

Bourj al Barajneh Attacked

Starting September 3rd, the forces of the Amal movement besieged Bourj al Barajneh camp on the southern outskirts of Beirut. For six days, the attack continued with the camp being shelled by tanks and other heavy weaponry. Palestinian fighters defended the camp to the best of their ability and repulsed all attempts to penetrate its boundaries. The most horrible attacks, however, occurred against Palestinian civilians living outside the camp: in a nearby neighborhood, 17 unarmed men, women and children were massacred and 30 Palestinian homes on the edge of Bourj al Barajneh were burned.

The PNSF was active in arranging a ceasefire, aiming to ward off an all-out confrontation with the Amal movement and instead return to the Damascus agreement which ended the previous camp war. Due to these efforts, the fighting subsided on September 10th, and the ceasefire is holding as we go to press.

PNSF Press Release

Concerning the Assault on the Palestinian Camps in Beirut Damascus, September 7, 1985

This morning the leadership of the Palestine National Salvation Front held a meeting to discuss the situation in the Palestinian camps of Beirut. During the

last three days, these camps witnessed regrettable incidents whereby many persons were wounded or killed, and many buildings hit.

The PNSF leadership sent a delegation to deal with the situation with the Amal movement on the ground, so as to put an end to the tension around the camps. This tension was brought about

by those who consider the Damascus agreement as a threat to themselves and who consequently work to explode the situation once again. Several precautions were taken to prevent clashes.

The PNSF leadership stressed its readiness to implement the Damascus agreement and end any repercussions of the crisis. The PNSF leadership demanded that the Amal movement take all needed measures to prevent violations or provocations instigated by some elements and factions inside Amal itself.

The PNSF leadership denounced the heinous crime whereby 17 Palestinian civilians were slaughtered in the neighborhood of Haret Hraik. It demanded that Amal execute the one responsible for this massacre, halt all attacks on Palestinian civilians and release all detainees and prisoners.

The PNSF leadership called upon all signatories of the Damascus agreement to work together to consolidate the militant relations between the Lebanese and Palestinian people, and to confront any attempt to heighten tension, in order to serve the common nationalist cause.

PNSF Memorandum on Zionist Terror

On September 8th, the Palestine National Salvation Front Leadership directed a memorandum to international organizations and democratic parties, calling attention to the Zionists' terrorist practices against the Palestinian population in occupied Palestine. Since we also deal with this repressive campaign in an article in this issue, we print below only a summary.

In the light of the economic crisis prevailing in the Zionist entity, and the program of the government coalition, the Zionist authorities have imposed the following measures:

1. The iron fist policy - collective arrests and curfews...Recently, Jenin and Tulkarm were turned into a great prison, surrounded by Zionist troops for three consecutive days. General curfew had previously been imposed on Nablus, Kafr Yunis and Nuseirat refugee camp whose inhabitants were forbidden to leave for several weeks. Curfew is usually accompanied by cutting off water and electric power, and Zionist

troops raiding homes and making massive arrests.

2. The number of Palestinian citizens detained reached 900, as stated by Shimon Peres, 62 of them arrested during the past few weeks, most of them Palestinian prisoners freed on May 20th; this violates the prisoner exchange agreement between 'Israel' and PFLP-General Command, guaranteed by the International Red Cross Committee and the Swiss government.

3. Imposition of house arrest on many Palestinian intellectuals without giving any reason; part of those affected are ex-prisoners.

4. The expulsion of Arab citizens, as recently happened to three patriots, in order to uproot the Palestinian people from their land.

5. Confiscation of houses and lands; in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, 52% of the land has been confiscated to build settlements which now number 190.

6. Prevention of Palestinian students from leaving the West Bank and Gaza Strip to continue their university studies.

7. The terrorism of Zionist settlers is part of the daily life of Palestinians...Hundreds of Palestinians have been exposed to such assault, resulting in 140 wounded.

Our people in occupied Palestine are facing two kinds of terror, organized by the Zionist authorities and by the fascist, racist groups and settlers. Our people are exposed to the most vicious oppression, aiming to liquidate their freedom and culture. The Palestine National Salvation Front calls on you to raise this issue in your country, especially in the media, and to stand by our just cause, rendering support to our people in occupied Palestine. ●