelled. The "war" itself was more of a civil conflict and could not alone have accounted for the mass exodus. The Arab armies were notoriously ill-equipped and poorly trained and no match for the superior Zionist forces. Though ultimately ineffective, they came to defend the hapless Palestinians and to prevent their territories from being totally overrun.

The truth is that the problem for Zionism was always how to keep Palestine without the Palestinians. And hence today's Israeli anxieties about the so-called Palestinian "demographic threat". As the intifada continues, despite draconian suppression, there is near panic over a "demographic spillover" that might dilute Israel's "Jewish character".

One recent opinion poll shows that 57% of Israelis support transferring the Arabs, and government ministers such as Avigdor Lieberman advocate this idea quite openly.

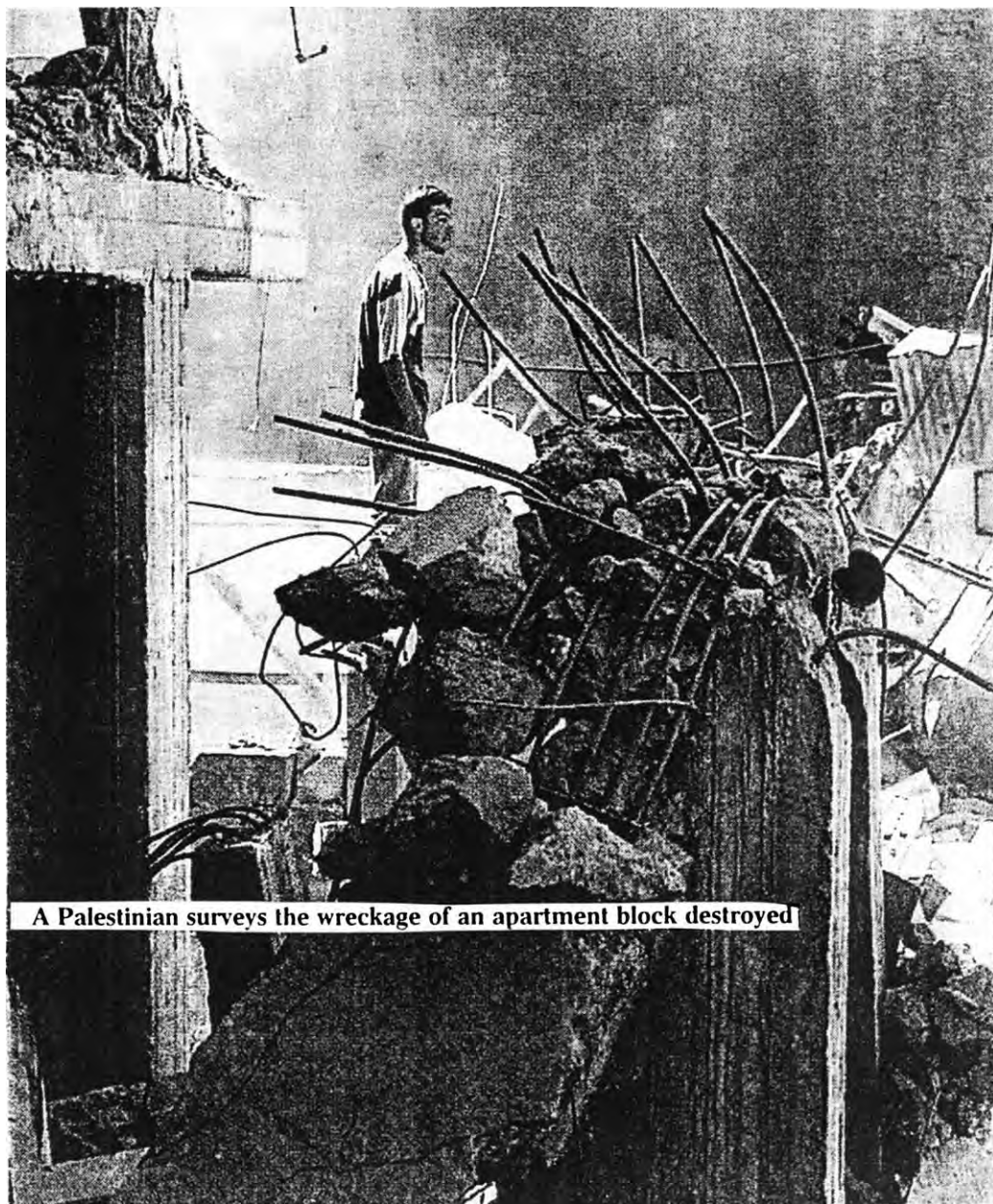
It is against this background that the monstrous barrier wall in the West Bank can be understood. "The Palestinians will always pose a threat and they must therefore be controlled and caged in," Morris explains.

Hence, also, Ariel Sharon's offer last December of a "unilateral" withdrawal from 40% of the West Bank, and his hardline deputy Ehud Olmert's support for partition "because of demography".

But the problem also exists inside Israel, whose Arab population is 20%, and growing. It is estimated that by 2010 there will be an Arab majority in the whole of Israel-Palestine. How will the Zionists stem the tide and keep the state Jewish?

If Zionism is to prevail, there are few choices. As Morris says, it can only be by superior force to overcome "the barbarians who want to take our lives". The Arabs have "no moral inhibitions", he claims, insisting that in Islam "human life doesn't have the same value as it does in the west".

Is this observation much different



from Boim's Arab genetic defect? And can the rights of such inferior people equate to those of Jews? "The right of [Palestinian] refugees to return... seems natural and just," Morris says. "But this 'right of return' needs to be weighed against the right to life and well-being of the 5 million Jews who currently live in Israel."

Apparently, Jewish self-determination is an imperative that supersedes the rights of the people at whose expense it was promulgated.

And in this he encapsulates the essence of Zionism. Though creating Israel entailed Palestinian suffering, Morris argues, it was for a noble aim. That is why Zionism is still a dangerous idea: at its root is a conviction of moral rightness that justifies almost any act deemed necessary to preserve the Jewish state. If that means massive military — including nuclear — force, unsavoury alliances, theft of others' resources, aggression and occupation, the brutal crushing of all resistance — then so be it. No one should be under any illusion that Zionism is a spent force, regardless of current discourse about "post-

Zionism". That a benign Zionism, sympathetic to Palestinians, also exists means little while these basic tenets remain.

We must thank Morris for disabusing us of such notions. But a project that is morally one-sided and can only survive through force and xenophobia has no longterm future. As he himself says: "Destruction could be the end of this process."

Most interestingly, this insoluble Western imperialist degeneracy and ideological corruption is beginning to alarm ever-widening sections of the middle classes, including journalists and politicians.

Here follow views from a Fleet Street features editor and a New Labour Cabinet member (ex), published by the imperialist press itself in the last week:

The most dangerous delusion of our time must surely be the notion — trotted out by all manner of public figures, from George Bush to Clive James — that Islamist terror is motivated by hostility to freedom and the western way

of life. As anyone who is familiar with the Arab and Muslim world, or even bothered to read successive statements by al-Qaida leaders, it is in fact overwhelmingly driven by hostility to foreign, and especially western, domination and occupation of Arab and Muslim countries. Of course, there are other factors in play. But from the start of his campaign in the 1990s, Bin Laden's call to arms focused above all on US foreign policy in the Middle East: its troops in Saudi Arabia, backing for pro-western dictatorships like Egypt, sanctions against Iraq and support for Israel against the Palestinians — along with the subjection of Muslim Populations in Kashmir and Chechnya. Since September 11 US interference in the region has gone much further, with the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq. The result is an arc of foreign occupation across the Middle East, unmatched anywhere else the world.

That has in turn spawned an arc of resistance, while anti-US feeling among Muslims has reached unprecedented levels, as demonstrated in this week's Pew opinion survey, Muslims now find

themselves in perilously unequal conflict with the world's military powers: the US, Britain, Russia, India, China and Israel. There are also dangers that the boundaries between nationally based mass resistance movements against occupation and socially disconnected (though widely supported) terror networks of the al-Qaida type become blurred. But to address the swelling and legitimate grievances that underlie both is now a global imperative. Unless and until the occupying powers — notably the US, Britain and Israel — do that, they will be fuelling, not fighting, terror.

Ariel Sharon's decision to incinerate a 67 year-old blind quadriplegic cleric outside his local mosque will certainly go down as one of the most spectacularly counter-productive acts of violence in the history of the Israel-Palestine conflict.

Quite apart from the morality of assassinating Sheikh Yassin, it is the Israeli people themselves who will suffer from certain retaliation. Israel has the right to defend itself, President Bush declares, while apparently denying the Palestinians the same luxury. But the killing can have no military value at all. Whatever his authority as the founder and figurehead of Hamas, the idea that Yassin was involved in planning armed attacks is preposterous. When Israel rocketed the apartment block he was visiting last September, the ailing sheikh was reported not to have even realised that an attack had taken place. And regardless of the domestic political calculations of the Israeli government, such attempts to destroy a popular movement by decapitation are doomed to failure.

From Algeria to Vietnam, the past century is littered with evidence that such strategies invariably come to nought. Where resistance has deep roots — as Hamas's undoubtedly has in the occupied territories — it will always re-emerge, however savage the repression. Yassin has been succeeded by Abd al-Aziz Rantissi, and if the Israelis incinerate him; another will take his place.

The sharp-tongued Rantissi is widely regarded as more hardline than Yassin. But, as he told me in Gaza a couple of months back, Hamas is ready to call a ceasefire. On another occasion, referring to the Hamas dream of Islamist rule throughout Palestine, he has said: "We can accept a truce ...live side by side and refer all the issues to the coming generations."

But instead of seizing the opportunity for peace offered by such political signals, the Sharon government is deliberately undermining the basis for a two-state solution by carving up the occupied territories with its electrified fences, closed zones and ever-expanding settlements. At the same time, it is planning a partial withdrawal from the most heavily populated areas, while effectively annexing other areas of the West Bank and confin-

ing Palestinians to walled bantustans that can never form the basis of a viable state.

Such a rearrangement of the occupation will clearly not resolve the conflict. And considering that the US arms and funds Israel to a greater degree than any other state on the planet, its leverage might be seen as an ideal opportunity for the much vaunted project of western humanitarian intervention. But instead of applying pressure to achieve a just settlement, the US and its friends refuse to talk.

After September 11 2001, Tony Blair promised hope to the slums of Gaza and convinced his supporters that he would deliver US commitment to a Middle East peace deal in exchange for backing the invasion of Iraq. Now his main contribution appears to be extra funding for Palestinian police and prisons to provide security to the occupier — while Gordon Brown's response yesterday to the killing of Sheikh Yassin was to announce the freezing not of Sharon's, but of Rantissi's, (probably non-existent) assets in Britain.

The killing of Yassin, along with the wider bloodletting in the occupied territories, will further heighten the Arab and Muslim anger that is fuelling Islamist terror attacks. Justice for the Palestinians should self-evidently be pursued on its own merits. But given the extent to which Palestine has become a focus of global Muslim grievance, it has also become a necessity for international security. And the failure of western leaders to confront the crisis in a remotely even-handed way is now a threat to their own people.

[...]But the whole game involves much, much more, and requires a vast leap in understanding, — imperialism as ultimately a **totally warmongering** system, in which the most powerful monopoly-capitalist state must eventually be forced to **crush** all rivals and all opposition by the very **nature** of monopoly-power relationships in this very specific world domineering era of unprecedented wealth, privileges and glory to the mightiest empire.

Currently, — and predictably, according to Marxist science, — that empire has never looked sicker or more dangerous, — which is by far the most important question of all (and one which most of the 'left' and most of the now-beginning-to-be-alarmed middle class hopelessly fail to grasp, so far).

The greatest military, financial, and political power the world has ever known is being thwarted by history itself, — by the epoch when the very global triumph of capitalist-imperialist exploitation and domination itself **transforms** the international proletariat into an ultimately organised

ideological force which will no longer put up with that domi-

nation (see EPRS box p82). [...] EPRS

US plans for a stooge Iraq are shattered by the brutal blitzkrieg massacre of Faluja. America's NAZI-imperialist posturing, 70 years on, is even more out of date than Hitler's was, and even more doomed. The bourgeois desertion, in Iraq and worldwide, from the warmongering cause, reflects the underlying insoluble contradictions, — economic and political — of America's monopoly imperialist world domination. Palestinians show how mass resistance is growing (No1228 13-04-04)

The Zionist and American military blitzkriegs on Palestine, Iraq, and Afghanistan can still continue to devastate and mutilate, terrorising the whole Middle East into continued resentful submission for the moment.

But a major turning point will have been reached if what the Intifada in Palestine and the resistance in Iraq and Afghanistan are demonstrating is that however beaten and bloodied, the Middle East will no longer "accept" Western domination, in the sense of peacefully coexisting with it, however reluctantly. Sufficient resistance has been raging on in Palestine, and now in Afghanistan and Iraq, to make it look as though there will now **never** be any end to this Third World war of liberation until it successfully **defeats** Western imperialism.

Remarkable admissions by a Zionist writer in the *Guardian* provide the most surprising evidence of this perspective:

Every morning in Tel Aviv, I walked down the street, bought my copy of *Ha'aretz*.

It was an excruciating experience. In story after story Israel emerged as a society in which every institution of the state was in a dire condition, at best incompetent, at worst corrupt, only a few tattered scraps left of the early high ideals of Zionism. Members of the Knesset, ministers, party leaders, prime ministers and generals were routinely exposed as liars and crooks; the army were lying, the police were lying, the government was lying.

Soldiers spoke to me of a "mental scratch" — a psychological scar as a result of serving in the army of occupation. A woman who did her army service during the first intifada told me how she was inducted with boys from high school, and saw them cross what Israelis call a "red line" — holding a gun to the head of a terrified child, hu-

miliating a Palestinian teacher at a checkpoint, killing an unarmed civilian. "When they came home the red line stayed crossed, they began to treat their girlfriends and wives that way, then their own children," she said. "And these were people I thought I knew, people I'd grown up with."

At the same time a tent city of homeless people, nicknamed Bread Square, appeared at the Kikar HaMedina, Tel Aviv's most exclusive shopping district. A report published at the end of last year revealed that 20% of Israeli children are living below the poverty line. Army social workers are increasingly dealing with soldiers who have nowhere to go on weekend leave because their parents are homeless.

As I sat in the café reading, I wondered how the others there, drinking espresso and eating pastries, could bear to live with this terrifying collapse of the promise of Zionism, and I would try to listen in on their conversations. A few words would emerge and I turned to the back page of the paper to find out what they were talking about. "Eyal Berkovic... Kevin Keegan...Manchester City... Portsmouth".

At first I didn't get it. How could people be so immune to the horror that was all around them? But it gradually sank in that what Hamas and Islamic Jihad have achieved with their bombs is a depoliticisation of Israeli society. I learned the four most important words in the Hebrew vocabulary: *pigua* (suicide bomb), *haznatzov* (the "situation"), *balagan* (a big mess), and *bu'ah* (the bubble you live in to protect you from the random violence of the *piguim*).

Suicide bombings create small, self-enclosed worlds consisting of family, a few friends, and a tiny geography. You go to this supermarket which is not in a busy mall, this café which has an armed guard, drive your kids to school along this side road which isn't a bus route — and to hell with anyone you don't know or trust. This is your own personal *bu'ah*, your bubble, and no one who is not in it is above suspicion. What is happening in

Gaza or Nablus — the curfews the checkpoints, the terrifying incursions of troops, the targeted assassinations, the collapse of the social infrastructure, the malnutrition, the cages in which Palestinians are fenced off like zoo animals — could be happening in Bosnia instead of a 25-minute drive away, because no one goes there except your son the soldier or your husband the reservist, and he doesn't talk about what he's seen because he can't. He doesn't have the emotional language to express it, who among us does? He comes home and gratefully re-enters his bu'ah. If I were an Israeli businessman, I'd invest in escapism, the *bu'ah's* wallpaper: foreign travel, home décor, kitchen equipment, the National Geographic channel on TV for the rich; soap operas and Spanish "telenovelas" — for the poor.

It is as if the government is simply a caretaker, changing the light bulbs, vacuuming the floors. It no longer has any meaningful connection to the mass of the population. "How did you vote in the last election?" I asked. "I didn't." Or, "I voted last time but I won't again. Who is there to vote for?"

Suicide bombings built the fence. It exists as a metaphor in the minds of Israelis, a kind of prophylactic against the HIV of terrorism. Only a few political activists I met, and some soldiers, had even laid eyes on it. The fence that was built — seen, rightly, by the Palestinians as a *de facto* annexation of Palestinian land to create wretched reservations with no work, no schools, no water and no rights — is not the fence that Israelis know about. And even if they did, they no longer care what damage is inflicted on their enemy. The murder of Israeli civilians is not contextualised by them as resistance by the desperate against an occupying power bristling with an advanced military arsenal and backed with a blank cheque from the world's most powerful nation.

But the holocaust ended nearly 60 years ago, and how long can a nation live on the memory of past victimisation when it is itself now the victimiser? [In the past decade more than a million people have arrived in Israel who have had direct experience of persecution and state sponsored anti-semitism: the Ethiopians who underwent harrowing death marches across the Sudan, suffering rape and murder in refugee camps, and the Russians who were second-class citizens in the Soviet Union with restricted rights to jobs and education. It is very difficult to maintain two world views inside your head simultaneously: that your family survived 70 years of Soviet murder, that your father, a party gynaecologist, barely got through the Doctor's Plot, that you didn't get a job, or were turned down for a university place because you were a Jew — and at the same time that you are also the agent of a western colonial adventure to subjugate and conquer Arab lands. Some



people can do it, but not many.]

In Britain we are still debating if there is a genuine increase in anti-semitism, or if it is just a propaganda device to silence criticism of Israel. In Israel there is no such debate, because the press far more comprehensively reports anti-semitic incidents than the European media, and the steady stream of new immigrants arriving from France tells its own story. To Israelis the world seems no safer now than it did when the state was born. Academic boycotts, threats of sanctions, UN resolutions — all reinforce their sense of Jews as a people outside the community of nations, the eternal scapegoat. Such measures do not move the population to the left, but to the right: to fear, anxiety and paranoia, to what I thought of as political hypochondria ("I have a pain in my foot, it must be cancer." Arafat said this, "the Arabs are going to drive us into the sea."). It is just rhetoric, I would say, rhetoric which is all you have if you are powerless. But the Israelis have a motto: "If someone says he is going to kill you, never give him the benefit of the doubt." And it is the parties of the right — and above all Ariel Sharon, who understand Jewish anxiety, and feeds and fattens and flatters it — who say, "We know [...]"

None the less, behind closed doors, away from what they see as a hostile and biased European media, some Israelis are prepared to express their deepest feelings about what their country has become. Many Israeli officials — not politicians, but state employees who represent their government at home and abroad — hacked open their chests and showed me their beating hearts. They were appalled by their government and its policies, by their politicians' lack of accountability, by being asked to lie in the service of the state. Civil servants urged me to publicise the Geneva accords, the reservists' protests, to keep the Israeli left alive in the eyes of the Europeans.

Grassroots protests, particularly by pilots and paratroopers some of the most elite and patriotic sectors

of society, have led to an important debate about what exactly the Israeli Defence Force is defending in Gaza and the West Bank. Young conscripts and reservists understand that it is impossible to wage a war against an enemy embedded in a civilian population without committing crimes against humanity, including your own. Shlomo Lahat, the former Likud mayor of Tel Aviv, wrote a groundbreaking article in *Ha'aretz* in January in which he said that the checkpoints had no function except to harass the civilian population. The targeted assassination of Sheikh Yassin provoked criticism from mainstream tabloid newspapers such as the rightwing *Maariv*.

Yet despite these signs of optimism, which you must cherish as if they were your children, I left Israel more profoundly troubled than when I arrived, for a thought had occurred to me which was unbearable: that at its heart, indeed because of what is in the hearts of its people, not just its leaders, this conflict could be insoluble.

How it works, Rubinstein told me, is that the Israeli right uses the Palestinian right-of-return as a bogeyman to frighten people into believing that there are no moderate Palestinians. In fact there are plenty who recognise that if there is to be an end to the occupation, it has to depend on the recognition by Palestine of Israel as Jewish state, he said. And this must mean that the right of return will be settled by financial compensation, and a recognition of the role Israel played in making them refugees, not a return to the actual homes in Jerusalem and Jaffa from which they were driven in 1948. What will happen if they won't surrender the right of return? I asked. He shook his head. "Then it's hopeless."

But there exists in Israel a far left that agrees with those on the right that the centre left, people like Rubinstein, are indeed deluded, that they have failed to comprehend that the bedrock of the Palestinians' claim — the one that is enshrined in international

law and which no politician can sign away on their behalf — is the right of return not just to their houses but to their land their country. Once Israelis accept it, then the two-state solution becomes an interim stage on the way to the true destiny of the two peoples: a single state solution, one person, one vote, an end to ethnic dominance. I put this to Hillel Schenker, co-managing editor of the *Palestine-Israel Journal*, the only publication jointly edited and run by both Palestinians and Israelis.

"These views resonate abroad, particularly among radical Palestinians opposed to the PA [Palestinian Authority] and anti-Zionist leftists," he said, "but there is absolutely no meaningful constituency in Israel that will respond to an international struggle for a single state."

I also know what some Palestinian friends tell me, that the right of return is deeply embedded in the Palestinian soul and can never be given up, that no leader can sign an agreement on their behalf which would settle it with a cheque instead. What I know about Jewish Israelis, they know about Palestinians; if they are right, then we might have to face the nightmare that the war between the two peoples cannot be concluded, there is no deal that can ever be signed that will not give way almost at once, to the resumption of the struggle. No US administration, however evenhanded, can settle the dispute, or even impose a settlement, over land that can neither be shared nor divided.

I left Israel burdened by a sense of horror. A 10-month-old Israeli baby, Netta, sat in her mother's arms on the other side of the aeroplane aisle, smiling and gurgling and oblivious to the heavy storm winds we were passing through as we attempted to land in London. I looked at her and, imagining her future, wondered if it would turn out that there were no solutions, only consequences, all of them tragedies. The most important word in Hebrew is *balagan*: *Oy, a balagan!* What a mess.

Superficially, this may still look like an impossibly tall order.

But easily the hardest part, — 99% of the difficulty, — may already have been overcome, — — the great historical shift of the Third World masses, finally evolving and maturing to a point where they **can no longer** live any more under the grotesque inequalities and arbitrary murderous military tyranny of Western imperialist domination (see *EPSR* Box p82).

And while it still remains to be seen if this is what is really happening in the Middle East, the other crucial half of the key to history which materialist philosophy puts forward, — namely, the inability of the world's rulers to **rule on any longer** in the old way either, — also looks interestingly poised.

For as well as imperialism's leadership looking shifty and lacking confidence, the so-called "opposition" voices in the West are sounding almost as confused, irresolute, and fearful.

This could be the classic indication of **the whole bourgeois class** feeling threatened by history.

Which would be right. If this wholesale economic-slump catastrophe worldwide turns out to be what the struggle for Marxist understanding may be pointing to as imminent, — then the entire basis for the bourgeoisie's whole existence as a class (ruling the Earth for 700 years) would indeed be facing termination.

No wonder Blair is so dementedly hammering away at his racist scare-stories about "Islamic extremism threatening all our lives" and other such insane inflammatory provocations.

Blair knows that such sick warmongering propaganda will ruin him politically if no mighty conflict takes place along these lines but the Western way of life is wrecked anyway. Yet he also knows that the "overproduction"-crisis economic realities, clearly condemning continued US-UK bossing of the planet **without** successful war, will destroy the "British-way-of-life" anyway.

So the whole bourgeois game is in jeopardy, which is why the "opposition" parties in the joke "Parliament" basically support continued Western imperialist military tyranny all round the world, — jibbing for pointscore reasons only at **how** this patronising domineering over

the rest of the planet should take place, — **not** at the imperialist-system control itself.

And the same even applies to the supposed "alternative" to the mealy-mouthed formal "opposition" bourgeois parties, supplied by the petty-bourgeois fake-"left".

Such monstrous frauds as the Sparts are **still** arguing for the Arab nationalists to be **defeated** in their resistance to the West's Zionist-imperialist colonisation of Palestine in the post-1945 conspiracy (to make a "homeland" for Jewish monopoly finance capital in the Middle East, both to buy the Jews' silence for the Holocaust treachery inflicted by the 1930s Western imperialist warmongering conspiracy, and to establish a permanent mailed-fist scourge of Arab nationalism throughout the Middle East by building up the Zionist colony as the fourth mightiest military power on Earth now).

Like all the fake-'left' stooges of Western imperialism, the Sparts use a stupid, superficial, fake-'Marxist' argument to justify their cowardly capitulation to Western nazi-blitzkrieg reality.

This declares that "the Hebrew nation, though not necessarily the Zionist state, clearly cannot be denied a right to exist" in the Middle East, but Arab nationalist extremist voices only talk about "eliminating" the Jewish presence from Palestine.

Hence the Sparts effectively throw their weight behind Western imperialism in backing the Zionist colonial genocide.

And sticking with imperialism, is, of course, their real position.

The "Hebrew nation" so-called only exists in Palestine **because of** the Zionist-imperialist colonial tyranny called "Israel" having been set up in the first place by the West's monopoly-capitalist world domination post-1945.

If that imperialist premise is challenged **consistently**, — as history is now doing, then this vicious genocidal Jewish colonisation clearly emerges as the **total contradiction** to the whole modern flow of history that it has in fact become, sticking in the throat of all human progress by being the last-ditch rallying point for American public opinion (and much international capitalist opinion) to continue backing the US imperialist warmon-



Endless fascist slaughter by the imperialist/Zionist world order is the only answer to the rebellion its crisis wracked system of war and slump is provoking

gering holocaust on the whole middle East.

And the fake-'left' effortlessly expands this solidarity with Western imperialism by the branding of Arab and Muslim nationalist revolt as "terrorism" too, joining in the worldwide pro-American bourgeois claque which grovels to Washington's diktat that "everyone must be either with us or against us in our condemnation of terrorism".

As for the West's insane "war on terrorism", this ridiculous propaganda conspiracy (to portray the legitimacy of Third World anti-imperialists to struggle against Western tyranny (in any way they can or see fit) as some kind of "inhuman" monstrousness which the whole world "must condemn", etc, etc), — is rapidly falling apart.

This heroic anti-imperialist fight in Palestine, Iraq, and Afghanistan, frequently involving suicide bombings,

hostage killing, and other acts of "inhuman extremism", etc, is bound to spread worldwide eventually; and at some stage, **billions** of people will be proudly identifying with these pioneer struggles and declaring: "I am a terrorist too".

Already, the scale of the revolt in all three against imperialist-recolonisation has grown so big that sympathies are now shifting fast.

"Terrorist" or not, the Western monopoly bourgeois cold-blooded threat to "enforce order" no matter how widespread or popular the risings become, can only start to smack of one thing: "The more they revolt, the more of them we're going to have to kill"; and already, such Nazi-terror identification is being associated with American and Zionist ruthless tactics in all three wars.

[...]Although a long way to go, imperialist defeat is in view.

Build Leninism. EPSR

Western monopoly capitalism's...brutal NAZI "shock & awe" tyranny swelling anti-imperialist resistance to revolutionary proportions. Deepening economic chaos will drive imperialism to its doom. Inevitable national liberation for the WHOLE of Palestine will play a key role. Zionist apologising for the West approaches insanity. Non-stop brutal massacre of Gaza prison-reservation for 1.2m ethnically cleansed Palestinians for daring to fight back for their stolen country only deepens imperialism's grave. (No1233 18-05-04)

The US blitzkrieging is still a long way from serious **defeat**, the crucial turning point in history's future, but neither is Western might effortlessly in

charge of the world any longer.

And as the *EPSR* will keep repeating, it is the incredible heroism of the Palestinians' struggle against the genocidal

colonial armed theft of their country (to create the imperialist-stooge state of "Israel") which is the benchmark for civilisation's progress against Western warmongering tyranny.

Utterly and overwhelmingly dominated by the Zionist (US-supplied) military might (the 4th most powerful armed forces in the world), the Palestinians from their refugee-camp imprisonment can only fight by dying.

But fight they will, – and more and more phenomenally successfully and heroically with every year of their national genocidal imprisonment that passes.

By majority opinion, the colonising Jews who butchered their way to the ethnic cleansing which created "Israel", are now feeling forced out of Gaza to stem their losses and to desperately try to gain some "peace" through a blatant ruse which will only leave the Palestinians worse off than ever.

But even the mildest of anti-revolutionary Arab opinion will no longer be bought off.

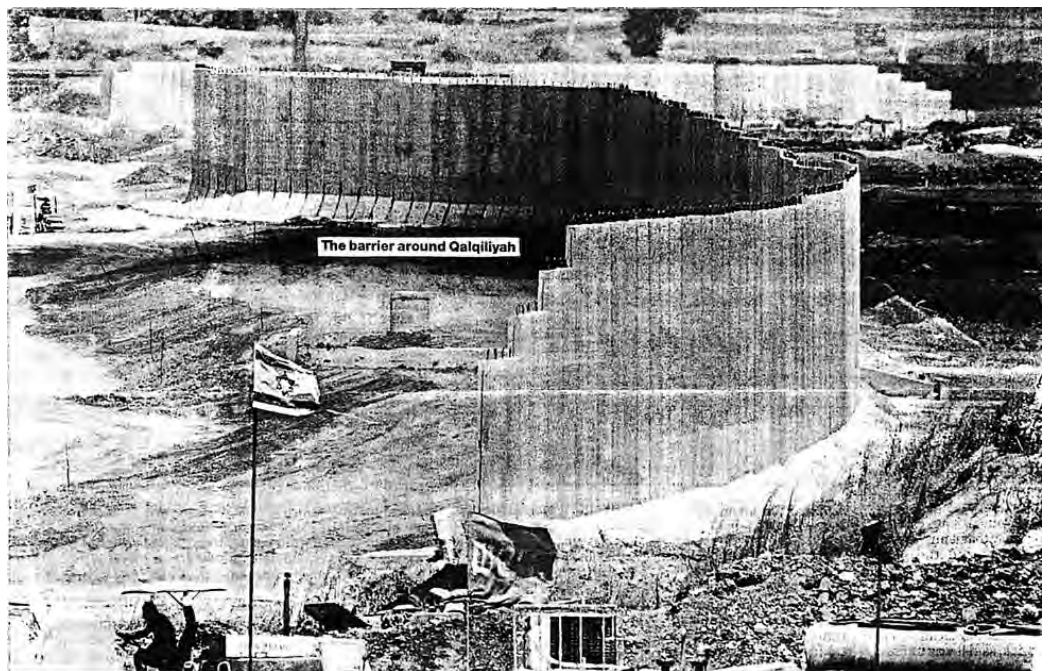
This carefully-worded statement in the *Guardian* does not yet challenge outright the Zionist colonisers "right to exist as Israel", the only possible way forward, – but neither does it capitulate to Arafat's muddleheaded political opportunism in treacherously and ostentatiously "accepting" the "right" of Western invading armed Jewish colonisation to be there, building an apartheid "state" on the Palestinians' land:

On the day Israel celebrates its declaration of independence, we mark the mass expulsion and dispossession of Palestinians in 1948, known to us as the Catastrophe – the *Nakba*.

But Palestinians aren't weepers, wallowing in despair and cursing their bad luck. We commemorate the tragedy of our dispossession, but nostalgia has been progressively transformed into the political action that can secure our future.

When the United Nations voted in 1947 to partition Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab state, it did so against the wishes of the indigenous Palestinian Arab people, who then made up more than two-thirds of the population. That led to the first Arab-Israeli war and the eviction of up to 800,000 Arabs from Palestine. Over 500 Palestinian villages were razed to the ground by the Israelis, who vowed the refugees could never return.

Palestine in 1948 had all the elements of civil society in place and an economic system that was a



Construction of the huge wall that has split communities and families, and helped the Zionist steal yet more land and push the Palestinians into even further concentration camp conditions

model in the region. This was all utterly destroyed in 1948.

Palestinians were transformed into a fragmented, dependent collection of exile groups. Palestinians are now struggling to re-establish their unity and political and cultural identity within the occupied territories and in exile.

Today, the 56th anniversary of the *Nakba*, will see a greater unity than ever. Commemoration activities will take place all week in occupied Palestine, with special TV programmes and newspaper editions, debates, and dozens of marches planned in spite of the checkpoints and the closures. There will be ceremonies and demonstrations across the world, and the Palestinian president, Yasser Arafat, will address Palestinians and the Arab nation.

This national mobilisation is focused on democratic representation and participation under occupation and in exile. If the people have not been included in a democratic process, there will be no solution to the refugee issue, which is the key to peace.

Crucially, young people in Palestine have not internalised the 1948 defeat. Of course, they are angry about the apartheid wall that has destroyed communities and economic life; the arrests; the destruction in Gaza; the land confiscations; the assassinations; the relentless ethnic cleansing.

Yet when they look to the future, they are full of hope. They understand that their future and that of Israelis belong together. They still base their thinking on common, universal values.

On this 56th anniversary of the Palestinian *Nakba*, we hope that the people who share this land with us will also try to look at the future on the basis of the greater values that unite us, rather than narrow ones that separate us. In future, Palestine-Israel should be a land for all of its people, regardless of ethnicity or religion. We must not

be afraid to meet face to face in our own land.

Muhammad Jaradat is the campaign coordinator of Badil, a Bethlehem-based refugee rights organisation

And even more impressive than the magnificent results which Arab and Muslim resistance is having against the American blitzkriegers in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Zionist dream/nightmare continues to physically and philosophically crumble before this epoch-making Palestinian Intifada:

When the Soviet Union became fragmented in the 1990s Mr Kariv was finally free to move to Jerusalem where he made it big as a television star, hosting shows on the Russian language Channel Nine.

Two weeks ago he left Israel for good. The 41-year-old bachelor is back in Moscow seeking job interviews. He is following thousands of others who are leaving the Jewish homeland, exhausted by an economic slump and endless violence, in favour of their birthplace or fresh pastures with better opportunities.

"Suddenly Israel just became too small," Mr Kariv said. "In the circles I moved in, more and more people are thinking like me. They've lived in Israel for ten years and find they're not moving forward. They don't see a better future there or the possibility of realising their goals."

For a land built on immigration, the exodus of talent is a devastating trend, exacerbated by a dramatic drop in newcomers. Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Prime Minister, has promoted the goal that the nation of 6.6 million should attract a million more people in the next decade. But immigration slumped to just 23,200 last year, the lowest since 1990.

The influx of Jews after the relax-

ation of Soviet emigration restrictions and the subsequent breakup of the Soviet Union boosted Israel's population. It hit a peak in 1990 and 1991 when 376,000 poured in from the Soviet republics. From 1989 until December 2003, 973,000 Soviet Jews settled in Israel. Now they are leaving.

According to official figures, about 72,000 of the Soviet Jews who came to Israel have left, most destined for Canada, the US or Europe.

Israel's Immigration Ministry estimates that about 13,200 Soviet Jews left the country in 2002. Precise numbers are hard to gauge. Few Soviet Jews holding Israeli citizenship say that they have left for good. And if they make a return visit within one year they do not appear in the count even if they live overseas.

Unofficial estimates suggest that there are now between 50,000 and 90,000 Israeli Soviet Jews in Moscow alone. An opinion survey conducted by the Tel Aviv Mutagim Institute last year found that 26 per cent of Russian immigrants in Israel were considering leaving, compared with 6 per cent who admitted contemplating such a move before the outbreak of the Palestinian intifada in September 2000.

Avraham Berkowitz, a rabbi and executive director of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Russia and the former Soviet republics, says that many of those returning keep their Jewish traditions and intend to go back to Israel.

But for the Israeli Government the departures are another tick of the demographic time bomb that threatens the Jewish state.

As opportunist Jews scuttle away from a vicious colonisation turned sour, the Zionist stooge Aaronovitch churns out more and more poisonous hysteria in his vast role as an imperialist media guru.

His latest degenerate imbecility is to weave a complex web of anti-Islamic sneers to try to do some "moral" point-scoring for the West to stem the avalanche of anti-torture and anti-prison-atrocity commentary which is drowning the imperialist warmongering in shame.

His sick line is that all over the Muslim world, countless women frequently get treated disgustingly.

Onto this insolent rigma-role, citing dozens of brutality cases, Aaronovitch tacks some hypocritical anti-Soviet muck-raking (nauseating from an opportunist ex-student leader of the Stalinist CPGB) plus some cheap spinecurdling about the beheading of Nick Berg.

This slimeball wordplay rants on the "morality" level of asking: "What would have been happening in Abu Ghraib and elsewhere had the invasion not taken place?"

This is the colonial tyranny mentality throughout the ages. "If we weren't here, they'd only be butchering each other as usual, etc."

To which the only "democratic" answer is "Why not let them get on with it in that case, rather than cover the world with Western colonial empires to do the butchery for them?"

Which is precisely the only rational answer to these provocative questions about how some women sometimes get treated in some Islamic cultural circumstances.

Firstly, there are horribly backward cultural traditions in every society.

Secondly, what worthwhile route to progress is there other than stepping up **world** cultural interchange, experience, and information, and let the growing improved standards steadily permeate voluntarily throughout the whole of international society???

To which we know the Zionist-US imperialist answer, of course:- "No. Bomb the bastards, and steal their country".

Aaronovitch's final flourish is so monstrously biased and sickening that his *Observer* platform needs to start being decorated with swastikas.

In the crassest false comparison yet between what was done to Nick Berg in a Baghdad back alley by crazed and frustrated primitive resistance to US imperialism's bullying, domineering, and humiliating invasion and occupation... and the conscious, planned,

systematic "shock and awe" devastation of Iraq by the most powerful and richest Empire that has ever **ruled** the Earth, - Aaronovitch degenerately inquires with false naïvety:

"Do we really believe that it is the same thing accidentally to kill a civilian with a bomb as it is to cut off his head on camera???"

No, for any remotely sane and civilised mind, it is obviously **Nazism** of the most depraved and murderous cynicism to pretend that the "shock and awe" blitzkrieg paralysing Iraq and massacring 15,000 of its citizens at one first go, was "accidental".

To play Aaronovitch's silly word games and to help this disgusting freak out, let us assume for argument's sake that the savage beheading of "a civilian" had taken place first; and that the blitzkrieg massacre of 15,000 Iraqis had only occurred as "retaliation for this barbarism, to teach them civilised and democratic ways", etc, etc.

In which case why has the loathsome Saudi feudal dynasty not been blitzkrieged into paralysis, massacring 15,000 of its citizens, where ritual **public** beheadings by sword routinely take place, - frequently of totally innocent women victims of Islamic brutality which Aaronovitch pretends to care so much about???????

Because, like Aaronovitch, the Saudis have always supported the "right" of US imperialism to maintain its arbitrary world military tyranny. It suits their feudal despotism down to the holy Islamic ground.

His final justification for the brutalisation of Afghanistan and Iraq, by "shock and awe" massacres and devastation, touches on insanity.

This heavyweight apologist for the "white man's burden" school of "civilising" the natives (as "justification" for the non-stop terror inflicted by overwhelming US and Zionist superior force) demands to know "then what the hell is it all for?" to a challenge that different international cultures should stop blitzkrieging each other.

"Why tell the Mississippi folk how to treat their 'nigras'? Ain't that cultural? And wouldn't it have been less imperialistic of Robinson Crusoe to tell Man Friday that he ought to go back to the cannibals because, on the whole, it would be better for him to be eaten?"

In the insulting simplistic

crudeness of these two "moral" examples for letting pro-imperialist Western creeps feel less uncomfortable about the lying mercenary barbarism of the recolonising onslaught on Iraq, (complete with torture and massacre atrocities, in the "good old imperialistic style" presumably, from Aaronovitch's point of view), - this currently large and unsavoury presence in the pro-imperialist media (TV, radio, and newspapers) moronically shoots down his own childish "moral examples" in the most breathtaking idiotic self-contradiction.

Proposition: The West colonised the entire planet in order to save the Third World from cannibalism (the Man Friday "example" of the West's role in history)!!!!

So how come there were 'Nigras' on the Mississippi in the first place (to kick his other "Moral example" up the backside which is all it deserves)????????

Even the cheap "point" Aaronovitch tries to make (that "of course all civilised outsiders would properly want to intervene in Mississippi folks' affairs to stop the vicious murderous Redneck tyranny over the 'Nigras' ") to "justify" this blitzkrieg on Iraq, - only emphasises the schoolboy silliness of Aaronovitch's "moralising" by ridiculously abstract "logic".

The main issue in the South was not 'nosey neighbour' interference but the huge White Nation, the most powerful and advanced civilisation in history and the *de facto* world leader, still allowing 300 years of slavery barbarism to rule-on in Southern attitudes, - a phenomenon properly disgusting the whole civilised world.

And it is that same White Nation (i.e. monopoly-imperialist interests of all colours and faiths, sheltering behind the Washington blitzkrieging

juggernaut), barbarically kicking the people of Iraq, Afghanistan, and, by proxy, Palestine, around now, which is appalling all civilised people today.

Aaronovitch represents the most blatant crude Zionist self-justification of genocidal colonial barbarism, nothing more.

And Saddam/Stalin??? The truly civilised never supported either. It was only the nastiest opportunist cynicism, ignorance, and naïvety, such as now festers poisonously in the coalition of US brutal imperialism with British fake-'left' apologists, which could turn a blind eye when it suited these "moralisers" in the past, for their different reasons.

Real civilisation needs to get things right, - such as 99% of what the Soviet workers state brilliantly achieved in its 70 years of development.

It takes stupidity and viciousness of an extremely unpleasant kind to still insist that this monstrous catastrophic mess which Western imperialist recolonisation is making in Palestine, Afghanistan, and Iraq is "getting things right".

It is screaming out to the whole world that it is "wrong, wrong, wrong", - and it cannot succeed, or last much longer.

Can the USA "pull out" now???, - as is being predicted???

Of course any specific imperialist power-juggling can always be realigned on country-by-country details.

But the American Empire giving up its blitzkrieging total domination of the world?????

Think again. Complete **defeat** and humiliation for the Western imperialist system's 800-year world-rule main economic and political structures is the only possible way forward for civilisation.

Build Leninism.

EPSPR



"Gay rights" single-issue politics reveals its reactionary nature by denouncing the oppressed Palestinian people's struggle (No 1242 20-07-04)

LETTERS: The homosexual disruption of a Palestinian political demo against Zionist tyranny in London last week demonstrates the *EPSR's* point that single-issue reformism (feminism, black nationalism, etc) will be the last refuge of anti-communism, and will provide history with the most reactionary last-ditch defenders of the monopoly-imperialist "free world" system in its final counter-revolutionary debacles.

When the "personal became the political", it was endless variants of extreme individualist philosophy which were being deliberately aggressively promoted.

Forget the pretence that society "hated" having to accommodate improved rights for women, ethnic minorities, homosexuals, etc, etc.

Just the opposite. Temporary conservative lifestyle discomforts apart, the culture shock was quickly adjusted to by Big Business, the media, and bourgeois politics, and quickly taken advantage of via "political correctness" bureaucracy, Blair's Babes, the Pink Pound, and a huge new pool of "entertainment" clichés for the soaps, game shows, ever-more-extreme pop-music novelties, etc, etc, etc.

So-called "human rights" became more successful than ever as a major battering ram for the Western imperialist controllers' non-stop worldwide propaganda priority to wipe out communism.

This homosexual counter-demonstration against

Palestinian "homophobia" inevitably completely sabotaged the aim of the protest to draw attention to the unbelievable suffering and humiliation still daily tormenting this 8-million strong Arab nation who have now been ethnically-cleansed out of 85% of their own homeland since 1945 to make way for "Israel" at Western imperialist insistence (approved by a tame UN), and whose assassinations, mass murders, beatings, house demolitions, and increasing effective total imprisonment in refugee camps and patchwork reservations, criss-crossed by Zionist military highways and other non-stop surveillance and interference, continue nonstop today, ignored by the whole world.

This greatest longstanding colonial-genocide tyranny in modern records can remain without public attention or sympathy as far as these homosexuals are concerned who are only interested in their own message.

Such extreme anti-communist individualism could not care less that by undermining this key anti-imperialist struggle in the world, the rebirth of international socialist revolutionary perspectives is further delayed.

Some personal homosexual agendas believe that reformism has served their interests, and just want more reforms, not revolution.

Their counter-demonstration was 100% politically reactionary.

And with their single-issue

agitation driven 99% by powerful subjective motives, then in the coming world era of communist revolution, reactionariness is bound to be the perceived character of more and more of this "personal" politics.

In the *Newsnight* TV studio later, Tatchell, goaded by the BBC, kept up his "homophobia" provocations in all directions, particularly relishing, of course, dishing out anti-Zimbabwe abuse and more anti-Palestine abuse as being obviously the most offensively provocative, (being currently among the greatest world victims of imperialist tyranny and vilification).

The SWP's Lindsey German was totally cowed, terrified that she would get branded "homophobic" too, and so her vague attempt to admonish Tatchell for disruptive tactics on the "left" was swept aside, virtually incoherent.

A Marxist explanation of the need to isolate the main enemy and singlemindedly put off all other issues in order to concentrate on death or victory there would have been lost, of course, on both of these rival varieties of single-issue opportunist anti-communism, but at least the SWP occasionally shows enough sense to at least stick to one issue at a time (however pointlessly reformistically) such as "stop the war" or "overthrow Castro for building state capitalism", etc, etc, throughout a 60-year record of anti-Soviet counter-revolutionary barminess and treachery.

But German dare not tell Tatchell anything pejorative about a tendency towards extreme and unbalanced individualism.

Nor dare she try to explain that the rejection decades

ago in the West of the crude medieval traditions of persecuting homosexuals for public consumption (whatever went on in private within the ruling class) would never necessarily develop in all cultures into an acceptance of the homosexual condition as "normal".

Plenty in the West will still put up an argument, for example, against gay adoption; and many would argue for a franker assessment of the sexual histories and orientations of candidates for work in the schools service, or in orphanages and children's homes, etc, etc.

Too many crimes have been committed in local government where suspects have been protected by a PC claque against "homophobia" for it ever to be possible for many people ever to agree automatically with the homosexual lobby's insistence that heterosexual and homosexual orientations must always be regarded as completely equal.

But whatever arguments might be relevant for Palestinian cultural improvement on such matters in ideal circumstances, to publicly upbraid Palestinian "homophobic" backwardness at this critical moment of history, - wrecking a London demonstration at a time when the Palestinian cause gets little enough good publicity or any fair hearing at all, - is not only unbalanced, it shows an unhinged readiness and capacity for criminal political treachery.

If it gave rise to a Palestine-wide outburst of homophobic abuse in Tatchell's direction, who could be surprised.

This homosexual exhibitionism contains an even nastier philosophical core of unique egocentric viciousness.

What is claimed is the



"right" to agitate for a belief or a cause above all other considerations.

This is not only destructive in practice, – as shown, – but sick mentally, – the solipsistic absolute inevitably taxing homosexual personalities moulded by a lifetime's extremely subjective torment and struggle, growing up in an invariably hostile and nasty heterosexual world.

This is true of all "human rights" extremists, and is close to the bedrock of all single-issue political fanaticism.

It was the real philosophical driving force of 99% of all the "left" criticism and "left" reformism in history which populated the West pretending to have a "positive" and "friendly" attitude towards the Soviet workers state.

It is what has automatically taken the "left" so far to the right today that on issues like Solidarnosc, Kosovo, 9/11, and Palestine, the "left" has provided imperialism with some of the most reactionary propaganda available.

The Kosovo Albanians were taken up as having an "absolute" right to self-determination. The fact that this issue was a long-planned American Empire stunt to make staged provocations possible which would give imperialist blitzkrieg the chance to devastate Serbia and thus bury the great history of the Yugoslav Socialist Federation once and for all, is **still** ignored by the fake-"left", even after it has long become clear that the world-wide degenerate American neocolonial-control plans have no more meant anything good happening to the ex-Yugoslavia peoples than they mean for Afghanistan and Iraq today.

For Solidarnosc, there was eye-blazing, screaming hysteria, swearing that this was "rank-and-file socialism", "socialism with a human face", etc, based on zero real understanding of a movement plainly organised and financed by the CIA and the Vatican to set going the death and demoralisation of the workers states of East Europe, a counter-revolutionary process which has now ended with the "triumph" of Polish forces helping the neocolonial repression of Afghanistan and Iraq, and Poland negotiating with the Bush neo-cons for a US imperialist missile site near Warsaw.

What was the "left" screaming hysterically about??? Its "absolute" hatred and fear,

under petty-bourgeois conditioning, of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

In their real agendas, the "left" are of a mind with Tatchell today over Palestine, fearing the proletarian dictatorship movement so obviously coming which will wipe out this disgusting colonial genocide problem once-and-for-all, completely.

They are all for the "absolute" of a "right to exist for a Jewish state", regardless of the ludicrous impracticability of this in real history, and the NAZI-war mongering murderous butchery and tyranny which is all that the post-1945 Zionist invasion has meant in practice, or could ever mean this side of the world socialist revolution.

Many "lefts" like Scargill are so brain-dead from "principles" that they even denounce Palestinian suicide bombers, tragically seen by some Palestinians as their last despairing chance to strike a blow back for their people against an utterly ruthless and overwhelming tyranny.

Paralleling Lindsey German's cowed ineffectiveness, few on the "left" will try or even want to tackle the homosexual disruption of the Palestinians' political struggle.

All round, the fake-"left" much prefers to support the totally abstract world of "absolute rights", as far away from the unavoidably brutal realities of the dictatorship of the proletariat as it is possible to get.

Tatchell's even weirder "left" posturing sticks to one issue too, of course, – the determination to force the whole world to say that it is "normal" when a person's psycho-sexual emotional development ends up in same-sex attraction.

The vastly talented and single-minded homosexual lobby has made itself the target of the EPSR's agitational analysis (when otherwise the issue could be left a matter of biological/social science and private human conduct, – once all the age-old barbaric victimisation of homosexuals has been outgrown) by its own obsessive-emotional need to hear society declare homosexuality "normal".

This manic pursuit is not merely incidentally disruptive (wrecking pro-Palestinian demonstrations, for example) but can only ever guarantee perpetual emotional self-torment for homosexuals.

A "left"-backed PC tyranny means that ludicrously misleading statistical claims get made about the real strength, significance, and frequency of "homosexual behaviour" throughout the natural species, but never get challenged.

In the evolution of human society, potentially interesting inquiries like whether the incidence, prominence, combativeness, and attention-seeking of homosexuality accumulates during historical periods of increasing ruling-class-system decadence and decline, – reflecting the general loss of drive, confidence and purpose in the leadership of society, – are less likely to be made for fear of homophobic reaction.

The possibilities that decadent fashions and culture geared up-for homosexual themes might spread more readily during such eras of the falling-apart of the major international ruling-class, – and the significance of this, – cannot even be examined.

Political and professional homosexual freemasonries are now as prevalent as every other kind of jobs-for-the-boys mafias, but do not get reported-on or investigated nearly as frequently as alternative bent networks for fear of the homophobic outcry...

...For speaking out some time ago over the Mark Trotter case in Hackney where this homosexual borough official for children's homes spent 10 years sexually preying on orphans and homeless infants before dying of AIDS, protected through countless publicised doubts, half-hearted police checks, and nascent internal inquiries about his suitability and trustworthiness for such a post, entirely by the "no homophobia" hue-and-cry raised by the local Labour leadership "politically correct" worthies, – the EPSR has had a strange political club of pot-smokers, homosexuals, and Zionists called the CPGB on its case.

Trotter even got himself promoted by sucking up smartly to the Labour Party politically.

Similar scandals went on until exposed in other London boroughs, but none of this has ever interested the propaganda subtleties of this peculiar sect's parroting, who are inspired to this animosity by the most virulent but best hidden anti-communism imaginable, but who choose to keep this 8-year-old record playing alleging homophobia.

They have just excelled

themselves with two major anti-EPSR blasts in two issues on this same old theme, – so bizarrely that a correspondence has even now started up in the *Weekly Worker*, [see below] with an amused bystander wondering if this fanatical editorial obsession is entirely healthy.

It is a losing game, more to the point.

Whoever these oddballs are, who emerged from the Stalinist brain-dead milieu of the old Communist Party as it was collapsing in the full logic of its long total anti-revolutionary paralysis, – emerged oddly posturing as the greatest Leninist revolutionary theoreticians ever to have held a party card, – they will only oddball their way from political debacle to political debacle.

The anti-communist idiocies of these "revolutionary" frauds are what bystanders really want to check out on the EPSR's online archive (there in scores of examples about the CPGB and all the rest of the fake-"left"), not the subsidiary questions of how they all capitulate to single-issue reformist bandwaggoning.

But on this exaggeration of abstract "absolute rights" too, their anti-communist fanaticism will end in bitter confusion also, as this scandalous homosexual attack on the Palestinian cause in practice demonstrates.

And this CPGB is routinely in the wrong itself on all these issues, helping imperialist propaganda put the boot into Palestinian "terrorist methods", and racially insulting the Palestinians by refusing to reopen the whole ludicrous 1947 question as to why the United Nations allowed the imperialist racket in the first place of recolonising part of the Middle East with Western imperialist influences so as to keep the Arab world permanently divided and ruled; and still peddling the ridiculous tyranny of a "two-state solution" which

a) still means the Palestinian land has been colonised; and

b) is an impossibility anyway since Zionism would never relinquish its domineering position of overwhelming military superiority.

Naturally, the *Weekly Worker* has nothing to say against this outrageous homosexual stunt to make it difficult for the Palestinians to protest at the ongoing genocidal butchery

since 1945 by millions of invading colonising Jews who have now ethnically-cleansed 85% of the Arab people from what had been their homeland for 1,500 years, twice as long as England has been the home of the English.

Where in 1945 there was only Palestine, now there is "Israel and the Occupied Territories".

To the 15% still not yet usurped, now just a patchwork of refugee-camps, barbed-wire reservations, and hacked-up plots criss-crossed by strategic Zionist military highways, permanent watchtowers, or the gigantic imprisoning wall which turns what's left of Palestine into just one giant dungeon, – the 8-million strong Palestinian nation now look utterly pointlessly for a homeland.

Even if the Jewish monopoly-imperialist system is finally forced by its American Empire guarantors to retreat a fraction to some earlier lines of conquest, still only 20% of their

land is all that will be available for a Palestinian "state" making it doubly a joke since Zionist-imperialist police-military control will always maintain overall sovereignty.

And now the turmoil in Gaza against Arafatism looks like a major revolutionary development towards proletarian-dictatorship politics, as the *EPSR* has always explained must happen.

The single-issue anti-communist extremist mentality of Tatchell and the CPGB will now find vastly more rough-and-ready edges on mass Palestinian culture to stage their provocative disruptions against; but real supporters of anti-imperialist revolution will eagerly be watching for Bolshevik tendencies developing out of this tumult, – proclaiming revolution, and denouncing all single-issue reformists everywhere for the essential class collaborative stooges of the Western "free world" status quo that they represent. Build Leninism. *EPSR* supporters.

Correspondence polemic with *Weekly Worker* following the above on Palestine and "gay rights".

(No 1242 20-07-04)

Letter to the *Weekly Worker* readers (in case it doesn't get printed there in full or at all, which is usually the case):– Terry Starr of Bristol (*Letters*, July 15) is not quite right.

The *EPSR* is as hostile to the underlying politics of gay rights campaigning as it has always been to all single-issue reformist protests (feminism, black nationalism, environmentalism, anti-racism, etc) believing this whole movement to be the last resting place of anti-communist philosophy which hates and fears dictatorship-of-the-proletariat politics but is too cowardly to say so.

Dream on if you think that reforms have banished racism, or reduced violence, or made for happier families, or replaced drugs and booze for discontented youth, or taught society to really value all people equally, or stopped the misery of discriminated-against minorities of all kinds, or improved the environment, or stopped international imperialist tyranny.

The *EPSR* believes along with Marx and Lenin that this imperialist world is on a course of total cultural degeneration and breakdown due to the impossible and ever-increasing contradictions in the daily

global reality of its grotesquely unequal class-dominated economic life.

Your silence on the homosexual disruption of a recent Palestinian protest in London shows you are as cowed by single-issue PC absolutism as Lindsey German was by Peter Tatchell, fearing a "homophobia" branding, in the *Newsnight* TV studio arguing about this monstrously reactionary provocation.

You share all single-issue reformers' contempt for the revolutionary aspects of Palestinian "terrorism". But the Gaza developments show that dictatorship-of-the-proletariat politics is the future, not your infamous "two-state solution" which the treacherous Arafat peddled out of the Revisionism he learned from CPSU and CPGB Stalinism which spawned you too.

You should explain to Terry Starr that you keep up this not-quite-accurate charge of homophobia because you have not a clue how to answer 25 years of polemics with which the *EPSR* has exposed your anti-communism.

(No 1247 09-09-04)*****

Gay plot

The *Economic and Philosophic Science Review's* Royston Bull

is perfectly entitled to critique the manner of gay activist groups' participation (not counter-demo) in May's Palestine Solidarity march (*Letters*, May 21). The *PSC*, *Outrage* and others passionately debated the issue in the *Morning Star* at the time. He's also entitled to attack what he perceives as left "reformism" – radical currents, including *Class War*, *Green Anarchist* and the Spartacist League all make similar criticisms. He's even entitled to praise the "brutal" nature of the forthcoming dictatorship of the proletariat (although few will share his admiration).

But Mr Bull cannot continue to use his newsletter to peddle his mangled 1940s pop-psycho view of homosexuals. In response to the *Weekly Worker's* charge of homophobia, Bull dedicated nearly half of his July 20 issue to an unflattering portrayal of gay men (curiously lesbians and the transgendered appear not to figure in his equations). Credit where it's due – Bull does allow that post-revolutionary sexual expression should be a matter of personal choice, but asserts overall that:

- homosexuals display "vicious" individualism;
- homosexuals have stifled open debate on the nature of their "condition";
- homosexuals have exaggerated their historical and social presence;
- professional homosexuals are operating an "old boys club" in the corridors of power;
- homosexuality itself is a ruling class-degenerate state, linked to the decadence of late capitalism.

These are serious allegations – indeed they amount to the presence of a homosexual conspiracy, which is more than either the National Front or the BNP claim. Curiously though, scant evidence is

offered by Mr Bull to back up his claims. The tale of a paedophile allegedly protected by a council's gay equality policy, and insinuations from *Private Eye* magazine and outlandish TV programme *Bo Selecta* do not a watertight argument make. Indeed they point to utter desperation.

The *Weekly Worker* (pot-smoking, homosexual Zionists, according to the *EPSR*, so heaven alone knows what he makes of the Alliance for Workers' Liberty!) should invite Bull to present his evidence for this interpretation of human sexuality. He has the chance to persuade the rest of the left that we were wrong to move away from what a previous correspondent described as the "pseudo-Freudian" explanations of gays (*Letters*, July 14).

Or maybe it's just that the *EPSR* is now supreme in its isolation, at war with every other current of left thought, and destined to languish in obscurity, screaming deranged abuse to a non-existent readership. Sion Griffiths Aberystwyth

Sion Griffiths avoids the real challenge to the 'personal' politics of the fake-'left' raised by the *Economic and Philosophic Science Review* (*Letters*, August 5).

This accuses single-issue reformism (feminism, black nationalism, gay rights, etc) in the very first paragraph of being "the last refuge of anti-communism, which will provide history with the most reactionary, last-ditch defenders of the monopoly-imperialist 'free world' system in its final counter-revolutionary débâcles. When the personal became the political, it was endless variants of extreme individualist philosophy which were being deliberately aggressively promoted ...So-called



'human rights' became more successful than ever as a battering ram for the western imperialist controllers' non-stop worldwide propaganda priority to wipe out communism."

The EPSR's point was made in a letter to the *Weekly Worker*. "Dream on if you think that reforms have banished racism, or reduced violence, or made for happier families, or replaced drugs and booze for discontented youth, or taught society to really value all people equally ... or improved the environment, or stopped international imperialist tyranny" (July 22).

It is typical of the subjective politics now dominant that Sion Griffiths ignores this crisis of the 'left' in order to make a venomous personal attack because of only seeing some insult to homosexuality in the EPSR piece. But there is no insult; and the real phenomenon of homosexuality itself as such is not the issue. The cynical individualist nihilism of some gay politics (and many other single-issue philosophies) is the problem, typified by the sabotage of the Palestinian march to air the personal feelings of hurt homosexuals.

Gays should feel offended and intimidated by continued barbaric backwardness of international capitalist society on these questions, but a revolutionary world of workers' states is the only long-term guarantee of real human enlightenment on all the rotten discriminations still prevalent in an insecure, class-divided society. Have you checked out your school playground insults lately?

But Sion Griffiths can only make jeering jokes about proletarian dictatorship, typical of current 'left' ignorance about, and hostility to, the real, historic-making achievements of the world's workers-state experiences so far, despite their inevitably "brutal" realities too (as referred to, neither in praise nor admiration). And this single-issue anti-communism will last throughout the whole dying counter-revolutionary era of 'free world' degeneration.

All the other issues about 'politically correct' crassness on gay questions, and doubts about the phenomenon continuing when society is no longer macho-dominated from class or hierarchical struggle, can be debated academically; but wouldn't they be best postponed in favour of the world

seeing its way to a total Palestinian victory over the whole post-1945 Jewish/imperialist colonisation attempt, one unavoidable key on the way to the world revolution?

Another major EPSR point which Sion Griffiths managed to completely ignore in order to pursue personal 'homophobic' venom.

Royston Bull

(No 1249 21-09-04)*****

Conspiracy

Royston Bull calls for "a total Palestinian victory over the whole post-1945 Jewish/imperialist colonisation attempt" (*Letters*, September 2).

As an anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist Jew, I have not been invited to take part. Perhaps Mr Bull can provide the address, so that I can claim my share of the benefits that I have gained from this conspiracy.

Roland Rance email

All Zionist?

Roland Rance in his witty note is presumably asking that the post-1945 ethnic cleansing of Palestine be termed "Zionist/imperialist" colonisation as opposed to "Jewish/imperialist" – telling us that he as a Jew has not benefited from this conspiracy yet (*Letters*, September 9): the implication is that the millions of Jews now occupying Palestine must obviously all be Zionists, and that no Jews in the rest of the world get any benefit or comfort at all from the building of the state of Israel into an enormous military power and the most dollar aided country on earth.

That anyone can have such naïve delusions would be slightly more credible if Roland Rance could be heard denouncing the foundation of the state of Israel and all its works.

Royston Bull Manchester

(No 1251 05-10-04)*****

Patronising Bull

Royston Bull offensively suggests that my "naïve delusions would be slightly more credible if [I] could be heard denouncing the foundation of the state of Israel and all its works" (*Letters*, September 16).

I don't intend here to detail my 28 years of active campaigning against Zionism and for Palestinian rights. The fact that Mr Bull appears unaware of this says more about his lack of involvement in this struggle than it does about

me. This lack of involvement is reflected in the remainder of his ignorant comments about the Middle East, and about the presumed benefit to Jews of Zionist oppression.

Mr Bull's letter appears beneath one from my friend Tony Greenstein, outlining the Zionist sympathies of the Alliance for Workers' Liberty. Like Tony, I have been denounced by the AWL as an anti-semitic; like him, I have been banned from campuses as a result of Zionist pressure, backed by the AWL; like him, I have been reviled by the *Jewish Chronicle* and other elements of the official leadership of the Jewish community in Britain. I do not need any patronising remarks from Jew-hating bigots about my naivety and lack of involvement.

My Respect branch has now submitted a policy motion opposing Zionism and supporting Palestinian return to the forthcoming Respect conference. Some *Weekly Worker* readers may disagree with the call for a unitary, secular and democratic Palestine; but, even if you oppose this clause, I hope that you will back the rest of the motion. In particular, the statement that "*Respect opposes Zionism as a political movement whose aim is the dispossession of the Palestinian people. Respect denies the false equation of anti-Zionism with anti-semitism, and will oppose any attempt to ascribe collective responsibility to Jews for the crimes of the Israeli state and the Zionist movement.*"

Roland Rance email

Murky waters

If the *Weekly Worker's* dedication to 'free expression' must extend to the rantings of the deranged Royston Bull, he should not get away with slandering comrades, whether from malice or ignorance.

Back in the days when Bull was relatively sane, we both worked on the daily *News Line*, published by Gerry Healy's Workers Revolutionary Party. Then and after the WRP was keen on supporting the Palestinian cause (indeed I was asked to join the paper because of my interest in the Middle East, and also wrote in the *Labour Review* on Zionism). But I do not recall Royston Bull taking any active part in such campaigning, then or later.

Perhaps this helps explain his assertion that criticism of his anti-Jewish remarks "would be slightly more cred-

ible if Roland Rance could be heard denouncing the foundation of the state of Israel and all its works". I don't always agree with Roland, but anyone involved in Palestinian solidarity and anti-Zionist work would know his record of active opposition to the Zionist state and "all its works", both here and in Palestine. He should not have to lower himself to reply to the likes of Bull, who appears to have only discovered Palestine by way of his voyage into neo-Stalinism.

It seems odd though that Bull has not considered the part played by the late Joseph Stalin and his foreign minister Gromyko in supporting partition in Palestine and arming the Israeli state to drive out Palestinians. The Soviet Union itself had used ethnic-cleansing - for instance, the mass deportations of Chechens. Twenty million Soviet citizens perished in the war against fascism; but in Russia today, ravaged by ruthless capitalism, we have the obscenity of Stalin's portrait carried alongside Hitler's by the brown-red alliance, and a former Ku Klux Klan leader welcomed by nationalists and so-called communists to proclaim war on "dark-skinned peoples" and "Zionists". Maybe history is being rewritten.

Royston Bull's reference to overturning the "post-1945 Jewish/imperialist settlement" suggests he has drifted into very murky waters.

Charlie Pottins email

Into the sea

In reply to Charlie Pottins and Roland Rance, the issue is about political understanding, not boasts about who does what or grotesque distortions about who did what (*Letters*, September 23).

Millions on the 'left' – Jews and others – claim to be "anti-Zionist" or even for a "unitary secular state covering the entire 1945 land of Palestine" without being at all prepared to denounce the "founding of a home for Jews in the Middle East" as one of the foulest acts of imperialist hypocrisy ever, and certainly as the most endlessly poisonous colonisation of all time.

Currently, that western imperialist stunt to achieve a militarised toehold permanently in the Middle East which 'no one can object to' on grounds of colonialism, ethnic cleansing, etc is providing the American empire with just

the sort of perpetual provocation and unbeatable armed back-up that it needs to keep its planned warmongering offensive in the region on the boil.

Without returning to these sick postwar decisions – precisely those backed by Stalinism along with all the rest of the revisionist theoretical imbecilities with which the world communist movement was destroyed – and reversing them, then nothing but a joke ‘Palestinian return’ can come about, such as that contained in the evil fraud called ‘the two-state solution’.

Utopian make-believe can pretend that one day the Jews will accept the dismantling of ‘Israel’ for Rance’s “unitary, democratic, and secular Palestine” and happily budge up, ‘supporting Palestinian return’ to their entire 1945 positions and post-colonial expecta-

tions; but the reality of the modern Zionist-imperialist juggernaut and its whole history proves this will never happen without war. But the prospect of endless Middle East warmongering is here already, relentlessly worsening, as the paranoid American empire’s economic crisis deepens.

In this uncontrollable-war perspective, the only serious anti-imperialist position is to be for the west’s defeat, including driving this rotten Zionist stunt into the sea. Lying abuse about “Jew-hating bigots” won’t alter this political understanding. Monstrous personal insults about “deranged”, “brown-red murky waters”, “neo-Stalinism” and the like only betray ignorance of the weekly output for 25 years of the *Economic and Philosophic Science Review*, and the intemperate immaturity of the slandering.

The actual history of Healy’s Workers Revolutionary Party tells a different story from Pottins’ wretched cover-up. Six years before its collapse in a rape, embezzlement and brutality scandal, Healy had to call a special, ‘timeless’ congress in 1979 to quell a long-standing revolt against the increasingly shallow and opportunist political degeneracy, linked to Healy’s personal corruption which was finally exposed in 1985 by his own complicit inner-party circles when the rottenness had self-destructed into bankruptcy.

Two *Workers Press* journalists were at the heart of that revolt, increasingly challenging Healy’s growing opportunism over the betrayal of the Portuguese revolution; backing Saddam Hussein; condoning the massacre of the Iraqi Communist Party; downplaying the ‘winter of discontent’;

welcoming Khomeini’s stealing of the Iranian revolution; and so forth.

The 1979 special congress crushed the revolt and throughout it not one of the ‘heroes’ of the 1985 party-corruption showdown dared to utter a peep against Healy’s degeneracy, Banda included, all loyally backing that growing political backwardness to the end. And Pottins?

Royston Bull Manchester
(No 1256 09-11-04)*****

Insane abuse

The interesting thing about the continued ‘anti-semite’ insane abuse is that it makes the political challenge undermining the fake-‘left’ so clear (*Letters*, October 28).

A world of six billion is in a historical systemic crisis such as a dying mode of production (via unresolvable accumulated internal contradictions - Karl

EPSR

Leaving the world to be run by the greed of the capitalist monopolies can never stop resulting in periodic crises where trade-war destruction must rule, and to which the only antidote is Revolution and a strong workers state, --- as these essentials of Marxist-Leninist science explain.

Only the crisis events of collapsing imperialist rule interpreted in this Marxist-Leninist light will educate a mass workers party of leadership to do the necessary tasks.

The Revisionist retreat from the Soviet workers state because of crawling to shallow Western glitz and shame at their own past bureaucratic mistakes has only proved the soundness of Lenin’s *State & Revolution* science about a very long period of proletarian dictatorship being the only way for the world to see-off monopoly imperialist warmongering, now back with a vengeance.

It is often said and written that the main point in Marx’s teachings is the class struggle; but this is not true. And from this untruth very often springs the opportunist distortion of Marxism, its falsification in such a way as to make it acceptable to the bourgeoisie. For the doctrine of the class struggle was created not by Marx, but by the bourgeoisie before Marx, and generally speaking it is acceptable to the bourgeoisie. Those who recognise only the class struggle are not yet Marxists; they may be found to be still within the boundaries of bourgeois thinking and bourgeois politics. To confine Marxism to the doctrine of the class struggle means curtailing Marxism, distorting it, reducing it to something which is acceptable to the bourgeoisie. Only he is a Marxist who extends the recognition of the class struggle to the recognition of the dictatorship of the proletariat. This is what constitutes the most profound difference between the Marxist and the ordinary petty (as well as big) bourgeois. This is the touchstone on which the real understanding and recognition of Marxism is to be tested. And it is not surprising that when the history of Europe brought the working class face to face with this question as a practical issue, not only all the opportunists and reformists, but all the “Kautskyites” (people who vacillate between reformism and Marxism) proved to be miserable philistines and petty-bourgeois democrats who repudiate the dictatorship of the proletariat.

“The last cause of all real crises always remains the poverty and restricted consumption of the masses as compared to the tendency of capitalist production to develop the productive forces as if only the absolute power of consumption of the entire society would be their limit.” (Capital. Vol III. P568.)

“For many a decade past”, wrote Marx and Engels in the *Communist Manifesto* of 1848, “the history of industry and commerce is but the history of the revolt of modern productive forces against modern conditions of production, against the property relations that are the conditions for the existence of the bourgeoisie and of its rule. It is enough to mention the commercial crises that by their periodical return put the existence of the entire bourgeois society on its trial, each time more threateningly. In these crises a great part, not only of the existing products, but also of the previously created productive forces, are periodically destroyed. In these crises there breaks out an epidemic that, in all earlier epochs, would have seemed an absurdity - the epidemic of overproduction. Society suddenly finds itself put back into a state of momentary barbarism; it appears as if a famine, a universal war of devastation had cut off the supply of every means of subsistence; industry and commerce seem to be destroyed. And why? Because there is too much civilisation, too much means of subsistence, too much industry, too much commerce. The productive forces at the disposal of society no longer tend to further the development of the conditions of bourgeois property; on the contrary...they have become too powerful for these conditions, by which they are fettered, and so soon as they overcome these fetters, they bring disorder into the whole of bourgeois society, endanger the existence of bourgeois property. The conditions of bourgeois society are too narrow to comprise the wealth created by them.”

The conditions of bourgeois democracy very often compel us to take a certain stand on a multitude of small and petty reforms, but we must be able, or learn, to take such a position on these reforms. (in such a manner) that - to oversimplify the matter for the sake of clarity - five minutes of every half-hour speech are devoted to reforms and twenty-five minutes to the coming revolution. (Lenin Dec 1916: Principles involved in the war issue.)

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Marx) has never before seen, and all we get is a tiny bunch of religious freemasons screaming for their own particular colonial degenerate interests, regardless of the fact that this is only helping to drive the world to World War III, and hate-filled abuse against those that point this out.

Modern science declares: "The slice of diversity linked to traditional notions of 'race' is startlingly small. For example, population geneticists have found that there can be greater genetic similarity between an African and an Outer Hebridean than between two Africans. This counter-intuitive finding, and many more like it, renders

Arafatism is dead. Much more Palestinian war-resistance now inevitable, – Revolutionary war-resistance (No1257 16-11-04).

Arafat, the "uncompromising" nationalist, who lifelong hoped for some sort of halfway compromise deal with the Western imperialist Zionist-Jewish colonial seizure and occupation of the Palestinians' country, can be claimed as "father of the nation" for all eternity, but it will never be true.

His Stalinist-made refusal to accept that only total revolutionary war would be the answer to this very specific postwar monopoly-imperialist Middle East colonisation conspiracy, always meant that the Palestinian people would **never** get even any "real" scraps of laughable "compromise justice" along the humiliating and idiotic "two-state solution" bourgeois-utopian daydream lines, to which the whole world's fake-"left" has ludicrously continued to subscribe (from the United Nations to the Trotskyites and Stalinists, and anti-communist nationalists) out of grotesque philosophical-idealist ignorance and blindness, – the incurable tendency of spontaneous petty-bourgeois opportunist "thinking" worldwide.

Arafat's huge compromising influence has been dying for years, in total confusion on **all** sides, – except for in the cynical NAZI minds of the long-term American Empire warmongering neo-cons and their utterly dedicated Jewish-Zionist co-conspirators, – who always knew that there would **never** be any kind of "justice" for Palestine, and who **always** knew that the Palestinian nation would have to be kept under repression-prison

a genetic view of race meaningless to most scientists."

And to this selfish-'racial' self-determination freemasonry fiction is now deliberately acted out the knowing insanity that random desperate 'terrorist' groups are the real threat to world civilisation on a planet where 40 million children die needlessly annually from malnutrition; and western imperialist greed, warmongering and arrogance fills the world with hatred.

And the US-'Israel' reply? 'Kill them all until people follow our orders and behave themselves' – just to get your own illegal real estate. Sick. Royston Bull Manchester

conditions **endlessly**, – (if not genocidally where killing them all would be the only "final solution".)

Only occasional clarity, around militant-combative groups like Hamas and Islamic Jihad and other confused "Islamic revolutionary nationalists", – has broken away in recent years from the compromising petty-bourgeois chaos to realise at last that Jewish NAZI-Zionism, backed by the American-Empire, had always known, – and dementedly and gleefully **willed**, – that there could **never** be any justice, democracy, or independence for the Palestinian nation, **ever** in history, and that only conditions of **permanent** murderous imprisonment (and possibly genocidal too) could be imposed on the Palestinian people, – effectively wiping them out as a nation, (just as the American Empire did to nearly 200 native American-Indian nations to create US imperialism in the first place (and other imperialisms did too, all round the world)).

At enormous and heroic sacrifice, such "Islamic terrorist" influences have tried to bring the world to its senses and at last realise what imperialist NAZI-terrorist permanent warmongering tyranny had been imposed by the West on the Middle East (and hence onto the whole planet, – permanently).

And apart from the particularly sick, humiliating, ignorant treatment of Arafat personally that 90% of Jewish-Zionism has always relished (unopposed by the rest of the

West), – there is now the huge joke "problem" that Marwan Barghouti, the only conceivable "compromise" follower of Arafatism as "acceptable" to enough Palestinians in order to dress up some rotten "final" capitulation sell-out of the Palestinian nation as a just settlement", – is on currently a term of **five** "life sentences" deep in a Zionist torture-dungeon somewhere. (And Abbas and Dahlan, the British Foreign Office favourite, were booed out of Ramallah last night as "American agents").

So the whole degenerate imperialist neo-colonialist-tyranny issue will now merge back into the general international-imperialist warmongering neo-con American-Empire-crisis blitzkrieging for its likely ultimate resolution.

And as the *EPSR's* grasp of Marxist-Leninist scientific history (the only science of history of civilisation) knows, the world remains on course for the greatest imperialist warmongering **humiliation** and **defeat** of all time, – worse than created the revolutionary crises of Franco-Prussia, World War I, and World War II, when the revolutionary proletariat became so disgusted with the pointless inter-imperialist slaughter and destruction (which was never going to solve the incurable internal economic-political contradictions anyway (see *EPSR* box p82 for original Marxist science)) first took action to rescue civilisation.

And what is posed, of course, is the terminal crisis of the monopoly-imperialist system, – once again plunging the world into an "overproduction" crisis of "too much monopoly-imperialist greed and domination", which (as will be seen from their own bourgeois admissions below) the system has not the slightest intention to get to the bottom of, let alone solve (there is no solution), – but with maximum degeneracy-philistinism, the American Empire rulers of Earth insist is all the fault of "rogue states" or of "failed states" causing "terrorist disruption threats" making it "impossible to organise the world nicely and permanently prosperously" (a total joke given the monstrously built-in unfairness of the exploitative-bullying monopoly-imperialist world "free market" system to start with, which has again (not for the first time in history)

taken the planet to the brink of economic catastrophe). (See *EPSR* box p82).

Meanwhile, more and more evidence is piling up that, as Marxist science has always explained, the people of the world have inevitably been so changed by the very experience of monopoly-capitalist globalisation that now they are no longer able and willing to suffer any longer under such a stifling, humiliating, and essentially brutally-repressive **class** and **racist** military tyranny any longer, and are renewing the mentality and skills of the great historic revolutions by communists in Russia, China, Vietnam and Indo-China, Korea, Cuba, scores more, and by the whole mighty national-liberation movement which dismantled the physical European Empires in the first place (only to sink back, under neo-colonial exploitation tyranny due to Stalinist stupidity worldwide, and nationalist idiocy and corruption).

The whole world is now re-learning what the *EPSR* has always explained what one day must and will be re-learned by the whole planet, – that the only science of purposeful world development is Marxist-Leninist proletarian-dictatorship science (but it must be given time to overcome its rotten capitalist origins, and to learn from its continuing (for a while) weaknesses and mistakes).

A crucially historic **defeat** is still on the cards for the dying, rotten imperialist system.

The American Empire's firepower and nastiness remain colossal.

And worldwide, Western-influenced "left" opinion, from "United Nations" believers to the demented anti-communism of Trotskyism-Labourism, has again degenerated to the level of stupidity which gradually prevailed after 1912 and the retreat from the *Basle Manifesto* which was supposed to prevent World War I, but which, under Kautsky's ridiculous light-minded influence, actually effectively undermined the Second International which promoted *Basle* but totally ignored its revolutionary implications, thereby totally invalidating it.

But nasty, NAZI, murderous-pre-emptive-imperialism still has to get the job done of getting the world to agree to co-operate with mindless, pre-emptive, blitzkrieg warmongering as the "best



What was left of a home in the northern Gaza Strip after Israeli air attacks. The bodies of ten people, including those of four children, were found beneath the rubble.

way for the world to now solve all its problems" – but hostility and resistance to this **insanity** only keeps spreading all round the Third World which is where the next great proletarian revolutionary breakthrough for civilisation will be stimulated...

...As should now be obvious, there is no "solution" to the political/economic crisis of the declining American Empire, from just arbitrarily massacring a few "rogue states" or replacing an existing "failed and out-of-control" stooge regime (Saddam for 35 years) with a more pliant (but just as potentially nasty and corrupt) better-trained CIA agent (Allawi).

The American Empire's problems lie in the strengths of rival imperialisms, and that is why this warmongering insanity now inflicted on the planet by dominant world imperialist Westernism, must end up in

inter-imperialist WWII.

Because as should be obvious, there is no "economic" solution to these impossible contradictions of the out-of-control monopoly-imperialist exploitation-bullying system just from forcing a few "disrespectful" or "uppity" so-called "rogue states" or "failed states", or a few small Middle East (or elsewhere) raw materials suppliers even more tightly under the American Empire's control as is happening now to Iraq and as is threatened to a number of the more "independent-minded" or outspokenly anti-imperialist states like Iran, Syria, North Korea, Zimbabwe, Sudan, Myanmar, Cuba, Venezuela, Haiti, etc, etc, etc, etc, – and has just been attempted via an openly criminal fascist-NAZI coup [on *Equatorial Guinea - ed*] by of all places, – the world's "oldest and greatest democracy" – Blair-led Britain, (which never

stops brainwashing the public about how Britain's "purpose in the world" is only to "ensure the rule of law everywhere", and to never dream of illegal or criminal underhand NAZI military action if it is not "solely for the purpose" of "restor-

ing full democratic control of their lives to the local population"):...)

Now the lying scum Blair and Straw cannot even open their mouths about what warnings (obviously none at all) they gave to the legitimate (and coherent) government of Equatorial Guinea (oil rich) about the apparent Mann/du Toit/[Mark]Thatcher/Calil/Archer/ Mandelson/ etc conspiratorial plotting for degenerate, murderous fascist mercenaries to seize hold of Equatorial Guinea in a NAZI coup. (Some "democracy principles" to now be spreading militarily around the world! Worse than setting up this stinking stooge CIA stoolpi-geon in Iraq!)

And our great, brave "democratic" Opposition in Parliament could still only dare to ask Straw whether "local working British nationals had received any warning or protection from this potential NAZI bloodbath"!!!

Never mind the people of Equatorial Guinea!!

The imperialist world is rapidly degenerating into total farce!! – but a murderously dangerous would-be NAZI-militarist farce.

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Israel is threatening to attack Iran.



Book edited and printed by *Economic & Philosophic Science Review*, Bulletin Publications, PO Box 76261, London SW17 1GW. May 2018

Articles are drawn from issues of the *EPSR* produced by former editor Roy Bull to 2004.

Further developments on the Zionist-"anti-semitism" and Palestinian questions is continued in the *EPSR* (currently fortnightly) available from the PO box or on the *EPSR* website at www.epsr.org.uk Comments or further polemics are welcomed at email address - comment@epsr.org.uk.